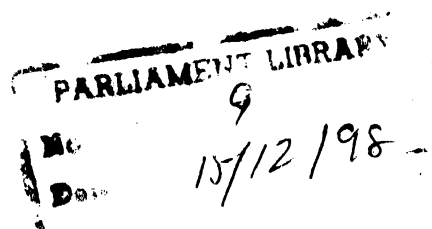


LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fifth Session
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XV contains Nos. 1 to 10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, July 29, 1997/Shravana 7, 1919 (Saka)

*(The Lok Sabha met at one minute past
Eleven of the Clock)*

[SHRI P.C. CHACKO in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues, Shri Mohammad Asfar Ahmad.

Shri Mohammad Asrar Ahmad was a Member of Seventh Lok Sabha representing Budaun Parliamentary constituency of Uttar Pradesh during 1980-84.

Earlier, he was also a Member of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1946-53, 1967-68 and 1969-77.

An active social and political worker, Shri Ahmad served his State as Deputy Minister, Local Self-Government and Housing during 1967-68 and State Minister, Local Self-Government during 1970-71. An able legislator, Shri Asrar Ahmad served as Chairman of Public Accounts Committee of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1974-77. He also served as member of various Legislative Committees of his State.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Ahmad was a well known educationist and served as member of various educational institutions. He worked hard for the upliftment of the poor and down-trodden.

Shri Mohammad Asrar Ahmad passed away on 1 September, 1995 at Budaun, Uttar Pradesh at the age of 87 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

11.02 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while.*

11.03 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995

+
*81. SHRI A. SAMPATH :
SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to implement the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995;

(b) whether highlights of the Act were to provide special amenities in State Buses for persons with wheelchairs, buildings with ramps to facilitate wheelchair users, restrictions on employers, free and adequate education up to the age of 18 for disabled persons, special teachers training etc.;

(c) if so, the number of provisions implemented so far alongwith the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce special programme for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped poor and other disabled persons in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (Statement I).

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (Statement II).

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (Statement III).

(f) Question does not arise.

Statement I

The following measures have been taken for the creation of necessary institutional arrangements for implementation of the provisions of the Act:

(a) Rules under Section 73(1) and (2) of the Act have been notified.

(b) Central Coordination Committee has been notified vide No. 6-1/96-HW. III dated 21.2.1997.

(c) Constitution of the Central Executive Committee is under process.

(d) Five Core Groups of experts and relevant Ministries have been set up to make recommendations and formulate schemes under the Act in the following areas:—

(i) Prevention, early detection and intervention;

(ii) Education including pre-school education;

(iii) Barrier-free environment;

(iv) Women, children and aged with disabilities;

(v) Vocational Training and Employment.

(e) A scheme is being prepared for setting up suitable delivery system for people with disabilities specially in the rural areas.

(f) An Inter-ministerial Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Welfare to keep a regular watch over the implementation of the Act. The Ministries in the Committee include (a) Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment; (b) Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment; (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; (d) Ministry of Labour; (e) Department of Education; (f) Department of Women and Child Development.

(g) A series of Regional Workshops and Multi-sectoral Workshops involving the State Government officials of concerned departments for implementation of the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 are being organised in various States throughout the country from the month of August, 1997 onwards.

(h) As per the Constitution of India, rehabilitation of the disabled is a State subject and the major responsibility for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities lies with the State Governments.

Statement II

(a) The implementation of the provisions of the Act require a multi-sectoral collaborative approach of all concerned Ministries of the Central Government, the State/UT Governments and other appropriate authorities. While in the area of prevention, early detection and intervention, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Department of Women & Child Development have to play a major role, in the area of education of children with disabilities, Department of Education has to integrate these programmes within their schemes/programmes. For the creation of barrier free environment, the Ministries of Urban Affairs and Employment, Surface Transport, Railways and Civil Aviation have to take various positive steps. In the area of employment and training, Ministry of Labour has an important role. It is to be emphasized that the concerns of the persons with disabilities has to be included as a part of the mainstream development programmes of the country.

(b) The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation has been registered on 24/1/97 with the aim of supporting entrepreneurial efforts of persons with disabilities and bring them into the mainstream of economic activity.

(c) The Government is in the process of finalizing the "National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Palsy Bill" for Cabinet approval.

(d) The post of Chief Commissioner and the minimum personal staff have already been created.

(e) All State Governments have been requested to take necessary steps including provision of budgetary allocation for speedy implementation of the provisions of the Act. Union Welfare Minister has taken up the matter with the Chief Ministers of the States and Prime Minister has already written to Central Ministers and Chief Ministers of the States in this regard.

(f) A conference of State Secretaries incharge of persons with disabilities was held on 12.2.1997 at New Delhi to discuss the implementation of the Act.

(g) Many aspects specified in the Act in respect of facilities for disabled children are being covered by the Ministry of Human Resources Development, Integrated Education for the Disabled Children (IEDC) Scheme. During the current year, the resources under IEDC have been augmented to expand its coverage.

(h) Under Ministry of Human Resources Development, District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) launched

in 1994 as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Integrated education for all children with mild to moderate disabilities is being given special emphasis. Financial parameters have been worked out and guidelines have been evolved for this purpose.

(i) Budgetary provision for the Handicapped Welfare Division of Ministry of Welfare has been increased to Rs. 107.04 crore (Plan) during the financial year 1997-98.

(j) In order to create a barrier-free environment in consonance with the provisions of the Act, model draft building bye-laws incorporating various provisions for creation of accessible buildings for the disabled persons have been formulated and circulated for consideration of all concerned. These Rules are intended to be applicable to all buildings and facilities used by the public.

(k) The benefit of reservation of posts in favour of people with disabilities has been extended for Group A & B posts as well in Central Ministries/Departments/PSUs.

(l) However, the implementation of the Act is a continuous process and is subject to the limits of economic capacity of the appropriate authorities.

Statement III

Government proposes to formulate various new schemes for the people with disabilities during 9th Five Year Plan for implementing the provisions of the Act. For this purpose, 5 Core Committees have been set up with the representatives of Government officials and NGOs. The priority areas identified are as follows:

- (1) Prevention, early detection and intervention
- (2) Education including pre-school education
- (3) Creation of barrier-free environment
- (4) Women and children with disabilities
- (5) Vocational training and employment for people with disabilities.

2. Further, a Central Sector Scheme is being formulated to provide comprehensive and coordinated services to the people with disabilities specially for the rural areas. The scheme proposes to create the following infrastructure:

- (1) An apex level institution at State level for basic rehabilitation services and manpower development.

(2) State level rehabilitation services for all sectors of disabilities.

(3) Multipurpose rehabilitation workers at block/PHC level.

(4) CBR workers at community/gram panchayat level.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : Sir, I am glad that we are having a Minister who is showering us with promises and promises.

Chapter II of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 envisages the Constitution and functioning of a Central Coordination Committee and a Central Executive Committee. Although the Central Coordination Committee has been constituted, as the Minister has stated now, Clause 3 (2)(i) has not been taken into consideration. This Clause envisages sufficient representation of the disabled persons or the Organisation of Persons with Disabilities. Will this criterion be satisfied immediately?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, while constituting the Central Coordination Committee, the letter and spirit of the Act has been fully followed.

All the Members, who have been appointed to the Committee, meet all the requirements as per the Act.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : In the constitution of the Central Executive Committee, as envisaged in clause 9(2)(j), will adequate representation be ensured to organisers and some persons with disabilities of different categories and to disabled persons with sufficient working experience in the field?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, as I told earlier, the members who have been appointed to the Committee have sufficient practical experience of working in the field for the disabled in the country. Various organisations which have been working in this field and have done commendable work have also been included in the Committee.

SHRI N. DENNIS : The Act is broad-based and reflects a shift from charity to rights covering almost all the important aspects of social and civil life of the physically handicapped. The implementation of the provisions of the Act would greatly help in solution of several problems of the physically handicapped persons.

The hon. Minister has stated that various steps have been taken to implement the provisions of the Act. May I know the impact of the steps taken by the hon. Minister?

The hon. Minister has also stated that instructions have been given to the State Governments for implementation of the Act. May I know the States which have implemented the provisions of the Act? Which are the States which have not implemented the provisions of the Act? May I also know the number of persons benefited by implementation of this Act? I would like to ask one more question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be brief. There is a statement laid on the Table.

SHRI N. DENNIS : It is regarding the magnitude of the problem. The allocation is not adequate. So, may I know whether the voluntary agencies have been contacted and public awareness has also been created for helping the physically handicapped persons?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : The hon. Member has raised a number of questions in one question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But you can cover them in one answer.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : I will try.

The States which have informed my Ministry so far about implementation of the Act are: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

So far as allocation of funds is concerned, it has been increased from Rs. 47 crore to Rs. 107 crore upto 1996-97. It also includes Rs. 28 crore for the National Handicapped Welfare Funding Development Corporation.

The hon. Member has also asked about the impact on the States so far. I have already told that only seven States have so far taken cognizance of the Act. They have implemented it.

Regarding its impact, the welfare of the disabled and their rehabilitation is basically a State Subject. We are working through NGOs because the subject is very vast. So, I cannot take much time of the House by dwelling upon every aspect or every point.

But I can tell you that some good response has started coming in from various organisations and the State

Governments. We are constantly pressing upon the State Governments about this and the State Governments are also taking it seriously.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, although the affairs of infirmity relates to the State Governments yet the Central Government has already provided a substantial amount of money for the benefit of the people concerned.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is any central machinery to monitor the implementation of the projects or the schemes offered by the Central Government?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, regarding implementation of the Central Act, I had already made it clear that we are impressing upon the State Governments continuously. We depend upon two things for monitoring the implementation of the schemes. Firstly on the inspection by the State Governments and secondly on the recommendations by the State Governments.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is, whether there is any Central machinery to supervise the implementation of the schemes or not. Please answer that precisely.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, we do not do it directly. But it is done through the State Governments.

[Translation]

SHRI GYAN SINGH : Hon. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister about an important issue discussed just now by the hon. members of the House. Sir, we are discussing here the issues pertaining to the lame, crippled and disabled persons. I sought information regarding the directives and policies of the Government in this regard. There is a rule in respect of the crippled persons in Madhya Pradesh wherein they are deprived of the facilities in case they possess one-two acres of land. I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to whether any directives would be issued to provide all facilities to such crippled persons who are childless and who possess only one-two acres of land, which is sandy and meant for single crop.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, from the depth of my heart I am thankful

to Shri Sampat ji and other hon. members for raising this issue because I wanted a debate on this issue. The hon. Members has made a mention about Madhya Pradesh and in this connection I would like to say that a Bill would be introduced in the Parliament by the end of this October itself for setting up a Handicapped Trust. The Bill would be introduced after September in October, November whenever we meet. As far as the issue raised regarding the policy being adopted in Madhya Pradesh for such crippled or childless crippled persons is concerned, I would write a letter to the Chief Minister apprising him of the facts.

[English]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU : Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to statement II, paragraphs (g) and (h) of the reply wherein it has been stated that steps are being taken for providing facilities for and education to the disabled children.

May I request him to indicate whether funds are being allocated for competitive and participative sports for the disabled children so that they could regain their self-confidence?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : As I said earlier, the welfare of the disabled cannot be achieved by the Ministry of Welfare alone. Cooperation of different Ministries as well as the State Government is required for this purpose. The hon. Member has mentioned about the participation and good performance shown by the handicapped persons or handicapped students at the school level and has asked whether some fund has been raised for this purpose or not. I would like to tell him that under the Ministry of Human Resource Development we are running 13,000 integrated schools in the country where disabled students study along with the able-bodied students.

The main thrust is to create a psyche of equality among the disabled students. More than 300 schools are being funded by the Ministry of Welfare. During the course of an academic year, funds are being given for studies as well as sports. Every year we also give awards to such students, such schools or such organisations who do tremendously good work in the fields of education and sports. So, the students get total care in the field of sports also.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to submit that this Bill was

passed by the Parliament in 1995 and from the long reply of the Minister, it seems that the Government is acting very slowly. The spirit behind this Bill was to help lakhs of handicapped persons of the country and for their welfare, whether they are blind, crippled, disabled, mentally retarded or deaf, but so far only committees are being set up. While making allocations, it has not been clarified as to how much grant would be given to each state. I would like to know the outcome of the Conference of the Secretaries incharge of all the states organised by the Minister on 12.2.1997 in New Delhi. Similarly, I would like to ask him as to how much capital has been allocated for the National Finance and Development Corporation for Disabled set up by him recently.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : The situation is not so awesome as presented by the hon. Member. He has presented an ambiguous picture whereas we have a very clear picture in our mind and the steps taken by us should be appreciated.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : I have said that the work is being done at a slow pace.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Many works, when done at a slow pace yields good results. I would like to submit that we have chalked out a programme after the meeting held on 12th February and you would be happy to know that we have taken steps for involvement of all in the community Based Rehabilitation Programme. For this we have brought all the governments, voluntary organisations, all those people who have an interest and who work for rehabilitation of the handicapped persons together. Besides imparting vocational training, providing rehabilitation, scholarship, holding experts meetings, opening avenues for new occupations, we have also included allotment of money, coordination and monitoring of handicapped welfare corporation in our Programme. We have formulated this programme on the lines of single window programme. When you see it in detail then you would also praise it.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I think this is the most important question. Last time it was agreed to have a Half-an-hour or Short Duration Discussion on the subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put the question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, the Minister should bear in mind that the physically handicapped or disabled

persons are the most unfortunate ones among God's creations.

We must have sympathy for them. It is a very long reply covering three pages talking of many schemes. The Minister has inspiration and I am very happy about it. Still, I would like to know from him as to what concrete, constructive, effective plans he is contemplating and what effort he is making to get funds provided in the future Five year Plans for helping these people.

Secondly, I would like to know as to how the Minister is going to monitor these schemes. I am not satisfied with his merely saying that he is interested in it and he is making provisions in the plans. I want from the hon. Minister a straight, concrete, very firm reply on how he is going to organise these things to make the country feel proud under the dynamic leadership of his Ministry and to give a glorious life to the physically handicapped in the future.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these points are already answered. If the Minister wants, he can briefly reply to the hon. Member. He need not repeat all that the hon. Member has said in his statement.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : The hon. Member actually inspired the entire House to help the cause of the disabled as well as to help me advance further. The House is expressing deep concern ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, this is Question Hour. Please do not go into such details.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Sir, I am disappointed on one thing for which no solution is available. That is, the mandatory reservation for the handicapped in Government jobs which is ignored by one and all. I have no answer to it.

Fire Incident in Uphaar Cinema

+
*82. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have enquired into the cases of fire incident in Uphaar theatre and more than fifty other places in NCT of Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the recommendations made by the enquiry committee in this regard;

(c) the exact number of casualties in the said incident;

(d) the amount of compensation provided to the relatives of the victims; and

(e) the action taken against the persons responsible for such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Following the "Uphaar" incident in which 59 persons lost their lives, the Lt. Governor of Delhi appointed the Deputy Commissioner (South), Delhi to look into the cause(s) and circumstances leading to the fire, fix responsibility for lapses, if any, on the part of the agencies involved and suggest measures to prevent such incidents in future. The report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner (South) concluded that all the agencies concerned namely, Delhi Vidyut Board, Licensing branch of Delhi Police, Delhi Fire Service and Municipal Corporation of Delhi including the Management of Uphaar Theatre had to share the blame for their acts of omission and commission which contributed to the tragedy. The terms of reference assigned to the Deputy Commissioner (South) did not, however, include conducting of an enquiry into the other fire incidents. However, a survey of cinema halls and banquet halls in the National Capital Territory was conducted by a team of officers headed by respective SDMs. Another survey of 13 cinema halls and 9 hotels which were due for renewal of permit was got conducted through Chief Fire Officer from fire safety point of view by the Delhi Police. The NDMC have also separately constituted a Committee to look into the status of fire fighting arrangements in all NDMC owned buildings.

2. The Delhi Police had separately registered a criminal case relating to the "Uphaar" incident, the investigation of which has since been transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

3. The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi have announced an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 50,000/- to the next of kin of each of those who lost their lives in the Uphaar incident, Rs. 20,000/- to each of those who were seriously injured and Rs. 10,000/- per

head to those who suffered simple injury. The exercise to disburse this payment has been initiated.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I want to know from the Hon. Minister that 59 people were killed due to fire recently which broke out in the Uphaar Cinema Hall in New Delhi and the committee which was set up to look into this incident and the works assigned to it were that first it should fix the responsibility and also give suggestions to prevent such incidents in future. But another committee was set up after this one and now a third committee has been set up but this has not yet been decided who is responsible for this incident. Now a separate committee has been set up comprising the Delhi Vidyut Board, Licence Branch of the Delhi Police, Delhi Fire Service and Municipal Corporation of Delhi. But till now only committees have been set up and nothing has been done to know about the person responsible for the said incident, what are the reasons therefor?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, recently a committee comprising various departments inspected 13 such cinema halls and 9 hotels, licences of which have to be renewed and after inspection they were not found efficient but the team of the Delhi Fire Service has not told them about this so far. If efficiency is not there, the team of Fire Service should tell them whether their licences would be renewed or not and the responsibility for the above incident is fixed and regarding renewal of licences decision should be taken at the earliest, what the hon. minister is doing in regard to things mentioned above?

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I share the hon. Member's concern and his anxiety that the necessary measures which have been taken in this regard should be expedited, and time should not be wasted in all kinds of administrative lapses. The Lieutenant Governor of Delhi had appointed a Committee, as the hon. Members knows, the Naresh Kumar Committee, to make a preliminary inquiry into the whole affair. It is true that the report of this Deputy Commissioner (South) has concluded that all the agencies concerned, namely, the Delhi Vidyut Board, the Licensing Branch of the Delhi Police, the Delhi Fire Service, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi as well as, of course, the management of the cinema house itself. All of them have to share the blame for their acts of omission and commission which contributed to this tragedy.

Subsequent to that, we have tried to identify which were the factors which can be attributed to criminal negligence for which legal action has to be taken against the people concerned and which were the factors of administrative lapses which have to be guarded against in future by taking suitable safety measures.

Now, a process is going on in which the buildings are being checked. It is not only cinema houses but also high-rise buildings in Delhi which are numbering several hundreds, particularly in areas like Nehru Place and Rajendra Place and so on. These high-rise buildings are deathtraps as far as fire hazards are concerned. No safety regulations are observed by most of these buildings.

Then, there are cinema houses, there are guest houses, privately owned guest houses in many parts of Delhi. All these buildings have to be checked up. For example, the Electricity Department has checked 200 high-rise buildings already and served notices on 150 of them. Notices are telling them that 'you have to take the following measures immediately or within ten days or within a month. If you fail to do so, then action will be taken against you'. The NDMC has also inspected 130 high-rise buildings and wherever necessary notices have been served on the owners of those buildings. In many cases, the question of fire hazards relates to the type of electrical transformer which are installed in these buildings.

Actually no transformer should be located within the building itself, it should be outside the building. But in the case of Uphaar cinema also and many other buildings which are being inspected, it is found that the transformers are situated within the premises itself. They are overwhelmingly what are known as oil transformers and cans of diesel oil and so on in order to feed the transformer are being kept there in close proximity to the transformer and the wiring in many places are in a horrible condition. All these and exposed wires which can easily lead to short circuit can be found in so many places.

Nobody bothers about these regulations at all. In many cases, when the basements were inspected to see that no transformers are kept there, it is found that those basements have been sold. The space at the basements has already been sold to various parties and they cannot be traced now. The builders in most cases cannot be traced also. They have disappeared. So, it is a very serious situation.

Regarding the fire service and the police, if I may say, questions may be raised; but let me anticipate it ...

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is better to answer that after Members raise the question.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the tragedy which has occurred in Delhi, the hon. Minister has just mentioned about it. He gave information about Delhi. I will request him that the fire tragedy which has happened in Delhi, may also happens in big cities of other states like Mumbai, Madras, Calcutta and Nagpur. You at least write a letter to Chief Ministers of the states in this regard so that the incident which occurred here does not occur in other states.

The second thing is the inquiry undertaken by the C.B.I. comes under your ministry. The case is currently in the High Court, the Judge of the High Court remarked in regard to that case that inquiry was not conducted regularly. That is your department, when a case is being prosecuted in the court, the work of your department should have also been good enough. You should direct them to expedite the case. The work of providing compensation amounting Rs. 50 thousand, Rs. 20 thousand and Rs. 10 thousand must have been started. So many days have elapsed. The work of inquiry is going on. The amount of Rs. 50 thousand being given as compensation should be raised. I want to say that the amount of compensation which has been announced should be given immediately because they have not yet received it. By what time you propose to provide this amount to them? The amount which has been announced by the Lt. Governor should be provided without further delay.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, the hon. Member has made two suggestions for action; firstly, to write letters to all the Chief Ministers so as to alert everybody and expedite this safety work in other States. I welcome this suggestion. This will be done; secondly, as far as the figures are concerned, I must point out that he is quite correct in saying that the Government of National Capital Territory has announced an *ex gratia* payment of Rs. 50,000 to next of kin of each of those who had lost their lives. Personally, I consider this to be very inadequate. I think I may be authorised at least to announce that this will be raised to Rs. 1 lakh. But I should also say that this amount of money is already being disbursed. It is not so that it has not been provided.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : What I have in writing in reply to my question, it is mentioned therein that the payment of *ex-gratia* has been started and I am asking questions on that only.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : The hon. Home Minister is not aware of that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It has been started. That amount is being disbursed.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : But they have not received it so far.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Many people have got it.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Nobody has got it. You can inquire about that. You have been given wrong information. Mr. Home Minister, you may inquire from your officers they have not received even a single paisa so far. Just day before yesterday, the Lt. Governor said that amount is yet to be provided. ... (Interruptions) They are telling a lie.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I have not said that everybody has got it.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Not a single person has got that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You also don't have full information. It might be that some people have not yet got it but the remaining people have got it since disbursement is going on.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : They have been completing formalities as of now but nobody has got it so far.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : It is easy for the Home Minister to say that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, DESU, Building Department and Police Department are responsible for the Uphaar fire mishap. But I must say that the Union Government is fully responsible for this incident. I had met the Lt. Governor and asked him to get a CBI inquiry conducted into this. I would like to ask as to who is ruling Delhi, the elected Government of Delhi or the Lt. Governor of Delhi? The Chief Minister of Delhi has written to the Union Government demanding a CBI enquiry into this incident. The Lt. Governor didn't pay attention towards this. Instead, the Lt. Governor got an enquiry conducted by the police.

Before issuance of licence, it is mandatory to secure N.O.C. from four departments viz. Building, Fire, Health and DESU. The Lt. Governor told me personally that the police would issue licence when N.O.C. was issued by these four departments. The Health and Building departments have not issued NOC since last two years and despite that the Police department have issued licences. In this regard, the Lt. Governor said that it would be treated/deemed as NOC even if no NOC was issued by the said departments. I would like to request and ask you as to what is the role of the elected Members of Parliament in Delhi? A council headed by the LG should be set up in Delhi so that the Members of Parliament from Delhi could sit with the Lt. Governor and give him proper advice.

In the Uphaar tragedy. ...*(Interruptions)* I will complete in a minute. There are no two opinions that compensation in respect of Uphaar tragedy is being paid. The Home Minister has announced a compensation of one lakh rupees but it doesn't look good on his part. Each victim should atleast be paid a compensation of two lakhs rupees. It is very necessary, I am going to request the Delhi Government in this regard. The Delhi Government can't function effectively till there is multiplicity of authority in Delhi, till the Delhi Government have its own police force, power and rights to transfer the officers. If the Union Government do not take any steps, then such incidents will recur in future. That is what I want to submit to the Union Government. Therefore, I demand and request the Union Government to enquire into the role of the Lt. Governor in this case and it should also be enquired as to how licence has been issued to Uphaar theatre, whereas no N.O.C. was issued by Building and Health departments?

(English)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We are working in very close cooperation with the Lt. Governor. I do not want to enter into this argument as to the powers of the Lt. Governor *vis-a-vis* the powers of the Delhi Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : It is on record. It is a fact.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : They are well defined. It is not something which some individual has invented. They are well defined. They can be amended, they can be changed if such things are suggested. There is nothing so far as I know which prevents any Member from Delhi or anywhere else for that matter of giving his advice to the Lt. Governor.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : There is not a single meeting of MPs with the Lt. Governor on any matter. You have to check up the Lt. Governor in Delhi.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Home Minister, the local elected Members have a role in such matters and they can always give their advice. But the question that the Member has raised is that in such matters whether the Members of Parliament would be consulted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : They should be consulted, of course.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL : We have never been consulted any time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. Thank you.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Also, I want to say that as is well known now, we have decided to hand-over this enquiry to the CBI. There were two views about this. But later on we found that people generally do not have any confidence with the Delhi Police conducting any part of this enquiry because a part of it is against themselves. The Licensing Authority is a Branch of the Delhi Police and therefore, the question of how they will enquire into their own conduct arose. So, we thought it would be better to hand it over to the CBI and that is being done now.

One other point, just a correction, if I may make. The amount of *ex-gratia* compensation which has been already disbursed, because one Member here is saying

(Translation)

that not a single paisa was received.

(English)

is like this. Out of Rs. 7,40,000 to be given in cases of simple injury, Rs. 3,90,000 has actually been disbursed; out of Rs. 5,80,000 which is to be given in cases of grievous injury, Rs. 1,60,000 has already been disbursed; in cases of death Rs. 29,50,000 which is the total amount that should be given, out of that Rs. 3,50,000 has already been disbursed. The process of disbursement is going on. It should be speeded up, I have no doubt about it.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, my question is very specific. The incident of Uphaar Cinema has shocked the entire nation and thereby the image of the capital of India, New Delhi, in the estimation of the entire world population as to what is going on in Delhi everyday. Not only Uphaar Cinema incident but many other incidents

have taken place now. The hon. Home Minister's statement say that:

"The report submitted by the Deputy Commissioner concluded that all the agencies concerned, namely, Delhi Vidyut Board, Licensing Branch of Delhi Police, Delhi Fire Service and Municipal Corporation of Delhi including the management of Uphaar Theatre had to share the blame for their acts of commission or omission which contributed to this tragedy."

May I know from the hon. Home Minister, when such a report is placed by his Deputy Commissioner of Police did he start prosecution against all the people involved in all these agencies or selectively only against the Uphaar Cinema people? I am asking this question because these people are responsible for Delhi, destroying the entire image of the nation day in and day out. Had the prosecution started in all the agencies involved in it I would have had no question or demand. If it is not, why selectively only Uphaar Cinema people, leaving out these agencies have been prosecuted? I want to know this from the hon. Home Minister.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, these are all agencies. Prosecution has to be done against individuals. All the people connected with a particular agency may not be liable for prosecution. I said already that criminal liability and administrative liability have to be separated from each other and they are being investigated. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, what is this? I want your protection. It is not correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wait.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : The administrative liability requires that if there is a lapse in my responsibility to allow this thing to continue either getting bribe or other things, am I not responsible for that?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat and listen to the hon. Minister's reply.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : So, in cases where prosecution is justified, this prosecution has already been launched against several people belonging to various agencies.

Not all of them, of course. It is because the matter has to be seen on that particular day when this incident took place, who were that people belonging to these agencies who were directly connected with the operation of these agencies. Out of them, naturally, those who are

culpable have to be prosecuted and they will be prosecuted. There is no question of any selective choice of people out of them.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Sir, I would request the Home Minister to kindly tell this. I am saying it from my personal knowledge because in 1983 I happened to be the Lieutenant-Governor. At that time, a drive was launched to ensure safety in high-rise buildings and in all other public buildings like cinemas also. As a consequence of that drive, 12 licences of cinemas were cancelled including the licence of Uphaar cinema in 1983. Notices were issued. A large number of deficiencies were noticed. Against those orders, the High Court issued a stay order on the petition of the owners of this as well as other cinemas.

Is it a fact that this stay order has been in operation for the last 14 years? Who is responsible for this? One tragedy has already happened. What about the 11 remaining cinemas which have still got the stay order? I would like to know whether it is a fact or not. If that is a fact, who is responsible for continuance of the stay order for 14 long years?

In the light of this, as I have been saying, would you kindly consider the concept of a judicial audit on the same principle as we have got the Comptroller and Auditor-General? The Auditor-General (Judicial) can examine certain cases and take a report to the Supreme Court directly or to a Committee of the Parliament. I have, on a number of occasions, given this suggestion but somehow or the other, this type of suggestion has not even been considered or not even understood.

If the Home Minister has not got the information now, he could give us subsequently. But this is the real serious issue involved in it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The specific point about these 12 cinema houses and who managed to get some stay order from the Court in the year 1983...

SHRI JAG MOHAN : I was myself the person who cancelled it. So I can say that it happened in 1983. I am told that it is still in operation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I will have to inquire and verify it. I am not sure about it... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : The Government should know this. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him complete.

.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : As far as this time is concerned, I can say that after the Uphaar incident, five cinema houses which were found to be woefully inadequate in any kind of safety regulations have been closed down. They have been closed. They are Vijay, Kaushal, Khanna, New Filmistan and Chand.

I am just informed that the stay order granted in 1983 continues to be in operation.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : My God! What I said is correct. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the Minister complete please. Please take your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : It is very pathetic ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Professor, please take you seat. Let the Minister complete.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, the investigation is in progress to establish if there was any criminal culpability in the non-vacation of stay orders on the part of the Licensing Authority. The Licensing Authority being the Department of Delhi Police, we have also removed that area from inquiry by the Delhi Police. But whether anybody there had a hand in this non-vacation of the stay for such a long period is being investigated and it will come to light as to who is responsible as the hon. Member wants to know quite rightly.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, this Question requires further detailed answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have taken sufficient time. This is the Question Hour. We can discuss it on some other occasion.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Sir, such a thing has been brought to limelight. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rajesh Pilotji, we can discuss it in some other form.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is such a basic information. The Government did not even open the file. ...(*Interruptions*) This led to the situation. Hundred people have to. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, if you allow half-an-hour discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We can have a discussion on this later on.

[*Translation*]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this tragedy not only occurred in Uphaar cinema but several other buildings also caught fire during the same period. Today, Delhi has become a concrete jungle due to connivance of builders and the administration and as a result, unauthorised construction takes place and fire incidents occur. There is no one to check it. The fire brigade is passing through a critical phase. No department is ready to sit and think as to what should be done. When such incidents are occurring in Delhi, has the Lt. Governor and the concerned officers of Delhi Government or the Union Home Minister with the help of concerned officers tried to find out the causes for occurrence of such incidents? You would be surprised to know that out of all the cinema halls in Delhi, only five cinema halls have got No Objection Certificate. Through you, I would like to ask the Home Minister the steps proposed to be taken by him to strengthen the fire brigade further so as to check recurrence of such incidents in future. I would also like to ask him as to what steps he would be taking against the officers, police or administration responsible for occurrence of such incidents so as to avoid such incidents in future.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I have already explained that in all the cases which come to light of the culpability or the negligence of these people, whether they are police officers or other officers, action will be taken and they will certainly be punished according to the magnitude of their crime.

As far as the second issue is concerned, I have to verify the figures. He says that most of these cinema houses do not have completion certificates. I will certainly look into it.

I would like to say one thing that at present in all these cinema houses, high rise buildings and so on, there is nobody on the premises who can detect or suspect some dangerous signals that fire may break out. He can give a warning in time. There is a fellow called "caretaker" in each building. The caretaker is a lowly paid employee for whom nobody cares; nobody bothers about that caretaker. The Lt. Governor has made a proposal that Civil Defence Wardens may be trained in fire fighting,

first-aid and so, on. There are about 42,000 such Civil Defence Wardens available in Delhi. I think, if they can be employed on the job of fire fighting and to keep a watch on all the buildings and to be on duty there, that would help very much in giving timely warning.

Decline in Oilseeds Production

*83. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI ANIL BASU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set and the actual production of oilseeds in the country during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there is any possibility to get more production of oilseeds from the non-traditional States where oilseed production is less particularly in Eastern and N.E. States;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make the country self-reliant in the oilseeds?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A statement is enclosed at *Annexure I*.

(b) Rapeseed-Mustard and Sesamum are the main Oilseed crops in Eastern and North Eastern States. Vast

Mono-cropped area after paddy, fallow lands and riverine areas in the region hold good prospects for cultivation of oilseed crops like soyabean, groundnut and white sesamum with better return to farmers during kharif season, high yielding varieties of rapeseed- mustard, sunflower, linseed and summer groundnut can fetch additional return to the farmers as rabi summer crops. With this view, the Technology Mission on Oilseeds & Pulses and National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oils Development Board (NOVOD Board) are promoting oilseeds cultivation in the Eastern and North Eastern States through demonstration of improved production technology and popularisation of high yielding varieties/ hybrids through minikit programmes.

(c) The potential crops in Eastern and North-Eastern States are given in *Annexure II*.

(d) A Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 22 major Oilseeds growing States for increasing the production and the productivity of oilseeds and to make the country self-reliant. Under the programme various incentives by way of subsidies are being provided on critical inputs like production and distribution of seed, minikits, rhizobium culture, gypsum/pyrite, improved farm implements, plant protection equipments, sprinkler sets etc. In addition, frontline and general demonstrations are organised of farmer's field to transfer the production technology. The project to promote the cultivation of oil palm has also been taken up in the country to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils.

In order to supplement the Oilseeds Production further in the country, the oil is also extracted from non-traditional sources like cotton-seed and rice bran and also the forest based oilseeds are exploited upto some extent.

ANNEXURE I

(Lakh tonnes)

S. No.	State	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement (Estimated)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	26.0	21.1	25.0	28.4	24.75	23.65
2.	Assam	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.84	2.0
3.	Bihar	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.4	2.06	1.4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Gujarat	30.0	37.1	29.0	21.6	28.50	35.9
5.	Haryana	8.0	8.6	8.5	8.2	8.08	9.9
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.2	0.8	—	0.8	—	0.8
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.5	0.27	0.5	0.27	0.50	0.32
8.	Karnataka	19.0	15.4	18.7	17.9	17.87	18.2
9.	Madhya Pradesh	41.5	38.6	42.0	49.0	46.42	50.0
10.	Maharashtra	19.0	18.1	22.0	19.8	21.15	24.2
11.	Orissa	9.0	2.4	7.5	2.4	7.38	1.9
12.	Punjab	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.71	3.3
13.	Rajasthan	26.0	28.3	27.2	30.7	30.17	35.7
14.	Tamil Nadu	15.0	18.7	17.2	20.4	16.35	17.2
15.	Uttar Pradesh	13.0	13.8	15.5	14.7	15.64	15.5
16.	West Bengal	5.0	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.68	4.2
17.	Others	1.3	0.53	0.9	0.33	1.90	0.43
All India :		220.0	213.4	225.0	224.3	230.0	244.6

ANNEXURE II

List of Potential crops indicated against each State

Eastern States	Potential Crops
1	2
Bihar	Groundnut, Sunflower, Sesamum, Safflower, Soyabean, Niger, Castor and Linseed
West Bengal	Groundnut, Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Sunflower & Linseed
Orissa	Groundnut, Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Niger, Castor, Linseed, Sunflower, Safflower & Soyabean

North Eastern States	Popular & Potential Crops
Assam	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Linseed, Soyabean, Groundnut & Niger
Manipur	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Sunflower & Soyabean
Meghalaya	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum & Soyabean
Mizoram	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Soyabean & Groundnut
Nagaland	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Soyabean, Groundnut, Linseed & Sunflower
Arunachal Pradesh	Rapeseed-Mustard, Sesamum, Soyabean & Groundnut
Sikkim	Rapeseed-Mustard, Soyabean
Tripura	Groundnut, Sesam & Rapeseed-Mustard

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Realising the importance of oilseed crops and the role of edible oil in nutrition security and to check foreign exchange balances, oilseeds was brought under the Technology Mission of Oilseeds (TMO) in 1986 by the Union Government. An expanded amount of Rs. 94.56 crore had been provided in every year's Budget. The annual growth rate of production was ten per cent between 1987-88 and 1992-93, which dropped to 2.5 per cent. Since then the oilseeds production has reduced. Thereafter, a plateau around 21 million tonnes has been reached.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister how the Government will break the plateau.

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a fact that the production of oil seed has increased but the cost of production is also on the increase. Therefore, in order to check this expenditure, there is a need for evolving a special scheme so that the productivity could be increased. Earlier, due to area extension the production had increased rapidly, but now area limitation is there, so there is a need to increase the productivity of oil seeds. We have not been able to provide the

required assistance to the farmers in our budget for increasing the productivity. That's why, we have to import oil. As I have already informed, the import is increasing gradually. During 1994-95, the import was to the tune of Rs. 625 crore in 1995-96 it was Rs. 2261 crores and in 1996-97, it was Rs. 3000 crores. We can meet the demand by increasing the productivity. It will take time to increase the production of Palm oil because after plantation of palm tree it take several years to grow. It is cheaper. The Department has formulated a scheme in this regard. There is a scheme to plant palm trees in the area of one lakh hectares during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, the oil consumption in India has increased from 6.3 kg per person per annum in 1989-90 to 8.9 kg per year as against the global average of 16 kg per year whereas the oilseed growth is required to be 13 per cent per annum to attain self-sufficiency. I would like to know from the Minister that when the growth rate of oil production is ten per cent and when it is coming down, how shall we attain self-sufficiency?

[Translation]

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already told that our productivity is very low as compared to the world average productivity. Our

production of soyabean is 1046 kgs. per hectare, whereas it is 1974 kgs. per hectare in the world, we are a shade better in the production of groundnut but this too is 1151 kgs. per hectare in the world, whereas it is 921 kgs. per hectare in India. Rapeseed and mustard is a third variety of oil. People use it more and grow it more as well. The production of rapeseed and mustard is 1363 kgs. per hectare in the world and our production is 851 kgs. per hectare. There is sunflower which we could produce more. Soyabean, groundnut, rapeseed and sunflower are of same variety and we could produce more to meet the demand of edible oil. Production of sunflower is 547 kgs. per hectare in India whereas it is 1306 kgs. per hectare in the world. As I have said earlier that by increasing production we could solve this problem but we don't have so much provision in the budget as to provide sufficient assistance to farmers.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether coconut has been declared as one of the oilseeds by the Government of India and, if so, whether coconut has been given all the benefits which are given to other oilseeds by the Government of India under Technology Mission?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, so far as coconut is concerned, it is under the Coconut Board. We have not yet brought it under Technology Mission. All the help required for coconut is given through the Coconut Board and adequate funds are available for that. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : No, Sir. Coconut had been declared as oilseed during the time of the last Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, the previous Government had declared coconut as oilseed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. You cannot ask like this.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, my specific question is whether under the Technology Mission, all the benefits have been given to coconut. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. You cannot ask like that.

Mr. Minister, the question is whether coconut is included as an oilseed and if so whether the benefits are extended to it or not.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already said that we get oil from coconut. I can give you all the facts on this. They are getting help from the Coconut Board. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, that is not the point.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, it is not my question. I want to know whether the benefits have been extended to coconut under the Technology Mission. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to the Minister.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, it is not under the Technology Mission nor I think additional help can be available under the Technology Mission. The Coconut Board is given funds for that and you are getting help from that. If the hon. Members want more information, I am ready to discuss with them. They are welcome. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, It is not correct. Coconut is an oilseed. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramesh Chennithala, please take your seat. You cannot go on like that. Shri Mullappally Ramachandran, you have made your point. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A.C. JOS : Sir, let him clarify. It is not correct. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Jos, you are not allowed. Please take your seat.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, I have already told and I am repeating. It is cinder horticulture. It is not a seed.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, It is not correct. It is an oilseed.

SHRI A. SAMPATH : Sir, it was declared as an oilseed by the Government. We are under the impression that it is still an oilseed. If it is an oilseed it will get

benefits from the Technology Mission. It should be clarified. The hon. Minister is saying it is not an oilseed. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Sir, please tell the hon. Minister to clarify. Coconut is an oilseed, recognised by the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, the former Minister of Agriculture has assured the House and informed that Coconut has been included as an oilseed and benefits thereon will be given. Now the hon. Minister is saying to the contrary to the earlier decision of the Government. I demand a statement from the hon. Minister clarifying the position whether coconut is included as an oilseed or not. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer. My specific question is whether coconut has been declared as an oilseed and whether benefits will be extended or not. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, it seems the hon. Members are not satisfied with the answer. So, kindly inform whether it is included as oilseed and if so whether the benefits are extended to coconut or not. That is all.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. The Minister will inform the Members about the specific questions raised by Shri Mullappally Ramachandran later.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, it is a treeborn oilseed. There are certain oilseeds which are treeborn oilseeds.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, Mr. Minister, that is not the point. You can inform them later about the position.

... *(Interruptions)*

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM : Sir, this is a very important question regarding coconut. The Government has already declared it as an oilseed. Now the Minister is saying it is not so. I want to know which is correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have only one minute left. The hon. Minister will inform you.

I have called Shri N.S.V. Chitthan. I request the hon. Minister to take his seat.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Sir, it is clear from Annexure-II that groundnut is being grown in all the States except the hilly States like Manipur and Meghalaya. The groundnut crop yields good returns and it is a boon to agriculturists especially in the South. Unlike paddy and wheat, groundnut can be cultivated with less irrigation and it is mostly produced in rainfed areas. When compared to other seed varieties the hybrid varieties in groundnuts are not being introduced remarkably. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will make further tangible researches and introduce effective hybrid varieties to improve the production of groundnuts to meet the needs of the nation?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Sir, this is a very important question whether it is in Tamil Nadu or in some southern States. We can have enough of this. But what is needed is some water and sufficient number of sprinklers should be provided. Last year we could not cope up with it with the budgetary provisions. It was so not only in Tamil Nadu but also in States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. They demanded more sprinklers. But the budgetary amount was not such that we could have provided them all. That is the main reason why I am not able to do that. As regards the research of hybrid varieties we are trying for it. ...*(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Flood and Natural Calamities

*84. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the floods and natural calamities situations during 1997;

(b) if so, the details of States badly affected as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also assessed the loss of life and property;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total amount of loss incurred thereby, State-wise;

(e) whether the Union Government have received any Memoranda/detailed Memoranda from the State Governments on the floods and natural calamities;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(g) whether any relief and rehabilitation measures have been undertaken in those States;

(h) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(i) whether the State Governments have requested any Central aid from the Government in this regard;

(j) if so, the total amount released so far by the Government for the relief measures, State-wise; and

(k) the specific steps taken by the Government to deal with such situations?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (k) According to reports received from the State Governments, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh were affected by hailstorm during March-April, 1997. Heavy rains and floods during the South-West Monsoon affected parts of nine States, namely Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in varying degrees. Parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal were affected by land slides also. Jabalpur and surrounding areas of Madhya Pradesh were hit by an earthquake of medium intensity on 22nd May, 1997.

2. Government of India and the State Governments undertake long term programmes to mitigate the adverse impacts of natural calamities. However, the State Governments carry out immediate rescue and relief measures like evacuation of stranded population, air dropping of food packets, operation of relief camps, health and veterinary centres, distribution of gratuitous relief and providing financial assistance to the affected people. For this purpose, a State Calamity Relief Fund (SCRF) has been constituted with an allocation of Rs. 6304.27 crores for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000 according to the recommendations of the Tenth Finance Commission. *Statement-I* indicating the State-wise allocations of SCRF is enclosed. The contribution to SCRF is in the ratio of 75 : 25 by Central Government and State Government respectively. The annual central share of the SCRF is released to the State Governments in four equal quarterly

instalments in order to enable them to respond immediately in the wake of natural calamities. The States can also draw these quarterly instalments in advance, if required.

3. In the event of a calamity of rare severity, Government of India provide additional assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) after the assessment of the damage by a Central Team. National Calamity Relief Committee (NCRC) decides on the quantum of assistance from the NFCR on the basis of the reports of Central Teams. The NFCR has a corpus of Rs. 700.00 crore for the period 1995-2000 (Rs. 140.00 crore annually) out of which Rs. 539.00 crore has already been released. Assistance from other Ministries such as Rural Areas and Employment, Urban Affairs & Employment, Surface Transport, Health and Family Welfare, etc. is also extended to States.

4. Two instalments of central share of State Calamity Relief Fund have been released to all the State Governments during the financial year 1997-98. Advance releases from the SCRF have also been made to the States of Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Sikkim. *Statement-II* indicating the extent of damage reported by the State Governments due to natural calamities during 1997 and the funds released from the SCRF during 1997-98 is enclosed.

5. Memoranda have been received during the current financial year from the following States seeking additional assistance from the NFCR:

S. No.	State	Calamity	Funds sought (Rs. in crores)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hailstorm	82.11
2.	Gujarat	Floods	664.33
3.	Kerala	Floods	1106.26
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Earthquake	230.77
5.	Sikkim	Landslides	107.39

6. On the basis of the decision taken by the NCRC, Rs. 45.26 crores have been released to Government of

Madhya Pradesh as additional assistance from the NCFR for relief and reconstruction measures in the earthquake affected areas. Central teams have concluded their visits to Gujarat and Sikkim and on the basis of their reports, the NCRC will shortly decide the additional assistance if any for these States. The memorandum from Kerala has just been received and a Central Team will visit the State shortly.

7. In addition to the financial assistance for relief and rehabilitation being provided to the State Governments, Govt. of India also takes the following measures to mitigate the impact of natural calamities:

- (i) Every year well before the onset of monsoon in a conference of State Relief Commissioners the disaster preparedness measures are assessed.
- (ii) A Crop Contingency Plan has been prepared and has been circulated to the States for

responding to different types of weather conditions. On the basis of this Plan the State Governments have formulated specific Contingency Plans.

- (iii) A Crop Weather Watch Group in the Ministry of Agriculture monitors the rainfall pattern and crop situation.
- (iv) A Crisis Management Group in the Ministry of Agriculture monitors immediate response measures in the wake of natural calamities.
- (v) The Ministry of Agriculture have established a National Centre for Disaster Management at the Centre and have funded faculties on Natural Disaster Management at the State Level Training Institutes/Universities for upgrading skills for disaster management and for promoting community awareness.

Statement I

Calamity Relief Fund for 1995-2000

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total 1995-2000
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11721	12419	13105	13773	14359	65377
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	664	704	743	781	813	3705
3.	Assam*	4720	5001	5277	5547	5783	26328
4.	Bihar	4904	5196	5483	5763	6007	27353
5.	Goa	101	107	113	119	124	564
6.	Gujarat	13176	13960	14731	15483	16140	73430
7.	Haryana	2365	2505	2644	2779	2897	13190
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2544	2695	2844	2989	3116	14188

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1860	1971	2079	2184	2279	10374
10.	Karnataka	3949	4185	4416	4641	4839	22030
11.	Kerala	5229	5540	5847	6144	6405	29165
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4821	5108	5389	5665	5905	26888
13.	Maharashtra	6437	6820	7197	7564	7885	35903
14.	Manipur	235	248	261	275	287	1306
15.	Meghalaya	263	279	295	309	323	1469
16.	Mizoram	120	127	133	140	147	667
17.	Nagaland	160	171	180	188	196	895
18.	Orissa	4625	4901	5172	5436	5667	25801
19.	Punjab	5111	5415	5715	6005	6261	28507
20.	Rajasthan	16899	17904	18893	19856	20700	94252
21.	Sikkim	444	471	497	523	544	2479
22.	Tamil Nadu	5602	5935	6263	6583	6863	31245
23.	Tripura	424	449	475	499	520	2367
24.	Uttar Pradesh	11809	12512	13203	13876	14467	65867
25.	West Bengal	4844	5132	5416	5692	5933	27017
Total		113026	119755	126371	132815	138460	630427

Statement-II

*Extent of Damage as Reported by the States in the Wake of Natural Calamities During 1997
and Funds Released from the Calamity Relief Fund During 1997-98*

A. Heavy rains, floods, landslides and hailstorm

S. No.	State	District Affected (Nos.)	Villages Affected (Nos.)	Damage to Crops (Lakh Hectare)	Population Affected (Lakh)	Damage To Houses (Nos.)	Human Lives Lost (Nos.)	Central Share of CRF Released During 1997-98 (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16	1733	1.00		1147	60	49.145
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		5				8	2.785
3.	Assam	17	3474	1.06	25.58	4770	13	19.790
4.	Bihar	15	3687	4.60	34.03	88523	41	20.560
5.	Gujarat	17	2125	1.98		102220	191	82.860
6.	Haryana	15	339	0.48				9.915
7.	Karnataka	11		0.05		1641	66	16.560
8.	Kerala	14	941	0.46	54.00	14292	131	32.888
9.	Madhya Pradesh	5	169					40.420
10.	Maharashtra	17					64	26.990
11.	Punjab	6	159	0.08				21.430
12.	Sikkim	3				3000	67	2.798
13.	Uttar Pradesh	14	1373	0.19	2.47	609	30	49.510
14.	West Bengal	3			1.17	2000		20.310
Total:		153	14005	9.90	117.25	218202	671	395.961

B. Earthquake

Madhya Pradesh	16	1792		13.40	165668	39	40.420
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*[Translation]***Pollution in Narmada River**

*85. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of factories causing pollution in the water of the Narmada river;

(b) the steps taken by the Central Government to prevent the pollution in the Narmada river so far;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to make the entire water of the Narmada free from pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI) : (a) The river Narmada originates from Amarkantak district in Madhya Pradesh and after passing through Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat meets the Gulf of Khambat. According to the report received from the Maharashtra State Pollution Control Board, the river does not receive trade effluents in Maharashtra. As per the report received from the Madhya Pradesh State Pollution Control Board, there are a total of 20 factories located in the catchment area of the river Narmada in Madhya Pradesh and there is no regular discharge from any of these units into the river directly. However, the municipal sewage of Jabalpur is discharged into the river without any treatment. According to the report received from the Central Pollution Control Board, there are two grossly polluting industries in Ankleshwar and two large Industrial Estates, one in Ankleshwar and the other in Panoli which are reported to be polluting the river Narmada in Gujarat. The effluent treatment plants in the two individual industries are not reported to be operating satisfactorily. State Pollution Control Board has reported that one Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) has been set up for treating the effluent discharged by about 100 small scale industries of Ankleshwar.

(b) to (d) Directions have been issued by the Central Pollution Control Board on 14.7.1997 under Section 18(1) (b) of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 to the State Pollution Control Boards to issue notices to the defaulting industries for setting up effluent treatment plants within three months failing which closure notice shall be issued to such defaulting units. In order to control pollution of the river from municipal sewage at

Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh, the Government have approved a pollution abatement programme of river Narmada under the National river Conservation Plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 14.57 crore

*[English]***Buffer Stock Norms**

*86. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government despite their optimistic projection of foodgrains of 198.17 million tonne in 1996-97, will be able to meet the buffer stock norms;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which the principal commodities like wheat and rice fall short of the buffer stock norms;

(d) whether the Government have decided to import these commodities; and

(e) if so, the quantity thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) Based on current supply plan estimates we shall be meeting the buffer stock norms in respect of rice as on 1.10.1997, and in respect of wheat as on 1.4.1998.

(d) and (e) Government, decided to import through STC upto 20 lakh tonnes of wheat each during 1996-97 and 1997-98, of which a quantity of 17.51 lakh tonnes has already been received till May, 1997. The STC has contracted for import of another quantity of 10 lakh tonnes of wheat which is likely to be received before March, 1998.

Three-Tier Pricing System Under Revamped Public Distribution System

*87. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have introduced yet another tier of foodgrains pricing under the Revamped Public Distribution System in addition to the already announced dual pricing system for the poor and the non-poor, making it a three-tiered pricing structure:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons likely to be benefited by scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) has ceased to exist with the introduction of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) with effect from 1.6.1997. Under the TPDS, there shall be two price regimes—one for the families living below poverty line (BPL) and another for families above poverty line (APL). However, if any State is made any additional allocation to meet special requirements, then the foodgrains are supplied at the Economic Cost. The details are as under:—

	(Rs. per kg.)		
	BPL	APL	Economic Cost
Wheat	2.50	4.50	7.62
Rice			
Common	3.50	—	8.45
Fine	3.50	6.50	8.88
Supertine	—	7.50	9.27

(c) The number of persons living below poverty line who are likely to be benefited by the Scheme is about 32.03 crores. It is not possible to estimate the number of APL beneficiaries as it is left to the States to distribute the foodgrains at a scale to be determined by them from the allotment of foodgrains made for APL families.

[Translation]

Price of Imported Wheat

*88. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of imported wheat is comparatively more than the price of the wheat procured on the support price in the domestic market;

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

(c) the reasons for import of wheat at a higher price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The estimated economic cost of imported wheat would be marginally more than the economic cost of indigenously procured wheat. The details in this regard are as under:—

	Pooled Economic Cost (Estimated) (Rs./MT)
Imported Wheat	8076.00
Indigenous Wheat	7528.30

(c) Import of wheat was undertaken to tide over the tight domestic wheat stock position and to augment the overall supply position with a view to contain the rise in prices caused by a fall in production, and the consequent lower procurement of wheat for the Central Pool during 1996-97.

[English]

Import of Inferior Wheat from Australia by STC

*89. DR. A.K. PATEL :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Australian wheat imported by STC contained exotic weeds, as appeared in the 'Economic Times' dated May 20, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether the STC have violated norms regarding import of wheat;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether an Indian team of experts recently visited Australia to discuss the problem of contaminated wheat;

(f) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(g) whether complaints have been received from various States regarding the sub-standard quality of wheat imported which is unfit for human consumption; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Presence of some weed seeds was detected in the Australian wheat. Such weed seeds are an integral part of any foodgrains harvest and it is not unusual to detect weed seeds in any bulk import of foodgrains. The Australian wheat conforms to the provisions of the Contract and the specifications laid down in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and is fit for human consumption.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The Government of India had deputed a team of experts to Australia to discuss the issue of presence of exotic weeds in the imported Australian wheat. Based on the findings of the team, it has been decided that imported wheat would be distributed only in the non-wheat growing areas to ensure that exotic weed seeds do not reach the wheat growing areas.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Prices of Drugs

*90. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many vital drugs have escaped the price mechanism in the absence of any regulatory authority;

(b) whether it is also a fact that apart from anti-malarial and anti hormonal drugs prices going high, the prices of even common drugs have gone very high as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for setting up Pricing Authority?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) For selection of drugs for price control the 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986' lays down the criteria, which are based on economic factors alone and not on therapeutic considerations.

(b) Studies conducted for large selling formulations, including anti-malarial and hormonal drugs, reveal that while there is some increase in prices, there are cases of price decrease also. The price increase is not across the board and abnormal and can be attributed to various

factors like increase in cost of raw materials, utilities, fluctuation in foreign exchange etc.

(c) The Chairman and Member Secretary of NPPA have been appointed. However, NPPA has not become functional due to problems of administrative nature, which are being sorted out.

Shortage of Wheat, Rice and Sugar in PDS Shops

*91. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported by the PDS shops in the States that there is an acute shortage of wheat, rice and sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the main reasons for the shortage of foodgrains;

(d) the total quantity of wheat and rice supplied to the State Governments for distribution on the PDS shops since July, 1997;

(e) whether the quota from the 1st of June, 1997 under the new policy has not been fully and sufficiently despatched to those States; and

(f) if so, the total shortage felt and the steps the Government propose to ensure timely availability of wheat, rice and sugar in sufficient quantity to the Fair Price Shops in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) No such report about the non-availability of foodgrains and sugar in Fair Price Shops, after launching the Targeted PDS, have been received.

(d) In July, 1997 9,76,220 MT of rice and 6,08,020 MT of wheat has been allocated to States and UTs.

(e) According to available information sufficient stocks are in place to meet the requirements against allocations made under TPDS for the months of June and July, 1997.

(f) Does not arise.

Food Product Order

*92. LT. GENERAL (RETD.) PRAKASH MANI
TRIPATHI :
SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY :

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

(a) whether a New Food Product Order has been issued;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the new order will provide requisite leverage to the food processing industries for improving efficiency and productivity;

(c) the extent to which this order will give a boost to the domestic industry in developing food processing industries in the country; and

(d) the reaction of food processing industries to this order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (d) The Government has recently notified the Fruit Products (Amendment) Order 1997. This notification (SO:1530) was published in the Gazette of India on June 14, 1997.

These amendments have been made with a view to meet adequately the long felt needs of the processed fruit industry of the country. These are expected to facilitate greater innovation in product formulations, promote food safety and consumer participation, encourage good manufacturing practices and reduce procedural delays and redundancy.

Fruit Products (Amendment) Order 1997 has made a number of procedural modifications to debureaucratise the process of licence renewal, label approval and admissibility of unspecified fruit products as well as aseptic and flexible packaging. In order to encourage innovative product mix, the said Order has enlarged the list of food additives significantly by the inclusion of low calorie sweeteners such as Aspartame and Aceflume K, which may now promote an entire range of diet fruit products.

Similarly, several food acids such as malic, citric, tartaric and lactic have been permitted in fruit products as acidulants and their quantity will be determined as per good manufacturing practices.

These amendments also provide for an omnibus variety of pickles without media. They accord the syrups and sharbats made out of dry fruits (containing a minimum of 10% dry fruit) the status of fruit syrups. Besides, they also ensure protection of consumers' interest by enlarging the composition of the Central Fruit Products Advisory Committee to include the representative of consumer organisations.

Since, these amendments have all the ingredients for improvement of efficiency and productivity in processed fruit sector, it is expected that the domestic industry will receive considerable boost on this account. These amendments are structured to liberalise the existing procedures, to cut down delays and repetitions, to enhance innovation and good manufacturing practices and balance them with food safety and consumers' interest. All these are expected to have a positive and pro-active impact on the fruit processing industries.

The reaction of the fruit processing industry to these developments has been extremely encouraging. The industry has been persistent in their demand to revoke the antiquated food laws, and obtain new legislative instruments which can foster innovation and quality, and freedom of enterprise consistent with good manufacturing practices.

Since the recent FPO amendments constitute a significant step in the direction, food processing industries have conveyed their gratitude to the Government in no uncertain words.

Identity Cards

*93. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH :
SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Home Ministry keen on National Identity Cards" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated June 29, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government plan to introduce identity cards system to check illegal infiltration;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme;

(d) the amount likely to be spent on this project;

(e) the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(f) whether the Government plan to introduce Identity Card System (Viz. Green Card for citizens and Red Card for foreigners) on a national basis to check illegal infiltration; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) to (g) This proposal is at a conceptual stage and is being examined in depth.

[Translation]

Vehicular Pollution

*94. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recent study has been made by the Government or through any agency or study group regarding the effects of pollution particularly the vehicular pollution in the major cities and towns;

(b) if so, the details of data of the said study for each city and the steps taken to deal with this problem and results achieved till date; and

(c) the details of the Action Plan for 1997-98 to control pollution in various States particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir. A number of studies have been carried out recently on pollution, particularly on vehicular pollution. These include studies undertaken by the Central Pollution Control Board, the Tata Energy Research Institute, the World Bank, the Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi and the Centre for Science and Environment.

(b) (i) The Central Pollution Control Board has estimated that the total vehicular emission load in the 12 major cities in the country is as follows:

S.No.	CITY	Vehicular Pollution Load (Tonnes per Day)	
		1987	1994
1	2	3	4
1.	Delhi	871.92	1046.30
2.	Mumbai	548.80	659.57

1	2	3	4
3.	Bangalore	253.72	304.47
4.	Calcutta	244.77	293.71
5.	Ahmedabad	243.94	292.73
6.	Pune	212.76	255.31
7.	Chennai	188.54	226.25
8.	Hyderabad	169.03	202.84
9.	Jaipur	74.98	88.99
10.	Kanpur	71.99	86.17
11.	Lucknow	69.58	83.49
12.	Nagpur	47.80	57.39

(ii) The Tata Energy Research Institute, New Delhi has carried out a modeling study to determine the possible measures that would help mitigate transport related pollution in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Bangalore.

(iii) A World Bank study has estimated the environmental degradation in the country due to pollution. The study has estimated that air pollution in conjunction with other factors such as general status of nutrition and lower standard of living causes adverse health effects in the general population living in Indian cities.

(iv) The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi has prepared a report on future traffic management scenarios for Delhi.

(v) The Centre for Science and Environment, New Delhi has brought out a report on the status of vehicular pollution in the country, its effects and measures for its control. The study indicates an increase in vehicular pollution in the major cities in the country due to a rise in vehicular population of old engine design, poor quality fuels and inadequate regulatory and traffic management measures.

Several steps have been taken to control vehicular pollution including progressive tightening of emission norms for new vehicles; introduction of cleaner fuels; effective enforcement for control of pollution from in-use vehicles and improvement of road network and traffic management.

The steps have resulted in introduction of unleaded petrol and catalytic converter fitted four wheeler petrol vehicles in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from 1.4.1995. Low-lead petrol has been introduced in the entire country from 1.1.1997. Use of low sulphur diesel (0.5 per cent sulphur) in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai has been introduced from 1.4.1996. Tighter emission norms for new vehicles have been introduced with effect from 1.4.1996. Fuel quality specifications for automotive fuels have been notified.

(c) Each State Government is responsible for control of pollution in that State. The Government of India formulates pollution control strategies for issues pertaining to prevention and abatement of air, water and industrial pollution. This includes, inter alia,—notification of ambient air quality standards as also effluent and emission standards for the major categories of polluting industries. The Central Government lays down guidelines for siting of industries and major projects and provides for financial assistance for a scheme on construction of common effluent treatment plants for clusters of small scale industries. The Central Government plans to introduce unleaded petrol in all major cities and towns by 31.12.1998 and in the entire country by 1.4.2000. Introduction of Diesel with 0.25 per cent sulphur in the entire country is targeted for 1.4.1999. Stricter emission norms for new vehicles are to be brought into effect from 1.4.2000. A draft Action Plan to control pollution in Delhi has been prepared.

The action taken for controlling pollution in Maharashtra includes implementation of the World Bank aided Industrial Pollution Control Project, setting up of common effluent treatment plants in clusters of small scale units, and implementation of a plan for abatement of pollution in Chembur.

[English]

Stock of Explosives in Punjab

*95. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Alarm over RDX re-entry in Punjab" appearing in the 'The Hindu' dated the June 14, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of RDX and other dangerous explosives and weapons recovered in Punjab during the year 1997;

(c) whether RDX and other explosives and arms have been recovered in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any link between revival of terrorists activities in Punjab and continuing disruptive action in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement I is attached.

(c) and (d) Statement II is attached.

(e) and (f) Under its current game plan, Pak, ISI has made fresh efforts to forge linkage between Punjab militants and insurgent groups of Jammu & Kashmir, fundamentalist groups and mercenaries to widen the arc of militancy in India. The recent incidents of terrorism in Punjab can be attributed to such an effort. However, adequate counter measures and coordinated efforts have been initiated to defeat such designs.

Statement I

Details of RDX and Other Dangerous Explosives/Weapons Recovered in Punjab During the Year 1997

ARMS	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	Total
AK-47/56 Rifles			1					1
Pistol/Revolver					1			1
Magazines			2					2
Live Cartridges/Cartridge			1012	47 Nos.	30 Nos.			1089
Wire			6 bundles					6 bundles
EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS								
Grenades/Hand Grenade				2 Nos.	2 Nos.		1 No.	5 Nos.
RDX (in Kgs.)			45 Kgs.				13 Kgs.	58 Kgs.

Statement II***Arms and Explosive Material Including RDX Recovered in
J & K During 1997 (January, 1997 to June, 1997)***

ARMS	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	Total
AK-47/56 Rifles	100	113	152	151	179	169	864
Pistol/Revolver	80	57	62	63	104	102	468
UMGs	2	1	3	8	9	6	29
RPGs	4	1	0	1	1	5	12
GPMGs	0	0	3	0	1	1	5
SLRs	0	1	0	0	0	4	5
Pika guns	2	5	3	0	1	3	14
Sniper Rifles	1	0	3	10	5	5	24
Rocket Launchers	8	5	2	7	12	14	48
EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS							
Grenades/Hand Grenades	377	240	315	438	681	782	2833
Rifles, Grenades	58	61	66	72	116	132	505
Improvised Explosive Device	153	9	12	233	184	131	722
Explosive Material (in Kgs.)	177	185	652	251	313.3	199 + (33 Sticks)	1777.30 (33 Sticks)
Detonators	428	266	325	640	1213	925	3797
RDX (in Kgs.)	2	0	0	0	14	65	81

Fertilizer Pricing Policy

*96. DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee was appointed by the Government to make recommendations and suggest fertilizer pricing policy to the Government;

(b) whether the report has since been submitted to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A High Powered Fertilizer Pricing Policy Review Committee has been constituted to review the existing system of subsidization of urea and suggest an alternative, broad based, scientific and transparent methodology.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Under-Trials in Jails

*97. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission in its endeavour to improve Jail conditions has expressed concern about the large percentage of under-trials languishing in jails without being formally brought to trial and pressed for their trial expeditiously; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) In its endeavour to improve the prison conditions, the National Human Rights Commission has been emphasising the need for an expeditious disposal of cases of undertrials, languishing in jails. The Commission in their Annual Report for the year 1995-96 has remarked that the issue of overcrowding in the prison is of a serious concern and the conditions in jails are made worse by the large percentage of undertrials in jails.

With a view to reducing the number of undertrial prisoners, the Commission requested Inspector Generals of Prison all over the country to facilitate the implementation of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in 'Common Cause' Vs. Union of India and Others, which inter-alia directed the Registrars of High Courts to ensure that certain categories of undertrial prisoners whose cases have been pending in the Courts or whose trial has not commenced for specified periods, may be released on bail or personal bond or discharged or acquitted. However, no specific directions have been issued to the Government by the Commission, in this regard.

(b) Although 'Prison' is a State subject under the Constitution of India, the Central Government have always expressed their concern about the large number of undertrials languishing in jails without being formally brought to trial. The Central Government while interacting with the State Governments has stressed upon them to reduce the number of undertrials and has been suggesting various steps, like strengthening the infrastructure relating to the Administration of Criminal Justice and Prison Management, the liberalisation of bail procedure, speedy trial of cases, etc.

Loss of Life and Property Due to Earthquake in M.P.

*98. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a devastating earthquake has shaken Jabalpur area in May, 1997;

(b) if so, the extent of loss of life and property suffered as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has requested the Central Government to give assistance for providing help and rehabilitation to the victims of this earthquake;

(d) if so, the total amount of Central aid given to the State Government;

(e) whether Narmada Valley and big dams are also considered unsafe in view of this earthquake; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to avoid such tragedy in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) According to the reports received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Earthquake of magnitude 6.00 in the richter scale which hit Jabalpur and surrounding areas claimed 39 human lives, injured 397 persons and damaged about 1.65 lakh houses.

(c) and (d) Government of India have already released to the State Government its entire share of State Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 1997-98 amounting to Rs. 40.42 crores, including advance release of Rs. 20.21 crores representing the 3rd and 4th quarterly instalments, in the wake of the earthquake. A memorandum was received from the State Government seeking additional assistance of Rs. 230.77 crores from National Fund for Calamity Relief for relief and rehabilitation measures. Based on the report of a Central Team which visited the affected areas, the National Calamity Relief Committee approved an additional assistance of Rs. 45.26 crores from the National Fund for Calamity Relief, which has been released on 26th June, 1997.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. The Dams are designed taking into consideration the relevant Seismicity of the area which is also reviewed from time to time by a National Committee for Seismic Design Parameters.

