

Tenth Series, Vol. XIV, No. 18

Friday, July 31, 1992
Sravana 9, 1914 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourth Session
(Tenth Lok Sabha)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
Price: Rs., 50,00

CONTENTS

[Tenth Series, Vol. XIV, Fourth Session, 1992/1914 (Saka)]

No. 18, Friday 31, 1992/Sravana 9, 1914 (Saka)

	COLUMNS
Re. Premature Retirement Sought by shri Madhavan, Joint Director, C.B.I., Investigating Security Scam	1—28 333—358
Written Answers to Questions	28—333
Starred Question Nos.	347,348, 350 to 366 and 251
Unstarred Question Nos.	3589 to 3603, 3605 to 3620, 3622 to 3676, 3679 to 3699 and 3701 to 3775
Message From Rajya Sabha	354
Re. Judgement of Bombay High Court dated 9.7.92 on Irregularities in Allotment of land to the Government Employees Cooperative Housing Society in Maharashtra	358—372
Personal Explanation by Minister	372—375
Matter raised by Shri Ram Kapse, M.P. regarding judgement of Bombay High Court dated 9.7.92 on irregularities in allotment of land to Government Employees Cooperative Housing Societies in Maharashtra during his Chief Ministership	372—375
Shri Sharad Pawar	372—375

Papers Laid on the Table	375—382 452—454
Panel of Chairmen	382
Statements by Ministers	383—387 392—393
(i) Recovery of huge quantity of arms and ammunition at Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	383—387
Shri M.M. Jacob	
(ii) Doordarshan and AIR coverage of 25th Olympic Games at Barcelona, Spain	392—393
Shri Ajit Panja	392—393
Business of the House	387—391
Business Advisory Committee	390—392
Eighteenth Report— <i>Adopted</i>	
Demand for Excess Grants (General), 1988-89- <i>Presented</i>	392
Discussion under Rule 193	393—407
Scam involving operations in Government securities running into thousands of crores of Rupees	
Shri Shankarsinh Vaghela	394—403
Shri K.P. Reddaiah Yadav	403—407
Committee on Private Members' Bills and resolutions Twelfth and Thirteenth Reports - <i>Adopted</i>	407
Resolution <i>Re.</i> Review of Disinvestment Policy	408—452
Shri Rupchand Pal	408—410
Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee	410—412

Shri Chitta Basu	413—418
Shri Sriballav Panigrahi	418—423
Shri Astbhuj Prasad Shukla	423—427
Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya	427—435
Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi	435—437
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	437—438
Shri Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri	438—442
Shri Sudhir Giri	442—446
Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat	447—450
Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh	450—452

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOKSABHA

Friday July 31, 1991, Sravana 9, 1914
(Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

**RE. PREMATURE RETIREMENT
SOUGHT BY SHRI MADHAVAN, JOINT
DIRECTOR, CBI, INVESTIGATING SECU-
RITY SCAM**

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhe pura): Mr. Speaker, Sir, those hon. Ministers, who are involved in security scam and about whom Shri Madhavan has written, may please be introduced. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Why Shri Madhavan has resigned? The Prime Minister should come and tell the House. Where is the Prime Minister? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not able to hear anything

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): We have given notice under rule 388 to suspend Question Hour. (Interruptions)

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Supposing, I have to decide and I have to say that this thing will be done or this thing will not be done, the first thing is I should be able to hear. And if I am not able to hear, then I am not able to decide also. Now, If one of you can stand up and say, I can hear.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the last three months, the entire country has been convulsed with this episode, which I regard as perhaps the worst scandal in the history of independent India. There have been other scandals. But this security scam is far worse than the others because in all other cases some people may have made money, some institutions may have been adversely affected, the economy also may have been affected, but this is the first scandal where not only these three things have happened, but tens of thousands of middle-class families, poor families, have been ruined completely. And, therefore, when the Prime Minister told this House that he was keen to see that all those who were guilty are booked, or all those who were guilty are exposed, the country accepted it, Parliament accepted it. Therefore, even though two or three weeks have elapsed, and even though we had information that something was cooking behind the scenes, there was no uproar in this House on this particular issue. This morning's newspapers, *the Statesman* for instance, carries a report.

MR. SPEAKER: My request to you and to the House would be to continue with the Question Hour. Immediately after the Question Hour we will take it up. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Ministers are exposed. How can they be allowed to function? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL. K. ADVANI: You will appreciate that it has been my view also, that as far as possible the Question Hour should not be suspended because it belongs to the Members. Therefore, the Members should be allowed to have it. But at the same time, considering the fact that there have been in the past so many occasions when the Question Hour has been utilised to express the Members' concern or grievances about an extraordinary matter, I do not recall a more extraordinary matter than this. But, as I said, I would like to present what are the issues and I would like to say what in such a situation the Government should have done. Even before this House met the Government should have anticipated that the House would express the concern of the whole nation and therefore seek suspension of the Question Hour, as many of my colleagues have formally done.

But the Government seems to take everything for granted. Either they should have approached us saying that 'this is the situation, these are the facts, allow us to make a statement, we propose to make a statement.'

I do not think that the general discussion on the scam would cover this particular matter of Shri Madhavan. Shri Madhavan is the Joint Director of the CBI. He was investigating and we had known that he was under great pressure. I do not want to name anyone. But the moment he came, I was all along intrigued that during the last three months certain bank officials have been booked, certain brokers have been put behind the bars, but not a single politician, not a single bureaucrat has been touched. Not one! I was wondering now this can be

possible? And now, this particular episode, of Shri Madhavan comes up.

I do not know how far my colleagues here are aware of the background of Shri Madhavan. He has been connected with Bofors and therefore he has come to light. But his record is totally unblemished. He is an upright officer with an exceptional record and he was given a gold medal by the President this year on the 26th January.

My information is that in the course of his investigation he came across very specific and direct evidence against three ministers of this Government (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Who are they? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: He was asked not to include this in his report. I have seen the official explanation given for Shri Madhavan's request for premature retirement.. It is said that he was not being promoted and, therefore, he has sought premature retirement. I am in Parliament and, therefore, all that I can say is that this is absolutely untrue because if I were outside I would say this is palatable. Here, I would say it is untrue. (*Interruptions*). It is not only untrue but it is adding insult to injury by making an accusation against him of this kind. He has investigated cases against many.

AN. hon. MEMBER: This word is unparliamentary. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Advaniji, it becomes very difficult for me...

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: You drop those words. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Not only that.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I withdraw those words. I say 'untrue'.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I am not on the words only.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: My point is that before we take up this discussion on the Scam, the Government must come out with an honest authentic version of what has happened in respect of Shri Madhavan. Why has he sought pre-mature retirement? Why? The official version is absolutely incredible, It is unacceptable to us and it is unpalatable to us. Therefore, the Government must come out with the full facts. What has happened in respect of many investigations? I do not want to mention names now. I have names. I can mention names but I do not want to mention names because I want the Government to come out first as to what has prompted what has impelled a senior officer, a bright officer in respect of whom the official also says that we are persuading him to withdraw his resignation. He is being persuaded and if he were to ask my advice I would ask him to accept not to quit, stick on there, continue to be there. This would be my advice if he were to ask my advice. We would like officer of this kind to continue. I mention the Indian Express also. He investigated very many cases than Bofors alone. He investigated a case against the Indian Express. He Investigated the case against Union Carbide and very successfully brought to light very many failings of that multi-nationals concern. Therefore, it is shocking for the whole country that an officer of that level, of that calibre should be forced by this Government to resign because they want to hide the politicians and the bureaucrats behind this biggest scandal of Indian history.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, ever since we have come to know about it through the newspapers, we are all perturbed and worried and today we want from the Government a clarification in this regard. It is true that Bank scam has destroyed our economy and ruined the people. It will certainly tarnish our image outside the country. It is also true that the name of Shri Madhavan is associated with this case but he is not involved in it. But the issue is more complicated as he is being pressurised and influ-

enced. The conduct of the entire Government has been called into question which should be cleared by it, today. The Government should clarify whether an officer in the Prime Minister's office called Shri Madhavan and instructed him that if the name of any political leader is found involved in the scam, it should not be disclosed until it is cleared by them? Is it not a fact that he was asked to include the names of certain top officials while he was instructed to exclude certain other names and out of this frustration he tendered his resignation. But the Government says that he gave his resignation because he was not given promotion. Such insignificant things should not be said. I know that official because he was handling the Bofors case. He had done an excellent job by getting the Swiss accounts seized and by bringing the documents of A.E. Service to India. First, I was very happy that the Government has entrusted him this case of securities scam. But it could last long. He was removed from the investigation of Bofors case and was transferred to the Department of Economic Investigation. He was asked to look after this department but then this scam took place.

Sir, all this is not merely restricted to scam. It will be an example as to how an honest person can be harassed. This will affect adversely not only Shri Madhavan but all the honest officers like him. Therefore, it is issue of failure of the entire system which needs to be handled carefully. So it is essential that the Government or the hon. Prime Minister should give clarification. He was pressurised by the Prime Minister's office. I do not say and I do not bet that the hon. Prime Minister was aware of all this. He might not be knowing it. But if the hon. Prime Minister knows that he was pressurised by his own office, it is his duty to look into it or give clarification in this regard. Now it has become the big question. Today, corruption is weakening the country. The Question Hour should be suspended to discuss this issue further. (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, today my question is at number 3.

*Not recorded.

I do not want the Question Hour to continue.
(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE(Bolpur): Mr. speaker, Sir, nobody can deny the importance of the matter. The Finance Minister, in his own statement of 8th of July has admitted that a fraud of very high magnitude has taken place- he is not in disagreement and that the Government is supposedly very serious in unearthing the persons involved in it. One Minister has resigned. He may not be a party to the scam but he has already had to resign. One Member of the Planning Commission has had to go. CBI has been assigned this job of investigation. A special Court has been set up. An Ordinance has been passed for attachment of properties of persons involved. This is the type of serious situation. Public funds to the extent of over Rs. 3,500 crores have been lost. It may be Rs. 5,000 crores, 6,000 crores or 7,000 crores, we do not know. But we have been watching that the CBI has been making very serious efforts. Many persons have been arrested, many places have been searched, and considerable progress has been made in the matter. Now when we find that important names are coming up, Ministers' names, Power Finance Corporation is supposedly involved in it- I do not know myself, so I cannot say on my own but these are coming up- in the newspaper it comes that the person who has been entrusted with the investigation of this very very serious matter is suddenly going away on the ground of voluntary retirement, although three years are still left for his tenure. I do not understand how this Government is functioning.

What is the style of their functioning? Is it not expected that the entire country is agitated when a fraud of such magnitude has taken place? But they are sitting like Sphinx. They have no feelings. They should have come out on their own with a *suo motu* statement. Where is the Home Minister? Why not they come out and tell the position to this House?

MR. SPEAKER: No, not in the question hour.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Why not, Sir, during the question hour?
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, have they given you a notice that they will make a statement at 12 noon, on their own? They have not told us.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: We have given a notice to suspend the Question Hour.

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They have not discussed the matter with others. No one is given a chance. They never did that. That is not their habit. They do not know it. Therefore, we are convinced that the Government does not wish to tell the truth to the country or to the House. Therefore, they are keeping silent. This is a very very serious matter. (*Interruptions*) The media has come out with a story- apparently the Government's story, the official version- that he wanted a promotion, an accelerated promotion, which has not been granted and, therefore, he has- sort of- put in his papers.

Very senior and responsible Members of this House have said that of their own knowledge it cannot be so and I have no reason to dis-believe the version of Shri Advani or Shri V.P Singh. Therefore, this is a matter which cannot be treated as a routine matter. I demand of this Government that if they are really serious in holding a proper enquiry into the scam -the biggest scandal not only of this country but of the whole world- to please tell the truth. The Counsel for the C.B.I. has said before the court that this is the biggest financial scandal where different agencies of the Government- from the Finance Ministry and downwards- are apparently involved. This is the way in which the Government is functioning. We have had experience in this country.

Sir, Shri Madhavan was removed from Bofors enquiry. The House was agitated, the country was agitated. Now a similar method is being followed. When he was, probably, at the point of achieving a breakthrough or when inconvenient names are to come out, at that time pressure is being put on him and he is forced to quit and in disgust and protest he has put in his papers. This is a very serious matter. The country must be taken into confidence and the Government must give a commitment that he will continue to be incharge of this and there should be no interference from the Government as apparently they are doing now. Otherwise he would not have taken this action. This is a very serious matter. The government must respond. Thank you.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the scam itself was a great shock to this Government, to its prestige, credibility and integrity. What has appeared in the papers toady, I think, is the last nail in the coffin. I do not personally know Shri Madhavan. I know him only as an officer who was worked efficiently, honestly and with integrity. Nobody can doubt his integrity, honesty and uprightness. If such an officer is forced to put in his papers in order to get retirement three years before it is due, and over and above the Government is said to be persuading him not to resign, it is a very peculiar situation. I do not know what type of Government this is. It is not they are trying to convince the officer not to resign. But they are making a public statement that they are persuading him through his friends. I do not think that officers are to be persuaded through friends. If they have got genuine grievances, those grievance should be met by the Government. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not such a simple matter for the Government to wait.....

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: May I mention one thing in this context? According to my knowledge, Shri Madhavan is told that his premature retirement is not yet due and, therefore, the Government cannot accept it and if he wants he can resign, so that he does not get any retirement benefits also. I

do not know whether it is correct or not. (Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL (Erandol): Sir, it is not correct. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Are you also involved in securities scam? I think he is definitely involved (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not privy to the personal talks or negotiations that has taken place between the Ministry of Personnel or the Prime Minister's Office and the Officer concerned. I am just pointing it out to you and to the House the method of governing a country; whether an officer, if he is having some genuine grievance, why should the Government not have met that grievance? If, according to them, it was only for promotion, why did they not sack the officer? Both the authority they have got. But, unfortunately, they have certain skeletons to conceal. That will be the impression in the country. I do not know what is the position.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this becomes all the more serious when you are in the process of constituting a Joint Parliamentary Committee; you are going to appoint a Chairman. Unfortunately, today itself it has come in the newspaper that ruling party does not want a man from the Opposition to be the Chairman of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. I do not know what is going on between various leaders of the political parties and the ruling party, but if all such things come out at the same time, it will not only affect the credibility of the Government, but I am sorry to say that it will put a question mark over the functioning of the Joint Parliamentary Committee also.