[Translation]

Production of Milk in National Dairy Farms

*99. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual production of milk in the entire country and in the dairy farms of the National Dairy Research Institute during 1979-1995;

(b) whether the production of milk rapidly increased in the country during 1979-95 whereas the National Dairy Research Institute entrusted with the work of increasing milk production in the country showed a decline in the milk production by its dairy farms;

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the scheme formulated to increase the production of milk, so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) The annual production of milk in the country and in the National Dairy Research Institute during 1979-95 is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) Yes Sir. The production of milk in the country has increased from 30.40 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 64.0 million tonnes in 1994-95. In case of the National Dairy Research Institute although the total milk production showed a decline during 1979-1995, the decline is commensurate with the reduction in number of animals in milk. However, the average yield per animal in milk per day has increased from 9.0 kg. in 1979 to 9.6 kg. in 1995.

(c) and (d) The NDRI is primarily an experimental farm, and is not operated as a commercial milk production unit. Besides State Govts. programmes and research work for improvement of cross-bred cattle at N.D.R.I., the following Central/Centrally sponsored schemes are being implemented by the Govt. of India to increase the production of milk:

- (i) Extension of Frozen Semen Technology and Progeny Testing Programme.
- (ii) National Bull Production Programme.
- (iii) Assistance to States for Feed and Fodder Development.
- (iv) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases.
- (v) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication.
- (vi) Professional Efficiency Development.
- (vii) Integrated Dairy Development Programme for Non-Operation Flood, Hilly and Backward Areas.
- (viii) Technology Mission on Dairy Development.

Statement

Total Milk Production in Country		Milk Production at National Dairy Research Institute	
Year	Production (Million Tonnes)	Year	Production (Tonnes)
1	2	3	4
1979-80	30.40	1979	2222
1980-81	31.60	1980	1965
1981-82	34.30	1981	1866
1982-83	35.80	1982	1872

1	2	3	4
1983-84	38.80	1983	1864
1984-85	41.50	1984	2105
1985-86	44.00	1985	2089
1986-87	46.10	1986	1940
1987-88	46.70	1987	1949
1988-89	48.40	1988	1774
1989-90	51.40	1989	2208
1990-91	53.90	1990	1408
1991-92	55.70	1991	1359
1992-93	58.00	1992	1520
1993-94 (P)	60.60	1993	1618
1994-95 (P)	64.00	1994	1324
		1995	1320

P — Provisional.

Production of Sugar

*100. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work pertaining to production of sugar in the sugarcane crushing year 1996-97 has been completed;

(b) if so, the total quantity of sugar produced till June, 1997 as compared to the production made in 1995-96;

(c) whether the Government have identified the reasons for the difference in the production of sugar; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the estimated extent of loss to be incurred by the sugarcane producers of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The sugarcane crushing season starts from 1st October, and ends on 30th September. There are some sugar factories which are still under operation.

(b) The production of sugar during the current 1996-97 season (Upto 30th June) was 127.61 lakh tonnes as against 160.42 lakhs tonnes on the corresponding date during the 1995-96 season.

(c) and (d) The main reasons for lower production of sugar in the 1996-97 season, were:—

- (i) marginal decrease in acreage under sugarcane;
- (ii) significant shortfall in productivity of sugarcane particularly in Maharashtra;
- (iii) late start of crushing, particularly in UP; and
- (iv) diversion of sugarcane to khandsari and gur manufacture in the early part of the sugar season, particularly in UP.

The return to the sugarcane farmer depends on a variety of parameters, such as, productivity level of the sugarcane cultivated; price realisation, particularly in the khandsari and gur industry, where the price is not controlled; liquidity position of sugar mills and their corresponding capacity to make timely payments.

In view of the fact that the return to the farmer depends on various factors, it would not be relevant to relate the return to the aggregate production of sugar in a particular year.

[English]

Prices of Drugs

905. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there is any proposal to slash the prices of some bulk drugs which are being sold at much higher prices than their notified rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) No such proposal to slash the prices of bulk drugs is pending with the Government, at present, where bulk drugs are being sold at much higher price than the notified rates.

Price studies with regard to bulk drugs is an on-going exercise. Prices notified are the maximum selling price. Cases of over-charging, whenever noticed are being dealt with under the provisions of the DPCO and the Essential Commodities Act.

The prices are reduced suo-moto by the Government whenever it comes to notice that the input costs have substantially decreased, for instance, whenever, customs duty rates on raw materials/intermediates are reduced, corresponding reduction in the price of the said bulk drug (final product) is also undertaken.

Damage of Crops Due to Gall Pest In Kerala

906. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala for the financial assistance to the farmers of Kuttanad region whose crops were damaged by the Gall Pest attack on paddy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Sir, the Government have not received any request from the Government of Kerala for financial assistance to the farmers of Kuttanad region whose crops were damaged by the Gall Pest attack on paddy. However, according to information given by the State Government, the affected farmers were assisted using the corpus of the Calamity Relief Fund which is contributed by the Government of India to the extent of 75%. The State Government has released Rs. 2.00 crore for this purpose.

(c) Question does not arise, in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

[Translation]

Ammonia Plants in India

907. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Ammonia Plants in India are not sufficient keeping in view the demand thereof in the Country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether huge amount is expended for the import of Ammonia; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the production of Ammonia in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Ammonia is an intermediate for manufacture of all nitrogenous fertilizers. All urea plants are constructed with dedicated ammonia facilities, since carbondioxide, which is a by-product of the ammonia plant, is required to make urea. Any surplus ammonia from such plants may be used for manufacture of NP/NPK fertilizers and various chemicals.

The ammonia production capacity in India is about 118 lakh tonnes per annum. The production of ammonia during 1996-97 was 102 lakh tonnes, of which about 94 lakh tonnes was used for manufacture of urea. About 8 lakh tonnes of indigenous ammonia was used for manufacture of DAP, NP/NPK fertilizers and Caprolactam. The imports of ammonia during 1995-96 were of the order of 9.2 lakh tonnes valued approximately at Rs. 700 crore.

(d) No licence is normally required for setting up of an ammonia plant and any entrepreneur can set up an ammonia plant subject to the locational policy. Two of the fertilizer companies, viz. Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) and Gujarat State Fertilizers Company Limited (GSFC) have taken up projects for production of 900 TPD and 1350 TPD of ammonia to substitute the imports of ammonia and replace obsolete captive capacities.

[English]

Export of Plant Species

908. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed any ban on export of plant species;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to include some other species of plants in this list; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the impact of this ban on the plants traders?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 53 plants, their portions and derivatives obtained from the wild are prohibited from export due to their endangered status in nature. However, the cultivated varieties of all these plants, plant portions and derivatives can be exported. The list of such plants is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) This Ministry has set up a Committee to review the list of plants which are prohibited for export and based on its recommendations some species may be added to or deleted from the list. Some exporters and their associations have represented that the ban on exports is adversely affecting their business, and the markets established abroad for Indian plant based products would be lost.

Statement

The export of Plants, plant portions and their derivatives and extracts obtained from the wild as under is prohibited:

1. Aconitum species
2. Atropa species
3. Aristolochia species
4. Angiopteris species
5. Arundinaria Jausarensia
6. Balanophora species
7. Colchicum luteum (Hirantutya)
8. Commiphora whightii
9. Coptis species
10. Drosera species
11. Gentiana kurroo (Kuru, Kutki)
12. Gloriosa superba
13. Gnetum species
14. Iphegma indica
15. Meconopsis betonicifolia
16. Nardostachys species (Jatamansi)
17. Osmunda species
18. Rhododendron species
19. Physoclaina praealta (Bjarbang)
20. Praltia serpumlia
21. Rheum emodi (Dolu)
22. Berberis aristat (Indian barberry; Rasvat)
23. Acorus species
24. Artemisia species
25. Coscinium fenestratum (Calumba wood)
26. Costus speciosas (Keu, Kust)
27. Didymocarpus pedicellata
28. Dolomiaea pedicellata
29. Ephedra species
30. Gynocardia odorata (Chaulmogri)
31. Hydrocarpus species
32. Hyoscymus niger (Broseword)
33. Strychnos potatorum (Nirmali)
34. Swertia chirata (Charayatah)
35. Urginea species
36. Beddomea cycad (Cycas beddomei)
37. Blue vanda (Vandaeoerulea)
38. Kuth (Saussurea lappa)
39. Ladies slipper orchid (Paphiopedilium species)
40. Pitcher plant (Nepenthes khasiana)
41. Red vanda (Renanthera imschootiana)
42. Rauwolfia serpentina (Sarpagandha)
43. Ceropogia species
44. Freeria indica (Shindal Mankundi)

45. *Podophyllum hexandrum* (emodi) (Indian Podophyllum)
46. *Cyatheaceae* species (Tree Ferns)
47. *Cycadaceae* species (Cycads)
48. *Dioscorea deltoidea* (Elephant's foot)
49. *Euphorbia* species (Euphorbias)
50. *Orchidaceae* species (Orchids)
51. *Pterocarpus santalinus* (Red Sanders)
52. *Taxus wallichiana* (Common yew or Birmi leaves)
53. *Aquilaria malaccensis* (Agarwood)

2. Plants and plant portions, derivatives and extracts (including value added herbal formulations) of the cultivated varieties of the species above will be allowed for export subject to production of a Certificate of Cultivation from Regional Deputy Director (Wildlife), or Chief Conservator of Forests or Divisional Forest Officers of the State concerned from where these plants and plant portions have been procured. However in respect of cultivated varieties of the species covered by Appendix I (S. No. 36 to 41 of Paragraph 2 above) and Appendix II (S. No. 42 to 53 of Paragraph 2 above) of CITES, a CITES Permit for export will also be required.

3. The export of value added herbal formulations made out of imported species of plants and plant portions as specified above will be allowed freely without any restriction subject for furnishing of an affidavit to the Customs authorities at the time of export that only the imported plant species as above has been used for the manufacture of value added herbal formulation being exported. In the event of affidavit providing to be false, on the basis of random sample tests, action would be initiated against the firm under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulation) Act, 1992.

4. Exports allowed only through the ports of Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi, Madras, Tuticorin and Amritsar.

[Translation]

Vidarbha State

909. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop Adivasi dominated and undeveloped States;

(b) if so, whether the Government are considering to form a new state in accordance with the demands;

(c) if not, whether the Government do not find any facts in the recommendations in regard to the formation of Vidarbha State made by Fajal Ali Commission in time of restructuring of States in 1956; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to form a separate State for the development of Vidarbha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The Government's policy is to advance the principles of political, administrative and economic federalism, as a consequence of which the benefits of developments are expected to percolate down much faster to the hitherto underdeveloped regions of the country where from the demands for Statehood are emanating

Article 371(2) of the Constitution of India provides, inter alia, that the President may by order made with respect to the State of Maharashtra provide for any special responsibility of the Governor for (a) the establishment of separate development boards for Vidarbha, Marathwada and the rest of Maharashtra, (b) the equitable allocation of funds for developmental expenditure over the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole; and (c) an equitable arrangement providing adequate facilities for technical education and vocational training, and adequate opportunities for employment in services under the control of the State Government, in respect of all the said areas, subject to the requirements of the State as a whole. These development boards are now functioning.

Bhoj-wet Land Project

910. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the implementation of "Bhoj-wet land Project in Bhopal alongwith its total cost and the amount of expenditure incurred so far;

(b) the amount spent by the various departments during 1996-97 and 1997-98, separately and their achievements so far;

(c) whether any Japanese team has studied the achievements made under the project;

(d) whether any misappropriation in the assistance for the project has been noticed by the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) The State Government has informed that the total cost of the project is Rs. 231.51 crores. Work on Retghat-Lalghati Link Road, afforestation, and solid waste management is in progress.

Rs. 14.66 crores expenditure has been incurred from April 1995 to June 1997.

(b) A statement indicating amounts spent on various activities by various Implementing Agencies is enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The State Government has informed that there is no evidence of misappropriation of funds.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

S.No.	Activity	Expenditure (Rs. in crore)		Physical Progress	Implementing Agency
		1996-97	1997-98		
Upto June 97					
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Afforestation	0.84		Plantation of 10.83 lakhs plants completed. 48 KM fencing completed.	Forest Division
2.	Check Dam, Silt traps, to walls and cascading	0.06			
3.	Prevention of Pollution (Sewerage Scheme)	0.10		Revision of DPR in progress	Water Supply Division of Capital Project Administration
4.	Link Road from Retaghat to Lalghati	4.01		Road, Bridge Work in progress	Construction Division of Capital Project Administration
5.	Solid Waste Management	0.09	0.05	Revision of DPR in progress	Bhopal Municipal Corporation
6.	Prevention of pollution from Dhobighat	0.17		-do-	-do-

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Monitoring of water quality	0.03		-do-	Environment Planning and Coordination Organisation
8.	Biological control through aquaculture	—	0.06	-do-	Fisheries Development Corporation
9.	Administrative Cost	0.27	0.05		Environment Planning and Coordination Organisation
	Consulting Services	0.73	0.60		
	Physical contingencies	0.33	0.07		

[English]

Export Oriented Units in the FPI

911. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have approved 91 projects for setting up 100 per cent export oriented units and joint ventures in the Food Processing Industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total investment incurred on these projects and share of foreign investment therein; and

(d) the locations of the proposed units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (d) During the post liberalised period from July 1991 to June 1997, Government have approved 983 joint ventures, 100 per cent EOU and industrial licence proposals for setting up of units in the various sectors of food processing. These proposals envisage a total investment of Rs. 17,130 crores including foreign investment to Rs. 7,886 crores. The proposals are for setting up of units in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh,

Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, Delhi, Goa and the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Dadar & Nagar Haveli, Andaman & Nicobar, Daman & Diu and Pondicherry.

[Translation]

Piggery

912. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether training is being imparted to the trainees in the trade of piggery in the Central Dairy Farm, Aligarh;

(b) whether any financial assistance is provided by the Government to these persons/who have received training in the piggery in order to get them established in this business;

(c) if so, the details of assistance provided by the Government during the last three years; and

(d) the details of increase in the export of pork during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No direct financial assistance is being provided to trainees by the Deptt. of Animal Husbandry, U.P. for the establishment of Piggery Units. Trainees may avail financial assistance provided under various employment generation and assistance programmes such as IRDP, Ambedkar Vishesh Rojgar Yojana and Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe beneficiary oriented programmes.

(d) The export of pork for the last three years and increase is as follows:

(Quantity in MT)

Year	Qty. exported	Increase
1993-94	108	101.52
1994-95	740	632
1995-96	933	192

[English]

Non Supply of Timbers

913. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that because of non-supply of timber (Forest product) works of small and medium bridges on roads (PWD and other Government agencies) are totally stopped in Assam particularly in Karimganj; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken to ensure supply of timber by the Forest Department to the Government Agencies including P.W.D. for maintaining road communication?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

Procurement of Chillies in Andhra Pradesh

914. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has agreed to help the chilli growers in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Markfed has decided to procure 10,000 tonnes of chillies up to May.31, 1997;

(c) if so, whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has also urged the Markfed to procure all available stocks of chillies from the farmers and also directed the district collectors to verify and assess the availability of chilli stocks with the farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total procurement made so far in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh had made a request to the Central Government for Market Intervention Scheme for procurement of chillies in February, 1997. Sanction for procurement of 10,000 MTs of chillies was accorded by the Central Government on a 50:50 sharing basis between National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) and AP State Cooperative Marketing Federation (APMARKFED) from 5.3.1997 to 15.5.1997. On a request from the State Government, the scheme was extended upto 10th June, 1997 with a targetted procurement of 15,000 MTs of chillies (plus/minus 10%). As per latest information available, a 17,010 MTs of chillies have been procured by APMARKFED.

VIP Security

915. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Netaon ke niji kaam nipta rahe hain suraksha mein lage gunner-shadow" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated June 21, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the names of the MPs/other dignitaries to whom gunners have been provided giving the justification thereof, and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remove the gunners from them where no longer threat perception exist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The newsitem relates to the security provided by the Government of Uttar Pradesh to its protectees. 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects

as per the Constitution of India and as such the responsibility for providing security to the persons residing within their jurisdiction is that of the concerned State/UT.

[Translation]

Conversion into Christianity

916. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Christian missionaries are alluring the simple, poor and tribal people of the village and pursuing to change their religion in the name of service, employment and marriage;

(b) if so, whether such incidents are also taking place in remote, hilly and tribal areas and in Jammu and Kashmir where the people of lower castes and minority communities are forced to change their religion or are being given various temptations for the same; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Mumbai Blast Case

917. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of accused in Mumbai blast case of 1993 who have fled out of India and are still at large;

(b) the details of efforts made by the Central Bureau of Investigation to arrest them;

(c) the names of the countries which did not co-operate for efforts made through the Interpol and other agencies indicating the reasons therefor;

(d) whether worldwide 'red corner' alert was issued; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) A list is enclosed as Statement.

(b) The following efforts have been made to arrest the absconding accused persons:

(a) Red Corner notices have been got issued from Interpol Lyons, France.

(b) Proclamation under section 8(3) of TADA(P) ACT r/w Sec. 82 of Cr. P.C. have been got issued from the Designated Court, Mumbai, trying Mumbai bomb blast case.

(c) Known properties of absconders have been got attached through Designated Court, Mumbai.

(d) Extradition requests have been sent to UAE and Pakistan in respect of 24 absconders.

(e) Efforts were made to get Anis Ibrahim extradited/deported from Bahrain when he was detained in January 1996. His Belize nationality and passport have been got revoked.

(f) Request for return of Abu Saleem Abdul Qayoom Ansari and Javed Hussain Syed Muzzamil Hussain proclaimed offenders have been sent to MEA for onward transmission to UAE authorities.

(g) Sources have been deployed to collect intelligence of hideouts of absconders.

(h) As and when specific information is received about the movements/whereabouts of the absconders, it is passed on to Interpol of the concerned member country for taking action to apprehend them.

(c) The absconding accused persons are suspected to be hiding in UAE, Bahrain and Pakistan. Request for extradition/deportation was forwarded to the UAE, Bahrain and Pakistan Authorities, but without any positive response.

(d) and (e) On the request of the CBI, the IPSPG Interpol has issued Red Corner Notices against 31 accused persons. Red Corner Notices against the remaining accused person will be issued shortly. The Red Corner Notice issued by the Interpol are circulated among all member countries which facilitates the tracing and detention of absconding accused persons in any member country.

Statement*List of Absconders in Bombay Bomb Blast Case
[Rc. 1(S). 93 STF.BB]*

Name of the Accused	Red Corner Notice No.
1	2
1. Abbu Salem Abdul Qayoom Ansari	A-103/3/1995
2. Abdul Rashid Mohd. Khan	A-343/8/1994
3. Anis Ibrahim Kaskar	A-349/8/1993
4. Anwar Ahmed Haji Jamal Theba	A-345/8/1993
5. Ayub Abdul Razak Memon	A-138/4/1993
6. Dashir Ahmed Khan Ainul Haque Khan	A-348/8/1993
7. Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar	A-135/4/1993
8. Ibrahim Abdul Razak Memon	A-127/4/1993
9. Feroz Abdul Rashid Khan	A-344/8/1994
10. Eijaz Mohd. Sharif A-343	A-353/8/1993
11. Irfan Ahmed Gulzar Chaugule	A-347/8/1993
12. Shabir Syed Ismail Kadri	A-531/10/1996
13. Javed Dawood Telor	A-350/8/1993
14. Javed Hussain Sayed Muzzamil Hussain	A-345/8/1994
15. Qamar Al Anwar	A-346/8/1994
16. Karimulla	A-387/7/1995
17. Latif Noor Mohd.	A-347/5/1995
18. Mohd. Ahmed Dosa	A-351/8/1993
19. Mohd. Shati Kasam Memon	A-136/4/1993
20. Mohd. Farooq Yasin Mansoor	A-385/7/1995
21. Mohd. Kasim Lajpuria	A-349/8/1994

1	2
22. Mohd. Tainur Mohd. Hayat Phansopkar	A-348/8/1994
23. Munaf Abdul Majid Hajari	A-102/3/1995
24. Nasir Ahmed Anwar Shaikh	A-189/4/1995
25. Reshma Ayub Memon	A-139/4/1993
26. Shabana Ibrahim Memon	A-137/4/1993
27. Shamsuddin Mohd. Hussain	A-352/8/1994
28. Tahir Mohd. Merchant	A-228/5/1994
29. Salim Abdul Gani Gazi	A-184/3/1995
30. Syed Arif	A-388/7/1995
31. Yakub Wali Mohd. Khan	A-346/8/1993
32. Riyaz Abu Backer Khatri	Likely to be got issued shortly

*[Translation]***Employment to Dependent**

918. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated or proposed to formulate any criteria to provide employment to the handicapped dependent of the retired Central Government employees on the basis of qualification; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

*[English]***Environment Projects**

919. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally aided projects undertaken in Karnataka for the improvement of

environment and development of forests during the last three years;

(b) the achievements made in this regard, projectwise; and

(c) the financial assistance provided by the Central Government for the purpose, projectwise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Details of the Centrally aided projects undertaken in Karnataka for the improvement of environment and development of forests during the last three years, alongwith achievements, both physical and financial, are given in the statement attached.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Broad Objectives	Extent of funding	Status	Achievements during the last three years 94-95, 95-96 & 96-97	
					Financial	Physical
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Beneficiary Oriented Scheme	To rehabilitate tribal and other families under relocation plan	100%	ongoing	22.08	Targets fixed in terms of financial releases
2.	Central Zoo Authority	Upgradation of zoos	100%	ongoing	19.52	2 zoos covered
3.	National Parks and Sanctuaries	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	100%	ongoing	467.02	17 National Parks & Sanctuaries covered
4.	Eco-development around National Parks and Sanctuaries	Provide alternative sustenance to communities living on fringes of National Parks	100% (NR) 50% (R)	ongoing	104.10	11 National Parks & Sanctuaries covered
5.	Project Elephant	To ensure long term survival of elephants	100% (NR) 50% (R)	ongoing	256.79	Targets fixed in terms of financial releases
6.	Project Tiger	To ensure viable population of tigers	100% (NR) 50% (R)	ongoing	143.38	One Tiger Reserve covered
7.	Modern Forest Fire Control Methods	Controlling forest fires to protect and conserve forests	100%	ongoing	16.82	Targets fixed in terms of financial releases
8.	Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Peer in regeneration of degraded forests	Improving biomass resource base in degrade forests	100%	ongoing	36.30	130 ha area covered
9.	Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project Scheme	Augmenting supply of fuelwood and fodder in identified fuelwood deficit districts	50%	ongoing	607.25	14,949 ha area covered

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Non Timber Forest produce including Medicinal Plants	Raising of Non Timber forest Produce including Medicinal Plants	100%	ongoing	98.85	1,520 ha *area covered
11.	Seed Development Scheme	Develop infrastructure for quality seed	100%	ongoing	8.93	Targets fixed in terms of financial releases
12.	Integrated Afforestation and Eco-development Projects Scheme	Promote afforestation and Eco-development	100%	ongoing	829.88	15,426 ha *area covered
13.	Biosphere Reserve Scheme	Eco-development, nursery development, protection and patrolling in Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve	100%	ongoing	65.29	One Biosphere Reserve covered
14.	National River Action Plan	Abatement of river water pollution	50%	ongoing	204.72	8 Towns are being covered

*Tentative

NR—Non-recurring

R—Recurring

Committee on Sugar Mills in Andhra Pradesh

920. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government held the Government of Andhra Pradesh responsible for the sorry state of affairs in the State-run sugar factories in the State;

(b) whether a high powered committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the State Government has implemented all the recommendations made therein; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The Union government does not

look into the administrative affairs of State-run sugar factories. It is being looked after by the concerned State Government/their Public Sector Undertakings.

(b) to (e) The High Powered Committee on Sugar Industry has not submitted its report so far.

Recruitment in Para Military Forces

921. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the vacancy of constables and other officials as on June 30, 1997 under B.S.F./C.R.P.F./Indo Tibet Border Police Force and other such para-military organisations;

(b) the actual recruitment made in these organisations during the last three years, organisation-wise, yearwise and manpower requirement of each of these organisations for 1997-98;

(c) the present arrangements for recruitment of personnel required by these organisations;

(d) whether the Government are considering suitable changes in the existing structure/system to ensure selection of the candidates from all over the country ensuring representation to each State in these forces including Delhi Police for VIP security; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) The vacancy of Constables and other officials is shown below:

Name of Force	Constables	Other officials
CRPF	2210	1614
BSF	362	4889
ITBP	42	522
CISF	—	1247
Assam Rifles	350	—

(b) Details of actual recruitment is as under:

Name of Force	Year			
	1994	1995	1996	1997 (Estimated requirements)
CRPF	6752	5490	2096	3168
BSF	7310	9030	3156	8232 (up to 31-12-97)
ITBP	1205	1635	568	564
CISF	5280	391	4894	1317
Assam Rifles	2324	1682	1382	1550

(c) Recruitment of Constables/Rifleman in Central Para Military Forces is made on all India basis. The annual vacancies are allotted to each State/UT on the basis of the population, taking into consideration the special needs and circumstances of different areas.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Not applicable.

Conference of State Home Ministers

922. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of State Home Ministers was recently held at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of agenda discussed and decisions arrived at; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) No Conference of the Home Ministers has been convened in the recent past. However, a Conference of the Chief Ministers of States/UTs was held on 24th May, 1997 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to discuss an Action Plan for Effective and Responsive Government. The Action Plan dealt with three themes, namely, Accountable and Citizen-friendly Government, Transparency and Right to Information, and Improving the performance and integrity of the Public Services. The issues that were discussed under these themes and which are being followed up at Central and State levels are:

- (i) Citizens Charter and accountable administration;
- (ii) Effective and speedy public grievance redressal system;
- (iii) Empowering elected local bodies and decentralised delivery of services;
- (iv) Review of laws, regulations and procedures;
- (v) Transparency and Right to information;
- (vi) Access of the public to Information from public offices and facilitation counters;
- (vii) Code of Ethics for public services;
- (viii) Tackling corruption and cleansing the administration; and
- (ix) Stability of tenure and a scheme for Civil Services Boards.

The Chief Ministers and Central Ministers attending the Conference strongly endorsed the need for ensuring responsive, accountable, transparent and people-friendly administration at all levels. In the Resolution adopted at the Conference, the States welcomed the initiatives taken by the Prime Minister towards more effective and responsive administration and stated that these initiatives were important and timely. It was agreed that each State would work for the implementation of the Action Plan, making appropriate allowance for variation in local circumstances.

The Government has set up a Committee under the Cabinet Secretary including some Chief Ministers representing different regions of the country as well as some senior officials of the Government of India in order to elaborate different elements of the Action Plan and work out various decisions required at Central and State levels.

[Translation]

Foreign Assistance for Welfare of Tribals

923. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ 3443, dated 29.8.96 and state:

(a) whether information in this regard has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The assurance on the USQ No. 3443 of 29.8.96 was fulfilled vide reply furnished on 7.6.1997. It was replied with reference to Parts (a) & (b) of the question that International Fund for Agricultural Development, Rome has financed two Tribal Development Projects in Andhra Pradesh and one Tribal Development Programme in Orissa. The World Bank has financed Bihar Plateau Development Project in Bihar. There are no such projects in Gujarat, as intimated by the State Government and

with reference to part (c) to (g) it was replied that The State Government have intimated that there are no tribal development projects financed by Foreign Institution and as such these questions do not arise.

(c) and (d) The question does not arise.

[English]

Population of Tigers

924. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS to be pleased to state:

(a) the population of Tigers in the country inside the National Parks and outside, State-wise;

(b) whether the population of Tigers has reduced in the country from the last ten years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Population of Tigers in different states and Tiger Reserves is given in Statements I and II.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Nation-wide estimation of population of tiger is carried out every four years. The details may be seen in the statements.

Statement I

Population of Tigers in the Tiger Reserve Areas

Name of Reserve	1979	1984	1989	1993	1995
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Bandipur (Karnataka)	39	53	50	66	74
2. Corbett (Uttar Pradesh)	84	90	91	123	128
3. Kanha (Madhya Pradesh)	71	109	97	100	97
4. Manas (Assam)	69	123	92	81	94
5. Melghat (Maharashtra)	63	80	77	72	71
6. Palamau (Bihar)	37	62	55	44	47
7. Ranthambhore (Rajasthan)	25	38	44	36	38

1	2	3	4	5	6
8. Similipal (Orissa)	65	71	93	95	97
9. Sunderbans (West Bengal)	205	264	269	251	242
10. Periyar (Kerala)	34	44	45	30	39
11. Sariska (Rajasthan)	19	26	19	24	25
12. Buxa (West Bengal)	NA	15	33	29	31
13. Indravati (Madhya Pradesh)	NA	38	28	18	15
14. Nagarjunsagar (Andhra Pradesh)	NA	65	94	44	34
15. Mandapha (Arunachal Pradesh)	NA	43	47	47	52
16. Dudhwa (Uttar Pradesh)	NA	80	90	94	98
17. Kalakad-Mundanthurai (Tamilnadu)	NA	20	22	17	16
18. Valmiki (Bihar)	NA	NA	81	49	*
19. Pench (Madhya Pradesh)	NA	NA	NA	39	27
20. Tadoba-Andheri (Maharashtra)	—	—	—	34	36
21. Bandhavgarh (Madhya Pradesh)	—	—	—	41	46
22. Panna (Madhya Pradesh)	—	—	—	25	22
23. Dampha (Mizoram)	—	—	—	7	4
Total:	111	1221	1327	1339	1333

Statement II*Population of Tigers in the Country*

Name of the State	Tigers				
	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Tamil Nadu	033	065	097	095	097
2. Maharashtra	160	174	301	417	276
3. Kerala	060	134	089	045	057
4. West Bengal	073	296	352	353	335

	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Orissa		142	173	202	243	226
6. Karnataka		102	156	202	257	305
7. Bihar		085	110	138	157	137
8. Assam		147	300	376	376*	325
9. Rajasthan		074	079	096	089	064
10. Madhya Pradesh		457	529	786	985	912
11. Uttar Pradesh		262	487	698	735	465
12. Andhra Pradesh		035	148	164	235	197
13. Himachal Pradesh		—	—	—	—	—
14. Meghalaya		032	035	125	034	053
15. Pondicherry		—	—	—	—	—
16. Manipur		001	010	006	031	—
17. Tripura		007	006	005	—	—
18. Dadra & Nagar Haveli		—	—	—	—	—
19. Mizoram		—	065	033	018	028
20. Nagaland		080	102	104	104*	083
21. Arunachal Pradesh		069	139	219	135	180
22. Sikkim		—	—	002	004	002
23. Gujarat		008	007	009	009*	005
24. Delhi		—	—	—	—	—
25. Haryana		—	—	001	—	—
26. Punjab		—	—	—	—	—
27. Lakshadweep		—	—	—	—	—
28. Goa, Daman & Diu		—	—	—	002	003
29. Andaman & Nicobar Islands		—	—	—	—	—
30. Chandigarh U.T.		—	—	—	—	—
31. Jammu & Kashmir		—	—	—	—	—
Total:		1827	3015	4005	4334	3750

*Census could not be undertaken during 1989, due to various reasons, hence 1984 figures have been taken.

Financial Bungling in Super Bazar

925. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Super Bazar is footing the salary bills and other expenses in respect of one of its ex-general manager or has foot them in the past;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the expenditure so incurred on the salary and other allowances;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enquire into the financial bungs going on and to recover the excess amount of house rent paid and the amount incurred on the STD calls bills on the residential telephone of the officers concerned; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, they have paid the salary and other eligible expenses in respect of their Ex-Managing Director as per the terms of his deputation and as per Super Bazar Rules. The expenses incurred by the Super Bazar on their Ex-Managing Director for the items mentioned below were as under:—

(i) Salary (July '96 – 28.6.1997)	Rs. 2,02,392.00
(ii) Training Exp.	Rs. 93,800.00
(iii) Transfer Grants	Rs. 4,000.00
(iv) TA Advance	Rs. 1,000.00
(v) Packing Allowance	Rs. 1,500.00
(vi) Advance against salary (joining time)	Rs. 5,000.00

Apart from above, the Ex-Managing Director was also reimbursed the expenses of newspapers etc.

(c) The payment of House Rent and reimbursement of STD calls/telephone facility was done as per the entitlement to the post of Managing Director in Super Bazar, Delhi. Accordingly, there is no financial bungling in the payments made on account of salaries and other allowances to the Ex-Managing Director.

(d) In view of reply given at (c) above, does not arise.

Share of FPI

926. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the share of food processing industries out of total foodgrains, plantation and agricultural products in the country during the last three years, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sectors. Hence the share of food processing industries out of total food grains, plantation and agricultural products in the country are not available. However, the total production of food grains which include Rice, Wheat, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Pulses, Barley millets and coarse cereals etc. during the last three years are as under :

1994-95	191.50 Million Tonnes
1995-96	185.04 Million Tonnes
1996-97 (Estimated)	193.50 Million Tonnes

Out of the total production of food grains mentioned above, about 10% is retained by the farmers for purpose of seed. Rest of the production is processed by various food processing industries every year. About 2% of the total production of fruits and vegetables and 4% of the total production of Milk are processed in the organised sector.

Families Below Poverty Line

927. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the introduction of targeted Public Distribution System by the Union Government has proved a curse rather than a boon to different sections of the people in Karnataka as appeared in the 'Economic Times' dated July 2, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether such a position is not going to seriously affect and curtail the allocation of foodgrains to States thereby creating difficulties for large number of urban poor; and

(d) if so, the mechanism proposed to resolve the differences between the Centre and the States in the matter of estimates of persons below the poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The 'Economic Times' in its edition of 2nd July, 97 has reported that Karnataka Government's assessment of families Below Poverty Line is much higher than the figures of the Central Government. It further reported that the monthly quota of foodgrains has been slashed by the Central Government from 1,20,000 MT to 35,000 MT, the open market prices of foodgrains have sharply risen as a result, and the Central Cooperative Wholesale stores as well as Agriculture Produce Marketing Societies will have to close following the reduction of 90% of foodgrains.

(c) No, Sir. The allocation of foodgrains to States under Targeted PDS is based on last ten years' average annual lifting by the States/UTs taking into account the requirement of the households below the poverty line (BPL).

(d) The number of BPL households have been worked out as per the methodology of the 'Expert Group' constituted by the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Late Prof. Lakdawala. According to Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, the Expert Group methodology gives "poverty estimates closest to ground reality" and as such they have been adopted by Government of India.

Non-Utilisation of Grants for Consumer Courts

928. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from the Maharashtra Government for use of grants sanctioned for 1995-96 and 1996-97 for strengthening the infrastructure of Consumer Courts during 1997-98 because the State Governments could not use these grants during the said period due to certain complicated procedures;

(b) if so, whether a decision has since been taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to expedite the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A request in this regard has been received from the Maharashtra Government.

(b) and (c) Central Government has already accorded permission to the Govt. of Maharashtra to utilise the grant sanctioned in 1995-97 for strengthening the infrastructure of Consumer Courts, during the year 1997-98.

FCI Godowns in A.P.

929. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of the recommendations made by the FCI, the godowns at Dichipally in Nizamabad in Andhra Pradesh has not yet been constructed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is not even a single small depot owned by FCI in Nizamabad district and FCI has to depend on CWC/private parties for shortage of accommodation; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in construction of FCI godowns in Dichipally at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) At present, Food Corporation of India is not having its own storage capacity at Dichipally which falls under Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh region. However, the Central Warehousing Corporation is having 95,760 MT capacity in the district. Of that, FCI is utilising 45,020 MT capacity. Apart from that, FCI has also taken on hire ARDC godowns which are privately owned with the capacity of 19,296 MT. The present hired capacity is considered to be sufficient and the Food Corporation of India does not propose to construct its own capacity because of low utilisation and resource constraints.

[Translation]

Amendment in Police Act

930. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up or propose to set up any committee or commission for giving suggestions to bring about improvement in the Police Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any immediate steps are being taken by the Government for taking stringent penal action against the police in the cases of persecution of citizens without any reasons and in unfounded concocted cases and in the cases of violation of human rights;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) An internal Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (ISP) in the Ministry of Home Affairs to review the recommendations of the National Police Commission including the replacement of the Police Act, 1861.

(c) to (e) It is essential for the States to take such measures as are necessary to ensure that Human Rights are not violated by their police personnel and that penal action is taken against such police personnel who are found guilty of the same. The Government of India, on its part, have, from time to time, been issuing necessary instructions to the States to curb violation of Human Rights by the police personnel. It has clearly been brought to the notice of the States that every allegation of violation of Human Rights by members of law enforcement agencies must be attended to speedily and with transparency and stringent punishment be awarded wherever an official is found guilty.

[English]

Common Minimum Programme in the Fields of Agriculture

931. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Common Minimum Programme in the field of agriculture;

(b) whether the regulations/control put in the way of increasing the farmers income; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for abolition of such regulations/controls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Relevant extracts from 'the United Front—A Common

Approach to Major Policy Matters and a Minimum Programme' are given in the *Statement* attached. The important regulations/orders under the control of the Central Government relate to Rice Milling Industries Regulation Act, 1958, Cold Storage Order, 1980, Milk and Milk Products Control order, 1992, Ginning and Pressing Factories Act, 1925, Sugar (Control) Order, 1966, Sugar (Packing and Marketing) Order, 1970 and quantitative restrictions on exports of agricultural commodities. A beginning has already been made for review and repealing of the Regulations/Control Orders, wherever found feasible. The Rice Milling Industries Regulation Act, 1958 and the Cold Storage Order, 1980 have already been repealed.

Statement

Extracts from the United Front—A Common Approach to Major Policy Matters and a Minimum Programme

The Agriculture sector cries out for reforms. No strategy of economic reforms and regeneration in India can succeed without sustained and broad-based agricultural development. The rate of investment in agriculture will be stepped up. All controls and regulations that are in the way of increasing the incomes of farmers will be reviewed immediately and abolished wherever found unnecessary. Controls on the movement of agricultural products and on the processing of agricultural products will be abolished. Measures will be taken to ensure that farmers receive fair and remunerative prices for their produce. Special attention will be devoted to augmenting rural infrastructure. A special plan for infrastructure development will be taken up in the 100 most backward and poorest districts of the country. The rural credit system will be restructured so as to double the flow of credit to agriculture and agro-industries, particularly to small and marginal farmers, within 5 years. A national policy on water sharing and water management will be devised in order to save farmers all over the country from recurrent floods and droughts.

Agencies that supply inputs to farmers will be professionalised and where found feasible converted into farmer-owned cooperatives. Agricultural research and extension organisations will be thoroughly overhauled. The most modern technology will be brought to the farm sector, e.g. bio-technology for livestock and cold storage for agro-processing.

A comprehensive law will be made by Parliament in respect of agricultural workers to guarantee them minimum

wages and fair conditions of work, group insurance and other rights.

States will be encouraged to implement land reforms by plugging the legal and administrative loopholes. States will also be urged to make a law dealing with land records including record of tenancy rights. In cooperation with the States, larger funds will be allocated for irrigation and extension of cultivation.

Poaching of Animals

932. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of poachers of rare species of animals brought to book so far since 1990;

(b) the number out of them made ineffective for poaching;

(c) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Spying by B.S.F. Personnel

933. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Border Security Force personnel were found involved in spying activities for other countries during January 1995 to June, 1997;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against such personnel by the Government; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check this evil practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) During the period from 1.1.95 to 30.6.97 no BSF personnel were found involved in spying for other countries. However, one Constable of BSF deployed at Jaisalmer was picked up on April 6, 1997 by Rajasthan Police as his name figured during interrogation of the suspects. The case is under investigation.

(c) Security measures have been tightened and the men have been sensitised to be more vigilant.

Quota of Wheat Released to Assam

934. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat quota released under the Public Distribution System by FCI to Assam during each of the last three years and upto July, 1997;

(b) the reasons for erratic release of PDS quota to the State during the last few years;

(c) whether requests have been received to enhance the quota;

(d) whether the Government propose to streamline the release of PDS quota to the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether FCI has not released the allotted PDS quota to few districts of Assam including Tinsukia and Dibrugarh since January, 1997;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether any norms are being followed by FCI for such allotments;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) if not the alternative arrangement being made to continue flow of food-grains in case FCI is not able to fulfil the requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The Allocation and Offtake of wheat under P.D.S. (including RPDS) in Assam has been as under:-

Year (April-March)	(In '000 tonnes)		
	Allocation	Wheat Offtake	% Offtake
1994-95	310.00	277.30	89.45
1995-96	360.00	351.70	97.69
1996-97	355.50	301.90	85.00
1997-98 April-May, 97	60.00	53.20	88.67
T.P.D.S			
June, 97	20.38	N.A.	
July, 97	20.30	N.A.	

(b) The offtake of wheat against PDS allocation has been 85% and above from April, 94 to May, 97 and therefore, it cannot be termed as "Erratic".

(c) to (e) yes, Sir. The Government of Assam has demanded, increase of monthly wheat quota to 45,000 MT against the monthly wheat quota of 20,380 MT fixed from June, 97 under T.P.D.S. which has been revised to 20,300 MT from July, 97 as per bifurcation of wheat and rice quota as requested by the State Government. No further Streamlining of monthly wheat quota is under consideration.

(f) to (j) Information is being collected from FCI and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cinchona Plantation

935. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cinchona plantation in West Bengal is incurring heavy losses;

(b) if so, the amount of such losses annually and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures the Government contemplated to evolve to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Naxalism in Bihar

936. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Naxalism in Palamau, Chatra and Hazaribagh districts of Bihar has alarmingly increased;

(b) if so, the number of people in the said districts killed during the last three years in the Naxalite activities;

(c) whether any proposal for checking Naxalism has been received from the State Government by the Union Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of action taken by the Government for checking Naxalism in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per available reports, the violent activities of naxalites in Palamau and Chatra districts have shown a declining trend during the current year as compared to previous year. The trend of their violent activities in Hazaribagh has remained at the same level, as compared to previous year.

(b) As per information available, the number of persons killed during 1995-96 and 1997 (upto 30th June, 1997) in these three districts was 213.

(c) and (d) Under the non-plan scheme for modernisation of State Police forces, an amount of Rs. 333.12 lakhs was released during 1996-97 to the Government of Bihar for purchase of various items under the scheme. This amount includes a special financial assistance of Rs. 100 lakhs. During the current financial year 1997-98, against the annual allocation of Rs. 233.12 lakhs to the Government of Bihar under the scheme, the first instalment of Rs. 116.56 lakhs has already been released.

(e) At the Central level, action is taken to facilitate coordination of the anti-naxalite operations of different States and to improve flow of information useful for control of naxalite activities among the States. Further, help is being provided to the State Governments in terms of financial assistance for modernisation of police, supply of improved weapons, deployment of para-military forces etc. In certain special circumstances, financial assistance has also been given to some of the affected States over and above the ongoing allocations for modernisation of police and supply of weapons.

[*English*]

Unauthorised Research Organisation

937. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about an unauthorised research organisation namely "Hill Conservation Society" running by some foreigners at "Nelliampathy Hills Westernghat" at Palghat District in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of Vegetables in Kerala

938. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for increasing the production of vegetables in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) A proposal for increasing vegetable production to attain self-sufficiency in Kerala at a cost of Rs. 2863.325 lakhs for 100% Central Assistance during the IXth Plan has been received. Project includes Seed Production, Area Expansion, Post Harvest Management and Research activities. The Project is under examination.

[Translation]

Supply of Poor Quality of Seeds, Pesticides and Fertilizers

939. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that poor quality of seeds, pesticides and fertilizers is being supplied to the farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts made by his Ministry to improve the quality and provide improved quality of these items to farmers;

(d) whether any incidents of bungling in purchase of these items by the Government Departments and their poor quality in the State of Haryana has also been brought to the notice of the Union Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) A few State Governments have reported instances of poor quality of seeds having been supplied to farmers in the previous years. Samples of pesticides and fertilizers drawn in the course of enforcement of Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Fertilizer (Control) Order,

1985 respectively show that a small percentage of samples may be sub-standard in terms of the strict specifications of the Orders in force. On the whole, the quality of seeds, pesticides and fertilizers supplied to the farmers is reliable.

(c) All efforts are made to ensure that farmers are supplied seeds, pesticides and fertilizers of good quality. Certified seeds/quality seeds totalling about 68 lakh quintals are made available annually for a range of crops. The Insecticides Act, 1968 is enforced strictly and about 42 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories have been set up for testing the samples of insecticides/pesticides. Similarly, for ensuring supply of good quality fertilizer, there are 57 Fertilizer Testing Laboratories where samples drawn at random are tested and action taken in case the sample is found sub-standard. Enforcement of these laws/orders ensures that manufacturers supply only quality seeds, pesticides and fertilizers to farmers.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

[English]

Sick Fertilizer Factories in Gujarat

940. SHRI JAISINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fertilizer factories are being run with the Government assistance in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of sick fertilizer factories in Gujarat;

(d) whether the Government have made efforts to make the sick fertilizer factories in the State viable;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Central public sector fertilizer undertakings in the need of financial assistance are provided budgetary support to the extent possible. Details of the budgetary support extended to these undertakings are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) M/s Rama Fertilizers Pvt. Ltd. (RFPL), a fertilizer company based in the state of Gujarat, is registered as a sick company under the provisions of the Sick Industrial

Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) with the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(d) to (f) The revival plans for sick fertilizer companies in the private sector are formulated by their promoters for submission to the BIFR. The Government is not directly

involved in their revival. A rehabilitation scheme for the revival of RFPL was approved by the BIFR under Section 17(2) of SICA on 18-9-90. The implementation of the scheme has, however, been declared as failed and the case has been reopened by the BIFR on 1-4-1997.

Statement

(Rs. in crore)

Name of Central Public Sector Undertaking	State-wise location of plants	Budgetary support			
		Non plan		Plan	
		1996-97	1997-98 (Provi- sion)	1996-97	1997-98 (Provi- sion)
Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI)	Sindri (Bihar), Talchar (Orissa), Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh), Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)	277.00	277.00	39.00	55.00
Fertilizers & Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT)	Cochin & Udyogamandal (Kerala)	—	—	166.69*	72.00@
Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC)	Durgapur & Haldia (West Bengal), Barauni (Bihar), Namrup (Assam)	143.34	143.34	9.00	41.00
Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL)	Manali (Tamil Nadu)	37.30	—	20.00	—
Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL)	Amjhore (Bihar), Saladipura (Rajasthan)	—	—	4.00	6.00
Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL)	Paradeep (Orissa)	—	—	36.31	49.50

*OEFC loan routed through budget.

@ OEFC loan Rs. 70.00 crore and net Budgetary support Rs. 2.00 crore.

Promotion of Spices

941. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for promoting the spices in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is promoting cultivation of major spices vigorously since VIII Plan period with an outlay of Rs. 125.00 crores. The programme is being continued in 1997-98 with an outlay of Rs. 30.00 crores.

Governor for Goa

942. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons as to why a regular Governor has not been appointed for the State of Goa; and

(b) the time by which a regular Governor is proposed to be appointed to facilitate the smooth functioning of the affairs of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Under article 153 of the Constitution of India, the same person can be appointed as Governor for two or more States. The existing arrangement relating to Goa is in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India.

Charter of Demands Given by Kisan Sahayata Morcha

943. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a charter of demands has been given to Prime Minister on January 23, 1996 by the 'Kisan Sahayata Morcha';

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Special Allocation for North East

944. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister had directed different Ministries to allocate ten percent of their annual budget for the development of the States of the North-East Region;

(b) if so, the Departments that have allocated ten percent of the budget for the States of the North-East Region during 1996-97;

(c) the Departments that failed to carry out the Prime Minister's directives; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure allocation of ten percent of the budget of each Ministry for the States of the N.E. Region during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Prime Minister had announced the New initiatives on 27 Oct., 96 in which inter-alia, it was indicated that all Central Ministries will earmark 10% of budget for specific programmes in N.E. States. By that time, the annual plan of various Ministries were already finalised and as such, this instruction could not be implemented in all Ministries in 1996-97.

(d) All Ministries have been advised to earmark 10% of their total outlay while preparing 1997-98 Annual Plan.

Naga Problem

945. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem, "Further talks with Naga rebels in Geneva next month" appearing in 'Times of India' dated June 28, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to help in resolving the vexed Naga problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Prime Minister in a statement in both the Houses of Parliament on 25 July, 1997 informed, inter alia, that after his visit to Nagaland and other North-Eastern States, the Government's willingness to hold unconditional talks with the underground elements had been reiterated and that after talks with the Issac-Muivah group of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland, it has now been agreed to cease fire for 3 months with effect from 1st August, 1997 and embark upon political level discussions.

Reorganisation of Delhi and U.P

946. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the reorganisation of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh in near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the area of Uttar Pradesh proposed to be merged in Delhi State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) No such proposal for reorganisation of Delhi and Uttar Pradesh by merging any area of Uttar Pradesh in Delhi is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Infiltration

947. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of people infiltrate into the country every year;

(b) whether any annual survey is conducted or statement is prepared regarding the infiltration;

(c) whether any measures has been taken to reduce the burden due to arrival of infiltrators on the increasing population of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) In view of the long land borders with neighbouring countries and due to various pull and push factors, infiltration into the country is an on-going problem. It is difficult to estimate the exact number of infiltrators because they enter surreptitiously and are able to mingle with the local population due to ethnic and linguistic similarities. A regular review is undertaken to monitor the situation on an on-going basis.

(c) and (d) A series of measures have been taken by the Government to detect and deport illegal migrants who manage to come into India. These include, inter alia, creation of special posts under PIF/MTF Schemes in States on Indo-Bangladesh borders, amendment of IMDT Act in 1988 and IMDT Rules in 1997 to facilitate detection and deportation of illegal migrants in Assam, developing of an understanding with Bangladesh for handing over of illegal migrants etc. The progress of action taken is reviewed at various levels from time to time.

[English]

Robberies in Kerala Express

948. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of robberies in the Kerala Express during the last one year; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such robberies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime in trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (G.R.P) which functions under the control of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Information relating to train-wise robberies is not maintained by the Central Government.

Conference of Governors

949. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI HARIN PATHAK :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two days Conference of Governors, Chief Ministers and other national political parties was held in June, 1997 at New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held and the consensus arrived at the Conference; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) A Conference of Governors was held on 2nd and 3rd June, 1997 at which the leaders of political parties were also invited. The main theme of the Conference was "The Role of the Constitutional Head, when, following an election, no party or combination of parties appears to have secured a majority."

In the Conference, the leaders of major political parties and other participants shared their views on the complexities inherent in the situation forming the theme of the Conference. It is felt that the Conference may well have succeeded in initiating and enlarging a wider process of appreciation and assessment of the subject. This will lead to a more informed out-look all around. In turn, this will make the working of the Constitution in certain problematic situations smoother and more transparent.

The Government proposes to continue the dialogue on this and other subjects which strengthen our democratic polity.

[Translation]

Patenting of Botanical and Animal Species

950. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has rich abundance of 45 thousand botanical species and 95 thousand animal species but out of them 10 per cent species have been got patent by the foreign agencies in foreign countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) In India while quantification of the abundance in botanical, and Zoological species may not be possible, so far over 49,000 plant species and 81,000 animal species have been identified and described by the Botanical Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India respectively. The Government has not received any information/complaint about patenting of 10 per cent of species thus identified.

[English]

Fast Track Power Project

951. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) carried out any Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) of fast track power project in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise,

(c) the reaction of the Government to the findings/ observations of NEERI; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the environmental guidelines are followed while executing the projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No, Sir. The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) has not carried out any Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of fast track power projects in different parts of the country.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The stipulations laid down in the environmental clearance letter are regularly monitored by the Regional Offices of the Ministry, the Central Pollution Control Board and the respective State Pollution Control Boards for their implementation.

Chief Minister's Conference

952. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chief Ministers' Conference was held in New Delhi on 24 May, 1997 to discuss on providing effective and responsible administration;

(b) if so, the opinion expressed by different Chief Ministers;

(c) whether any resolution was adopted to revitalise the administration and to reform the public services;

(d) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(e) the action plan formulated, if any, to adopt and implement those resolutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) A Conference of the Chief Ministers of States/UTs was held on 24 May, 1997 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to discuss an Action Plan for Effective and Responsive Government. The Action Plan dealt with three themes, namely, Accountable and Citizen-friendly Government, Transparency and Right to Information, and Improving the Performance and Integrity of the Public Services. The issues that were discussed under these themes and which are being followed up at Central and State levels are:

- (i) Citizens Charter and accountable administration;
- (ii) Effective and speedy public grievance redressal system;
- (iii) Empowering elected local bodies and decentralised delivery of services;
- (iv) Review of laws, regulations and procedures;
- (v) Transparency and Right to Information;
- (vi) Access of the public to information from public offices and facilitation counters;
- (vii) Code of Ethics for public services;
- (viii) Tackling corruption and cleansing the administration;
- (ix) Stability of tenure and a scheme for Civil Services Boards.

The Chief Ministers and Central Ministers attending the Conference strongly endorsed the need for ensuring responsive, accountable, transparent and people-friendly administration at all levels. In the Resolution adopted at the Conference, the States welcomed the initiatives taken by the Prime Minister towards more effective and responsive administration and stated that these initiatives were important and timely. It was agreed that each State would work for the implementation of the Action Plan, making appropriate allowance for variation in local circumstances.

The Government has set up a Committee under the Cabinet Secretary including some Chief Secretaries representing different regions of the country as well as some senior officials of the Government of India in order to elaborate different elements of the Action Plan and work out various decisions required at Central and State levels.

[Translation]

Release of Washeries in Damodar River

953. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether residuals from the washeries of Coal India Limited and its auxiliary companies like Dugdha, Kargali, Swang and Kathara washeries are being released into Damodar river passing through the Coal belt of Bihar;

(b) whether residuals and waste of Bokaro thermal power station and C.T.P.S. are also being released into the Damodar river; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI) : (a) to (c) Under normal circumstances, no discharge from coal washeries located in the Damodar basin goes into the river Damodar as all coal washeries including those of the Coal India Limited and its auxiliary companies like Dugdha, Kargali, Swang and Kathara have installed waste water recycling systems. However, during monsoon months, some coal fines and other rejects from these washeries are swept away along with surface run-off into the river. Ash slurry from the Bokaro Thermal Power Station is being released into the river Damodar without proper treatment. This matter is being heard and monitored by the Supreme Court under the public interest litigation of M.C. Mehta, V/s. Union of India & others. The Central Pollution Control Board has issued directions to the Chandrapura Thermal Power Station (CTPS) on 14.05.1997 for taking immediate steps to ensure that effluents from the power station are discharged into the river after proper treatment only.

[English]

Setting up of Petro-Chemical Complexes

954. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have cleared certain projects for setting up Petro-Chemical complexes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Statewise (particularly in Punjab); and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are contained in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) Information is being collected.

Statement

The Government has issued Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences in respect of the following Olefinic/Aromatic Petro-Chemical complexes to be set up in various states of the country:—

Sl. No.	Name of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence holder	Item and proposed capacity to be set up	
1	2	3	
1. ASSAM			
(a)	Assam State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., Guwahati	Ethylene	— 300000
		Propylene	— 51000
		Butadiene	— 16000
		C4 Raffinate	— 11000
		Pyrolysis	
		Gasoline	— 44000
		Acetylene	— 3500
		Hexene	— 800
		Fuel Oil	— 6000
		Fuel Gas	— 108500
		LLDPE	— 100000
		HDPE	— 100000
		Butenel	— 6000
(b)	M/s. Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd., Dhaligaon, Bongaigaon Assam-783385	Paraxylene	— 102000
		Orthaxylene	— 102000
		Cee Seven	— 74000
		Cee Nine	— 26000
(c)	M/s. Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd., Dhaligaon, Assam	Paraxylene	— 29000
		Cee	— 73000
		Other Solvents	— 70700
2. ANDHRA PRADESH			
	M/s. Herren Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	MEG	— 150000
		DEG	— 19360
		Triethylene	—
		Glycol	— 660
3. GUJARAT			
(a)	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., Mora, Chorasias, Gujarat	Butadiene & other C4	
		Raffinate	— 225000
		Benzene	— 235000
		Toluene	— 197000
		Xylenes	— 165000
		Ethylene	— 750000
		Propylene	— 365000

1	2	3		
(b)	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., Jamnagar, Gujarat	Ethylene Propylene Butadiene & other C4 Reffinate	— — — — —	800000 390000 240000
(c)	M/s. Mardia Chemicals Ltd., Dahej, Dist. Bharuch, Gujarat	Benzene Paraxylene Cyclohexaline Heavy Aromatic	— — — —	81200 78000 50000 290000
(d)	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., Village Mora, Tehsil Charasi (Hazira), Gujarat	MEG	—	100000
(e)	M/s. Modern Petrochemicals (Unit of Modern Threads (I) Ltd., Village Bhansali, Talukavagra Bharuch, Gujarat	Paraxylene	—	170000
(f)	M/s. Indian Petrochemical Corporation Ltd., Dist. Vadodara, Gujarat	Ethane/Propane Recovery Ethylene Propylene Vinyl Chloride Monomer Polyvinyl Chloride Ethylene Oxide Mono Ethylene Glycol Alpha Olefins	— — — — — — — — — — — —	460000 300000 38000 170000 150000 120000 38000 100000
4. HARYANA				
	M/s. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Panipat, Haryana	Paraxylene	—	300000
5. KARNATAKA				
(a)	M/s. Karnataka State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., Mangalore, Karnataka	Ethylene Propylene Butadiene Benzene	— — — —	300000 150000 50000 65000
(b)	M/s. Grasim Industries Ltd., Mangalore, South Kerala, Karnataka	Paraxylene Orthoxylene Benzene Toluene	— — — —	250000 65000 75000 65000

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6. MADHYA PRADESH

Madhya Pradesh State Industrial
Development Corpn. Ltd.,
Dist. Sagar, Madhya Pradesh

Ethylene	—	300000
Propylene	—	150000
Benzene	—	65000
C4 Raffinate	—	80000
Pyrolysis		
Gasoline	—	40000
Pyrolysis Fuel		
Oil	—	13500

7. MAHARASHTRA

(a) M/s. National Organic
Chemical Industries Ltd.,
Mumbai, Maharashtra

Ethylene	—	300000
Propylene	—	195000
Butadiene	—	70000
Benzene	—	72000
Toluene,		
CBFS, other		
Pyrolysis		
Gasoline return		
stream	—	120000
Ethylene		
Oxide	—	120000
Ethylene		
Glycol	—	125000

(b) M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.,
MIDC Patal Ganga, Khalapur,
Raigad, Maharashtra

Paraxylene	—	3600
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8. PONDICHERRY

M/s. Chemplast Sanmar Aromatic
Ltd., Keezaiyur South,
T.P. PATTINAM
Commune, Karaikal, Pondicherry

Paraxylene	—	250000
Benzene	—	1000000
O-Xylene	—	30000

9. PUNJAB

M/s. Punjab State Industrial
Development Corpn. Ltd.,
Chandigarh

Ethylene	—	300000
Propylene	—	150000
Butadiene	—	50000
Benzene	—	65000

1	2	3
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10. TAMIL NADU

M/s. Tamilnadu Industrial	Ethylene	—	350000
Development Corpn. Ltd.,	Propylene	—	147000
Tamilnadu	Butadiene	—	50000
	Benzene	—	70000
	Mixed Xylenes	—	75000
	Butenes	—	15000

11. UTTAR PRADESH

(a) M/s. Gas Authority of India Ltd.,	Ethylene	—	300000
Dist. Etawah, U.P.	Propylene	—	12000
	LLDPE/HDPE	—	160000
	HDPE	—	100000
	Butene-1	—	10000
(b) M/s. ATV Petrochemicals Ltd.,	Paraxylene	—	100000
Chhatha, Dist. Mathura,	Benzene	—	20000
U.P.	Orthoxylene	—	30000
	Toluene	—	20000

System to Curb Traffic Offenders

955. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discipline public by introducing marks/points (negative) System for traffic offenders in the country as prevalent in USA and corresponding insurance system;

(b) if so, the time by which the Government propose to introduce the system; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Maintenance of orderly traffic, action against traffic offenders and such other steps are necessary to inculcate traffic discipline is a subject matter to be addressed by the State Governments. The Central Government, on its part, sends advisories and provides financial assistance to the State Governments for improving their policing infrastructure.

Sugar Mills in Maharashtra

956. SHRI RAJABHAU THAKRE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of sugar mills in Maharashtra at present;

(b) the total production of sugar by these mills during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government is exporting sugar from these mills to other countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the names of such countries and the foreign exchange earned by export of sugar from these mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) As on 30.6.97, there were 117 installed sugar factories in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) The production of sugar by the mills in the State of Maharashtra during the last 3 seasons was as under:—

Sugar season	Production (Lakh tonnes)
1993-94	27.46
1994-95	50.25
1995-96 (Prov.)	53.76

(c) to (e) The export of sugar has been decanalised with effect from 15.1.1997. Under the new system, export of sugar is being carried out through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Ministry of Commerce. Government has placed a quantity of 2.5 lakh tonnes of free sale sugar at the disposal of APEDA out of 1996-97 season's production for exports. In addition, a quantity of 36,300 MTs. of freesale sugar/raw sugar has also been placed at the disposal of APEDA for Preferential Quota Exports to EEC and USA through Indian Sugar & General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd. As per the information received from APEDA, the commercial exports are being made to Pakistan, Maldives, Myanmar and Dubai.

Floods in Gujarat

957. SHRI P. SHANMUGAM :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was devastating flood in Gujarat resulting in heavy loss of life and property in the State;

(b) if so, the number of lives lost and the extent of damage caused to standing crops/property;

(c) whether the Government have sent any official team to assess the losses suffered;

(d) the assistance sought by the Government of Gujarat from the Union Government and the financial assistance given by the Union Government to Gujarat to render immediate help to the affected people and rehabilitate them to safer places; and

(e) the measures taken to prevent such damages by flood in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) According to the reports received from the Government of Gujarat, heavy rains and floods during the current South-West monsoon has affected 2125 villages in 17 districts claiming 191 human lives and damaging crops in an area of 1.98 lakh ha. and 1.02 lakh houses/huts.

(c) and (d) An amount of Rs. 55.24 crores comprising 2nd and 3rd quarterly instalment of Calamity Relief Fund was released to the State Government for relief and rehabilitation measures in flood affected areas. With the first instalment of Rs. 27.62 crores released earlier, an amount of Rs. 82.86 crores has been made available to the State Government from the Calamity Relief Fund during 1997-98. A Memorandum has been received from the State Government indicating losses of Rs. 664.33 crores in various sectors and seeking liberal assistance from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR). A Central team has visited the affected areas in Gujarat recently to assess the situation. The National Calamity Relief Committee will decide on the quantum of assistance from the NFCR based on the report of the team.

(e) The flood control measures being implemented include construction of reservoirs and embankments, channel improvements, town protection and river training works.

[Translation]

Allocation of Foodgrains to Uttar Pradesh

958. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' :
SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 89 development blocks were included under the PDS in the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh facilitating each family to get 30-40 kilograms at cheaper rates;

(b) if so, the reasons for providing 10 kilograms foodgrains to each family at present;

(c) whether the people of the State particularly Uttarakhand region are facing great difficulty as a result of drastic reduction of foodgrains quota under the Public Distribution System;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which the quota cuts are expected to be restored; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the quota of food-grains and edible oils for the State during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (f) Public Distribution System (PDS) is implemented under the joint responsibility of Central Government and State Governments/UT Administrations. Central Government procures and distributes in bulk to States/UTs. State Governments allocate foodgrains within the state on the basis of priorities fixed by them. The allocation of foodgrains under the TPDS is made on the basis of average annual lifting for the last 10 years taking into account the requirements of BPL population. Uttar Pradesh has been allocated more foodgrains than its average annual lifting in view of the large BPL population in the State. The allocation is higher than the offtake in 1996-97 which, in turn, was the highest in recent years. The State Government has been advised to ensure availability of foodgrains in food deficit areas.

The quota of the imported Palmolein is given to the States on the basis of their demand. Government of Uttar Pradesh has not made any demand in the last few years. Therefore, the question of increasing the quota of edible oil to U.P. does not arise. The Central Government has not finalised the import programme for 1997-98.

[English]

Pre-Examination Coaching to SC/ST Students

959. SHRI MUNNI LAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any policy to establish coaching institutes for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates for preparation of competitive examinations for different categories of All India Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of successful candidates come out from such institutes in different categories of services during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Under this scheme free coaching is provided to SC/ST students through Pre-Examination Training Centres to enable them to compete successfully in the competitive examinations conducted by UPSC, State Public Service Commission, Public Sector Undertaking and other recruiting bodies. Central Assistance is provided on a matching basis of 50 : 50 to the States over and above their committed liability and on 100% basis in case of U.Ts. Universities and Pvt. Coaching institutes.

(c) The information is being collected from the concerned agencies.

Purulia Arms Dropping Case

960. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :
SHRI HARADHAN ROY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether one foreign agency had alerted the Government about the possibility of arms dropping operation in West Bengal-Bihar border areas specially at Purulia;

(b) if so, the reasons for not alerting the concerned security agencies;

(c) the action initiated by the Government for such negligence;

(d) whether the Government have taken action on the recommendations of the Committee on Government Assurances on Purulia Arms Dropping Case; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. the R&AW had obtained advance information about the possibility of arms being unloaded by a small plane after landing at an abandoned airfield in Dhanbad area of Bihar for an insurgent group of that area. This information was conveyed to another intelligence agency by R&AW. The Government of Bihar was accordingly sensitised by the concerned intelligence agency.

(c) The Central Bureau of Investigation which has been entrusted with the investigation of this case has submitted reports highlighting certain administrative lapses on the part of different agencies that came to light during the investigation. The concerned authorities have been apprised of the reports of the CBI for appropriate action.

(d) and (e) The Committee had observed that in view of the importance of the case, Central Bureau of Investigation should pursue the matter vigorously and bring the investigations to an early conclusion. The Committee also hoped that it would be kept apprised of the progress made in the investigation in the case in the coming days. Accordingly, Ministry of Home Affairs are monitoring the progress of the case and the Committee is being kept apprised of the progress of investigation on a regular basis.

National Handicapped Welfare Fund

961. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up National Handicapped Welfare Fund for creating services etc. for the handicapped persons;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the date of its setting up;

(c) whether the said fund has not been utilized properly for the last fourteen years; and

(d) the amount that is available for the purpose along with the total donation received, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Handicapped Welfare Fund was created on 11.8.83 to fulfil the following objectives:

(i) To promote voluntary sector for creating services for the handicapped for prevention, early detection of disabilities, education, training, physical and economic rehabilitation of disabled persons.

(ii) To do all other things that are incidental and conducive to the above objective.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The scheme to be funded out of National Handicapped Welfare Fund could not be financed. As such, no funds could be utilised.

Naxalite Problem

962. SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :
SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE :
SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the naxal activities in the State of Andhra Pradesh are increasing day by day with the result a number of innocent people have fallen victims of their activities;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed and the damages caused to property and Government installations and other infrastructure during the last one year;

(c) whether the Union Government have agreed to provide two more battalions of Central Reserve Police Force for Andhra Pradesh to combat the Naxal activities in the State;

(d) if so, the total number of battalions of CRPF provided to the State at present and whether the demands of the State Government have been fully met in this regard;

(e) whether the Naxal activities are also increasing in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Orissa; and

(f) if so, whether the Union Government have suggested to these States to have a common force to check the naxalite activities in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per available information, in Andhra Pradesh naxalite violence this year is less compared to the corresponding period of last year. However, the incidents are on the higher side when compared to the preceding half year.

(b) (i) The available information regarding the number of persons killed in the naxalite violence are as under:—

Year	No. of Persons killed
1996 (July to December)	105
1997 (Jan. to June)	115

(ii) Approximate loss/damage of property caused by the naxalites in Andhra Pradesh as per available reports is as under:—

	1996
Central Government property	Rs. 1,51,51,000/-
State Government property	Rs. 1,87,02,000/-
Private Property	Rs. 2,56,23,499/-
Total:	Rs. 5,94,76,499/-

(c) and (d) Central para military forces are made available to the State Governments to provide assistance for maintaining public order. The quantum of para-military forces deployed in a State depends upon the availability of the para military forces and overall security scenario. Accordingly, para military forces has been made available to Government of Andhra Pradesh. It is, however, not in public interest to indicate the details of the Central para military forces made available to the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(e) Information available indicates that the level of naxalite violence in Orissa and Madhya Pradesh have not shown any perceptible increase.

(f) The Union Government has periodically reviewed the measures to be adopted for tackling the problem of Naxalite violence in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. At present coordinated action by the Security forces of these States is being ensured by having a Common Communication System and coordination of command in carrying out anti-naxalites operations.

Nexus Between Politicians and Bureaucrats

963. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court in its judgement delivered on March 20, 1997 had directed the Union-Government to set up a truly independent and impartial Committee for investigation and prosecution of cases of link of politicians, bureaucrats etc. with the Mafia; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Supreme Court in its judgement dated 20.3.97 has recommended that a High Level Committee be

appointed by the President of India with the advice of the Prime Minister and after consultation with the Speaker of Lok Sabha for monitoring investigations involving the kind of nexus referred to in the Vohra Committee Report. The issues and options arising out of the recommendations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to the Vohra Committee Report are engaging the attention of the Government.

Renaming of Towns

964. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals for renaming of towns/Islands/Institutions during the celebration of 50th Year of India's Independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Arrest of ISI Agents

965. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a women agent of the Pakistani intelligence agency, ISI and her husband were recently arrested on the charge of spying against India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to prevent the recurrence of such serious incidents; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One Zakir Ahmed Khan alias Zakir Baligh s/o Mehmood Ali, originally resident of village Uldan, PS Kharkhoda, Tehsil & District Meerut suspected to be working for Pak Intelligence Agency, was arrested by

Meerut Police on April 6, 1997. Surraiya Begum wife of Zakir Baligh was arrested by Meerut Police on May 15, 1997 and a case was registered against her. Police investigations in the above mentioned cases are in progress.

(c) and (d) Various security agencies and the State Police Organisations have been sensitised from time to time about the designs of the Pak Intelligence Agencies. They have been advised to beef-up their security arrangements and keep a look-out for any such developments.

[English]

Super Bazar Under Plan Budget

966. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring Super Bazar under the plan Budget on the lines of Kendriya Bhandar and other cooperative consumer stores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Government had been providing financial assistance to Super Bazar under a Central Sector Scheme. The financial assistance has since been discontinued from the current financial year on account of proposed transfer of the Super Bazar from the control of the Central Government to the NCT of Delhi.

Reduction of Foodgrains Under PDS

967. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI D.P. YADAV :
SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN :
SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI :
SHRI VIJAY PATEL :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have imposed any restriction on the usual allotment of rice and wheat under PDS to various States/Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new scheme of targetted public distribution system is responsible for the cut;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether representations have been received from various States/Union Territories to enhance the quota of foodgrains;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Allocation of rice and wheat to States/UTs is being made under the Targetted Public Distribution System (TPDS) formula from June '97. As per the formula allocations are made on the basis of the average annual lifting for the last 10 years taking into account the requirement of BPL population at the rate of 10 kg per family per month. With launching of TPDS from June '97, monthly allocations in case of some States/UTs have come down as compared to allocations made upto May '97. The allocations under TPDS bear a more meaningful relationship with the procurement constraints, availability of foodgrains in the Central Pool and lifting capacity of the State Governments.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) and (g) Requests have been received for enhancement of monthly allocations of foodgrains/ additional allocations over and above TPDS quota fixed by Government of India from several States. Details showing additional allocations of rice/wheat sanctioned to some States/UTs at economic cost over and above TPDS quota are given in the *Statement* enclosed.

Statement

*Additional Allocation of Rice & Wheat made to Various States/
UTs from June '97 onwards at Economic Cost*

(In '000 Tonnes)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Rice			Wheat		
		June 1997	July 1997	Aug 1997	June 1997	July 1997	Aug 1997
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh						
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.802	1.802	1.802			
3.	Assam	8.488	28.488@	8.488			
4.	Bihar						
5.	Delhi		0.080	0.080		0.150	0.150
6.	Goa						
7.	Gujarat						
8.	Haryana						
9.	Himachal Pradesh		7.680	2.000		10.040	2.500
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.500	19.800	19.800	3.420	10.359	10.359
11.	Karnataka						
12.	Kerala						
13.	Madhya Pradesh				2 2	5.000	5.000
14.	Maharashtra						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Manipur	0.740	0.740	0.740			
16.	Meghalaya	5.338	5.338	5.338			
17.	Mizoram	0.083	0.083	0.083			
18.	Nagaland						
19.	Orissa	20.000	20.000	20.000			
20.	Punjab						
21.	Rajasthan						
22.	Sikkim		2.000	2.000			
23.	Tamil Nadu	% 81.000	81.000	81.000			
24.	Tripura	1.020	1.020	1.020			
25.	Uttar Pradesh						
26.	West Bengal						
27.	A & N Islands						
28.	Chandigarh						
29.	D & N Haveli						
30.	Daman & Diu						
31.	Lakshadweep						
32.	Pondicherry						
Total		130.971	168.031	142.351	3.420	25.549	18.009

@ 20,000 MT rice sanctioned for flood relief with validity for lifting upto 31.10.97.

@@ For Earthquake relief for six months from July to Dec. 97.

& For drought relief for 5 months @ 20,000 MT rice per month from June to Oct. 97.

% 81,000 MT rice per month was sanctioned. The Chief Minister, T. Nadu has however informed that the state will not need it from July to Sept. 97 because TNCSC has purchased rice from Andhra Pradesh.

Espionage Activities

968. SHRI SURESH PRABHU :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is recently a spurt in the espionage activities by some new recruits in the intelligence wing of the Border Security Force for Pakistan intelligence agencies in the Jaisalmer region of the Rajasthan border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to strengthen our counter-espionage service so as to have a check on such type of anti-national activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) There is no spurt of espionage activities by BSF personnel. However, one Constable of BSF posted in Jaisalmer was apprehended on April 6, 1997 by Rajasthan police as his name figured during interrogation of suspects. The case is under investigation.

(c) All possible steps are being taken to combat and frustrate the designs of anti-national elements by sensitising and gearing-up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and by co-ordinated action by all concerned Central and State Agencies.

[Translation]

Uttarakhand State

969. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have studied the Proposal sent by Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding creation of a separate Uttarakhand State;

(b) if so, the view of the Union Government thereto;

(c) whether there is any proposal to call a meeting of elected representatives to discuss this matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has decided in favour of the establishment of a separate State of Uttarakhand comprising the nine hill districts of the Revenue Divisions of Kumaon and Garhwal of the State of Uttar Pradesh. The Bill in this regard will be referred to the Legislature of that State for expressing its views thereon. Keeping in view the legal and administrative complexities involved in the issue, it would not be possible to lay down a definite time frame in the matter.

Crops Damaged by Pollution

970. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether air pollution in India is posing danger not only to the human life but it has affected some crops as well due to which the production of these crops has declined up to 40 per cent;

(b) if so, the crops affected by air pollution as per the research conducted in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in giving due attention to this issue?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Air pollution may cause adverse impacts on human health and plants. Studies carried out on effect of air pollution on plants have indicated that the productivity and yield of certain crops located around the pollution sources are affected. However, no conclusive data on the extent of damage caused to the crops is available. Some of the crops affected by air pollution include wheat, soyabean, maize, rice etc.

(c) The steps taken by the Government include the following:—

1. Standards for brick kilns have been prescribed for particulate emissions and for stack height.
2. Ambient air quality standards have been notified. A network of ambient air quality monitoring stations has been set up.

3. Effluent and emission standards have been notified for the major categories of polluting industries.
4. Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment within stipulated time-frame and legal action is taken against the defaulting units.
5. Environmental guidelines have been evolved for siting and operation of industries.
6. 17 categories of highly polluting industries have been identified for priority action.
7. A scheme on common effluent treatment plants for clusters of small scale industries has been taken up.
8. Preparation of Zoning Atlas for siting of industries has been taken up.
9. More stringent norms for vehicular emissions have been notified under the Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and have come into effect from April, 1996.
10. Unleaded petrol has been introduced in Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai with effect from 1.4.1995. The same will be effective in all other capitals of States/UTs and other major cities with effect from 31.12.1998 and for the entire country with effect from 1.4.2000.
11. Fuel quality standards for petrol and diesel vehicles have been notified.
12. Environmental epidemiological studies in identified critically polluted areas have been initiated.

[English]

Konkan Statutory Development Board

971. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal of Konkan Statutory Development Board is received by the Government from the Government of Maharashtra for approval; and

(b) if so, the decision taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Union Government's stand in the matter is that if the existing Development Board for the rest of Maharashtra, which includes Konkan, is not in a position to effectively cater to the developmental requirements of the Konkan region over the period of next couple of years and the Government is convinced that the area could be developed better if it is placed under a separate Development Board, then the matter of

creation of a separate Development Board for Konkan can be considered.

Recruitment in Para Military Forces

972. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :
SHRI P. NAMGYAL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons from Jammu & Kashmir who have been recruited in various para-military forces during 1996-97 and 1997-98 till date, year-wise;

(b) whether surrendered militants have been rehabilitated by way of recruitments in the forces during the said period, separately; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Number of persons recruited from Jammu & Kashmir in various Para Military Forces is shown below:—

Name of the Force	Year	
	1996-97	1997-98
BSF	252	258
CRPF	69	377
ITBP	20	10
CISF	57	51
Assam Rifles	96	—

(b) and (c) Government have sanctioned raising of one BSF Bn. and one CRPF Bn. from Jammu & Kashmir. Recruitment is in progress.

[Translation]

Wheat Spoiled and Unfit for Human Consumption

973. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during 1996-97 lakhs of tonnes of wheat has got spoiled and has become unfit for consumption due to the negligence of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the persons responsible for the said negligence and the action being taken against them; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. There has been no report about any quantity of wheat spoiled and rendered unfit for human consumption due to negligence of the Food Corporation of India during 1996-97. However, a quantity of about 37301 MTs of wheat have been transferred from sound to damaged due to natural calamities which will be disposed off as per procedure.

The stocks of foodgrains are stored by scientific methods in the FCI godowns and subjected to thorough examination by trained Quality Control Officers on fortnightly basis regularly. Periodical dis-infestation treatment is imparted to protect the stored grains from spoilage during storage because of various factors like moisture, insects, rodents, microorganism etc.

[English]

Situation in North-East

974. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received response from the extremist groups operating in the state of North-Eastern Region to the Prime Minister's appeal to them for talk on restoration of peace in the region;

(b) if so, the groups that have responded favourably;

(c) whether they have laid down any conditions for the talk;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether former Prime Minister has talk with the leader of N.S.C.N., an extremist group of Nagaland in Switzerland; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) :
(a) to (f) Yes, Sir. So far the Issac-Muivah group of the

National Socialist Council of Nagaland has responded. The Prime Minister in a statement in both the Houses of Parliament on 25 July, 1997 informed, inter alia, that after his visit to Nagaland and other North-Eastern States, the Government's willingness to hold unconditional talks with the underground elements had been reiterated and that after talks with the Issac-Muivah group of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland, it has now been agreed to cease fire for 3 months with effect from 1st August, 1997 and embark upon political level discussions.

[Translation]

Inclusion of Assamese Tribes in S.T. List

975. SHRI SIBU SOREN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several assamese tribes such as Santhal, Munda, Oraon, Ho, Khadia etc. living in Assam have been kept out of the Scheduled Tribes List;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total population of these tribes at present;

(d) whether the Government propose to include the said tribes in the Scheduled Tribes List; and

(e) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government of Assam had not recommended their specification as Scheduled Tribes.

(c) Community-wise enumeration of non Scheduled communities is not done at the time of census, hence population of these communities is not known.

(d) The Government of Assam have now recommended the inclusion of Tea and Ex-Tea Garden communities such as Santhal, Munda, Oraon, HO, Khadia etc. in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Assam (excluding autonomous districts). This proposal is being considered alongwith similar proposals received from other states in the context of proposed revision of orders specifying SC/ST lists.

(e) No specific time schedule can be indicated.

[English]

Vacant Posts for Scheduled Tribe

976. SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts vacant under various categories in his ministry/department, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to clear the said backlog;

(c) whether other persons are working on the posts in place of posts reserved for ST's;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and designation-wise; and

(e) the concrete steps taken to clear the entire backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) A *statement* giving the number of Posts in different Groups reserved for Scheduled Tribes, lying vacant, is enclosed.

Even at the time of filling up the vacant posts, all efforts are made to fulfil the quota prescribed for the Scheduled Tribes. However, if suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Tribes are not available, the reservations are usually carried forward to the subsequent recruitment years in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Government. Posts reserved for Scheduled Tribes are not filled up by other persons unless they are deserved first as per the prescribed procedure. Besides, where the method of recruitment is direct recruitment, dereservation of posts is not permissible.

Statement

Sl. No.	Category of post	Total no. of posts reserved for Scheduled Tribes lying vacant at present	Steps taken to clear the backlog
1	2	3	4
1.	Group 'A'	—	Reservation Policy in respect of Group 'A' posts is implemented by the Department of Personnel & Training.

1	2	3	4
2.	Group 'B' (Gazetted)	15	Vacancies have been reported to the Department of Personnel & Training; they in turn report these vacancies to the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission, wherever necessary.
3.	Group 'B' (Non gazetted)	29	
4.	Group 'C'	37	
5.	Group 'D'	21	These posts are filled up by direct recruitment from amongst candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchange. The recruitment process has already begun.

Note:—There are no state-wise quotas in respect of the posts in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[Translation]

Environmental Awareness

977. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce any new Action Plan to create public awareness in the field of environment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Several schemes such as National Environment Awareness Campaign, Paryavaran Vhini, Eco-Clubs, etc. are already being implemented for creation of environmental awareness amongst general public. The Ministry is going to launch a vigorous public awareness programme for eradicating pollution, the details of which are being worked out.

[English]

Paddy Procurement Centres

978. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of paddy procurement centres set up by the Food Corporation of India at present, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such more centres in the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A *statement* showing State-wise number of paddy purchase centres/mandies operated by Food Corporation of India during current 1996-97 Kharif Marketing Season is enclosed.

(b) No, Sir. there is no Proposal to set up more purchase centres during the Kharif Marketing Season 1996-97.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

*State-wise Number of Paddy Purchase Centres
Operated by FCI During 1996-97
Kharif Marketing Season*

S. No.	State	No. of Centres (Provisional)
1.	Punjab	395
2.	Haryana	140
3.	U.P.	43
4.	Delhi	4
5.	Rajasthan	12
6.	Andhra Pradesh	252
7.	Madhya Pradesh	—
8.	West Bengal	58
9.	Karnataka	17
10.	Pondicherry	2
11.	Arunachal Pradesh	2
12.	Bihar	74
13.	Orissa	38
14.	H.P.	9
15.	Maharashtra	—
Total:		1046

[Translation]

Arrest of Women

979. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the established norms and procedure to arrest women at night in the Country;

(b) whether the Government propose to make any amendments in the Cr. P.C. to stop the arrest of women at night; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be made and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAOBOOL DAR) : (a) Arrest of persons is governed by Chapter V of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973. No separate norms and procedures are prescribed in the Cr. P.C. for arresting women at night.

(b) Vide sub-clause (b) of clause 7 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 1994 as introduced in the Rajya Sabha, it has been provided that no woman shall be arrested after sun set and before sun rise save in exceptional circumstances.

(c) It would not be possible at this stage to indicate the time by which the Bill be passed by both Houses of Parliament.

Decline in Agricultural Production due to Abnormal Monsoon

980. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Meteorological Department has warned the Government about the possibility of decline in the agricultural production due to abnormal monsoon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also taken any speedy and long term measures keeping in view the warning; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The India Meteorological Department have forecast a normal south-west monsoon for the year 1997. Quantitatively, the rainfall for the country as a whole for the entire monsoon season (June to September) 1997 is forecast to be 92% of its long period average value within the model forecast error limit of $\pm 4\%$.

(c) and (d) It is too early to assess the effect of deficient rainfall on the growth of the crops. State Governments have already been advised to formulate detailed contingency plans for crop production in order to meet any weather aberrations during kharif 1997. Further, to increase the productivity and production of various crops as a long term measure, the Government is implementing various centrally sponsored crop specific developmental programmes as stated below:

- (i) Intensive Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) for Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas.
- (ii) Accelerated Maize Development Programme.
- (iii) Intensive Cotton Development Programme.
- (iv) Special Jute Development Programme.
- (v) Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping System.
- (vi) National Pulses Development Project.
- (vii) Oilseeds Production Programme, etc.

[English]

Ban on Lotteries

981. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :
 SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
 SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
 SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :
 SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
 SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Members of Parliament called on the President of India and Prime Minister with

an appeal to ban the State lotteries as contemplated under entry 40 to the Union List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India;

(b) if so, the main grounds adduced in support of their demand; and

(c) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) A memorandum signed by 124 Members of Parliament was submitted to the President and the Prime Minister. The memorandum demands that an immediate ban be placed on the lottery trade by the Central Government as lottery is nothing but another form of gambling. It is further stated in the memorandum that, as a first step, 'single digit' lottery should be immediately banned by way of an executive order and then an appropriate legislation should be brought to ban any other form of lottery. The memorandum describes the lottery as a social evil which is playing havoc with the lives of the people.

Entry 40 of List I—Union List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India relates to "Lotteries organised by the Government of India or the Government of a State." The question of enacting a Central legislation on lotteries is under consideration of the Government.

Mangrove Forests

982. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
 SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the large scale destruction of mangrove forests in some coastal States particularly in Orissa and West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for the proper preservation of the mangrove forests in the coastal States and

(d) the details of the plantation schemes announced for the growth of mangrove forests?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The State Government of West Bengal has informed the Central Government regarding the decrease in mangrove forests and some mangrove species in the Sunderban areas. The reasons stated for this decrease include, position of Bengal basin formed as a result of the Neo-tectonic movement, reclamation of habitat area through bunding and erection of earthen dams, lack of proper tidal flushing of the areas, change in the salinity regime and siltation, lack of employment sources for the inhabitants in the Sunderbans resulting in their dependence on mangrove forests. The State Government of Orissa has reported that deforestation of mangrove forests has taken place in Kendrapara, Jagatsinghpur and Bhadrak districts due to unauthorised prawn culture activities.

(c) and (d) Government of India initiated a scheme for conservation and management of mangroves in 1987. Fifteen mangrove areas in the country have been identified for intensive conservation under the scheme. Grants are released to the concerned State Governments/Union Territories for implementation of Management Action Plans of these areas.

Under different schemes, Government of West Bengal has raised mangrove plantation in an area of 6,782 ha. Approximately 2,585 sq kms of the area is being conserved under Tiger Project out of which 1330 sq kms has been designated as Sunderban National Park. In addition, physical protection and prevention of biotic interference is provided through regular patrolling. Plantations of non-mangrove species have been raised in areas outside the forests for meeting local needs of firewood and small timber, alternate energy conservation devices of solar power, smokeless chullahs etc. have been distributed to people. Forest Protection Committees and Eco-Development Committees in the fringe areas of mangrove forests have been formed which provide voluntary protection to the mangrove forests. There are till now 21 Forest Protection and 14 Eco-Development Committees involving 16427 families providing protection to approximately 772 sq km of forest area. Eco-development activities are targetted to provide alternate sources of income and making the people self-sufficient to decrease pressure on mangrove forests.

Government of Orissa have initiated administrative measures for evacuation of encroachments and an area of 6,772 acres has been freed from encroachment till 27.6.1997 and 4,83,600 hypocotyles of mangrove species have been planted on this area.

Identification of People Below Poverty Line

983. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA :
 SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH :
 SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
 SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
 SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :
 SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
 SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR :
 CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA :
 DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI :
 SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
 SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA :
 SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the States/Union Territories have prepared themselves for distribution of foodgrains at subsidised price to those below the poverty line through the Public Distribution System/Targetted Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, whether the persons below the poverty line have been identified by all the States;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry have received any report from the State Governments in this regard;

(d) if not, the details of the States that have not completed the process so far.

(e) the names of the controlling authority for the new PDS and the steps taken to ensure that beneficiaries get their due; and

(f) the extent to which the State Governments have been able to help the poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Targeted PDS has been introduced in all States and UTs except in Punjab, Delhi, Goa and UT of Lakshadweep.

(b) Governments of Punjab, Delhi, Goa and UT administration of Lakshadweep are identifying BPL population. All other States have identified the BPL population.

(c) Yes, Sir. Reports have been received from all the States/UTs. except Punjab, Delhi, Goa States and UT of Lakshadweep.

(d) Government of Punjab, Delhi, Goa and UT of Lakshadweep have not completed the process of making necessary preparations for implementing the TPDS.

(e) Under the scheme Panchayats and Nagarpalikas have been given the responsibility for supervising and overseeing the work of Fair Price Shops. Each Fair Price Shop will display the details of the authority to which the card holder can report grievances. States/UTs have constituted Vigilance Committees, drawn up Inspection Schedules and taken steps for greater transparency.

(f) About 586.64 lakh BPL families will be benefited under the scheme.

Threat to CBI Personnel

984. PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the officials of the CBI investigation fodder scam have been threatened;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have taken steps to provide/ensure adequate security and safety to CBI officials dealing with sensitive scams; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Programme on Integrated Pest Management

985. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the National Programme on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was launched;

(b) the details of achievement made and the allocation of fund provided so far;

(c) whether the Government have undertaken any survey to ascertain the benefits of the programme being provided to the farmers under the said programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Programme in the country was initiated in the year 1981. The Government of India adopted IPM as main strategy in the crop production programmes since 1985. However, the National IPM Programme was launched in the year 1994-95 in collaboration with the State Deptt. of Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the State Agricultural Universities.

(b) Under the National IPM Programme, the main thrust has been given to pest-surveillance and monitoring, promotion of bio-control methods and Human Resource Development through field trainings and demonstrations. Since 1994-95 to 1996-97, 812 master trainers, 21,145 Agriculture Extension Officers and 1,40,068 farmers have been trained in IPM through 4692 Farmer's Field Schools (FFSs) in rice, cotton, vegetable, oilseeds and pulse crops. During the 8th Plan period, the Government has allocated Rs. 45 crores for a Central Sector Scheme "Central IPM Centres". Besides, an allocation of Rs. 15.00 crores was made as Grants-in-aid to help the States to strengthen their Biocontrol Laboratories during the 8th Plan period. On the basis of progress made by the State Governments, an amount of Rs. 10.68 crores has been provided to the States under the Scheme.

(c) to (e) Sample studies and assessment indicate that IPM programme is very cost-effective and eco-friendly. The farmers are very receptive and responsive to its adoption.

Welfare Schemes

986. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :
SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes launched by the Government for the upliftment of Weaker Sections of the country during the Eighth Plan;

(b) the number of persons from weaker section benefited therefrom during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the guidelines issued for the sanction of funds under various schemes;

(d) the funds allocated for these schemes for 1997-98, State-wise; and

(e) the amount actually released to State Governments till date for the purpose, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The details of schemes launched by the Ministry of Welfare for the upliftment of Weaker Sections of the country during the Eighth Plan is given in the Statement I attached.

(b) The number of persons from Weaker Sections benefited therefrom during the Eighth Plan, State-wise is given in the Statement II attached.

(c) Funds are sanctioned as per the norms laid down for various schemes.

(d) The funds under these schemes are not allocated State-wise. However, Statement III regarding Scheme-wise allocation for 1997-98 is attached.

(e) Details regarding actual release of amount are at Statement IV attached.

Statement I

S. No.	Name of Scheme	Year of introduction
1.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas for ST Girls and Boys	1992-93
2.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for ST Girls	1993-94
3.	Grant in aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations	1992-93
4.	Village Grain Banks for Drought Prone Areas (Excluding Assam)	1996-97
5.	Pre Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections	1992-93
6.	Special Educational Development programme for Scheduled Caste Girls belonging to Very Low Literacy Levels	1996-97

Statement II

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1276
2.	Assam	44
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	02
4.	Bihar	449
5.	Gujarat	418
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	261
7.	Karnataka	161
8.	Kerala	313
9.	Madhya Pradesh	876
10.	Maharashtra	398
11.	Manipur	209
12.	Mizoram	01
13.	Meghalaya	02
14.	Orissa	346
15.	Rajasthan	357
16.	Tamil Nadu	312
17.	Tripura	04
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2235
19.	West Bengal	03
20.	Delhi	2112
21.	Daman & Diu	01

Statement III

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Allocation for 1997-98 (Rupees in Crores)
1.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas for ST girls and boys	3.75
2.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for ST Girls	4.00
3.	Grant in aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations.	10.00
4.	Village Grain Banks for Drought Prone Areas (Excluding Assam)	2.00
5.	Pre Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections	2.50
6.	Special Educational Development Programme for SC Girls belonging to Very Low Literacy Levels	3.80

Statement IV

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Status of release as on date
1.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas for ST Girls and Boys	Rs. 0.86 crores has been released in the State of Gujarat. No release has been made in other States during 1997-98.
2.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for ST Girls	It is released to NGOs, not to State Governments.
3.	Grant in Aid to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations	NIL
4.	Village Grain Banks for Drought Prone Areas (Excluding Assam)	NIL
5.	Pre Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections	It is released to NGOs, not to State Governments.
6.	Special Educational Development Programme for SC Girls belonging to Very Low Literacy Levels	NIL

Prices of Medicines

987. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been steep hike in the prices of medicines during the last one year;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the efforts made by the Government to boost the production of medicines in the Country; and

(d) whether the prices of life saving drugs are likely to come down as a result of the efforts made by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Like in other commodities, some price increase in the case of medicines is inevitable. However studies conducted from time to time do not indicate any general abnormal price increase in the case of medicines in recent times. The Wholesale Price Index (1981-82 = 100) has shown an increase of 1.69% for Drugs and Medicines vis-a-vis 5.91% for All Commodities during the period April '96 to March '97.

(b) General analysis of the causes of high prices of medicines, both under and outside price control, reveal the following as the prime factors viz. increase in the prices of bulk drugs, excipients (e.g. alcohol, sugar, solvent, etc.), cost of packaging, fluctuations in foreign exchange rate (for imported items), changes in excise duty, hike in Maximum Allowable Post-manufacturing Expenses (MAPE), increase in trade margin in case of decontrolled items etc.

(c) Steps taken to boost production of medicines, inter-alia, are:—

(i) Abolition of industrial licensing.

(ii) Emphasis on Research & Development.

(iii) Simplification of pricing system.

(iv) Incentives for production from basic stage.

(d) With the ushering in of era of liberalisation, through free imports, lower duty rates, doing away with industrial licensing, encouraging R & D and simplified price control system, it is expected that increase

competition would lead to reduction in prices. However, inflationary pressures, high cost of R & D also have to be reckoned with.

Militancy in Nagaland

988. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received reports that part of the money collected from the Nagaland State Lotteries passes on to groups of Nagaland Militants from which they purchase arms and ammunition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Nagaland; and

(d) the steps taken to break the nexus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) :

(a) and (b) Government has seen newspaper reports to the effect that the sole distributor of Nagaland lotteries has made payments to militant groups.

(c) and (d) Government of Nagaland have been advised to stop the running of State Lotteries immediately till inquires into the allegations are over.

Investment on Storage Capacity by FCI

989. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken during the last one year to streamline and modernise the operations and network of FCI in the country; and

(b) the details of investment proposed on storage during the current year and the next three years for addition/expansion/modernisation of FCI particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) To streamline and modernise the storage operations, FCI has undertaken upgradation of existing Railway Sidings, including electrification. FCI is replacing old mechanical lorry weighbridges with the electronic weighbridges. FCI has also installed in-motion wagon weighbridges for purpose of rake weighment.

In order to modernise conventional storage systems, FCI is examining bin/vacuum technology system etc.

(b) For the current financial year, the budget allocation is Rs. 20 crores. In Maharashtra, FCI has planned a storage capacity of 15,000 MT at Sholapur involving an investment of about Rs. 1 crore.

[Translation]

Grants for Handicapped Children School

990. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of assistance being provided to the societies running schools for mentally retarded and physically handicapped children;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to provide hundred percent assistance to the societies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Central Government extends financial assistance upto 40% of the total admissible grant to the NGOs/Societies following the favourable recommendation of the State Govts.

(b) to (d) No Sir, does not arise.

[English]

Changes in Coca Cola Holdings

991. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the request for changes in Coca Cola South Asia Holdings (CCSAH) \$ 700 million proposal has been submitted to the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (SIA) without vetting by the Ministry of Food Processing;

(b) whether SIA has sent the proposal for the consideration of the Cabinet Committee on Foreign Investment;

(c) if so, the reasons for bypassing the Ministry of Food Processing; and

(d) the normal guidelines for proposals affecting more than one Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (c) The request for changes in the approval granted to Coca Cola South Asia Holdings (CCSAH) for bringing US \$ 700 Million was submitted by the Company to SIA and SIA sent the proposal for consideration by CCFI.

(d) For proposals affecting more than one Ministry, the concerned Ministries are normally consulted.

[Translation]

Production of Potato

992. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been bumper crop of potato this year;

(b) if so, the total quantity of potato produced in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware that potato growers are facing great difficulties in selling as well as storing their produce in their respective States;

(d) if so, the total quantity of potato spoiled due to this reason so far, State-wise; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Government to provide assistance to the potato growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The estimated production of potato during this year is not available. However, State-wise latest data on Potato production for the year 1995-96 is enclosed as *Statement*.

(c) to (e) Some of the State Governments have reported distress sale of Potato in their State and requested for Market intervention for the purchase of potato. The data on quantity of potato spoiled during this season is not available.

The remedial steps taken by the Government to provide assistance to the potato growers are:—

(i) The Government of India have scrapped central cold storage order to facilitate setting up of more cold storages in the country, The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has removed ceiling on rentals and will revise tariff in

consultation with Agriculture Marketing Adviser to make it viable.

(ii) The Government of India is implementing a Market Intervention Scheme on the request of State Government to save the farmers from distress sale of Horticulture produce including Potato.

(iii) National Horticulture Board, National Cooperative Development Corporation & Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority are providing assistance for the construction of cold storages and other marketing infrastructure facilities.

Statement

State-wise Coverage of Area and Production of Potato during the year 1995-96

S. No.	State	Area (thousand hectares)	Production (thousand tonnes)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.4	4.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.9	39.5
3.	Assam	74.1	504.8
4.	Bihar	173.0	1571.6
5.	Gujarat	23.0	460.9
6.	Haryana	10.5	141.3
7.	Himachal Pradesh	13.2	120.9
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.4	3.4
9.	Karnataka	25.5	251.3
10.	Madhya Pradesh	44.3	524.3
11.	Maharashtra	15.1	75.7

1	2	3	4
12.	Manipur	3.3	17.3
13.	Meghalaya	19.0	122.0
14.	Mizoram	0.1	0.3
15.	Nagaland	2.4	20.0
16.	Orissa	9.4	89.8
17.	Punjab	42.8	873.8
18.	Rajasthan	1.6	19.0
19.	Sikkim	5.5	24.0
20.	Tamilnadu	4.7	126.9
21.	Tripura	4.3	76.9
22.	Uttar Pradesh	400.7	7910.0
23.	West Bengal	255.9	6258.0
24.	Delhi	0.1	0.6
Total		1136.20	19236.70

Recommendations of Mandal Commission

993. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the State Governments have implemented the recommendations of the Mandal Commission;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have made efforts for the implementation of the said recommendation; and

(d) if so, the success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Except Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh & UT of

Lakshadweep which have not implemented the recommendations of Mandal Commission as these are mainly Tribal Population States and have not identified any Backward Class community in these States/UT.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Indira Sawhney versus Union of India case, most of the States/UTs have notified their SC lists resulting in the notification of Common Central list in respect of 25 States/UTs. Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Meghalaya have set up Backward Classes Commissions to identify Other Backward Classes in the UT/State. Chandigarh Administration has already notified OBC list.

Allocation of Sugar to Madhya Pradesh

994. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of levy sugar issued to various States during the last six months;

(b) whether less quantity of sugar has been issued to Madhya Pradesh during the said period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of sugar to the States, particularly to Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) The monthly levy sugar quotas of the States/UTs are based on minimum 425 gms. per capita availability for the population as per the 1991 census with effect from 1-1-1996. A statement showing monthly levy sugar quotas and the annual festival quotas of all States/UTs including the State of Madhya Pradesh is enclosed.

Statement

*Levy Sugar Quota and Festival Quota
(Based on population as per 1991 census,
effective from 1.1.1996)*

(Figs. in Tonnes)

S. No.	State/UTs	Monthly normal quota	Festival quota for each year
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	28267	7614
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	282	74

1	2	3	4
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	366	94
4.	Assam	9524	2896
5.	Bihar	36707	10078
6.	Chandigarh	391	112
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	60	14
8.	Delhi	11973	2316
9.	Goa	508	150
10.	Daman	26	12
11.	Diu	17	
12.	Gujarat	17557	4878
13.	Haryana	6996	1924
14.	Himachal Pradesh	2197	608
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	3567	868
16.	Karnataka	19117	5350
17.	Kerala	12368	3600
18.	Lakshadweep	81	22
19.	Madhya Pradesh	28127	7536
20.	Maharashtra	33550	9014
21.	Manipur	782	208
22.	Meghalaya	752	200
23.	Mizoram	293	78
24.	Nagaland	542	128
25.	Orissa	13456	3730
26.	Pondicherry	360	64

1	2	3	4
27.	Karikal	86	18
28.	Mahe	18	4
29.	Yanam	8	2
30.	Punjab	8619	2392
31.	Rajasthan	18704	5092
32.	Sikkim	174	50
33.	Tamil Nadu	23741	6790
34.	Tripura	1173	302
35.	Uttar Pradesh	59122	15936
36.	West Bengal	28934	7796
Total		368445	99950

Research Institutions

995. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of research councils, research centres and projects under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in the country, location-wise;

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred on them during the last three years, council-wise and project-wise; and

(c) the details of the achievements of these research centres during the said period and the impact of these research works on the agricultural production in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Sir, the details are given in Statement I.

(b) The details are given in Statement II.

(c) The details are given in Statement III.

Statement I

Name of State	Name of the Institute/PD/NRC/AICRP	Location
1	2	3
A&N Islands	Central Agriculture Research Institute	Port Blair
Andhra Pradesh	Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture	Hyderabad
	National Academy for Agricultural Research Management	Hyderabad
	Central Tobacco Research Institute	Rajahmundry
	N.R.C.—Sorghum	Hyderabad
	Project Directorate—Rice	Hyderabad
	P.D.—Poultry	Hyderabad
	Project Directorate—Oilseed	Hyderabad
	AICRP—Agro-meteorology	Hyderabad
	AICRP—Tobacco	Rajahmundry
	AICRP—Dryland Agriculture	Hyderabad
	AICRP—Soil Test Crop Response	Hyderabad
Arunachal Pradesh	AICRP—Sorghum	Hyderabad
	Network—Agricultural Ornithology	Hyderabad
	N.R.C.—Yak	Dirang
Bihar	Indian Lac Research Institute	Ranchi
	P.D.—Water Management*	Patna
Delhi	National Centre for Agricultural Economics & Policy Res.	New Delhi
	Indian Agricultural Research Institute	New Delhi
	Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute	New Delhi
	National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	New Delhi
	N.R.C.—Biotechnology (Crop Science)	New Delhi
	NRC—DNA Fingerprinting	New Delhi
	NRC—Pest Management	New Delhi
	P.D.—Maize	New Delhi
	AICRP—Arid Legumes	New Delhi
	AICRP—Tillage Management	New Delhi
	AICRP—Nematode	New Delhi
	AICRP—Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	New Delhi

1	2	3
	AICRP—Biological Nitrogen Fixation	New Delhi
	AICRP—PHT on Horticultural Crops	New Delhi
	Project on PHT on Fruits & Vegetables	New Delhi
	AICRP—Home Science	New Delhi
	AICRP—Optimisation of Groundwater Wells & Pumps	New Delhi
	AICRP—Pesticide Residue	New Delhi
	AICRP—Under-utilised Plants	New Delhi
	AICRP—Long-term Fertilizer Experiment	New Delhi
	AICRP—Agricultural Drainage	New Delhi
	AICRP—Floriculture	New Delhi
	Long Term Project under Indo-USSR, Publication & Information Division	New Delhi
	INDO-UK & INDO-USA Prog	
	Bilateral Cooperation Programme with Developed Countries	
	National Agril. Science Centre & Museum	New Delhi
	ICAR Agricultural Library	New Delhi
	Strengthening of Monitoring & Mechanisms & Training	
	Utilization of Internal Competence	New Delhi
	Integrated Krishi Vigyan Kendras	Instt./SAUs/NGOs
	National Agricultural Resource Project-II	New Delhi
	Agricultural Human Resource Development	New Delhi
	Develop. & Strengthening of Agril. Edn. of Central Univ.	New Delhi
	Develop. & Strengthening of SAUs	New Delhi
	Network Embryo Transfer Technology**	New Delhi
	Establish. of Centres of Advanced Studies in SAUs & DUs	New Delhi
	Network Micronutrients**	New Delhi
Goa	ICAR Res. Complex for Goa	Goa
Gujarat	N.R.C.—Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	Anand
	N.R.C.—Groundnut	Junagadh
	AICRP—Groundnut	Junagadh

1	2	3
Himachal Pradesh	Central Potato Research Institute	Shimla
	N.R.C.—Mushroom	Solan
	AICRP—Mushroom	Solan
	AICRP—Apple Scab	Solan
	AICRP—Potato	Shimla
	AICRP—Micro Biological Decomposition	Palampur
Haryana	Central Institute for Research on Buffalo	Hisar
	Central Soil Salinity Research Institute	Karnal
	National Dairy Research Institute	Karnal
	National Bureau of Animal Genetics Resources & NIAG	Karnal
	NRC—Biotechnology (Part of NDRI)	Karnal
	N.R.C.—Equine	Hisar
	Directorate of Wheat Research	Karnal
	AICRP—Barley	Karnal
	AICRP—Arid Fruits	Hisar
	AICRP—Agricultural Byproducts	Karnal
	AICRP—Rapeseed & Mustard	Hisar
	AICRP—Honey Bee	Hisar
	AICRP—Management of Salt Affected Soils	Karnal
	AICRP—Buffalo	Hisar
	AICRP—Blood Protease	Hisar
	Network Animal Genetic Resources	Karnal
Jammu & Kashmir	Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture	Srinagar
Karnataka	Indian Institute of Horticultural Research	Bangalore
	National Institute of Animal Nutrition & Physiology	Bangalore
	N.R.C.—Cashew	Puttur
	P.D.—Biological Control	Bangalore
	AICRP—Betelvine	Bangalore
	AICRP—Tropical Fruits	Bangalore
	AICRP—Disease Monitoring & Surveillance	Bangalore
	AICRP—Small Millets	Bangalore
	AICRP—Agriculture Acrology	Bangalore
	AICRP—Cashew	Vittal

1	2	3
Kerala	Central Institute of Fisheries Technology	Cochin
	Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	Cochin
	Central Tuber Crops Research Institute	Trivandrum
	Indian Instt. of Spices Res.	Calicut
	Central Plantation Crops Research Institute	Kasargod
	AICRP—Palms	Kasargod
	AICRP—Spices	Calicut
Madhya Pradesh	Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering	Bhopal
	Indian Institute of Soil Science	Bhopal
	N.R.C.—Weed Science	Jabalpur
	N.R.C.—Soybean	Indore
	AICRP—Micro Nutrients	Bhopal
	AICRP—Animal Energy	Bhopal
	AICRP—Farm Implements & Machinery	Bhopal
	AICRP—Power Tiller	Bhopal
	AICRP—Soybean	Indore
	AICRP—Renewable Energy	Bhopal
	AICRP—Human Engg. & Safety Studies	Bhopal
Maharashtra	Central Institute of Cotton Research	Nagpur
	Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	Bombay
	Central Institute of Fisheries Education	Bombay
	National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	Nagpur
	N.R.C.—Citrus	Nagpur
	N.R.C.—Onion and Garlic	Godra(Nasik)
	N.R.C.—Grapes	Pune
	AICRP—Pearl Millets	Pune
Manipur	Establishment of Central Agril. Univ. for NEH Region	Imphal
Meghalaya	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	Shillong
Nagaland	N.R.C.—Mithun	Nagaland

1	2	3
Orissa	Central Rice Research Institute	Cuttack
	Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	Bhubaneswar
	NRC for Women in Agriculture	Bhubaneswar
	AICRP—Tuber Crops	Bhubaneswar
	AICRP—Weed Control	Cuttack
	ORP in Aquaculture	Bhubaneswar
	Water Technology Centre of Eastern Centre	Bhubaneswar
Punjab	Central Institute for Post Harvest Engg. & Technology	Ludhiana
	AICRP—Energy Requirement	Ludhiana
	AICRP—Application of Plastic in Agriculture	Ludhiana
	AICRP—Jaggery & Khandsari	Ludhiana
	AICRP—Harvest & Post Harvest	Ludhiana
Rajasthan	Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	Avikanagar
	Central Arid Zone Research Institute	Jodhpur
	N.R.C.—Arid Horticulture	Bikaner
	N.R.C.—Rapeseed & Mustard	Bharatpur
	N.R.C.—Camel	Jobner
	AICRP—White Grub	Durgapur
	AICRP—Rodent Control	Jodhpur
Sikkim	AICRP—Sheep	Bikaner
	N.R.C.—Orchids	Tadong
Tamil Nadu	Sugarcane Breeding Institute	Coimbatore
	Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture	Madras
	N.R.C.—Banana	Trichy
	AICRP—Cotton	Coimbatore
Uttar Pradesh	Central Soil & Water Con. Research & Training Instt.	Dehradun
	Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute	Jhansi
	Vivekanand Parvataiya Krishi Anusandhan Shala	Almora
	India Institute of Sugarcane Research	Lucknow
	Indian Veterinary Research Institute	Izatnagar

1	2	3
	Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture	Lucknow
	National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources	Lucknow
	Central Institute of Research on Goat	Makhdoom
	Central Avian Research Institute	Izatnagar
	Indian Institute of Pulses Research***	Kanpur
	N.R.C.—Meat & Meat Products	Izatnagar
	N.R.C.—Agro-forestry	Jhansi
	N.R.C.—Cold Water Fisheries	Haldwani
	P.D —Cattle	Meerut
	P.D.—Vegetable****	Varanasi
	P.D.—Cropping System Research	Modipuram
	AICRP—Pulses (Mullarp)	Kanpur
	AICRP—Pigeon Pea	Kanpur
	AICRP—Goat	Farrah
	AICRP—Foot and Mouth Disease	Izatnagar
	AICRP—Sub-tropical Fruits	Lucknow
	AICRP—Sugarcane	Lucknow
	AICRP—Forage Crops	Jhansi
	AICRP—Pig	Izatnagar
	AICRP—Diaraland Improvement	Modipuram
	AICRP—Agro-forestry	Jhansi
	AICRP—Chick Pea	Kanpur
	Network Crop Based Animal Production System	Jhansi
	Network scheme—Sugarbeet	Lucknow
	Vegetable Seed Project	Varanasi
West Bengal	Jute Technological Research Laboratory	Calcutta
	Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	Barrackpore
	Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	Barrackpore
	AICRP—Jute	Barrackpore

PD—Project Directorate;

AICRP—All India Coordinated Research Project

NRC—National Research Centre

Statement II*Indian Council of Agricultural Research*

Details of Institute/Project-wise Expenditure Incurred during the last Three Years

Name of the Institute/Project	Expenditure Incurred in the Last Three Years		
	1994-95 Actual Expenditure	1995-96 Actual Expenditure	1996-97 Actual Expenditure
1	2	3	4
I. CROP SCIENCE			
<i>A. Plant Genetic Resources</i>			
1. National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	144.99	144.59	140.00
2. AICRP—Under-utilised & Under-exploited Plants	21.81	34.52	25.00
3. AICRP—Arid Legumes	2.87	22.36	20.00
Total (A)	169.67	201.47	185.00
<i>B. Food Crops</i>			
1. Indian Agricultural Research Institute	996.40	808.01	760.00
2. Central Rice Research Institute	137.60	159.98	135.00
3. Vivekananda Parvataiya Krishi Anusandhan Shala	67.00	91.75	90.00
4. Indian Institute of Pulses Research	424.49	159.40	125.00
5. AICRP—Chick Pea	0.00	98.05	85.00
6. AICRP—Pegion Pea	2.12	78.40	85.00
7. AICRP—Pulses(MULLARP)	0.00	110.28	115.00
8. Directorate of Wheat Research	439.99	413.48	250.00
9. N.R.C—Sorghum	221.71	72.26	55.00

1	2	3	4
10. AICRP—Sorghum	1.18	97.98	90.00
11. Project Directorate—Rice	378.50	447.04	415.00
12. P.D.—Maize	152.42	230.32	290.00
13. AICRP—Pearl Millets	68.82	70.25	85.00
14. AICRP—Small Millets	72.67	67.89	80.00
15. AICRP—Barley	54.93	32.24	20.00
Total (B)	3017.83	2937.33	2680.00

C. Forage Crops

1. Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute	160.00	134.00	75.00
2. AICRP—Forage Crops	113.00	96.10	92.00
Total (C)	273.00	230.10	167.00

D. Commercial Crops

1. Central Tobacco Research Institute	112.45	112.07	65.00
2. Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research	135.39	116.63	60.00
3. Central Institute of Cotton Research	185.33	132.21	100.00
4. Central Research Institute for Jute & Allied Fibres	93.99	55.24	80.00
5. Sugarcane Breeding Institute	115.00	130.41	70.00
6. AICRP—Cotton	116.66	160.31	160.00
7. AICRP—Jute	43.03	53.32	40.00
8. AICRP—Tobacco	43.71	49.62	53.00
9. AICRP—Sugarcane	53.03	70.35	60.00
10. Network scheme—Sugarbeet	5.06	4.38	8.00
Total (D)	903.65	884.54	696.00

	1	2	3	4
<i>E. Oilseeds</i>				
1. N.R.C.—Groundnut		109.85	79.99	110.00
2. N.R.C.—Soybean		91.81	91.79	100.00
3. N.R.C.—Rapeseed & Mustard		94.85	60.83	80.00
4. Project Directorate—Oilseed		359.99	284.07	300.00
5. AICRP—Groundnut		13.19	20.84	52.00
6. AICRP—Rapeseed & Mustard		0.00	55.65	50.00
7. AICRP—Soybean		64.76	52.19	48.00
Total (E)		734.45	645.36	740.00

F. Plant Protection

1. N.R.C.—Integrated Pest Management		33.92	74.07	65.00
2. P.D.—Biological Control		87.01	115.31	120.00
3. AICRP—Honey Bees		21.13	31.86	30.00
4. AICRP—White Grub		23.86	28.46	26.00
5. AICRP—Agriculture Acarology		32.59	21.92	20.00
6. AICRP—Rodent Control		28.18	32.41	35.00
7. AICRP—Pesticide Residue		89.61	82.05	70.00
8. AICRP—Nematode		50.42	55.54	50.00
9. Network—Economic Ornithology		18.43	20.71	22.00
Total (F)		385.15	462.33	438.00

G. Hybrid Seed

1. Project on Promotion of Research & Development on Hybrid Seed in Selected Crops		118.49	178.32	200.00
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	1	2	3	4
<i>H. Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology for Crop Improvement</i>				
1. N.R.C.—Biotechnology Centre for Crop Science		60.06	106.31	110.00
2. Genetic Engg. & Biotechnology				Not approved
3. N.R.C.—DNA Fingerprinting			75.00	130.00
<i>I. Seed Technology Research & Breeder Seed Production</i>				
1. National Seed Project including existing AICRP on Seed Borne Diseases		561.33	332.70	268.00
Total (C.S.)		6223.63	6053.46	5614.00

II. HORTICULTURE

A. Fruits

1. Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (50%)	404.94	314.96	330.00
2. Central Institute of subtropical Horticulture	205.00	195.00	140.00
3. ICAR Research Complex for Goa (10%)	Integrated with Plantation Crops		
4. N.R.C.—Citrus (90%)	88.00	79.65	70.00
5. N.R.C.—Grapes	0.14	0.17	20.00
6. AICRP—Tropical Fruits	91.95	65.49	80.00
7. AICRP—Sub-tropical Fruits	32.25	57.08	52.00
8. AICRP—Arid Fruits	61.98	48.10	49.00
9. Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture	8.00	12.64	50.00
10. N.R.C.—Arid Horticulture	44.74	95.19	100.00
11. N.R.C.—Banana	38.98	61.91	80.00
12. AICRP—Apple Scab	9.61	14.32	15.50
Total (A)	985.59	944.51	986.50

	1	2	3	4
<i>B. Vegetables</i>				
1. Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (30%)			Integrated with Fruits	
2. N.R.C.—Mushroom		67.94	47.13	50.00
3. P.D.—Vegetable		132.75	167.82	400.00
4. Vegetable Seed Project		10.07	19.93	65.00
5. AICRP—Mushroom		13.61	14.27	20.00
6. N.R.C.—Onion and Garlic		5.50	13.00	15.00
Total (B)		229.87	262.15	550.00

C. Potato & Tuber Crops

1. Central Potato Research Institute		326.52	209.00	167.00
2. Central Tuber Crops Research Institute		80.00	100.30	100.00
3. AICRP—Potato		47.58	55.49	53.00
4. AICRP—Tuber Crops		34.01	23.62	32.00
Total (C)		488.11	388.41	352.00

D. Plantation Crops

1. Central Plantation Crops Research Institute		180.41	168.98	120.00
2. ICAR Research Complex for Goa (90%)		55.37	49.77	60.00
3. N.R.C.—Cashew		84.84	64.95	63.00
4. N.R.C.—Oilseed Palm		6.28	83.81	95.00
5. AICRP—Palms		55.27	51.66	52.00
6. AICRP—Cashew		32.08	22.17	25.00
Total (D)		414.25	441.34	415.00

1	2	3	4
<i>E. Spices</i>			
1. Indian Instt. of Species Res.	160.00	108.79	90.00
2. AICRP—Spices	41.65	57.05	51.00
Total (E)	201.65	165.84	141.00
<i>F. Floriculture, Medicinal & Aromatic Plants</i>			
1. Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (10%)		Integrated with Fruits	
2. N.R.C.—Orchids	0.18	13.97	20.00
3. N.R.C.—Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	0.00	8.66	30.00
4. AICRP—Floriculture	28.16	44.50	40.00
5. AICRP—Medicinal and Aromatic Plants	77.38	68.52	60.00
6. AICRP—Betelvine	29.58	37.70	36.00
Total (F)	135.30	173.35	186.00
<i>G. Post Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops</i>			
1. Indian Institute of Horticulture Research (10%)		Integrated with Fruits	
2. Central Institute of Horticulture for Northern Plains (10%)		Integrated with Fruits	
3. NRC on Citrus (10%)		Integrated with Fruits	
4. AICRP—Post Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops	35.30	44.63	29.00
5. Project on PHT of Fruits and Vegetables	7.19	13.78	15.50 25.00
Total (G)	42.49	58.41	69.50
Total (Hort)	2497.26	2434.01	2700.00

1	2	3	4
III. SOILS, AGRONOMY & AGROFORESTRY			
<i>A. Resource Inventory</i>			
1. National Bureau of Soil Survey & Land Use Planning	230.00	304.21	130.00
<i>B. Cropping System Research</i>			
1. Central Agriculture Research Institute	244.50	239.78	85.00
2. ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region	353.79	208.31	210.00
3. N.R.C.—Agro-forestry	48.67	66.10	67.00
4. N.R.C.—Weed Science	119.90	108.06	90.00
5. P.D.—Cropping System Research	511.38	78.58	435.00
6. AICRP—Agro-Meteorology	32.89	47.64	80.00
7. AICRP—Diaraland improvement	9.27	312.22	20.00
8. AICRP—Agro-forestry	87.11	107.13	105.00
9. AICRP—Weed Control	66.71	0.00	60.00
Total (B)	1474.22	1167.82	1152.00
<i>C. Soil Management</i>			
1. Central Arid Zone Research Institute	126.98	149.90	120.00
2. Central Soil & Water Conservation Research & Training Institute	219.82	229.98	120.00
3. AICRP—Tillage Management of Indian Soils	32.38	193.89	42.00
4. AICRP—Management of Acid Soil	0.00		
Total (C)	379.18	573.77	282.00

	1	2	3	4
<i>D. Water Management</i>				
1. Central Soil Salinity Research Institute		114.16	83.97	80.00
2. Water Technology Centre for Eastern Region		132.99	118.80	167.00
3. P.D.—Water Management		212.77	25.09	295.00
4. AICRP—Management of Salt Affected Soils		51.60	58.98	56.00
5. AICRP—Optimisation of Groundwater Utilization althrough Wells Pumps		27.10	30.90	42.00
Total (D)		538.62	317.74	640.00

E. Nutrient Management

1. Indian Institute of Soil Science	245.98	133.89	250.00
2. Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture	87.95	149.83	120.00
3. AICRP—Dryland Agriculture	182.92	200.00	245.00
4. AICRP—Micro Nutrients	38.23	23.86	50.00
5. AICRP—Biological Nitrogen Fixation	37.13	28.05	30.00
6. AICRP—Micro Biological Decomposition	52.27	24.22	25.00
7. AICRP—Soil Test Crop Response	65.22	56.47	63.00
8. AICRP—Long-term Fertilizer Experiments	22.50	17.91	22.00
9. Network Land Use Planning		Scheme not approved	
Total (E)	732.20	634.23	805.00

Total (S.A.&AF.)	3354.22	2997.77	3009.00
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	1	2	3	4
IV. AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING				
<i>A. Farm Implements & Machinery</i>				
1. Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering	170.00	160.10	180.00	
2. AICRP—Power Tiller	27.48	23.88	38.50	
3. AICRP—Farm Implements Machinery	68.73	61.55	100.00	
4. AICRP—Human Engineering and safety studies	0.00	7.24	29.00	
Total (A)	266.21	252.77	347.50	
<i>B. Post Harvest Technology</i>				
1. Central Institute for Post Harvest Engg. & Technology	264.95	355.72	150.00	
2. Central Institute for Research on Cotton Technology	97.00	89.24	110.00	
3. Indian Lac Research Instt.	59.50	40.13	50.00	
4. Jute Technological Research Laboratory	165.50	66.30	70.00	
5. AICRP—Application of Plastics in Agriculture	12.50	25.68	20.50	
6. AICRP—Jaggery & Khandasari	17.58	15.07	20.00	
7. AICRP—Harvest & Post Harvest Technology	99.79	108.24	125.00	
Total (B)	716.92	700.38	545.50	
<i>C. Energy Management in Agriculture</i>				
1. AICRP—Renewable Energy Sources	62.20	64.55	70.00	
2. AICRP—Energy Requirement in Agricultural Sector	33.37	46.21	55.00	
3. AICRP—Animal Energy	21.55	31.73	40.00	

	1	2	3	4
4. NRC—Removal of Drudgery for farm women				
5. Network—Oilseed Processing		0.00		
6. Award of Innovation & Creativity				Management
Total (C)		117.12	142.49	165.00

D. Drainage Engineering

1. AICRP—Agricultural Drainage	32.55	35.71	42.00
Total (Ag. Engg.)	1132.80	1131.35	1100.00

V. ANIMAL SCIENCE

A. Animal Genetic Resources

1. National Institute of Animal Genetics	31.50	Merged with NBAGR	
2. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources	44.96	212.39	175.00
3. Network—Animal Genetic Resources	2.75	59.72	33.00
Total (A)	139.21	272.11	208.00

B. Livestock Improvement

1. National Dairy Research Institute	466.61	373.11	345.00
2. Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute	200.00	175.00	165.00
3. Central Avian Research Institute	83.33	105.19	100.00
4. Central Institute for Research on Goats	149.80	155.57	104.00
5. Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes	146.00	165.83	132.00
6. National Institute of Animal Nutrition & Physiology	0.00	29.50	75.00
7. N.R.C. on Biotechnology (Part of NDRI)	Functioning Under NDRI		
8. N.R.C.—Camal	89.98	70.00	75.00
9. N.R.C.—Yak	40.33	41.44	30.00

	1	2	3	4
10. N.R.C.—Mithun	29.70	14.93	25.00	
11. N.R.C.—Equine	100.04	44.00	75.00	
12. P.D.—Poultry	153.97	189.01	213.00	
13. P.D —Cattle	156.78	124.49	145.00	
14. AICRP—Sneep	29.30	29.59	36.00	
15. AICRP—Goat	22.32	21.87	26.00	
16. AICRP—Buffalo	59.18	55.58	104.00	
17. AICRP—Pig	39.07	42.98	52.00	
18. AICRP—Agricultural By-product	27.37	76.47	40.00	
19. Network—Micronutrients	8.48	37.82	50.00	
20. Network—Embryo Transfer	27.25	45.54	60.00	
21. Network—Crop Based Animal Production System	0.24	7.29	35.00	
Total (B)	1831.75	1805.21	1887.00	

C. Livestock Product Tech.

1. N.R.C.—Meat & Meat Product Technology	14.08	9.71	7.00
2. R.D. Support of Process Upgradation of indigenous milk products for Industrial Application	0.00	10.00	30.00
Total (C)	14.08	19.71	37.00

D. Animal Health

1. Indian Veterinary Research Institute	665.65	599.64	440.00
2. AICRP—Disease Monitoring & Surveillance	12.52	38.03	41.00
3. AICRP—Blood Protesta	9.45	0.68	17.00
4. AICRP on Foot & Mouth Disease	48.71	52.04	70.00

	1	2	3	4
5. Strengthening of Monitoring Mechanism and Training of Scientists & Technicians		Scheme not started		
6. N.R.C.—Biotechnology (Part of IVRI)		Included in IVRI		
7. Vaccine and Diagnostic Tech./ Livestock Farming System		Scheme not started		
Total (D)		736.33	690.39	568.00
Total (A.S.)		2721.37	2787.42	2700.00

VI. FISHERIES

A. Capture Fisheries

1. Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute	264.98	255.00	175.00
2. Central Inland Capture Fisheries Research Institute	83.28	120.00	140.00
Total (A)	348.26	375.00	315.00

B. Culture Fisheries

1. Central Institute for Freshwater Aquaculture	204.98	159.95	150.00
2. Central Institute of Brackish water Aquaculture	94.72	146.97	175.00
3. N.R.C.—Cold Water Fisheries	21.99	50.98	35.00
4. ORP on Processing and Utilisation of Organic Waste for Aquaculture	4.01	8.75	25.00
Total (B)	325.70	366.65	385.00

C. Fish & Fish Processing Technology

1. Central Institute of	150.01	154.62	140.00
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1	2	3	4
<i>D. Fish Genetic Resources</i>			
1. National Bureau of Fish Genetic Resources	69.80	401.38	260.00
<i>E. Fisheries Education</i>			
1. Central Institute of Fisheries Education	58.18	138.92	250.00
Total (FY.)	951.95	1436.57	1350.00

VII. AGRIL. STATISTICS & ECONOMICS

A. Indian agricultural Statistics Research Institute	80.63	110.22	70.00
B. N.R.C.—Agricultural Economics & Policy Research	28.97	49.86	30.00
Total (A.S.&E.)	109.60	160.08	100.00

VIII. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION

<i>A. Vocational Training with Integrated Function</i>			
1. Integrated Krishi Vigyan Kendras	3751.00	3901.89	3700.00
2. NRC for Women in Agriculture	0.00	0.00	100.00
Total (Ag. Ext.)	3751.00	3901.89	3800.00

IX. AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

<i>A. Strengthening of Agricultural Education</i>			
1. National Academy for Agricultural Research Management	122.97	162.82	200.00
2. Development & Strengthening of State Agril. Universities	1457.07	1624.39	1700.00
3. Development & Strengthening of Agricultural Education of Central Universities	27.00	29.80	50.00

1	2	3	4
4. Strengthening PG Education in Deemed to be Universities	652.31	99.24	100.00
5. Establishment of Central Agricultural University NEH Region	40.00	300.00	350.00
6. Establishment of Centres of Advance Studies in SAUs and DUs.	209.03	312.11	342.50
7. AICRP on Home Science	65.73	60.82	180.00
Total (A)	2574.11	2589.18	2922.50

B. Recognising Professional Excellence

1. Best Teacher Award	0.00	3.31	1.50
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C. Professional Resources Utilization

1. Utilization of Internal Competence	0.00	0.00	1.00
2. Preparation of University Level books	0.00	0.66	2.00
3. Emeritus Scientist Scheme	4.26	38.30	30.00
4. Establishment of Monitoring & Exam. Cell	Included in Reorganisation of Education Division under AHRD		
5. Establishment of Examination Cell	Scheme not started		
6. Rural Awareness Work Experience Programme	Scheme not approved		
7. Strengthening of PG Edn. in Food & Child Dev.			1.00
8. Advance Centre on PG Edn. & Research			10.00
Total (B & C)	4.26	42.27	45.50
Total (Ag. Edn.)	2578.37	2631.45	2968.00

X. WORLD BANK/FOREIGN AIDED PROJECTS

A. World Bank Projects

1. National Agricultural Research Project II	3625.21	2381.99	1935.00
2. National Seed Project	Scheme transferred to DAC		
3. Agril. Human Resource Development		73.05	1101.00
4. Foreign Aided Project	509.53	614.95	3668.00
Total	4134.74	3069.99	6704.00

1	2	3	4
XI. MANAGEMENT SERVICES			
<i>A. Bilateral Cooperation Projects</i>			
1. Bilateral Cooperation Programme with Developing & Developed Countries (DARE) and Long-term Project under INDO-USSR, INDO-UK & INDO-USA Programme	6.15	36.04	18.42
Total (A)	6.15	36.04	40.00
<i>B. Publication & Information</i>	2.09	74.82	145.00
<i>C. Strengthening of the Infrastructure</i>			
1. Civil Works	30.21	415.00	610.00
a. ICAR Bhawan Phase II			
b. Guest House for ICAR Hqrs.			
c. National Agricultural Science Centre & Museum			
d. Residential Accommodation for ICAR Staff			
2. ICAR Agricultural Library	0.30	1.35	15.00
3. Strengthening of ASRB	4.41	7.29	21.00
4. Modernization of Office Space & Facilities	18.86	72.40	78.00
5. ICAR Headquarters	56.48	23.16	17.00
6. Publicity & Public Relations	0.00	0.00	35.00
Total (B+C)	112.35	594.02	921.00
<i>D. Support to professional societies/associations support to National academy</i>	56.50	45.00	70.00
<i>E. IX Plan Working Group</i>			4.00
Total (MIS)	175.00	675.06	1009.42
Grand Total	27629.94	27279.05	31054.42

Statement III

Details of Achievements and the Impact of these Research Works on Agricultural Production

Hybrid Rice—A Breakthrough:

India has become the second country after China to indigenously develop commercially viable rice hybrids having 1—1.50 tonne/hectare yield higher than the existing improved rice varieties. Last year, the area covered under seven hybrids released for cultivation in various states was around 60,000 hectares.

Rice—An Export Earner:

India has become a major rice exporting nation in the World, in the last few years. Release of dwarf varieties including Pusa Basmati-1 helped farmers in improving their yields significantly. Export of 5.0 million tonnes of non-basmati and 0.5 million tonne of basmati rice, an all time record was achieved in 1995-96.

Wheat—Consolidating the Gains:

New disease resistant high yielding varieties of wheat of North-Western belt—WH542, PBW343, UP2338 are bringing new hopes by replacing the earlier varieties like HD2329 which had become susceptible to rust disease. Improved varieties of Durum wheat having high export potential and suitable for samolina based products have been developed and popularised. A high yielding variety of Khapli wheat DDK1001 suitable for making South Indian dishes like Upma was released for Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Oilseed Revolution:

Development of hybrids in sunflower and castor and improved varieties in soybean and rapeseed-mustard, supported by better management practices and market have helped in doubling the country's oilseed production during the last one decade. Development of India's first Brassica hybrid "PGSH1" for Punjab having 20% higher yield is important.

Sustaining the Sugarcane Revolution:

To sustain the yield gains and to improve sugar recovery, new early maturing high sugar varieties for the Northern India have been evolved. Micro-propagation technique for rapid-seed multiplication is also a significant development in this regard.

Early Maturing Hybrids in Cotton:

India is one and only country in the World to commercially exploit hybrid vigour in cotton. Release of early maturing hybrid Fateh for Punjab, Dhanlakshmi for Haryana and Maru Vikas for Rajasthan having 30 to 40% higher yield and superior staple quality, has been yet another break-through. To cash in on the growing preference for naturally dyed products world over, research on colour cotton is in advanced stage.

Fruit Production—New Dimensions:

Research accomplishments including release of regular bearing hybrids of Mango, Papaya, Citrus, Ber, Pomegranate and high yielding superior quality grapes have made the country World's largest producer of fruits. Standardisation of softwood grafting in Mango, Cashew and Sapota has resulted in large scale multiplication of planting material. Adoption of tissue culture and drip irrigation technology in Banana has led to marked improvements in productivity.

Vegetables for Nutritional Security:

Development of large number of hybrids with tremendous yield potential and early harvestability and standardisation of production technologies under varied agro-climatic conditions have ushered in a revolution in vegetable production. Vegetable research has paid good dividends in following areas:

- Radish and Tomato can be grown throughout the year.
- Two crops of Onion in a year has become possible in Northern India with the development of technology for Kharif Onion.
- Cauliflower is now grown in non-traditional areas viz., Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka states with the development of 'Pusa Early Synthetic' variety.

TPS Technology in Potato—A Milestone:

Development of True Potato Seed in (TPS) technology in potato, thereby reducing the cost of potato cultivation, is a significant achievement. India is presently the largest producer of TPS. This technology has greater relevance for potato production in hilly regions, especially in the North-East.

Floriculture—Tremendous Export Potential:

Development of large number of hybrids and strengthening of green house technology has given a

boost to our floriculture industry and export of cut flowers.

Pearl-Culture—Glittering Possibilities:

With the research support of ICAR Institutes both freshwater and marine pearl culture have been taken up on commercial scale. Efforts are afoot for technology upgradation for development of pearl images and coloured pearls.

Cifaca—Quality Fish Feed:

Developed by ICAR Institute CIFA, the new fish feed provides:

- High fish production, quality fish flesh, efficient feed conversion, good palatability and water stability.

Surgical Sutures from Fish-Gut as Import Substitute:

From guts of carps medically proven and acceptable surgical sutures developed and technology for commercial production.

Embryo Transfer Technology (ETT):

It is being used as a critical tool for improving productivity in cattle, buffalo, sheep and goat. Through superovulation and ETT, 50-60 calves can be produced from a bovine female in life time.

More Wool-Better Wool:

New productive strains of sheep have been evolved and are being used for further improving sheep breeds for carpet and apparel wool.

Crossbreeding in Cattle:

A high yielding cattle strain 'Frieswal' has been evolved with the milk yield of around 3000 litres in first lactation and 4000 litres in mature lactation. The Frieswal programme is being geared to meet the total requirement of high quality semen in the country. A record production of over 68 million tonnes of milk was reached.