Mr Speaker, so it is the duty of the Government and especially of the Prime Minister to make this matter clear. When openly it is being said that a senior officer of the Prime Minister's Office has given certain instructions, is it not the duty of the Prime

Minster to deny it? It is a peculiar way of functioning. Time and again, on every issue three or four versions are given about the intentions about the commitment and about the assurances given by the Prime Minister and the Prime Minster just keeps quiet over it and he thinks that the people will forget about it. Perhaps, he is succeeding in it, but whether his success is going to be beneficial to this institution in which we are sitting today; whether this Parliament will function in this manner that the Leader of the House keeps mum, not only he keeps mum, but keeps himself absent from all the proceedings which are of controversial nature or of serious nature. Mr. Speaker, I have also some experience of the parliamentary functioning, but this is for the first time in the history of Parliament that the Leader of the House has absented himself on such crucial occasions. It had never happened during the tenure of any other Prime Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: In today's questions, he has no questions.

SHRI CHANRA SHEKHAR: I am not talking of today, Mr. Speaker. Today will be tomorrow, because, again I know that nothing will happen in this House and the Prime Minister will be happy that the Government is going on merrily well and the House is not functioning. I know the methodology that is being adopted. This is done to make this House redundant. It is a sinister move, Mr. Speaker. I say with all sense of responsibility

that it is to make the Parliament totally redundant; it is to bring down the prestige and honour of this great House to the ridicule in the eyes of the people. I hope, Mr. speaker, that you should assert your authority at least to make the Government realise that they may come and they may go, but this institution is to remain if the country has to prosper and in this regard, I think nothing should be done to pin-prick with the Bureaucracy and if some bureaucrat has a genuine grievance, it is not the way to malign him. The slanderous campaign on the part of the Government is totally unbecoming.

I assure you, Mr. speaker, I have never

seen Mr. Madhavan, or if I would have seen him in some crowd, I do not know. I have never found him meeting me any time, but I know from his record- though my experience was not as great as that of Mr. V.C. Shukla and my friend Mr. Sharad Pawar and others, but I was also in the Government for a few months and I can say with full sense of responsibility that this officer is one of the top officers in the Government and if he comes to this pass, I do not know what is going to happen to this bureaucracy. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, I have to submit two things in this regard. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: would you like to hear the Government?

[*Translation*]

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: Please allow me to submit two things before the Government puts forth its views. (*Interruptions*) Sir, please give me opportunity to express any views before a statement is made by the Government.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: My primary concern is to see that we in the House do the business which is mentioned on the agenda. Now if it is the wish of all the Members to do something else and if it happens every day, then it becomes very difficult.

In view of the fact that all the leaders and all the Members are concerned, I am allowing. But if it becomes unending, if one hand after the other, the hands are raised, I do not know whom to allow and whom not to allow. If it becomes unending, it becomes very difficult to regulate. But I am allowing him.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can understand your problem, but since this is a very serious matter, it is very necessary for us to submit a few points before statement is made by the Government.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the resignation of Shri Madhavan is lying with the Government since 20th. We would like to know about the steps taken by the Government during the period from the date of submission of resignation by Shri Madhavan to the date when we are raising this issue after being reported by the newspapers?

We do not know as to whether he has submitted his resignation or given a note, we know only what has been reported the newspapers. Since people are getting information about what is going on, I would like to put forth certain things before the Government. You did not entrust Shri Madhavan, with any responsibility. I was wrong in making judgement. This Government had done only one good job in its whole tenure by appointing Shri Madhavan for investigating this scandal. Actually Government had not entrusted him with any responsibility. It had sent him to 'Kala Pani' but there too was a scandal and he was again entrusted with a responsibility. As soon as he started his work, attempts were made to stop him from functioning.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, many other small and big scandals are linked with such a big scandal of Harshd Mehta, viz stock market and security scam. These are separate scandals in their own way. Fairgrowth Scandal is another scandal of its kind in which a large number of Government functionaries and officials are involved. So Government took two decisions. But I do not know the level at which these decisions were taken.

Prime Minister says that truth would be brought before the nation at all costs. But I would like to tell the Prime Minister that Minister of Personnel under whose adminis-

trative control comes the CBI, has tried to stall the enquiry during the past two years. Can he deny this act? You did not entrust the case of UCO Bank to him but handed over the case to the person who had tried to cover up the Bofors case at your instance. Take the case of U.C.O. Bank and Margbandhu.

MR. SPEAKER: I would allow you to raise, all these issues, but please give a notice first.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have given you a notice,

MR. SPEAKER: Which notice have you given?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have given you a notice that our adjournment motion should be accepted.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no, not in this way.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given you another notice under rule 388, since there would be no Question Hour today.

MR. SPEAKER: No. If you are levelling any allegation against the Government, Government must know it before hand so that it could defend itself.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, I am not levelling any allegation, I am giving facts only.

[English]

I am only stating the facts.

MR. SPEAKER: No body is disallowing you to do it. But you do it in a manner.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I am only making a statement of facts. I am not making allegation. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That should be by giving a notice. Any-way, I am allowing you. But then beyond a certain limit, they are as

well as entitled to ask me as to, "How you are allowing it"?

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the case of Fairgrowth came to light, same thing happened. On the one side you talk of accepting the resignation while the other your Press Information Officer tells a group of correspondents that they should not write that his resignation has been accepted nor they should write that he has resigned because of Government's interference in the case rather they should write that he has resigned due to dispute over his promotion.

[*English*]

This has centered on CBI sources or official sources, the informed sources say.

[*Translation*]

While quoting sources of news item they should write the source as informed sources. To this extent briefing is done. Raid was conducted of Fairgrowth. Two months' time has passed after the scandal. You got time only yesterday to conduct raid on Fairgrowth. It was conducted to show that they were serious and were on the job despite his resignation. They tried to conceal all the information and burn all the documents with a view to destroy all the proofs. On the one hand Government is working to destroy all the evidence by burning them or destroying them while on the other hand it talks of the resignation and conducts raid on the Fairgrowth. It all raises, doubts about the Government's intention and integrity.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can understand your problems, but you should also appreciate our problem. This is the question of the intention of the Government, not of an allegation. We do not want to hear the Minister, we want to hear the hon. Prime Minister. Prime Minister should come and clarify as to whether Shri Madhavan would handle this case or not. He would not work under any

pressure. He should not be issued any instructions as to which names should be withheld, which names should be sent directly to PM Office and which names are to be highlighted. Shri Krishnamurti can go and be he should go. The fact which have been revealed are only the tip of the iceberg. Krishnamurthi would reveal the name of many other persons. Shri Krishnamurthi would go but the people of Finance Ministry who were behind the Canara Mutual Fund scandal would continue in office.

With this submission I would like to conclude that we are very much concerned about it. You are going to constitute the JPC.

MR. SPEAKER: House is going to constitute it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: CBI has registered a case against Power Finance Corporation. The issue for which the case has been registered against Power Finance Corporation was approved by whom? Whose signatures are there on the file? The person who gave orders to sanction this loan has been appointed Cabinet Secretary. What would JPC do in the matte? When the Power Secretary of the Power Finance Corporation can be become a Cabinet Secretary, what can JPC do? I am not levelling any allegation against him. I am only staying the facts because there is always a system for done a work. You please tell us because you are going to constitute a committee of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: No, it is not so. The House is going to constitute the committee.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You are the symbol of the House. When you are the symbol of the House, these facts should be placed before you. If you do not allow us to place the facts before you, then how can we have faith on your intention in such circumstances. So I request you that you should call the Prime Minister in the House and ask him to give us a straight and clearcut assurance and after that we will allow the work to proceed according to the agenda.

SHRI RABIR RAY (KENDRAPADA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I can realise your problem. We are demanding suspension of Question Hour because... (Interruptions) I want to raise the matter in respect of proceedings. I would like to remind you that when the Hon. Prime Minister was speaking on the debate on No-Confidence Motion, Shri George Fernandes asked the last question whether the Government would take suitable action in regard to the shortcomings in the C.B.I. investigation. The Prime Minister at once assured that he had noted the complaint of Shri George Fernandes and would issue directions immediately in this regard. Now after 8-10 days the same topic is again raised here. It is related with Shri Madhavan. While replying to the query of Shri George Fernandes during the debate. The Prime Minister has clearly given an assurance that he would try to remove all the shortcomings of C.B.I. investigation as mentioned by the court.

But now you see what is happening before us? All the newspapers are publishing the reports that Shri Madhavan has been asked not arrest anyone unless some highest officer of the Prime Minister's Secretariat permits him to do so. As far as the case of fairgrowth is concerned, it has been said that nothing should be brought as evidence in case any Minister was concerned with it. All these restrictions are coming in the way of investigation. You please ask the P.M. to fulfil his assurance given in the House. How will the Parliamentary democracy survive in these circumstances? I am sorry to say that Inspite of the Prime Minister's assurance the shortcomings have not been removed and Shri Madhavan has not been entrusted with *full powers to work. It is not the fault of Shri Madhavan. He is pained with this sorry state of affairs.* The evidence is not being placed before the prosecutor and the Court in a proper way. Now it is clear that the cat is out of the bag. It is an unprecedented situation. So I urge upon you to suspend the Question Hour. The Prime Minister is incharge of the C.B.I. so he should be asked to be present in the House to enable us to have some clarification from him. I conclude with these words.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Let him hear our stand first and then reply... (Interruptions) Sir, this matter is of a very serious nature. Today, we saw in the newspapers that an officer like Shri Madhavan, an officer of integrity, was forced to resign. He was investigating into the greatest scandal of our country, in fact of the world.

MR. SPEAKER: At least, you please ask whether he was forced to resign

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: It is the greatest scandal in the world. This is a scandal of the nature of running into thousands of crores of rupees. But he was now being allowed to inquire into this scandal, into the security scam. The names of some Ministers also have appeared. It was reported that some Ministers also have appeared. It was reported that some Ministers were coercing him not to investigate, not to uncton freely in order to see that the truth does not come out. He was being prevented from inquiring into the scam. So, this matter is of a serious nature. Further, we have been demanding for the last 2 months that the truth should come out.

Who are responsible for this scandal? Who are responsible for this security scam? The prestige of this nation, of our country has been lowered because of some persons. And the persons who are in the Government are responsible, some bureaucrats are responsible. Not only one Harshad Mehta but there are number of officers, there are number of persons who are in the Government, who are in the Ministries, who are involved in this. Only one Minister has resigned. Only Shri Krishnamoorthy has resigned. There are number of Krishnamoorthys who were involved in this greatest scam, in this greatest scandal. And Shri Madhavan who was enquiring into this scandal, into this scam, was being prevented from that. The Prime Minister should come because he is incharge

of the CBI, and tell this House why he was forced to resign and whether the Government would allow Shri Madhavan to continue the work which was entrusted to him. The Prime Minister should come and tell this House. Not only that. The entire nation is agitating over it. The Prime Minister should come and tell this House about this (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Well, you have repeated it four or five times

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHRIA: When this news appeared a week back, we had demanded that Prime Minister should come and tell this House.

MR. SPEAKER: How should we know that you are going to raise this issue now?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You explain why the Question Hour should be suspended.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: All the Newspapers have carried this news. The Prime Minister should.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the rule.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE(Dumdu): The point we want to emphasise is.....

MR. SPEAKER: My difficulty is, I had fixed this matter for four days continuously. You had not discussed it. All the time when the matter was on the agenda, you discussed something else. Today also we have fixed it for discussion, you are not discussing it on time. You are pushing aside something which is on the agenda. I am really very pained to see that we have fixed this matter for discussion today, you have the opportu-

nity to discuss it today and yet you are not allowing the Question Hour to take place. Not only today. For four days continuously we did it. Not only that. I once warned "if you do not discuss it I am not going to fix it." Whenever it is fixed you to do not discuss it, whenever it is not there you do it to which I object.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: You are very much right. We wanted the discussion not for the sake of discussion. We did not want the investigation for the sake of investigation only.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can do the same thing when the time for discussion comes.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: But please permit us to state this much that we are not plain seekers of truth only. We want that such things do not happen in future and in order to do that we are in search of truth. Now you tell us, if while investigating, it is demonstrated to people like Shri Harshad Mehta or people who are in the Ministry that such things may be allowed in future, we will not forbid the Karnataka Government to allow the CBI to function, we will not allow the sincere officers to investigate into the matter in future, then what picture will it give, what signals will it give? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All these things you can say when the time comes. I have fixed the time.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATERJEE: Why do we investigate.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (Hooghly): If there is a discussion they will try to scuttle the whole issue. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Today also you can discuss it after fifteen minutes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: At the same time, condition should be created so that no such things happen. Signals should be given so that such things do not recur. Otherwise, what would be the justification of such a discussion?

What really worries us and I believe the Finance Ministry officials also is the fact that despite what is happening, despite all the scandals, the only signals that go around the country are that if one scandal is caught, do not worry, they are permitted to generate other scandals. What is the purpose of such a discussion? What is the purpose of such an investigation? It is for that reason, we want to be assured by the Prime Minister, who holds the direct charge of the C.B.I.

We know that all kinds of signals are granted. In the case of Bofors also, do you want us to seriously believe that the identity cannot be discovered? Do you want us to believe and the country to believe that at this crucial stage, this person is trying to offer his resignation because, a promotion was not granted? Please do not treat the countrymen and ourselves as '...

MR. SPEAKER: It is not going to form part of the record.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Nobody would believe it. And the signals that we want from the Prime Minister is that there will be a full-fledged investigation otherwise, even the JPC becomes meaningless, to arrive at the truth and will permit it to continue. That is why we want an assurance from the Prime Minister, at this present moment, that those signals are not really meant.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday when the proceedings of the House were over, we thought that discussion on Ayodhya and drought situation under Rule 193 as per agenda was

over and today the debate on scam would take place. We are prepared for it. But in between there have been some developments in the matter yesterday night. Today the entire country came to know it through the media. You rightly said as to how the P.M. and the Government would come to know. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government is already aware of it. The Government on this sensitive question.

MR. SPEAKER: Please don't reply to my question. You put your own point.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we were thinking that the J.P.C. would be constituted and would have a discussion on the scam. Now a new development in the case has taken place that the incharge of the investigation is being compelled to seek voluntary retirement. I am of the opinion that this way of functioning would not serve the purpose properly. In view of all these changes in the circumstances the Prime Minister's or the Govt's Statement is needed first only then the discussion on the scam, or constitution of J.P.C. to look into this case can be meaningful we would like that this work should be completed as soon as possible. Today three weeks have passed, but still the names of the members of the J.P.C....

MR. SPEAKER: You are busy in other things.

SHRI RAM NAIK: All this was on the agenda. But it is also necessary. So I urge that the Government should first make a statement then the discussion should be started.

[English]

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, when I wanted to raise a discussion about the Power Finance Corporation, you have said that it can be part of today's discussion. But today we find that the enquiry into the Power Finance Corporation has been taken out together with the investigation into UCO and the Fair Growth. This is a conspiracy to scuttle the total investiga-

tion. What is the use of the discussion here if in the meantime, they try to scuttle it? I want to raise it yesterday, but you have said that it is part of today's discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: I would have allowed you to raise it after fifteen minutes.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: It was a part of the investigation. Now it was taken out of the investigation. It is a part of the conspiracy to scuttle the investigation.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): The investigation can never be fruitful, if the Finance Minister is in office.