Value Addition for Higher Earnings:

- Lac is being used for making dyes and high class perfumes.
- Process for making liquid jaggery and jaggery powder standardised.

- Spray dried instant banana-milk powder developed.

Farm and Post Harvest Mechanisation:

- Animal drawn drill plough.
- High capacity multicrop thresher.
- Improved kinnow harvester and portable kinnow grader.
- Mini dal mill.
- Bullock drawn groundnut planter.
- Zero tillage seed drill for planting wheat after rice.
- Rice transplanter.
- Sugarcane harvester.

Soil and Groundwater Mapping:

To promote better land resource management, soil maps for all the states have been prepared using ground surveys and remotely sensed data. To enhance the user-reach, digitalisation of these maps is in progress. A groundwater quality map was published for development of groundwater resources.

Proper Use of Pesticides Spraying Equipments by Farmers

996. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI SHYAM LAL BANSHI WAL :
SHRI VIJAY PATEL :
SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the large remnants of pesticides remain left on the crop it shows that the pesticides are not being used properly as a result water gets polluted and infected the foodgrains which are being supplied to the general public causing health hazards;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to specify the standard of spraying equipments and to educate the farmers about the proper use of pesticides in the agriculture sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to curb/ban the excessive use of pesticides/chemicals in agriculture sector which are harmful for health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The residues of pesticides do not cause any known health hazards and pollution problems, if used as per recommendations. All the pesticides containers have labels and leaflets incorporating the approved usage as per Insecticides Act, 1968 and the rules framed thereunder. These usages are approved by the Registration Committee constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968.

(c) and (d) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) under the Deptt. of Food & Consumer Affairs specifies and publishes standards of spraying equipment. Both Central and State Governments undertake various programmes to educate the farmers about proper use of pesticides in the agricultural sector.

(e) The following steps are being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce the excessive use of pesticides/chemicals in agricultural sector:—

- (i) Banning of 20 pesticides including some of the persistent pesticides.
- (ii) Restricting the use of 13 pesticides to avoid problem of pesticide residue and health hazard.
- (iii) Promoting Integrated Pest Management (IPM) encompassing cultural, mechanical, biological control methods and need-based use of chemical pesticides for the benefit of farmers.
- (iv) Advocating use of bio-pesticides including neem based pesticides and pheromones.
- (v) Imparting training to farmers and the extension workers on IPM technologies.
- (vi) Conducting IPM demonstrations on various crops for the benefit of farmers and extension workers.

[English]

Insurance Scheme

997. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce compulsory group insurance of people living in the coastal areas against cyclone, flood, earthquake etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether this scheme is applicable to the people living in the coastal areas of the Orissa State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. A Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) with an average annual allocation of Rs. 1260.00 crores has been constituted for relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities. Financial assistance to the families of people who die in the wake of natural calamities is also provided from this Fund, in addition to assistance from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. Under the Group Accident Insurance Component of the National Welfare of Fishermen Scheme, upto 11.50 lakh active fishermen were insured against death and permanent/partial disability by accident during the Eighth Plan period.

(d) and (e) Orissa has a CRF allocation of Rs. 258.01 crores for the period 1995-96 to 1999-2000. One lakh active fishermen in the State were insured during the Eighth Plan period against death and disability by accident.

Intra-venous Fluids

998. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that high margin of more than 100 per cent is being charged by the stockists on intra-venous fluids;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is proposal under consideration of the Government to put intra-venous fluids under the price control;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) Govt. is seized of

the issue of high trade margins in the case of intravenous fluids. The feasibility of bringing some of the commonly used intravenous fluids under price control is being examined.

Misappropriation of Rice from FCI

999. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the last year, a case of misappropriation of more than 5500 metric tonne of rice in Food Corporation of India has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into the matter;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the guilty officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Food Corporation of India recently detected a case wherein two transport contractors, appointed for transporting foodgrains namely M/s Gautam Associates, Mohali and M/s Yajen Aier & Co., Pehowa had not delivered 4368 MT and 1543 MT of rice worth Rs. 4.25 crores, lifted by them for transportation ex-Kaithal and Pehowa respectively to Imphal (Manipur).

(c) to (e) On the basis of preliminary investigations the Food Corporation of India has placed under suspension its one District Manager and 6 Assistant Managers. F.I.R. has been lodged against the defaulting contractors for misappropriation of foodgrains. With the approval of the Government, the FCI has referred the case to Central Bureau of Investigation on 14.7.1997 for detailed investigations and retrieval of misappropriated rice.

Illegal Trade on Indo-Bangladesh Border

1000. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the thriving illegal trade in commodities like salt, sugar, rice and cloths in the border areas of Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any assessment of the illegal border trade;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Government to check these clandestine operations in the Indo-Bangladesh border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Government are aware that some illegal trade in commodities like salt, sugar, rice and clothes take place in the Indo-Bangladesh border areas.

(b) and (c) Although no exact figures on quantum of foodgrains smuggled to Bangladesh are available, the seizures of essential commodities made by the Border Security Force deployed on Indo-Bangladesh border during the last three years are as follows:

Item	1995	1996	1997 (upto 30 June)
Salt (Kg)	1245838	1699625	1126371
Sugar (Kg)	855447	1567774	867472
Rice (Kg)	2000548	783102	99503
Cloth (Worth Rupees)	35129536	30524120	18956963

(d) A number of measures including reduction of gaps between Border Out Posts, intensification and increase in Patrols, erection of Observation Post Towers, use of night vision devices, construction of border roads and fences along sensitive stretches have been taken to check smuggling.

National Commission for Minorities

1001. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Minorities has initiated a comprehensive study to identify the social, economic, educational, cultural and the other problems being faced by the major religious minorities of the country and to suggest measures for their solution;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the panel constituted for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government have initiated similar study for the socially, economically and educationally disadvantaged people, particularly those below the poverty line; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite details of the High Power Committee constituted by the National Commission for Minorities are indicated in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Government of India, Ministry of Welfare have not conducted any similar study to identify the major religious minorities who are socially, economically and educationally disadvantaged particularly those below the poverty line.

Statement

National Commission for Minorities in its meeting held on 6.5.97 decided to constitute a High-Powered Committee to undertake a fresh comprehensive study exclusively of the problems being faced by the major religious minorities of the country. Accordingly a Study Committee on Socio-economic and Educational Problems of Religious Minorities has been constituted. The composition of the Committee is as follows:

Convenor and Chairman

Rev. Dr. Habil James Massey, Member, NCM

Members

- (i) Shri Soli J. Sorabji, Jurist & Sr. Lawyer, Delhi.
- (ii) Rev. Dr. Daniel Chetty, Director, Church Relations & Programme Deptt., Senate of Serampore (Univ.), Bangalore.
- (iii) Prof. Iqbal Ansari, Secretary-General, Minorities Council of India, Aligarh.
- (iv) Dr. Asghar Ali Engineer, Director, Institute of Islamic Studies, Mumbai.
- (v) Prof. Angne Lai, Vice-Chancellor, RML Oudh Vishwavidyalaya, Faizabad, U.P.

Following are the terms of reference:

- (i) to identify and study the social, economic, educational, cultural and other problems facing

the principal religious minorities of India, probe into the causes of those problems, and suggest measures for their solution;

- (ii) to examine specifically the role, utility and impact of the PM's 15-Point programme on Minorities (1983) and suggest ways and means for its effective implementation in letter and spirit;
- (iii) to identify and highlight the causes and constraints due to which Union and State Government's special welfare schemes, fiscal policies, earmarked facilities and plan strategies are not resulting into an adequate and satisfactory socio-economic upliftment of the concerned minorities, and suggest measures for the eradication of these causes and constraints;
- (iv) to examine the problems facing the concerned minorities in respect of their Constitutionally Guaranteed Fundamental Rights for establishing and administering educational institutions of their choice, and suggest measures for their solution;
- (v) to make general and specific recommendations for an overall socio-economic and educational advancement of the concerned minorities and suggest the required legal and administrative reforms for achieving the same.

Freedom Fighters

1002. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of freedom fighters who expired since 15.8.1972 but the freedom fighters pension could not be sanctioned to them;

(b) the cases of widows of the deceased freedom fighters for the release of family pension and the arrears of the family pension are kept pending since August 15, 1972 and the reasons for the delay in finalising their cases; and

(c) the number of cases of the arrears of family pension admissible to the next of kin i.e. surviving legal heirs of the deceased freedom fighters are yet to be sanctioned and paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No such statistics are being maintained.

(b) and (c) The procedure for transfer of family pension and grant of arrears in the name of eligible

dependents (widow/widower, unmarried/unemployed daughters and mother/father) of deceased freedom fighter pensioners has been decentralised with effect from 1.5.1992. The Pension Disbursing Officers (Bank Managers, District Treasury Officers, Pay & Accounts Officers) have been authorised to transfer family pension in their name at their level. Persons who still apply to the Central Government for transfer of family pension and grant of arrears are advised to approach the Pension Disbursing Officers in the matter immediately.

Theft of Medicine

1003. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Chori Hone Se Hi Nahi Mil Pati Rogion Ko Davain" appearing in the 'Hindustan', dated June 30, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether some persons have been arrested by the police from the slum colony adjacent to the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to tone up the working of the Government hospitals to ensure availability of medicines to the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Delhi Police seized drugs estimated to be valued around Rs. 15,000/- suspected to be stolen "Hospital supply drugs" from a jhuggi near Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital on 18.6.97. A case was registered at P.S. Mandir Marg and one person was arrested.

(f) All efforts are made by the Central Government hospitals to ensure availability of medicines to the patients.

Restoration of subsidy

1004. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for restoration of subsidy on Ammonium chloride fertilizer received from the Punjab National Fertilizer and Chemicals has been pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The request for bringing back Ammonium Chloride under price control and the retention price-cum-subsidy scheme was considered. The request could not be agreed to.

Indo-Pak Border Fencing

1005. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :
SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether barbed wire fencing has been completed at Indo-Pak Border by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the total land covered by fencing;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide compensation or land in lieu of the acquired land to the farmers; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The entire border of Punjab, except certain gaps which could not be taken up due to being riverine/low lying areas, has been fenced. Out of 1035 Kms. long Rajasthan border, fencing in 720 Kms. has been completed and the work in 312.6 Kms. in Jaisalmer sector has been taken up for completion in three phases by 'December' 1999. Feasibility studies for ditch-cum-bundh along Rann areas of Gujarat and modified type of fencing suitable for such terrain are also being carried out. Restarting of the work in Jammu sector covering a length of 180 Kms. is also under active consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) The compensation to the farmers whose land has been used for fencing on Indo-Pak Border is

paid through concerned State Government which is reimbursed by the Central Government.

Bomb Blasts in Delhi

1006. SHRI RAMBAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were number of bomb blasts in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the number of persons killed/injured therein;

(c) the estimated loss of public and private property due to the blasts;

(d) the number of arrests, made in this connection; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) There were 10 bomb blasts reported in Delhi during the year 1997 (till 14.7.97) in which one person was killed and 55 injured. Two buses and one jeep were damaged in these blasts. No arrests, however, could be made in these cases so far.

Equity Share of KRIBHCO

1007. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the equity share and reserve capital of KRIBHCO as on date;

(b) the income tax paid by KRIBHCO during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the projects under implementation and the total investment involved therein in as on date;

(d) whether KRIBHCO has shelved plans for taking over fertilizer units in Russia and USA as well as dropped the proposal of a Nitro-phosphate and CAN Project at Hazira; and

(e) the amount spent on the said 'dropped projects'?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The equity share capital

of Government of India in KRIBHCO as on 31-3-1997 was Rs. 328 crore. The concept of reserve capital under the Companies Act is not applicable to KRIBHCO, which is a Cooperative Society under the Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984.

(b) The details of the Income-Tax paid by KRIBHCO during the last three years are as under:

Year	(Rs. in Crore)
1994-95	93.86
1995-96	85.83
1996-97	99.22

(c) At present, there is no project of KRIBHCO under implementation in the country. However, KRIBHCO's proposals to set up a new ammonia-urea plant at the existing site of FCI at Gorakhpur at an estimated cost of Rs. 1270 crore and a third ammonia-urea stream at Hazira Gujarat at an estimated capital cost of Rs. 1044 crore have been submitted for investment approval under the prescribed clearance procedure.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) (i) KRIBHCO incurred a total expenditure of about Rs. 72 lakh on the pre-project activities of the Nitrophosphate project.

(ii) A total expenditure of about Rs. 2.57 crore was incurred on the pre-project activities relating to the acquisition of phosphatic fertilizer manufacturing facilities in USA/Russia.

ISI Activities in Kerala

1008. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken note of the statement made by the Chief Minister of Kerala that ISI is indulging in subversive activities in certain parts of the State;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) whether any Report has been received on this issue from the Government of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The Government's attention has been drawn to the Statement of Chief Minister of Kerala in the State Assembly regarding ISI activities. It has also been reported that the State Intelligence authorities have intensified their coverage of subversive and Millitant/Fundamentalist Organisations.

(c) and (d) No report in this regard has been received from the State Government so far.

VIP Security

1009. SHRI HARADHAN ROY :
SHRI A. SAMPATH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement of the Commissioner of Police, Delhi to the effect that if anyone comes in the way of the VIP route the security police-men even can fire at him as the route is made sterile during that time;

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

(c) whether VIP security stipulate infringement on the fundamental right of the citizens of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) The statement of Commissioner of Police (Delhi) has come to the notice of the Government. In case the security policemen apprehend danger to the security of the VVIP while on route, then they are supposed to take suitable measures to ensure the safety of the VVIP. Every effort is made to avoid any undue inconvenience to the general public due to VVIP movements without compromising the security of the VVIP. Certain fresh measures have also been taken in this direction and necessary guidelines have been issued to the Delhi Police/State/UTs.

[Translation]

Printed Price on Ice Cream Packets

1010. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Ice cream manufacturers are selling the ice cream by charging more than the printed price;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action against such Ice cream manufacturers;

(c) whether the Government have issued directions to all Ice cream manufacturers to print the price on the packets compulsorily;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said directions are likely to be enforced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Some instances of overcharging by retailers have come to the notice of the enforcement authorities and action is being taken as per the provisions of the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977.

(c) and (d) The Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities Rules) 1977 have been amended recently, making it compulsory for all ice-cream manufacturers to print the retail sale price on ice-cream packages. Copies of the amendment have been sent to the All-India Ice-cream Manufacturers' Association, New Delhi, and others for their information and necessary action.

(e) The said amendment has come into force from 1.5.97 and all the enforcement authorities in the States & UTs have been instructed to implement it.

Forest Clearance

1011. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for construction of Bharat Sagar Dam in Lormi development block of Bilaspur district in Madhya Pradesh on forest land has been received;

(b) if so, whether approval has been accorded by the Forest Department;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes Sir. A proposal for diversion of 25.00 ha. of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for Bharat Sagar Irrigation Project in District Bilaspur has been received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The State Government of Madhya Pradesh was requested on 24.6.94 to furnish certain essential details for processing of the proposal, which have not been received. In the absence of complete details from the State Government, the question of taking a final decision on the proposal does not arise.

Role of Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission

1012. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the role of Agriculture Costs and Prices Commission in regard to fixing prices of foodgrains;

(b) whether the Commission is functioning properly;

(c) whether the Government are ignoring the recommendations of the Commission,

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to provide remunerative prices to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The role of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) is to make recommendations to the Government on agricultural price policy on a continuing basis. The Commission is required to evolve a balanced and integrated price structure to meet the overall needs of the economy and with due regard to the interests of producers and consumers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The recommendations of the CACP serve as the basis for formulating the agricultural price policy and these are generally accepted. However the Government at times improves upon the recommendations made by the CACP keeping in view the developments subsequent to submission of the report.

(e) The main objective of the Government's price policy for agricultural produce is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production; and to safeguard the interests of the consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices. Government announces each season the minimum support

price for 24 major agricultural commodities and organises purchase operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India, Jute Corporation of India, Cotton Corporation of India, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation and Tobacco Board besides other agencies designated by the State Governments.

[English]

Gifted Yellow Dal

1013. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several foreign countries have gifted yellow dal to India under the World Food Programme for poor people;

(b) if so, the details of the countries alongwith the quantity received as a gift during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the said gifted dal is being sold openly in the markets;

(d) if so, the facts and results thereof; and

(e) the action contemplated by the Government against the officials responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) The details of gifted yellow split peas (Matar dal) provided by various countries under World Food Programme during the last three years are as under:

	(Qty MT)		
Year	Australia	Canada	Denmark
1994-95	731.00	123.53	3880.00
1995-96	1783.00	—	6345.30
1996-97	—	—	1840.00

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, as per the agreement during 1996, a quantity of 1100 MT yellow split peas was monetised by WFP through the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), New Delhi. An amount of Rs. 130.88 lakhs was deposited with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) directly by NAFED against which FCI released 1835.575 MT rice to WFP assisted project for the targetted poor in Madhya Pradesh.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

Primary Marketing Co-operative Societies

1014. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) the number of primary marketing co-operative societies in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any effort is being made at the Central level for strengthening and effective functioning of these societies; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As on 31.3.95 there are 8,805 Primary Marketing Co-operative Societies in the Country. The State-wise break up is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The Government is providing financial assistance through National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to State Government for strengthening of share capital base of the Primary Cooperative Marketing Societies.

Statement

S. No.	State/U.Ts.	No. of Societies
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	100
2.	Assam	57
3.	Bihar	475
4.	Goa	8
5.	Gujarat	2,325
6.	Haryana	78
7.	Himachal Pradesh	78
8.	Karnataka	644
9.	Kerala	619
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2,159

1	2	3
11.	Maharashtra	1,035
12.	Manipur	19
13.	Meghalaya	26
14.	Nagaland	19
15.	Orissa	2
16.	Punjab	98
17.	Rajasthan	181
18.	Sikkim	3
19.	Tamil Nadu	221
20.	Tripura	14
21.	Uttar Pradesh	320
22.	West Bengal	280
23.	A & N Island	32
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
25.	Delhi	6
26.	Mizoram	3
Total		8,805

Source: NABARD.

Criteria for Setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendra

1015. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the location for establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras has been selected;

(b) whether the opinion of local Members of Parliament has not been taken into consideration while selecting the location; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The norms fixed by the Govt. for deciding the location of

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) includes availability of 50 acres of representatives cultivable land in one stretch located as far as possible in central part of the districts, availability of basic civic facilities, adequate technical backstopping from the host institution and acceptance of funding pattern.

(b) and (c) For selecting the location of a KVK based on the proposals received from various organisations including those recommended by Hon'ble Member(s) of Parliament, I.C.A.R constitutes an Expert Team consisting of an eminent scientist as the Chairman and concerned Director of Extension Education of State Agriculture University, a Representative of State Department of Agriculture and Zonal Coordinator of the Zone as Members. A senior officer from the Council's Head Quarters serves as Member-Secretary of the Team. Based on the recommendations made by the Team, the Council takes a final view on the suitability of site for location of a KVK.

Import Policy of Rifampicin

1016. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the meeting by his Secretary to decide the import policy of Rifampicin/Rifa-S converters voiced their concern for high prices charged by the basic producers with the support of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of the points raised in converters at the said meeting;

(c) if so, the steps taken to investigate the matter and fix the responsibility in this regard;

(d) whether in this process crores of rupees have been overcharged from the poor T.B. patients; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The point raised by the converters in the meeting was that if they purchase domestically produced Rifa-S, an intermediate, for conversion into Rifampicin, they would not be able to compete with the indigenous manufacturers. Concern about overcharging was not voiced in the meeting.

(d) No complaint of overcharging from T.B. patients in respect of Rifampicin has been received so far.

(e) Does not arise.

Strengthening of Terrorism Act

1017. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact a law to deal with the problem of terrorism to fill the vacuum created by the lapse of the Terrorists and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987; and

(b) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to deal with the problem of terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The erstwhile Terrorists and Disruptive Activities Act, 1987 whose constitutionality was upheld by the hon'ble Supreme Court was allowed to lapse in May, 1995 because of the criticism that some of its provisions were allegedly misused. After detailed discussions with various State Governments and leaders of Political parties, Criminal Law Amendment Bill which sought to fill in the vacuum created by TADA was introduced in Rajya Sabha in May '95 and the same is pending in the House. The Bill broadly seeks to strike a balance between Human Right concerns and the requirement to combat terrorism. Government would like to hold wider consultations on the various provisions of the above bill before moving for its consideration by the Parliament. In absence of a specific legislation dealing with terrorist offences, relevant provisions of Indian Penal code are being used.

[Translation]

Cultivation of Sun Flower in Bihar

1018. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for the cultivation of Sun flower in Hajariabagh, Palamau and Chatra districts of South Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the other agricultural products proposed to be encouraged by the Government for the development of agriculture in these areas;

(d) the amount spent on the development of agriculture in these areas during each of the last three years, till-date;

(e) whether the Government propose to provide any special facility to the said areas due to their backwardness in the agriculture; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to formulate any special scheme for the cultivation of sunflower in Hajariabagh, Palamau and Chatra districts of South Bihar. However a Centrally Sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) which covers groundnut, sunflower, sesamum, safflower, soyabean, niger, castor and linseed is in implementation in 25 selected districts including Hajariabagh and Palamau in the State of Bihar.

(c) The other agricultural development schemes in operation are Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) covering soyabean in Hajariabagh and Palamau, Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice based cropping system (ICDP-Rice) in Palamau, Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP) in Hajariabagh and Palamau and Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based cropping system in Hajariabagh and Palamau.

(d) The district-wise expenditure on the agricultural development schemes in operation, is not compiled but compiled for the State as a whole.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal to provide any special facility to the district of Hajariabagh, Palamau and Chatra in Bihar.

Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

1019. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of sugarcane produced in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Western Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of sugar mills in the public and private sector particularly in Western Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether the number of sugar mills functioning is commensurate with the total production of sugarcane in the State;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to issue more licences for setting up of sugar mills in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(f) whether the Government have received requests in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The total quantities of sugarcane produced in the entire State of Uttar Pradesh and in Western Uttar Pradesh during the last three sugar years (Oct.—Sept.):—

S.No.	Sugar year	Total Sugarcane production in the entire State of Uttar Pradesh (Lakh tonnes)	Total Sugarcane production in Western Uttar Pradesh (Lakh tonnes)
1.	1993-94	1099.93	419.16
2.	1994-95	1228.39	436.54
3.	1995-96	1437.12	473.42

(b) As on 30.6.97, there were 27 installed sugar mills in the Western Uttar Pradesh. Of these, 7 are in the public sector and 14 in private sector.

(c) to (e) During the last three years, the percentage drawal of sugarcane by the sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh State was in the range of 27.9 to 41.9. Besides, about 10 to 12% of sugarcane is utilised for seed and chewing purposes. Keeping in view the surplus availability of sugarcane, the Govt. of India have already issued 48 letters of intent for setting up of new sugar factories and 90 letters of intent for expansion in existing units.

(f) and (g) As on 30.6.97, 73 proposals received for establishment of new sugar factories from the State of Uttar Pradesh were pending consideration. These cases are being processed by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

[English]

Complaints Against Centre State Farm, Hissar

1020. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding Centre State Farm at Hissar in Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cases of supply of spurious seeds in this Farm was detected;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have taken any action in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (f) Government have recently received a complaint from District Agricultural Workers Union (DAWU), Central State Farm, Hissar, alleging sale of spurious seed with trade mark of State Farms Corporation of India by some of the employees. The complaint is not about supply of spurious seed in the Farm. Government have taken a decision to hold an enquiry into the matter.

Performance of Agriculture Extension Scheme in Bihar

1021. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request/suggestion/complaints from the State Governments for the introduction of Agriculture Extension Scheme in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of coverage made under the said scheme during the plan period, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Request/suggestion received from the State Governments from time to time have been taken into consideration while formulating and implementing Agriculture extension Schemes during Eighth Five Year Plan Period.

(b) The details of Extension Schemes and their coverage State-wise are given in the *Statement* attached.

Statement

Details of Extension Schemes and Their Coverage, State-wise During VIII Plan

S. No.	Name of the scheme	State covered	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	National Agricultural Extension Project (NAEP)-I	Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan	The project closed in March, 1993.
2.	National Agricultural Extension Project (NAEP)-II	Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir	The Project closed in March, 1993.
3.	National Agricultural Extension Project (NAEP)-III	Assam, Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab	The Project closed in March, '95.
4.	Establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)	Himachal Pradesh (5), Jammu & Kashmir (2), Punjab (3), Haryana (2), Delhi (1), West Bengal (2), Bihar (7), Assam (3), Mizoram (1), Uttar Pradesh (5), Andhra Pradesh (3), Maharashtra (11), Gujarat (2), Rajasthan (3), Madhya Pradesh (7), Orissa (3), Karnataka (5), Kerala (3), Lakshadweep (1), Tamilnadu (8), Pondicherry (1).	A total of 78 KVKs established during VIII Plan.
5.	Involvement of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Extension	Andhra Pradesh (2), Bihar (2), West Bengal (2), Uttar Pradesh (2), Madhya Pradesh (2), Karnataka (2), Manipur (1), and Tripura (1).	A total of 14 NGOs are involved in the Scheme on pilot basis.

1	2	3	4
6.	Women in Agriculture	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala	The scheme is being implemented on pilot basis (one distt. in each state).
7.	Farmer-Scientist interaction Scheme on Agro-Climatic Zone basis	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.	The scheme is being implemented in 17 States.

Tribal Freedom Fighters

1022. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nation is celebrating 50 years of Independence during 1997-98;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring to the limelight the tribal freedom fighters during this 50th year of celebration of independence;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Assistance to Consumer Courts

1023. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given from the Consumer Welfare Fund to the Consumer Courts during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the amount out of the said fund released to Karnataka during 1996-97;

(c) whether the amount given to various States have been fully utilised;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken against the faulty organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Consumer Welfare Fund Rules do not provide for giving assistance to consumer courts.

(b) to (e) In view of above, question do not arise.

[Translation]

Gir Forests

1024. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of lions inhabiting in the Gir forests of Gujarat at present;

(b) the details of progress achieved in the number of lions during the last ten years;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to increase progeny of these lions;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to shift some of the lions from there to the Pulpurkono Sanctuary of Murena district in Madhya Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) According to the last census conducted by the Govt. of Gujarat in May 1995, there are 304 lions in the Gir Forests and adjoining areas.

(b) The lion population has grown from 239 in May, 1985 to 304 in May, 1995.

(c) and (d) An area of 1412.12 sq. km. of the Gir forest which is the habitat of lions, has been constituted into a protected area under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The Asiatic Lion is fully protected against hunting and commercial exploitation. Habitat protection and management activities such as habitat improvement, water conservation, wildlife health monitoring etc., are also undertaken. Under in situ conditions, breeding takes place if favourable conditions are available to the lions. No artificial breeding programme is necessary. As a result of these measures, the population of Asiatic Lions has gradually increased from 177 in 1968 to 304 in 1995.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. After detailed scientific investigations the Kuno-Palpur sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh was selected for establishing a second free-ranging population of the Asiatic lion. The project will be implemented over a 8-10 year period. At present in the first phase, preliminary habitat and prey base development and eco-development works are being undertaken and actual shifting of some lions will take place in the second phase, which will start around the year 2000.

[English]

Open Sale of Wheat and Rice by FCI

1025. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the quantity of wheat and rice sold by FCI under the open sale scheme to mill owners and the small traders during each of the last two years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the mill owners made bulk purchase and small traders could not avail of the benefit of the scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that small traders also get the benefit of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from Food Corporation of India and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Justice for the Victims of Negligence

1026. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the legal report captioned "No justice for victims of negligence" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated June 17, 1997 pointing out the inadequacy of law for punishing the guilty for blatant negligence, where delay in the process dictates the force of law;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to amend the law and procedure evolving a well studied law of torts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The section 304A of the Indian Penal Code provides for punishment for causing death by negligence. At present there is no proposal to amend the law as the existing penal provisions are quite adequate.

Pollution Measures

1027. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of air and water pollution measures adopted by the Fertilizers plant of H.F.C. Namrup;

(b) whether the Government are aware that inadequate attention paid by the fertilizer plants in controlling the air and water pollution;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure the control of air and water pollution by the fertilizer plants?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The following air and water pollution control measures have been undertaken by the Namrup I, II & III units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC)

(i) Conversion of the Sulphuric acid plant in Namrup I unit to Double Conversion Double Absorption (DCDA) system.

(ii) Installation of a facility in Namrup-III unit for treatment of hexavalent chromium bearing liquid effluent so as to contain chromate content level within the permissible limit.

(iii) Recycling the arsenic bearing effluent from the gas purification section of Namrup II plant.

(b) to (d) The State Pollution Control Boards monitor the quality of the effluents discharged by the industrial units in their respective States and ensure compliance of the prescribed pollution control standards. In so far as the fertilizer units under the administrative control of the Department of Fertilizers are concerned, schemes for ensuring adherence of pollution control measures in the plants of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. have been put under implementation. The pollution control measures required in the plants of Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. have been studied by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute and its recommendations have been evaluated.

Non-Placement of Indent to H.P.C. by Super Bazar

1028. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Super Bazar, NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar are not placing any indent to the Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited for the supply of paper required by the Government departments but the same are being purchased from other manufacturers/suppliers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) According to the Information furnished by the Super Bazar, NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar, they receive orders for supply of paper in small quantities from various Government Departments whereas M/s Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd. (HPC) insists on supplies in bulk of one wagon load or 25 MT of paper at a time. The HPC also demands 100% advance payment against proforma invoice raised by them. Purchase of paper by Super Bazar, NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar in the required quantities from HPC Ltd. will be facilitated if HPC Ltd relax their norms of supplies.

Procurement Price of Wheat

1029. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the procurement price of wheat;

(b) whether some State Governments have requested in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government after taking into account the recommendations of the CACP, views of the State Governments and Central Ministries and all other relevant factors while in the opinion of the Government are important for fixing of minimum support price, has fixed the minimum support price (MSP) of wheat for 1996-97 crop to be marketed in 1997-98 season at Rs. 415 per quintal against the MSP of Rs. 405 per quintal recommended by the CACP. The MSP fixed for 1997-98 season marks an increase of Rs. 35 over the price fixed for the previous season. The Government, after taking into account the requests received from the Governments of Punjab and Haryana for further hike in the MSP already fixed, decided to grant a central bonus of Rs. 60 per quintal for the sale of wheat to the Central pool with effect from 1.4.1997 to 30.6.97. The hike in the MSP including bonus thus works out to Rs. 95 per quintal.

[Translation]

Closed Sugar Mills

1030. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar mills closed at present, State-wise;

(b) the reasons for their closure;

(c) whether the Government propose to revive these closed mills;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A statement showing statewide number of sugar factories remained closed during the 1996-97 season as per information available upto 30-6-1997 is enclosed.

(b) to (e) The closures could be due to variety of factors, such as inadequate cane availability, size, age and condition of plant and machinery, technical and managerial incompetence, excessively high cane price not commensurate with sales realisation and many other factors. Sugar mills have themselves to prepare scheme for reopening/rehabilitation/modernisation and get them approved by the financial institutions.

Financial assistance is also available from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rate of interest for such rehabilitation/modernisation schemes, subject to fulfilment of the conditions laid down.

Statement

State-wise Number of Sugar Factories remained closed during the 1996-97 Season as per information available upto 30.6.1997

Sl. No	States	No. of Factories
1.	Punjab	2
2.	Uttar Pradesh	2
3.	Madhya Pradesh	2
4.	Gujarat	3
5.	Maharashtra	12
6.	Bihar	11
7.	Assam	1
8.	Andhra Pradesh	5
9.	Karnataka	4
10.	Tamil Nadu	1
11.	Kerala	2
12.	Orissa	1
13.	Nagaland	1

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Casualty of BSF

1031. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :
SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSF jawans killed by the extremists in North Eastern States particularly in Manipur during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken by the Government so far to prevent the killings of BSF jawans;

(c) the number of BSF jawans killed in Manipur in the third week of May, 1997; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide livelihood to the dependents, family members of the deceased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) During 1994, 1995 and 1996 a total of 24 BSF personnel were killed in the North East Region including 2 in Manipur. During 1997 (upto July 23) 11 BSF personnel (all in Manipur) have been killed by the extremists.

(b) Steps taken to prevent killings of BSF jawans include, inter alia, reiteration of standard operating procedure, briefing by commanders at all levels, disposal of mines and improvised explosive devices by explosives experts, search of areas before movement of troops and reiteration of prescribed counter-ambush drill.

(c) Eleven.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to provide livelihood to the dependents, family members of the deceased include, inter alia, award of liberalised pension, ex-gratia grant of Rs. 2 lakhs, provision of employment in Groups 'C' and 'D' posts upto 5% of the existing vacancies in the BSF, setting up of Re-settlement Directorate for rehabilitation and re-settlement of the widows or next-of-kin of the deceased, encashment of GPF, leave, DCRG benefits under Group Insurance as per admissibility. State Governments of the North Eastern States also sanction additional ex-gratia at varying rates.

Industrial Food Parks

1032. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up 'Industrial Food Parks' in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of such parks to be opened during the Ninth Five Year Plan alongwith their locations, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up industrial food parks on its own. However, the Ministry operates a plan scheme for providing assistance to joint sector/assisted sector undertakings, cooperatives and private sector undertakings, etc. for setting up of Industrial Food Parks in the country. The scheme is not either location specific or State-specific. The number of such parks to be assisted during the IXth Five Year Plan has not been fixed and it would depend upon the number of feasible proposals received and allocation of funds made for the Ministry.

[English]

Sugar Mills in Karnataka

1033. SHRI P. KODANDA RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for starting sugar mills in Karnataka cleared during 1996-97, private sector and co-operative sector-wise;

(b) the number of applications rejected indicating the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of levy sugar procured in Karnataka during the said period; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to reduce the levy on sugar with a view to improve the financial health of the sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) During sugar year 1996-97 (October-September) upto 30.6.97, 8 letters of intent were granted for setting up of new sugar mills, 5 in private and 3 in cooperative sector and 22 applications were prima-facie rejected in the State of Karnataka. The prima-facie rejection letters were issued mainly on the grounds ranging from locational angle and/or non-availability of sugarcane, capacity constraints, etc.

(c) As on 15.6.97, a total quantity of 0.54 lakh tonnes of levy sugar has been produced by the sugar mills of the Karnataka State for distribution under Public Distribution System and armed forces/para-military forces

during 1996-97 season (October-September). The Ministry does not procure sugar from sugar mills but allocates a part of total production for distribution in PDS for armed/para-military forces to be lifted directly by them against release orders.

(d) At present, there is no proposal to change the prevailing ratio of 40:60 between the levy & free sale sugar. However, to boost up sugar production in the initial period of the ensuing season, it has been decided to allow early crushing incentive for the period 1st October to 15th November, 1997 by way of higher free sale quota at the rate of 72% of the production.

Wood Based Industries

1034. SHRI UTTAMSINGH PAWAR :
SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the Rajeshwar Committee report which inter alia say that 2.82 lakh trees are felled annually in the North East region to satiate the demands in wood-based industries in that region;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such industries functioning there;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to put a stop on these activities and to shift those industries as per recommendations of Rajeshwar Committee; and

(d) the time by which all these industries are likely to be shifted?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Rajeshwar Committee has estimated that the wood-based industries in North-East Region, to run at their viable capacity, would require felling of 2,82,397 trees per annum. In addition, it has stated that large scale transportation of logs and vaneers also takes place outside the North-East Region. The Committee has observed that such sustained large scale felling of trees would result in a serious environmental and ecological imbalance in the region, with far reaching consequences to the Nation as a whole. Accordingly, it has recommended to the Hon'ble Supreme Court that ban on fellings of trees in all the forests in North-East may continue until further review.

The Committee has indicated that there are 1228 saw mills, 291 saw-cum-vaneer units and 77 plywood factories in North-East Region.

(c) and (d) The report and recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

[Translation]

**Grant of Subsidies to Small
and Marginal Farmers**

1035. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the direct and indirect types of subsidies granted to farmers alongwith their annual effect;

(b) the subsidies out of them granted to small and marginal farmers as well as to relatively poor sections of farmers;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to ascertain that the benefit of subsidies reach the targeted population;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) if not, the manner in which it is ensured that the benefit of the subsidies actually reach to the targeted population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Major agricultural input subsidies given to farmers are fertilizers, irrigation, power and credit subsidy. Direct subsidy on urea is given by the Central Government to manufacturers of fertilizers to enable them to make available the fertilizers at reduced rates to the farmers. Urea is subsidised and sold at a uniform price of Rs. 3660/- per tonne throughout the country. In addition the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing, from Rabi 1992-93, a scheme of concession on sale of phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilizers to the farmers on the following:

Product	Rate of concession from 1.4.1997 (Rs. per tonne)
Indigenous DAP	3750
Imported DAP	2250
MOP	2000
SSP	600
Indigenous complexes	1149-3320

Since there is no mechanism to pay directly to the farmers, the subsidy/concession is routed through the fertilizer supplies. The provision in RE 1996-97 and in BE 1997-98 for the payment of subsidy on urea and concession on P&K fertilisers is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

	Subsidy on Urea	Concession on P&K Fertilizers
RE—1996-97	6093	1674
BE—1997-98	7190	2000

Subsidies on irrigation and power are given indirectly by the State Governments charging lower rates than that of actual costs.

All these subsidies/concessions are available to all the categories of farmers including small and marginal farmers.

(c) to (e) No study has been conducted to verify whether such subsidies/concessions reach to the targeted population. However, it is not practically feasible to pay the subsidies/concessions directly to the farmers whose number is nearly 105 million and spread over the length and breadth of the country. All the policy guidelines for payment of subsidies/concessions are done keeping in view the interest of the farmers.

[English]

Representation in CACP

1036. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra to appoint at least one State representative in the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the policy of the Government in respect of appointments of the members;

(c) whether the Government have re-constituted the said Commission;

(d) if so, the details of members with their representing States; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on the request of the Government of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such request from the Government of Maharashtra to appoint atleast one State representative in the Commission has been received. There is also no policy for appointing atleast one representative from each State.

(c) and (d) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices is a permanent body consisting of a full-time Chairman, 3 official Members and 3 non-official Members. The non-official Members are intended to provide representation to the farming community and are normally appointed for a term of 3 years. The vacancies of non-official Members are filled-up as and when they arise and while doing so, an effort is generally made to provide regional balance to all the zones of the country.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reply to Part (a) of the question above.

Research on Arecanuts by ICAR

1037. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council for Agricultural Research is undertaking any research work in respect of arecanuts;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the stations where such research work is undertaken;

(c) whether any research has been carried out to ascertain the possibility of other uses of arecanuts;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production and boost the export of arecanuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The research work on arecanut is carried out by Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod (Kerala) at its three regional stations located at Vittal (Karnataka), Mohit Nagar (West Bengal) and Kahikuchi (Assam). Arecanut research is also being supported under All India Co-ordinated Research Project at Hirehalli (Karnataka).

(c) and (d) Arecanut research is being concentrated on crop improvement, production technologies and control

of diseases and pests. Research on other uses of arecanut is not being done by ICAR.

(e) Four high yielding and superior varieties of arecanut namely Mangla, Sumangala, Sreemaṅgla and Mohit Nagar have been released. These varieties are capable of producing 11 to 18 kg nuts/palm/year and has helped in substantially increasing the productivity of arecanut. The steady increase in area, production and productivity has helped to stop the import from Sri Lanka and Pakistan. Now, India is self sufficient in arecanut.

[*Translation*]

Allocation of Edible Oil to States

1038. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of edible oils allocated to various States particularly to Maharashtra during 1995-96 and 1996-97, separately;

(b) whether the quantity allocated is adequate to meet the demand of the States;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether requests have been received from various States to enhance their quota of the edible oils;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A *statement* is annexed.

(b) and (c) Supply of imported edible oil through the PDS is supplemental. Limited quantity of palmolein is imported and distributed to States/UTs from the Central Pool to augment open market availability during the lean season/major festivals if considered necessary by the Government.

(d) and (e) During the year 1996-97 several States like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Manipur, Maharashtra, Orissa & West Bengal had requested Central Government to enhance their monthly quota of imported palmolein for the PDS.

(f) Due to reasons indicated in reply to parts (b) and (c) above, a fixed quantity of edible oil allowed to be

imported during the year and sizeable imports under OGL it was not possible to increase the allocation to States.

Statement

Statewise Allocation & Lifting of Imported Edible Oils Under PDS During Financial Yearwise 1995-96 & 1996-97

States/UTs	Quantity in MTs			
	1995-96		1996-97	
	Alloca- tion	Lifting	Alloca- tion	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	66600	39801	49000	44495
Arunachal Pradesh				
Assam	1200	670	1000	334
Bihar	200		700	
Goa	4000	3125	3200	2673
Gujarat	49000	46091	40000	43340
Haryana	200	264		
Himachal Pradesh	1503	1188	1400	905
J & K	700	390	700	423
Karnataka	11000	6622	10000	11377
Kerala		203	2000	966
Madhya Pradesh	2500			
Maharashtra	30000	15130	34000	33399
Manipur	900	307	2100	1895
Meghalaya	200	10	700	230
Mizoram	1300	398	1400	453
Nagaland	4100	3000	2800	1940
Orissa	12000	3504	7000	3169
Punjab				

1	2	3	4	5
Rajasthan	400		350	
Sikkim	840	629	770	740
Tamil Nadu	8000	5089	7000	6432
Tripura	700	40	700	100
Uttar Pradesh				
West Bengal	17000	14903	18500	19254
A&N Islands	150	50	200	75
Chandigarh	100			
D & N Haveli	640	423	560	540
Delhi	3300	2651	3600	2953
Daman & Diu	875	460	875	495
Lakshadweep	290	250	280	191
Pondicherry	4308	3057	4000	3469
All India	222006	148255	192835	179848

[English]

Impact of Articles on Administration of N.E. States

1039. SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study regarding the impact of Articles 371A, 371C, 371F, 371G and 371H on the polity and administration of Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh respectively; and

(b) if so, the findings of the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian Citizenship to Sri Lankan Tamils

1040. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Sri Lankan Tamils of Indian Origin who came to India since 1977 had urged the Government for the grant of permanent Indian citizenship;

(b) whether they had suggested grant of identity cards till their citizenship request is decided;

(c) whether the Government are considering their request sympathetically; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) A copy of a representation from the Welfare Association of Sri Lankan Tamils of Indian Origin has been received in this Ministry. The matter is under consideration.

[Translation]

Declaration of Bhopal as Gas Affected Area

1041. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the last time when the Prime Minister visited Bhopal, representations were given to him to declare the entire Bhopal as gas affected area for making arrangements to provide assistance on that basis;

(b) whether such proposal had been under consideration of the Union Government for the last six-seven years; and

(c) the decision taken by the Union Government on the representation given to the Prime Minister?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The representation is under examination.

[English]

Israel's Assistance to Kerala for Agricultural Production

1042. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to assist the Government of Kerala for increasing the agricultural production in view of the fact that even country like Israel has shown keen interest to send an expert delegation to explore the possibilities in this field;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No proposal has been received from Israel to send an expert delegation to explore the possibilities for increasing the agricultural production in Kerala.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Ban on Inter-State Movement of Wheat

1043. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to ban the inter-state movement of wheat by the traders and farmers from the wheat surplus regions of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Global Environmental Protection

1044. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Western nations attempted to introduce new issues in AGENDA-21 on global environmental protection;

(b) if so, the contentious issues which the Western nations wanted to reopen; and

(c) the stand taken by India to flay the Western move on Agenda 21?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. During the United Nations General Assembly Special Session held in New York from 23-27 June, 1997, the Western nations had attempted to include the contentious issues like human rights, good governance and labour standards in Agenda 21. This attempt was successfully resisted by India and other developing countries. India categorically stated that it will not accept a re-negotiation of Agenda 21 through the introduction of new issues. This was recognised by all and was also reflected in the document adopted at the conclusion of the Session.

[Translation]

Travelling by Policemen in DTC Buses

1045. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been signed between the Delhi Transport Corporation and the Ministry for providing the facilities of free journey in the DTC buses to Delhi Police personnel, Delhi Armed Police personnel and other police personnel working in the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry make payment of certain amount each month to the Delhi Transport Corporation under the agreement;

(d) if so, the amount paid each month; and

(e) if not, the grounds on which the police personnel enjoy free travel facility in the DTC buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) The practice of free travel by the Delhi Policemen was introduced around 1965 at the instance of DTC Authorities as the presence of Policemen in buses acts as a deterrent and helps in crime prevention. This arrangement was subject to the following conditions:

(a) The policemen so travelling will not occupy a seat, if there are standing passengers.

(b) The policemen will not travel on the foot-board of the bus.

(c) They will board and alight from the bus only at the recognised bus stops.

(d) The policemen travelling in a bus excess of two lower-subordinates entitled to travel free, shall pay the prescribed fares.

(e) No lower-subordinate in plain clothes will travel in a DTC bus without paying the requisite fare.

[English]

Reforms Suggested by World Bank for the Sugar Industry

1046. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has recently suggested reforms in the sugar industry of the country;

(b) if so, the nature of reforms suggested;

(c) the likely repercussion of the reforms for this industry;

(d) whether the Government have conveyed these reforms to the industry; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the sugar industry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) According to the document sent by the World Bank in April 1997 on Indian Sugar Industry, the nature of reforms suggested is that a package of policy reforms would be needed to capture the full effects of productivity, growth and encourage growers and producers to close the technological gap. The Policy package would entail maintaining free sugar imports (and exports), lifting the domestic barriers to entry in sugar milling, eliminating the dual market tax and reforming cane pricing policies. Other measures would involve rationalizing the tax regime in the industry. The elimination of input and capital subsidies would complement the policy package, although its implementation and ramifications can extend well beyond the scope of this industry.

(c) to (e) The Government had already set up a High Powered Committee on 14th March, 1997 to examine and study various aspects of sugar industry and sugarcane cultivation and to give suggestions thereon for

consideration of the Government. The Committee is required to submit its report in September, 1997.

[Translation]

Fight Against Terrorism

1047. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of terrorists killed in encounter with the Central Para-Military forces during the last three years; State-wise; and

(b) the details of illegal weapons, ammunition etc. recovered by para-military forces during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Statewise information relating to terrorists killed:

S.No.	Name of the State	1994	1995	1996
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	—	6
2.	Assam	23	11	2
3.	Bihar	—	—	3
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	323	220	183
5.	Karnataka	1	—	—
6.	Manipur	6	16	12
7.	Mizoram	—	6	—
8.	Nagaland	—	20	11
9.	Punjab	11	—	—
10.	Rajasthan	2	—	1
11.	Tripura	6	11	12
12.	Uttar Pradesh	—	1	—

(b) Arms and ammunition seized during the period :

Arms	:	5930
Ammunition	:	3,03,333

[English]

Recruitment in Para-Military Forces

1048. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether State-wise proportion exists in the recruitment to various para-military forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the share of recruitment of Orissa has been filled up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Recruitment of Constables/Riflemen in Central Para-Military Forces is made on All India basis. The annual vacancies are allotted to each State/UT on the basis of the population taking into consideration the special needs and circumstances of different areas.

(c) and (d) As per the population ratio, the State of Orissa has sufficient representation in CRPF and CISF. Deficiency in representation of Orissa in other Central Para-Military Forces is due to non-availability of suitable candidates.

Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra Border Dispute

1049. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 12 villages on the Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra border in Adilabad district which were the bone of contention between the two States, have been agreed upon to go the Maharashtra State;

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

(c) whether on February 10, 1997 the Supreme Court had asked the Government of Andhra Pradesh to withdraw its special leave petition challenging the order of the Bombay High Court; and

(d) if so, the basis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Subsidies on Agricultural Inputs and Fertilizers

1050. SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the definition of large, medium, small and marginal land holdings in the country;

(b) the number of such holders with their holding in the country, separately, State-wise; and

(c) the ratio/percentage of subsidies enjoyed by the large land holders in comparison to the other land holders through their produces out of total subsidies given in agricultural inputs including fertilizer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As per Agricultural Census, different categories of operational holdings, namely marginal, small, semi-medium, medium and large, according to size of holdings (area operated), have been defined as under.

Group of holdings	Size of holdings (hectares)
1. Marginal	Below 1
2. Small	1 to 2
3. Semi-medium	2 to 4
4. Medium	4 to 10
5. Large	10 and above

(b) According to Agricultural Census, 1990-91, State-wise number and area of operational holdings are given in the statements I and II respectively.

(c) Major agricultural input subsidies given to farmers are fertilizers, irrigation, power and credit subsidy. Direct subsidy on urea is given by the Central Government to manufacturers of fertilizers to enable them to make available the fertilizer at reduced rates to the farmers. Urea is subsidised and sold at a uniform price of Rs. 3660/- per tonne throughout the country. In addition, the

Department of Agriculture & Cooperation is implementing, from Rabi 1992-93, a scheme of concession on sale of phosphatic and potassic (P&K) fertilizers to the farmers on the following:

Product	(Rs. per tonnes) Rate of concession from 1.4.1997
Indigenous DAP	3750
Imported DAP	2250
MOP	2000
SSP	600
Indigenous complexes	1149-3320

Since there is no mechanism to pay directly to the farmers, the subsidy/concession is routed through the fertilizer suppliers. The provision in RE 1996-97 and in BE 1997-98 for the payment of subsidy on urea and concession on P&K fertilizers in given below:

	(Rs. in crores)	
	Subsidy on Urea	Concession on P&K fertilizer
RE 1996-97	6093	1674
BE 1997-98 (proposed)	7190	2000

Subsidies on irrigation and power are given indirectly by the State Governments charging lower rates than that of actual costs.

All these subsidies/concessions are available to all the categories of farmers including small and marginal farmers.

Statement I

State-wise number of Operational Holdings for all Social Groups in India by Major size classes, 1990-91

(Number in thousands)

S. No.	State	Marginal (below 1 ha)	Small (1 to 2 ha)	Semi-medium (2 to 4 ha)	Medium (4 to 10 ha)	Large (10 ha & above)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5211 (56.1)	1972 (21.2)	1345 (14.5)	644 (6.9)	118 (1.3)	9290 (100.0)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16 (17.0)	17 (18.1)	30 (31.9)	26 (27.7)	5 (5.3)	94 (100.0)
3.	Assam	1521 (60.3)	560 (22.1)	343 (13.6)	95 (3.8)	5 (0.2)	2523 (100.0)
4.	Bihar	10193 (78.6)	1438 (11.1)	945 (7.3)	351 (2.7)	39 (0.3)	12966 (100.0)
5.	Goa	58 (80.6)	98 (11.1)	4 (5.56)	2 (2.8)	1 (1.4)	72 (100.0)
6.	Gujarat	924 (26.3)	915 (26.0)	890 (25.3)	669 (19.0)	118 (3.4)	3517 (100.0)
7.	Haryana	622 (40.6)	304 (19.9)	336 (22.0)	222 (14.5)	46 (3.0)	1530 (100.0)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	532 (63.2)	166 (19.9)	94 (11.3)	36 (4.3)	6 (0.7)	834 (100.0)
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	902 (74.1)	197 (16.2)	98 (8.1)	20 (1.6)	1 (0.1)	1217 (100.0)
10.	Karnataka	2262 (39.2)	1586 (27.5)	1163 (20.1)	636 (11.0)	129 (2.2)	5776 (100.0)
11.	Kerala	5016 (92.6)	280 (5.2)	98 (1.8)	21 (0.4)	3 (0.1)	5418 (100.0)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3136 (37.3)	1917 (22.8)	1738 (20.7)	1287 (15.3)	323 (3.8)	8401 (100.0)
13.	Maharashtra	3275 (34.6)	2728 (28.8)	2126 (22.4)	1171 (12.4)	171 (1.8)	9470 (100.0)
14.	Manipur	69 (48.6)	49 (34.5)	21 (14.8)	3 (2.1)	Neg. —	142 (100.0)
15.	Meghalaya	59 (34.7)	51 (30.0)	46 (27.1)	13 (7.6)	1 (0.6)	171 (100.0)
16.	Mizoram	29 (46.8)	23 (37.1)	9 (14.5)	1 (1.6)	Neg. —	61 (100.0)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Nagaland	13 (9.3)	21 (15.0)	26 (18.6)	47 (33.6)	33 (23.6)	142 (100.0)
18.	Orissa	2118 (53.6)	1035 (26.2)	594 (15.0)	186 (4.7)	15 (0.4)	3948 (100.0)
19.	Punjab	296 (26.5)	204 (18.3)	289 (25.9)	261 (23.4)	67 (6.0)	1117 (100.0)
20.	Rajasthan	1517 (29.7)	1019 (20.0)	1061 (20.8)	1017 (19.9)	493 (9.7)	5107 (100.0)
21.	Sikkim	26 (50.0)	11 (21.2)	9 (17.3)	5 (9.6)	1 (1.9)	53 (100.0)
22.	Tamil Nadu	5848 (73.1)	1275 (15.9)	618 (7.7)	228 (2.9)	31 (0.4)	7999 (100.0)
23.	Tripura	217 (68.2)	69 (21.7)	28 (8.8)	4 (1.3)	Neg. —	318 (100.0)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14819 (73.8)	3118 (15.5)	1543 (7.7)	548 (2.7)	45 (0.2)	20074 (100.0)
25.	West Bengal	4639 (73.8)	1107 (17.6)	457 (7.3)	79 (1.3)	1 —	6284 (100.0)
26.	All U.Ts.	70 (64.2)	19 (17.4)	13 (11.9)	7 (6.4)	— —	109 (100.0)
All India		63389 (59.4)	20092 (18.8)	13923 (13.1)	7580 (7.1)	1654 (1.6)	106637 (100.0)

Note: Figures in brackets are percentages.
Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Statement II

*State-wise distribution of area of operational holdings for All Social Groups
in India by Major size classes 1990-91*

(Area in thousand hectares)

S. No.	State	Marginal	Small	Semi-medium	Medium	Large	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2369 (16.4)	2827 (19.6)	3640 (25.2)	3777 (26.1)	1848 (12.8)	14460 (100.0)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10 (2.9)	26 (7.4)	84 (24.1)	147 (42.1)	82 (23.5)	350 (100.0)
3.	Assam	607 (18.9)	784 (24.5)	918 (28.6)	492 (15.4)	404 (12.6)	3205 (100.0)
4.	Bihar	3591 (33.4)	1954 (18.2)	2576 (24.0)	1982 (18.4)	(640) (6.0)	10743 (100.0)
5.	Goa	19 (28.4)	11 (16.4)	9 (13.4)	9 (13.4)	19 (28.4)	67 (100.0)
6.	Gujarat	489 (4.8)	1343 (13.0)	2515 (24.4)	4005 (38.9)	1941 (18.9)	10292 (100.0)
7.	Haryana	295 (8.0)	463 (12.5)	944 (25.4)	1300 (35.0)	709 (19.1)	3711 (100.0)
8.	Himachal Pradesh	215 (21.3)	235 (23.3)	258 (25.5)	205 (20.3)	97 (9.6)	1010 (100.0)
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	347 (34.2)	272 (26.8)	264 (26.0)	108 (10.7)	23 (2.3)	1014 (100.0)
10.	Karnataka	1072 (8.7)	2308 (18.7)	3200 (26.0)	3771 (30.6)	1971 (16.0)	12321 (100.0)
11.	Kerala	865 (48.2)	383 (21.3)	255 (14.2)	114 (6.4)	178 (9.9)	1796 (100.0)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1409 (6.4)	2783 (12.6)	4838 (21.9)	7772 (35.1)	5309 (24.0)	22111 (100.0)
13.	Maharashtra	1618 (7.7)	3983 (19.0)	5880 (28.1)	6856 (32.8)	2588 (12.4)	20925 (100.0)
14.	Manipur	38 (21.7)	67 (38.3)	117 (31.4)	71 (8.6)	1 (0.6)	302 (100.0)
15.	Meghalaya	32 (10.6)	68 (22.6)	117 (38.9)	71 (23.6)	13 (4.3)	302 (100.0)
16.	Mizoram	18 (21.7)	36 (43.4)	25 (30.1)	4 (4.8)	Neg. —	84 (100.0)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Nagaland	9 (0.9)	30 (3.1)	76 (7.8)	298 (30.8)	556 (57.4)	968 (100.0)
18.	Orissa	1045 (19.7)	1426 (26.9)	1561 (29.5)	1012 (19.1)	252 (4.8)	5296 (100.0)
19.	Punjab	164 (4.1)	328 (8.1)	842 (20.9)	1622 (40.2)	1077 (26.7)	4033 (100.0)
20.	Rajasthan	725 (3.5)	1469 (7.0)	3021 (14.4)	6334 (30.2)	9422 (44.9)	20971 (100.0)
21.	Sikkim	11 (10.0)	19 (17.2)	27 (24.5)	31 (28.2)	22 (20.0)	111 (100.0)
22.	Tamil Nadu	2118 (28.3)	1794 (24.0)	1687 (22.6)	1301 (17.4)	574 (7.7)	7474 (100.0)
23.	Tripura	87 (28.3)	106 (34.4)	77 (25.0)	18 (5.8)	20 (6.5)	308 (100.0)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5653 (31.4)	4391 (24.4)	4206 (23.4)	3042 (16.9)	694 (3.9)	17986 (100.0)
25.	West Bengal	2064 (36.5)	1694 (30.0)	1269 (22.4)	426 (7.5)	203 (3.6)	5656 (100.0)
26.	All U.Ts.	25 (17.9)	25 (17.9)	34 (24.3)	38 (27.1)	18 (12.9)	140 (100.0)
All India		24894 (15.0)	28827 (17.4)	38375 (23.2)	44752 (27.1)	28659 (17.3)	165507 (100.0)

Note: Figures in brackets are percentages.

Total may not tally due to rounding off.

Security of VVIPs and VIPs

1051. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons in the country provided with 'Z' category security cover and the number of such persons in the NCT, Delhi, as on 1.6.97 and the annual expenditure incurred thereon;

(b) whether any review have been undertaken in the recent past to assess the threat perceptions to different persons covered under different category of security to withdrawal/downgrade the same wherever called for and if so, the number of cases where such downgradation withdrawal of security cover has been resorted to;

(c) whether the Government are alive to general public feelings against providing of higher category security cover on public expense to those persons and politicians who apprehend threat to their lives because of actions done by them in their individual capacity; and

(d) if so, whether the Government contemplating to make such persons to pay for the category of security cover they want for themselves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects under the Constitution of India. Therefore, the responsibility for providing security to the persons residing within their jurisdiction is that of the concerned State/UT. However, in Delhi 76 persons were in 'Z' category of security as on 1.6.1997. An annual expenditure of approximately Rs. 618 lakhs is incurred on their security by Delhi Police.

(b) and (c) The need for security and scale of security arrangements are reviewed periodically. This is a continuing exercise. The security arrangements are modified/withdrawn as warranted from time to time.

(d) All factors will have to be taken into consideration before taking a decision in the matter.

Production of Edible Oil

1052. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decrease in the production of edible oil over the years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have initiated any steps to boost the domestic production of edible oil;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Production of edible oil over the past few years has been as under:—

(In lakh tonnes)	
Year	Estimated production of edible oils
1994-95	62.54
1995-96	64.26
1996-97	66.21*

*Based on target of 230 lakh MTs of Oilseeds production.

(c) and (d) Some of the steps initiated/proposed to be initiated to boost the production of edible oil are:

(i) The increase in production achieved so far has been mainly because of increase in area. Measures will now be intensified to increase the productivity which is low as compared to international level;

(ii) Intensification of efforts for implementation of Oilseeds Production Programme, area expansion through sequential cropping, inter-cropping;

(iii) Assistance for oil palm development;

(iv) Distribution of mini kits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements and chemicals and demonstrations for transfer of production technology; and

(v) Identification of equipment for modernisation of processing units.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Misuse of Resources in Dairy Farms

1053. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various animal husbandry institutes under the Indian Council for Agricultural Research have dairies and in all these dairies the fodder for livestock is produced in these farms whereas grain is purchased from outside;

(b) whether these dairy farms in various research institutions are running uneconomical keeping in view the per quintal cost of production of fodder and the consumption of grain in huge quantity;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Three Institutes namely National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal; Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar and Central Institute of Research on Buffaloes, Hisar have dairy farm animals. Parts of feed and fodder required is produced in the Institute farms while the rest of the requirements of these Institutes are purchased depending upon the nutritional requirement of the animals.

(b) The dairy animals in these Institutes are kept for experimental purposes and are being maintained for research, education and teaching needs of the Institute and these are not commercial units.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Action Plan for Sugar Mills in Maharashtra

1054. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a review of sugar production and implementation of Sugar Policy at the apex level;

(b) if so, the details of the emerging trends in production, productivity, capacity utilisation, profitability, industrial sickness, labour problems, etc., State-wise;

(c) the details of action plan formulated for the current year to deal with the problem of industrial sickness in the co-operative sector in Maharashtra;

(d) whether the Government have received proposals from the States seeking financial support for undertaking execution of newly sanctioned projects;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(f) the details of proposals received for setting up new sugar units in co-operative sector by SC/ST communities from the State and reasons for its pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (f) The Government have set up a High Powered Committee—inter-alia, to suggest modifications, amendments or repeal of any existing laws and controls with a view to ensure a healthy growth and development of sugar industry, and building healthy relationship between farmers and the industry, to suggest ways and means to increase production and efficiency through modernisation so that sugar is available to the general public at reasonable prices. The Committee is

required to submit its report to the Government by 14th September, 1997.

Purchase of Wireless Sets

1055. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that about 2,000 wireless sets which were issued to beat officers of Delhi Police have turned out to be totally ineffective;

(b) if so, the amount spent on purchase of these sets by Delhi Police alongwith the name of the manufacturer;

(c) whether at least 30 to 40 per cent of sets were not in working condition and majority of them never had listening range of even half kilometre; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to detect the officials responsible for the purchase of such faulty sets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Delhi Police had in 1996 purchased 1800 hand held wireless sets at a cost of Rs. 1.78 crores (Excluding sales tax, etc.) on DGS&D rate contract from M/s. Punjab Wireless Systems Limited, Chandigarh. The sets conform to laid down specifications and have been working satisfactorily. The break down rate of these sets is within acceptable limits for such radios.

Import of Foodgrains

1056. SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the money paid by the Government on the imports of various foodgrains to each country during 1995-96; and

(b) the details of the foodgrains imported since 1991, year-wise indicating the quantity and value in foreign exchange thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No import of foodgrains (wheat and rice) was made during the year 1995-96.

(b) The details of foodgrains (wheat and rice) imported since 1991 are as under:—

Year	Commodity	Country from which imported	Qty. in Lakh MT	Value (in crore Rs.)
1991-92	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1992-93	Wheat	Canada	10.27	525.29
		Australia	8.74	421.26
		USA	6.88	318.69
	Rice	Vietnam	0.72	46.11
			0.14	—
1993-94	Wheat	Australia	1.76	95.27
		USA	3.00	157.14
	Rice	Vietnam	0.56*	
1994-95	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1995-96	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1996-97	Wheat	Canada	Nil	Nil
		Australia	7.52	463.10
		Argentina	0.46	28.57
1997-98		Canada	2.66	179.00
		Australia	6.38	392.90
		Argentina	0.49	30.43

* Against payment of interest dues on old commodity loan outstanding against Vietnam.

Medicinal Plants

1057. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the priceless medicinal plants growing in UP hills are being smuggled out to countries abroad in disregard of forest laws; and

(b) if so, the number of cases that have come to light in the last one year and the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Under the current Export-

Import Policy of the Govt. of India, 53 plants obtained from the wild are included in the prohibited list of exports. These include 45 plants which are predominantly of medicinal value. Some cases of smuggling of these plants, plant products and derivatives are detected from time to time.

(b) During the last one year (1996-97) 38 cases of attempted smuggling of medicinal plants have been detected and action taken against the offenders under the Customs Act, 1962. The States have also been advised not to freely issue permits for the plants which are in the critical or endangered categories, and guard against their indiscriminate exploitation.

[Translation]

Decline in Hindu Population

1058. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per census between 1971 to 1991, the population of Hindus has decreased;

(b) if so, the percentage of decline, State-wise;

(c) whether the minorities population of Christians, Muslims, Buddhists and Parsis have increased, State-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons identified therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e) The population of Hindus has not decreased in any State or Union Territory between 1971 and 1991 censuses. (In case of Jammu & Kashmir, the 1991 census data is not available as this Census could not be conducted in this State due to disturbed conditions).

However, the percentages of Hindus to total population have come down in some States and Union Territories between 1971 and 1991 censuses.

The minorities population of Christians, Muslims, Buddhists and Parsis (Zoroastrian/Zoroastrianism) have also increased between 1971 and 1991 Censuses in all the States and Union Territories except in case of Christians in Andhra Pradesh, Buddhists in Bihar, Goa, Kerala and Parsis (Zoroastrian/Zoroastrianism) in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Delhi and Pondicherry. A table showing total population and population of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Zoroastrian/Zoroastrianism (Parsis) and their proportion to total population for India, States/Union Territories as per the 1971 and 1991 Censuses is annexed as *Statement*.

It may be mentioned that human fertility depends upon several factors like level of Female literacy/education, economic status of the family, residence (urban/rural), status of women in society, infant mortality rate, access to public health facilities and contraception etc. The decadal increase in population by religion reflected in the 1991 census is a macro-level picture and an in-depth analysis, isolating other factors contributing to this, would be required before drawing a co-relation between fertility/increase in population and religion.