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): Mr. Speaker, Sir, today I am thankful to Shri Madhavan, by whose action, at least today, the whole opposition is able to come together to discuss this Scam issues. When thousands of our Countrymen have committed suicide because of this Scam, this opposition never bothered to discuss the issue.

No one bothered; I am a witness of that. Let us understand the character of both the ruling party and the opposition party. Even if you do not allow me to discuss the issue here, I will hold meeting in front of the Parliament gate and conduct an unofficial Parliament session there. Do not think that people are not watching us.

The Prime Minister came to the House on that day with all seriousness to discuss this matter. I am already on record saying as to how dramatically that was scuttled by the opposition. We should put an end to such a hypocrisy. If both the ruling party and the opposition do not act, people will not keep quiet. This is the place where the Constitution has failed to function in this country and not in Ayodhya or elsewhere. People have made us the custodians of their money. But both the ruling party and the opposition have failed to discharge their function. Therefore if we are not functioning and have completely failed to find a solution to this, the people may ask military to take over the reins

of the administration. They may go to that extent also. So this is the occasion for military to interfere in the affairs of the State. If the opposition does not function properly and does not behave responsibly, I am sure people will not forgive them. They know where to keep these opposition people. So you allow a complete discussion without any partisan considerations to find out the truth. The scam has not started today. It has started four or five years back. You allowed for the last three or four years these things to take place. I have not every information that got only the ruling party persons; but the opposition people are also involved in this scam, who have got some lenience or friendship with the brokers. (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Speakers, Sir, what happened to my notice under Rule 388?.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHUANA (South Delhi): Mr. speaker, Sir, normally the Question Hour should not be suspended but it is a very important matter so we had to give a notice under Rule 388. People know the integrity of Shri Madhavan well. So, I do not want to repeat his past record. The entire country is worried about it. So if you receive a notice of a Minister of Prime Minister to give a *Suo Motu* Statement in this regard, it will sooth the sentiments and anguish of the Members.

Secondly I would like to state that the forcible resignation of Shri. Madhavan due to political pressure shows that the Government wants to give a wrong signal to the investigating officers that if they do not abide by the instructions of the Government, they would also meet the same fate as Madhavan is meeting. So I think if Madhavan does not continue in his post alongwith the investigating powers after this incident, it will definitely demoralise the present investiatitly officers because the Government wants to threaten them in this way . So it is necessary that the Prime Minister at first should come with a statement and only after that the discussion will be a useful one.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, now the Question Hour is going to be over....(Interruptions) You did not accept the resolution to suspend the Question Hour. But ultimately it met the same fate though in a somewhat different manner. I would like to know whether this procedure is correct; whether the House will go like this; Bank scam is included in today's agenda for discussion.

12.00 hrs

This discussion could be taken just after the Question Hour....(Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, you know that I have emphasised on it earlier also that the Question Hour should take place....(Interruptions) Please you don't support it, because your support weakness my case....(Interruptions)

I know what the Leader of the Opposition said I do not want to violate any privilege of the House. But there is a competition in this House as well as in the country for expressing one's views first. Is it necessary to suspend the Question Hour for it?

My colleague Shri George Fernandes also wants to raise an issue and feels intensively about the issue. We also feel that. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, time has come to consider seriously as to how the intensity should be expressed in this House because if there is a competition for speaking first, there will be a demand for suspending the Question Hour. Then we will also demand that. Could the discussion held from 11. a.m. onwards till now, not take place after 12 O'clock?

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Tell Shri Advani about that.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Do not try to silence me. On several occasions we did not demand the suspension of the

Question Hour but on the next day we found that an impression was sought to be given as if a particular party and a particular Member of that party was more concerned about the banking scam and not we. We are also concerned about that but alongwith that we are also concerned about the dignity of the House. After all why the Question Hour should not be there?....(Interruptions) Again you are clapping and disturbing me....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Vajpayee ji, let them clap on this matter, You are stating a very good point.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE; I am stating a good thing. But Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the members of treasury, benches are in Opposition in the Legislative Assemblies, they respect the same thing. This politics of rivalry is not limited to here only. Once I had submitted as to how the Parliament and Legislative Assemblies of the country should function. Today, there is a need of unanimous opinion on this issue. There is a need of introducing code of conduct. Today, congress is in power in the Centre and in Opposition in several states. We are in opposition in the Centre and in power in several states. This thing applies to all parties. But there should not be different code of conduct in this House and different code of conduct for West Bengal assembly.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): In Rajasthan?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Anywhere. I agree with you. It hurts me when members rise in the House at 11. a.m. and demand discussion on a certain issue. There is no need of great intelligence or bravery for it.

SHRI SOMANATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): There is a need of demanding discussion at 11. a.m. when there are issues like Madhavan issue.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: After all Madhavan is a C.B.I. officer. It is a serious

matter that reports about a C.B.I. Officer are published in the newspapers. It should be an issue for discussion. But it is not proper that a uproar is created in the House because of C.B. Officer and members ask to suspend Question Hour and unscheduled discussion goes on Madhavan(Interruptions)

I would also like to ask a question on the report published about Madhavan. But what would be the procedure for asking a question... (Interruptions)

This issue is to be discussed at 12 O' clock. What is the justification. I would like that Shri Indiraji Gupta and Shri Chandraseet Yadav should tell about the manner in which issues should be raised in this House. If all these things will be repeated in the House and the issues are to be raised at 11 a.m., we shall also do the same thing....

[Interruptions]

MR. SPEAKER; Vajpayee ji is speaking. You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am requesting you not to take decision now in this regard. Decide it tomorrow or whenever you like but it should be stopped.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Resume your seat please. I fully agree with the feeling of Shri Vajpayee. If I am feeling guilty to anybody in the house, it is with the feelings of Shri Vajpayeeji. Because I had said that he should be given time to speak on this issue at 12 O' clock. I would also clarify that Shri Advani told me that he has not in favour of suspending Question Hour. He also said that it was also not good that all when Parties/Members expressed their feelings they remain quiet. It is necessary to tell you as to what he said. Though he is not in its favour but it is not good that all the Members speak and inspite of being the biggest Opposition

part and Leader of Opposition they did not speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN(Rosera): The Members of our party have given notice under Rule 388... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER; You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Have we raised any frivolous matter?... (Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

India Trade Promotion Organisation

347. SHRIKESRILAL: will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the financial assistance provided by the Government to Trade Fair Authority of India (now known as India Trade Promotion Organisation) during the year 1991-92;

(b) the financial assistance provided or proposed to be provided to India Trade Promotion Organisation during the current year;

(c) whether the Government propose to curtail the assistance;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the India Trade Promotion Organisation has increased the rate being charged for rendering its services; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). Financial assistance provided by Government to erstwhile Trade Fair Authority of India, now part of India Trade Promotion Organisation during 1991-92 and Budget provision for 1992-93 are as follows:-

(Rs. in lakhs)	
1991-92	1610
1992-93	1500

(c) to (f) In the light of the recent policy of the Government to reduce the subsidies, financial assistance to India Trade Promotion Organisation has also been reduced. Consequently, the India Trade Promotion Organisation has reduced the percentage of subsidy on the costs of participation in foreign fairs resulting in increase in participation fee for the participants. The increase in the participation fee varies from 20% to 220% depending upon the popularity of the fair, its location and response from the participants. In case of domestic fairs, the rentals have been increased by 25 to 80% based on considerations like costs of inputs, periodicity and marketability of the events.

[English]

Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction

Question

*348. PROF RITA VERMA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government on the suggestion of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for amending the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985; and

(b) the achievements of this Board since it was set up and how far it has fulfilled the role assigned to it under the above Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) A Bill incorporating comprehensive amendments to the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 14th may, 1992.

(b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 attempts to put together rehabilitation packages for sick industrial companies in the large and medium sector in order to restore their viability. Where, however, the BIFR concludes that the companies are patently unviable, it recommends their liquidation.

The BIFR has reported that as on 15.7.92, out of 1219 cases registered with it, 202 cases were dismissed as non-maintainable, leaving 1017 cases. Out of these, 253 revival schemes have been sanctioned under section 18(4) of the Act and another 133 schemes have been accorded approval under section 17(2) of the Act for implementing the companies own schemes. Winding up has been recommended in 176 cases, 3 references from Supreme Court/High Court have been disposed of and in 1 cases sale of the company's assets has been ordered under section 20(4) of the Act.

Interest of G.P.F. Deposits

*350. SHRI SHASHI PRAKASH:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PAN DEYA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether till 1991 the rate of interest payable on the deposits in General Provident Fund account was more than the rate of interest on long term deposits in banks;

(b) whether the rate of interest on long term deposits in banks at present is more than that of General Provident Fund account;

(c) if so, whether the rate of interest on General Provident Fund account is proposed to be increased retrospectively to make it more attractive for savings;

(d) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The maximum rate of interest on term deposits in banks prior to 13.4. 1991 was 11%. From 13.4.1991 it was raised to 12% and from 4.7.1991 to 13% whereas the interest payable on GPF accumulations was 12%.

(c) and (d): No sir. Interest rates on bank deposits and Provident Funds are not strictly comparable as the latter enjoy many other advantages.

Loans to Cooperative spinning Mills in Maharashtra

351. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra to provide long term loans to co-operative spinning mills from the Central financial institutions to set up 40 spinning mills in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK

GEHLOT): (a) to (c). In a communication received from Government of Maharashtra, it has been suggested that financial institutions should agree to provide long term loans to cover 50% of the cost of 30 out of the 40 proposed Cooperative Spinning Mills.

The matter has been taken up with the financial institutions.

[*Translation*]

Contraband Silver

***352. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:**
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of contraband silver seized in the country during the current year; month-wise; alongwith details of the places where it was seized;

(b) the number of persons apprehended in each case;

(c) whether some gangs of smugglers have also been found involved in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the modus operandi of these smugglers; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check such smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). Available reports indicate that in 51* cases booked by the Customs authorities, the quantities and values of contraband silver seized and the number of persons arrested for the smuggling of silver in the country during the current year, month-wise, were:

1992	No. of persons arrested	Quantity in metric tonnes	Value (Rs. in crores)
January	21	12.07	10.23
February	45	14.82	11.58
March	37	29.51	23.72
April	24	1.28	0.79
May	21	4.83	3.90
June	44	9.56	7.06

*Figures are provisional.

The seizures have been effected at international airports, seaports and land custom stations as well as at various places inside the country.

The silver being smuggled into the country is largely originating from Dubai and Singapore. The main modus operandi detected include clandestine crossing of the land frontiers and landings on the sea coast; secreted in cargo containers arriving by air/sea and in ships arriving at Indian sea-ports etc.

(e) The Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling activities including that of silver. Intelligence is targeted against persons involved in smuggling activates and close co-ordination is maintained among all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

[English]

Modernisation of Textile and Jute Mills

*353. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN:
SHRI G. MADEGOWDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided for modernisation of textile and jute mills under the Textile Modernisation Scheme and Jute Modernisation Fund during 1991 and 1992 so far, mill-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether these mills after modernisation are working at profit;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of workers retrenched due to modernisation of these mills, mill-wise and year-wise;

(e) the number of textile/jute mills proposed to be modernised during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(f) the details of the funds proposed to be given during the current year, mill-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLLOT): (a) The details of the funds provided for modernisation of textile and jute mills under Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme and Jute Modernisation Fund during 1991 and 1992 are given below:

Under Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme : (Rs in crores)

S. No.	Year	Assistance Sanctioned	Assistance Disbursed	Units Assistance
1.	1990-91(Apr-Mar)	273	141	28
2.	1991-92(Apr-Mar)	45	119	92

Under Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme:

S. No	Year	Assistance Sanctioned	Assistance Disbursed	Units Assistance
1.	1990-91	12.25	5.27	4
2.	1991-92	4.62	5.84	1

(b) and (c). Modernisation of mills generally lead to improvement in over all machine efficiency and labour productivity, improvement in product quality, reduction in waster, better price realisation and profitability. The need of individual units differ so also the benefits of modernisation. In the circumstances, it is difficult to quantity the extent of benefits of modernisation. A large number of textile mills assisted have improved their performance in varying degrees.

(d) The modernisation under the Schemes have helped many mills to remain profitable and thereby protect the employment of the workers of these units. Modernisation Scheme drawn up by 23 Units out of 357 assisted under Textile Modernisation fund Scheme, envisaged rationalisation of 16,135 workers. However, Jute Modernisation fund Scheme did not envisage any retrenchment of workers.

(e) and (f) Modernisation of textile mills is a continuous process and the quantum of modernisation assistance granted to an industrial unit including textile mills depends upon its need and ability to meet viability/ financing norms of institutions.

Allocations for National Highways

354. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan for development and maintenance of existing National Highways and for development of new National Highways during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocations made for this purpose during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Development and maintenance of National Highways is a continuing activity and works are being taken up on the basis of Annual Plans/Five Year Plans subject to inter-sepriority of each project, traffic intensity and availability of funds from year to year. Against the projected requirement of Rs. 7,830 crores for the 8th pPlan under the Central Sector Centrally sponsored schemes includ-

ing National Highways, the Planning Commission has agreed to an outlay of Rs. 2,600 crores. Out of this, an outlay of Rs. 2,460.00 crores is available for the development of existing as well as new National Highways in the 8th Plan. Major portion of this outlay would be utilised for completion of ongoing schemes on the existing National Highways. Due to paucity of funds and large number of development works needing to be taken up in different States, the programme for development works in 8th Plan is still to be chalked out in consultation, with the planning Commission. During current year 1992-93, a provision of Rs.438.87 crores exists for development of existing National Highways.

As regards new National Highways, different State Governments have sent 135 proposals aggregating to approximately 37,566 Km for the 8th Five Year Plan. In order to examine all the proposals in detail, the State Government have been requested to supply information about each proposal in a prescribed format bringing out complete details/justification etc. This information is still awaited from a number of States. Also, funds are limited. As such, it is too early to draw up Plan for new National Highways during the 8th five Year Plan.

As regards maintenance, which is a non-plan activity, allocations are made from year to year. For the current year 1992-93 a provision of Rs.169.67 crores has been made for maintenance of National Highways.

Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986

355. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the All India Muslim Personal Law Board proposing amendments to the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986;

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

(c) the present status of the cases pending in the Supreme court relating to the constitutionality as well as interpretation of the Act, in which the Government is a party; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the hearing of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The All India Muslim Personal Law Board has *inter-alia* requested the government to (i) issue clear cut instructions for defending the constitutionality of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 before the Supreme Court; and (ii) carry out the various amendments to the Act as suggested by the Board. The Government have issued necessary instructions to its counsel to defend the constitutionality of the Act. At this juncture, it is not considered appropriate to amend the Act as suggested by the Board.