Statement

Total Population and Population of Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Buddhists, Zoroastrian/Zoroastrianism (Parsi) and their proportion to total population for India, States/Union Territories as per the 1971 and 1991 Censuses

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Census Year	Total Population	Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Buddhists	Zoroastrian/ Zoroastrianism (Parsi)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I	India (excluding Jammu & Kashmir)	1991	838,583,988	687,646,721	101,596,057	19,640,284	6,387,500	76,382
			100.00	82.00	12.12	2.34	0.76	0.01
		1971	543,543,020	542,032,338	58,378,140	14,217,863	3,816,986	91,374
			100.00	83.16	10.74	2.62	0.70	0.02
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1991	66,508,008	59,281,950	5,923,954	1,216,348	22,153	439
			100.00	89.14	8.91	1.83	0.03	0.00
		1971	43,502,708	38,119,279	3,520,166	1,823,436	10,035	486
			100.00	87.63	8.09	4.19	0.02	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1991	864,558 100.00	320,212 37.04	11,922 1.38	89,013 10.30	111,372 12.88	— —
		1971	467,511 100.00	102,832 22.00	842 0.18	3,684 0.79	61,400 13.13	— —
3.	Assam	1991	22,414,322 100.00	15,047,293 67.13	6,373,204 28.43	744,367 3.32	64,008 0.29	4 0.00
		1971	14,625,152 100.00	10,604,618 72.51	3,592,124 24.56	381,010 2.61	22,565 0.15	1 0.00
4.	Bihar	1991	86,374,465 100.00	71,193,417 82.42	12,787,985 14.81	843,717 0.98	3,518 0.00	185 0.00
		1971	56,353,369 100.00	47,031,801 83.46	7,594,173 13.48	658,717 1.17	4,806 0.01	495 0.00
5.	Goa	1991	1,169,793 100.00	756,621 64.68	61,455 5.25	349,225 29.85	240 0.02	170 0.01
		1971	795,120 100.00	496,389 62.43	26,480 3.33	270,126 33.97	260 0.03	135 0.02
6.	Gujarat	1991	41,309,582 100.00	36,964,228 89.48	3,606,920 8.73	181,753 0.44	11,615 0.03	12,924 0.03
		1971	26,697,475 100.00	23,835,471 89.28	2,249,055 8.42	109,341 0.41	5,469 0.02	15,131 0.06
7.	Haryana	1991	16,463,648 100.00	14,686,512 89.21	763,775 4.64	15,699 0.10	2,058 0.01	— —
		1971	10,036,808 100.00	8,956,310 89.23	405,723 4.04	9,802 0.10	845 0.01	5 0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1991	5,170,877 100.00	4,958,560 95.89	89,134 1.72	4,435 0.09	64,081 1.24	37 0.00
		1971	3,460,434 100.00	3,324,627 96.08	50,327 1.45	3,556 0.10	35,937 1.04	51 0.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1991	Census could not be conducted due to disturbed conditions.					
		1971	4,616,632 100.00	1,404,292 30.42	3,040,129 65.85	7,182 0.16	57,956 1.26	4 0.00
10.	Karnataka	1991	44,977,201 100.00	38,432,027 85.45	5,234,023 11.64	859,478 1.91	73,012 0.16	568 0.00
		1971	29,299,014 100.00	25,332,388 86.46	3,113,296 10.63	613,026 2.09	14,139 0.05	344 0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11. Kerala	1991	29,098,518	16,668,587	6,788,364	5,621,510	223	205	
		100.00	57.28	23.33	19.32	0.00	0.00	
	1971	21,347,375	12,683,277	4,162,718	4,494,089	605	46	
		100.00	59.41	19.50	21.05	0.00	0.00	
12. Madhya Pradesh	1991	66,181,170	61,412,898	3,282,800	426,598	216,667	92	
		100.00	92.80	4.96	0.64	0.33	0.00	
	1971	41,654,119	39,024,162	1,815,685	286,072	81,823	736	
		100.00	93.69	4.36	0.69	0.20	0.00	
13. Maharashtra	1991	78,937,187	64,033,213	7,628,755	885,030	5,040,785	60,501	
		100.00	81.12	9.66	1.12	6.39	0.08	
	1971	50,412,235	41,307,287	4,233,023	717,174	3,264,223	72,266	
		100.00	81.94	8.40	1.42	6.48	0.14	
14. Manipur	1991	1,837,149	1,059,470	133,535	626,669	711	—	
		100.00	57.67	7.27	34.11	0.04	—	
	1971	1,072,753	623,597	70,969	279,243	495	2	
		100.00	58.97	6.62	26.03	0.05	0.00	
15. Meghalaya	1991	1,774,774	260,306	61,462	1,146,092	2,934	13	
		100.00	14.67	3.46	64.58	0.17	0.00	
	1971	1,011,699	187,140	26,347	475,267	1,878	6	
		100.00	18.50	2.60	46.98	0.19	0.00	
16. Mizoram	1991	689,756	34,788	4,538	591,342	54,024	--	
		100.00	5.04	0.66	85.73	7.83	—	
	1971	332,390	21,229	1,882	286,141	22,647	—	
		100.00	6.39	0.57	86.09	6.81	—	
17. Nagaland	1991	1,209,546	122,473	20,642	1,057,940	581	—	
		100.00	10.13	1.71	87.47	0.05	—	
	1971	516,449	59,031	2,966	344,798	179	—	
		100.00	11.43	0.57	66.76	0.03	—	
18. Orissa	1991	31,659,736	29,971,257	577,775	666,220	9,153	10	
		100.00	94.67	1.82	2.10	0.03	0.00	
	1971	21,944,615	21,121,056	326,507	378,888	8,462	2	
		100.00	96.25	1.49	1.73	0.04	0.00	
19. Punjab	1991	20,281,969	6,989,226	239,401	225,163	24,830	30	
		100.00	34.46	1.18	1.11	0.12	0.00	
	1971	13,551,060	5,087,235	114,447	162,202	1,374	1	
		100.00	37.54	0.84	1.20	0.01	0.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
20.	Rajasthan	1991	44,005,990	39,201,099	3,525,339	47,989	4,467	—
			100.00	89.08	8.01	0.11	0.01	—
		1971	25,765,806	23,093,895	1,778,275	30,202	3,642	281
			100.00	89.63	6.90	0.12	0.01	0.00
21.	Sikkim	1991	406,457	277,881	3,849	13,413	110,371	15
			100.00	68.37	0.95	3.30	27.15	0.00
		1971	209,843	144,544	335	1,663	62,617	—
			100.00	68.88	0.16	0.79	29.84	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	1991	55,858,946	49,532,052	3,052,717	3,179,410	2,128	153
			100.00	88.67	5.47	5.69	0.00	0.00
		1971	41,199,168	36,674,150	2,103,899	2,367,749	1,148	75
			100.00	89.02	5.11	5.75	0.00	0.00
23.	Tripura	1991	2,757,205	2,384,934	196,495	46,472	128,260	—
			100.00	86.50	7.13	1.69	4.65	—
		1971	1,556,342	1,393,689	103,962	15,713	42,285	—
			100.00	89.55	6.68	1.01	2.72	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1991	139,112,287	113,712,829	24,109,684	199,575	221,433	389
			100.00	81.74	17.33	0.14	0.16	0.00
		1971	88,341,144	73,997,597	13,676,533	131,810	39,639	387
			100.00	83.76	15.48	0.15	0.04	0.00
25.	West Bengal	1991	68,077,965	50,866,624	16,075,836	383,477	203,578	512
			100.00	74.72	23.61	0.56	0.30	0.00
		1971	44,312,011	34,611,864	9,064,338	251,752	121,504	585
			100.00	78.11	20.46	0.57	0.27	0.00
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1991	280,661	189,521	21,354	67,211	322	3
			100.00	67.53	7.61	23.95	0.11	0.00
		1971	115,133	70,134	11,655	30,342	103	2
			100.00	60.92	10.12	26.35	0.09	0.00
2.	Chandigarh	1991	642,015	486,895	17,477	5,030	699	9
			100.00	75.84	2.72	0.78	0.11	0.00
		1971	257,251	184,395	3,720	2,504	92	5
			100.00	71.68	1.45	0.97	0.04	0.00
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1991	138,477	132,213	3,341	2,092	200	78
			100.00	95.48	2.41	1.51	0.14	0.06
		1971	74,170	71,075	740	1,918	73	19
			100.00	95.83	1.00	2.59	0.10	0.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4.	Daman & Diu	1991	101,586	89,153	9,048	2,904	31	—
			100.00	87.76	8.91	2.86	0.03	—
		1971	62,651	54,093	5,770	2,383	—	—
			100.00	86.34	9.21	3.80	(—)	—
5.	Delhi	1991	9,420,644	7,892,164	889,641	83,152	13,906	41
			100.00	83.67	9.44	0.88	0.15	0.00
		1971	4,065,698	3,407,835	263,019	43,720	8,720	302
			100.00	83.82	6.47	1.08	0.21	0.01
6.	Lakshdweep	1991	51,707	2,337	48,765	598	1	1
			100.00	4.52	94.31	1.16	0.00	0.00
		1971	31,810	1,545	30,019	239	—	—
			100.00	4.86	94.37	0.75	—	—
7.	Pondicherry	1991	807,785	695,981	52,867	58,362	39	3
			100.00	86.16	6.54	7.22	0.00	0.00
		1971	471,707	400,793	29,143	41,296	21	11
			100.00	84.97	6.18	8.75	0.00	0.00

- Notes:**
1. No Census was conducted in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991 due to disturbed conditions.
 2. Total Population includes figures of 'Sikhs', 'Jains', 'Other Religions and Persuasions' and 'Religion Not Stated'.
 3. 'Figures of Zoroastrian/Zoroastrianism (Parsi) in respect of Daman & Diu have been shown against Goa.
 4. Percentage to total population for each religion has been given below the absolute figures.

[English]

Price of Essential Commodities

1059. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is steep increase in the prices of essential commodities viz. Wheat, Rice, Mango, Banana, Coffee, Tea and others during the last four months;

(b) if so, the percentage increase in the prices of the said commodities during the said period;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to check the increase in the prices of essential commodities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS

PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the last four months there was a marginal increase in the general level of prices of commodities as represented by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) numbers of all commodities. Percentage variations in the wholesale price indices of rice, wheat, mango, banana, coffee, tea and all commodities during the past 4 months ending 5.7.97 (between the 8.3.97 and 5.7.97) are as under:—

Rice	:	3.7
Wheat	:	— 18.3
Mango	:	0.0
Banana	:	10.1
Coffee	:	1.2
Tea	:	36.3
All commodities	:	1.2

(c) and (d) The Government has been taking a number of steps to control the prices of essential commodities. Apart from certain long term measures to increase the production of essential commodities, imports of commodities which are in short supply are encouraged to augment the availability of these items. Some of the commodities are also supplied through the Public Distribution System and Cooperative Stores at prices which are below market levels. Stringent actions are being taken against hoarders and black marketeers and others indulging in unfair trade practices under the Essential Commodities Act and Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act by the State/UT Governments.

Project on Street Children

1060. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined any project on street children with a view to educate and rehabilitate them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage at which the project stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (c) The Scheme for Welfare of Street Children is an ongoing programme of the Government which aims to provide integrated community based non-institutional basic services for the care, protection and development of Street Children facing destitution, neglect, abuse and exploitation. Under the Scheme Grants in aid upto 90% of the cost of the project are provided to Non-Governmental Organisations for establishing projects for 300 Street Children each. The essential components of each Project include provision of nutrition, literacy, vocational training, counselling and preventive health services to Street Children. The Scheme is currently being implemented in 23 cities of the country.

Cultivation of Black Pepper

1061. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the cultivation of black pepper;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any research has been made on "Silt Wilt" which is affecting the black pepper cultivation; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is implementing a scheme on integrated programme for development of spices at an outlay of Rs. 1123.75 lakhs for black pepper development during the year 1997-98. The scheme includes programmes on production and distribution of quality planting material, rehabilitation of old pepper gardens, adoption of plant protection measures and transfer of technology through demonstration etc.

(c) and (d) There is no Silt-Wilt disease in black pepper. However, there is a slow wilt disease affecting black pepper. The research findings have suggested following control measures:

- (I) Selective application of Phorate @ 30 gram/Vine twice a year reduce the disease severely.
- (II) Application of Neem Cake @ 1 Kg/Vine also improves the health of the Vine, continuous application of organics would reduce the pathogen population.
- (III) Raising of a hygienic nursery ensuring disease free rooted cuttings is the recommended strategy.
- (IV) For *Phytophthora Capsici* drenching the base of the pepper vines with cooper Oxchloride (0.2%) during pre- and Post-Monsoon period is recommended to reduce the disease.
- (V) Foliar spraying with Bordeaux mixture (1%) to check foliar infection caused by *P. Capsici* is also recommended.

Installation of Bore Wells and Hand-Pumps in Tamil Nadu

1062. SHRI P. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any delay in the relief work in the Southern districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the total fund allocation during the current year for installing bore wells in Dindigul and Kamaraj districts; and

(d) the time by which the remaining work concerning the repair of the hand-pump and bore wells is expected to be completed for the benefit of parched people in the Southern districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No report has been received about any delay in relief work in the Southern districts of Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government, the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment provide grants to the State Government under a Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Rs. 52.47 crores has been released during 1996-97 and Rs. 18.94 crores during 1997-98 to Tamil Nadu under the Programme. The district-wise/scheme-wise allocation under the Programme are decided by the State Government and the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment do not keep the district-wise information.

Atrocities on SC/ST

1063. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR :
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have record of atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons killed and injured in these incidents and the number of incidents of rape and burning of houses during the last three years;

(d) the details of the convictions;

(e) the nature of protection, relief and rehabilitation provided to the victims or the families of the victims; and

(f) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such recurrence in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Available information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The information relating to number of persons killed or injured incident-wise is not separately maintained at Central level. However, the information about incidents of rape and burning of houses (arson) of SCs/STs during the last three years is given here below:

	S.C's		S.T.'s	
	Rape	Arson	Rape	Arson
1994	992	533	385	36
1995	872	500	369	40
1996	922	441	302	45

(d) The information pertaining to convictions of accused persons in cases relating to SCs/STs is not maintained separately by the Central Government.

(e) and (f) It is essentially for the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to devise such measures and programmes as are necessary to provide protection, relief & rehabilitation to the victims of atrocities. It is also for the State Govts./Union Territory Administrations to prevent recurrence of incidents of atrocities against SCs/ STs.

The Central Government on its own part, has been sending advisories to the State Governments on the subject and is providing financial assistance to not only improve the policing infrastructure but also to set up Special Courts for quicker disposal of cases relating to SCs/STs.

Statement*Incidence of Crimes Committed Against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1994 to 1996*

S. No.	States	Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes		
		1994	1995	1996	1994	1995	1996
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1202	1764	1629	193	165	252
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	2	2	5
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	789	747	NA	103	232	NA
5.	Goa	2	4	1	0	0	0
6.	Gujarat	1936	1724	1764	430	486	369
7.	Haryana	66	82	63	1	0	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	82	82	66	1	5	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	25	17	0	8	6
10.	Karnataka	957	1171	1089	67	96	180
11.	Kerala	657	696	640	148	185	122
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3745	3979	4075	1774	1690	1466
13.	Maharashtra	1475	1622	1352	446	505	337
14.	Manipur	2	1	0	0	2	0
15.	Meghalaya	0	2	0	1	2	1
16.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Nagaland	1	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Orissa	497	329	486	183	143	179
19.	Punjab	9	8	12	1	4	1
20.	Rajasthan	4797	5197	6623	1396	1784	1393
21.	Sikkim	21	33	14	22	40	46
22.	Tamil Nadu	1449	1293	1812	144	40	85
23.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16166	14205	10963	97	105	336
25.	West Bengal	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total (States)		33868	32964	30606	5009	5494	4782

UNION TERRITORIES :

26.	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Chandigarh	14	0	0	0	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	3	0	0	9	3	1
29.	Daman & Diu	0	2	NA	0	1	NA
30.	Delhi	7	6	11	1	0	0
31.	Lakshdweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	16	24	13	0	0	0
Total (UTs)		40	32	24	10	4	1
Total (All India)		33908	32996	30630	5019	5498	4783

Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy

1064. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are going to introduce Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the pricing policy for the herbal manufacturing drug in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) 'Modifications in Drug Policy, 86', were announced in September, 1994 and based on that Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy is already in existence.

(c) Existing pricing policy covers drugs used only for Allopathic medicines.

[Translation]

Death of Animals

1065. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether death of animals have taken place in Kamla Nehru Zoological Park, Indore under mysterious circumstances;

(b) if so, whether any investigation has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action taken against the guilty persons and the steps being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) On the night of 12th February, 1995, one dog manage to enter the chinkara enclosure. Consequently, 7 chinkaras died. The dog has reported to have killed 2 chinkaras and remaining chinkaras died due to shock and trauma.

(b) and (c) The preliminary enquiry revealed neglect of duty by night chowkidars. The matter has been handed over to police for enquiry.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Three night chowkidars and one supervisor have been suspended and the daily wages personnel removed from work. The Zoo has taken initiatives to appoint Ex-Army service men for security purposes. One Assistant Engineer has been posted for looking after the maintenance of the enclosures.

Paddy and Cotton Prices

1066. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem under captioned "Akalies, farmer unhappy over hike in paddy cotton prices" appearing in the 'Observer' dated July 3, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to bring the Pusa-44 variety in the super fine category;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether this variety is being treated in different categories in different States;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the action taken by the Government to include this variety in the super fine variety in all the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) In order to maintain uniformity, the Government of India from 1979-80 onwards had decided to adopt existing norms of classification of paddy/rice varieties grown in India on the basis of Balasubramanian Committee's recommendations and only three groups viz. Superfine, Fine and Common were introduced based on the length/breadth ratio for the purpose of classification of paddy/rice varieties. The paddy/rice varieties having natural aroma were kept in a separate group namely 'Scented' irrespective of their length/breadth ratio. Apart from the above norms of classification there is an in-built mechanism in the form of 'Admixture of lower classes' in the uniform specification of paddy and rice which also plays an important role in so far as the classifications of paddy/rice varieties are concerned.

On the basis of these norms the Pusa-44 variety of paddy/rice stands classified as Fine in the State of Punjab and accordingly this variety was considered to be fine variety by procurement agencies during 1996-97.

In this regard the Govt. of India use to clarify to all State Governments/U.T.s while forwarding the Uniform Specifications of paddy, rice and kharif coarse grains every year including 1996-97 that the procurement of the grains may be ensured by all of them strictly in accordance with the uniform specifications so as to avoid any problem/complaint during storage and subsequent issues to the public.

[English]

Fire Incidents Due to Short Circuits

1067. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Lapton per betha Mahanagar" appearing in 'Dainik Jagaran' dated May 28, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter; and

(d) the number of major fire incidents caused by electric short circuits in the country during the last three years including the year 1997 so far, State-wise and year-wise with special reference to Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The news item refers, inter alia, to major fires in the recent past in Delhi and gives analysis of the possible causes of these incidents.

As fire is a State subject, it is essentially for the State Governments to take such measures as are necessary to prevent incidents such as those mentioned in the news item. The Central Government, however, on its part has been providing advisories, training facilities and financial assistance to the States to strengthen their infrastructure relating to Fire Services. The Government does not maintain figures of 'causewise' incidents of fire centrally.

[Translation]

Cases Pending Under Consumer Courts

1068. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI RAMSAGAR :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending before the State Consumer's Grievances Redressal Commission till date, level-wise and State-wise and the period of their pendency;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to dispose of these cases expeditiously; and

(c) the number of cases in which the Commission has taken action during each of the last three years and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) A statement showing the number of cases pending before the Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions, State-wise, as reported by the States/UTs is attached.

(b) Some of the steps taken by the Central Government for speedy disposal of the pending cases by the Consumer Courts are as follows:—

(i) To strengthen the infrastructure of the Consumer Courts, Central Government has provided one-time grant of Rs. 54.62 crores to the States/UTs during 1995-97.

(ii) Central/State Governments and the National Commission are regularly monitoring the working of the Consumer Courts.

(iii) State/UT Governments have been requested to fill up the vacancies of Members/Presidents of various Consumer Courts on priority basis.

(iv) Central Government has written to the State Governments to hold periodical meetings with the Presidents of the Consumer Courts to monitor and expedite the disposal of the cases.

(c) The details of the total number of cases filed and action taken by various courts for disposal since inception are given at the Statement. Separate year-wise figures are not maintained.

Statement*Disposal of cases by State Commissions*

State/UTs	Number of Cases/Complaints			
	File since Inception	Disposed of Since Inception	Pending cases	At the end of
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	7719	6118	1601	Feb-97
Arunachal Pradesh	14	10	4	Jan-97
Assam	657	271	386	Apr-96
Bihar	3165	1572	1593	Dec-97
Goa	621	514	107	Dec-97
Gujarat	4663	3778	885	Jan-97
Haryana	4889	3504	1385	May-97
Himachal Pradesh	1502	1108	394	Feb-97
Jammu & Kashmir	51	9	42	Dec-96
Karnataka	4499	3106	1393	Aug-96
Kerala	8619	7803	816	May-97
Madhya Pradesh	3143	2254	889	Dec-95
Maharashtra	8561	6366	2195	Dec-96
Manipur	33	18	15	Sep-95

1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	29	10	19	Dec-96
Mizoram	11	11	0	Jan-97
Nagaland	4	0	4	Sep-94
Orissa	4620	2287	2333	Dec-96
Punjab	2514	1487	1027	May-97
Rajasthan	12087	4588	7499	Feb-97
Sikkim	12	10	2	May-97
Tamil Nadu	8140	6305	1835	Apr-97
Tripura	253	155	98	Mar-97
Uttar Pradesh	14879	3772	11107	Dec-96
West Bengal	3691	1208	2483	Dec-96
A & N Island	12	11	1	May-97
Chandigarh Admn.	1306	1183	123	May-97
D & N Haveli	0	0	0	Nov-96
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	Sep-94
Delhi	6639	4710	1929	Mar-97
Lakshdweep	7	7	0	Mar-97
Pondicherry	388	302	86	Jun-97
Total:	102728	62477	40251	

*[English]***Women Prisoners in Tihar Jail**

1069. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women prisoners in Tihar Jail;
- (b) their break-up in life convicts, term convicts and undertrials;
- (c) whether the women's enclosure in the jail is overcrowded;
- (d) whether the Government propose to construct an exclusive women's jail in Delhi; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The number of women prisoners lodged in the Central Jail, Tihar as on 16.7.97 was 400, with the following break-up:

Life convicts	:	34
Term convicts	:	15
Undertrials	:	347
Detenues	:	04
Total		400

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) and (e) Yes, Sir. A new jail with a capacity of 450 earmarked exclusively for women prisoners is under construction in the Tihar Jail Complex.

*[Translation]***Price of Sugarcane**

1070. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the price of sugarcane is announced by the Union Government and the State Governments separately in the country at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the norms on which the price of sugarcane is fixed;

(c) whether the sugarcane producers have to suffer heavy losses due to announcement of two different prices for sugarcane in the country;

(d) if so, the prospective policy of the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government propose to reconsider the present policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) As per clause 3 of the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966, the Government of India announces every year the Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of Sugarcane. Most of the State Governments also advise sugar factories to pay cane prices known as State Advised Prices (SAP). SMP of Sugarcane is being determined taking into account the recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) The Government have set up a High Powered Committee interalia to study the Laws and rules and regulations relating to sugar, sugarcane and sugar industry, to suggest methods for increasing production of sugarcane and ways to ensure fair and remunerative prices to sugarcane growers.

Voluntary Organisations in Maharashtra

1071. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grant or financial assistance has been provided to voluntary organisations in Gujarat and Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the organisations benefited therefrom;

(c) whether some organisations have not submitted their accounts and reports regularly;

(d) if so, the details of such organisations; and

(e) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the grant in aid released to the voluntary organisations in Gujarat and Maharashtra

during last three years are given in the attached Statement.

(c) to (e) No grant in aid is released to any voluntary organisation for subsequent year until and unless audited statement of accounts for previous year is received.

Statement

MAHARASHTRA

Financial Assistance from Scheduled Caste Development

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Organisations	Amount released during		
		1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Servants of India Society	30.98	34.74	—
2.	Padamshree Annasaheb Jadhav Bharatiya Samaj Unnati Mandal	14.68	14.75	—
3.	Bharatiya Adimajati Sevak Sangh	0.68	0.41	0.83
4.	Akhil Bharatiya Magasvargiya Samaj Prabodhan Sansthan	2.68	0.56	0.37
5.	Navalbhou Pratisthan	2.68	0.56	0.37
6.	National Institute of Women, Child and Youth Development	0.53	1.11	2.40
7.	Ahilyadevi Mahila Mandali	0.21	0.21	—

Financial Assistance from Social Defence

PROGRAMME RELATED TO AGED :

1.	WK Bhagini Sewa Mandal, Dhule	1.32	3.69	3.45
2.	Mukat Dwar Unnati Mandal, Jalgaon	1.92	—	3.13
3.	Janki Bhai Trust, Dhule	0.94	1.57	1.56
4.	Rashtrasant Tukdoji Maharaj Technical & Edcn Society	0.67	1.95	1.34

1	2	3	4	5
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PROGRAMME RELATED TO STREET CHILDREN:

1.	Salam Balak Trust, Bombay	3.51	5.07	10.45
2.	SUPPORT, Bombay	5.49	3.70	4.99
3.	Tata Instt. of Social Sciences, Bombay	2.34	1.17	0.14
4.	Youth for Unity Voluntary Action, Bombay	3.06	2.75	—
5.	Vatsalya Nirmala Niketan, Bombay	8.02	—	—
6.	CASP, Bombay	5.42	—	—
7.	Deptt. of Continuing & Adult Edcn. & Extension Works, Pune	5.65	—	—
8.	Apang Va Niradhar Enuddesiya Kalyan Kare Sansthan, Nagpur	0.62	3.70	—
9.	Samaj Kalyan Mandal, Jagpur	0.62	3.70	—
10.	Society for Promotion Area Resources Centre, Bombay	3.35	—	—

PROGRAMME FOR PROHIBITION & DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION:

1.	Bharatiya Adimjati Sangh, Nagpur	2.52	2.70	1.39
2.	Ganesh Shikshan Prasar Mandal, Dist. Latur	0.86	2.57	2.57
3.	International Mission Dr. Ambedkar Edcn Society, Nagpur	1.56	2.67	0.73
4.	Instt. of Psychologically Handicapped, Thane	0.66	0.88	1.10
5.	Kalyan Edcn Society, Nagpur	0.87	0.84	2.02
6.	Kripa Foundation, Mumbai	11.70	9.33	11.77
7.	Mahabodhi Edcn Society, Bandra	0.87	2.40	2.56
8.	MSS Instt. of Social Work, Nagpur	—	—	—
9.	Muktangan Mitra, Pune	15.82	7.45	14.19
10.	New Friends Suvichar Edcn Society, Nagpur	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Parivarthan De-addiction Instt., Satara City	0.66	2.57	2.57
12.	Rashtriya Vidnyan Manch, Jalgaon	7.05	8.74	6.69
13.	SEVA DHAN, Mumbai	11.09	9.05	9.31
14.	Sarva Seva Sangh, Pune	2.04	1.08	—
15.	Samyak Deep Vichar Manch, Mumbai	1.52	1.18	—
16.	Shaheed Abdul Hamid Edcn Society, Dist: Yavatmal	—	—	—
17.	Veer Arjun Yuvak Mandal, Nagpur	2.57	2.62	2.76
18.	Yugantar Edcn Society, Nagpur	0.67	1.09	—
19.	Yuva Shakti Pratishthan, Mumbai	—	—	—
20.	Ahiladevi Mahila Mandal, Nagpur	—	0.44	—
21.	National Addiction Research Centre, Mumbai	—	—	1.47

PROGRAMME FOR ORGANISATIONAL ASSISTANCE:

1.	Balgram SOS Childrens Villages, Pune	0.50	0.50	—
2.	Suhrud Mandal, Pune	0.25	0.75	—
3.	National Asscn. for the Blind, Nasik	0.25	—	0.25
4.	National Federation of the Blind, Bombay	1.00	0.75	0.25
5.	National Society for Equal Oppor- tunities for the Handicapped, Mumbai	0.75	—	—
6.	Karve Instt. of Social Service, Pune	0.50	—	—
7.	College of Social Work, Bombay	1.00	—	—
8.	Indian Council for Social Welfare, Bombay	—	—	0.92

1	2	3	4	5
CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AGENCY (CARA):				
1.	Shri Sharaddhanand Anathalaya Society, Nagpur	3.09	2.41	—
2.	M/s Balwant Kaur Anand Memorial Society, Pune	4.03	1.96	4.01
3.	M/s Adharashram, Nasik	1.20	1.85	—
4.	M/s Peoples Education Society, Buldana	2.33	1.08	—
5.	M/s Balvikas Mahila Mandal, Latur	1.54	2.13	3.60
6.	M/s Vatsalaya Trust, Bombay	2.37	2.17	1.10
7.	M/s Dnyan Gangotri Edcn Society, Latur	1.54	1.30	3.90
8.	M/s Shraddhanand Mahila Ashram, Bombay	—	—	—
9.	M/s Pankaj Bahu Uddeshiya Sikshan Sansthan, Bandra	1.63	1.16	2.17
10.	M/s District Probation and After Care Asscn, Kolhapur	0.55	—	0.79
11.	Swargya Sudan Pingale Memorial Trust, Dhule	0.53	—	—
12.	M/s Pramod Nagar Shashnik and Sanskrit Trust, Dhule	0.53	—	—
13.	M/s Sant Narhari Education Society, Dhule	0.53	—	—
14.	M/s. Apang & Kustharogi Swavlamban Sanstha, Dhule	0.53	1.40	—
15.	M/s Sandhi Niketan Shikshan Sanstha, Latur	0.53	—	3.18
PROGRAMME RELATED TO WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED:				
1.	NASEOH, Bombay	2.00	2.00	1.00
2.	Ayodhya Charitable Trust, Pune	5.00	2.50	1.25

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Fellowship of the Physically Handicapped, Bombay	0.30	0.15	—
4.	Indian Cancer Society, Bombay	1.50	0.80	0.75
5.	AYJNIHH, Bombay	43.49	7.00	—
6.	Society for the Welfare of Physically Handicapped, Pune	0.30	—	—
7.	National Asscn for the Blind, Nasik	0.03	0.02	0.01
8.	Artificial Limbs Centre, Pune	—	1.00	—
9.	Sushrut Medical Care & Research Centre, Pune	2.87	—	1.90
10.	Helpers of the Handicapped, Kolhapur	0.91	0.90	0.45
11.	UDHAR, Nagpur	—	—	10.00

PROGRAMME RELATED TO WELFARE OF MINORITIES:

1.	Anjuman-e-Taraqqui Taleem, Nasik	1.00	1.35	—
2.	Anjuman E Islam, Mumbai	3.69	—	—
3.	SHAD Adam Shaikh Trust, Mumbai	2.34	—	—
4.	Maharashtra Cosmo Edcn Society, Pune	1.00	—	—
5.	Marathwada Instt., Aurangabad	—	1.00	—

Financial Assistance from Scheduled Tribes Development

1.	BAIF Development Research Foundation, Pune	—	2.84	—
2.	Sevadham Trust, Pune	0.88	0.70	—
3.	Servants of India Society, Pune	29.69	10.90	10.86
4.	ABM Samaj Prabodhan Sanstha, Dist. Thane	20.77	21.58	25.29
5.	Navalbhou Pratisthan, Dist. Dhule	2.97	1.48	—
6.	National Instt. of Women and Child Youth Development, Nagpur	2.66	3.23	2.74
7.	Gram Bai Shiksha Kendra, Dist. Raigad	—	0.68	5.91

1	2	3	4	5
GUJARAT				
<i>Financial Assistance from Scheduled Caste Development</i>				
1.	Harijan Sevak Sangh	7.14	6.22	5.78
<i>Financial Assistance from Social Defence</i>				
PROGRAMME RELATED TO AGED:				
1.	Rachnatmak Abhigam Trust, Ahmedabad	1.32	0.66	1.98
2.	Gujarat Kelavani Trust, Ahmedabad	2.02	1.08	3.23
PROGRAMME RELATED TO STREET CHILDREN:				
1.	Akhand Jyot Foundation, Ahmedabad	6.90	7.20	6.71
2.	Indian Council for Social Welfare, Ahmedabad	7.39	3.70	11.09
3.	Rachnatmak Abhigam Trust, Ahmedabad	7.39	7.40	7.39
4.	Baroda Citizen Council, Baroda	0.62	3.39	—
5.	Vikas Jyot Trust, Baroda	0.62	3.35	6.67
PROGRAMME RELATED TO DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION:				
1.	Gujarat Kelavani Trust, Ahmedabad	11.83	11.72	10.42
2.	Indian Council for Social Welfare, Ahmedabad	2.80	1.40	—
3.	Nashabandhi Mandal, Ahmedabad	19.36	11.23	10.47
4.	Rachnatmak Abhigam Trust, Ahmedabad	2.69	2.73	2.73
5.	SC Patel Trust, Baroda	7.04	6.47	6.53
PROGRAMME RELATED TO ORGANISATIONAL ASSISTANCE:				
1.	Mangal Gram Seva Nidhi, Distt. Vadodara	0.46	—	0.38
2.	Jyoti Sangh, Ahmedabad	0.50	1.00	—
3.	Gujarat State Crime Prevention Trust, Ahmedabad	1.00	—	—
4.	Akhand Jyot Foundation, Ahmedabad	0.50	0.50	—
5.	Baroda Citizens Council, Baroda	0.50	0.25	—
6.	Indian Council for Social Welfare, Ahmedabad	0.25	0.50	0.25
7.	Vikas Vidyalaya, Wadhwan City	0.18	0.43	0.25
8.	Blind Men's Association, Ahmedabad	0.50	0.50	0.25
9.	Gujarat Raktpitt Nivaran Seva Sangh	—	0.75	—

1	2	3	4	5
CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AGENCY (CARA):				
1.	M/s. Tapibai R. Gandhi Vikas Gruha, Bhavnagar	0.53	—	—
2.	M/s. Vikash Vidyalaya, Wadhwan City	0.53	1.62	2.03
3.	M/s. Shri Shishumangal Trust, Junagarh	0.53	1.41	—
4.	M/s. Kathiawar Nirashrit Balashram, Rajkot.	0.53	1.20	1.11
PROGRAMME RELATED TO WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED:				
1.	V-one Society, Vadodara	4.47	1.47	—
2.	Manav Daya Trust, Surat	0.25	—	—
3.	KL Instt. of Deaf, Bhavnagar	10.62	5.31	2.65
4.	Medical Care Centre, Vadodara	7.60	7.60	6.00
5.	Blind Men's Asscn.	34.00	34.00	6.00
PROGRAMME RELATED TO WELFARE OF MINORITIES:				
1.	Anjuman E Talimi Idara Charitable Trust, Bharuch	2.97	—	—
2.	Makhdam Edcn Society, Surat	1.50	—	—
3.	Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidya Nagar	1.00	—	—
4.	North Gujarat University, Patan	1.00	—	—
<i>Financial Assistance From Scheduled Tribes Development</i>				
1.	Bharat Sevashram Sangh, Ahmedabad	0.82	1.08	1.12
2.	Zarpan Nasarpur Vibhag, Surat	1.54	—	—
3.	Shree Sarvodaya Ashram, Dist. Banaskantha	2.10	7.88	1.92
4.	Shri Manilal Gangadas Patel Sarvodaya Kendra, Dist. Banaskantha	7.04	3.10	1.97
5.	Gram Swaraj Sangh, Dist: Kutch	5.29	2.55	1.69
6.	Smt. Sushila Ben Manilal Sanghvir Memorial Charitable Trust, Dist: Kutch	4.97	3.11	1.75
7.	Lok Niketan, Dist: Banaskantha	4.84	5.86	1.44

Expenditure on VVIPs Security

1072. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are concerned with the huge funds being spent on the security of VVIPs in the country;

(b) if so, the total amount spent on the security of VVIPs during 1996-97;

(c) whether the Government are considering to curtail expenditure on security of VVIPs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Since Public Order and Police are State subjects, responsibility for providing security to the persons residing/present within their jurisdiction is that of the concerned State/UT. As such no information about expenditure incurred by different States on VVIP security is available with MHA or maintained. However, during 1996-97 Delhi Police incurred an expenditure of Rs. 9.55 crores for the security of the VVIPs. It is not possible to give the exact figures of expenditure incurred by SPG on the security of the PM as some items of expenditure like administrative infrastructure, training facilities, certain types of equipment, vehicles are common for the security of Prime Minister as well as for the security of former Prime Ministers. The approximate expenditure incurred on the security of PM and his family members by SPG during 1996-97 was Rs. 13.21 crores.

(c) and (d) Government have recently reviewed the security of the VVIPs and have taken certain measures to reduce the expenditure on the security of VVIPs further. The security of the VVIPs remain constantly under review and necessary changes are made/introduced from time to time.

[English]

Super Bazar

1073. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Super Bazar has a panel of lawyers and senior counsels to deal with its cases apart from its Law officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof with schedule fees for each such advocate; and

(c) the number of cases handled by such advocates during each of the last three years against its own law officers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, it has a panel of four lawyers/advocates besides having one law officer and one legal assistant in their employment, to deal with legal matters in Super Bazar. Services of specialists/senior advocates are availed of by the Super Bazar as and when need arises.

(b) Details of advocates on panel of Super Bazar alongwith the schedule of their fees are given in attached statement.

(c) The yearwise number of cases handled by the Super Bazar's own Law Officer and the panel of their advocates/lawyers for the last three years are as under:—

Year	Panel of advocates	Own Law Officer
1994	64	57
1995	71	56
1996	66	42

Statement**Details of Advocates on Panel and the Schedule of Fees****1. Advocates on Panel of Super Bazar**

	Name	Court	Retainership Fee
(1)	Sh. R. M. Bagai	High Court	Rs. 500(P.M.)
(2)	Sh. Prag Chawla	High Court	NIL
(3)	Sh. H.L. Dassi	Distt. Courts	NIL
(4)	Sh. C.P. Puri	Criminal Courts	NIL

2. Schedule of Fees**(A) High Court**

- (i) Per effective Hearing — Rs. 1100
- (ii) Per Non-effective Hearing — Rs. 300
- (iii) Drafting Charges per case — Rs. 250

(B) Distt. Courts

- (i) Per Effective Hearing — Rs. 88
- (ii) Per Non-effective Hearing — Rs. 66
- (iii) Drafting Charges per case — Rs. 250

**3. Specialist/Senior
Advocates/Consultants**

Senior Advocates are engaged in Supreme Court in important cases. In such cases the fee payable is settled with the prior approval of competent authority on individual basis depending upon the seniority and experience of Specialist Advocate/Consultant engaged.

Inclusion of Thachar In SC/ST List

1074. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revision of SC/ST list has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the 'Thachar' community and Bagada tribe have been included in the list;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to mitigate the hardship of the members of Thachar community who had been enjoying the status of SC till 1976?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Revision of Orders specifying the Lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not yet been finalised.

(e) Benefits of Scheduled Castes can be availed of by the members of Thachar Community only when the community is included in the list of Scheduled Castes in accordance with Clause (2) of Article 341 of the Constitution of India.

Movement of Infiltrates and Insurgents

1075. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deployment of B.S.F. to guard the 839 kms long international border between Tripura and Bangladesh is adequate;

(b) if not, the number of battalions of BSF required to be deployed in Tripura for the purpose;

(c) the progress of work in fencing the Indo-Bangladesh border skirting Tripura;

(d) whether there is any plan to construct a border road from Khantlang to M.K. Para, the portion of the international border that runs along the Chittagong Hill tract of Bangladesh; and

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) The existing deployment of BSF along the Tripura sector of the Indo-Bangladesh border is not considered adequate. However, due to commitments elsewhere it has so far not been possible to augment the BSF strength in this sector.

(c) No border fencing work has so far been taken up in Tripura.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. If the proposals under consideration are approved, it is expected that the border road from Khantlang to M.K. Para will be completed by 2001 AD.

Sunderbans

1076. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply of Unstarred Question No. 3590 dated 18.3.1997 regarding Sunderbans and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected; and

(b) if not, the specific reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The assurance of Lok Sabha, Unstarred Question No. 3590 for 18.3.1997 has been complied with. The copy of the compliance report is enclosed as a *statement*.

(b) Does not arise.

Statement

Ministry of Environment and Forests

Date of Fulfillment: 20 June 1997

Q. No., Date and Name of M.P.	Brief Subject	Promise Made	When and How Fulfilled	Reasons for Delay
Q. No. 3590 for 18.3.1997 by Shri Satyajit-sinh D. Gaekwad	"SUNDERBANS" (a) whether a large chunk of the Sunderbans Sanctuary has been converted into the residential site; (b) if so, the details thereof; and (c) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the sanctuary?	(a), (b) & (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.	(a) & (b) No, Sir. How-ever, in compartments 1,2 & 3 of Herobhanga forest block under 24 Pargana Distt. (outside sanctuary) 1773 ha. of land was handed over to Refugee Relief & Rehabilitation Deptt. of West Bengal Govt., which was prior to the notification of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. (c) Intensive regular patrolling and improvement of habitat through various measures are being undertaken to protect the sanctuary areas, which include awareness generation amongst the forest fringe dwellers and involvement of local people through eco-development Committees formed in the area.	

[*Translation*]

Freedom Fighters' Pension Pending Cases

1077. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias*
PAPPU YADAV :
SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of freedom fighters' pension cases pending for more than five years, State-wise;

(b) the number of cases accepted by the Government during the last five years in respect of which certificates have been given by the freedom fighters but court records are missing or have been destroyed as per the norms fixed by the Government;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to dispose of these pending cases;

(d) whether the recommendations made by Members of Parliament are not acknowledged and the pending cases are not disposed of; and

(e) the reasons for keeping thousands of cases of the freedom fighters under pendency and whether the Government are contemplating to simplify this procedure in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) According to information available, no such application is pending with the Government.

(b) No such statistics are being maintained.

(c) Aggrieved with the decision of the Central Government in rejecting their applications for grant of pension, the applicants keep on submitting representations/ review petitions for reconsideration of their cases. Such cases are considered, if the applicants furnish additional information/acceptable documentary evidence in support of their claims. Further, the Government has set up a Special Audit Team (SAT) under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary in-charge of the Freedom Fighters Division, with two prominent freedom fighters as Members, for assisting the Government in expeditious disposal of pending cases.

(d) The communications received from the Members of Parliament are duly acknowledged and the cases forwarded by them disposed of in accordance with the extant policy.

(e) Receipt and disposal of claims for grant of pension is a continuous process. However, the Government have constituted a Joint Committee of Freedom fighters and Officials to look into various problems of freedom fighters. The functions of the Joint Committee, *inter alia*, include the review of the existing procedure for sanctioning pension.

[English]

Melghat Forests

1078. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item under the caption "Melghat forests losing animals to poachers" appearing in the "Indian Express" dated July 1, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations made and facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the provision of funds made during the current year for Melghat project and steps taken/proposed for effective implementation and monitoring of the project?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra has been requested by this Ministry to enquire into the matter and take immediate necessary steps if the news reporting is correct and intimate the out-come to this Ministry at the earliest possible date.

(d) The Annual Plan of Operation has been received by this Ministry and being processed. Monitoring and Evaluation is done by the Superior officers of the State Government and Government of India, for effective implementation of the schemes/projects.

Misuse of Para-Military Forces for Security

1079. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem Captioned "Para-Military Forces Are Being Misused for VIP Security" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated May 23, 1997;

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

(c) whether some of the VVIPs who have been provided with SPG security cover have requested the Government for its withdrawal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to manpower constraints of Delhi Police, they are utilising the services of the personnel from different para-military forces for static/mobile duties for the security of VIP/VVIPs.

(c) and (d) A request has been received from Shri V.P. Singh, former Prime Minister and his wife and Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, former Prime Minister requesting for withdrawal of SPG. The requests of the Prime Ministers are under examination. Schemes for alternative security arrangements based on latest threat perception which will be required in their cases are being drawn up.

[Translation]

Development of Food Processing Industries

1080. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :

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

(a) the quantity of fruits and vegetables being produced in the country and the percentage out of this being processed;

(b) the shortcomings in the proper development of the industry; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for encouraging its modernization keeping in view the development of food processing industries at desired level being the largest producing country of fruits and vegetables in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Production of fruits and vegetables in the country is estimated to be around 100 million tonnes. Processing of fruits and vegetables has increased from 0.5% in 1988 to 1.8% in 1996 of the total production.

(b) and (c) While there is a great potential for growth of the industry, the slow growth can be attributed to factors such as lack of post harvest processing, infrastructure, inadequate linkage between the farmers and the processors, and lack of marketing efforts etc. Government has been taking various steps for development of the Food Processing Industries including fruit and vegetable processing, which inter-alia includes liberalised policies for investment including foreign

investment, removal of restrictions thereon, and providing fiscal concessions. Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also implementing various Plan Schemes under which financial assistance is provided to State Governments/ Joint Sector/Cooperative Sector etc.

[English]

Welfare Programmes

1081. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he announced a package of programmes for the welfare of the SCs, STs, OBCs, Minorities and other socially disadvantaged groups of the States during his visit to Tripura on April 3 and 4, 1997;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) A *Statement* is enclosed.

Statement

Package Programme Announced by the Welfare Minister

Steps Taken for Implementation

1

2

1. For evolving a package of schemes for funding the rubber based development schemes for the poor tribals, SCs, OBCs, and the Minorities, a meeting will be convened in New Delhi shortly, with all concerned Ministers/Departments of the Central and the State Governments, so that the mode of funding to the schemes could be finalised. The National level financial institutions for SCs/STs, OBCs and the Minorities will be associated with funding of the schemes in suitable manner.

2. 10 Hostels for ST boys and girls will be sanctioned during 1997-98.

3. One or two tribal girls Schools will be sanctioned during the 1997-98, under the scheme of Schools for Low Female Literacy Pockets, if the norms are fulfilled.

A meeting in this regard is proposed to be convened in New Delhi with all concerned Ministers/Departments of the Central and State Govts. and the National level Finance Development Corporations for SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities.

Process for sanctioning the hostels has been initiated and sanction will be communicated shortly.

The details of the scheme called Kasturba Gandhi Swatantrata Vidyalaya is under finalisation. Residential Schools for the girls will be considered for sanction subject to fulfilment of norms.

1

2

4. The allocation of Special Central Assistance to the State of Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) areas will be increased significantly.

As a part of the North-Eastern package, the Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan for Tripura has been increased from Rs. 444.66 lakhs to Rs. 635 lakhs and the first instalment of Rs. 320 lakhs has been released. In addition an amount of Rs. 100 lakhs has been released in recognition of the State Govt. having adopted Maharashtra Model for Tribal Development.

5. At least 20 NGOs will be assisted for undertaking the schemes for welfare of weaker sections.

At present 4 NGOs from Tripura are being assisted for undertaking programmes for welfare of SCs/STs. Grant to 16 other NGOs will be considered for sanction during 1997-98 subject to the fulfilment of eligibility conditions by the NGOs.

6. 5 Old Age Homes will be sanctioned.

Proposal for sanction of five Old Age Homes have been received from the State Govt., which are under process.

7. Rs. 40.00 lakhs will be sanctioned @ Rs. 10.00 lakhs to each of the four Districts for implementation of Central Sector Scheme for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances to the handicapped persons.

DRDA South Tripura, was released a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs during 1996-97 under ADIP Scheme. Proposals received from DRDA, North Tripura and DRDA, Ambassa during current year require some more information & inputs. Both these DRDAs have been requested to forward the necessary documents. This Ministry has also written d.o. letters on 7.6.96, 31.12.96 and 9.6.97 to the State Govt. for forwarding the proposals.

8. Rs. 40.00 lakhs will be sanctioned if the State Govt. can send a proposal for the Minority educational institutions managed by the Non-Governmental Organisations.

Proposals from the State Govt. of Tripura for the Minority Educational institutions are still awaited.

[Translation]

Schemes for Tribals

1082. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any schemes for the development of Adivasis and Adivasi areas for the year 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be incurred thereon each year during the Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The schemes formulated during the previous years are being continued in 1997-98. A *statement* indicating allocation of funds under various schemes for the welfare of tribals for the year 1997-98 is enclosed.

(c) Allocation for 9th Plan is not yet finalised.

Statement**FCI Godowns in Delhi**

(Rs. in crores)		
Sl. No.	Scheme	Outlay for 1997-98
<i>Scheduled Tribe Development</i>		
1.	Special Central Assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan	330.00
2.	Grants under Proviso(1) to Article 275(1) of the Constitution	75.00
3.	Aid to Vol. Organisations for STs. Grant in aid to State Tribals	10.00
4.	Development Cooperative Corporations for MFP operations	10.00
5.	Girls Hostels for STs	4.00
6.	Boys Hostels for STs	4.00
7.	Ashram Schools in TSP areas	5.00
8.	Vocational Training in Tribal Areas	3.75
9.	Educational Complex in Low literacy Pockets for the Development of ST Girls literacy in Tribals areas	4.00
10.	Research & Training :	
(a)	Grants to Tribal Research Institutes & Award of Research Fellowships	5.75
(b)	Supporting Projects of All India or Inter State nature for STs	0.50
11.	Investment in TRIFED	23.00
12.	Price Support to TRIFED	2.00
13.	Grant in Aid to TRIFED	—
14.	Village Grain Bank	2.00
15.	Development of Primitive Tribal Groups	2.00
Total		481.00

1083. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the locations selected or proposed to be selected for construction of new godowns in Delhi under the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether the construction work of new godowns has since been started;

(c) if so, the details thereof location-wise and the time by which the said construction is likely to be completed;

(d) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(e) the locations where new godowns have been constructed during the last three years or proposed to be constructed, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (d) At present, there is no proposal to construct new godowns in Delhi, since the available capacity i.e. 3.78 lakh tonnes as on 31.5.1997 with the Food Corporation of India is adequate keeping in view the monthly allocation of foodgrains of 0.53 lakh tonnes.

(e) A list containing the locations of the State-wise godowns constructed during the last three years and the godowns which are proposed to be constructed by the Food Corporation of India during 1997-98, is attached as statement.

Statement*Locations State-wise where Godowns were Constructed during the last three years*

Year	State/Centre	Capacity constructed in MT
1	2	3
1994-95	AP/Dowleswaram	10,000
	WB/Dankuni	1,660
	Orissa/Rayagadda	5,000
	Orissa/Attābira	3,340
	Orissa/Kesinga	3,340

1	2	3
	Orissa/Umeri	5,000
	M.P./Meghnagar	5,000
	Mah./Ratnagiri	5,000
	Gujarat/Valsad	5,000
	Mizoram/Bhairabi	2,500
1995-96	Punjab/Dhuri	21,690
	Punjab/Patiala	29,180
	Karnataka/Bellary	10,000
	AP/Jammikunta	10,000
	AP/Kazipet	15,000
	AP/Zangalapalli	15,000
	MP/Neora	10,000
	Mizoram/Aizwal	4,590
	Mizoram/Bhairabi	2,500
1996-97	J&K/Srinagar	1,670
	UP/Dhamora	10,000
	UP/Roza	10,000
	UP/Dhamora	25,000
	UP/Roza	10,000
	J&K/Baramullah	5,000
	J&K/Srinagar	3,330
	HP/Kullu	1,670
	Karnataka/Tumkur	5,000
	Karnataka/Udupi	10,000
	Karnataka/Coorg	2,500

1	2	3
	Kerala/Meenangadi	5,000
	Mah./Sholapur	15,000
	MP/Dhamtari	10,000
	Bihar/Gumla	5,000
	Bihar/Katihar	25,000
	Orissa/Jharsuguda	15,000
	Orissa/Parlekhemundi	10,000
	Nagaland/Dimapur	10,000

[English]

Environmental Clearance for Highways

1084. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Express Highways proposed by the Government of Maharashtra under Privatisation Schemes, their length, estimated investment and date of submission of Project proposals for environmental clearance;

(b) the number and names of projects out of them cleared and lying pending with reasons for each of them; and

(c) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) The details of projects are given in the *statement* attached.

(c) Ministry will take a decision on these projects after receipt of requisite information from project proponents.

Statement

Details of Express Highway Projects Referred by Government of Maharashtra for Environmental Clearance under Privatisation Scheme

S. No.	Name of project	Length of Road (km)	Estimated Investment (Rs in Crores)	Referred on	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Mumbai-Pune Expressway	86.5 (Approx.)	1937.5	18.10.95	Additional information such as Bio-habitat study, impact of the project on biodiversity etc., is required to be furnished by the project proponents.

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Mumbai-Talasari Expressway	104	1400 (at 1993 schedule)	3.7.97	The project has not been submitted as per the procedure laid down and hence has been returned on 24.7.1997.
3.	West Island Freeway connecting Bandra to Worli	5.6	205 (at 1992 price level)	17.6.93	Comprehensive EIA report was sought from the project proponents which is yet to be received.

Famine Condition in Orissa

1085. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission team has visited the drought hit areas of Kalahandi, Bolangir and other districts in Orissa during 1996 and 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received the report from the National Human Rights Commission;

(c) if so, the details of main recommendations made by the Commission;

(d) whether people in large number have been forced to migrate from these areas in the absence of the implementations of any drought relief measures; and

(e) if so, the long and short term measures likely to be taken by the Government to meet the present situation in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) An official team of the National Human Rights Commission visited Orissa in December, 1996 to investigate the reported starvation deaths in the State.

(b) and (c) No formal report has been received from the National Human Rights Commission except the report of the official team deputed by the Commission, seeking Government's comments.

(d) and (e) According to the reports received from the Govt. of Orissa, there is large scale migration of people due to the drought conditions. Some migration to the neighbouring States for better work and emoluments is a common feature in the border distts. Poverty alleviation programmes such as Jawahar Rojgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, Indira Awas Yojana, Million Wells Scheme, IRDP are being implemented in the State in order to mitigate the adverse impact of drought and check migration.

[Translation]

Child Kidnapping

1086. SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been spurt in the incidents of kidnapping especially child kidnapping in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of children kidnapped in Delhi since January 1, 1997 till date, month-wise;

(d) the number of child kidnapping reports lodged in various police stations in Delhi especially Defence Colony police station and the number of children out of them traced; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by Delhi Police in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) During the year 1997 (upto 22.7.97) 601 cases of kidnapping were registered in Delhi including 401 cases of child kidnapping. During the corresponding period of 1996, 543 cases of kidnapping had been registered in Delhi including 321 cases of child kidnapping.

(c) The requisite information is as below:

	No. of children Kidnapped
January, 1997	54
February, 1997	64
March, 1997	55
April, 1997	73
May, 1997	58
June, 1997	68
July, 1997 (upto 15.7.97)	45
Total	417

(d) In 401 cases of child kidnapping reported during 1997 (upto 22.7.97), 417 children had been kidnapped out of whom 244 have since been recovered. 5 of these cases were reported in the area of Police Station Defence Colony in which 5 children were kidnapped of whom 4 have since been recovered.

(e) Steps taken by Delhi Police to prevent child kidnapping include preparation of safety tips for school going children which are circulated to parents, school authorities and the children themselves; visits by police officials to schools for briefing children during assembly time; increased patrolling near schools especially during opening and closing hours and issue of advertisements in the press educating the public about safety measures.

[English]

International Border Area Development Scheme

1087. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that fund allocated under International Border Area Development Scheme (IBADS) to Karimganj district of Assam bordering Bangladesh is really a meagre one;

(b) whether fund under IBADS could not directly be handed over to District Administration;

(c) whether some Development Blocks of Karimganj district have been left out of having the benefit of fund under IBADS; and

(d) if so, the measures being taken to enhance the allocation of funds under IBADS in North-East bordering Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Border Area Development Programme covers only those blocks which are contiguous to international borders. Only four blocks of Karimganj district in Assam namely North Karimganj, Patherkandi, Lowairpoa South Karimganj and Badarpur are covered under this Programme. Funds under the Programme are allocated amongst State Governments on the basis of equal weightage to the area of the border blocks, their population, and length of international border. Sectoral and spatial distribution of funds, selection of schemes to be taken up and the agencies to implement them are decided by Screening Committee set up at the state level.

[Translation]

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

1088. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases for compensation filed in the courts, the number out of them disposed of and the number of cases still pending;

(b) the time by which the pending cases are likely to be disposed of; and

(c) the number of cases which are related to deaths when the applications were called for compensation for the second time?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The number of compensation claim cases registered, adjudicated upto

30.6.97 and pending on 1.7.97 are as follows:—

Category	No. of Claims registered	No. of cases adjudicated	Pending
Death	15,310	15,132	178
Injury	5,97,306	4,25,114	1,72,292

The claims are adjudicated by the special courts set up under the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster (Processing of Claims) Act, 1985. In addition to the 15,310 compensation claims for deaths registered during the 5-year period 1985-89, another 6,821 compensation claims relating to deaths have been filed in the courts consequent upon the notification issued on 2nd December, 1996 inviting claims from those who may not have filed claims earlier.

[English]

Smuggling of Children

1089. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons were arrested in recent months at Indira Gandhi International Airport who were trying to send some children to Sharjah for camel racing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to stop this racket making India as conduit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Delhi Police have reported that no such incident took place at Indira Gandhi International Airport during the year 1997.

Production of Floriculture

1090. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the floriculture industry has been flourishing in the country;

(b) if so, whether it has not made much progress in each State;

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the production of floriculture in each State; and

(d) the total hectares of land proposed to be brought under the floriculture during the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The floriculture industry has registered considerable growth in the recent past in all the States.

(c) For development of floriculture in the States, Government of India is implementing a central sector scheme on commercial floriculture. The major components of this scheme are area expansion, supply of quality planting material and technical know-how through Model Floriculture Centre, Tissue culture laboratories and training.

(d) The Working Group on Horticulture Development for the formulation of IX Plan has estimated that 40,000 hectares of land may be brought under floriculture during the IX Plan period.

Cases of Misappropriation of Rice

1091. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in recent months cases of non-delivery or short delivery during the course of transportation of rice from Haryana and Punjab arranged by FCI to the States have been detected in the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against the delinquent FCI officials and private transporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Food Corporation of India recently detected a case wherein two transport contractors, appointed for transporting foodgrains namely M/s Gautam Associates, Mohali and M/s Yajen Aier & Co., Pehowa had not delivered 4368 MT and 1543 MT of rice worth Rs. 4.25 crores, lifted by them for transportation ex-Kaithal and Pehowa respectively to Imphal (Manipur).

(c) On the basis of preliminary investigations the Food Corporation of India has placed under suspension its one District Manager and 6 Assistant Managers. F.I.R. has been lodged against the defaulting contractors for misappropriation of foodgrains. With the approval of the Government, the FCI has referred the case to Central Bureau of Investigations on 14.7.1997 for detailed investigations and retrieval of misappropriated rice.

[Translation]

**Monitoring Cell on Public Distribution
System/RPDS**

1092. PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :
SHRI SHYAM LAL BANSHIWAL :
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a monitoring cell soon to make the Public Distribution System/Revamped Public Distribution System more effective in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal to set up a separate monitoring cell for Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). However, it must be mentioned that Government of India had prescribed formats prepared by NIC for monitoring the PDS. With the launching of TPDS these formats had been modified. The States/UTs are required to furnish the information in these formats to the Central Government every month. For effective monitoring of PDS these formats have been so devised as to monitor the actual issue of PDS commodities from the Fair Price Shops.

[English]

Non-Government Organisations

1093. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of welfare schemes under which various Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) are extended financial assistance;

(b) the criteria of selecting the NGOs for such financial assistance;

(c) the total number of applications received from the NGOs belonging to North-Eastern states during the last three years and actual number of NGOs to whom financial assistance has been extended; and

(d) the reasons for rejecting proposals from various NGOs of North-Eastern Region specially Assam during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The particulars of Welfare Schemes under which various Non-Governmental Organisations are extended financial assistance is given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) The criteria of selecting the NGOs for financial assistance is laid down in the guidelines for the various Welfare Schemes.

(c) A total of 307 proposals were received from the NGOs belonging to North Eastern States out of which financial assistance was extended to 166 organisations.

(d) The proposals not in conformity with the conditions prescribed for financial assistance under various Welfare Schemes, are rejected.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Scheme
1	2
1.	Aids to Voluntary Organisations for Welfare of SCs.
2.	Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets for ST girls.
3.	Aid to Voluntary Organisations for Welfare of STs.
4.	Pre-Examination Coaching for Weaker Sections.
5.	Shishu Greh Scheme.
6.	Grant in aid to Organisations for Welfare of Disabled.
7.	Grant in aid to Organisations for rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons.
8.	Grant in aid to Organisations for establishment and development of Special Schools.
9.	Grant in aid to Organisations for development of manpower in the field of mental retardation and cerebral palsy.

1	2
10.	Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Programmes relating to Welfare of the Aged.
11.	Scheme of Assistance to Panchayati Raj Institutions/Voluntary Organisations for Construction of Old Age Home.
12.	Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for providing Social Defence Services.
13.	Scheme for Welfare of Street Children.
14.	Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention.

I.M.P. Farmers Field School

1094. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific steps have been taken in the district of Indore in Madhya Pradesh under 'Integrated Pest Management Farmers Field School Schemes';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have undertaken any reappraisal of the National Programme on IPM;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Central Sector Scheme "Central Integrated Pest Management Centres" is being implemented under which a Central IPM Centre is functioning at Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Indore Centre is Promoting Integrated Pest Management through Farmers' Field Schools.

This centre is engaged in monitoring pest and disease situation for advising timely control measures. In addition, the Centre is engaged in mass production, field releases and conservation of biocontrol agents in Indore districts. Four Farmers' Field Schools have been established in four villages. In addition, a Season Long Training in Gram/Tur has been organised during 17.12.96 to 15.1.1997 at Indore. During 1997-98, 24 Farmers Field Schools are being established by the Indore Centre.

(c) and (d) Although no systematic appraisal of the programme has been undertaken, sample studies and assessment indicate that the IPM programme is very cost-effective and eco-friendly. The farmers are very receptive and responsive to its adoption.

(e) Question does not arise.

Corruption Charges Against IPS Officers

1095. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of IPS officers booked under various charges such as corruption, nexus with criminals and other unlawful activities during 1995-96 and 1996-97 up to June 30, 1997, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number out of them against whom action has been taken so far;

(c) the reasons for not taking action against the left out officers; and

(d) the details of action likely to be taken against the left-out officers in 1997-98 and also to check growing corruption amidst bureaucracy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shrimp Culture

1096. SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aqua farms along the Western and Eastern coast have been demolished consequent upon the order of the Supreme Court regarding coastal regulation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any coastal States have made any representation regarding aqua farms situated along the West and Eastern coastal belts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information furnished by the State Governments, 509 shrimp aquaculture farms in Orissa have been demolished. Besides, one farm in Maharashtra has been partly demolished.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A review petition has been filed, inter alia, by this Ministry and some State Governments in the Supreme Court seeking a review of its judgement dated 11.12.1996. The matter is sub-judice.

Violation of Environmental Rules

1097. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered by the State Pollution Control Boards against various industrial units for violation of Environmental rules during the current year, State-wise;

(b) the position of disposal of the cases registered during the said period;

(c) whether in large number of cases charges made by the Pollution Control Boards could not be sustained and judgement gone against the State Pollution Control Boards;

(d) if so, the percentage of such cases;

(e) whether the Government have reviewed the position in regard to the present status and functioning of the State Pollution Control Boards with a view to ensure definite improvement in their functioning;

(f) if so, the date on which the review was last made; and

(g) the steps taken/proposed for strengthening and upgrading the State Pollution Control Boards and the funds earmarked for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Allocation of Foodgrains to States

1098. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of foodgrains such as wheat, rice, sugar, edible oil and kerosene supplied to each State during the last one year till July 1997, item-wise;

(b) whether requests have been received from various States particularly from Kerala and Orissa to enhance their quota of these items;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The State-wise quantum of Wheat, Rice, Sugar, Edible oil and Kerosene allocated during August 1996 to July 1997 is shown in the Statement-I attached.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. A statement indicating the request received from States/UTs for additional allocation of foodgrains and the steps taken by the Government in this regard are given in the attached Statement-II.

The allocation of levy sugar is made on the basis of a uniform norm of 425 gms. per capita as per 1991 population, while allocation of kerosene is made on the basis of past demand, off-take trend and relative need. An attempt is being made to bring those States where the per capita availability of kerosene is less than the national average, to the national average level. The quota of the imported Palmolein is given to the States on the basis of their demand. The Central Government has not finalised the import programme for 1997-98.

Statement I

*Statewise Allocation of Wheat, Rice, Edible Oils, Kerosene,
Sugar for Aug. 96—July, 97 Distributed Through PDS*

S.No.	States/UTs	Wheat	Rice	Sugar	Ed. Oils	Kerosene
1	2	3	4	5	6 —	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	183.00	2538.40	298.12	21.00	532.22
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.17	109.18	3.56	0.00	8.94
3.	Assam	345.38	606.34	92.20	0.40	237.12
4.	Bihar	697.12	413.96	390.59	0.30	601.50
5.	Goa	35.91	82.66	5.31	1.60	25.44
6.	Gujarat	727.95	364.00	178.55	26.00	746.43
7.	Haryana	209.97	42.00	72.11	0.00	147.23
8.	Himachal Pradesh	140.69	198.00	22.15	0.60	52.98
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	339.00	474.08	39.12	0.30	81.89
10.	Karnataka	341.00	1336.60	202.08	6.00	460.79
11.	Kerala	522.72	2939.24	126.89	1.00	262.35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	632.97	618.38	297.01	0.00	472.21
13.	Maharashtra	1055.68	802.08	340.20	21.00	1418.22
14.	Manipur	30.21	108.32	7.90	0.90	20.45
15.	Meghalaya	29.14	183.64	7.36	0.30	18.18
16.	Mizoram	21.05	88.67	3.02	0.60	7.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
17.	Nagaland	9.74	87.78	5.35	1.20	12.39
18.	Orissa	461.00	983.08	143.19	3.00	211.68
19.	Punjab	154.13	16.92	92.29	0.00	305.75
20.	Rajasthan	1290.86	51.06	198.10	0.15	320.94
21.	Sikkim	8.20	57.80	1.85	0.33	7.09
22.	Tamilnadu	254.10	1801.96	251.07	3.00	636.74
23.	Tripura	20.56	180.24	11.44	0.30	28.25
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1142.77	514.40	624.65	0.00	1049.23
25.	West Bengal	1066.40	734.50	306.36	10.00	705.34
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	9.00	30.68	3.54	0.10	4.82
27.	Chandigarh	20.93	3.38	4.18	0.00	19.63
28.	Dadra & Nagar H.	2.79	5.32	0.64	0.24	2.92
29.	Daman & Diu	2.24	6.28	0.45	0.38	2.76
30.	Delhi	725.40	225.78	125.43	2.40	223.67
31.	Lakshdweep	0.50	6.67	1.02	0.12	0.83
32.	Pondicherry	7.20	20.70	4.79	2.00	13.95
Total		10494.78	15542.10	3860.52	103.21	8641.05

Statement II**Statement Showing Requests Received from States/UTs for Additional Allocation of Foodgrains and Steps Taken by Government of India**

S. No.	State/UT	Request for additional allotment	Steps taken by Govt. of India
1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	To allocate 1802 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 1802 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
2.	Assam	To allocate 8488 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 8488 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
3.	Goa	Restoration of pre-TPDS allocation.	Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
4.	Haryana	To enhance the monthly allocation of wheat to 36,000 MT from TPDS allocation of wheat of 8050 MT.	Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	To allocate 12500 MT of rice and 3420 MT of wheat w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 12500 MT rice and 3420 MT of wheat per month has been made.
6.	Karnataka	Request for allocation to be increased from 75,000 to 1.15 lakh MTs (additional 40,000 MT) per month.	Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
7.	Kerala	Request for total allocation to be maintained at last year's lifted quantity of 20.74 lakh tonnes from 17.76 lakh tonnes allocated under TPDS.	Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
8.	Manipur	To allocate 740 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 740 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
9.	Meghalaya	To allocate 5338 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 5338 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
10.	Mizoram	To allocate 83 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 83 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
11.	Orissa	To allocate 20,000 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997 for 5 months.	Additional allocation of 20000 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
12.	Rajasthan	Restoration of wheat allocation to last year's level of 1,25,000 MT per month i.e. 15 lakhs MT per annum.	Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
13.	Sikkim	To allocate 2000 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.	Additional allocation of 2000 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.

1	2	3	4
14. Tamil Nadu	To allocate 81000 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997 for six months.		Additional allocation of 81000 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
15. Tripura	To allocate 1020 MT of rice w.e.f. June 1997.		Additional allocation of 1020 MT rice per month has been made at economic cost.
16. Uttar Pradesh	Request to allot addl. 2.00 lakh MT of wheat per annum.		Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
17. West Bengal	Restoration of allocation of foodgrains to May '97 level (pre TPDS).		Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints.
18. Delhi	Enhancement in monthly allocation—Wheat from 40,400 to 65,000 MT and Rice from 12,890 to 20,000 MT. Besides it, to allocate 80 MT of rice and 150 MT of wheat w.e.f. July 97 for Para Military Forces.		Not possible to accomodate the request in view of the stock constraints. However additional allocation of 80 MT of rice and 150 MT of wheat w.e.f. July 97 has been made at economic cost for para-Military Forces.