(c) and (d). the constitutionality of the Muslim women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986 has been challenged in W.P. (civil) No.996/86-Faqhrunissa Nagori vs. Union of India and others, pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Union of India has filed its counter-affidavit. The matter has since been referred to the Construction Bench for hearing and final disposal. Certain other connected Writ Petitions have also been clubbed and referred to the Construction Bench. The cases will be contested as and when these come up for hearing.

Second Hand Capital Goods

356. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the flow of secondhand capital goods in huge quantity in the country;

(b) whether any high power committee has been appointed to go into the details in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY(DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (PROF.P.J. KURIEN):
(a) Flow of second hand capital goods in huge quantities has not been observed.

(b) No, sir.

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

[Translation]

Export of Iron Ore

357. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK:
SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discontinue the export of iron ore;

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

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to enter into new contracts for export of iron ore during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government also propose to formulate a scheme relating to development of iron ore based industries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY(DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.J. KURIEN):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d), Iron ore surplus to the domestic requirements is proposed to be allowed for export and new contracts can be entered into by the MMTC and other shippers as per the current Export and Import Policy.

(e) and (f). Although there is no proposal at present to formulate a scheme for development of iron ore based industries, iron ore based industries are encouraged by Government.

Appointment of SC/ST Judges

358. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA:
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:

Will the Minister of LAW,JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes community to give adequate representation in appointment of judges in various High Courts and Supreme Court;

(b) if so; the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to give adequate representation to SCs/STs while filling up the vacant posts in the above courts; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW,JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): (a) and (b) Representations have been received from Members of Parliament, Bar Associations, Bar Councils, Organisations and Associations for the welfare of SC/ST etc. regarding more representation to persons belonging to SC/ST communities in the matter of appointment of High Court and Supreme Court Judges.

(c) and (d) The appointment of judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are made in terms of Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively, which do not provide for reservation in favour of any caste or class of persons.

Chief Ministers of States and Chiefs Justices of High Courts have been requested to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Other Backward Classes, Minority Communities, women etc. Who are suitable for appointment as High Courts Judges.

[English]

Risk Asset Ratio System for Banks

Question

359. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has decided to introduce a risk asset ratio system for banks as a capital adequacy measure;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed system; and

(c) the extent to which the proposed system is likely to help in curbing regularities in various banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India issued instructions in April, 1992 introducing a risk assets ratio system for banks (including foreign banks) in India as a capital adequacy measure. Under this system, the balance sheet assets, non-fund items and other off-balance sheet exposures of banks will be assigned weights according to the prescribed risk weights. The banks will have

to maintain minimum capital funds equivalent to the prescribed ratio on the aggregate of risk weighted assets and other exposures on an on-going basis. As per the norms prescribed by the Reserve Bank of India, the Indian banks which have branches abroad are required to achieve the norm of 8% latest by 31st March, 1994. Foreign banks operating in India are required to achieve the norm of 8% by 31st March, 1993. Other banks are required to achieve a capital adequacy norm of 4% by 31st March, 1993 and 8% by 31st March, 1996.

The risk assets ratio system is being introduced in conformity with internationally accepted practices for assessment of capital adequacy. The system facilitates assessment of financial strength and is not intended to curb irregularities.

[Translation]

Conversion of Roads into Expressways

360. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include more roads in National expressway system during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Against the requirement of Rs. 7,830 crores projected for Central Sector Road programmes during the 8th Plan, Planning Commission have provided an outlay of only Rs. 2600 crores. Major portion of this outlay will be utilised to take care of various on-going works on the existing National Highways. Keeping in view the huge cost involved in the development of Expressways

and general paucity of funds, it is too early to indicate whether any new National Expressways could be undertaken during 1991-93.

[*English*]

Missing Shares and Debentures

*361. SHRI SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI CHANDRAJEET YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of scrips of shares and debentures worth Rs.2.60 crores have been found missing from the Vault of the Stock Holding Corporation of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made by the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a to (e). Stock Holding Corporation of India Limited (SHCIL) has informed that no scrips of shares and debentures were lost from its vault. However, SHCIL found that some consignments of certificates of shares and debentures worth Rs.2.79 crores sent through a courier agency were not delivered to the concerned companies. The courier agency had furnished to SHCIL fake acknowledgement receipts of delivery of scrips to these companies.

The Department of Company Affairs has conducted an inspection of the books of account of SHCIL under Section 209 A of the Companies Act, 1956. The inquiry has revealed that a courier agency fraudulently fur-

nished to SHCIL fake acknowledgement receipts of delivery of share and debenture scrips to the companies concerned.

SHCIL has since received duplicate certificates of shares and debentures from companies for the value of Rs.2.14 crores and original certificates from one company for the value of Rs.67,300. It is in correspondence with the remaining companies for the issue of duplicate certificates. SHCIL has also filed FIR with the police at Bombay, Delhi and Calcutta.

[*Translation*]

To Be Answered On The 31st July, 1992
DTC Losses

*362. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:
SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether net loss to DTC is likely to increase during the financial year 1992-93 inspite of 100 per cent increase in bus fares;

(b) if so, the estimated total net loss thereof;

(c) the reasons for the continuing increase in losses;

(d) whether DTC has decided to reduce the size of its fleet;

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total net loss of DTC during 1992-93 (including interest and depreciation) is estimated at Rs.217 crores.

(c) The reasons for losses include:-

- (a) uneconomic fare structure of DTC.
- (b) rising cost of labour and cost of inputs.
- (c) concessions given to students and weaker section of society through concessional passes.
- (d) heavy interest burden on loans advanced by Government.

(d) and (e). No decision has been taken to reduce the size of DTC fleet.

Export of Processed Edible Products

*363. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:
SHRI N.J. RATTHVA:

will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fruits, vegetables and other edible items worth crores of rupees perish each year in the country due to lack of proper facilities;
- (b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government propose to formulate a comprehensive policy to increase export of processed edible products;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have also received suggestions from the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the

reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE : (SHRIP.J.KURIEN): (a) and (b). While no authentic information is available, it is estimated that fruits and vegetables valued at Rs.3000 crores are wasted every year due to inadequate post-harvest handling as well as absence of linkage of growers with the processors and fresh fruits and vegetables markets. National Horticulture Board is implementing various schemes to strengthen post-harvest infrastructure and reduce the post harvest losses.

(c) to (f). 'Processed Foods' have been identified as a thrust area for exports. Government has, in consultation with the processed foods industry, and keeping in view the suggestions received from the Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry, chalked out a strategy for export growth in this sector. The strategy basically includes; making our processed foods more price competitive through provisions of various inputs at reasonable prices, and through improved infra-structural support.

Import of Almond

364. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries from which almonds have been imported during each of the last three years alongwith the quantity and rates thereof and the total amount of foreign exchange incurred thereon; and

(b) the steps taken during the above period to reduce the import of almonds and to increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMECE: (SHRI P.J. KURIEN):
(a) A statement indicating the quantity and value of imports of Almonds as well as countries of import for the years 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1990-91 for which data is available, is annexed.

(b) with a view to increasing the production of almonds, almond producing states are providing subsidised inputs, quality planting material and improved agro-technology to the orchardists. That rate of Customs duty on import of almonds has been raised and the foreign exchange for import is available only at the market rate, thereby making the imports costlier. Steps taken to increase the production and the higher cost of imports are likely to restrict the import of almonds.

STATEMENT

Quantity in Tonnes

Value in Rupees.

Description of items imported	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		Name of countries from which imported
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Almonds fresh or dried 5591 In shell	987.01	83.64	2039.60	13514	456.47		Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Singapore, United Arab Emis, USA, Indonesia, Saudi Arab, Australia and Hong Kong.

Almonds fresh or dried 5591
In shell

Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq,
Pakistan, Singapore,
United Arab Emis, USA,
Indonesia, Saudi Arab,
Australia and Hong Kong.

SRAVANA 9, 1914 (SAKA)

Written Answers

Description of items imported	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90		Name of countries from which imported
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Stell'd Almonds Fresh or 635 dried	94.98	370	101.69	1037	408.77		Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Singapore USA, Newzealand United Arab Emis., Australia and Iraq.

Source: Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. II (Imports) Published by D.G.C.I. & S, Calcutta.

[English]

Appellate Tribunal for Customs and Central Excise Cases

*365. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an appellate tribunal for adjudication of cases relating to customs and Central excise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Tribunal, in pursuance the Customs and Excise Revenues Appellate Tribunal Act, 1986 (No. 62 of 1986), could not be set up as writ petitions were filed in Bombay and Delhi High Courts challenging the views of the Act.

The details of the amendments of the Act are being worked out in the light of the directions of Bombay High court in their interim order. It is too early to indicate the time by which the Tribunal will be set up.

Tea Cultivation in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh

*366. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATH-
ERIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been undertaken to extend tea cultivation as a part of rural development in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh during the last two years;

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

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to undertake such surveys in the above States; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE: (SHRI P.J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). A survey on the possibilities of tea cultivation had been carried out in Uttar Pradesh. This indicated that about 56950 Ha. of land would be suitable for tea cultivation. The identified area is spread over 14 districts of the State.

With regard to Madhya Pradesh, trial plantations were made in earlier years in Bastar and Sarguja Districts. These efforts were unsuccessful owing to unfavourable agro-climatic conditions. Some of the areas of Sahadol district were also assessed for their suitability for growing tea but were found to be unsuitable.

Closure of Some Branches of Banks

@251. SHRI SATYA GOPAL MISRA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to close down some branches of State Bank of India and other Nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise. However, the banks have been permitted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to close down branches other than in rural areas, as well as to swap/ relocate the unremunerative branches or those in remote areas with other banks. RBI has, till date, no intimation about the closure by any bank of its unremunerative branches or about swapping of the branches.

Public Sector Undertakings Referred to BIFR

3589. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public sector undertakings have been referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) by the Government in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

(c) the number of public sector undertaking located in Maharashtra which have been referred to the BIFR;

(d) whether the BIFR has since given its recommendations in regard to the public sector undertakings referred to it and if so, in how many cases;

(e) whether any final decision has been taken by the Government with regard to the recommendations of the BIFR; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR

SINGH): (a) and (b). No., Sir. However, the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 20.7.9254 references were received by them from Government companies u/s 15(1) of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. 37 of these were registered, 1 was rejected and 16 were under scrutiny.

(c) BIFR has reported that 2 cases of public sector undertakings located in Maharashtra have been referred to them.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

[Translation]

REP Licences and EXIM Scrips

3590. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of theft of R.E.P licences, issuing of fake exim scrips and theft of exim scrips noticed by the Government during the last two years;

(b) the number of stolen licence fake exim scrips and stolen scrips utilised during the above period;

(c) the number of persons found involved therein; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Some of the Port Licensing Authorities have reported the loss of REP/Exim Scrip licences and also issue of Exim Scrip license based on documents subsequently found to be forged..

a (b) REP licences/Exim Scrip licences are freely transferable. No statistical data is maintained about the utilisation of such licences. However, as and when any report is received about loss of licences or issue of licences based upon the documents subsequently found to be forged, the operation of such licences is suspended/ cancelled.

[(c) and (d). The matter has been reported to the police for appropriate action.

1 [English]

Export of Cotton Yarn/Cotton

3591. SHRI DHARMADIKSHAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed to export huge quantities of cotton yarn and cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has resulted in increase in the yarn prices and rendered a large number of weavers out of work;

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

(e) the quantity of cotton exported during 1991-92 and the extent to which the prices of yarn are likely to be increased during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The exports of cotton yarn are regulated through a quantitatives ceiling fixed on year to year basis. The cotton yarn export ceiling of 100 Million Kgs. fixed for calender year 1992 is the same as the ceiling fixed for 1991. Government have realased one lakh bales of Bengal Deshi cotton of export during the

cotton season 1991-92 (Sept.'91-Aug'92), out of this the actual exports upto 17.7.92 have been 0.40 lakh bales. Recently Government have permitted Cotton Corporation of India to meet the requirements of cotton of some of the neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, in context of Bilateral Trade Agreements to the extent of 30,000 bales.

(c) to (e). While the slight upward movement in cotton prices can be tributed to absence of rains in certain parts of the country, the upward movement in cotton yearn prices is due to the upward movement in cotton prices and the general prices rise. The cautious policy of the Government on the export of cotton during 1991-92 season has had a restraining influence on the price of cotton and cotton yarn.

High Power Committee for Jute Industry

3592. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a High Power Committee to examine the revival of sick jute industry;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition of this Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee and the action taken by the Government thereon so far; and

(e) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed. (d) Does not arise.
 (c) No, sir. (e) The Committee has been asked to submit its report by 30th September, 1992.

STATEMENT

The Committee have the following composition

1.	Secretary, Ministry of Textiles	-	Chairman
2.	Addl. Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Textiles	-	Member
3.	Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal, or his representative	-	
4.	A representative from the Planning Commission	-	Member
5.	Jute Commissioner, Calcutta	-	Member
6.	A representative from the Ministry of Commerce.	-	Member
7.	A representative from the Ministry of Agriculture	-	Member
8.	A representative from the Deptt. of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) Ministry of Finance	-	Member
9.	A representative from the Deptt. of Small Scale Industries, Ministry of Industry.	-	Member
10.	A representative from the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay.	-	Member
11.	Executive Director, I.F.C.I.	-	Member
12.	National Consultant (Jute), UNDP, New Delhi.	-	Member
13.	Sh. D.J.Wadhwa, Champdany Jute Industries Ltd., Calcutta.	-	Member
14.	Sh. D. Gupta, Managing Director, New Central Jute Mills, Calcutta	-	Member

15.	A representative of Indian Jute Mills Association, Calcutta.	-	Member
16.	Dr. A.R. Garde, ATIRA, Ahmedabad.	-	Member
17.	Jt. Secretary(Jute), Ministry of Textiles.	-	Member Secretary,

The Committee have the following terms of reference:

- (i) To make an indepth study of the jute scenario in the background implementation of the Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme (JMFS) and the Special Jute Development Fund Scheme (SJDF) put into operation since 1986-87.
- (ii) To make an assessment of the impact of various policy measures and incentives schemes introduced by the Government to promote jute diversification including extension of Multi Fibre Policy or the jute sector.
- (iii) To study and analyse performance of jut industry in the field of exports over the last few years;
- (iv) To recommend new policy measures and incentives within the framework of financial institutions and developmental organisations for accelerated modernisation of jute sector linked with diversification and production of value added items on the one hand and new high-volume end uses on the other;
- (v) To recommend an operational strategy and package of measures required to assist jute sector in achieving the export target of Rs. 1000 crore envisaged during the 8th Five Year Plan;
- (vi) To suggest effective institutional arrangements and co-ordination mechanism for achieving the above objectives;
- (vii) Any other recommendation considered appropriate with reference to the above terms of reference.