Re-Categorisation of Subsidy Under Drip Irrigation Scheme

1099. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a Committee for the re-categorisation of States for the distribution of subsidy under Drip Irrigation Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received the recommendations from the said Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the States which have been categorised;

(e) if not, the stage at which the matter is pending at present; and

(f) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No Sir. However a Committee was constituted in August, 1996 to go into various aspects of the cost of the components and system used for drip irrigation.

(c) to (f) Does not arise.

Scholarship to SC/ST

1100. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been gross irregularities in the disbursement of scholarships to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in different parts of the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount granted as grants to States/UTs during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The irregularities in the disbursement of Scholarship to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have come to the notice through press reports. The State Governments have been requested to send the details in this regard. The Central assistance released to the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh during last three years under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes is given below:

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)	
	Central Assistance Released	
	Madhya Pradesh	Uttar Pradesh
1994-95	725.23	386.9588
1995-96	820.89	1669.82
1996-97	1982.79	2070.823

Procurement of Wheat

1101. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether none of the wheat procurement centres has been able to achieve its target and the farmers are compelled to adopt other crops than wheat cultivation and the situation is alarming due to this reason;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) The procurement of wheat under Price Support Scheme is voluntary in nature for the farmers. As such, no target of procurement of wheat is fixed.

A quantity of 92.63 lakh tonnes of wheat has been procured for Central Pool upto 21.7.97 in the current 1997-98 Rabi Marketing Season as against 81.83 lakh tonnes procured in the previous season 1996-97.

The All India Production of wheat during 1996-97 crop year is likely to be about 68.71 million tonnes, which is higher by 9.73% than the production of 62.62 million tonnes achieved in 1995-96 crop year.

The MSP is fixed by the Ministry of Agriculture on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices which takes into account the cost of inputs and all other relevant factors for determining a remunerative price for agricultural produce. The interests of the farmers are thus fully protected.

Inventory Holding in Super Bazar

1102. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 710 dated November 26, 1996 regarding inventory holding in Super Bazar and state:

(a) whether the level of inventory holding has come down without affecting the sales of the Super Bazar;

(b) if so, the details of the inventory holdings and the sales from October, 1996 to June 30, 1997, Department-wise and month-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Super Bazar is to recover the amount from its debtors;

(e) if so, the details with amounts outstanding against each one of them as on June 30, 1997 and since when the same is outstanding;

(f) whether the efforts have been made by the Super Bazar to recover these dues;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the manner in which the inventory holding compare with the Kendriya Bhandar, Department-wise and month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by Super Bazar the turnover of Super Bazar during year 1996-97 was to the tune of Rs. 141.05 crores as against Rs. 139.48 crores during the previous year. Similarly, the inventory holding during 1996-97 (in the month of March) was Rs. 9.63 crores against Rs. 9.89 crores during previous year. The consolidated monthwise position of sales and inventory holding is as under:—

Month	Sale	Inventory Holding
1	2	3
1996		
October	1087.50	1130.32
November	1114.49	1152.17
December	1127.48	1138.12

1	2	3
1997		
January	1209.05	1044.10
February	1228.36	1015.99
March	1922.99	812.29
April	944.28	968.92
May	1062.31	1055.39
June (approx)	943.00	1100.00

(c) From the figures given above, it can be seen that Super Bazar has continued to maintain inventory holding equivalent to the sales except for the month of June, 1997 where the sales have gone down by around Rs. 2.00 crores as a result of which the inventory holding has increased. The decrease in the sale was due to inadequate supply of Palmolein oil by Hindustan Vegetable Oils Ltd. for want of stocks with them.

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs. 7.83 crores is recoverable from the various government organisations/ Public Sector Undertakings as on 30.6.1997.

(f) and (g) The Regional Distribution Centre (RDC) Managers/Branch Incharges have been instructed by Super Bazar to expedite the recoveries.

(h) The comparative figures of monthwise inventory holding of Super Bazar and Kendriya Bhandar are not available. However, the inventory holding of the two organizations are determined by several factors which are not common to them.

Inland Fishery Projects

1103. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted some projects for approval regarding strengthening of Inland Fishery Marketing infrastructure in the State;

(b) If so, the cost thereof; and

(c) the time by which the projects are likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted so far 6 projects for Inland Fish Marketing Scheme at a total cost of Rs. 431 lakh at the following places:—

1. Ghaziabad;
2. Bareilly;
3. Lucknow;
4. Gorakhpur;
5. Varanasi; and
6. Allahabad.

(c) All the above mentioned projects have been accorded approval by the Central Government.

Life Saving Drugs

1104. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :
SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the essential life saving drugs are not available in the market which are causing a lot of inconvenience to the people of North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are keeping a watch in this matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to ensure that essential life saving drugs are made available in the market of North-Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e) Government is operating a system whereby localised shortage of medicines is reported by the State Drug Controllers to the concerned manufacturer under intimation to this Department i.e. shortages are monitored at State level. The Department, however, on the basis of reports received in regard to shortages, takes up the matter with the concerned manufacturers for ensuring speedy availability of the medicines in the areas concerned.

No reports of shortage of essential/life saving drugs have been received from the North-Eastern States, in recent times.

Polluting Industries

1105. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the industries polluting the air and water in various States particularly in Orissa and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the extent of pollution caused by these units, State-wise;

(c) whether special plan of action/strategies have been worked out for different regions to tackle the problem effectively within a stipulated time-frame;

(d) if so, the detail thereof and highlights of the work done in this regard;

(e) whether international cooperation has been sought to deal with the problem through technological upgradation, etc.; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have identified a total number of 1551 large and medium industrial units falling under the 17 categories of highly polluting industries. Out of these, 1260 units have so far provided the requisite pollution control facilities, 125 are closed and the remaining 166 units have yet to install the necessary pollution control facilities. Emission and liquid effluents emanating from the 166 defaulting units exceed the prescribed limits and as such

may pose adverse environmental impacts. A state-wise status of industrial units including that of Orissa and Maharashtra, is given in the enclosed *statement*.

(c) and (d) The Central Pollution Control Board in consultation with State Pollution Control Boards have identified 24 critically polluted areas in the country for abatement of pollution, including Angul-Talcher in Orissa and Chembur and Tarapur in Maharashtra. Action plans for 16 critically polluted areas have so far been prepared and are at various stages of implementation by the concerned State Pollution Control Boards.

The Central Pollution Control Board has also directed the State Pollution Control Boards to prepare an inventory of polluting industries which are discharging their effluents directly in the rivers and lakes without requisite treatment.

(e) and (f) Industrial pollution control and prevention projects have been undertaken with World Bank assistance. The various projects for which assistance is provided under this programme includes the following:—

- (i) Assistance for industrial units for their technological upgradation through demonstration projects.
- (ii) Setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs) for the combined treatment of effluent from clusters of small scale units.
- (iii) Adoption of clean process technologies in small scale units through waste minimisation circles.
- (iv) Establishing an Indian Centre for promotion of clean technologies at National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, (NEERI), Nagpur.
- (v) Strengthening of State Pollution Control Boards in respect of augmentation of infrastructural facilities and organising training programmes.

Statement

*Statewise Summary Status of the Pollution Control in 17 Categories on Industries
(as per information available with CPCB on 31.3.1997)*

S. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Units	Status (No. of Units)		
			Closed	C#	Defaulters ##
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173	28	141	04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	00	00	00	00

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	15	00	10	05
4.	Bihar	62	14	35	13
5.	Goa	06	00	06	00
6.	Gujarat	177	03	167	07
7.	Haryana	43	03	32	08
8.	Himachal Pradesh	09	00	09	00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	08	03	01	04
10.	Karnataka	85	06	68	11
11.	Kerala	28	04	20	04
12.	Madhya Pradesh	78	05	58	15
13.	Maharashtra	335	19	296	20
14.	Manipur	00	00	00	00
15.	Meghalaya	01	00	00	01
16.	Mizoram	00	00	00	00
17.	Nagaland	00	00	00	00
18.	Orissa	23	01	12	10
19.	Punjab	45	03	25	17
20.	Rajasthan	49	05	42	02
21.	Sikkim	01	00	00	01
22.	Tamil Nadu	119	02	114	03

1	2	3	4	5	6
23.	Tripura	00	00	00	00
24.	UT-Andaman & Nicobar	00	00	00	00
25.	UT-Chandigarh	01	00	01	00
26.	UT-Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	00	00	00	00
27.	UT-Delhi	05	00	02	03
28.	UT-Lakshdweep	00	00	00	00
29.	UT-Pondichery	06	00	02	04
30.	Uttar Pradesh	224	15	187	22
31.	West Bengal	58	14	32	12
Total		1551	125	1260	166

Having adequate facilities to comply with the standards.

Not having adequate facilities to comply with the standards.

Wildlife Tourism

1106. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated the revised guidelines for wildlife tourism in the protected areas; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Availability of Pulses

1107. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the existing availability of pulses per capita and the manner in which it compares with the minimum requirement according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation;

(b) whether the gap in the availability of pulses per capita is likely to widen by 2000 AD;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and pulses imported during each of the last three years;

(d) whether any strategy has been formulated by the Government to meet the situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS

PRASAD SINGH) : (a) The per capita net availability of pulses in the country for the last 3 years is as follows:

Year	Pulses (Kgs per year)
1995	13.9
1996	12.8
1997	13.7

As per the recommended nutritional standards of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the requirement of pulses for low cost balanced diet in respect of a sedentary man is 40 gms. per day which works out to 14.60 Kg. per year. Information on norms regarding minimum requirement of pulses, if any, laid down by FAO is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The demand for pulses depends on various factors such as level of production, incomes, availability of other substitutes, population and food habits, etc. As such, it is difficult to estimate the exact requirement of pulses over a period of time. However, according to the Working Group's Report on Demand and Supply Projections of Agricultural Commodities and Improvement of Agricultural Statistics for the Formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the demand projection for pulses based on GDP growth rate of 7% works out to 16 Kg. for 2001-2002.

Import of pulses is being allowed under OGL. The quantity of pulses imported during the last 3 years are given below:

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
5.54	4.49	5.32

(d) and (e) The Government has been implementing the National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) in 25 States and Union Territory of A & N Islands. Under this programme, emphasis is laid on increasing the area through multiple and inter-cropping and increasing the yield per unit of area. The production of pulses for 1996-97 has reached a record level of 14.85 million tonnes as compared to 13.19 million tonnes achieved during 1995-96.

Prices of Anti-Biotic Drugs

1108. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH
GAEKWAD :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of anti-biotics formulations with penicillin have gone beyond the reach of the common-man and all the six producers of penicillin drug have run into deep losses resulting in sickness of these industries;

(b) whether one or two of these units are likely to be shut-down;

(c) if so, the precise situation in which these units are placed; and

(d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to revive the penicillin industry?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) A random study of prices of leading formulations based on Ampicillin, Amoxycillin, Cloxacillin and Cephalexin indicates that their prices have remained stable over the last one year. As regards Potassium Penicillin G, which is used as an intermediate for the manufacture of various types of Penicillins and other downstream products, the prices have crashed in the international market as well as in the country due to increased availability. This has had an adverse effect on the Penicillin G manufacturers. However, no report regarding likely shut down has been received by the Government. Penicillin has been retained in the negative list of imports and free import of this drug is not being permitted.

[Translation]

Division of Assets and Functions In Chandigarh

1109. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the division of assets and functions has been made between Chandigarh Administration and the Municipal Corporation after the formation of the Municipal Corporation in Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the basis for making such division and whether it has brought any improvement in the functioning;

(d) whether any difficulties are being faced in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is indicated in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) The division has essentially been made as per the provisions contained in section 44 of the Punjab Municipal Corporation Law (Extension to Chandigarh) Act, 1994. It is too early to say whether there has been any improvement in the functioning but Chandigarh Administration has not experienced any serious difficulties so far.

Statement

The details of the assets both immovable and movable transferred to the Municipal Corporation of Chandigarh are indicated at Annexure. The details of functions transferred to the Corporation are contained in Chandigarh Administration's notifications dated the 23 September, 1995 and 16 May, 1996. Besides, Water Supply Scheme Phase-IV was also transferred to the Corporation during the current year.

Annexure

A statement of Assets Transferred to the Corporation Under Transferred Functions

S.No.	Description	Total No.
1	2	3

A. IMMOVABLE ASSETS

1. All Roads & Road installations, their reserved area and slow carriage way except those as mentioned in Para 7 of Notification at Annexure-A. 1300 Kms
2. Underground Street lighting installations of the entire City.
3. All Horticulture installations, Parks, Grounds except those mentioned in Para 8 of Notification at

1	2	3
4. Circus Ground, Sector-17		
5. Fire Stations		6
6. Community Centres and Clubs		17
7. Sewerage Treatment Plant		
8. Water Works		6
9. Slaughter House		1
10. Motor Garage		1
11. Residential Houses of Corporation		360
12. Tubewells		106
13. Boosters		12
14. Hot Mix Plant (Marshal Make) 30 to 45 Mt. capacity		
15. Pre-cast Cement Factory Industrial Area, Phase I		
16. Cement Storage Shed in Timber Market, Sector-26, Chandigarh (102' × 40')		1
17. All Cremation Grounds including Electrical Crematorium—Located in Sector-25		2(1 each in Sec. 25 & Ind. Area, Ph-I)
18. Tile Pavements piara, flooring and Footpath		75 Kms.
19. Back Service Lanes		62 Kms.
20. Hotel Site measuring 2.6 acres in Sector 35		
21. Built up booths in Sub Way connecting Bus Stand With Sector 22 Market		
22. Commercial sites in Sector 9, Chandigarh near CITCO Petrol Pump		

1	2	3
B. MOVABLE ASSETS		
1.	Crane	3
2.	Trucks	8
3.	Jeeps	9
4.	Cars	6
5.	Pick-Up-Mazda	2
6.	Matadors	3
7.	Tankers	10
8.	5D JCB	1
9.	6D JCB	1
10.	Tractors	27
11.	Road Rollers	12
12.	Tripers	16
13.	Water Tender	15
14.	Water Bouser	1
15.	Emergency Tender	2
16.	Ambulance	4
17.	Motor-Cycles	5
18.	Jeep Fire Engines	2
19.	Loader-710	4
20.	Paver Finisher	1
21.	Chain Bulldozer	1
22.	Motor Grader	1
23.	Pick-up-Van	1
24.	Miner	1
25.	Water Tanker	17
26.	Tractor-Trolley	11

1	2	3
27.	Power lawn Mover	6
28.	Diesel Pumping Set	1
29.	Shrub Master	21
30.	Plough	5
31.	Karaha	8
32.	Sohaga	6
33.	Cultivator	5
34.	Marrow	9
35.	Lathe Machinery 12'	1
36.	Drill Machine (Big)	1
37.	Hand Grinder	1
38.	Welding Set	1
39.	Battery Charger	1
40.	Washing Machine	1
41.	Greese Gun	1
42.	Smoke Testing Machine	1

[English]

Demand of Chilly farmers

1110. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has visited the Guntur district to look into the chilly farmers demands during the month of May this year;

(b) if so, whether chilly farmers called off agitation as proposed by them on his intervention;

(c) if so, the main demands of the chilly farmers;

(d) the extent to which the Government have accepted their demands;

(e) whether a large number of growers had kept their stocks in the cold storage but the stock were gutted

and the management expressed their inability to compensate for the loss;

(f) if so, the extent to which the demands of the chilly growers were accepted;

(g) whether the Government propose to help them to get the compensation from the management of the cold storage for the loss suffered by the chilly growers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The Union Agriculture Minister has not visited Guntur District of Andhra Pradesh in May, 1997.

(b) to (h) Question does not arise in view of the above.

Urea Scam

1111. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal for out-of-court settlement from Karsan, the Turkish firm involved in fertilizer supply scam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Welfare of Minorities

1112. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have implemented any welfare scheme for the welfare of minorities in Western Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on this scheme during 1996-97 and the amount sanctioned for the year 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing following schemes for the welfare of minorities all over the country including State of Rajasthan:—

(i) Ministry of Welfare is implementing the scheme of Pre-examination Coaching for the target group consisting of minorities and Socially & Economically Backward Classes whose annual income is not more than Rs. 24,000/-. The scheme is implemented for preparing the candidates belonging to target group to compete effectively with others in the examinations leading to recruitment and admission in professional courses.

(ii) Ministry of Human Resource Development has been implementing two schemes, namely, Area Intensive Programme and Modernisation of Madarsa education for the educational development of minorities. Under the scheme of Area Intensive Programme, assistance is provided to State Govts. and voluntary organisations for establishment of primary/upper primary schools, strengthening of educational infrastructure of such schools and opening of multi-stream residential higher secondary schools. Under the scheme of Modernisation of Madarsa education, cent per cent assistance is provided to such institutions for appointment of teachers for teaching modern subjects.

(c) The amount spent under these schemes during 1996-97 and 1997-98 in the State of Rajasthan is as under:

Name of Scheme	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)	
	1996-97	1997-98,
(i) Pre-examination coaching scheme for weaker sections based on economic criteria	Nil	Nil
(ii) Area Intensive Programme for educationally backward minorities	112.305	55.60 (upto June, 97)
(iii) Modernisation of Madarsa Education	11.26	Nil

Smuggling by Police Officers

1113. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Suspended cop sees Senior Role in Smuggling" appearing in 'The Hindustan Times' dated June 25, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported thereon;

(c) whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct an enquiry into the allegations made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) An inquiry conducted into the matter by Delhi Police revealed that the Constable concerned had been placed under suspension on the grounds of misbehaviour and not complying with lawful orders of his superiors. The allegation made by him that senior police officers were involved in smuggling activities at the Airport was also found to be false as he failed to appear before the inquiry despite six summons having been issued to him.

Method for Assessment of Tiger Population

1114. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the method adopted by the Government to assess the tiger population is faulty and incorrect; and

(b) if so, the new method proposed for a correct assessment?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) No Sir. The pug mark technique adopted by different States is scientifically accepted, which is easy to implement in the field. However due to variation in soil types and moisture content of soil, the authenticity of pug mark method of enumeration have been questioned. New methods have been developed in different parts. The Ministry of Environment and Forests constituted a Committee of experts to suggest improvement in the methodology of enumeration. The recommendation of the Committee may be seen in the attached statement which have been circulated to all tiger states for implementation.

Statement

Recommendations for an Alternative Approach to the Estimation of Tiger and Prey Populations

Research on population estimation techniques applicable to large mammals have now conclusively established the fact that approaches based on the concept of 'sampling' are more rigorous, reliable, replicable, and cost efficient compared to the earlier approaches based on total counts. Additionally sampling based approaches also permit the use of theoretically well established estimators/models such as line transects, point transects, and capture-recapture etc. Further, the availability of powerful new computer applications has brought these complex analyses within reach of any computer literate person. We are, therefore, recommending that the total count based "census" of tigers and prey species being carried out now should be modified, and supplemented by the following population assessment and estimation methodologies:

1. Mapping tiger distribution: This should be done once a year, during the season appropriate for that region. This should be done by the existing staff of the forest department. The aim is to specifically (and only) record tracks seen and their location on a map at 1 : 50000 scale. There is no need for using glass tracers etc., if reasonable integrity of data collection can be assured. If signs of cubs (reproducing populations) are seen this should be additionally noted and recorded. The park authorities should not be asked to come up with exact numbers of either tigers or prey.

2. In designated project tiger areas (to be expanded to other areas later) continuous monitoring and recording the presence/absence of tigers, with a special emphasis on the presence of cubs.

3. Sampling based, site specific population estimation plan : Each important reserve/region should aim to have access to trained teams of staff, scientists, NGO volunteers, to carry out population estimation using sampling based method relevant for regular use in future (depending on local conditions and availability of skilled personnel resources).

For Tigers

- 3.1 Encounter rate index based on number of pug marks, scrapes and scats encountered per unit distance walked along predetermined sampling routes which will be replicated annually. This will generate a quantitative, objective index with a mean and variance.

3.2. If skilled personnel, resources and local conditions permit camera trapping on a capture-recapture model can be carried out.

For Prey Species (including livestock)

3.3 Pellet density estimate using plots along predetermined sampling routes which will be replicated annually. This will generate a quantitative, objective index with a mean and a variance.

3.4 Direct estimation of prey density or at least prey encounter rates using a system of properly laid out line transects. This will generate a density estimate with a mean and a variance.

The above recommendations should be introduced by modifying the "census" operations into a simpler tiger distribution mapping as described above.

Sd/-

(DR. L.A.K. SINGH)

Sd/-

(SANJAY SINGH GAILOUT)

Sd./

(VINOD RISHI)

Sd/-

(DR. A.J.T. JOHNSINGH)

Sd/-

(BRIG. RANJIT TALWAR)

Sd/-

(DR. ULLAS KARANTH)

Sd/-

(P.K. SEN)

Taj Mahal

1115. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Taj Mahal is in danger due to toxic fumes and smokes emanating from brick kilns;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) to (c) There is no danger to the Taj Mahal from emissions of brick kilns as all brick kilns in 20 km radius of the Taj Mahal and other significant Monuments in the Taj Trapezium have been closed in compliance of an order dated 10th May, 1996 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Homes for Mentally Retarded

1116. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the cities where homes for the mentally retarded are functioning at present, population-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have adopted criteria for opening such more homes for these disabled persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) The Central Government do not have homes for mentally retarded persons. However it gives grants-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organisations all over India for schools/Vocational Training Centres for mentally retarded. The details of such NGOs State-wise are given in the attached *Statement*.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl.	State	Name of the Cities
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Hyderabad (10) 2. Secunderabad (03) 3. Karimnagar (01) 4. Vishakhapatnam (01) 5. Vijaywada (01) 6. Chittor (01) 7. Krishna (01) 8. Kakinada (01) 9. Khammam (01) 10. Guntoor (01)
2.	Bihar	1. Patna (05) 2. Gaya (02) 3. Jehanabad (01)
3.	Delhi	11

1	2	3
4. Gujarat		1. Badodara (01)
		2. Ahmedabad (02)
		3. Rajkot (01)
5. Haryana		1. Chandigarh (01)
		2. Gurgaon (01)
		3. Rohtak (01)
		4. Ambala (01)
6. Jammu & Kashmir		1. Jammu (01)
7. Karnataka		1. Dhavangare (01)
		2. Bangalore (03)
		3. Dharwad (01)
		4. Raichur (01)
		5. Belgam (02)
		6. Meleshwaram (01)
		7. Bidar (01)
8. Kerala		1. Kidangoor (01)
		2. Kottayam (03)
		3. Calicut (03)
		4. Khozikode (01)
		5. Pirovam (01)
		6. Palghat (01)
		7. Wayanad (01)
		8. Tellicherry (01)
		9. Trichur (04)
		10. Iduki (01)
		11. Thiruvananthapuram (02)
		12. Parel (01)
		13. Eernakulam (03)

1	2	3
		14. Palkkad (01)
		15. Quilon (01)
		16. Kannur (01)
		17. Thiruvalla (01)
		18. Cochin (01)
9. Madhya Pradesh		1. Jabalpur (01)
		2. Bhopal (01)
10. Maharashtra		1. Mumbai (04)
		2. Pune (01)
		3. Virar (01)
		4. Parbhani (01)
11. Manipur		1. Imphal (03)
12. Meghalaya		1. Shillong (01)
13. Orissa		1. Cuttuck (01)
		2. Khurda (01)
		3. Puri (02)
		4. Narjagarh (01)
14. Punjab		1. Patiala (01)
15. Rajasthan		1. Jaipur (01)
16. Tamil Nadu		1. Agnikund (01)
		2. Madurai (02)
		3. Chennai (11)
		4. Thirunallveli (01)
		5. Erode (02)
		6. Trichy (01)
		7. Udumalpet (01)
		8. Coimbatore (03)
		9. Thanjavur (01)

1	2	3
17	Tripura	1. Agartala (01)
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Allahabad (02)
		2. Lucknow (05)
		3. Agra (01)
		4. Ghaziabad (01)
		5. Noida (01)
		6. Haridwar (01)
		7. Dehradun (01)
		8. Faizabad (01)
19.	West Bengal	1. 24 Parganas (01)
		2. Calcutta (08)
		3. Midnapur (01)
		4. Hooghly (01)

[Translation]

Production of Cotton

1117. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cotton crop for the new season with effect from October, 1997 to September, 1998 is likely to be similar to that of the current season;

(b) if so, the extent to which the cotton production during 1996-97 has been more in comparison to the pervious year;

(c) whether the majority of the cotton growing States have received good rains but sowing operation have been delayed in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka;

(d) if so, the main reasons therefor and the extent to which it will affect the cotton production in these States;

(e) whether the cotton purchases have declined drastically as most of the spinning mills have proposed their immediate requirement; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to help the cotton growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) It is too early to assess the cotton production prospects for the year 1997-98. As per the information received so far, 69% of the normal area under cotton has been covered and the sowing of crop is still in progress in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamilnadu. The condition of the standing crop is reported to be satisfactory.

The production of cotton during 1996-97 is estimated to be 145.3 lakh bales of 170 kgs. each which is higher by 14.4 lakh bales than its production of 130.9 lakh bales achieved in the previous year, i.e. 1995-96.

(e) and (f) The purchases by the Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) as on 16.7.1997 was 11.0 lakh bales as compared to 10.1 lakh bales during the corresponding period last year. The Government has released a quota of 13.42 lakh bales of cotton for export during 1996-97. The aggressive purchases by the CCI gives support to cotton growers. The ceiling for export of cotton yarn of below 41s counts has been increased from 80 Mkg to 140 Mkg in 1997. Cotton has been removed from Selective credit control from October, 1996. Stock limits on cotton have been removed from February, 1995. Also, the Government is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme—Intensive Cotton Development Programme in 11 major cotton growing States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamilnadu & Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Expenditure on S.P.G.

1118. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :
SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a provision of more than 75 crore rupees has been made in this year's Union Budget for the Special Protection Group;

(b) if so, whether the amount spent on the security of very important persons belongs to general public/people's representatives have the right whereas the VVIPs include such people also who are no more representatives or even not related to their families; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the misuse of public money on such VIPs who are not people's representatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Security to SPG protectees, i.e., Prime Minister and his immediate family members and the former Prime Ministers and immediate members of their families, who are entitled to SPG protection for ten years from the date of demission of the office of Prime Minister, is being provided as per the provisions of the SPG Act as passed by Parliament. There is no proposal to make any changes in the arrangements at present.

Plights of Jawans

1119. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the plight of the jawans posted at the borders of the country in the Rann of Kutch zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government are contemplating to mitigate their hardships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the various problems of drinking water, communication/electricity facilities etc. being faced by BSF personnel in view of difficult terrain in Rann of Kutch.

(c) Steps are being taken by the Government to provide drinking water through tankers, better communication/transport facilities to mitigate the hardship of the jawans posted in these areas.

The State Government of Rajasthan has also been requested to connect every BOP in the Rann of Kutch by water pipelines and also for provision of more water for tankers.

Esionage Activities

1120. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police have recently arrested an officer and two other persons for passing on secret information to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether one officer of Intelligence Bureau is also involved in the case; and

(c) the details of action taken by the Government in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b) Six persons (2 lower functionaries of IB, 3 Civilian Defence employees and a business man of Delhi) have been arrested.

(c) A case Crime No. 129/97 under Section 3, 9 of Official Secrets Act, 1923 read with 120-B IPC has been registered at Police Station Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

Sick Sugar Mills in Kerala

1121. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar mills in Kerala are sick and crippled;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to revive those mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) Under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, companies which become sick have to be referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). As on 30.6.1997 only one sick sugar mill viz. The Travancore Sugars & Chemicals Ltd. has been registered with the BIFR from the State of Kerala. The Change in Government policy and non-availability of raw-material were reported to be the main reasons which led to the sickness of the company.

(c) Sugar mills have to prepare schemes for rehabilitation/modernisation and get them approved by the financial institutions. Financial assistance is also available from the Sugar Development Fund (SDF) at concessional rates of interest for such rehabilitation/modernisation schemes with certain conditions. The case of Travancore Sugars & Chemicals Ltd. was last heard by the BIFR on 4.9.96, wherein Government of Kerala/Operating Agency were directed to submit rehabilitation scheme/status report.

Male Elephants

1122. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study has shown that male elephants outnumber female;

(b) if so, whether the trend has innocuously extensive depreciation on human settlement; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government has taken or propose to take to identify problematic tuskers especially in the West Bengal or Orissa and take corrective measures?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) No, Sir. Research studies by scientists on the ecology of elephants indicate that in nature the female elephants outnumber male elephants. This has also been indicated in a recent study report titled "A God in Distress" by the Asian Elephant Conservation Centre and Wildlife Protection Society of India that in different parts of India the population of wild elephants has more female elephants than male elephants.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Chief Wildlife Wardens of the States have been authorised under the provisions of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, to take corrective measures against wild animals, which may include identifying tuskers, if they become dangerous to the lives of human beings. The corrective measures include hunting of such elephants.

Prices of Captopril and its Formulations

1123. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the prices of bulk drug Captopril and its formulations based thereon recommended by the BICP and the date on which the bulk drug price, notified;

(b) the current prices and the prices recommended by the BICP of the leading packs of formulations of Captopril;

(c) whether the fixation of prices of formulations of Captopril has been delayed over a year;

(d) if so, the steps taken to fix responsibility in this regard; and

(e) whether the producers by managing with the Ministry have made crores of rupees from the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) On the recommendations of the BICP, the price of bulk drug Captopril was notified at Rs. 12,176/- per Kg. on 3rd April, 1996 and was subsequently revised to Rs. 11,971/- per Kg. on 13th June, 1997.

(b) The currently approved prices of formulations based on Captopril are given in the enclosed *Statement*.

(c) and (d) DPRC Sub Committee recommended prices for formulations based on Captopril in its 24th Meeting held on 5.10.1995. As there was no notified price, a decision was taken as in other similar cases, not to approve the prices. Subsequently on the basis of the notified prices, DPRC Sub Committee again recommended prices of formulations in its 42nd meeting and 54th meeting held on 16.5.1996 and 14.11.1996 respectively and after due approval the prices were issued.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the formulations	Pack Size	Ceiling price fixed	Date
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Captopril 25 mg. Tablets	10's St.	8.14	3.9.1996
2.	Captopril 50 mg. Tablets	10's St.	15.32	3.9.1996
3.	Captopril 25 mg. Hydrochlorthizide 15 mg. Tablets	10's St.	8.54	3.9.1996
4.	Captopril 25 mg. Tablets	10's Al./St.	8.48	17.2.1997
5.	Captopril 25 mg. Tablets	10's Al./Bl.	8.18	17.2.1997

Linguistic Minorities

1124. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a commission for linguistic minorities to look into their problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any study or survey regarding the problems of linguistic minorities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There already exist an office of the Special Officer for Linguistic Minorities (commonly known as the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities). It was created in July, 1957 in pursuance of the provisions of Article 350B of the Constitution of India. Under the said Article, it shall be the duty of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided for the Linguistic Minorities under the Constitution and report to the President upon these at such intervals as the President may direct.

(d) No, Sir, as this work has been assigned to the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Voluntary Organisations in U.P

1125. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the women voluntary organisations receiving assistance from the Central fund in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Meerut division;

(b) the names of the schemes formulated by these women voluntary organisations for the social upliftment of Scheduled Caste women; and

(c) the financial assistance provided for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) There are no Women Voluntary Organisations funded by Ministry of Welfare in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Target of Procurement of Wheat

1126. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed some target for the procurement of wheat in various states;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in respect of those States which could not be able to achieve the fixed target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The procurement of wheat under Price Support Scheme is voluntary in nature, and only the wheat offered by the farmers can be purchased. As such, no target for procurement of wheat is fixed in any State.

(c) Does not arise.

Allocation of Palm Oil to Karnataka

1127. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement of palm oil per month in Karnataka under Public Distribution System;

(b) the quantity released during each of the last three years till June, 1997;

(c) whether the State has requested to enhance the quantity of Palm oil;

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

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to release the entire quantity of palm oil required under PDS to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Government of Karnataka has indicated a monthly demand of 2500 MT of imported edible oil for the PDS during the current year 1997-98.

(b) The allocation of imported palmolein to Karnataka during the last 3 years has been as follows:—

Financial year	Qty. in MTs. Allocation.
1994-95	8500
1995-96	11000
1996-97	10000

(c) The monthly requirement of palmolein from Karnataka has reduced from 3000 MT per month in 1996-97 to 2500 MT per month in 1997-98.

(d) and (e) Government's edible oil import programme for the PDS during 1997-98 has not yet been finalised.

Central Assistance for Agricultural Projects in Assam

1128. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Assam seeking Central assistance for undertaking various agricultural projects in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) A list of schemes implemented during 1996-97 by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to assist the Government of Assam in accelerating agricultural development is enclosed as Statement. No proposals for any new scheme have been received from the State Government during the current year.

Statement

List of Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes Implemented in Assam During 1996-97

S. No.	Name of Scheme
1	2
1.	Integrated Cereal Development Programme—Rice.
2.	Sustainable Development of Sugarcane based Cropping System.
3.	Special Jute Development Programme.
4.	National Pulses Development Project.
5.	Oilseeds Production Programme.
6.	Oil Palm Dev. Programme.
7.	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
8.	Balanced and Integrated use of Fertilizers.
9.	Development of Fertilizer use in low Consumption & Rainfed Areas.
10.	National Project and Tech. Mission on Development and use of Bio-fertilizers.
11.	Integrated Seed Development Scheme.
12.	National Programme for Varietal Development.
13.	Streamlining of certified Seeds production of important Identified Vegetable Crops.
14.	N.S.P. III.
15.	Grants in Aid to States/UTs for Setting/ Strengthening of State Bio-Control laboratories under Integrated Pest Management Centres.
16.	Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers.
17.	Exchange of Farmers within the Country.
18.	Farmers Scientists Interaction.

1	2
19.	State Land Use Board.
20.	Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects.
21.	Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas.
22.	Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.
23.	Use of Plastics in Agriculture.
24.	Development of Commercial Floriculture.
25.	Development of Mushroom.
26.	Integrated Development of Tropical, Arid Temperate Zone Fruits.
27.	Development of Betelvine.
28.	Development of Arecanut.
29.	Development of Vegetables.
30.	integrated Development of Spices.
31.	Fresh Water Fish Farm.
32.	Welfare of Fishermen.
33.	Inland Fisheries Statistics.
34.	Training and Extension (Fisheries).
35.	Agriculture Credit Stabilisation Fund.
36.	Failed Well Compensation Fund Scheme.
37.	Assistance to Weaker Section.
38.	Assistance to Women's Cooperatives.
39.	Timely Reporting Scheme.
40.	Improvement of Crop Statistics.
41.	Livestock Census.
42.	Agricultural Census.

Sub-standard Drugs in Super Bazar

1129. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of drugs available in Super Bazar is of sub-standard as appearing in the "Indian Express", dated June 24, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether some persons/firms are making supplies to the Super Bazar/Kendriya Bhandar who are neither manufacturers nor the authorised dealers of the companies whose brand name products they supply to them; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to weed out such manufacturers/suppliers to protect the interest of the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the Super Bazar, Delhi, they are selling drugs manufactured by multi national companies, national companies of repute and other drug manufacturing companies which are registered with the small scale industry authorities.

(d) and (e) Both Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar have denied that they are purchasing drugs from persons/firms who are neither manufacturers nor the authorised dealers of the companies whose brand name products are supplied by them.

Allocation of Fund for Dry Land Farming

1130. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total fund provided by the Government to the State Governments under the Dry Land Development Programme during 1997-98, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to extend the said programme to the drought prone State;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) Even though there is no scheme called Dry Land Development Programme under implementation, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA) is in operation which follows integrated watershed development approach treating both arable, non-arable lands and natural drainage lines for in-situ moisture conservation coupled with diversified farming systems approach for increasing production. State-wise allocation under the scheme for the year 1997-98 is given in the enclosed Statement. One micro-watershed has been taken up for treatment in each development block having less than 30% of arable area under assured means of irrigation in 25 States and 2 Union Territories.

Statement

Tentative allocation of funds during 1997-98 under National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Amount allocated 1997-98
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	700.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	10.00
3.	Assam	15.00
4.	Bihar	15.00
5.	Goa	5.00
6.	Gujarat	700.00
7.	Haryana	80.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	80.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	108.00
10.	Karnataka	1800.00
11.	Kerala	500.00

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3325.00
13.	Maharashtra	3100.00
14.	Manipur	100.00
15.	Meghalaya	15.00
16.	Mizoram	150.00
17.	Nagaland	160.00
18.	Orissa	1200.00*
19.	Punjab	40.00
20.	Rajasthan	2850.00
21.	Sikkim	80.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	700.00
23.	Tripura	80.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1500.00
25.	West Bengal	10.00
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2.00
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.00
Total		17350.00

Out of the allocation of Rs. 12.00 crores for the State, Rs. 6.00 crores are earmarked for KBK Districts.

[Translation]

Auction of Foodgrains

1131. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the discretionary powers being used by the officials of Food Corporation of India for the sale of wheat and rice in the open market;

(b) whether the stock of wheat and rice is not auctioned openly at various depots;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to start a scheme to sell wheat and rice in the open market; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) Sale of wheat and rice under the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) has been discontinued with effect from 1.4.1997. Therefore, question of using discretionary powers by the officials of FCI for the sale of wheat and rice in the open market does not arise.

(b) and (c) FCI did not conduct open auction for its stocks at various depots under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic). Selling of wheat and rice by inviting tenders can result in monopoly of a few buyers. On practical considerations, Govt. had decided to undertake open sale of wheat and rice at fixed rates.

(d) and (e) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration with the Government to sell wheat and rice in the open market.

Transportation of Wheat by the Special Goods Train

1132. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bags of wheat sent from Hissar to Rewari for distribution through Public Distribution System by a special goods train on March 1, 1997;

(b) whether the said goods train was sent to another place instead of Rewari;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the manner in which the said bags were brought back to Rewari;

(e) the additional amount spent thereon and the manner in which the amount was paid and the name of the persons who made this payment;

(f) whether the Government have taken any action against the guilty officials; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) No special goods train with wheat bags was despatched from Hissar to Rewari by the FCI on March 1, 1997.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

[English]

Opening of Central Agriculture University

1133. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open Central Agriculture University in the Country particularly in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise and State-wise;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be opened; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Agricultural Education is a state subject. In Bihar, there are already two State Agriculture Universities. For opening another university the State Govt. has to assess the requirements based on Man Power Planning.

[Translation]

Scheduled Tribe List

1134. SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases under consideration of the Government for inclusion in the List of Scheduled Tribes belonging to tribal areas at present along with the details of cases and the time from which these are under consideration, State-wise; and

(b) the time by which the Government is likely to take a decision on all such cases?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) *Statement* showing State-

wise number of claims for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes received over past several years is enclosed.

(b) No specific time schedule can be indicated.

Statement

State-wise Number of Proposals received for Inclusion in Scheduled Tribes List

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of Proposals
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27
3.	Assam	68
4.	Bihar	28
5.	Goa	5
6.	Gujarat	7
7.	Haryana	40
8.	Himachal Pradesh	12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7
10.	Karnataka	54
11.	Kerala	40
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30
13.	Maharashtra	62
14.	Manipur	14
15.	Meghalaya	16
16.	Mizoram	7
17.	Nagaland	5
18.	Orissa	42
19.	Punjab	9
20.	Rajasthan	22

1	2	3
21.	Sikkim	13
22.	Tamil Nadu	35
23.	Tripura	24
24.	Uttar Pradesh	45
25.	West Bengal	16
Total States		671

UTs

1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	6
2.	Chandigarh	2
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
4.	Delhi	2
5.	Daman and Diu	—
6.	Lakshdweep	—
7.	Pondicherry	9
Total UTs		20
Grand Total		691

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I want to know when the discussion under the Rule 184 regarding the Mumbai incidents will be taken up....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are now taking up the Papers Laid on the Table. You may raise it after that.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Statement of Accounts & Annual Report (Rules) regarding National Commission for Backward Classes and Annual Reports and Review of the Working of National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the National Commission for Backward Classes (Annual Statement of Accounts and Annual Report) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 384(E) in Gazette of India dated 30th August, 1996, under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2198/97]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts, and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2199/97]

Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. and Deptt. of Chemicals and Petrochemicals

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English Versions) between the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilisers, for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2200/97]

Governors (Allowances and Privileges) (Amendment) Rules, 1997

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Governors (Allowances and Privileges) (Amendment) Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 326(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th June, 1997 under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Governors (Emoluments, Allowances and Privileges) Act, 1982.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2201/97]

Annual Accounts and Review of the Working of National Institute of the Agriculture Extension Management

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1995-96, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Hyderabad, for the year 1995-96.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2202/97]

Notification regarding Environment (Protection) Act, 1986

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 318(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 1997 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 60(E) dated the 7th January, 1994, issued under sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 3 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2203/97]

Regarding Notification issued under Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. S.O. 355(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 28 April,

1997 appointing the members of the Bureau of Indian Standards with immediate effect, issued under section 3 of the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2204/97]

Notifications of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 and Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Rules etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 490 of the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957:—

- (i) Notification No. U-14011/160-89-Delhi (I) published in Delhi Gazette dated the 29th November, 1996 containing order extending the period of supersession of MCD for an additional period of three months with effect from the 1st December, 1996.
- (ii) Notification No. U-14011/160-89-Delhi (I) published in Delhi Gazette dated the 28th February, 1997 containing order extending the period of suppression of MCD for an additional period of one month with effect from the 1st March, 1997.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2205/97]

(2) A copy of the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Rules, 1997 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 391(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th July 1997, under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the Central Industrial Security Force Act, 1968.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2206/97]

Notification regarding Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 109 of the Multi State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984:—

- (i) The Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Registration, Membership, Direction and Management, Settlement of Disputes, Appeal and Revision) Amendment Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 257(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th May, 1997.
- (ii) The Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Privileges, Properties and Funds, Accounts,

Audit, Winding up and Execution of Decrees, Orders and Decisions) (Amendment) Rules, 1997 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 258(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th May, 1997.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2207/97]

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Twelfth Report

SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR (Dibrugarh) : Sir, I beg to present the Twelfth Report (Hindi and English versions) of Standing Committee on Petroleum and Chemicals (1996-97) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Ninth Report on 'Demands for Grants' (1997-98) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (Part I).

I may also inform the House that the Report was presented to the hon. Speaker on 2nd July, 1997 under Direction 71A(1) when the House was not in session and the Speaker was pleased to order the printing, publication and circulation of the Report under Rule 280 of Rules of Procedure.

12.03¹/₄ hrs.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Central Coordination Committee

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : Sir, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of Section 3(2)(h) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members on the Central Coordination Committee for the period till they cease to be the Members of the House subject to other provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That in pursuance of Section 3(2)(h) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the members of this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two Members from among themselves to serve as Members on the Central Coordination Committee for the period till they cease

to be the Members of the House subject to other provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder."

The motion was adopted.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS)

12.03¹/₂ hrs.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : I beg to lay on the table a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1997-98.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I want to raise a matter regarding today's business. ... (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : An understanding was reached that the matter which is being discussed now will be disposed of before two o'clock. ... (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot hear you. Let Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan make a point.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV (Purnea) : A conspiracy has been hatched to kill me. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will come to that.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, an understanding was reached regarding today's business. We have a Motion on Bihar which was moved by the Leader of the Opposition. I request you to finish that item today by dispensing with the lunch hour. The matter can be disposed of by two o'clock. I think, an understanding has been reached that the Motion under

Rule 184 regarding atrocities on dalits in Mumbai can be taken up at two o'clock. Please announce that in the House. ... (Interruptions). We want to plan our programme. We want to know when the Maharashtra matter will come up. There is an understanding with the Speaker. Please let us know. ... (Interruptions).

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Chairman, I gave a notice today. ... (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Regarding the point raised by Shri Prithviraj Chavan, I want to inform the House that there was an understanding in the discussion that we had with the leaders of the political parties that we would complete the discussion on Bihar by sitting continuously, skipping the lunch hour and we would dispose of the discussion on Bihar, as early as possible.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when was this discussion with the leaders of the political parties held yesterday and where was it held?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There was no meeting.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : I must know the factual position.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will tell you. There was no formal meeting of the party leaders. I did not say that. What I said was, about the Bihar discussion the party leaders met the hon. Speaker.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, a wrong thing should not go on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sarpotdar, please listen to me. I did not say that there was a meeting. I said that there was an understanding. That means, the party leaders met the hon. Speaker and there was an understanding. I did not say that there was a decision taken and I did not say that there was a meeting. Please understand.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR (Mangalore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no urgency to finish the discussion today itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is nothing like that. Nobody wants an item to drag on like that. Otherwise, there is no question of urgency.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sarpotdar, what are you arguing? I do not understand. What is your argument?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I was about to inform the House something. In between what do you want to ask?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Sir, my only argument was that a wrong thing should not go on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But how can you say that without hearing me?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : It was not discussed anywhere. If there was a meeting, all parties should be included in that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please listen to me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have already taken seven hours and 49 minutes on the discussion about Bihar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you stand up and say something on every issue like this, it will not help us.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We had a sufficiently long discussion on Bihar. It is good that the House got an opportunity and the remaining Members who want to participate in the discussion will also get the opportunity to speak. It is an understanding of the leaders who had a discussion with the hon. Speaker that we can continue with this discussion by skipping the lunch hour today. This is what I want to inform the House. So, the discussion on Bihar will continue. There is no cutting short of the discussion and there is no denying of opportunity to the Members. The Members will get the opportunity. But please understand that we have been discussing this Motion for seven hours and 49 minutes now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, kindly check up the records. It has not been discussed for so long.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have all the records before me. Then why do you argue on this point?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point in arguing like this. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, how long the Bihar issue would be debated. This has been going on for the last three days. You may convert it to Rule 193 from Rule 184.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, what you are saying is not going on record. I have not allowed you. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have informed the House about the understanding which was reached yesterday.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the understanding was that those Members whose names have been given by the parties would be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, I said that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are not taking up Zero Hour today and we are continuing the discussion on Bihar.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I am not raising any Zero Hour matter. I gave a notice on a pertinent matter. On 25th July, I gave a notice under rule 184 and reminded the hon. Speaker today again by giving another notice that my Motion under rule 184 pertaining to the Personal Ledger Scam of West Bengal should be taken up. I want to know whether you are going to take that up or not. It is lying there for quite some time. I want to know the fate of that Motion. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we will continue the discussion on Bihar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : How many times I told you to take your seat? Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not behave like this. I told you that the matter which you have raised is before the Chair. We will come to that later. But what is the point in shouting like this? Please understand that we are not taking up any Zero Hour issues today. Many issues are being raised today. A notice was given under Rule 184 by Shri Dasmunsi, Shri Panigrahi and Shri Ramesh Chennithala, and another notice was given under Rule 193 by Prof. P.J. Kurien. All these notices are under the active consideration of the hon. Speaker. So, a decision will be taken on this and the same will be informed to you. Then only, we can take up those matters. We are not taking up any other item today and, with the consent of the House, we are going to continue the discussion on Bihar. We are also skipping the lunch hour today and continue with the discussion.

SHRI A.C. JOS (IDUKKI) : What about matters under Rule 377?

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have also given a notice regarding Babrala.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, matters under Rule 377 should be allowed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, we shall now take up matters under Rule 377.

12.13 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (I) **Need to take steps to check erosion caused by Chambal river in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.**

[Translation]

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, thousands of hectares of cultivable land on both banks of the Chambal river which passes through Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have turned into ravines due to erosion of soil. As per the survey conducted by the scientists, if the pace of this erosion is

not arrested. Bhind and Muraina districts of Madhya Pradesh would be cut off from the map of Madhya Pradesh turning into ravines of the Chambal. Whatever amount the Government had made available for this purpose was rather wasted more and utilised less. This fact is indicated in the Government's report too. If the Chambal valley is to be made green and cultivable, the only remedy for that lies in providing loans to the local landless and unemployed youths at the normal interest rate by the Government to make ravines cultivable by providing on lease.

Therefore, I would like to request the Union Government, through you, that necessary steps should be taken to arrest the erosion of thousands of hectares of land on either side of the banks of the Chambal river.

- (ii) **Need to set up a Diagnostic Centre of Cancer in Barpeta District of Assam.**

[English]

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta) : The incidence of cancer is alarmingly growing in Assam particularly in the district of Barpeta. Every year people of different walks of life have been affected by the killer disease and many die of cancer. Ignorance prevailing among the people about the disease and absence of any diagnostic centre in the district have stood in the way for early diagnosis of the disease and consequent treatment. There is a strong and urgent demand for setting up a centre for the diagnosis and the treatment of the disease as except B. Barooah Cancer Institute at Gauhati, there is no such centre in the lower Assam and people in the District are willing to offer land for setting up the centre.

In view of the above, I would request the Union Government to consider this important and urgent issue and take necessary and immediate measures for setting up a diagnostic centre to check the growth rate of the cancer patients in the district.

- (iii) **Need for Erection of Anti-Sea Erosion Walls Along the Arabian Sea Coast of Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu.**

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagarcoil) : Arabian sea coast of Kanyakumari district is one of the major marine fish producing centres in the country. Fishermen in large numbers are living there. They are fully depending on fishing which is their traditional and only occupation. Now sea erosion is posing grave threat of destruction and damage. This year it has caused heavy loss and damages to the poor fishermen. Several fishing vessels, nets and houses are washed away by the rough sea and mighty

waves. It is one of the worst sea erosion-prone and affected areas in the country. Anti-sea erosion walls are erected in some places. Some places are left out without anti-sea erosion walls. Such places are open to sea-erosion damages. In some places where sea erosion walls were erected, they collapsed due to lapse of time and replacement of sea erosion walls are required there.

I request the Central Government to take immediate steps for the erection of anti-sea erosion walls and render other remedial measures to the affected places by formulation and implementation of National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) or by adoption of other measures of protection to overcome this natural calamity.

(iv) Need for Reconstruction of a Bridge on Drain along the Border in Amritsar District of Punjab.

SHRI MAJOR SINGH UBOKE (Tarantaran) : After the Indo-Pak war of 1971, a defence drain was constructed along the border in Amritsar district of Punjab. Its distance from the actual boundary line varies. Large tracks of land fall on Pakistan side of the drain. Even some villages fall on that side. In order to facilitate cultivation of land and keep vigil on the barbed wire fencing and beyond up to the boundary line, many bridges were constructed by the GREF under the guidance of the Army.

Unfortunately, a bridge on the Khalra-Dall-War Section of the Defence drain in front of Wan village in Patti Tehsil of Amritsar District in Punjab has been washed away. The people are facing considerable problems in crossing the drain for the purpose of cultivation of the land.

I request the Government to ask the Army and GREF to reconstruct the bridge at the earliest.

(v) Need to give financial assistance to State Government of Bihar for providing relief to the people affected by floods in Saran, Bihar.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMBAHADUR SINGH (Maharajganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, incultivable loss is caused to life and property in the Northern Bihar each year due to the fury of floods and this has become the destiny of Bihar but the situation has become all the more alarming this time because of the ongoing untimely rains followed by hailstorms those areas have also come in the grip of

floods which has not so far been affected by it and the Saran commissionery has to bear the brunt of it.

Therefore, I appeal the Union Government to take Suomoto action to take up this extraordinary situation and provide financial assistance to the State Government to save life and property of the people.

(vi) Need to bring Delhi Police under direct control of Government of National Capital Territory.

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA (Outer Delhi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, although 34 years have elapsed since Delhi attained statehood but the policy of depriving the Delhi Government of its basic rights by the Centre has been continuing till date. It is ironical that Delhi has been given the status of statehood but the Centre has taken away the important responsibility of the Delhi Government regarding maintenance of law and order by keeping the Delhi Police under its control. There is no such state in the country which does not have its own police force. The Union Government should ponder over the fact that when the right to enact laws rests with the Delhi Government, the policy of implementing them should also rest with it on the one hand, the 50th anniversary of Independence is being celebrated all over the country at the same time the rights of the Delhi Government are being curbed. This has had adverse effect on the law and order situation in the capital, Delhi. The newspapers are swamped by the reports of theft, dacoity, kidnapping, murders, rape and other such incidents daily. There is lack of coordination and understanding between the Delhi Government and the Delhi Police as it is not under its control and as a result of it, there has been a spate of crimes in Delhi.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that for preventing rising crimes in the National Capital and accelerating the pace of developmental works, the Delhi Police should be put under the control of the Delhi Government so that the sole responsibility of maintaining peace and security of citizens lies in one government and desired improvement could be brought about in this direction.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Krishan Lal Sharma, what is there in the approved text will only go on record. So, why do you waste your valuable time?

...(Interruptions)

- (vii) Need to clear the Projects of State Government of Kerala for providing basic amenities to the devotees coming to Sabarimala Ayyappa Temple.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : The Sabarimala Ayyappa Temple in Pathanamthitta district of Kerala is one of the most important Pilgrim Centres in the country. There are lakhs of devotees of Lord Ayyappa coming to this holy place every year from different parts of the country to have darshan. This Temple is situated in the midst of forest. The devotees reach this Temple through the forest on foot after taking holy bath at the river Pamba. From Pamba, one has to climb on foot about 12 kms. to reach the *Sannidhanam*.

Every year, the number of devotees are increasing and it is creating a lot of problems nowadays as the people are facing lack of basic amenities like shelter, sanitary, medical facilities etc. due to lack of space. The Devasom Board, which is managing this Temple, is not in a position to provide these basic amenities.

In order to find out some solution to these problems of the devotees, the Devasom Board and the State Government of Kerala have submitted some projects to the Central Government. The Central Government has not yet taken any concrete step by making necessary amendments to the existing Forest and Environment Protection Act.

Keeping in view the alarming increase of flow of devotees to this famous Temple, I urge upon the Central Government to take immediate steps and issue necessary orders to the Forest Department to allot sufficient land in and around the Temple so as to enable the Devasom Board to provide the basic amenities like sanitation, medical aid and shelter etc. to the devotees of this famous Temple.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL (LADAKH) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my statement has been made out of context and it does not convey the meaning which I intended.

[English]

If you permit me, I would like to discuss the statement with the Secretary-General and read it again tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Namgyal, you may just read out the statement which you have given. That is all.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : My statement is something different. If you permit me, I will read this one.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can read out the statement.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : In this, the meaning carried out for Pre-'53 is a different one and I oppose it. We oppose the position of Pre-1953 position for Jammu and Kashmir. This meaning should not be assigned to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How did it happen?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : The hon. Member is saying that he had given a statement. Normally, certain things are edited so that the statement is under the rules. If the meaning is not being conveyed, the best course for him would be to submit the statement tomorrow. He should be allowed to do that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Namgyal, you can submit the statement tomorrow.

12.26 hrs.

MOTION RE : SERIOUS SITUATION ARISING
OUT OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
IN BIHAR—Contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up further discussion on the Motion moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Shri Lalmuni Chaubey is on his legs. He may continue please.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAGAR (Barabanki) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, please listen me for a minute.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Take your seat. We are not taking up this today.

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH (Aonla) : We have a long been submitting notices regarding Babrala.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have decided not to take up any other item. This is the decision.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI (Shahabad) : You intend to speak disregarding all norms? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Dumariaganj) : We are not violating any laws. Since the commencement of this session, we have a long been raising the Babrala issue in the Zero hour alongwith the submission of notices. You please give us the opportunity.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Take your seat. That can be taken up tomorrow and not today.

Shri Lalmuni Chaubey to continue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have point of order. I am quoting the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Kripal, please take your seat. I have moved on to the next item.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : You please listen my point, then give your ruling ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you disturb the proceedings like this? You are raising the same item in a different form.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : We are not disturbing. I am not quoting the rule 190 please listen to me and then give your ruling.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is the same item you had raised earlier also.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Wouldn't you listen on the point of order?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : If it is not relevant, it is not correct from your side. I have been listening to you. You have been raising the same issue number of times.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Why?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is only to get the attention of the House, you are raising the issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : I am quoting a new thing and you have to decide about it under Rule 190. You please listen to me for a minute and then decide whichever way you want.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Lalmuni Chaubeyji, please take your seat. Ram Kripalji, I can tell you one thing that you are raising matters in the House in such a way that the proceedings are affected. You are repeatedly raising the same issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the rule 190 is under the rule 184.

"The Speaker may, after considering the state of business in the house and in consultation with the leader of House [or on the recommendations of the Business Advisory Committee] note a day or days or part of day for the discussion of any such motion."

The discussion can take place on the scheduled time. You have not fixed any time. You are holding discussion constantly. You please fix the date in this regard.

The second thing in Rule 191 is this that:

"The Speaker shall at the appointed hour on the allotted day or the last of the allotted days, as the case may be, forthwith put every question necessary to determine the decision of the House on the original question."

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

You please give you ruling on the Rule 190. I have pointed it out as to how long this debate will continue, two days, four days or five days. You please allot the time thereafter you hold the discussion. We have no objection to hold the discussion but you please allot the time as provided in the Rule 190. This is what I wanted to request.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Have you finished?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Yes, Sir.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Then take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : How long, would you please tell?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry to say that there is no point of order. The Chair has already given the ruling. After the ruling, you are not supposed to raise this issue again. This is the very same issue. We have decided that the discussion will continue. Under Rule 190, you have mentioned about the Adjournment Motion that should be taken up the same day. This issue was raised in the House number of times and the Speaker has decided that this discussion will continue. It is not necessary on your part to say anything. It is done in consultation with the Leader of the House and also other leaders. The Speaker has taken a final decision and the decision was announced.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Would you fix any time limit or a continuous discussion would be held? Would you not take a different stand on it. ...*(Interruptions)* My submission is that would you fix a time limit in this regard or not?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Kripal Yadav, please take your seat. You are not following what is happening in this House. I cannot help it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : When you are holding the business in the House disregarding the relevant Rule, I don't have to say anything. Nevertheless I have registered my protest.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given the ruling on it and thereafter it is not proper to raise this issue.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have risen to speak for the very first time and I hope that Ram Kripal Yadav ji would keep up his cool. I would also earnestly request my senior colleagues to forgive me for my poor expression.

I am deeply anguished to state that today Bihar is reeling under a sense of humiliation and discarded boss and we people of Bihar are constantly at the receiving end.

Whenever we people travel in the trains or stroll in the lobbies or in the Central Hall people after knowing that we belong to Bihar, react quite sarcastically and their curt smile penetrates deep into our heart and minds reducing us to a shameful lot.

Sir, I feel that the state of Bihar has such a glorious rich past that Indian culture devoid of the culture and heritage of Bihar will be reduced to a nonentity. I do not think that Bihar looks in anything still we are termed as poor and backward. We have very rich reserves of minerals such as mica, coal, iron, copper, uranium, chromium etc. Bihar has ample fertile agriculture land and we have vast network of rivers to provide irrigation. The land of Bihar is not only rich in gems but it has also produced many a great persons. Pointing towards your Chair I want to say that its pillar of Ashoka and Chakra are also from Bihar. So, Bihar's land not only contains valuable minerals but it has been the land of many bravesons. Several great men were born in Bihar. Who are recognised and revered world over. The land of Mithila belongs to Janak, Bhagalpur the land of great Karna, the holy land of Monghyer, Gaya where Buddha attained enlightenment and 'Karm Bhumi' of Biragh Munda all lies in Bihar. Shersha of Sasaram who defeated Kumanyu and sat on the throne of Delhi belonged to Sasaram. Bimsar Ashok and Samundra Gupta, who ruled India in its golden period belonged to Bihar and Vaishali is the land to have developed democracy. We the people of Bihar, quite paradisiacally are looked down upon for belonging to Bihar. Great leaders like Shri Jai Prakash Narayan ji became famous by the Diara episode. Shri Rajendra Babu belonged to Chhapra and the biggest

cheat Natwar Lal and Shri Laloo Prasad also belonged to Bihar.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : Where was Kesriji born?

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : I will tell that also. We felt that a youth from a poor family had taken over the reigns of Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : He has not remembered Rajendra Babu but he is mentioning our Lalooji repeatedly. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : I was also saying that we people hoped that our Lalooji would follow Rajendra Babu but he followed others. Scam after scam began to surface. You and the people of the country think that the funds involved in animal husbandry scam are related only to the fodder for animals but it is not so. The funds earmarked for scholarship to the Dalit students, pension for old age Dalits, Indira Awas Yojana, funds allocated for buying rickshaws to the unemployed Dalits, funds provided for construction of schools, hospitals and bridges are also included in the amount of rupees nine hundred and fifty crores. The funds provided for the development of rural villages, poor and Dalits have been plundered. ...*(Interruptions)**. If there is any objection, I withdraw my words but I would like to submit that it is a matter of great concern for Dalits. Only Dalits have been mentioned. Dalits have been killed in Mumbai, Maharashtra but that matter has not been discussed. They are making noise. Dalits have been killed there as result of firing of bullets, by the police. It hurts me and I would like to express my anguish over it. 35 incidents of killing have occurred in Bihar during seven years. 13 incidents of killing have taken place daily and in those incidents 24 thousand Dalits have been killed. This is your liberal feeling about these 24 thousand Dalits, this is the feeling of voting and purchasing of vote and you are saying that the toll in Maharashtra is 24. You are leader of Dalits. Funds allocated for Dalits have been swindled and 24 thousand Dalits have been killed in Bihar and, as such, should not Article 356 be invoked? Six undertrials have been killed in Bihar. Their deaths have occurred under suspicious circumstances. Should Article 356 not have been invoked in Bihar? A Judge of the Patna High Court has observed that jungle raj is prevailing in Bihar. Should Article 356 not be used then? ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, CAG has observed in their report that financial management in Bihar is unsatisfactory. Should Article 356 not have been used there? Let Shri

Pawar, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, other Members of the House and so called leaders of Dalits, Ram Vilas ji tell me when should Article 356 be invoked. Sir, they are also not committing less sin. Yesterday, Shri Gujral was enraged and his stature was worth watching. He in fact, lowered the dignity of the high office which was once adorned by great personalities like Lai Bahadur Shastri. Now-a-days in the House and outside it, he is saying that he would not spare wrong doers and that he would not compromise with corruption. Let me ask him as to how he is going to do it ...*(Interruptions)**

Both are involved in the violation of FERA. Both have violated FERA and the Calcutta High Court. ...*(Interruptions)**. It is said that they have purchased a company from foreign countries for rupees ten crores and made payment for it through a foreign account. ...*(Interruptions)**. But there is Directorate of Enforcement ...*(Interruptions)** enquiry should be conducted in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)**.

Sir, I have a proof with me and I am speaking with proof. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Sir, he is not in the House. It should not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I can listen to only one person at a time.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA (Puri) : He is not here to defend himself. This must be expunged. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not make any such references.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not in the House. Shri Lalmuni Chaubey, please do not refer to his name.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a proof.

MR. CHAIRMAN : One minute please.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

*Not Recorded.

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : ...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The persons you have referred to are not present in the House. So, that will not form part of the record.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : I shall not name him. I ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given the ruling that it will not form part of the record. Why should you shout like this?

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : This is not fair. Names of those persons should not be mentioned who are not in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : But in this very House such persons have been named. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is this? Please let him speak.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman Sir, now-a-days Gujral Saheb is saying repeatedly that he will not compromise with corruption and that he will not spare any such person, not even his family member. ...*(Interruptions)**. The Directorate of Enforcement is working in Patna and Delhi but the officials of the IB are conducting raid on this Directorate. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PARASRAM MEGHWAL (Jalore) : I am on a Point of Order. I want to know whether Bihar is the subject of discussion or Kesriji. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chaubey, you have to conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Who ordered the raid to be conducted on the Directorate of Enforcement and why? Senior leaders of the Congress party and my friend Shri Tariq Anwar are sitting here. Shri Anwar made very good comment about Shri Advani when he said that their President had tendered his resignation. But their President did not resign even after he was chargesheeted.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (Katihar) : Was chargesheet not filed?

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : I am quoting 'Jansatta'.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chaubey, you have to conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Seven questions were put to Shasai Hun who lives in Toronto, on the 26th May by the Directorate of Enforcement. The question was whether you know. ...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude within a minute.

[Translation]

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : It is written in newspaper, it is written in 'Jansatta'. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time of the House is very valuable. We have to go through the records. We have to remove many things. You are not expected to quote from materials which are not authenticated. You should not refer to the names of those persons who cannot give reply in the House. That will have to be removed.

So, on records, your speech would remain incomplete. Please keep this in mind. Please do not refer to such names and also please do not quote such things which cannot form part of the record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : O.K. I will not mention the name. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why do you not understand this?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I said that about the names only.

...*(Interruptions)*.

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Earlier also, the names of those, who are not members of this House, have been repeatedly mentioned here. ...*(Interruptions)* The name of Harshad Mehta was mentioned here. You can check it from the records. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : One Member can speak at one time, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have allowed Shri Ram Naik. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : First you give ruling on my Point of Order. ...*(Interruptions)*

The names of those who are not the members of this House have been repeatedly mentioned here. You can check it from the records.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is raising the same matter. I have allowed Shri Ram Naik to speak. You may please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not going on record. Whatever Shri Iliyas Azmi says is not going on record. Shri Iliyas Azmi, please do not waste the time of the House.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, in a discussion of this type, the names of those persons who are not the Members of this House or who are not present or those who cannot speak on their behalf would naturally come. The names of Shri Advani, Shri Munde and others have come. So, such names would naturally come.

What the hon. Member quotes is from the newspaper. Quoting from the newspaper and quoting something from a piece of paper which is not authenticated are different. The hon. Member is quoting from the newspaper which is always allowed here. At the most, one can say that it is not the subject matter of discussion; and it is all right. But he can quote from the newspapers. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have very limited time.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai, North-East) : Sir, if we have to refer to only those who are present here, then the debate would not be fair. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is not the point. Please take your seat. I did not mean that also. Please understand that. I am not saying that names of those who are not present in the House should not be referred to. But making an allegation against a person who is not present in the House is not proper. I have noticed this in Shri Chaubey's speech. So, I said that that would not form part of the record. One can quote from the newspapers; I am not saying that one cannot do that. But one cannot make any allegation against any person who is not present in the House, without giving an advance notice to that effect in writing.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please understand that. That is not the point. Shri Chaubey, I want to remind you of this. Please keep in mind the Motion moved by Shri Vajpayee, which says, "... passive attitude of the Central Government ...". But you have not said a word about that. You cannot go on talking about what is happening in Bihar. That is not the subject matter of our discussion now. Please confine your speech to the Motion before the House and conclude your speech in two minutes' time.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : All that I have to say is that the Prime Minister is giving wrong statements in

[Shri Lalmuni Chaubey]

and outside the House and is encouraging corruption.
...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What Shri Ilyas Azmi says is not going on record. Nothing other than what Shri Chaubey says is going on record. Whatever Shri Chaubey says will only go on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chaubey, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know whether any document and affidavit in regard to a person can be placed before the House? Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am standing here with the affidavit of the Prime Minister.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please come to the subject.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am putting a small question because you are our guardian.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am calling the next speaker. Please conclude in two minutes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please come back to the subject.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : I was saying that if I had an affidavit of a person, can it be placed before the House?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude in two minutes.

*Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : This affidavit pertains to the time of last Lok Sabha elections and it shows that the Prime Minister had given his Patna address wrong to the Election Commission.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, how can you permit him to speak like that. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down. I tell you that this is wrong.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : It can be verified. I am showing this affidavit.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will pursue the record and what cannot form part of the record will be removed. So, please conclude in two minutes.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am saying that whatever the Prime Minister has done during these four months till date has increased corruption to the dangerous proportions—the fact which was unheard of during the tenure of the previous Prime Ministers. May I say that the origin of corruption in Bihar is in Delhi and it continues to be so even today. Otherwise what sort of change is there in Bihar? Today for the first time in the last 50 years, if in a particular circumstance an adjournment motion is being converted into another form of discussion, it is not so historical. It is historical because of the fact that as this adjournment motion changed, so did the situation of Bihar. This adjournment motion has been taken for discussion under Rule 184. "Bhaiya ki bhabhi chali ayee" ...(Interruptions) I have great respect for women. I adore women "ramyante tatra devta. pujoyante yatra nar" meaning thereby that where woman is adored, gods live there. Girija ji you were there in the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for some time. Your good looking face was seen there.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please take your seat? Your time is over.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say that murderer is not the one who is imprisoned nor is the one who is absconding.

[English]

SHRI PINAKI MISHRA : Now this is filibustering. This member has been put up by the BJP to avoid the discussion on ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, what I was saying was that the real murderer was not the one who was behind bars nor was the real murderer the one who was absconding, the real murderer was the one who was occupying the throne. The change in Bihar is such....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now I think you can conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to recite a couplet on the change in Bihar.

"Mali kahta hai chaman badla hai, panchhi kahte hein gagan badla hai,

magar samshan ki khamoshi kahti hai, lash wohi eir kafan badla hai."

You should not destroy the decorum while you are occupying that place. I was not there in the Lok Sabha but I was there in the Legislative Assembly for 27 years. ...*(Interruptions)*. People like Tariq Anwar are supporting those who were selling 'Khuddi' for Rice and were paraded on the roads of Patna. This is a matter of shame. I never thought you could support them.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Pramotes Mukherjee will speak. I have a request to all the parties. This is not the responsibility of only the Chairman to control the time. We have come to an understanding. There are seven more speakers to speak. The Mover has also to reply. So, please be restrained. Do not go beyond five minutes.

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : Sir, I am the only speaker from my party.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have had more than eight hours on this Motion. So, kindly try to be brief.

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE : Should I be a victim?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no; not you alone. All the speakers will have to be brief.

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE : Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to express our views on the Motion moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

The Motion contains two aspects, that is, the seriousness of the situation in Bihar and the passive attitude of the Government of India. There is no doubt about the serious situation. The serious situation demanded the resignation of the charge-sheeted Chief Minister and he had to resign. But even after his resignation, the situation does not stand altered. So, there is no doubt about the serious situation. But I do not mind that the Government of India have shown its passive attitude towards the recent developments in Bihar.

12.58 hrs.

(SHRI CHITTA BASU in the Chair)

The Mover of the Resolution, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the hon. Leader of the Opposition, has brilliantly moved the Motion. He did not advocate the imposition of Article 356 in the State of Bihar. But he had aptly quoted from the writings of Shri C. Subramaniam, he highly respected Member of the Constituent Assembly. He had pleaded that the pleasure of the Governor can be withdrawn in such a case as in Bihar. With your kind permission, I quote from the writing of Shri C. Subramaniam, that is, *Agenda of Action*, Part II:

"In my view, it is a case of failure by the Governor to exercise his constitutional powers to withdraw his pleasure and remove the Chief Minister."

Perhaps this was the content and this was the objective of the Mover of the Resolution to draw this conclusion that the pleasure of the Governor of Bihar could be withdrawn in the case of Bihar. But I beg to differ with him in this respect because we are having a federal Constitution. We are living in an age of cooperative federalism. The pleasure of the Governor cannot be withdrawn in such cases. And if the pleasure of the Governor can be withdrawn in such a case, that will be the unilateral imposition of the Centre to rule in the affairs

[Shri Pramothas Mukherjee]

of a State. That will not be healthy. So, I beg to place here that the pleasure of the Governor even in respect of the chargesheeted Chief Minister of Bihar cannot be withdrawn. This is my first submission. It is a fact that actually there are two highly important things in the political scenario of Bihar.

13.00 hrs.

The first thing is the decadence of culture; decadence of values, the decadence of moral and ethical standards in public life.

Sir, with your kind permission I would like to quote from the writings of Shri C. Subramaniam, who was a highly respected Member of the Constituent Assembly. What was the quotation? I quote:

"We find an alarming decline in social and ethical standards in public life. We have witnessed a steep fall in the value system. Corruption, bribery, violence and disrespect for moral values are all pervasive. We have to fix the responsibility for this debasement mainly on politicians".

Sir, this is the situation. This is the decadence of values; this is the decadence of moral and ethical standards in public life. This has led to the growing corruption and criminalisation of politics. This has also placed the *mafia raj* in politics and in every sphere of social life in Bihar. This is the fact and this is the first thing in the political scenario of Bihar.

The second most important thing on the political scenario of Bihar is the failure of the system to punish the guilty at an appropriate time.

Sir, I seek your protection, many Members were speaking in their own fashion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is to be protected?

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Sir, I am speaking about the failure of the system. There is the highly active CBI. The Courts are active within their own jurisdiction. The Governor's House was constitutionally active and finally there is the Central Government which allowed the law to take its own course of action. Apart from all these, there is a public opinion against corruption. Yet, it is the failure of the system that the guilty was not found in time and the guilty had not been punished at an appropriate time. This is the failure of the system. Only the Central Government cannot be held responsible for the failure of the system. There are many other factors in the capitalistic rule which were responsible for this failure of the system.

Sir, my third submission is that Bihar is not the only gateway to corruption in India. Bihar is not the only key to unlock the heavens of corruption, criminalisation and *mafia raj* in India. The whole country is now being carried by a sinking boat of corruption. Bihar is simply a part; a simple compartment of this sinking boat of corruption. The whole affairs of Bihar should be judged in this fashion and not with any bias and political malice.

Sir, the mover of the motion, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee had rightly referred to the incident of resignation of Shri T.T. Krishnamachari, the then Finance Minister of India. At that time there was an uproar in the House about the Haridas Mundra scandal and the then Finance Minister resigned. His resignation had upheld the prestige, dignity and glory of this House. I can also refer to another incident which took place in the British House of Commons. In 1964 there was an uproar in the House of Commons about the Lord Profumo—Christeen Keeler scandal. After that scandal broke out, Lord Profumo, the then Defence Minister of the British Government had resigned. His resignation paved the way for the enlargement of the glory of the British Parliament.

These are a few ideal references which were expected to be followed in the case of the chargesheeted Bihar Chief Minister. But we are sorry to find that there was complete frustration in case of the Chief Minister of Bihar who was chargesheeted in the fodder scam. What he has done after his resignation—elevating his wife, a family person to that post—could not change the basic situation of the crisis. I do have the highest regard for that person. I know that the chargesheeted Chief Minister started his political life by joining the anti-corruption movement led by Shri Jai Prakash Narain. He was the leader of the backward community. He was the trusted leader of the poor and downtrodden people. There is no doubt about it. It is a historically admitted fact that he is a champion of secularism. He fought a brave and a brilliant battle against the non-secular forces which were a part of the *Rath Yatra* led by Shri L.K. Advani, who is not present here. It was he who arrested the leader of the *Rath Yatra*, Shri L.K. Advani at that time. This was the boldness he had shown in the interest of secularism and for upholding the Constitutional fabric of the country. All these things have been witnessed in history.

The saddest episode of a Chief Minister being chargesheeted in the Fodder Scam has polluted the culture of the whole nation. It is his behaviour that has polluted the culture, beauty and glory of the nation. It is he who has set a very bad example before the younger generation of our country. It is there that the situation stands critical.

But this does not indicate the failure or lapse on the part of the Central Government. This does not indicate the passive attitude of the Central Government. This does not indicate the lapse on the part of the administration or other such things. It indicates only a failure of the system because the guilty has not been punished; or the guilty has not been found out at an appropriate time.

With your kind permission I beg to submit that though there are many things enumerated in the Constitution, yet the whole country cannot be governed or the whole society cannot be governed only through the laws and rules as provided in the Constitution. The moral fabric of the country should be developed. Qualitative development is the need of the hour. I would like to mention only one thing. A nationwide campaign or a movement against corruption is a desirable thing.

With your kind permission, I would like to quote from the same writings of Shri Subramaniam. I would like to mention as to what task he envisaged for the country before it entered into its 50th year of Independence. The task was, to launch a nationwide movement to raise the consciousness, moral standards and values of the people. I quote:

"A national movement for the eradication of corruption is the need of the day. Let the Golden Jubilee of our independence be taken as an occasion to launch this movement."

I again appeal to you that many things cannot be controlled or guided alone by the rules and regulations of the Constitution. But the moral fabric should be developed and qualitatively changed in the State of Bihar. A nationwide movement against corruption is the demand of the day. Let us start that nationwide movement against corruption in this 50th year of independence. This is all that I wish to submit.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the subject, which we are discussing today, has many aspects and first of all I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the economic condition in Bihar and the way of running administration for the long time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, last week on 23 the day on which the session of Lok Sabha begins, the questions which were supposed to be asked on that day, the subject of question No. 7 was that how much money was disbursed

for urban infrastructure in entire country and in each state through HUDCO.

How much money involved in the schemes prepared and the quantum of loan given to states separately by HUDCO. In toto the schemes of rupees 7154 crores were prepared and HUDCO has given rupees 3829 crores as loan. From this maximum amount has gone to Karnataka. Schemes worth rupees 1462 crores were prepared for Karnataka and rupees 649 crores given by HUDCO as loan and the Bihar got the lowest amount as compared to others. Schemes worth rupees 31 crores were prepared for Bihar and rupees 20 crores were received as loan. Now we cannot say that it is fault of HUDCO because HUDCO gives so much of money as the state government has the capacity to take it. After the loan given by the HUDCO the rest of the amount has to be managed by that government itself. I am placing their part before the House because Bihar has the 10 percent of total population of the country. If the backwardness and limitations of Bihar are kept in view, where water is to be purified, roads are to be mended, only for this purpose decision is to be taken through public interest litigation in High Court by the people, keeping in view that limitation some provisions must be made for Bihar, but the Bihar which has 10 per cent population of the country, no scheme has been prepared there as per the percentage of population money is not given according to the population and in the end the loan received by Bihar is 43 paise in every 100 rupee disbursement.

[English]

0.43 per cent was the share of Bihar whose population is 10 per cent of the country's population.

[Translation]

It is the matter of limitation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I mention the other aspect. When I said that you can get money from other institutions on behalf of government so the taxes collected in Bihar, which is the government capital, is the capital of people and it is the data of last year in 1995-96. Bihar has collected rupees 219 per person as tax. In Punjab 1371, in Gujarat 1147 and in Bihar only rupees 219. Nobody should think that people in Bihar are not paying taxes or there is ban or discouragement on the collection of tax from the people in Bihar. We are discussing here the Siphoning of money by corruption. It is true that at each level this trend is in practice that the tax supposed to go in treasury is not going there. Some people have decided that the money should go to treasury from there it should go to people, then why not put it in our pockets directly and this arrangement started in Bihar.

[Shri George Fernandes]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it means that there is no need to inquire into any allegation in this regard or to conduct C.B.I. investigation. It is a record that per capita minimum tax collected in Bihar in comparison to other states. Now the result of these two facts are evident on the per capita income in Bihar. According to the data given in economic survey of this year, the per capita average income in country was rupees 9321 during 1994-95. In Maharashtra it was rupees 13112, in Punjab it was rupees 14118 which is maximum except Delhi and in Bihar it was rupees 3816.

But it does not present the real picture. If we have to understand the real picture the Chief Minister who have resigned three days back, he was sworn in as Chief Minister in 1990. If you take into account the data of 1991-92 to 1994-95, then the per capita income in Maharashtra has increased by 4997, during the last three years. In Punjab it increased by rupees 4280 and in Bihar increased by rupees 913. Total per capita income of Bihar reach by Rs. 3816, in Maharashtra by Rs. 4997, in Punjab by rupees 4280. The matter did not end here. This document was placed in this House in the last session and perhaps the debate on this issue had taken only a few hours. It was decided to take it up for discussion during last week or this week and it even appeared in the agenda also. It is there today itself. But I don't think some people will be there in the House to discuss it because no one has interest in it and those who have they are very few. But its page No. 7, this is not the document of Samata Party, it is not the document of CBI, it is the document of Planning Commission and it is the Planning Commission whose Chairman is Prof. Madhu Dandavate and Shri Inder Kumar Gujral is the Chairman. Please refer to para 1.21 on page No. 7 of this document.

[English]

There is also evidence of a deterioration of inter-regional disparities in per-capita income.

[Translation]

Regional imbalance is increasing during the last two years. Thereafter, it is stated that:

[English]

In Bihar, the per capita income, as measured by the State Domestic Product, declined—Mr. Chairman, I emphasise—from Rs. 1204 in 1990-91 to Rs. 1067 in 1994-95 at 1980-81 prices.

[Translation]

Only three years data is here.

[English]

In three years, the total fall in the per capita income in Bihar was 11.4 percent.

[Translation]

The data of succeeding two years is absent. Later two years were the years when more money was withdrawn from the treasury. For next two years the development has totally stopped in Bihar and in such a situation whenever the Planning Commission will present the data for next two years in a month or two months, it seems to me that the income of Bihar during the last five years will come down to 15 per cent or may be 20 percent according to the 1980-81 prices. This is the Bihar. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will speak for some time more please don't interrupt me.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : As you have heard, there are still about five hon. Members to speak. Over and above, I hope that there will be some intervention from the Government. After that, there will be a reply from the Mover of the Motion, the Leader of the Opposition. It has been intimated to me by the Speaker's office that the debate should conclude by two O'clock. I know that it is not possible. Therefore, I simply communicate it to the House only to bear in mind that I will have to conduct the Business of this House under these constraints.

I leave it to the hon. Member of status of Shri George Fernandes to realise the situation and help me to conduct the Business of the House in a proper manner.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have told as to what extent the issue has reached.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have just informed you.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : But it is very tragic that the savings of the people of Bihar state, which is very poor and backward, are being sent to other states for their development or the amount of saving of the people of Bihar is reaching to the other states due to such policy of the Union Government. The credit deposit ratio of public sector banks as per the latest data of December, 1996 is 29.7 percent i.e. in Bihar

[English]

out of every Rs. 100 deposited in the banks, almost Rs. 71 go outside Bihar and only Rs. 29 are spent in Bihar.

[Translation]

There is also a Government in Bihar which has been watching all these things. Now it has started looking from a new angle from the day before yesterday. Now, we want to know, since the hon. Prime Minister has interrupted the debate and has taught us new articles of the Constitution. Our friend Somnath Babu has also done the same thing. He has told that whatever was possible has been done by the CBI. I would like to raise this issue before the House that whatever has happened there, the Union Government do not have any responsibility under the Constitution.

Article 356 would not be used be there such a provision in the Constitution but it would not be used since that is a secular Government. Every secular can commit a sin therefore that would not be used but I would like to submit that it is far from the truth that the Centre has no right to intervene and 356 is not to be used. Today I am in favour of using Article 356, but we are not discussing on 356, we would like to make a mention about rights. Article 160 of the Constitution says that:

[English]

"Discharge of the functions of the Governor in certain contingencies."

[Translation]

God knows whether the hon. Law Minister, Prime Minister and Home Minister has read it or not.

[English]

"The President may make such provisions as he thinks fit in the discharge of the functions of the Governor of a State in any contingency not provided for in this Chapter."

[Translation]

All the incidents of Bihar during the last few days and the condition of the treasury during the last four-five years alongwith the condition which has cropped up in Bihar during the last one year and specially of the last two years, did not a contingency under Article 160 gives the right to the hon. President i.e. the Central Government to look towards the state. Recently the former Chief Minister of Bihar had started saying as to where it has been mentioned in the Constitution of India that the Government cannot be run by sitting in the jail. It has

not been mentioned. He was right when he said so and he could run the Government by sitting in the jail since it has not been mentioned in the Constitution that the Government cannot be run by sitting in the jail. You are being prosecuted then also you cannot run and may be that some one can say that he can run the Government even after being held guilty. We had admitted and again I would like to submit that the frame makers of the Constitution, who sat in the Central Hall and the Members of the Constituent Assembly had never dreamt that such a day would come in India when the Chief Minister and the people holding official posts would have to go to jail and they would have to run the Government by sitting in the jail. Therefore, it is said that we do not have the right but I would like to submit that there is the right. Then there is the financial emergency under Article 360. If financial emergency is not imposed in Bihar then where it would be imposed? What is the meaning of this Article of the Constitution?

[English]

"If the President is satisfied that a situation has arisen whereby the financial stability or credit of India or of any part of the territory thereof is threatened, he may by a Proclamation make a declaration to that effect."

[Translation]

Has not that situation cropped up in Bihar? What sort of the situation should be and when would be that situation? Has not the opposition in Bihar has asked for the financial emergency in Bihar? It means that Bihar should be saved and that means that the money which has been spent should be utilised for developmental works but the same has not been done and all the other things except that went on. The employees there have not got the salaries for the last two-three years. Do not the hon. Members from Bihar know that 200-250 employees of roadways committed suicide there due to not receiving the salaries. I have their names

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Please tell the names.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : We have given the names to the Governor that these people have died. The employees of the University did not get the salaries. Most of the Government institutions and schools have closed down. The employees of the forest department were sacked in thousands of numbers. Which economic sector has been left aside in Bihar even then the Centre did not come to know about the situation. There is total breakdown there.

[Shri George Fernandes]

Therefore it is being said that there is no right. The right has been conferred upon you under Articles 360 and 160. But I go one step ahead of that. There is the consolidated fund in the Constitution. We discuss here on the budget for two-three months in a year. Discussions in standing committees on the budget of different departments is held. Everything is done on the basis of Constitution. We know that without permission of the Parliament even a single pie cannot be drawn from the consolidated fund of India. The consolidated fund is constituted under Article 266. The consolidated fund of the states is also enacted under that Article.

"...All the revenues received by the Government of India, all loans raised by that Government by the issue of Treasury bills, loans or ways and means advances and all moneys received by that Government in repayment of loans shall form one consolidated fund to be entitled "The Consolidated Fund of India", and all revenues received by the Government of Bihar..."

[Translation]

Bihar word is not there. I am adding, this is of the state.

[English]

"No moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India or the Consolidated Fund of a State shall be appropriated except in accordance with law and for the purposes and in the manner provided in this Constitution".

[Translation]

That is appropriate. Here, we pass appropriation bill. But there, they have committed misappropriation. Nobody was aware of it. What does the Governor do, what is the duty of the Governor? Whether the Governor has not sent report to the Union Government? There has been violation of Articles 202, 203, 204, 205 and 206. There is no need of going into details of these Articles. But how money from the Consolidated Fund would be appropriated, how the over expenditure, if any, would be regularised? All these things are mentioned in these five Articles. How budget is prepared? The Governor would put his signature thereon, each document would be presented in the Assembly in the name of Governor with his signature thereon. Whether the Governor did not see all these things.

Documents have been lying there since 1990 and we have all the information about reports given by the Accountant General, Auditor General, and the CAG and

as also when the reports were presented. The Samata Party brought out a document in July, 1994 on the economic position of Bihar. We sent copies of that to the Union Government alongwith the Governor of Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)* We also prepared one more document in the third week of October, 1994 which we termed as a chargesheet wherein we have given full details of looting of State's exchequer in Bihar. It has been propagated that Dr. Biswas had prepared the CBI report in collusion with the BJP but if anybody reads the document brought out by Shri Nitish Kumar in October, 1994 before going into the details of the C.B.I. report, whatever talks are nowadays going on the accounts of upto 1994, the other reports and vigilance reports presented till then, information about all these things has been minutely described in the document brought out by him. Even the information about bulls who were transported from Haryana to Patna, Haryana to Ranchi on cycles, scooters, is given in that chargesheet which was presented to the Government and the Governor. Who refused to go through them, we want a reply to this point from the Government side. What deal was struck at the time of elections to Legislative Assembly in 1995, all these documents were concealed because of same M.Ps. who went to the residence of the then Prime Minister to call on him alongwith the Members of Parliament for concealing these documents, what transpired there that nothing would be taken away and nothing would be made public. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Sir, what the hon. speaker is speaking? I was present there at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Debates can not go on like this. Please listen to me. You stand up and begin to speak whenever you like, this is not good. Please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : ...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : What we are doing, we know about that. You please sit down. You may speak when your turn comes.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is also a manner to speak.

...*(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever he says shall not be recorded. Nothing will go on record. I have not permitted him.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I was saying that the Centre had this information with it. The report of the Governor is with the Centre and the report of the CAG is also with the Union Government. In this very House, during the tenure of the 10th Lok Sabha during the course of a Debate I had said that our politics was based on balance of blackmailing.

Our politics is based on the balance of blackmailing. Since I know that how much you have taken away and you also know that how much I have taken away. We say outside you are also a thief and I am also a thief and later on we make an understanding that I am keeping quiet, you should also keep quiet and that is the thing both of us need. It is with the help of this balance of blackmail that our work goes on. The same thing has happened in this case and as a result Bihar state has suffered. I don't want to elaborate on today's law and order situation since much has been said about it in the House. The Prime Minister has also been expressing his views in this regard. He has rejected our plea to meet him thrice but later, when we met him and talked to him about all these things, he gave us an assurance about which I would not like to tell you anything because it was a personal thing and it would not be fair to tell about it. But one thing was maintained at all stages and that is from Law Minister to every one said that there was a lack of evidence/proof etc. I quote from the affidavit submitted in the Supreme Court.

[English]

"C.A.G. report on Animal Husbandry Department for the financial year 1988-89 to 1994-95 reveals that petitioner having perused the report—the petitioner being Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav—had full knowledge of withdrawals much before the scam came to be unearthed".

The percentage of fraudulent withdrawals in 1988-89 was 17; Excess expenditure was Rs. 6,12,62,065. The perusal was done by Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav on 18.12.1993. In 1988-89, the excess expenditure was Rs. 8,65,36,915; total percentage of fraudulent withdrawal was 20. The perusal was done by Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav on 19.7.1994. In 1990-91, the Excess Expenditure was

Rs. 29,28,61,782; total percentage of fraudulent withdrawal was 53. The perusal was done by Shri Yadav on 5.4.95.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Sir, ask him as to why he is reading out fake documents/reports.

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : In 1991-92, the total fraudulent withdrawal was Rs. 70,72,04,846 amounting to 120 percent of the total amount and Shri Yadav saw it on 4.6.1995. In 1992-93, the total withdrawal was Rs. 87,72,27,635 amounting to 131 percent of the total amount and Shri Yadav saw it on 10.6.1995. In 1993-94, the total withdrawal was Rs. 125,02,73,065 amounting to 169 percent of the total amount and Shri Yadav saw it on 26.11.1995. In 1994-95, the total withdrawal was Rs. 170,60,68,251 amounting to 229 percent and Shri Yadav saw it on 21.06.1996. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : It is a very good progress.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : He is misleading the House.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : And he says that they started investigation when the work was over. He became the Chief Minister on 6th March, 1990 and the Accountant General of the State sent a letter to him on 5th April, 1990 along with an audit report dated 5th April, stating as to what was going on in Bihar and how looting was going on in Animal Husbandry Department. Several names have surfaced up in this regard. Shri Ram Jivar Singh was the then Minister of Animal Husbandry Department.

He recommended. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You know that there is no need to mention the name of any individual.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Then the case was referred to CBI and the poor chap was removed from the said Department. Such is the situation and we should discuss on this issue. It doesn't mean that the Prime Minister should loose his temper and should express his helplessness. The Prime Minister's helplessness is altogether a different matter and yesterday Nitishji has given a reply in this regard in the House. The situation will not improve by mere speeches of the Prime Minister.

[Shri George Fernandes]

This issue/situation is not confined to Bihar only, it is spreading through out the country. It is spreading in other areas also. Such situation is still prevailing in Bihar. It is being said that we can't interfere but we don't admit this thing.

We talk about 50th anniversary of Independence. There was an Interim Parliament in 1951. Pt. Nehru was the Prime Minister and Shri H.S. Mudgal was a member of Parliament during this period. He was elected like other members of Parliament. He was a scholar and a renowned writer and was owner and Editor of a newspaper. He was having everything. I don't know whether Bullion Merchants Association of Mumbai contacted him or he contacted the Association. He told the members that there is no one to take up their problems in the Parliament but he is ready to do so and this favour would incur an annual expenditure of Rs. 20,000. Then the members forwarded his letter to the committee. The committee passed it but with an instruction that he should start it with Rs. one thousand. In the first round/instalment he held talks with some Ministers. He invited them on a tea party and distributed pamphlets etc. He made efforts to seek opinion of the Members on the ongoing dispute as to whether gold should be imported or not. Later, he received a cheque of Rs. One thousand. It was a fair deal. It was not a case of looting exchequer or collecting money in the name/guise of bulls. When this came into the notice of Nehruji, he summoned Shri Mudgal to come to his office in Room no. 9. Shri Mudgal asked him if he has any complaint against him since what he did was a fair deal. Then Panditji asked him if he was not ashamed of lowering the dignity of the House to which he belonged. Nehruji forcefully put forth his point and he even used the word 'brazenness' in this regard. He tried to make him understand the position. Thereafter, Pandit ji brought a motion in this House and set up a committee of members. Shri Mudgal had to appear in person before the committee. Then the committee recommended removal of Shri Mudgal from the Parliament and a debate followed. Shri Mudgal put forth his point and sought two minutes permission from the Speaker. Thereafter, he then and there submitted his resignation. Then Pandit ji thought that this man wants to save himself from disgrace, hence he is resigning. Later, Panditji instructed that it would be mentioned in the Motion that this person deserves removal from the House and hence, he should be removed. Since Motion was taken up, these words were added to the Motion.

Gujral Saheb is a Nehruvian. Whatever this particular 'term' mean, he call himself a 'Nehruviah'. I would like to know from him as to what type of 'Nehruvian' he is?

Since we talk about transparency. We want that law should treat everyone equally. They want 'witch hunting' but we don't want it. Law should treat everyone equally whether the person is poor or a big shot. This is not only our demand, it is our principle too. Similarly, 'transparency', term should not be confined to speech only. A legislation should be enacted for this. This legislation should aim at right to know or right to conduct enquiry into expenditure incurred or flow/diversion of public fund or amount of any individual from one place to another, in case of a doubt. If enacting a legislation in this House takes time, then an ordinance should be brought in. If this ordinance would not be brought in then I would say that what Nitishji has said yesterday, which was termed good but full of vendetta by the Prime Minister was not at all a vendetta because we know everything that has been happening since 1993-94. I would not name any individual as some of them fell ill and some other are outside and some other are holding various other positions. I would request all of them to mend themselves. Once Dr. Lohia had said that if it was not possible to mend then, it was better to part ways. Therefore, we people broke away for which we have heard all kind of things.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, a discussion took place on the issue of Shri Chhagan Bhujbal and a fullfledge discussion is to be held in the House today or a day after. My life is also threatened as I was attacked on the way to my constituency on 17th July 1994 and three-four people saved my life. Among them are Shri Nitishji, the Speaker of Bihar Assembly, Shri Shivanand Tiwari and Shri Ajay who was with me and received head injuries in an attempt to save my life and Shri Brishan Patel also saved my life. In this context a court case is going on. The culprits are the office bearers of the district Janata Dal unit and Youth wing of Janata Dal who have joined the Rashtriya Janata Dal. If the Prime Minister wants to implement his words in the true spirit then, he should invoke the provisions of the Constitution. Whatever is happening in Bihar in the name of Government, the people and the M.L.As. is not approved by the Constitution. As per the Article 160 of the Constitution, the national Government, or the Prime Minister can take a decision in his cabinet in the event of contingency. The Union Defence Minister that Mulayam Singh Yadav is present here in this House and his job is not to defend the peaks of the Himalayas he has also to buttress the internal security otherwise it would be difficult to keep the country united. I would urge upon the Government to take necessary steps in this direction so as to provide the people of Bihar the opportunity to make use of their democratic rights honestly.

With these words I support this motion.

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is perhaps merely a coincidence that whenever the B.J.P brings any adjournment motion, it is followed by the winds of change. ...*(Interruptions)* when the Adjournment Motion was brought on Uttar Pradesh it brought about a complete change in the scenario there, and in case of Bihar, it caused the so called change of power there. But this transfer of power was quite strange in many ways. Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav had always openly declared that he would rule from Jail which he has proved in Bihar. He reluctantly relinquished the Chair under the pressure from public opinion and Parliament but not before installing his shadow in the chair of the Chief Minister which you may call his wife or Rabari Devi but for all purpose she is merely his shadow.

Some people may say that we are not happy at the elevation of a woman as the Chief Minister. But does she really represent women or his husband. She has got this chair only because of his husband, we had heard of dynastic rule but Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav has ushered in a new tradition.

Those who used to debunk Nehru Family for perpetuating the dynastic rule in India, have ensured that wife takes over after the husband and thereafter the children. I could recall when this Government was formed, we had asked Shri Laloo Prasad for not including Shrimati Bhagwati Devi in the Cabinet to which he had said that she was not educated otherwise he would have been very pleased to see her in the Cabinet. I would like to ask as to what are qualifications of Shrimati Rabari Devi. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV (Banka) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, is it proper to name any individual? ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : I am not using any unparliamentary language. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would verify the record and instruct to expunge whatever is objectionable.

[English]

Please do not mention anybody's name.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : All people are mentioning the name of Rabari Devi but I am making mention of her

name with full respect. I have not debounced her. ...*(Interruptions)* We all had expected that Shrimati Kantiji can become the Chief Minister, Shri Ram Kripal Yadav always defends him, fanatically, he can become the Chief Minister but Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav has proved that none has the ability in his party to become the Chief Minister only his family members have the requisite qualifications to adorn the Chair of the Chief Minister. What else should I say ...*(Interruptions)** It would not be proper to utter it out. He may perhaps understand it. The ultimate thing is that he did not deem anybody fit to become the Chief Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Radha Mohan Singh had objected yesterday on picking up of phone call meant for the Chief Minister by Shri Laloo Prasad. Why should he object to it? It is between husband and wife. If husband wants to become the P.A. then, what is the fault of the Chief Minister. When wife and husband agree, what can we do? We do not have any objection if the Chief Minister wants to make her husband her P.A. but the P.A. should behave as a P.A. only and he should not try to become the boss. We people remove a P.A. immediately who wants to become boss and I expect that Smt. Rabari Devi would also remove the P.A. quickly if he tries to become the boss without taking any time. It is her prerogative to appoint her P.A. any person she likes. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BHAGWATI DEVI (Gaya) : Would you people throw such people out who exploit women.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Shrimati Bhagwati Deviji, why is it objectionable to you, we do not have any objection if she appoint her husband her P.A. ...*(Interruptions)* I am most distressed at the P.M. terming it a family matter and whosoever becomes the Chief Minister of Bihar, he would not interfere in the family feud.

Is the Chiefministership of Bihar Laloo's ancestral property which can be occupied by either husband or wife. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Alright, we will see to it.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not a family affair.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the mention of father's and grand father's name is highly objectionable. It should be expunged from the record. She has been elected by the MLAs elected by the people.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall examine the proceedings. If anything is unparliamentary, we shall remove it.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not take much time. I just want to raise two-four points.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can say whatever you want.

PROF. RITA VERMA : It is very good that a woman Chief Minister has been sworn in there. But whether this House is aware that this lady has been receiving income tax notices for the last two years and income tax personnel state that her reply is not satisfactory. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall go through it and then give my opinion.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot argue with you, I shall make help of rule.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Her Chief Ministership will help in Lalooji's prosperity. Notices of income tax are constantly coming.

SHRIMATI BHAGWATI DEVI : Whether her utterances are as per law?

PROF. RITA VERMA : He has given in black and white to the department of income tax that he has earned lakhs of rupees through milk business. Lalooji earned lakhs of rupees and he had mentioned this thing in his return. On the question as to how he constructed such a palatial building, he wrote that with the help of money lent by his wife. Mr. Chairman, Sir, a poet of Dhanbad has composed a small poem which I would like to recite—

"Lalooji ne Rabri Devi se
udhar lekar banaya sapanon ka ek mahal,
isme aashcharya ki kya baat hai,
Hamare bollywood mein to sada se
hot aya hi, sajan garib, sajni amir
Ya ek tu hi dhanwan hai gori,
baki sab kangal."

He gave in writing to the Department of Income Tax that he earned lakhs of rupees through milk business.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No personal question should be asked. There would be no interruption if you speak on Motion but it is not proper for us to discuss the private lives of members in Parliament on such level.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not a personal question; it is being stated by income tax officers. It is a matter of filing wrong income tax return intentionally.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Government will look into it.

PROF. RITA VERMA : I am not condemning the milk business. Any business is good if it is done honestly.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : It is a *subjudice* matter and you are speaking indiscriminately.

PROF. RITA VERMA : Ramendraji, where is the case of income tax *subjudice* ...*(Interruptions)*

14.00 hrs.

Now I would like to draw your attention towards the news item appearing in 'Hindustan Times' dated July 24. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no other question. The only question is that please take stock of the situation. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ramendra Kumarji, I have already said that the whole speech will be examined.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Sir, she is an hon. lady Member of this House. She should behave like a Member. She is also on the panel of Chairmen of this House. She should maintain the decorum of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall examine whatever she has said. If it is not proper, then we shall expunge it.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : I never use derogatory language against anyone ...*(Interruptions)* at that time the Chief Minister of Bihar was Laloo Prasad ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

"The accused in the bank loot says that the....
shared the booty."

[Translation]

Now, I would like to draw your attention towards 'The Hindustan Times' dated July, 24. At that time, the Chief Minister of Bihar was Shri Laloo Prasad. This is complete news about him. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

"One of the bank loot accused, Shri Shailendra Kumar Arya alias Langda, in course of his confessional statement before the Police made some startling revelations here today. He said that the gang had to give at least 20 per cent of the booty to the...."

[Translation]

I lay on the table of the House the newsitem of the 'Hindustan Times' dated July 24 after authenticating it. The criminals arrested there give their statement about the brothers of the Chief Minister that the looted goods which they carry to their houses. ...*(Interruptions)** I am not mentioning anybody's name but he has saintly name but his acts are quite contrary. ...*(Interruptions)* He states that the power of the state has gone in the hands of the persons who thrive on the looted goods. Where is Bihar headed for. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA (Samastipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, has she got any proof regarding her statement made in the House? Why is she citing examples in the House; has she got any proof. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, it does not need any proof. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : Do not create so much noise. I also know about your friends. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Sir, she is quoting this news item as an evidence against somebody.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a court. Please do not turn this Parliament into a court. This is not a court. Whatever she wants to say, let her say. I have already said that I shall examine the proceedings and whatever is improper and unparliamentary would be expunged.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : I am speaking what I heard. ...*(Interruptions)* When Lalooji is asked to resign on moral

grounds, he replied that he has heard of football ground, cricket ground but what is moral ground? It shows the respect he has for morality ...*(Interruptions)* instead of husband and wife, our Prime Minister is responsible for it because everything is happening before him and he is making appeal through Papers and television that we should resolve to fight against corruption. Recently, a cartoon had appeared in Hindustan Times wherein it was stated that whose hair are shining, who is hanging spectacles around his neck and who moves with stick, he should resign. ...*(Interruptions)* journalists say—

[English]

"This is the first time that he has been so specific about it."

[Translation]

Prime Minister never mentions about it that who has committed corruption and who should resign. We think that in India as an old wife never takes her husband's name, likewise Prime Minister does not take their names whereas he was asked about it many times. They say that it is very difficult to find such a good wife who never takes their names. He himself admits that Dropadi had five husbands but I have a number of husbands. Dropadi's husband used to protect her honour but we do not know what her husbands do.

Mr. Chairman, it is a matter of great concern that today we are celebrating the golden jubilee of independence and on this occasion such Prime Minister will hoist the flag from the rampart of Red Fort on 15th August who can not tell that who is corrupt and he always says that I am helpless, what can I do and it is a matter of great misfortune that such Prime Minister will hoist the flag of respectful nation on the occasion of its golden jubilee celebration.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was the teacher of history and I am still holding the same post. We generally ask this question that what was the contribution of "De Gaul" for France for which France is grateful to him and he became the national hero of France. Proper reply of this question is that he provided strong leadership to France. Leadership is the greatest achievement of France and because of this leadership France which was devastated after second world war, is in the line of developed nations and making progress with them. This is the duty of a national leader. This is the duty of a Prime Minister of any country. But Prime Minister of our country feels complacency by saying that I am so weak, so helpless that nobody listens to me and he is saying that he will

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Prof. Rita Verma]

launch campaign against corruption. It would be better to hold talks on radio and attend seminar.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there was a minister in our cabinet from whose residence bags full of rupees were recovered. You include him in your campaign also, make a queue of such persons and launch a campaign against corrupt persons and ask the people to come forward. If people take this responsibility, then for what people have made you Prime Minister? What is the responsibility of the Prime Minister just to sit in his seat and interfere or it is the responsibility of a Prime Minister to provide able leadership. I am raising this question here. If he had courage, he would have imposed Article 356 but he is hesitating about it as if somebody is asking him to commit a sin. He is considering it as a sin as Article 356 has not been imposed in the country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was proper to impose Article 356 in Bihar. I do not want to go into this matter. Everybody knows about constitutional, administrative and financial breakdown in Bihar.

Mr. Chairman, George Saheb was telling the number of employees in State Transport Corporation who have committed suicide. I can tell the names of employees of the government undertakings, District Board in Bihar those who have committed suicide. Employees of District Board, Dhanbad have not got their salary for the last two years. Their children died of hunger. They committed suicide. Our constituency has an industry of superphosphate. That industry has been lying closed for many years. People are committing suicide. They are sick. They can not take medical treatment. I get letters daily that Madam, if you do not help us in providing our salary. We will commit suicide on a particular date. There is such bankruptcy that employees are not getting their salary. People are writing letters to me that they are committing suicide and if you want to see that scene, come on that date. In spite of such circumstances Prime Minister says that he can not impose Article 356 there. How can Gujral Saheb safeguard constitution? His minister is raising slogan outside Parliament. We never heard such a thing in the past. It has appeared in the paper. ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : You are making wrong allegation. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : I am not making any allegation. I have read it in newspaper. I have not named any minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

At last many members of the House may have objection, yet I would like to compare hon'ble Shri V.P.

Singh with Shri Gujral. You may recall that Shri V.P. Singh also became Prime Minister by launching campaign against corruption. He also resolved to fight against corruption. Gujral Saheb also makes appeal repeatedly that what should people do to fight against corruption but he does not mention about it that what should Prime Minister do in this regard. What should people do because people are just meant for making scapegoat in the country. Hon'ble V.P. Singh used to say that he has been made Prime Minister unwillingly and he would not take even a single minute to resign. But when the time for tendering resignation came, instead of following it, he created havoc and did not resign. When our Gujral Saheb was elevated to this Post, he said that he was not at all interested to become Prime Minister, his wife and his family members advised him not to accept this post. I think that his wife is more intelligent than him. She knew that they would create such problems and so she was advising him not accept this post. But he became Prime Minister and now he is playing every tactics to save his seat. All of you are observing that how he has hurt the dignity of the Post of Prime Minister and how he has degraded this Post. What is he doing? He has scuttled the investigation being conducted against Bofors, he did not grant approval to file chargesheet against Quattrochi, he did not grant permission to Enforcement Directorate for conducting interrogation with President of Congress Party. The permission was not granted even with regard to the Indian Bank scam. Now such a person has been made the chief of the C.B.I. who says that he does not want to touch the politicians. As there is no community more pious than the politicians. In the Fodder scam too, they tried till last minute not to take the cognizance of it. Now they are saying that the C.B.I. works directly under the P.M.O. The CBI despite being under the control of P.M.O., is working because the court and the judiciary is giving directions to it. Whenever the judiciary pulls up the CBI, it becomes active. The P.M.O. has rather tried to drag on the matter. Should I say that the P.M.O. tried to interfere with the functioning of the CBI without any orders from the hon. Prime Minister. They have tried to paralyse the functioning of CBI in every way. They talk of their honesty, morality and eradication of corruption, but why do they shy away from introducing the Lok Pal Bill? The joint committee of the Parliament has recommended and passed that Bill, but even then no action has been taken. The reason is that they do not want to root-out corruption as they are in the chair just because of corruption. They know that the day, they try to touch Lalooji, they will loose their chair. We are going to celebrate the golden jubilee year of our Independence and it is very unfortunate for the country that such a weak, incapable and spineless person will unfurl the flag from the rampart of the Red Fort. The court had quoted the following line in many cases involving Shri Laloo.

[English]

"When Rome was burning, Nero was fiddling."

[Translation]

The History would say later

[English]

"When Bihar was burning, Gujral was fiddling."

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think that we are wasting the time of the House by discussing this topic ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please address the Chair.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when someone interrupts, my attention will get diverted towards him. It is obvious ...*(Interruptions)*

The issue on which I am speaking has consumed 9-10 hours and we have broken all the conventions. This discussion had come up as an adjournment motion. However, the adjournment motion was not taken up and instead, the discussion under rule 184 was allowed. Breaking all the conventions, it went on the second and third day and it was held without any issue. The main issue was side-tracked. They now talk about corruption in Bihar. The people who raise the issue related to Bihar, do not want Bihar to progress. Those who have made pastures in Bihar are talking about Bihar. They continuously reap the benefit of these pastures. Someone from Mumbai or Delhi or Madhya Pradesh or elsewhere goes to Bihar to make political pasture there. Then they speak here on Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.P. JAISWAL (Varanasi) : Are you pointing at the hon. Prime Minister?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You continue your speech. You address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : He is interrupting. I am not commenting against him...*(Interruptions)* These are the people who get a discussion held on Bihar. They indulge in such things to defame Bihar. It is a conspiracy to push the same Bihar towards backwardness, which was once in the fore front of this country when Patliputra used to be the capital of this country. All those who are sitting here in the front row are getting a discussion held

on Bihar. They do not speak about setting up of industries there, allocation of more funds, relief and incentives to Bihar. But they are discussing about the messiah of the poor, the dalit and the backward and the one who thinks about the welfare of the fields and agricultural labourers and who works for the welfare of the poor.

SHRI KARIA MUNDA (Khunti) : He is talking about Ranchi, it is a matter of great concern. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Where were you earlier? You are the leader of Ranchi.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : We are discussing irrelevant issues. However I would like to make it clear that there is none in Bihar to sack Laloo Prasad Yadav. The more you make noise the more we will march forward strongly. Next time, we would come to power with two-third majority, because I know that the village to which I belong and which falls under Aurangabad district in Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Anand Mohan, please do not interrupt. Please allow him to continue.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : The backward, the downtrodden, the dalit, the poor and the people belonging to minority community were not allowed to sit before the people of high class in that district. It is a fact. I remember that none of the Harijans or the person of minority community did sit in front of me. But, the things changed when Laloo Prasad came to power. It is also a fact. Today all can sit together. No atrocity is being committed and there is no 'Brahminism' even.

When any old person of the backward community did not wish us on the way, he was called in the house and beaten up with sticks and tortured for his mistake. Even today, in many parts of the country such incidents take place. Even the son of a Pandit used to bow before us and our elders. The Lalooji raised his voice against this and said if he does not greet you, you should also not greet him. This voice was raised in every nook and corner of Bihar and thus this practise has come to an end. This is annoying them. They feel as if their Brahminism/Brahmanvad of fifty years is coming to an end. Lalooji would not allow to continue Brahmanvad. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANAND MOHAN (Sheohar) : In our region also, people are backward.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Anand Mohan, Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Anand Mohan, I want to give you a warning. If you continuously interrupt like this, you will be sent out of the House. You do not know how to behave.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI ANAND MOHAN : You people have conspired against Ram Vilas Paswan and instigated others to assault him. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : No explanation, please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I say, 'no explanation'. You take your seat. Take this as a warning. You will not be allowed to continue like this in this House. Do not utter a word in this House without permission from the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will take care of that. This will not go on like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please resume your seats?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not want your advice.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will do that.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have been repeatedly by name, calling Shri Anand Mohan.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your contribution?

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Since we started this discussion the interference from Shri Ram Kripai Yadav's side was too much. I have repeatedly told him about that. The matter is, if you are standing in your seat and trying to say something, we can understand and appreciate that. But Shri Anand Mohan has been sitting in his seat and at the height of his voice shouting continuously. He was not even trying to attract the attention of the Chair. I want to say with all the emphasis at my command that this is an insult to the House. Please do not do it. I can say this. If you stand up and if you want to say something, we will definitely allow you. If you want to speak, you ask for time to speak, we will allow you. But you should not continuously do this, sitting in your seat. How many times can the Chair give you a direction? Please bear with the Chair. Please do not continue with it. Please cooperate. If it continues from Shri Ram Kripal Yadav's side, this will apply to them also. Please do not interrupt. There are two more hon. Members to speak. Without any interference, we can complete this in ten minutes. Please cooperate.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are not objecting to any of your words. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please address the Chair? Do not look at him. You have only two minutes to conclude. I will call the next hon. Member to speak after that. If you want to conclude within two minutes, you continue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we abide by what you say but I would say that no one has raised any objection when the three members, of Samata Party had spoken. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your party has taken more time than what it was allotted.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not want to hear anybody else on this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have only two more minutes to conclude.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not question the decision of the Chair. If anybody else was allowed, that was done by the Chair. You cannot question the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have allowed only two more minutes for you. You can conclude in two minutes.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : You have allotted us one hour time and we don't have any objection in this regard. ...(Interruptions) You do not pay attention towards the people sitting on the back benches and when we want to speak, you impose ceiling on us that we should complete our speech within one two minutes. ...(Interruptions) we would abide by your orders but this would not continue for long.

Sir, the main point which I would like to put forth is that discussions are held when CBI chargesheets anybody, whether it is myself, Ataiji, Advaniji or any other person, and you people demand resignation. But in the prevailing situation, any person or any political party can file a petition in public interest and can demand a CBI enquiry into the concerned matter and chargesheet can be filed against any important person. This is a fact. It is not fair to ask someone to resign on the basis of chargesheet. Tomorrow you people can become Chief Minister, Prime Minister or your party member can become a Chief Minister of any State then the same thing can happen with him. A conspiracy would be hatched, chargesheet would be filed and on the basis of FIR of the Police, resignation would be demanded.

A serious threat is being posed to Democracy. People are being charge-sheeted on the basis of FIR hence I would raise one point here that there was a provision in Article 312 of the Constitution under which it was clearly mentioned that UPSC would be set up for Judiciary, Executive, Legislature and Indian Police Service. It has been set up for IAS and IPS but nothing has been done for judiciary. Earlier power of setting up of judiciary was vested with the President but later a full bench comprising of nine members was set up and the President was stripped of this power in 1993. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Virendra Singh, please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was saying that we have to ponder over this. Such thing never happened before. The President was stripped of his powers in 1993.

PROF. RITA VERMA : He is passing remarks against the judiciary. He says that the judiciary has usurped the rights.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He did not make any reference like that.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have to ponder over this in today's context because wherein such cases are there appointee is encroaching upon the powers of the appointing authority. It has happened but you are not holding debate on this issue. It is quoted that there is a commission for appointing Munsif Magistrate but for making appointments to the higher judiciary there is no such commission. The influential person reaches the top post and gives such judgment as given in the case of Kalpnath Rai wherein the Supreme Court has remarked that the judge who has given the verdict, doesn't know the a, b, c of the law. What I mean to say is that we should think over as to why he was not punished. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are conducting discussions in regard to that person who got full majority in the Legislative Assembly elections who has secured 194 seats. What sort of discussion you are holding? The Governor has said that there is no law and order problem in Bihar and no economic offence has been committed there. Hence, Congress has rightly helped us ... (Interruptions) and you people are talking about Article 356. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has only made a reference to 'Nyay Palika'. He has not made any derogatory remarks. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : You had opposed Article 356 in the Chief Minister's Conference now you are pleading in favour of Article 356. I want to know as

[Shri Virendra Kumar Singh]

to what sort of situation has arisen suddenly in Bihar? Laloo Prasad Yadav has done so much for the upliftment of poor, oppressed and minorities in Bihar and because of this jealousy you are doing so. Anand Mohan ji, why are you feeling embarrassed. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am calling the next speaker.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : You please contest from Aurangabad. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : In the end, I would like to submit that Rashtriya Janata Dal is functioning under the leadership of Laloo Yadav ji. Laloo Yadav ji is the party president and he would remain so. No one can remove him. He has full support of people. Today, there is peace in Bihar. In the days to come, he would win with two-third majority.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the former Prime Minister and the leader of the opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee moved the adjournment motion regarding the situation in Bihar. With the assent of the House it was changed to Rule 184. The debate on this issue has been going on for the last three days and several Members have put forth their views thereon.

All agree that the fodder scam involving 900 crores of rupees took place in Bihar. Being the administrative head of the state, should he had not resigned on the moral grounds but perhaps he does not know what morality means. In this case, the Prime Minister should have acted boldly and sought the resignation of the Chief Minister but he says that he is helpless.

Shrimati Rita ji, Shri Nitish Kumarji have put forth views here in this House. Would it be proper that a person who is helpless and does not have any regard for morality will hoist the national flag in the 50th year of independence. The corruption did took place in Bihar. This is blatant betrayal of the faith of those who elected them. Their hard-earned money was looted but Shri Lalooji kept sticking to his chair. He was forced to resign only after the CBI issued arrest warrants against him and then ended the first part of the drama but it did not follow with the usual intermission and the second part of

the drama started and he foisted her wife into the chair of the Chief Minister. It is good to make a woman the Chief Minister but was there no one in his party to be made the Chief Minister as his wife does not know even ABC of politics. After 1947, Bihar has produced great political leaders. It is true that Lalooji resigned on 28th July, Smt. Rabari Devi was appointed the Chief Minister and she won the vote of confidence but the most mention worthy point here is that the Congress party extended support to her. Earlier when Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav had sought the vote of confidence, the Congress people had remained neutral and this is not something new for the Congress people. In fact the Congress Party is the mother of all corruption in the country and also the killer of democracy and not much can be expected from them as they know it well how to get a vote of confidence passed.

Sir, you must be remembering as to how the former Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao had won the vote of confidence in the 10th Lok Sabha. It is now history and all know it well and in a few days, this matter will come before the court. These people have got such a culture. We must remember that 60 per cent of our masses are illiterate but they have unwavering faith in the democracy. If some people or party try to betray their faith, they teach them befitting lessons. Late Smt. Indira Gandhi hit at the very roots of the democracy by imposing emergency in 1975-76 but she and her party was drubbed in the hustings in 1977. We, therefore, must not underestimate the people's power and ignore the history of democracy in the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have been seeing for the last three days that Bihar is being compared to Maharashtra and my esteemed colleague stated that Maharashtra is an ideal state and the entire country should emulate it. In this context, I would like to say a couple of things. As far as the issue of corruption is concerned, on levelling charges of corruption against two ministers in Maharashtra government by a social reformer, the Chief Minister obtained their resignations and constituted a commission to investigate into the charges of corruption and after investigations, a Minister was prima facie found guilty and his resignation was accepted. Such is the ideal of Maharashtra. Shri Bal Thakarey is the founder of the Shiv Sena in Maharashtra. He continued his ceaseless democratic struggle and brought his party in power in Maharashtra. He himself could have become the Chief Minister and could have made his son or nephew the Chief Minister. Still he is branded as casteist despite the fact a Muslim Shri Shabir Sheikh is the Labour Minister and Shri Mund is co-op Minister and from Dalits Shri Kamble and Gholap are Ministers in Maharashtra

Government. Such ideal could be found in Maharashtra only. Therefore, none can raise a finger towards us. Everybody knows how public money is being looted in Bihar and there is total collapse of law and order there. Even the central ministers can not go to Bihar. If they wish so, the Union Railway Minister goes there escorted by the railway police. Democratically elected president Shri Sharad Yadav can not go there freely and several members too cannot dare go there. I would like to raise these issues here. Where public money is being looted, there is total failure of law and order and democracy is being hit at, the Government has no moral right to rule. This is the responsibility of the House and the head of the administration to dismiss such a government so as to give the masses an opportunity to elect a new government. With these words I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, all the speakers are over. Before the Movers' reply, who is intervening on behalf of the Government?

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQSOOL DAR) : I may.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know one thing. It appears that the debate is likely to conclude. During the entire course of discussion many things have come up regarding the Leader of the House, Shri Ram Vilas Paswan and party president, Shri Sharad Yadav. We would like to listen his point also that he was not allowed to go to Bihar and there were attacks on them or not. Whether he doesn't desire to speak? Whether he has not even given any information to you that he wants to speak. This is what we want to know.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, Shri Ram Naik. That is not very important. The important thing is you know that the Minister of Home Affairs is supposed to intervene.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is what I am asking the Government about. Who is intervening on behalf of the Government?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, we are not objecting as to who will reply. ...(Interruptions) I am not

objecting to it because the Government is entitled. But I tell you that the Mover of the Motion is no less than the Leader of the Opposition. He has his own respect in the House. In honour of the respect of the Leader of the Opposition for moving the Motion, it is more befitting in the parliamentary practice that the Minister of Home Affairs or the Prime Minister should reply. ...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : The Minister of Home Affairs is in the Rajya Sabha. ...(Interruptions) He is coming. In the meantime, he can carry on. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, yes.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : He is coming from the Upper House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with due regard to my senior, Shri Chaturanan Mishra, I think, it is an injustice to the whole debate if casually—this is with no disrespect to you—he says, the Home Minister is to reply. But 'in the meantime'...

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : The House cannot be asked to be at a standstill.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : So, the House can be asked to be adjourned! That is one aspect.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : He can certainly intervene. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let Shri Jaswant Singh complete. Please listen to him.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : He himself pointed out that there is a certain propriety. There is no law about this propriety. The propriety is unwritten. He has himself pointed out that if the Leader of the Opposition has moved the Motion, unwritten convention and propriety demand that the Leader of the House be present.

Secondly, when the Leader of the House had himself sought permission from the Chair, sought the convenience of the House and sought the consent of the Mover of the Motion that he wanted to intervene, then, because it was more convenient to him as the Leader of the House.

But the reply to the debate from the Government side would be given by the Home Minister.

Sir, firstly, for the Leader of the House to be absent and for the Home Minister also to be absent, I certainly cannot counter it. With no disrespect to the hon. Minister of State for Home, Shri Maqbool Dar, I would like to

[Shri Jaswant Singh]

submit that if he wishes to intervene, by all means, he can intervene. But ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : He is intervening.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But it is not just an intervention. We are informed that it is an 'interim measure', 'in the mean time' because the Home Minister is not here, they have let him stand up and just fill the gap. He cannot fill gaps in this debate. I raise my strong objection to this. It is a casual manner. ...*(Interruptions)* This casual manner may be exemplified ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, some senior Member is speaking and let us listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : It is not simply the question of the Home Minister replying. Where is the Leader of the House? Where is the Prime Minister? It is not simply a question of him intervening. The debate has come to a conclusion. Protests were raised about the debate getting prolonged. I think, the whole manner in which the Government has approached this question is really condemnable. It is not simply casual.

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, the Home Minister is coming from the Rajya Sabha. When he was in the Lok Sabha, the Maharashtra issue was being discussed in the other House and he went there. He is just coming. He might be on his way to the Lok Sabha. The Minister of State for Home wants to intervene for five to ten minutes and in the meantime the Home Minister would come and reply to the debate.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Where is the Leader of the House? Where is the Prime Minister?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The Prime Minister is also in the Rajya Sabha. Both of them are in the Rajya Sabha ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.D. SWAMI (Karnal) : The Minister of State for Home should not be treated as a stop-gap arrangement. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : That point has already been made.

Now, Mr. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, what is it that you want to say?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, the Minister of State for Home may be allowed to intervene for five minutes and in the meantime the Home Minister will be here and he would reply to the debate. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, this is a very serious matter and let us come to a conclusion. The point is that it had been informed by the hon. Prime Minister in the House, when we started this debate, that it would be replied to by the Home Minister. The Prime Minister personally sought time and he intervened in the debate in the beginning because the reply was to be given by the Home Minister.

Now, another discussion is taking place in the Rajya Sabha which also concerns the law and order and that also, probably, would have to be replied to by the Home Minister. I understand that the Minister of State for Home had expressed his desire to intervene in the debate and this is not as a matter of any stop-gap arrangement. Even before Shri Chaturanan Mishraji intervened, the Minister of State for Home was prepared to intervene in the debate.

I think, the Chair would allow the Minister of State to intervene in the debate but it is not the reply to the debate. It is only proper that to reply to the motion that has moved by the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister, or the Home Minister, whoever is supposed to reply to the debate, is present in the House or at least the Chair should be informed about it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Sir, the Leader of the House is present here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nitish Kumar, let us not complicate matters further. Now I am allowing the Minister of State for Home to intervene in the debate. I would also like to request the Government, through the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, that we wanted to conclude this debate by 2 o'clock and so sufficient precaution should have been taken in this regard. Such a serious debate should not end up like this. Now, I am allowing the Minister of State for Home to intervene.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The Leader of the House is present here. He may intervene ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : He knows many things; the Leader of the House has personal experience ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR (Satara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we would like to hear him personally. He himself should give a statement in the House. He is associated with Janata Dal.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot demand an intervention by the Minister like that.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Ram Vilasji is aware of the Bihar issue. It will be injustice. The Leader of the House is present here. ...*(Interruptions)* Prime Minister is not the Member of this House. Ram Vilasji is not less than the Prime Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

He is a non-resident Prime Minister. The Leader of the House may reply to the debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have made a very good point. If the Leader of the House wants, he can intervene. Nobody can demand his intervention. Now, I am allowing the Minister of State to intervene.

SHRI RAM NAIK : We are not demanding but requesting that the Leader of the House should take the House into confidence as to what has happened in Bihar. It would be better if he does so.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If he so desires, as the Leader of the House and as a senior Minister, he can definitely intervene. Let us now listen to the Minister of State.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Ram Vilasji please say something. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs would intervene.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE (Thane) : Is he under some pressure not to speak? Let him say that he is under pressure.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister is on his legs. Please listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. You have made your point. I have also made it very clear to the Leader of the House.

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE : We have learnt that he is under some pressure and that is why he is not speaking. It is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the Leader of the House wants to intervene, he can do so.

SHRI PRAKASH VISHWANATH PARANJPE : Let him at least say that he is not under any pressure.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat. This is not correct.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : Many hon'ble Members have expressed their views in regard to the Adjournment Motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. I have noted them and I will try that I should reply to every point ...*(Interruptions)*. If I am not replying then what I am doing? ...*(Interruptions)* I will not talk in regard to what ever you say. First of all, I will talk in regard to a special point. This has generally been expressed by the Members. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ram Kripal ji, you please sit down. Nitish Kumar ji, you also sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Nitish Kumar, you are a senic Member. Please do not behave like that.

14.59 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Now, the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has also come to the House and Mr. Speaker has also come. ...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, where is the Prime Minister? The Prime Minister should be present in the House. ...*(Interruptions)* where he has gone?

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, we welcome that you have come just now but we would have also welcomed the Prime Minister. Such a serious debate has been taking place for the last three days. It would have been more appropriate had the Prime Minister also attended the House and listened to the reply being given by the Home Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : How can two Ministers stand at the same time? Two Ministers cannot stand at the same time. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has precedence. You may sit down.

SHRI RAM NAIK : It would have been most appropriate had the Prime Minister also been present in the House.

15.00 hrs.

We would also like to know whether he has informed you that he would not be present in the House.

MR. SPEAKER : The Prime Minister has already made his intervention. It is not possible for the Prime Minister to be present in the House all the time. The Home Minister is the Minister in-charge of law and order in the State. I think the Home Minister should reply now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : The Minister of State for Home has not completed his intervention. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Since the Home Minister has come here, the Minister of State for Home has to go to Rajya Sabha.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am sorry that I was not in a position to listen to most of the speeches which have been made this day in this discussion on Shri Vajpayee's Motion because I was directed to be present in the Rajya Sabha to deal with a discussion which was going on there regarding the recent events in Maharashtra. Possibly, I will have to go back there again.

The hon. Prime Minister has already intervened in this discussion. The essence of what he said represents the standpoint that the Government has been talking from the very beginning on the issue of corruption. All I wish to say is that it is true that in a couple of weeks from now the whole country will be entering upon a historic celebration of 50 years of Independence. But we have to think now whether this is going to be an occasion only for joy and pride or also for some introspection and some self-criticism about the condition to which in these 50 years all of us, all of us put together, have brought the country.

A few days before we celebrate the 50th anniversary—please excuse me for saying this—it pains me to see the hon. Speaker of this House having to give vent to his frustration, his anger and his grief at the behaviour of the Members in this House, as you were

constrained to do only a few days ago. This is not the way that the entry of the 51st year of our independence should be celebrated.

What has happened in Bihar during the last few months, I should say, is an example, a very glaring example, of the general condition to which our society and our country has been brought, and the abyss into which it seems to be sinking very fast unless we, who are the only people capable of salvaging the situation as the representatives of the people, act and act before it is too late.

Sir, my Government adheres to the position which has been stated here very forcefully by the hon. Prime Minister. Anybody who is occupying an important position, whether it be a position in Government or some other public post, against whom serious charges of corruption are levelled should step down.

Charges may not be proved ultimately, but the charges are levelled. Later on, if that leads to investigation and trial in a court, one has to wait to see whether those charges are upheld or not. Pending that process, it is our strong conviction that the person—because he is occupying such a post if he is charged with such serious offences—it is bounded on him in the interest of propriety—I am making a distinction between propriety and legality, the two are not the same—in the interest of propriety he should step down. He should step down if only for this reason that the investigation and so on which will follow, has to be impartial. It cannot be impartial; at least it will be alleged that it is not impartial. It is likely to be prejudiced if that person remains in his position, in his seat of authority and he is likely to influence the course of the investigation and inquiry. Therefore, in the interest of propriety, it is essential that he should step down. We adhere to this position. I do not want to go into instances now. I can give some instances—since this Government was first formed—as to how we have tried to adhere to this principle.

As far as Bihar is concerned, many times in this House we have been discussing it. There are quite a lot of excitement, quite a lot of high feelings being expressed, quite a number of times it is being said that 'why do you not make him resign?'. When he is charged with, being deeply involved, directly involved in this scam, the animal husbandry scam, whose dimensions are not yet properly known—how many hundreds of crores of rupees are involved—he should step down. The Prime Minister in this House on more than one occasion publicly declared, 'yes we want him

to step down. Yes, he should step down'. But then everyone went on jeering and poking fun on us and asking what was the use of our advice, as he was not listening to us. He is not stepping down. So, what is the implication of that? That we should force him some how or other to step down. I think that a resignation from office is not a thing which can be imposed on anybody. Resignation is a voluntary act. Either the person concerned has the good sense to realise what is being advised to him and he should voluntarily step down. If he says, 'No, I am not going to step down', you cannot compel him or force him by any means.

Unfortunately, Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav in his own judgement thought that he should not resign. He remained where he was. The situation became more complicated and then we were thinking. We had a lot of consultations as to what other course should be followed. One other course obviously was to have his Government dismissed or removed by the application of Article 356. On this also we were very clear when we went into the matter very deeply. We took the highest legal advice that was available. We had long consultations with the Solicitor and Additional Solicitor General and they convinced us that up to that stage or up to that time, there is no possible ground in terms of the Constitution by which we can impose Article 356. The charges which are contained in the charge-sheet, according to them—the Solicitor General made it quite clear—that these were the charges contained in the chargesheet, they have not been proved so far. They can only be proved when they come to the court.

In the meantime, you cannot possibly apply Article 356 without opening yourself to the charge, the charge that has always been made that the Party which is ruling at the Centre wants to use Article 356 as a weapon, as an Instrument to get rid of a Government or a Chief Minister who is not to their liking. Sir, certainly, as Home Minister, as far as I am able to understand in terms of the Constitution, nothing had been done and nothing had been said which would justify the use of Article 356.

I happen to be the Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council which is seized of this very matter about Article 356. A number of Chief Ministers are attending the sessions of the Steering Committee of this Inter-State Council which

is, by the way, a constitutional authority set up under Article 263 of the Constitution. Those Chief Ministers are all of different political views. They have deliberately been nominated to the Standing Committee so that they can represent all the different political views in this country. We have had three or four meetings to discuss this question of Article 356. Whatever views any of them might have held earlier, none of the Chief Ministers, except one, holds the view that Article 356 should be scrapped, should be deleted from the Constitution.

People are entitled to change their minds, I presume, in the light of the experience and in the light of the developments. With a solitary exception of Punjab, there is not a single State or a Chief Minister who had pleaded for scrapping of Article 356, but everyone of them have reminded the Inter-State Council, more than once, how this article has been grossly misused more than a hundred times since it was put on the Statute Book by different parties which were ruling at the Centre for their own political interest, for their own political advantage in order to remove duly elected Governments from office.

Then, what is to be done? What they have suggested is what is under discussion at present. We have not been able to reach an agreement so far. What are the different safeguards and what are the conditions which should be introduced in Article 356 in order to minimise—we are not able to remove it altogether, at least minimise—the possibilities of misuse of this Article by the Central Government against the State Governments which have been elected but which are not to their liking? This also was a question which weighed with us because we certainly do not want under the present situation in this country to rush ahead under pressure from various people to apply Article 356 in a way which will certainly led us upon to that same charge that we are doing it in our own interest; in order to remove some Chief Minister who is not listening to us and whom we do not like, apart from the Constitutional position which was also explained to us by the highest legal authority. So, Sir, we were not at all in favour of imposing Article 356.

Shri George Fernandes, I believe—I was not present when he made some alternative suggestions—had made some alternative suggestions that the Centre could have intervened in the Bihar situation under Article 160 of the

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

Constitution or could have obtained the Governor's report about financial irregularities under Article 202 onwards or even imposed a financial emergency under Article 360. He had also said—if I am wrong, I would like to be corrected, I am speaking from some notes which were taken by my colleague who was present in the House—that in any case the Governor could have himself kept the Centre informed so that necessary action could have been initiated.

Well, the Governor was, of course, reporting to us regularly. In such a situation he is bound to do so. But I may say without any fear of embarrassing or contradicting anybody that the Governor did not suggest to us any course of action to be initiated by us so as to get over this impasse which has been created.

As far as Article 160 and Article 202 and so on are concerned, which Shri Fernandes has referred to, these as far as I understand are articles of a regulatory nature. They are not articles under which action can be taken for things like a financial scam. They are of a regulatory nature and the CBI, as you know Sir, has already initiated action for arranged violation of certain procedures and that case is in the court. So, there is no question of dismissing a Government on these grounds.

I submit that whatever Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav has done, which I think nobody can support, is a cause for embarrassment just to the Government. It is something which has brought the whole country, its whole political status and the cause of our democracy into disrepute, there is no doubt about it. But as far as we can make out, nothing unconstitutional has been done. He is a clever man; he is a discreet man; he is a cautious man and I think, he knows how to tread in his own interest. That has been proved by subsequent events also. He did not do anything unconstitutional. It could not be said that he has trespassed, of course, there are bounds of the Constitution which would have permitted other steps to be taken against him. So, we had to be cautious and we were waiting and then finally you see, Sir, what has happened now. I do not have to recite all these developments.

Even the latest development, which I think, frankly speaking, took everybody by surprise. There is nothing

unconstitutional about it. There is nothing in the Constitution which prohibits you from putting some member of your family as your nominee or as your substitute into the Chair. In this country, we have been used to dynastic rule. This country suffered for many years from this evil of dynastic rule. It was digested, swallowed by the people at large thinking that yes, this is the correct thing to do.

[Translation]

The queen's son will become the king. The king's son will become the king. Then the king's daughter will become the queen.

[English]

This family rule, the dynastic rule we have thought and we have hoped had come to an end. But now if in the State of Bihar Laloo Babu wants to resurrect this thing again and is trying to experiment with it, I think, it is still in the realms of experimenting.