Suspension of Credit to Sick companies

3593. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the public sector banks have suspended credit facilities to sick public sector companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent permissible.

Import of Jute Bags from Bangladesh

3594. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to import jute bags from Bangladesh;
- (b) if so, the details of the orders placed with Bangladesh in this regard and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to manufacture adequate jute bags within the country in

order to save foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

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

Tax Evasion By Entrepreneurs

3595. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are not charging any taxes including excise duty for some period from the entrepreneurs who install their factories in remote or less developed areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that these entrepreneurs allegedly change the names of their firms after some period without disrupting maintenance/continuity of their trade activities in order to evade the payment of taxes;

(d) if so, the number of such cases that came to light during the last 12 months giving the details thereof and the action taken against the guilty persons; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) There is no provision in the Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944 Customs Act, 1962 and Income-Tax Act, 1961 not to charge any taxes including excise duty for some period from the entrepreneurs who install their factories in remote or less developed areas. However, under Income-tax Act, 1961, entrepreneurs who install factories in remote or less developed areas are

entitled to a deduction in respect of income derive from such factory.

(b) to (e). In view of reply given at (a) above, the question does not arise.

Undertaking to AEPC by Garment Exporters

3596. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have extended the liberalised process of giving legal undertaking (LUT) with Apparel Export Promotion Council in place of bank guarantee or earnest money deposit by garment exporters;

(b) if so, whether this liberalisation covers all garment exporters;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the said process is likely to be implemented for all garment exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d) A new scheme of submitting Legal undertakings in lieu of Earnest Money Deposits/Bank Guarantees for obtaining extension/re-validation of garment export entitlements has been recently introduced. Under this scheme, exporters having annual Past Performance allotments of not less than 25,000 pieces have an option to submit Legal Undertakings for extension and re-validation of entitlements under all systems other than entitlements allotted under First-Come-First-Served System. The question of extending this facility to exporters who have annual Past Performance allotments less than 25,000 pieces is presently not under the consideration of the Government.

Cost of Investment in Financial Institutions

3597. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of investments made by public sector financial institutions i.e. Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India, Unit Trust of India, Life Insurance Corporation and General Insurance Corporation during 1991-92; and

(b) the value of such investments as on March 31, 1992, and June 15, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). The total cost of the investments as on 31.3.91 (book value) made by the Finance Institutions, namely, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI), Unit Trust of India (UTI), Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), and General Insurance Corporation (GIC) and the market value of such investments as on March 31, 1992 and June 15, 1992 are given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Institutions	Cost of Investment as on 31.3.92	Market Value as on 31.3.92	Market Value as on 15.6.92
1	2	3	4
IDBI	404.23	1852.65	1162.84
ICCI	578.29	1377.82	1194.12
IFCI	169.55	682.18	525.09
LIC	30464.20	40956.05	37205.10
GIC	6112.00	16946.00	13423.00
UTI	24755.38	39130.03	

*Market value as on 15.6.92 in respect of holding as on 31.3.92 is not readily available.

Refund Orders Fraud

3598. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of alleged fraudulent encashment of refund orders of investors from North-Eastern region, in collusion with bank and postal department personnel, have come to the notice of the Government during the last few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken so far against the persons found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check recurrence of such cases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Export of Spices**

3599. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of spices prepared from black-pepper, exported during the last three years and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom, country-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the provisions of super 301US trade legislation have affected the export of Indian spices;

(c) if so, the extent to which it has been affected; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MANKHURSHEED): (a) Pepper oil, pepper olecresins and pepper powder are the major items prepared from black pepper. Quantity and value of export of these items, country-wise for the last three years are given below:-

Value: Rs. Lakh

1) Pepper Oil	QTy. M.T.		1990-91		1991-92	
	QTy	Value	QTy	Value	QTy	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

USA	4.9	23.06	8.7	43.08	13.6	89.47
Germany	9.6	43.88	7.4	34.40	8.0	53.57
UK	1.4	6.89	6.8	26.92	4.2	16.57
France	1.8	9.92	1.7	8.99	2.4	15.86
Canada	12	6.34	12	5.90	1.7	10.55
Japan	0.7	5.45	0.6	4.79	0.5	6.05
Others	1.9	11.42	4.5	24.55	3.9	25.39
Total	21.5	106.96	30.9	148.63	34.3	217.46

ii) Pepper Oletasins

Country	Qty. M.T.		Value 'Rs. Lakh		1991-92	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
USA	127.0	406.26	133.3	414.74	190.0	777.53
UK	54.7	176.91	18.3	58.44	65.7	234.49
Germany	45.5	148.72	54.3	164.14	55.6	224.42
France	20.5	70.79	25.8	78.39	25.3	94.13
Canada	16.0	58.52	13.9	46.46	21.2	83.18
Netherlands	7.8	27.79	8.6	26.68	11.3	44.27
Singapore	Neg.	0.05	3.9	9.46	10.3	45.10
Australia	5.8	21.91	8.0	27.95	7.3	30.15
Japan	24.1	78.31	7.8	27.24	6.4	31.27
Belgium	5.1	16.36	4.3	12.48	1.5	5.07
Others	11.6	53.26	14.7	48.52	22.0	90.48
Total:	318.1	1058.88	292.9	914.41	425.6	1660.09

JULY 31, 1992

Written Answers

72

(iii) Pepper Powder		QTY. M.T.		Value : Rs. Lakh	
Country	1989:90	1990:91	1991:92		
Qty	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6
					7

SRAVANA 9, 1914 (SAKA)							Written Answers
UK	31.0	521	-	-	0.8	0.56	
Singapore	20.0	0.26	0.3	0.15	-	-	
Belgium	15.0	5.90	-	-	-	-	
France	12.0	0.73	12.0	3.89	-	-	
Kuwait	6.0	2.24	1.3	0.64	-	-	
Bahrain	6.0	0.95	-	-	-	-	
UAE	2.0	0.54	7.0	2.10	1.0	0.37	
Saudi Arabia	0.6	0.50	0.7	0.48	3.0	0.96	
USA	-	-	-	-	1.0	0.42	
Others	23.4	11.81	13.7	3.98	1.2	1.00	
Total:	116.0	26.14	35.0	11.24	7.0	3.31	

Source : Spics Board/DGCISS, Calcutta.

(b) and (c). The decision of the US Government to suspend duty free treatment under GSP to 60 million dollars worth of Indian Exports, will affect exports of spice oleoresins. As a result, spice oleoresins imported from India would attract 6% duty. While, it is too early to make a quantitative assessment of the loss of exports as a result of US decision, Indian products would become uncompetitive as compared to other spices producing countries like Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

(d) Government of India's view, that this action was unjustified, untimely and unwarranted, was conveyed to the US authorities. The US response was that the decision could be reversed if India addressed US concerns on patent protection. However, with a view to make Indian products competitive, it has been decided to waive the cess on exports of Spice oils and oleoresins for a period of one year, with effect from 1st July, 1992.

Scheme for Self Reliance

3600. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL:
Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has got the maximum assistance out of the foreign assistance granted to the developing countries after 1951;

(b) if so, whether the growth rate has been remained slow;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are formulating any scheme in order to attain self-reliance and to accelerate the pace of the development;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) As far as the World Bank is concerned, India's share at 13.9 per cent of the cumulative lending operations (Commitments) upto end-June 1991 was the largest. In the case of bilateral assistance the share of India in gross disbursements declined from 11.5 per cent in 1970-71 to 3.9 percent in 1980-81 and further to 2.4 per cent in 1989-90, and India's position declined from first in 1970-71 to second in 1980-81 and further fifth in 1989-90. It may be noted that while India is one of the largest receivers of external assistance in absolute terms, in per capita terms and also as a percentage of GNP, the assistance received by India has been one of the lowest.

(b) and (c). The growth rate of Indian economy in fact accelerated from an average of 3.5 per cent per annum during the first three decades of planning to about 5.8 per cent per annum during the 1980s.

(d) to (f) The Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) which was approved by the National Development Council in May 1992, aims at generating a GDP growth rate of 5.6 per cent per annum on the basis of realised incremental capital-output ratio of 4.1 and projected rate of investment of 23.2 percent of GDP. The rate of investment would be financed by an average rate of domestic savings of 21.6 per cent and foreign savings of 1.6 per cent GDP at market prices. The foreign savings was 2.4 per cent of GDP during seven years preceding the Eighth Plan. The planned reduction of foreign savings from 2.4 percent to 1.6 per cent of GDP is a measure of self-sufficiency in mobilizing resources for development.

Border Trade with China

3601. SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV:
SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:

will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any agreement on border trade between India and China has been signed during this month;
- (b) the routes through which the border trade is proposed to be done;
- (c) the details of the terms and conditions thereof and the main items of export and import; and
- (d) the extent to which the trade between the two countries is likely to be increased?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Lipulekh (Qangla) pass shall be the border pass for entry and exit of persons, commodities and means of transport engaged in border trade.

(c) Inter alia, the terms and conditions in Protocol on Entry and Exit Procedures provide that:

- (i) Persons, Commodities and means of transport of either party shall, be accompanied by valid travel documents for entry and exit.
- (ii) The holder of travel documents shall be entitled to stay and trade only within the areas specifically defined, and within the prescribed period.
- (iii) Markets for border trade at Gunji in Uttar Pradesh and Pulan in Tibet Autonomous Region of China shall be opened during the period from 1st June to 30th Sept., every year.
- (iv) Persons of both the countries staying in the territory shall observe the laws and regulations in force there.

(v) Payment for Border-trade shall be made in freely convertible currencies or in barter mode.

No items of export and import have been provided for in the Agreement.

(d) The extent of trade likely to be increased between the two countries has not been assessed.

[English]

Accommodation To Armed Forces Personnel

3602. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM: will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of married accommodation in most of the formations of the Armed Forces;
- (b) whether the Government propose to allocate more funds for building residential complex for armed forces personnel or propose to take houses on rent and allot them to the personnel till sufficient number of houses are constructed;
- (c) if so, the details of the proposals in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE: (a) to (d). There is shortage of married accommodation in most of the formations of the Armed Forces.

Due to serve resource crunch, Government are unable to provide additional funds for construction of married accommodation. However, rules provide for hiring of accommodation for Armed forces personnel to meet this shortfall, within laid down ceilings at various stations.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance to Punjab

3603. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (FERO-ZEPUR): Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of assistance provided by the World Bank and other financial institutions for the Various schemes of Punjab during each of the last three years;

(b) the total amount spent on these schemes so far;

(c) whether some such schemes are still lying incomplete;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). A list of projects approved for the State of Punjab for assistance from the World Bank and other multi-lateral financial institutions in the years 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 and the cumulative debts until 30.6.92 is at statement -I.

(c) to (e). The pace of utilisation of assistance is dependent on the implementation time profile of the project, which is normally 5 to 7 years.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	Project	Loan amount (In US \$ Million)	Disbursed upto 30.6.92 (In US \$ Million)
1	2	3	4
State-Specific Project			
(With a component for Punjab : figures relate to the project as a whole)			
1.	Punjab Irrigation - II	145.3	21.3
National/Multi-State Projects			
2.	Northen Region Transmission	485.0	29.1
3.	Integrated Watershed Development (Hills)	75.0	5.5
4.	Population - VII	82.0	11.6
5.	Technician Education - II	307.1	17.1
6.	National Highway - III	306.0	0.0
7.	Child Survival and Safe Motherhood	214.5	29.4
8.	Aids Control Project	84.0	0.0
9.	Vocational Training	210.0	44.4
10.	Technician Education - II	307.1	17.1

Supply of Cotton Yarn Bales to Weavers in Bihar

3605. SHRI LAL BABU RAI:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH
YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to supply bales of cotton yarn per month to Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the said quantity of cotton yarn is made available to the weavers of Bihar at present;

(c) whether the prices of cotton yarn, colours and chemicals have registered unprecedented increase due to which the weavers are not in a position to purchase these items in the open markets without the Central assistance;

(d) whether the Government have taken any steps to provide assistance so as to improve the conditions of the handicraft weavers; and

(e) if so, the details of the fund/assistance given by the Government to weavers in Bihar during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) A number of State Government agencies with financial assistance from Central Government are undertaking supply of cotton yarn to weavers of Bihar in addition to private sources of supply. The National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) is also supplementing the year supply operations of the State Handloom Agencies.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While prices of rawmaterial for

handloom sector have risen, the problem is because the prices of handloom fabrics/finished goods have not been able to absorb it.

(d) In addition to the existing ongoing schemes being implemented by the Government for the economic upliftment of handloom weavers through modernisation and technological upgradation, the following new schemes are being implemented during the current year.

- (i) A scheme of 'Margin Money for Destitute Weavers' which envisages capital support to the Cooperative societies organised by the destitute weavers;
- (ii) Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme envisaging a package of facilities in terms of skill upgradation, productivity etc., to give concerted and special attention to the handloom weavers in identified villages;
- (iii) Project Package Scheme providing for benefit to specific need based target groups or to specific area or to production of a specific product;
- (iv) Group Insurance scheme;
- (v) Scheme for supply of yarn to handloom weavers at mill-gate prices; and
- (vi) Silk yarn bank Scheme to be implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation in Bihar.
- (e) Substantial assistance for implementation of various ongoing schemes for the development of the handlooms has been provided to the State as per following :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Amount of assistance provided
1989-90	902.20
1990-91	542.45
1991-92	475.93

Big Industrial Houses

3606. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the assets, turnover, profit and loss of the first 20 Big Industrial Houses, as per latest information available; and

(b) the overall impact on the accretion, or otherwise, of their assets, as a result of the recent liberalisation of the industrial policy and abolition of capital issues control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The latest available data on assets, total income (including turnover) and profit before tax in 1989-90 of companies registered earlier under Section 26 of the MRTP Act and belonging to the first 20 Big Industrial Houses ranked according to their assets in 1989-90 is given in the attached Statement.

(b) The Industrial Policy liberalisation was announced by the Government on 24.7.91. Further, the Capital Issues (Control) Repeal Ordinance dated 29.5.1992. As the figures for 1991-92 on assets have not the overall impact of liberalisation on accretion or otherwise of assets.

STATEMENT

Assets, Total Income (including Turnover) and Profit Before Tax in 1989-90 (Accounting year ending April, 1989-March, 1990) of Companies Registered earlier under Sec. 26 of the MRTP Act and belonging to the first 20 Big Industrial Houses ranked according to their Assets in 1989-90.