The Leader of the Opposition has said that I have been fighting against all these things, now I have to fight against his family rule. But there is nothing unconstitutional and she has to proceed according to the Constitution. Within six months she has to get herself elected and within the conditions in Bihar, I suppose, is not at all a difficult job to do, to get herself elected to one of the two Houses. Then what happens?

So, Sir, I am very sorry that what happened, the whole drama as it is being played out is something which does not fit in at all with the solemn occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of our Independence.

This is what is distressing me very much because the whole world is watching us. The whole world is watching this largest democracy in the world, how it is functioning and what methods are being employed in order to keep and tame power. These are things which are very utterly distressing. The Prime Minister has spoken on this earlier. I do not want to add anything to it. But the Motion has been moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. That part of it which expresses great concern at the situation is, of course, something which we can all support. We all share that great concern. Then it goes on to say 'great concern at the passivity

of the Central Government', that means, the concern is not primarily for what is happening in Bihar but for the failure of the Government of India to intervene and to act. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari) : We would like a clarification with regard to the statement of the hon'ble Home Minister which he has given about Bihar on 3rd February while delivering a speech in Behut, Dist. Begusarai and has said that Bihar is engulfed in the quagmire of murders, decoity, goondaism and corruption and it has become difficult for the state to come out of it. I would like to know that if hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs has accepted this fact then what action he proposes to take in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I think that the point you have referred to was in the case of Uttar Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : It is published in 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated 3rd February. ...*(Interruptions)* In a public meeting hon'ble Minister has said this in Bihar.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : There is no fundamental difference, whether it is Bihar or U.P. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : What action you are going to take in view of that. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think this is necessary. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will reply to the debate. I do not think he needs your help in that.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : Chief Minister is a woman that is true but no other statement is true. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think the House should appreciate that the Home Minister could not have been more sincere than what he is saying.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Do not send Ramvilas ji to Bihar, there is great danger to him there. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think you conclude now. Now you do not have to respond.

[Translation]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What he has said about woman. I could not understand. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : You have said there is no difference whether it is Bihar or UP but in Bihar there is woman chief Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* The situation of Bihar is very bad.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Had it been less objectionable to you if Laloo Yadav would have crowned one of his brothers or nephew instead of conferring the same to his wife. ...*(Interruptions)* After all a woman is sitting there. Now how she will manage and what will happen, it is to be seen. We can not solve it. I wanted to say that this part of the Motion of Shri Vajpayee ji charges the Central Government with having adopted a passive attitude. They remained inactive and did nothing in the matter. But he did not explain clearly about that. Central Government should have adopted an active attitude instead of passive attitude but he has thrown no light on what that attitude could really be. If he meant to say that Article 356 should be imposed, he should have clearly stated that.

People have different opinions and views. If there was any other measure for this he could have expressed the fact but he hide the matter without telling anything. He said pacific attitude. But I understand that we could not do more than this. Our Prime Minister has said that investigative agencies under the control of Central Government are discharging their functions properly in the case of allegations made against Shri Laloo Prasad. Thus we have reached here. Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

would not have resigned if CBI would not have discharged its functions properly. This is true that he had been surrounded from all the four sides. I would say in his praise that he is a courageous and obstinate man. He became adamant but people were telling that CBI has got some soft corner for him so they would release him without giving any punishment. When CBI started investigations in a definite direction than he understood that resignation was the only option left for him and he resigned. I do not want to take more time. If Prime Minister want to speak anything else in the matter he may do so, I think that we can not support the Motion moved by Shri Vajpayee ji because the motion is ultimately against the Central Government and not against Shri Laloo Yadav as such. How can I give my opinion in favour of that? We will oppose that Motion. If they have deep concern in this matter I can only say that my concern is more than that. Some friends have raised during discussion rightly that what will you do now? Whether the matter will continue in the same manner? We will have to do something to improve the situation. The people of the country can improve this situation if we take them to the right path and encourage them. Every person in this country is against corruption but an individual can not fight alone with monster in the form of corruption who is eating away this country. Those persons who are indulged in corrupt practices have become so much organised that it is not possible for an individual to raise voice against them. They have black money, arms, mafia and goondas so it is difficult for an individual to open his mouth against them. If all people become united and atleast expose them and all political parties make an announcement from an open platform to the public that no such person will be made candidate from their party in any election who is indulged in corruption. They should not only say this thing but stand true to their words. In my opinion such things will be curbed to a great extent. When statistics come in Newspapers that so many members of State Assemblies and Parliament are facing trials and their names appear in police record, it does not look nice. How did they reach there? Nobody can reach there automatically. Whatever may be the reasons but some persons in the country cast their vote to them out of confusion, fear or greediness only then they became MLA, MP or Minister. According to the present law they can not hold these position in this manner. We all know such persons. If we really pledge before the public that such persons will not be made candidates from our party and accordingly if we firmly stand by it then this problem can be solved to a great extent. I have to say only this much. Now I thank you. I shall be highly grateful if leaders from opposition parties could suggest some measures to save the country.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the discussion is going to conclude. Discussion was started in the form of Adjournment Motion. But now it has been taken under Rule 184 with a view that more and more members could participate in it. There was a long and meaningful discussion on this Motion. This type of discussion not only draws the attention of House to the issues but also instill confidence among the people out-side that everything has not come to an end but there is still some hope for future.

This Motion contains two parts one regarding concern over recent incidents in Bihar. I found that on these incidents not only the House expresses its concern but the entire country is with us in expressing its concern. This Motion has one more part about which the Home Minister has said that he cannot agree with that. I know his difficulty but its second part is also important. Only to express concern will not do. It is country's highest representative institution. India is the largest democracy in the world. The Central Government is accountable to this House as well as to the whole country. They should not think that by expressing mere concern their duty is over. People expect something else from the Government. Not only mere expressions, they expect that we should behave properly and in this case, it is laxity on the part of the Government. I am surprised that the Prime Minister, in order to cover the passivity of the Government, took the entire credit of the action taken by the CBI himself. I would like to quote his words:

[English]

"The other point to which I would like to draw your attention to is, after all, who has chargesheeted Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav? The C.B.I. Whose agency is the C.B.I.? Centre's. In which Department of the Government of India does C.B.I. function? The Prime Minister's Office. If this is passivity, I do not know what is activity. If there is passivity, that the Department functioning directly under my charge, not only does it chargesheet; but also does it oppose the anticipatory bail, then with what base, at what level and how am I accused of passivity?"

[Translation]

Whatever the C.B.I. has done, Government is claiming to have been done by them but the other day P.M. had also said and that is true that C.B.I. is working under Court's direction. The C.B.I. is an autonomous body. If the Prime Minister and Government takes the entire credit

for all the good work done by C.B.I. then who will take the responsibility for all its failure? At the same time, can the Government escape from the charges made? At that time, whether it will be said that C.B.I. is an autonomous body, we have nothing to do with them. If it will do some good work then it will be said that it is done by the Government. My submission is that there should be a clear demarcation in this regard and C.B.I. being apex investigation agency of the Centre, its autonomy should be protected.

Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, the other day P.M. had said one sentence which is pinching me. When a news that anticipatory bail petition was rejected, was received, everybody wanted to know the next course of action that was likely to be taken. At that time, the P.M. had said:

[English]

"I can only assure that the Government will take due cognizance of it and will not be found wanting. But it will not act in a hurry because I must see to it that legality is preserved and the rule of law is upheld".

[Translation]

I agree with his last point. Rule of law should be upheld but Government would not take any action in a hurry on the one hand, It was being claimed that C.B.I. was taking action and whatever the C.B.I. had done, now the results are coming and on the other hand, it is being said that the Government would take no action in a hurry. Then, what the Government will do in this regard? On what grounds the Government goes slow, take quick action or take no action at all? How the position will be clarified? Now, because of public opinion a new situation has arisen. And it is a matter of great happiness that despite differences, all the major parties agreed upon this principle and convention that a leader should resign from his post once he is charge-sheeted and there is a prima facie case against him and the matter is to be taken to the court. This is the major achievement coming out of this discussion. There was unanimity. The prominent leaders of all the parties, even the parties which joined the United Front, are also of the same opinion. The earlier day, I said that this convention is prevalent in our country. It is good that the country is upholding this convention but I had asked what will happen if someone would not resign? Then, I was asked whether I advocate for Article 356, whether I am a supporter of that? Today, my friends Shri George Fernandes has told us some more alternatives. The other day, Shri C. Subramanian had given some suggestions in the Committee on Preparation

for Celebration of Independence. I am surprised that how Home Minister did not hear all these points? That day, I told all the 3 points. The Chief Minister of Bihar should be persuaded to resign, the second step is that the Governor can withdraw his pleasure. The Governor has the right, and the third, is that when there is no other way, then the last resort is Article 356. There will be discussion on that. Even today, the United Front has not decided to abolish Article 356. I mentioned it the other day. Now a new situation has arisen in Bihar. Resignation has been submitted. The former Chief Minister has resigned but he still holds power. It is not the question whether now the wife can take over charge from the husband or not. ...*(Interruptions)*. Wives have won the election and have been elected after fighting elections. They have not been imposed all of a sudden. Women should take part in active politics. If they have political background then it is a matter of pleasure. We made a woman Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. We have no objection if they want to follow us in Bihar. But this matter is not so simple, this is a complicated one. After all, why Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav was asked to resign from Chief Ministership? First, he was asked to resign because he had been chargesheeted. Secondly, had he been allowed to remain in power, an impartial inquiry into the charges levelled against him would not be possible. The inquiry could be influenced and the witnesses be stopped from giving evidence. Efforts to take the suit in the wrong direction can be made. Has this probability ended? Will the Government not be run from behind the curtain? And I am surprised that voting was done and the Government had absolute majority and was there not a single person who could have been made the Chief Minister.

If there was nobody in the Legislative Assembly of Bihar then there are many able persons from Lok Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)* It has already happened in certain other States also when Chief Minister were appointed by tendering resignation from Lok Sabha. But it was also not allowed. Neither there was confidence in any member of Legislative Assembly of Bihar nor any members of Lok Sabha of R.J.D. was considered fit. If there was any confidence it was in his wife. What are the feelings behind it. What is the intention behind it. After all why Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav was taking so much time in resigning from his post. Whether the present Chief Minister is not apprehensive that with the removal of husband from the power not only fodder scam but many other scams will come to the light with their terrifying facts and then it would become difficult for him to remain in public life. After all what is the major cause for having no faith in his own party. Hon'ble Home Minister as well as the Prime Minister are also present and that is why I am

[Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee]

again placing this question before them that whether such circumstances would develop in Bihar with the appointment of wife in place of her husband that the trial could go in a fair manner. I was mentioning about C.B.I. The judge of the C.B.I. court made up his mind to issue warrant. He issued the warrant. Why was it not implemented? The warrant could have been implemented before the case comes before the Supreme Court and the former Chief Minister could have been arrested. But it was delayed. Different opinions are being expressed in this regard. But now it is in full majority. Now the Congress Party has not remained neutral. It voted alongwith the Party in power. It was not at all required. They were in majority even without the support of the Congress. Whatever Congress may speak about the corruption but whenever it is put to an acid test it fails. What is that justification of it, what is this fuss all about. Is it so because the leaders of the Congress Party are also involved in animal fodder scam? Just now hon'ble Home Minister was saying that all the parties ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GIRDHARI YADAV : All the parties are involved therein. There is also one person from your party.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Yes, he is behind the bars and we have welcomed it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs was saying that all the parties should decide collectively. He again pressed that point that all parties without any exception, ...*(Interruptions)* and this exception is there. Today the ministry has been expanded. The total strength of the ministers has gone up to 75. ...*(Interruptions)* There is no need to go into the details of agreement that was reached with the J.M.M. If the situation that has emerged in Bihar after the resignation of the former Chief Minister, prevails, there is least likelihood that this scam will be probed properly, and the accused will be punished. There is no animosity between us and Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav. He was with us against the emergency. ...*(Interruptions)*

But if he was minister of Finance and also Chief Minister and Shri George Fernandes has disclosed how the money was plundered and the volume of amount kept on rising. I thank the Comptroller and Auditor General. He is a ray of hope for democracy. He is the future of democracy. That is why I had stated that if the individual institutions remain active, then such scams would continue to come to light which will not be tolerated by the House or the country. But what the Central Government propose to do under the present circumstances. Prime Minister says that he will not take a hasty decision. You will move slowly, but how slow? What will

they do? This is a family matter. I do not think that Prime Minister has said so. ...*(Interruptions)* He must have said jokingly.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : I have said neither in humour nor seriously. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, corruption never can be a family matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am saying that I have not said so. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : All right, this is what I had expected from you. I am not yielding.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : What was the political background of the wife of Shri Brij Bhusan Sharan Singh to whom you gave ticket? Just now, you have enquired about the political background of the wife of Shri Laloo Yadavji. I would like to tell you that she has been leading the political life with Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav for the last 25 years. Today, she is the most competent Chief Minister of the State. She got 194 votes in her favour. You will come to know about it. You are anti-women. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I do not want to raise any dispute about the capability of Smt. Yadav.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : No, just now you have said about her. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I am raising another point. I will have to mention the fact that she is neither the member of Legislative Assembly nor Legislative Council. All of a sudden, how she was appointed as Chief Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : There are a large number of persons in this House who are appointed as ministers while they were not member of any of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : What is happening? What is he speaking? It will not be tolerated. If they interrupt the House again and again how will its proceedings be conducted. ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, he has spoken for seven hours out of eight hours about the same thing. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please allow him to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 110 votes were cast against the confidence motion moved in Legislative Assembly of the State and except the Bharatiya Janata Party and Samata Party, C.P.I., C.P.M., Janta Dal voted collectively. One may say that State Government has the majority. Whether the democracy is simply a game of minority or majority? Is morality not the foundation of democracy. Is there no parliamentary propriety. ...*(Interruptions)* I have already mentioned as to how this majority was managed. But even if there is majority and the ruling party with its majority is against the rule of law and are causing hindrances in the enquiry of allegations levelled against them. So, in that case, whether all this would be tolerated silently simply because they are in a majority in the Legislative Assembly? There is no doubt that public opinion will play its role but Central Government also will have to be more active, more alert in regard to this issue. The Central Government can certainly evolve several ways to interfere.

The Minister of Home Affairs has admitted just now that he had been receiving the report from Governor and it is the duty of the Governor to furnish the report. He had sought report from the Governor in respect of Uttar Pradesh also. Perhaps the report with regard to Maharashtra would have also been sought. But whether the report is a document which is mailed from Patna and received in Delhi and it is not discussed, decisions are not taken on the basis of the report. It cannot be a report. After all, the Governor who is the eyes of the Centre, keeps watch on all the things on behalf of Central Government. The Governor was kept informed of the deteriorating condition of Bihar by the leaders of the opposition party regularly. On that also oath was taken in such a haste which does not have any justifications. It is also a matter of controversy as to how many members of Rashtriya Janata Dal were present there. Before the oath taking ceremony, leader of the opposition Party wanted to meet Governor with the delegation. But the Governor did not meet him. Whether the Central Government had given any instructions in this regard? How this Government was formed and that too in such a short span? Democracy does not mean mockery of the mandate. Bihar state is not a property or estate of anybody. After all, Bihar is a part of our country and if in any state corruption wins and political morality is defeated, then it would send a wrong signal in the entire country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when country is celebrating the 50th anniversary of Independence, the political atmosphere of the country needs fresh air without which labourious people of the country cannot be encouraged to do maximum hard work and perform their duties sincerely. Therefore, the statements of the Prime Minister or the Minister of Home Affairs should not imply that what can we do. Much more can be done beside Constitution. The work of awakening the people can be done. The change in Bihar was brought by awakening the people. But that time we were not in power. The power was in the hands of corrupt people. Today again power has gone in the hands of corrupt people. But today all the people expect from Government and it should accept its inactiveness and assure the House of its hardwork and activeness in future.

I would like to thank all the Members who have participated in this discussion and I would request the House to adopt my Motion.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the amendment to the Motion moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That in the Motion,—

for "Serious situation"

substitute "That this House expresses concern over the serious situation."

The motion was adopted.

16.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : I shall now put the Motion, as amended, moved by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That this House expresses concern over the serious situation arising out of the passive attitude of the Central Government over recent developments in Bihar."

The motion was negated.

16.02 hrs.

**MOTION RE : ATROCITIES COMMITTED ON DALITS
IN MUMBAI, NAGPUR AND OTHER PLACES
IN THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA AND
OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY**

MR. SPEAKER : We shall now take up the Motion under Rule 184, to be moved by Shri Sharad Pawar. Shri Sharad Pawar to move the motion now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, I have given notice of an amendment to the Motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Let the Motion be moved first.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to move this Motion before the House.

[English]

"That this House expresses its deep concern over the atrocities committed on Dalits in Mumbai, Nagpur and other places in the State of Maharashtra and in other parts of the Country."

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : I have given notice of an amendment to the Motion. My amendment is that a certain portion be added to the main Motion saying:

"That this House recommends that President's Rule be imposed in Maharashtra under Article 356."

I do not know what happened to that amendment? The amendment has not been circulated. I do not know what is the position.

MR. SPEAKER : I will have a look at it. This debate will go on for quite some time. In the mean time, I think, Shri Sharad Pawar has to take the floor.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with deep anguish I would like to move the following Motion before the House. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, I am on a point of information. The hon. Member Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan has just said that he has given notice of an

amendment. It appears that the amendment has not been circulated to us. So, what he said and read out is just altogether a different matter. An amendment has to be in consonance with the original Motion. So, that Motion and the amendment suggested are not at all of a similar nature.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know about it. I have not seen it.

SHRI RAM NAIK : That is why, I am opposing it. But let that be officially circulated to all the members. So, whenever he wants to send the amendment, we can speak on that and we can even send an amendment to amendment as per rules.

MR. SPEAKER : Before it is circulated, I will have to decide whether the amendment can be allowed. I have not decided about it. Therefore, we are on the original Motion now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am moving this Motion with deep anguish.

I am very much worried and perturbed over the situation in Maharashtra and the reaction of Dalits and Samatavadi people living outside the State in response to the atrocities committed in Maharashtra.

A person of the society is a symbol of self respect of some part of the society. Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar is a symbol of self respect of the exploited and downtrodden people and he spent his whole life to create awareness among backward and Dalit communities of the country. He contributed a lot in spreading education among Dalits, especially the new generation of Dalits. He also contributed in framing the Constitution of this country. In the field of education, where ever he got the opportunity and cooperation, he made noteworthy contribution. Today we see that it was Dr. Ambedkar whose thoughts created self-confidence among those sections of the society who were being exploited for centuries and it was because of this, that they started raising their voice against such exploitation. Their strength to launch a struggle against injustice has increased. This big change has come in the country which was the dream of Gandhiji.

Today, we see that a person from backward section of the society like Shri K.R. Narayanan is at the highest post in India and is carrying out the responsibility of the

entire country. Large number of educated youths of exploited, downtrodden and victimised section are carrying out their responsibility properly. Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar had yeoman's contribution in bringing about this change.

16.07 hrs.

(SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE in the Chair)

Whatever might have been the reasons behind this situation in Maharashtra, we have to think about ways and means to check its recurrence in the land where the move to bringing about social change was initiated by Mahatma Jyoti Ba Fule and Sahuji. A very large section of the society accept it in this state.

There are still some sections in the society whose mentality has not changed. When a son of Dalit family raised his voice against atrocities and injustice and raises queries, some people, some sections of the society did not tolerate this. We have seen that Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar has done a good job 50 years ago by opening an educational institution namely Milind Siksha Sansthan at Marathwada region in Aurangabad. Now this centre is imparting education to the boys of Dalits of whole Maharashtra, students of Vidarbha, Marathwada and West Maharashtra here. He has done a big job by spreading education among the boys of Dalits in Milind Education Institute. When Maharashtra State was constituted in 1960, demand of a new University was made in Marathwada region. The then government fulfilled the demand and then the question of naming the Vidyapeeth arose. There were 2-4 suggestions. One of the suggestions was that Baba Saheb Ambedkarji had done a good job by opening Milind Education institute in Aurangabad. He had initiated the work in the field of education and therefore if this new University was named after his name, it would enhance his glory. Many people were thinking that by doing so the prestige of the University would be enhanced. Youths belonging to backward classes were awakened. They started struggle against this and resorted to satyagraha. They have struggled on this issue for more than 15 years. I remember that in the year 1978, the then Government of Maharashtra had taken all the political parties into confidence and passed a Resolution in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly to name this University after Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Marathwada Vidyapeeth. The day on which this resolution was passed, riots started in the evening itself and the houses of Dalits were attacked. A clash like situation developed and the Resolution which was passed in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council could not be implemented. Some sections of society were against associating the

name of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar with the Vidyapeeth. This conflict again surfaced after 12-14 years.

I remember that in 1994, a Resolution which was passed unanimously both in the Legislative Assembly as well as in the Legislative Council by taking into confidence all the political parties of Maharashtra and the then Government had taken initiative to implement it. I am happy that except one organisation, all the political parties in Maharashtra have given cooperation. Janata Dal, Bharatiya Janata Party, CPI, CPM, Peasants and Workers Party, Congress, all these parties have come together. The only party which did not accept this proposal was the Shiv Sena. Thus, it was implemented after taking all the political parties into confidence and this was a warning for the section who did not cooperate in the passage and implementation of the resolution. The Congress party and all of us had to pay a political price. But we thought that even if we had to pay for it, it was not right in the parliamentary democracy if it was not implemented after taking a unanimous decision about it. Many Vidyapeeths were named after several honourable persons in the state of Maharashtra. There is a Vidyapeeth after the name of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. There are vidyapeeths after the names of Mahatma Phule and Dr. Deshmukh. But when a resolution was moved to name the vidyapeeth after the name of B.R. Ambedkar and it was not accepted, it did not seem right to people like us. I am happy that many national parties have helped us in implementing this. But some sections of society became angry with us and we had to pay for it later during elections. Now after 15 years the naming has been done. ...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : Madam Chairperson, hon'ble member is misleading the House, he is not giving the correct information to the House...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I am Not yielding.

[Translation]

The people who did not like this change in the name talked that way. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not yielding. Why are you all shouting? I have asked him to speak and he is not yielding. Accordingly, only he will speak and none else.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Many people say that before the B.J.P. and Shiv Sena came to power in

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

Maharashtra, the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was attacked many more times than today. I also accept this fact. When we started to bring about the social change, the attitude of the section disapproving this change was that to show their displeasure. They did such ill-deeds to the statue of B.R. Ambedkar. Today the situation is changing but their mentality has not changed. Many people of that ideology have come to power but I feel very happy that recurrence of such incidents is decreasing. But you must have seen whenever such incidents have occurred, Dalits also have reacted against this. The policy of the then Government was that even if situation arose to pay a political price in such reactions, we should try as far as possible to use the police force scarcely.

On 11th July, in Govari murder. ...*(Interruptions)* not a single person was killed in police firing. It has also been proved in the investigation. People were killed in the stampede and no one was happy on the occurrence of this incident. People were also killed in other places in stampedes. When people were killed in stampede, then the Minister resigned from his post, judicial inquiring was also conducted. One thing was made clear in the enquiry that police did not go there. This thing has come to light in the judicial inquiry. Such incidents of stampede occurred at many places. It occurred in Calcutta football match in Tamilnadu and many other places. I do not want to speak much about this.

We should keep in mind the situation consequent upon the attack on Ghatkopar. It is a township whose population is around one lakh. When another conflict on the question of change in the nomenclature occurred in Marathwada and they were attacked, at that time inhabitants left their villages and went to Mumbai and other cities. So far as I know the offices of the political parties like Republican party and the Congress party are functioning in that township, one Branch office of Shiv Sena and some branch offices of Bharatiya Janata Party are also located there. This township is largely dominated by Dalits and especially the neo Buddhists who are the followers of Dr. Ambedkar's ideology. The people of that area are working in mills, government offices, transport companies and many other petty works. Somebody noticed at 5.30 in the morning that an insulting garland was put on the statue of Dr. Ambedkar. The police check post is situated hardly 100 metres away from the place. He called some people living nearby. Within 5-10 minutes hundreds of people gathered there and burst in anger. They started demanding that inquiry should be conducted in this incident as to who has done so to our beloved leader. After sometime, the police arrived there. Perhaps, he tried to remove the desecrating object. People wanted

that dog-squad should be brought there and 'Panchnama' should be done and the incident needs to be investigated to identify the persons responsible for it. They demanded that unless 'Panchnama' was done and the dog squad was brought, it should not be taken out. More and more people started pouring there. Eastern Express Highway is located nearby. There was Traffic jam near 6.30 or 6.45 P.M. At 7 P.M., Asstt. Commissioner of Police arrived at the Scene. People told him that nothing would be allowed to be done till Panchnama was done and dog squad was brought there. No one knows that happened after that? As per report and the statement made by Maharashtra Government in the Legislative Assembly and the news appeared in the newspapers, State Reserve Police personnel arrived there at 7.15 in 2-4 vans. They resorted to firing at the basti. The statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar was 150 metre away from the area where firing was resorted to. People blocked the National Highway. In my opinion the police took some action against the people blocking the road. It was to be thought over but Eastern Express was spared. Reserve Police came out of the van and attacked the basti. Then a list of those who were killed in the firing was made available. Shri Sukhdeo Kumble having seen the prevailing situation at Rama Bai Ambedkar Nagar was passing through his shop. He received the bullets and died at once. 150 metre away the road was blocked near the statue of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. People had gathered there. Twenty year old Vilas Joge received bullets and died. Shiv Charan was going to his place of employment. He received bullets and died. Twenty two year old Babloo Verma was going to his office—Mumbai Municipal Corporation. He was also killed in the Firing. Ten such people were killed there. Twenty year old Sanjay Nigam received bullets while going to his working place and died. Kaushalya Bai Pathri was to come out of house but received seven bullets and died there only. I do not know as to what was the need of resorting to firing on such a large scale? They were present in the basti and the road was blocked at other place. Thousands of people gathered there when ten persons were killed. As a reaction, they started pelting stones on buses and even on police. A luxury bus was set on fire after evacuating it. All this happened within half an hour after police firing. After that efforts were made to control the situation by deploying more police force. After two hours of the firing when people started accusing the police, the police thought that the entire responsibility will be entrusted on them. Then they did an intelligent job. There is a refinery at Chembur where tankers are brought for gas or fuel. They brought one-two empty tankers at the scene. ...*(Interruptions)* No doubt, tankers were brought there. Media has given this report after investigation. Thus a

situation was created before the people to state one thing.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Madam, does he know the meaning of 'jhoof'? What is it that is going on here? How can he say that it is 'jhoof'? This is not tolerable. Does he know the meaning of 'jhoaf'?
...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana) : Yes, I know. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please listen to me. All parties will have their turn of speak.

[Translation]

You can speak what ever you like during the time allotted to your party. There is no use of making hue and cry and wasting time now. Let him speak.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : I do not need to say much on this issue. People level allegations on others as per their own 'Sanskaras'.

One newspaper made efforts to propose a theory that the tankers were full of gas. I do not know whether it contained gas or not. It was stated that Dalits were planning to attack the tanker. If the tanker had been set on fire, it would have destroyed the entire basti. Therefore, in order to save it, the firing was resorted to in the basti. The tanker was on Eastern Highway. If anybody had gone near the tanker, hit by bullet and his dead body found there then it could be understood. But this theory was a concocted one. This issue was raised in the State Legislative Assembly on the same day by the leaders of Opposition and an Adjournment Motion was brought on this issue, the reply was given that there was possibility of tanker to be set on fire. Therefore, in order to save people, this was done. This had statewide reaction. Mumbai was caught under a grim situation for about 2-3 days. Bandhs were organised which were not limited to Mumbai only. Bandhs were also organised in Akola and Nagpur. Two persons were killed there. There is no city in the entire State where there was no reaction. On the one hand, there was a wide reaction and on the other hand, attention was not being paid to control the situation. There is Barsi Taki Tehsil in Akola city. There is Kaneri Sarab village in that Tehsil. In this village, 40 houses of Dalits were burnt. Till yesterday morning, not even a single member of Dalit family was ready to return to the village. They are in panic.

SHRI BHAOSAHEB PUNDLIK FUNDKAR (Akola) : Sir, I represent the Kaneri Sarab village. No such situation is prevailing there and no house belonging to Dalits was burnt. He is misleading the House.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : There is a Panchala village in Washim Tehsil Dalit basti was attacked there. There is Bhimnagar basti in Akola city predominated by Dalits. A serious attack was made on them. A Dalit woman in Vardha was assaulted and atrocity was committed on her. A youth was participating in a dalit agitation at Miraj near Sangli. He was attacked and killed. A different situation was created in the entire State. People were agitated in every village. I was concerned that the efforts made to establish consensus at the time of changing name by taking people in confidence and efforts made to cool down the agitated people have gone in vain and the recent incident at Ghatkopar created a wrong impression. The feelings of Dalits have been hurt and people are pondering over it. This situation was not prevalent only in Maharashtra but this incident had a chain reaction in Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. How did this happen? The persons who had openly opposed the bid to change the name and the leader of whose party was going to Aurangabad to oppose it and the then Government prevented him from going there and asked him to go back otherwise the situation would have been deteriorated, are responsible for this incident. The same forces in the whole of the State were in the forefront in the assault on the dalits and they were engaged in preparing a sort of oppression policy, pressure policy in whole of the State. On the same day, the question of Adjournment Motion was raised in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council. The Members belonging to all the Opposition Parties narrated the incident in the House and severely criticised the Government. What happened the next day? The house of the Leader of the Opposition was attacked the next day and the day after. On the previous night of the attack at about 11 or 12 P.M., someone told Shri Chhagan Bhujbal on telephone that he was going to be assaulted the next day and that the informers also belonged to the group of assaultors and that they did not like the persons who were to assault. Therefore, they were informing him on telephone. Now he should take care. The Leader of the Opposition immediately contacted the Police Commissioner or his officer and told him that he had received such information. They sent 30-35 police constables there at night. Next day the Leader of the Opposition again received the information on telephone that those people had left there homes and they were in large number. He was further told that he should take care lest he should be assaulted. He again informed the

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

Police Commissioner. The entire communication is recorded. After that, the Police Commissioner deputed on Additional Commissioner of Police, one Deputy Commissioner of Police, one Assistant Commissioner of Police, three-four police Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors and about the hundred police constables. The people came to the house of the Leader of Opposition. There are houses of about 20-25 ministers in the area opposite to the Secretariat and that is a protected area. Processions are not allowed there because the secretariat and the houses of the Ministers are located there. People came, they came from the houses of the Ministers also and at about 9.00 or 9.30, they attacked the house of Shri Bhujbal. They were in large number. Shri Bhujbal was in a room there. They could not reach him. Had they been able to reach there, perhaps he would not have been alive today. All the furniture of his house was taken out and burnt. All articles of his house were broken. They even beat up the persons working there. All this was happening, but the Additional Commissioner of Police, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Inspectors and Sub-inspectors and one hundred constables did nothing to stop it. Next day, a news appeared in the "Samana" being Edited by Baba Saheb Thackeray, under the caption "Bhujbal ke Ghar par santapta sivsena ka hallabole" and a photo was also printed in that. The photo showed that some people were taking out household goods and burning them.

The household goods were shown burning there and there was caption on the front page of "Samana" that Bhujbal was not found and therefore agitated Shiv Saniks burnt down the household goods after taking them out. Had they been able to spot him, he would have been set on fire? It is an assault on the Leader of the Opposition. I reached there after 12 hours of the incident. The house was in shambles, placards lay outside the house. They had brought placards on which it was written that '*Dalit ka satyanash karane wale Bhujbal ko dhikkar hai.*' Shame to Bhujbal who was behind the Ghatkopar incident. It is beyond my comprehension as to how did they come to know that Bhujbal was involved in the assault to be made on dalits? After doing this wrong thing, due to which they were not in a position to go to the public, they thought that someone should be held responsible for that. Therefore, next day or on third day some Agarwal or Gupta was brought forward and an affidavit was given on his behalf in which it was stated that Shri Bhujbal had asked him to do it because he was in the Congress earlier and now he was in the Shiv Sena and that he did not consider it right, so he did not do that. All this propaganda was started at the behest of the Government.

They were behind the incident of garlanding with shoes. They are responsible for all this.

Madam Chairperson, what was the need of doing it all after accepting the demand of judicial inquiry. In the affidavit it has been stated that on the said date, when Bhujbal ji called me and I met him, in that demonstration Bhujbal ji was not present. It all had appeared in the newspapers. It has been stated in the affidavit that the next day Mr. Agarwal met him at his house. On the said date Bhujbal ji had gone with me to appear before the Krishna Commission. He was with me from 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. except for half an hour lunch break. It has been reported by the Press that Bhujbal ji was with Sharad Yadav in the High Court, before the judges of High Court. Yet an attempt was made to hatch such a conspiracy and after having made such a severe assault on dalits, inquiry should be made about the persons involved in it. It was the responsibility of the Government to expose the persons, force, organisation who did this work. That responsibility was given up and the entire incident has been projected in a different perspective before the people. It was done at the instance of the Government. Hence the Government which cannot protect the dalits and instead indulges in such acts is not fit to stay in power.

Madam Chairperson, the Leader of the Opposition is not an individual. He is an institution. We would have to think whether the Government which attacks that institution should remain in power or not and that is why we had demanded for the use of Article 356 of the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you speaking? Please sit down. Allow Shri Sharad ji to speak.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : The Home Minister of the country went there. He saw the entire situation. He went to Rajebadi Hospital. He met the injured people. He also met the delegations of all the political parties. He also went to the house of Shri Bhujbal ji. He inspected the place where he was assaulted. He met the Governor. He met the Chief Minister and from his statement, it appears that Shri Bal Thackeray also met him. The statement given by him there was very strange. He said that law and order situation has deteriorated but it has not collapsed. In the other statement, he said that what he saw after going to the house of the Leader of the Opposition was very bad. It was a bad thing that he was assaulted. If the Government is involved in this assault, it is a very serious thing. We should take it seriously. He gave such a hint. I would like to know the names of the persons who were mentioned in the statement. Vilas Awasar,

[English]

who is this gentleman.

[Translation]

The Chairman of Housing Board, perhaps he has been given the cabinet rank, he has been arrested. Shiv Sena MLA has been arrested. Perhaps their Corporator or former Corporator has also been arrested. Their Branch Head was arrested and his name has been mentioned in the House by the Minister of Home Affairs. What else proof he wants. Members of ruling party were directly involved in this incident and Home Minister named them in his statement here. Was it not the conspiracy of the Government? What is more required to be mentioned about this incident. Everybody knows that the Government was directly involved in it.

When Home Minister made this statement here that Shiv Sena Chief had told him something about Bhujbal, it pained me. I do not want to say anything more. You are controlling Home Ministry so you may make an inquiry in this regard and direct I.B. or any other intelligence agency that after the arrest of gangster and mafia to ascertain the person or Member of Parliament who went to Police Station for fast for four days and inquiry should be conducted in the matter then the name of those people can come into limelight. I believe that truth will come before the people.

When Home Minister made the statement here, he stated that Bai Thackeray met him and assured him that it would not be repeated again, it surprised me. If Chief Minister or Deputy Chief Minister had assured like this and he told it in the House, I would have understood it. Bai Thackeray assured you and on the basis of that assurance you draw this conclusion that the situation was congenial. You are a constitutional expert and old parliamentarian and you tell the assurance of extra Constitutional Authority in the House. It is a very serious matter and it should not be taken so lightly. It pained us that you made the statement like this. Who are these people on whose statement you rely upon. How many examples I should cite before you. A news was published in a newspaper of Akola named 'Desh Unnati'. I have a letter of the editor wherein he has stated that two days ago workers of Shiv Sena attacked on his press at half past eleven O'clock in the night. They broke the machinery and asked where is Prakash Suri, Editor, we want to kill him, they threatened like this. Other day some workers out of them were arrested. Newspaper published against them, they attacked on them. There is a paper named Mahanagar in Mumbai city. When this paper published something against this party, they attacked on it also.

The case was filed in the court. Bai Thackeray is involved in it. When court summoned Bai Thackeray alongwith other people, 500 Shiv Sainiks abused the court and the Magistrate because he does not want that anybody order him to be present before the Court. The other day, when he went to the court, what did the Magistrate say do you know? The Magistrate stated there:

[English]

"If you do not want me to function, then close down the courts. It is in your Government's hands. Do not call me. have abused. I do not want to read that out. It says:

"Do not call me ... Patil, and ... Patil. I am doing my duty. Why are you against me? What wrong have I done? if you do not want me to function, then close your courts."

All the details have been given.

[Translation]

Such circumstances have arisen there that the Hon'ble Judge has to express such words to these people. The Judges utter the things in a very disappointing manner.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North West) : Which is that court, you tell the name.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : The name of the Judge is Justice Holambe Patil.

AN HON'BLE MEMBER : Which is that paper?

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : This incident has been published in 'Times of India' and 'Indian Express' of 19th July, 1997. The situation has reached to the extent that a judge has to ask them that if you do not want me to function, then you close down the court. They are bent upon to attack on judiciary, what else you want? Law and order situation has deteriorated, what sort of situation is prevailing there? An attack was made on the staff of 'Lilawati' Hospital on the day when Home Minister visited Mumbai city. An attack was also made on the same day on the Director of the said hospital. There is an Institute of international stature named Halfkings Institute conducting research on the medicine in Maharashtra. This institute is under the control of Maharashtra government. Shiv Sainiks went to the Director of this Institute. They beat him, blackened his face and took him to the residence of Bai Thackeray and said that this man does

[Shri Sharad Pawar]

not listen to us and therefore we have behaved towards him in this manner. How many examples should I cite. This is the position of the government officials there and keeping in view this situation, Dalit officers working in Maharashtra government in Maharashtra have resigned. Deputy Commissioner of Police, Desk officer in Planning Department have made statements that in the manner, attacks are being made on the Dalits, it is very difficult to work under this government. Hence, we have resigned. A dalit poet committed suicide in Mumbai city and he wrote a note before his suicide that in which way attacks are made on the Dalits. It proves that there is none who can protect us there.

Third person is Chandra Kant Tamle. Who is this Chandra Kant Tamle. He has written to hon'ble President of India.

[English]

He is the Additional Coroner of Bombay. The subject is, "Assault by Shiv Sena and BJP Corporators on some of the Doctors belonging to upper-class community,"

This is dated 1st July, 1997.

[Translation]

The Magistrate of Coroner has written a letter to hon'ble President of India and he has sent a copy of this letter to us wherein he has stated that a Dalit officer gets the same treatment if he does not obey their orders. After the arrest of the persons from the residence of Chhagan Bhujbal Saheb ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

I have not yielded.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA (Mumbai-South) : Madam Chairperson, point of information. So far as the matter of coroner is concerned, I would like to submit that the above-mentioned Magistrate is involved in the corruption. He takes bribe from the people of coroner in case of post mortem and he has been caught red handed. All the government officers are aware of this fact. They know that he is a corrupt person.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : They attack on the individual physically who speaks against them and does not obey their order and such incidents take place daily.

In this way, this government has become famous for creating terror in the state. The people of Maharashtra feel state organised terrorism. The people of the state are facing this situation. There are several such matters. The persons arrested for attacking the Leader of the Opposition were taken to the police station. This news report has been published in leading newspapers of that area 'Loksatta' is a newspaper of Indian Express group and is widely circulated in this region. The front page of this newspaper carried the news item which said that its reporters had gone to the place, from where the workers of Shiv Sena were arrested for attacking the house of Shri Chhagan Bhujbal. They were taken to the police station and 'biryani' was served to them. Proper arrangements for food were made for them and the very next day, they were released. Bai Thackerayji himself has written that those workers had gone to the house of the Leader of the Opposition to meet him. They did not find him there and started burning the furniture. It means that a conspiracy was hatched to attack him and it was also possible that he could have been assassinated. In such circumstances, the case should have been registered under Section 307 of IPC. But the Government did not do so and provided protection to the culprits instead. When a hue and cry was raised on this matter, Shri Thackeray issued an order that the persons involved in this case should report to the police station and be ready to face Section 307 of IPC. That group again went to the Police Station and informed the Police officials about this order. The Police Commissioner offered tea to them and sent them back. Those people had no fear in their minds as they know that nothing is going to happen. This type of administration is going on there. Such a situation prevails there at present.

This Government has a strange and discriminatory attitude towards Dalits. I would like to cite an example. The whole House will be surprised to know that. Atalji please listen to me. The Department of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Ministry of Welfare of the Government of Maharashtra has issued an order regarding the supply of uniforms to Dalits and Tribals of the area. It is an old scheme. The Government order says that Dalits will be given blue uniforms and Tribals and non-Dalits would be given white shirts and khaki trousers in uniform. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

This is the order. I can give you a copy of the same. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai North East) : I did not expect this from you ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : What more can be the proof for naked aggression. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : When the Members belonging to the opposition raise a hue and cry on this matter in Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, Chief Minister made a statement that it was not right and that the said order would be cancelled. In spite of cancellation of the order, Dalits continued to be given blue uniforms. When this fact was brought to the notice of the Chief Minister, he said that stringent action would be taken against the persons responsible for that. On 6th June, 1996 another order was issued which said that distribution of the uniform should be stopped and wherever it had been distributed, the same should be withdrawn. It was done only after we raised our voice against it. This reveals their mentality and way of functioning.

These people have discriminatory attitude towards Dalits and instead of formulating any policy or taking measures for their welfare, this Government try to suppress them. The youth, who are aware of their rights, are attacked and false court cases are filed against them to suppress them. The whole state is heading towards terrorism. They blame and abuse Mahatma Gandhi. I have with me the statement issued by your leader at the time when he was with you. A statement has been reportedly given by Bhujbal that effigy of Godse was made.

17.00 hrs.

I have never given such a statement. I only praised Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel and said nothing more. This statement was carried by the 'Maharashtra Times' on 24th May, 1991. I do not want to say anything more in this regard. Many more such incidents are taking place there now a days, but no one is worried about it, especially the people from the ruling party on whose faith hon. Minister of Home Affairs has given a statement, are unconcerned. In the editorial, it has been written that if they wanted to fight Dalits, they had enough strength and capacity to do so. They do not want to take any action against them as they have changed their religion yet they are a part and parcel of this society. Our blood flows in their veins since ages. I would like to ask as to how government can function in this way. They are creating a terror in the whole state by attacking Dalits and Backwards and by compelling them to work as per their diktats. This has created a situation that now it has become a statutory responsibility of the Government of India to provide protection to Dalits in the state. Strict measures should be taken in this regard. Compromise

can be reached in any other issue but not on involvement of the Government in the incidents of attack on backward communities of the society. In such a situation I do not find any other option but to demand the use of Article 356. It is not proper for the Minister of Home Affairs to maintain silence on this issue.

[English]

It is said that the law and order situation is bad but not collapsed. I would say that in every sense of the term the law and order situation has collapsed. The people who are fighting for the cause of *dalits* are also being attacked. That is the situation in the State.

That is why in the larger interest of the nation and democracy, I think it is high time that you act.

17.03 hrs.

(COL. RAO RAM Singh in the Chair)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved:

"That this House expresses its deep concern over the atrocities committed on Dalits in Mumbai, Nagpur and other places in the State of Maharashtra and in other parts of the country."

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, normally on standing for taking part in a debate when the fellow Members clap, it gives encouragement and joy. But this feeling has not come to my mind with today's clappings. I felt that if they had not clapped, it would have been better for me since I am on my legs not to win over a dispute. Had Sharadji in his proposal not expressed orally his intention of such modification in Article 356, which Mr. Chairman has not yet accepted, perhaps I would have shared his concern and agreed to his proposal. In the manner Sharadji has given vent to lofty feelings in respect of Dr. Ambedkar, I don't think that anybody in this country could disagree with his feelings. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not pleading for anybody and you, said about Arun Shourie, you have interrupted. ...*(Interruptions)* I have no doubt about personal allegiance of Sharad Pawarji for Ambedkar but it is true that the Congress ruled out to consider Dr. Ambedkar as a leader for many years and Ambedkar should not win elections even a single time, they tried their level best to do so. Now I come to Shourie's book, we will debate on mystery. ...*(Interruptions)* My knowledge of Hindi is also of the same standard as that of Sharadji. You did not interrupt

natural too. The Police had to resort to firing as a result of that. I had listened to the speech of Sharadji patiently, don't entangle him. ...*(Interruptions)* some 10 persons were killed in the firing. That was a tragic incident. We think that no Government is meant for resorting to firing on its citizens. 10 people had died there due to firing and they were all dalits. If this House pays tribute to them, we will also share their sympathy. We will also join them in conveying our condolences. This sort of incident cannot be termed as a good thing. There was an attack on the houses of Chhagan Bhujbal, the Leader of Opposition and Madhukar Picharke. We know it that in the democracy the Opposition is as significant as the ruling party. The Opposition party cannot force the ruling party to speak in a particular language. If this is a rule, this cannot be different for Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Assam and elsewhere. In view of the importance of opposition in the democracy, we have strongly condemned the attacks at the house of Chhagan Bhujbal and Madhukar Picharke. We are of the opinion that whosoever has done it, that is a condemnable etc. To whatever party they belong, that party will have to realise that an attack on a leader of the opposition is not in the interest of democracy. It may be that the ruling party at times may talk with arrogance. In such a situation the opposition cannot behave irresponsibly. Arrogance itself means irresponsibility. This should be decided in this House. It is not proper to attack one's house to get justice. We also condemn that. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, I see two reasons mainly for desecration of Ambedkar's statue. If you want to hold one or two parties responsible for that, you may do so but if we introspect ourselves, we will find that the feeling of untouchability is there at the back of our minds, and that is manifested in such an act. Dalits cannot tolerate disrespect towards Ambedkarji. And why should they tolerate it? When we were talking about renaming of the Marathavada University, in reply to a question, I had said that dalits wanted the name of Ambedkar because history of dalits begins with Ambedkar. If they consider him as the first man of their history, then it is natural to have such a feeling in their minds for which they are not in fault. Political elements know this fact. They can feel the pulse of the aggrieved dalit community. They know that if the feelings of dalits are to be hurt, they have an easiest way and that is desecration of statue of Ambedkar. Since dalits consider Ambedkar as a god, they cannot tolerate disrespect towards Ambedkar. Therefore, they took to streets. The mindset of dalits towards Ambedkar gives rise to such incidents time and again, when terrorism first took its roots in the Punjab, you all know about that. A common man can be provoked on finding a piece of flesh or butts of cigarettes

in temple or gurudwaras. Who can do such an act? We have come to realise this now. We cannot escape from the situation by trading charges and counter charges against one another. Sharadji has suggested use of Article 356. Don't threaten us like this time and again. Do what you want to do. Whenever election would be held, we will get elected with more number of seats. This is not an issue to intimidate us. We don't care for that. Elections have been held three times after that ...*(Interruptions)*. The desecration of the statue of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is a shameful incident. The figures collected for the last five years show that on an average 55-60 incidents of desecration of Ambedkar's statue take place every year and they does not depend on a Chief Minister. 12-15 incidents of desecration of the statue of Lord Buddha, in Maharashtra 20-22 incidents of desecration of Panchsheel flag, 4-5 incidents of desecration of Shivaji's statue, 75-80 incidents of desecration of idols of Hindu daeties and 10-12 incidents of desecration of mosque shrines take place. This only reflects the pervert mentality of a few persons and we all should study it or will try to win in the politics but when you get the opportunity after five years, please give it a try. You please putforth the issue as to why all this is happening? If it is happening time and again, then, what is the conspiracy behind it? For instance, why did this incident occur in Ramabai Ambedkar Nagar.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is quite amazing that when this incident happened in Ramabai Nagar, there was no tension between dalits and non-dalits. How does this incident occurred all of a sudden? Just a little while ago Shri Sharadji made mention of ganvesh, he is saying this on the basis of figures on papers, this is not wrong. Sushmaji asked as to why all this is happening then I told her that she should not mind if it takes political colours. I had told her and I also say here in the House that ganvesh is given to dalits free of cost. ...*(Interruptions)* Our government is doing it now but your government too gave ganvesh free to dalits in the past. When some complaint was received that the cloth was dirty then some officer decided to give dark colour cloth. It could be construed that dalits were given the blue colour and the non-dalits white colour with a view to discriminate between dalits and non-dalits. The government was doing all this knowingly therefore a demand may be raised to withdraw this decision. This issue of past is being raised in this debate, Is it O.K.?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : This is your mentality.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I know your mentality. You would land up in serious trouble if I expose you here in this House.

[English]

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : If the uniform of the school is same, as white shirt and *khaki* pant and then you are giving blue shirt and *khaki* pant to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled tribe student, it is wrong. But if there is no uniform and you are giving a particular colour to a weaker section, that is a different thing. So, you clarify that.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Shri Rajesh Pilot, I totally agree with you. That is why, we have withdrawn the order. But the intention was not what he is hinting at. ...*(Interruptions)* I am talking about the intention. I definitely agree with you.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : It was decided at the highest level. It was decided in the Cabinet meeting. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Pramod Mahajan, I request you to address the Chair. Please do not get into an argument across the table; address the Chair and do not get into a cross talk with anybody.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : If there was no tension between dalits and non-dalits then why did this incident happen all of a sudden? We have seen that right after the formation of our government in Maharashtra such incidents do happen in parts of Maharashtra just before the commencement of the assembly session. It is either a coincidence or a conspiracy. This can be decided only after investigation. Once, we tried to get it probed and found that the person caught in the incident of Shrirampur was entangled in a court case and was in jail for last two-three months and his name was Firoz Gafoor Chamadia. Now do not ask as to which party he belongs to because that party is not present here in this House. We investigated in Parbhani and found three persons Mohammad Sakir Burhadduin, Mohd. Khalil Mohd. Ismail, Sheikh Shabir Noor Mohammad were involved in those incidents and it was also found that one of these three persons, Mohammad Khalil Mohammad Ismail had crossed over to Pakistan and was trained there. Therefore, deriving political mileage out of these incidents would not solve any problem faced by our society, therefore, we feel as to why these incidents are happening. Shivsena, BJP Government, has been in power for the last 30 months and by and large Maharashtra has been peaceful, barring a few incidents of firing, peace and order have prevailed in Maharashtra and I would request Shri Dattaji to let us remain in the power permanently of permanent peace

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I have not written this in front of him. Therefore, Prithviraj ji wants to know what I am reading from. Therefore, I am reading what has been written here. It must be enquired whether the speech of 10th July or incident of 11th July is merely a coincidence or an indication of any conspiracy. I did not level any allegation against Shri R.R. Patil. I told that you would be able to know through an enquiry whether it was a mere coincidence or this conspiracy has been unfolded accidentally. The second incident was the firing by police and as I stated in the beginning, there could be any worse act on the part of a Government than to resort to firing on its own citizens. I do not know whether the police firing was justifiable or not. When I adhered to Sharadji's speech, I thought that in Mahabharat, Sanjay was bestowed upon with special vision power to see the war fought in Kurukshetra, therefore, he could narrate it so correctly.

[English]

He was narrating as if he was personally standing there and looking at what was happening.

[Translation]

What he stated could be true, well, I do not know. He stated that the police brought tanker the same day or the next day. Sir, we have been handling the Maharashtra police for the last two years only while Sharadji has been the Chief Minister of Maharashtra four times and he has also been the Home Minister of Maharashtra twenty five years ago. Sharadji must be knowing about the habits of Maharashtra police more than anybody else, does. Therefore, he is telling his experience that the police brought the oil tanker the next day. The tanker must be there but the agitated people think that the police's tanker theory is a pretence. It is not Sharadji or me who can decide as to who is right and who is wrong. I am ready to go to the extent of saying that Sharadji may be right. But it would be a strange situation if the Centre takes any action. Therefore, it is not possible for most of us present here who were not present at the site of incident to decide whether the step of the police to resort to firing was right or not. Both the possibilities could be there. In such a situation, what can any Government do. I do not know whether Sharad Pawarji has set any tradition that the Home Minister will go and stand there at quarter past seven. The incident took place at 7.30, the issue was taken up in the House at 10-11 a.m. The Congress party demanded for judicial enquiry.

[English]

Within five hours after the incident the Government accepted it.

[Translation]

Ram Vilasji visited the place of incident after we had conducted the judicial enquiry. He is a Dalit leader and works for them and has sympathy for them. He visited the affected colony, tried to pacify the people and stated in the Editors' Guild that the judicial enquiry was right but that should be conducted by any sitting judge. It should not be conducted by any retired person. ...*(Interruptions)* Secondly, he stated that a time limit should be fixed for that because judicial enquiry takes time. Our Government accepted your suggestion of judicial enquiry then again it bowed down to your demand of sitting judge. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (Adoor) : There is nothing special in it.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : There is nothing special in it. I am only telling you that we have done what best any Government would have done. Nothing more than that.

[Translation]

Then Ram Vilasji demanded to fix a time limit; I stated that the enquiry should be completed within a period of two months. We accepted the demand of a sitting judge instead of a retired one, judicial condition, time frame and the terms of reference. I told the Hon. Home Minister about that also. I am still ready to state and would like to request the Maharashtra Government to complete the work by overcoming the handicaps if any. I am not concerned nor have I any objection in deciding what is what. The guilty must be punished. In this situation, it is not fair to enter any body's House, talk about the tanker and tell cock and bull story. It can be decided after the judicial enquiry is completed. I do not know whether it is proper to demand the imposition of Article 356 on this ground and that too from Congress party and from Sharad Pawarji.

The Goari incident was mentioned, Sharad Pawarji stated ...*(Interruptions)* Megheji belongs to Nagpur and not to Pune like Sharad Pawarji. He should have no problem in comprehending Hindi, why is he doing so? That was Adiwasi Morcha. It is true that firing was not resorted to in that incident and people were killed in stampede but why stampede took place? Were people going for Amamath Yatra or any pilgrimage? They were going to have Darshan in Ujjain where there was no proper arrangement for Yatra in which stampede took place and people were killed. Did it take place? When the said Morcha came out of the Legislative Assembly, ...*(Interruptions)* that incident is under enquiry and, therefore, I shall not reach any conclusion but I am citing an example. That Morcha was mercilessly lathicharged by the police. ...*(Interruptions)* The Morcha was mercilessly lathicharged by the police which resulted in stampede but that is not related to Lathicharge. ...*(Interruptions)*. The poor people could not locate the exit but at that time nobody asked for invoking Article 356. In that stampede, 112 people were killed. Will the use of Article 356 be decided on this basis?

I do not remember after this stampede who was Chief Minister in July 1989. Sharadji had been Chief

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Minister four times, hence, it is difficult to remember it. Minorities demonstrated there against the book of Salman Khursheed. Banatwala Saheb I ask you. ...*(Interruptions)* Police resorted to firing on this demonstration while they were unarmed, innocent. Out of them 11 people were killed there on the spot but even a single police officer was not suspended. Magisterial enquiry was conducted in this regard but at that time, you did not remember Article 356. ...*(Interruptions)* You are inconsistent. You do not want to impose Article 356.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALA (Ponnani) : You also did not remember. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am not asking you, you are not mover of it rather you are only seconder. Unfortunate incident of Ramabai Ambedkar invoked reaction in Gujarat. If Gujarat Government is sensitive towards Dalits, it is good thing. The affection of Chief Minister of this State towards Dalits has deepened since he deserted our party. We have seen that whosoever deserted BJP or Shiv Sena he considered himself as supporter of Dalits and his affection towards them is deepened. Gujarat Government announced assistance for them who were killed in this incident. I do not take it as mistake, they should help them but Madhya Pradesh Government also announced the assistance. As far as I remember such thing has never happened earlier that an incident has occurred in a state and assistance has been provided to the persons killed therein in this way, this practice has been adopted after the riots broke out due to the demolition of Babri structure and that tradition is still being followed. Now, Chief Minister took the lead in this regard and see, what happened; eight persons were killed in the police firing. Five persons were killed in Keshav Gaon. I would like to request to Home Minister ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BHAGWATI DEVI (Gaya) : Dalit has been killed. He is like an insect. If a Babu Saheb had been killed, the assistance would have been provided.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order please.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Five persons were killed in Keshav and Home Minister cannot visit after every incident of firing. If State Home Minister or a Central Minister had visited Keshav Gaon, it would have not been wrong. They were also killed in the firing and that incident was also related to this incident. If the Government had no time, the Members of Congress Party could have visited. They should have sent a team under the leadership of Venkateswamyji. But you have not

mentioned that thing in your speech. If you had mentioned this, it would have been better.

Now nobody has demanded that Article 356 should be imposed in Gujarat. There was no need to impose this article there. If you had withdrawn your support, Article 356 would have been implemented there automatically. There was no need to take support of United Front.

[English]

You can yourself invoke Article 356 immediately.

[Translation]

We did not invoke this Article where it was required. Will the imposition of Article 356 be determined on the basis of the number of persons killed and their caste? Will the Article 356 be imposed on the basis of these criteria?

I do not want to go into the incident of killings committed by Ranvir Sena in Bihar because I am afraid. Sharadji's motion is related to the entire country, it is not only confined to Maharashtra. This is what has been mentioned in the Motion. Sharadji has spoken on Maharashtra only. It was his choice. Was the incident of killings committed by Ranvir Sena in Bihar not the incident of Dalits?*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Your people are there in Ranvir Sena.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : At the outset I have stated that it was improper to attack the Leader of Opposition. Police officers who were deployed there and were responsible for this incident were suspended. At the time of their suspension it was said that the caste of these officers be considered. Caste factor should be considered or Police officers be considered. Police personnel deployed there should be considered or his caste be taken into account. He said that you had suspended the personnel belonging to our caste. The people who have killed these persons, they are also saying like this. I answered that Sharadji, not only you but a number of people of your party were saying in the same way and here I am not giving reply to you only. If the attack on Shri Bhujbal was wrong, was the attack made on Shri Ramdas Athwale right? We have seen their pictures. Nobody decided to include him into the enquiry.

Ram Vilasji is not here. He is Union Minister of Railways and the Leader of the House also. Sharad

Yadav is President of Janata Dal. He visited Bihar recently and why should I express my reaction to the incident occurred in Bihar. I would like to quote four lines of the Statement made by newly elected President, Shri Ramai Ram. Former Minister who is senior leader of Janata Dal and now he is President has made allegation that at the behest of the then Chief Minister, Laloo Prasad Yadav, conspiracy was hatched to kill national President of Janata Dal, Sharad Yadav and Union Minister of Railways in Sitamarhi. Rashtriya Janata Dal did not get success in this matter. Efforts were made to kill them on the line of the killing of former Minister of Railways. This matter should be enquired by CBI. I do not know what is true and what is wrong. I was not there. Hence I cannot say that it is true. Ram Kripalji may be correct.

Where is Priya Ranjan Dasji(Interruptions). Perhaps he has gone. I said to him that when I speak, he should be present in the House so that I can remind him that how badly he was beaten and thrown into gutter. How many such examples I should quote? Mamtaji is not here, she is elsewhere busy. But attacks are made on her. It is wrong to attack any Leader of Opposition. If the attack on Bhujbal is wrong, then attack on Pichhal, Athole, Mamta and others is also wrong. I do not understand why such incidents be included under Article 356. Therefore, the Motion moved in the House is absolutely politically motivated. Our Government in Maharashtra cannot be formed without any Dalit support. Today Shiv Sena and Bharatiya Janata Party have maximum number of Dalit MLAs, you do not have such number of these MLAs(Interruptions) Dalits are MLAs, MPs and Ministers.(Interruptions). Therefore, I say that politics would be played. We did not often demand the imposition of Article 356 for many years but when you are in opposition you are making the demand for the same dutifully we don't object it. But the matter of atrocities against Dalits is not related to Maharashtra and Gujarat only, it is a matter of concern for the entire country.(Interruptions) I committed mistake.

[English]

I must learn.

[Translation]

I should learn parliamentary etiquette from Ram Kripalji. I have committed a mistake. I would like to learn from that.

[English]

I am very sorry about it.(Interruptions)

DR. M. JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool) : It is a constitutional obligation. What is it that you have done?

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Therefore, it seems to me that this type of atmosphere has been created in India today. You may score debating points or even manage a small political victory by singling out one political party but this divide between Dalits and non-Dalits has come about as a result of injecting such political thoughts in them repeatedly and I think it would not be easy to abridge the divide so created.

Once I was analysing the election results and I noticed that there might be one or two exceptions which could be ignored and I hope, for that I would not be interrupted but the fact remains whether it was Parliamentary elections or Assembly elections, a Dalit candidate could not get elected from an unreserved constituency.(Interruptions). Just take into account the number of Dalits amongst the 545 Members of Parliament.(Interruptions) The situation is not good. Therefore, political reservation is required. We had envisaged that political reservation will promote affection and brotherhood between Dalits and non-Dalits so that a Dalit candidate could contest from any constituency. Today, Prakash Ambedkar do not contest Lok Sabha elections because like his grand-father, he has taken a pledge that he will contest only from a general seat and not from a reserved seat. But, it is difficult for a Dalit candidate to win from a general seat. Are all unreserved seats, occupied by the people belonging to Shiv Sena or Bharatiya Janata party? In our social set up, the type of untouchability prevailing in our hearts is not a gift of one political party. One political party can commit mistake but here all political parties have committed some mistakes. Therefore, it is my request that the central point of discussion should be the atrocities committed on Dalits. Besides reaching a conclusion on the issue of desecration of statue of Ambedkar, we should also evolve a consensus as to how we can awaken this Dalit community. By fighting and by abusing one another, you can score debating points but try to understand that it will not improve the political, economical and educational condition of the Dalits about which you are expressing your concern. Therefore, I would like to be enlightened if I am wrong. I do not say that the untouchability has been brought into the House through the political parties. The House is not responsible for this state of affairs. Elections have aggravated the problems and politics has made it more serious and grim. To eradicate it, I request that instead of following the path of struggle, we should try to have

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a look at the relationship between Dalits and non-dalits in a peaceful and cordial atmosphere. If we do that, it is quite possible that what we had envisaged could turn into a reality.

In the end, I want to make a brief point. 25 years ago, I had an opportunity to listen to the speech of 'Sarsanagchalak' of RSS, Shri Baba Saheb Devras at Pune on social equality and Hindu Sangathan under Basant lecture series. I can recall an example which will be quoted while concluding. He advocated intercaste marriages between Dalits and non-Dalits so that the gap between the two could be bridged. It was a good speech and it contained an example and I would conclude my speech with that example. He told a short story to make his point about what relationship actually meant. He told that once upon a time the Sun and the Wind were standing, watching a man wearing a coat. They had a bet to remove the coat from the man without touching him. Wind said that she could do it in 2 minutes and intensify its speed at the maximum but instead of taking off the coat, the man pulled it closer to his body. When the wind gave up, the sun started trying and increased heat to such a limit that the man took off his coat.

It will not be possible to bring Dalits and non-Dalits closer by just delivering stormy speeches. If we do that it will be unfortunate. If the social awareness is awakened from within the hearts, then only they can be brought together. Ambedkar will not be insulted at all, and the question of resorting to firing or insurgency will not arise.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, two hours were allotted for this motion and I think it started at 4 o'clock. Is it the pleasure of the House that we extend the time?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : As you rightly said, it was decided to extend the time in the case of Bihar. Here also, I would request you that we may extend the time for tomorrow. Let us conclude at 6 o'clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time is extended by whatever time the Hon. Speaker thinks fit to extend. Today we will end the debate at 6 o'clock. Now Shri Pitambar Paswan will speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : The duration extended in case of Bihar should also be made applicable in this case.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let there be some order in the House please.

[Translation]

SHRI PITAMBAR PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given an opportunity to speak to a new member like me on the issue of dalits in Maharashtra for which I express my gratitude to you and am thankful to you.

We are discussing an important issue in this House today which relates to desecration of the statue of Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar. This is the desecration of the messiah of crores of dalits in the country. This incident has deeply hurt their feelings and self-respect. Today this has become a matter of regret because such incident has not taken place in Maharashtra only. The incident which has occurred on July 11, 1997 is not the first incident of such nature. This sort of injustice has been meted out for centuries together to dalits and to the messiah of dalits, who was the beacon light for dalits and had earned fame. What sort of example we are setting up before the country and the world on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of our Independence. Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar, who was the founding father of the Constitution, who provided right to life to the poor, exploited, dalits and backward in the Constitution, who shaped their destiny, the statue of a man of such a stature was desecrated in the manner about which we feel shame to speak out. It is a matter to ponder over that what message we have conveyed to the country and to the world by garlanding his statue with shoes. What sort of atrocities are being committed on dalits and with their messiah by the people of feudalistic Society and those who have been brought up in the Brahminical system have conveyed to the world and despite this fact we are celebrating 50th anniversary of Independence.

If you want to earn a good name in the country and the world by showing disrespect to Baba Saheb Ambedkar and killing dalits, how paradoxical it would appear. I want to tell that whenever injustice was done to dalits, atrocities were committed on them and the people who came to their rescue, they were done to death along with dalits. We have to think over as to whom this country belongs to, what our society stands for and who will live in this society? Injustice and atrocities have been perpetrated on dalits since ages. But in this democracy and Independent India dalits still do not have liberty.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, atrocities have been committed on dalits in all the periods and ages. The reformers of the dalits, those who won laurels were killed and wiped out in every Age. Sir, you might remember and this House might know that in the Treta period, Sambhuk was murdered. Who were those who killed him? What was his fault? He was killed for the simple reason because he had chanted mantras in the Manusmriti system. In the Dwapar, the thumb of Eklavaya was cut off, who was he? When he approached the guruji for learning, the guru called him untouchable and sent him back saying that he could not teach him as he was a untouchable and Sudra. But by the dint of his hard work and upbringing he learnt himself and become an able man to set an example before the world and perhaps for that very reason his right thumb was cut off in exchange of guru dakshina.

Sir, this had happened, this has been happening in this world still today. When our dalit friends occupy high post, they are respected but when they demit that office, how much humiliation they face only they know about it.

Sir, I would like to mention an incident which had occurred in Uttar Pradesh. When Babu Jagjeevan Ram honoured by the dalit community visited Uttar Pradesh, he was holding an august post in the Government of India. He visited there to unveil the statue of the Annapurnaji and when he returned from there then the orthodox people and the believers of the Brahminical system realised that he was a Sudra, untouchable and had unveiled the statue due to which the statue had become unholy. And after that the statue was washed with the Ganges water and milk. And such incident happens in this country only. We need to ponder over as to why this happens, what this country stands for, what our society meant for and what is its mentality?

There is need to follow the voice of one's conscience that what one wants to do unto others. They inherited rights and honour from Baba Saheb Ambedkar but in this 50th year of Independence, he is honoured with a shoes' garland in Maharashtra, who are these people, what force is behind that? This is the same force which once upon a time had killed Sambhuk, chopped off the thumb of Eklavaya and did the work of washing the statue with the Ganges water and milk which was unveiled by Babu Jagjeevan Ram.

Sir, what has not happened in Maharashtra. On seeing a garland of shoes around the neck of the statue of the messiah of dalits, whose conscience will not cry with grief? There will not be a single dalit, who will not feel hurt on seeing a shoes garland around the neck of his messiah. But when a dalit raises his voice, he is done to death. An honourable member of the Congress Party, the Leader of the Opposition, when spoke in favour of dalits, raised their point, his belongings were thrown out of his house, his family members were harassed and beaten and their belongings were put on fire.

Then who will dare to protect dalits, this is a question of morality.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Well, Paswan Saheb, you may continue tomorrow.

The House now stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, July 30, 1997/
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