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Industrial House	Assets	Total Income (including Turnover)		Profit before Tax
			1	2	
1.	Tata	8530.93	8079.80	594.42	
2.	Birla	8473.35	8417.41	439.55	
3.	Reliance	3600.27	1901.11	87.36	
4.	Tata-P	2177.15	2280.59	109.78	
5.	J.K. Singhania	2139.00	1786.93	35.74	
6.	Larsen & Toubro	1681.52	1128.26	62.47	
7.	Modi	1399.37	2009.35	23.09	
8.	Bajaj	1391.06	1907.87	133.88	
9.	Mataial	1343.55	1755.84	85.58	
10.	M.A. Chidambaram	1273.35	1161.47	38.78	

Sl. No.	Industrial House	Assets	Total Income (including Turnover)	Profit before Tax
1	2	3	4	5
11.	Hindustan Lever	1209.46	2396.60	203.73
12.	United Breweries*	1189.24	1227.50	36.63
13.	T.V.S. Hyenger	1177.10	1388.41	59.80
14.	I.T.C.	965.13	2749.70	122.88
15.	Shri Ram	993.93	1445.40	20.99
16.	A.C.C.	902.72	1223.38	2.07
17.	Oswal Agro	870.34	417.33	35.75
18.	Mahindra & Mahindra	773.55	1022.45	20.07
19.	Essar	756.49	244.35	34.82
20.	Khoskar	735.51	985.46	45.36

*The figures for United Breweries Industrial House at Sl. No. 12 include those of the erstwhile 'Best & Crompton' Industrial house of 1988-89.

Note:

Financial Assistance to NTC

3607. SHRI . D. VENKATSWARA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the National Textile corporation has requested to the Government to take over the immediate financial crunch.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of sick units which have been assisted till date; and

(d) the reaction of the Government to the remaining units which are till pending for assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NTC have requested for budgetary support to reimburse its cash losses in order to meet its requirement of working capital.

(c) to (d). Rs. 54. 80 crores has been budgeted for release to NTC during 1992-93 for reimbursement of its cash losses.

[Translation]

Widening of National Highways

3608. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the National Highways which are proposed to be widen into four lanes during 1992-93, State-wise; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for the same, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Four-laning of selected sections of National Highways No. 1,2, 3, 5, 8, 8 C and 47 in the States of Haryana, Punjab, U.P., West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kerala is included in Annual Programme 1992-93 for sanction, with budget provision for these works aggregating to Rs. 8.17 crores.

[English]

Defunct Companies

3609. SHRI. R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of companies registered under the Companies Act, are lying dormant and defunct;

(b) whether the inter-ministerial working group set up to make recommendations on industrial restructuring suggesting amendment to the companies Act to deal with this problem;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the working group; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) During the last three years, the names of the following number of companies lying defunct were struck off under section 560 of the Companies Act, 1956:-

1988-89	-	69
1989-90	-	165
1990-91	-	125

(b) to (d). The inter-ministerial working group set up by Planning Commission has *inter-alia* recommended that the names of the companies may be struck off at the request of the companies if the company:-

- (i) has not commenced business;
- (ii) has not issued shares;
- (iii) has not been carrying on any business during the last one year; or
- (iv) has no assets or liabilities.

The recommendations of the Group have been examined. In regard to recommendation (1) above, a company which does not commence its business within a year from its incorporation can be wound up under section 433 (c) of the Act. Same is the case in respect of (ii) above. The procedure in respect of recommendations at (iii) and (iv) above has already been simplified and Registrars of Companies have been suitable instructed to strike off the names of such companies without unnecessary delay.

Marketing Problems for Handicrafts and Handloom Products of Bihar

3610. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether marketing problem is being faced in respect of Handicrafts and Handloom products manufactured in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any scheme to export these products for the benefit of the weavers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Accumulation of stock is a seasonal feature in the Handloom and Handicrafts sectors. There can be a mismatch of time. Government however does not have any specific information about the accumulation of stock of handlooms and handicrafts items in Bihar.

(b) and (c) In order to promote exports of these products, several steps have been taken by Government which includes sponsoring Sales- cum-Study teams, participation in fairs in major markets, grant of duty draw back, appropriate quota policy measures, concessional duty on carpet grade wool, free import of non-ferrous metals and carpet grade raw wool.

Census of Ex-Servicemen

3611. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Resettlement of Ex-servicemen propose to conduct a census of ex-servicemen for the first time; and

(b) if so, the reason; therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Government has decided to carry out a census to ascertain the number of ex-Servicemen for creating a reliable data

base of ex-Servicemen. The eligible persons are being issued Identity Cards.

Coffee Plantation in A.P.

3612. SHRI V. SOBHNADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for expansion of coffee plantation in the Agency areas of East Godavari and Visakhapatnam Districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken to encourage plantation of coffee in a big way in these areas by the local tribal population; as well the forward coming entrepreneurs;

(c) whether these measures have yielded substantial results;

(d) is as, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to further encourage coffee plantation in these areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) (a) and (b). There is scope for expansion of coffee in the hilly terrains of the Agency areas of East Godavari and Visakhapatnam Districts of Andhra

Pradesh. The Coffee Board has been encouraging the cultivation of coffee in these two Districts since 1976. Under its Plan programmes, the Coffee Board has encouraged the State Governments to take up coffee expansion under its Agency set up like Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation/ Forest Department/Girijan Co-operative Coffee Development Corporation. The Board is on its part has provided the necessary technical expertise in Project formulation, Technical appraisal of the expansion projects, and supported the programmes by supply of high yielding variety seed coffee, opening of extension Centres at Minumuluru, Chintapalli and Araku, opening of a Regional coffee Research Station for tackling the problems of Research pertaining to Andhra Zone as well as by setting up Coffee collection Centre at Paderu and Narsipatnam. For demonstrating the modern methods of coffee cultivation, the Board has also established a coffee Demonstration farm at Minukuluru. For providing the necessary training in the methods of coffee cultivation, the required training facilities have been created at the Board's Regional Coffee Research Station at R. V. Nagar, Chintapalli.

(c) and (d). The measures taken by the coffee Board have yielded substantial results as is evident from the following table:-

Year	Area	Crop produced
1989-90	8873 ha.	765 tonnes.
1990-91	9123 ha.	705 tonnes.
1991-92	9761 ha.	1080 tonnes.

(e) The present policy is not to encourage further expansion of coffee plantation. The thrust is now on consolida-

tion of the existing areas of coffee plantation.

Involvement of foreigners in Narcotics Smuggling

3613. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 6953 on April 10, 1992 and state:

(a) whether the information has since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the time by which the requisite information is likely to be received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). 294 foreign nationals were arrested in 219 cases of smuggling of narcotic drugs during the years 1989-1991. during the same period persons charged with smuggling were acquitted in 18 cases. 20 cases booked under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic substances Act, 1985 and 4 criminal cases

booked under other Acts were lost by the Customs, Central Excise and Narcotics Departments during this period.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Budgetary provision Made for Inland Waterways Authority

3614. SHRI RAMDEW RAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the budgetary provisions made for Inland Waterways Authority for the financial years 1990-91 and 1991-92; and

(b) the actual expenditure made by the authority during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Details of budgetary provisions and expenditure are as follows:-

(Rs. in crores)					
1990-91			1991-92		
	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Expenditure	Budget Estimates	Revised Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
Plan	17.60	6.00	2.82	12.18	5.00
Non-Plan	1.29	1.29	1.29	1.35	1.30
Total:	18.89	7.29	4.11	13.53	6.30
					5.64

[*English*]**Garments Export Firms**

3615. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the mushroom growth of garment export firms in the country;

(b) if so, whether it has adverse impact on the export of garments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to regulate the growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). Over the last few years, there has been considerable increase in the number of garment export firms. There is no clear evidence to establish any adverse effect of this on garment exports.

Bank of America

3616. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of beranches of Bank of America at present in the country;

(b) whether the Bank of America propose to expand its operations in the

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that at present Bank of America are operating 4 branches in India.

(b) and (c). According to RBI, Bank of America have applied for opening 3 more branches but no decision has so far been taken in this regard.

**Foreign Exchange Earnings
By LIC**

3617. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has earned some foreign exchange in terms of head expenses and by way of profit and shares during 1990-91;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to take some steps to ensure higher earnings of foreign exchange by LIC during 1992-93; and

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

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

(b) The details are given below:

Name of the Branch	Head Office expenses	5% valuation surplus
1	2	3
Fiji		
F. Dollar ■	F. Dollar 85,000/- (IRS 1458835)	F. Dollar 76,710/- (IRS 1312043)
IRS. 17,10		
London		
UK Pound ■	Pound 13,051 (IRS 4455477)	Pound 74,069 (IRS 2522050)
IRS. 34.05		
Maynilus		
MRS. ■		
IRS. 120	MRS. 2826729 (IRS 3646480)	MRS. 1348437 (IRS 1739484)
Total: IRS	95,55,792	55,73,577

JULY 31, 1992

Written Answers

104

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The details of 5% valuation surplus and the Head Office expenses which may be repatriated to India in foreign exchange will be known only after closing the accounts for the financial year 1992-93.

Tea Plantation in Kerala

3618. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have received any proposal for the replantation of Tea in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Tea Board has received proposals covering an area of 101.30 ha for Replantation of tea from various tea estates in Kerala. They have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10.82 lakhs under the Replantation Subsidy scheme. An amount of Rs. 9.93 lakhs has been disbursed so far.

[Translation]

Scheme to Connect National Waterways Through Canal System

3619. SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to connect the national waterways thorough canal system; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

[English]

Loan to Panafrican Paper Mills in Kenya

3620. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the International Finance Corporation has approved loan for Panafrican Paper Mills in Kenya, which is billed as the largest shingle joint venture company of India abroad;
- (b) if so, the details of the Indian partners of the project and the extent to which this project is likely to assist the bagasse based project for making newsprint and writing printing papers;
- (c) whether this project is likely to boost the country's foreign exchange reserves; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI L SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The International Finance Corporation has reportedly approved a loan for panafrican Paper Mills , Kenya.

() The Indian partner of the Project is M/s Orient Paper and Industries Ltd., who hold 29.3 percent of the equity of Panafrican Paper Mills (EA) Ltd. The project aims at increasing capacity for manufacturing writing / printing paper and boards from bagasse and wood from 96,000 tons per annum to 150,000 tons per annum.

(c) and (d). In addition to repatriation of higher dividends, there is also the possibility of exporting machinery, equipment and services from India totalling Rs. 80 crores (approx.).

Import of Rock Phosphate

3622. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rock phosphate imported during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93, so far;

(b) the countries and agencies from which the imports were made; and

(c) the amount spent on the above imports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The quantity of rock phosphate imported during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 upto 30.6.92 was 34.05, 27.07 and 2.29 lakh MT respectively.

(b) The imports were from Jordan, Morocco, Togo, USA Senegal, Egypt, Algeria and Syria. A statement giving details of agencies from which rock phosphate was imported is annexed.

(c) The value of rock phosphate imported during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93* was Rs. 421.01, Rs. 489.72 and Rs.42.32 crores respectively.

*The figures for 1992-93 are provisional and do not include import made by private traders as imports of rock phosphate has been decontrolled since 29.2.92.

STATEMENT

Name of the agencies from whom

MMTC imported phosphate during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93

1. M/s. JPMC, Jordan
2. M/s. OCP, Morocco
3. M/s. CSPT, Senegal
4. M/s. OTP, Togo
5. M/s. IMC, USA
6. M/s. PRFA, USA
7. M/s. Entreprise National Annaba, Algeria
8. M/s. Anglo Resources, Syria
9. M/s. Luna Consultants, Egypt
10. M/s. Transcontinental Fert., USA

Vehicular Pollution In Delhi

3623. SHRI RAJNATH SONI-ICAR SHASTRI: SHRI SANDIPAN BHAGWANTHORAT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in Indian Express dated June 28, 1992 under the caption "pollution test centres take motorists for a ride."

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the observations made therein and facts of the matter; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be

taken to check effectively traffic pollution in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act and Rules thereunder, the Power to authorise pollution Testing Centres vests with the State Governments. The authorised Pollution Checking Centres are expected to maintain the pollution testing equipments in good working condition.

On the basis of the report appeared in the press, the Delhi Administration inspected these five authorised Pollution Checking Centres and found the pollution testing equipments defective in two sentries, and their authorisation has been suspended.

(c) The Delhi Administration have been taking the following steps to check vehicular pollution in Delhi :-

- (i) Regular enforcement drive is being carried out on the roads against the vehicles which are not conforming to the prescribed limits of pollution. During the period March, 1990 to May, 1992, 7416 vehicles have been challenged and certificate of fitness of 5698 transport vehicles has been cancelled.
- (ii) At the time of roadworthiness inspection of transport vehicles only vehicles conforming to the prescribed pollution standards are granted certificate of fitness by the Transport Department.
- (iii) The Transport Department is implementing a schemes for certi-

fication of pollution levels of vehicles after every 6 months. Nearly 117 private petrol pumps and workshops have been authorised to provide pollution checking and tuning facilities. Approximately 2.23 lakhs vehicles have been tuned between July, 90 to January, 1992 and their pollution levels brought within the prescribed standards at these centres. In addition the Transport Department has checked 6.6 lakh vehicles from March, 1990 to May, 1992.

(iv) Public awareness campaign is being conducted through the media and by organising workshops/ road side exhibition to make people aware of the statutory provisions relating to vehicle pollution and health hazards.

[*Translation*]

Election petitions.

3624. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of election petitions filed in various High Courts and Supreme Court during the Tenth Lok Sabha Election;
- (b) the number out of them disposed of, courtwise; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the expeditious disposal of these petitions within six months from the date on which the election petition is presented to the respective court or tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(c) The disposal of election petitions is linked with disposal of areas in the courts. A number of steps have been taken by the Government to clear the pendency of cases. The Judge strength has been increased from time to time. The

various recommendations including procedural Improvements and Modifications made by the Arrears Committee to tackle the problem of arrears in the courts have been commended to all concerned Central Minister, the state Governments and High Courts for necessary follow-up action. The courts are taking various measures like grouping of cases involving common gestations of laws, constitution of specialised benches, giving priority to cases requiring quick disposal, etc.

STATEMENT

General Election to the Lok Sabha Held in 1991/92

Number of Election petitions filed, disposed of, pending in the High Courts and Appeals in the Supreme Court (As on 24.7.1992)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Election Petitions in the High Court		Appeals in the Supreme Court		
		Filed	Disposed of	Pending	Filed	Disposed of
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	1	·	·	·
2.	Bihar	11	·	11	·	·
3.	Gujarat	4	·	4	·	·
4.	Haryana	1	1	·	1	1
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1	·	1	·	·
6.	Karnataka	8	·	8	·	·
7.	Madhya Pradesh	12	2	10	·	·
8.	Maharashtra	12	5	7	·	·
9.	Punjab (February, 1992)	2	·	2	·	·
10.	Rajasthan	4	·	4	·	·

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Election Petitions in the High Court			Appeals in the Supreme Court		
		Filed	Disposed of	Pending	Filed	Disposed of	Pending
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Tamil Nadu	1	.	1	.	.	.
12.	Uttar Pradesh	23	.	23	.	.	.
13.	West Bengal	4	.	4	.	.	.
14.	Daman & Diu	1	.	1	.	.	.
15.	Delhi	1	.	1	.	1	1
Total:		86	9	77	1	1	1

[English]

Smuggling of Uranium

3625. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the uranium is being smuggled out to China and Pakistan from the Jaduguda Mines;

(b) If so, the number of persons arrested during the last one year in this regard; and

(c) the steps being taken to stop such smuggling activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Available reports do not indicate the smuggling of uranium form Jaduguda Mines to Chine and Pakistan. However, in one instance 490 grams of material suspected to be uranium was seized by Galgalia Customs, Bihar on 29.1.92 One person was arrested. Chemical examination, however, did not establish the material to be uranium,

(c) The Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling activities. Intelligence is targeted to combat smuggling and close co-ordination is maintained among all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling.

Cotton Board

3626. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Cotton Board to regulate the cotton production and for providing remu-

nerative prices to the cotton growers; and

(b) if so, the time by which the Board is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Strike by Transporters

3627. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA:

SFHRI SRIBALLAV PANI

GRAHI:

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA

KUMAR:

PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:

SHRI DHARMANNA MON-
DAYA SADUL:

SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA):

SHRI LOKANATH CH-
OUDHARY:

SHRI SATYAGOPAL
MISRA:

SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

SHRI R. SURENDER
REDDY:

SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR
SHARMA:

SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO:

SHRI HARI KEWAL
PRASAD:

SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANS-
PORT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss suffered as a result of the recent truck operators strike; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such strikes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) It has not been possible to assess the extent of loss due to the truck operators' strike.

(b) Government have set up a Monitoring Committee with the representatives of All India Motor Transport Congress and the ministry of Surface Transport to review the progress of Decisions taken pursuant to the transporters strike.

[English]

Tunnel on National Highway No. 4

3628. **SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to construct a tunnel on National Highway No.4 in the Khambataki Ghat section between Poona and statara;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the project;

(c) whether the Government propose to take world Bank assistance for the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). As reported by the state Government of Maharashtra they are considering construction of a 190 metre tunnel at Khambataki Ghat on National Highway No.4. However, the State is still to formulate the proposal and submit it to Government of India.

[Translation]

Unclaimed Money of Cattle in Insurance Cases

3729. **SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:**
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the insurance amount provided by the insurance companies on the death of an insured cattle is not sufficient to purchase a new cattle;

(b) whether this has resulted in huge amount of insurance money lying unutilised; and

(c) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Under the Cattle Insurance Scheme, the cattle purchased under Integrated Rural Development programme (IRDP) as well as private cattle belonging to cooperative societies or individuals can be insured at the prescribed premium rates with the subsidiaries of the GIC. In the case of animals purchased under the IRDP Scheme insurance cover is provided to the extent of the project value of the animal (bank loan + subsidy) as determined by the project authority. IRDP policies being in the event of death of animal. In the case of non- IRDP animals, the insurance claim payable by the company is limited to market value of the animal immediately prior to its death as certified by the Veterinary Surgeon or sum insured which ever is lower.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India

3630. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) propose to participate in commercial banking activities at large scale;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(d) whether the IRBI provides financial

assistance to sick industrial units for their revival ; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard during each of the last three years, State-wise?

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

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

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. The State-wise sanctions and disbursements made by Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI) to sick industrial units for their revival during the last three years are given in the attached statement

STATEMENT**State-wise Term Loan Assistance Sanctioned and Disbursed by RRB to Sick Industrial Units for their Revitalisation during 1990-92****(Rs. in Crores)**

State/Union Territories	1990-90		1990-91		1991-92	
	Sanct.	Disp.	Sanct.	Disp.	Sanct.	Disp.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman & Nicobar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	1.27	1.22	2.39	1.32	2.63	4.53
Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bihar	2.11	0.10	1.19	3.79	2.39	3.54
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-
Delhi	-	0.80	-	-	-	0.16
Goa	-	-	0.25	-	-	-
Gujarat	2.77	2.00	3.08	2.22	7.13	1.69

(Rs. in Crores)

States/Union Territories	1990-91			1991-92		
	Sanct.	Distr.	Sanct.	Distr.	Sanct.	Distr.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Haryana - 0.24 0.67 0.34 1.25 1.11

Himachal Pradesh - - - 0.53 - 0.53

Karnataka 0.95 0.10 1.87 1.70 1.61 0.77

Kerala 3.21 2.77 - 1.43 1.89 0.28

Madhya Pradesh 0.07 0.12 2.50 2.39 0.10 0.09

Maharashtra 3.12 3.67 6.30 2.29 0.48 2.99

Nagaland - - - - - -

Orissa - - - - - -

Pondicherry 0.50 - - 0.38 0.12 0.23

Punjab 1.00 3.00 - 0.89 - 0.27

Rajasthan 1.82 0.29 - 0.79 2.45 0.90

States/Union Territories	(Rs. in Crores)				1991-92
	1989-90	1990-91	Sanct.	Dish.	
	Sanct.	Dish.	Sanct.	Dish.	
1	2	3	4	5	6 7
Tamil Nadu	3.52	1.67	0.64	2.28	3.76 3.02
Uttar Pradesh	3.59	3.87	11.14	8.04	3.88 5.62
West Bengal	10.19	14.76	20.72	13.78	11.30 13.93
Total:	34.12	34.99	60.25	41.64	39.52 39.43

Note: 1* April - March

2 Includes term loan sanctioned to fresh cases as well as to cases already under assistance.

[English]

Export Potential of Fruits/Marine Products of Kinkan Region

3631. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the development projects undertaken by Agricultural Product Export Development Authority and Marina Produce Export Development Authority in Maharashtra particularly in Konkan region during the last year and proposed to be undertaken during the current year;

(b) whether the Government propose to associate cultivators of fruits with MPEDA; and APEDA;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether export potential of fruits and marine products in Konkan region has been estimated;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) is helping exporters, farmers and their organisations in developing exports of agricultural and processed food products. During the last year APEDA has provided assistance to the following Parties in Maharashtra:

- (i) Maha Grapes under schemes for infrastructural development, packaging development and export promotion.
- (ii) MAFCO for despatch of samples.

(iii) Oriental Flortech for purchase of refrigerated transport.

APEDA also invited a refrigeration expert from Brussels to supervise despatch of grapes by refrigerated containers and study of mangoes. During the current year APEDA has assisted a private exporter by providing him technology for transportation of mangoes by refrigerated containers.

Likewise Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) also has promotional programmes in Konkan region for export production of shrimp through aquaculture.

The growers of fruits and the producer of marine products are represented on the Boards of APEDA & MPEDA.

(d) to (f). No region-wise survey has been attempted by APEDA for identifying export potential. State Governments can, however, avail assistance from APEDA for survey of specific regions. MPEDA has conducted a survey of export potential of marine products in Maharashtra which reveals a potential yield of 4,61,000 tonnes of marine products off Maharashtra coast.

PVC Resin from Foreign Countries.

3632. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many countries like US, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and South Korea have been dumping PVC resin at throw-away prices in our country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and its impact on domestic market; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). The PVC Resin Manufacturers Association, Bombay, has alleged that PVC resin originate from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, South Korea and the United States is being dumped in India at less than the comparable selling price in the domestic market of the country of origin. According to the Association, the dumping of PVC resin, by foreign suppliers will affect adversely the establishment of new capacity by the domestic industry to meet the domestic demand and will lead to reduction in the level of capacity utilisation.

2. In accordance with the Customs Tariff (Identification Assessment and Collection of Duty or Additional Duty on Dumped Articles and for Determination of Injury) Rules, 1985, the Designated Authority has initiated an anti-dumping investigation as to the existence, degree and affect of alleged dumping of PVC Resin.

Test of Missiles

3633. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a series of Long Range Missiles were tested successfully at Chandipur in Orissa recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons displaced and the total area affected due to these tests;

(d) the assistance provided or likely to be provided to the affected people as compensation and the total number of relief camps set up for them during these tests; and

(e) the total expenditure incurred by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). The second flight trial of re-entry technology demonstrator AGNI was undertaken from Interim Test Range, Chandipur, Orissa. This flight trial was not completely successful due to control structure interaction problem associated with extreme flight loads encountered during the flight.

(c) Approximately 11000 persons were displaced from the affected Safety Zone area falling within 3.5 kms radius around the AGNI launch pad.

(d) Cash payment of Rs. 100 per head per day for displaced individuals above the age of 12 years and Rs. 50 per head per day for displaced individual below the age of 12 years have been made through Balasore District Collector. Besides cash compensation, food shelter, entertainment, health care support and transportation were also provided to the affected people. Displaced individuals were transported to 5 relief camps set up Orissa State Govt under arrangement of Balasore District Collector.

(e) Expenditure upto Rs. 24.40 lakhs has been incurred on this account.

Export of Sandalwood Logs

3634. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a ban on the export of Sandalwood in log form;

(b) whether a large stock of Sandalwood logs has been accumulated in Karnataka and buyers are not lifting it due to the ban:

(c) if so, whether the Government proposes to allow export of certain percentage of Sandalwood logs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(d) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

About 4000 tonnes of sandalwood has been accumulated in the Government Sandalwood Depots of Karnataka. In a Government auction held in February 19, 1992, 453 tonnes were sold. However, the buyers are not lifting the sandalwood and asking for refund of the earnest money unless export of sandalwood is allowed. In May 19, 1991 the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports had permitted 2,000 tonnes of sandalwood in the form of billets and roots as a special case. The exports could not take place due to the writ petition filed by the South India Sandalwood Products Dealers and Exports Association in the High court of Tamilnadu. The matter is subjudice.

Average Property Holdings Question

3635. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:
SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR DEEPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has conducted a study regarding the average holdings of movable and immovable property per family in rural and urban areas:

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to remove disparity, if any in this regard in rural and urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had in Collaboration with National Sample Survey Organisation conducted a survey called the "All- India Debt and Investment Survey, 1981 - 82". This survey collected information about the average value of immovable and movable property in rural and urban areas per household as on June 30, 1981, the same is given in the endorsed statement. The policy of the Government has always been to ensure growth of production and employment in agriculture. The strategies undertaken envisage implementation of land reforms, large investments in irrigation and drainage, improvement in water management system, control of land degradation, strengthening of credit system and improvements in agricultural extension and research. The Government is committed to continue funding and revamping of the various poverty alleviation programmes like the Integrated Rural Development programme (IRDP) and the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana.

STATEMENT**Average Immovable and movable property in rural & urban areas****(Average value per household in Rupees)**

States	Rural Areas			Urban Areas		
	Immovable Property	Movable Property	Total	Immovable Property	Movable Property	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	21015	5232	26247	22171	9531	31702
Assam	15506	4997	20503	19900	12379	32279
Bihar	2079	4268	32947	24340	11154	35494
Gujarat	2865	9011	36676	26378	16503	42881
Haryana	75789	15161	90950	41634	17708	59342
Himachal Pradesh	50442	10516	62558	39442	14027	53469
Jammu & Kashmir	49990	9011	59001	71260	12379	83639
Karnataka	28446	6606	33052	28453	13798	42251
Kerala	67820	8659	76479	92586	18962	111548
Madhya Pradesh	25566	6159	29725	15669	11425	27394

States	Rural Areas			Urban Areas		
	'Immovable Property		Total	'Immovable Property		Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	29031	6046	35077	25535	16943	42478
Orissa	14773	2857	17630	12752	8596	21348
Punjab	82568	14063	96631	41861	12661	56822
Rajasthan	30423	10465	40888	26390	13416	39806
Tamil Nadu	14588	4932	19520	20393	13201	33594
Uttar Pradesh	38964	6236	44660	28291	9535	37826
West Bengal	17118	3592	20710	16603	9601	29204
All India	29994	6196	36390	27592	12381	40573

¹Immovable property comprises land & buildings.

Source: Reserve Bank of India.

Sale of Coffee in International Market

3636. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been considerable fall in the sale of Indian Coffee and its rate in the Mtnernesh, market during 1991-92 and subsequently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). There was no significant fall in the sale of Indian coffee in the international market during 1991-92 when then compared to 1990-91. However, owing to a global surplus situation, international prices of coffee have fallen. Besides there has been a shortfall in the exports during April-June 1992 when compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. This is mainly due to the reason that in the last fiscal years, out of the total exports of 10,117 tonnes of coffee in the first quarter a quantity of 11,750 tonnes were exported to erstwhile USSR thorough direct sales by the Coffee Board whereas in the Current fiscal year, no direct sales to Russia could take place in the first quarter as the contract was finalised only during July 1992. Additionally, considerable drop in world prices in 1992 compared to 1991 have slackened exports. The situation is expects to improve with the shipments under the direct export contra with Russia taking place from August onwards. India is also articulating actively in the on-going negotiations for an International Coffee Agreement, which is expected in help

improve the international price situation.

Export of Engineering Goods

3637. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified new areas for increasing export of engineering goods during 1992-93; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Engineering Export Promotion council has identified South East Asia, West Asia, North America and the EEC countries as the the thrust market areas for the year 1992- 93.

Government have also identified following eight export items in the engineering sector which could attain a 30% growth in dollar terms or volume terms over a period of three years:

- (i) Electric Power Generation & Distribution Equipment;
- (ii) Complete Vehicles of all types including two wheelers;
- (iii) Auto Components;
- (iv) Bicycles and parts;
- (v) Castings and Forgings;
- (vi) IC Engines and parts;
- (vii) Hand Tools; and
- (viii) Sugar Machinery.

Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme.

[*Translation*]

3638. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme provides for import of capital goods at concessional rates of duty accompanied by special export obligations;

(b) if so, whether EPCG licences are proposed to be allowed to finance the imports through domestic leasing companies; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An EPCG licence holder may, on the basis of a firm contract between the parties, source the capital goods from a domestic leasing company. In such a case, the name of the domestic leasing company. In such case, the name of the domestic leasing company. In such a case, the name of the domestic leasing company will be endorsed on the EPCG licence holder on such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon between the two parties. The export obligation, however, shall remain on the EPCG licence holder. In case the EPCG licence holder by the licensing Authority.

Closed and Sick Textile Mills

3639. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
Will the minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of closed and sick textile mills in the Country as on date and the number of workers rendered jobless, State-wise and Mill-wise;

(b) the reasons for their closure;

(c) whether the total payable amount of the retrenched workers workers working in these mills has been paid; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). As on 31.5.92, 134 Cotton/Man-made fibre Textile mills are closed and as on 31.12.91 number of sick mills registered with Board for Industrial Financial and Reconstruction (BIFR) is 199. a Statement of closed mills and number of workers rendered jobless and reasons of their closure is annexed.

(c) and (d). Most of these Textile Mills are in Private Sector and the Statutory Benefits in case of Private Mills are paid by mill owners. However, Govt. have paid an amount of Rs 44.92 crores to 24,097 workers of 24 eligible mills under the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closure
		1	2	
3	4	3	4	

ANDHRA PRADESH

1.	The Andhra Co-op SPG Mills Ltd.	1240		Financial crisis
2.	Karim Nagar Coop SPG Mills Ltd.	339		Details awaited
3.	Shree Rama Chandra SPG Mills	93		Financial crisis
4.	Andhra Cotton Mills Ltd.	865	-do-	
5.	Srinivasa SPG Mills (P) Ltd.	45	-do-	
6.	Sree Srinivasa SPG Mills Pvt. Ltd.	68	-do-	
7.	Shree Kalyana Srinivasa Textile Ltd.	25		For want of qualified persons.
8.	Fono Fibres Ltd.	234		Due to life accident.
9.	Dewan Bahadur Ramgopal Mills Ltd.	641		Due to labour problem.

BHAR

10.	Pandaul Coop SPG Mills Ltd.	;	;	Not known
11.	M/s. Shwan Coop SPG Mills Ltd.	63		Financial crisis

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed
		1	2	
12.	Bihar Cotton Mills Ltd.	500		Financial difficulties

AHMEDABAD

13.	Fine Knitting Co. Ltd.	191		Lay off by management.
14.	Ahmedabad Jubilee Mills Ltd. (Ahmedabad Man., Calico Co. Ltd.)	3598		Disconnection of power supply
15.	Omex Investors Ltd. (New Gujarat Synthetic)	2758		Due to financial crisis
16.	Ahmedabad Sri Ramakrishna Mills Co. Ltd.	1754		-do-
17.	Alt Mills Ltd.	1412		Financial crisis
18.	Arun Mills Ltd.	3210		Financial problems
19.	Ayodhya GNG & MFG Co. Ltd.	2858		Financial crisis
20.	Ayodhya SPG & WVG Co. Ltd.	1500		Disconnection of power supply
21.	Prasad Mills Ltd.	1394		Due to financial crisis
22.	Bharat Suryadev Mills Co. Ltd.	3758		Financial crisis.
23.	Commercial Ahmedabad Mills Co. Ltd.	2164		-do-
24.	New Gujarat Synthetica Ltd. No. 1	2666		-do-
25.	New Gujarat Synthetica Ltd. N 2	2099		-do-

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed
		1	2	
		3	4	
26.	Shree Bansidhar SPG & WIG Mills P. Ltd.	1501		Financial crisis
27.	Continental Textile Mills Ltd.	2019		Disconnection of power supply
28.	The Nutan Mills Ltd.	2161		Disconnection of power supply
29.	Shree Ambica Mills Ltd. No.1	4875		Financial problems.
30.	Shree Vibekananda Mills Ltd.	1297		Financial problems.
31.	Vijay Mills Co. Ltd.	1920		Financial problems.
32.	Shri Amrata Mills Ltd.	1744		Financial crisis.
33.	Ahmedabad CITN MFG Co. Ltd. No.1	1408		Financial difficulties
34.	Bhalakka Mills Co. Ltd.	1726		Financial difficulties.
35.	Tarun Commercial Mills Ltd.	2033		Financial difficulties.
36.	Manchhowick & Ahmedabad MFG Co. Ltd.	1345		Financial difficulties.
37.	Warden SPG & MFG Ltd.	2296		Financial difficulties.
38.	Abhay Mills Ltd. (New Asarama Mills)	1423		Financial difficulties.

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll	Reasons for closure
1	2	3	4

KARNATAKA

53.	Bagalkot Coop Mills Ltd.	930	Power supply problem.
54.	The Co-op SPG Mills Ltd.	735	Power supply problem.
55.	Chandra SPG & WVG Mills (P) Ltd.	150	Non-supply of cotton.
56.	Chigateri Mills	320	Worker's partnership problem.
57.	Bellary SPG & WVG Co. Ltd.	298	Financial problem.
58.	Shree Shantakara Textile Mill Ltd.	624	Labour problem.
59.	Sri Krishnarajendra Mills Ltd.	3304	Strike by workers.
60.	TR Mills (P) Ltd.	79	-do-

KERALA

61.	Alagappa Textiles Cochin Mills	1108	Details of closure awaited.
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MADHYA PRADESH

62.	Bilaspur SPG Mills & Industries Ltd.	1226	Financial crisis.
63.	Hope Textiles (Unit No.2)	268	-do-

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll	Reasons for closure
1	2	3	4

GUJARAT

39.	Shree Mahuva SPG Mills Co. Op. Ltd.	260	Financial problem
40.	Gandhidham SPG & WVG Co Ltd.	61	Disconnection of power supply
41.	Shree Yamuna Mills Ltd.	310	Financial crisis.
42.	Shre Mardi SPGMills Co. Ltd.	948	Due to financial problems
43.	Gaekwar Mills Ltd.	2031	Disconnection of power supply.
44.	Nayyoti Textile Mill Ltd.	887	Financial difficulties.
45.	Kabi Mills Ltd.	1626	Disconnection of power supply
46.	Nayyjan Mills Ltd.	2818	do
47.	Maharana Mills Ltd.		Financial difficulties

HARYANA

48.	Hissar Textile Mills	3779	Strike by workers.
49.	Usha SPG & WVG Mills Ltd	1513	Financial difficulties.
50.	Mohan SPG Mills	1276	Labour trouble.
51.	Elson Cotton Mills (P) Ltd.	1038	Labour problems.
52.	Bhiwani Textile Mills	2968	Workers trouble.

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed	
		1	2	3	4
64.	Binod Mills Co. Ltd.	3249		Financial crisis.	
65.	The Hukumchand Mills Ltd.	5659		-do-	
66.	Hope Textiles Ltd. (Nandital Bhandari Mills Unit-1)	2368		Financial crisis.	

BOMBAY

67.	Bradbury Mills Ltd.	3093	-do-
68.	Mukesh Textile Mills	1658	Worker's strike.
69.	Kamala Mills Ltd.	3050	Financial crisis
70.	Modern Mills Ltd. No.2	2426	-do-
71.	New Great Eastern SPG & WVG Co. Ltd.	1275	-do-
72.	The Raghuvanshi Mills Ltd.	1451	-do-
73.	Shreenivas Cotton Mills Ltd.	5322	Disconnection of power.

MAHARASHTRA

74.	Yeotmal Zilla Sahi Soot Ma Kapad Gimli Ltd.	1588	Financial crisis.
75.	Aurangabad Zillah Sahi Soot Gimli Ltd.	385	-do-

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed
		1	2	
76.	Lokmanya Mills Barshi Ltd.	547		Financial crisis.
77.	Kiran SPG Mills	1197		Lockout.
78.	New Ravil SPG & MFG Co. Ltd.	34		Not available.
79.	Rajan Textile Mills (P) Ltd.	227		Not available.
80.	Khandeshi SPG & MFG Co. Ltd.	2754		Financial crisis.
ORISSA				
81.	Gangapur Weavers Co-Op SPG Mills Ltd.	1540		Details awaited.
82.	Lingra Textiles (P) Ltd.	1		Due to workers demand of wage.
83.	Orissa Textile Mills Ltd.	4812		Details awaited
RAJASTHAN				
84.	Jaipur SPG & WVG Mills Ltd.	821		Financial crisis.
85.	Podar SPG Mills	947		Disconnection of power.
86.	Sudarshan Textiles	1675		Financial crisis.
87.	Sarai Synthetics (RAJ) Ltd.	1198		-0-

Sl. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed
		1	2	
88.	Krishna Mills Ltd.	1398		•Financial crisis.

COMBATOORE

89.	Jayalakshmi Mills (P) Ltd.	973	-do-	
90.	Madhu SPG & WVG Mills (P) Ltd.	454	Workers Strike	
91.	Shree Arunachalashwar Mills	152	Lay-off.	
92.	K.P.V. Textiles,	219	Workers demand.	
93.	K.C.S. Spinners.	168	Strike.	
94.	Subbiah Textiles.	45	-do-	
95.	Surya SPG Mills (P) Ltd.	200	-do-	
96.	The Kumarai Mills Ltd. Unit II	403	Strike by workers.	
97.	Radhakrishna Mills Ltd.	1187	-do-	
98.	Vasanta Mills Ltd.	1283	Financial crisis	
99.	Sri Kothandaram SPG. Mills.	260	-do-	
100.	Gauvery SPG & WVG Mills Ltd.	672	-do-	

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed	
		1	2	3	4
101.	Rukmini Mills Ltd.		413		Details awaited.
102.	Sivakumar SPG Mills (P) Ltd.		160		Labour-demand.
103.	M. Kamalam Dyeing Cotton Mills.		16		Material problem
104.	Sivaraman SPG Mills Ltd.		275		Financial crisis.
105.	Prabhu Spinning Mills.		40		Details awaited.
106.	Sri Amman Textiles.		48		Financial crisis
107.	Golden SPG Mills (P) Ltd.		160		Strike.
108.	Sri Balakrishna Spinners (P) Ltd.		34		Bonus dispute.
109.	Sree Yogeshwari Mills (P) Ltd.		130		Material problem.
110.	Ideal SPG Mills Ltd.		271		Lock-out.
111.	Mudalevandan SPG Mills (P) Ltd.		100		Financial crisis
112.	Poorkodi Textiles.		60		Adverse Market Condition
113.	Mettur Textile Industries Ltd.		254		Strike.

Sl. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll		Reasons for closed
		1	2	

KANPUR

114.	JK Manufacturers Ltd.	2276	Financial crisis
115.	JK Cotton SPG & WVG Mills Co. Ltd.	4880	Lock-out.

UTTAR PRADESH

116.	Mayur Syntex Ltd.	1796	Strike.
117.	Saint Kabir Sait Mills Ltd.	1255	Shortage of funds.
118.	U.P. Sahakari Katal Mills.	1377	Shortage of working capital.
119.	Madan Industries Ltd.	1017	Financial constraints.
120.	Modern Spinners Ltd. (Modi Yarn Mills B Unit)	2148	Losses & Labour troubles
121.	Vishal Syntex Ltd. (Modi Syntex Ltd.)	1059	Financial difficulties.
122.	U.P. State SPG Mills Co. Ltd.	2909	Lockout.
123.	Lord Krishna Textil Mills.	2424	•do•
124.	Modi SPG & WVG Mills Co. Ltd.	1404	Power supply.
125.	Raza Textiles Ltd.	2344	Workers disput.

Sr. No.	Name of the mill	Workers on Roll	Reasons for closed
1	2	3	4
126.	India Lubricants Ltd.	1136	Details not available.
127.	Poddar Projects Ltd.	1277	Lockout.
128.	Mohoni Mills No.2	2226	Financial crisis
129.	Swan Mills	1688	-do-
130.	Dunbar Mills Ltd. No. 1 to 5	6000	Strike
131.	India Jute & Industries Ltd.	1484	Indiscipline and unlawful activities of workers management.
132.	Sri Durga Cotton SPG & W/G Mills Ltd.	1484	Financial crisis
133.	The Bangodaya Cotton Mills Ltd.	837	-do-

DELHI

134.	Delhi Cloth Mills No.1, 2 & 3	5161	Governor of Delhi permitted to close down the mill from 1.4.89 Vide order No. F26 (19) LAB dated 30.3.89.

[*English*]**Road Projects of Orissa**

3640. SHRI SIVAJI PATNAIK:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has forwarded any proposal regarding road projects to be taken up with the assistance from the World Bank for approval of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal

received; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The proposal of Government of Orissa for reconstruction of six flood damaged bridges on State Roads in Orissa has been approved for assistance by the World Bank as a part of the Second National Highway Project, which also includes 4 lane of Bhubaneswar-jagatpur Section of National Highway 5 in Orissa. In addition, the State Government had projected the following five proposals for loan assistance from World Bank:

S. No.	Name of project	Estimated Cost (Rs. In crores)
1.	Improvement of Berhampur-Phulbani Road	40.00
2.	Widening to 4 lane of Pipli -Konark Road from 0.0 km to 44.00 km.	22.72
3.	Widening to 4 lane of Bhubaneswar-Puri Road from 0.0 km to 159.00 km.	55.00
4.	Port to port Road Project from Gopalpur in Ganzam Distt. to Chandaneswar and Digha in West Bengal Via Puri-Konark-Paradeep -Dhamara	528.02
5.	Improvement to Cuttack- Chandabali Road.	30.64

However, at present the World Bank is not considering any proposals for loan assistance for State Road Projects.

Production of Rocket by ordnance Factories.

3641. SHRI S.B. THORAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether C&AG in his report

number 8 of 1992 for the year ended March 31, 1991 has pointed out losses due to delay in the production of a particular type of rocket for the army;

(b) if so, the details of the observations made in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to acquire self-

sufficiency in the production of rockets?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of observations are given on page 17 of C & AC Report number 8 of 1992 presented in Lok Sabha on 12 May, 1992. Main observations relate to time/ cost over run, non utilisation of facilities and the item not coming up to the desired accuracy. In the indigenous development and production of compiled armament stores, due to unforeseen factors, time/cost over run occur. Difficulties also arise in achieving the desired parameters in the early phases of indigenous production. However, there are overcome in due course.

(c) It is not in public interest to disclose the details.

Export of Basmati Rice

3642. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the imposition of stock limit, there has been a sharp decline in the export of basmati rice in the month of April, 1992;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has also received any representations regarding stocking of basmati rice exclusively for exports;

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The Export of Basmati rice during January-April, 1992 has been as under:-

Month	Quantity (MTs)	Value (Rs. Crores)
January, 1992	24,980	51.72
February, '92	21,051	56.15
March, '92	33,355	81.84
April, '92	18,728	51.53

(b) to (d). The Government has been receiving representations regarding stocking of Basmati rice. Since Powers to take regulatory measures on foodgrains and other essential commodities are vested in the state Governments, the matter was referred to Basmati rice producing states and the Union territory of Delhi.

Performance of IDBI

3643. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHAT-

TERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) is a profit-making institution;

(b) if so, the details of its profit/loss during each of the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose

to convert IDBI into a company under the Companies Act as against its present status of a Corporation;

(f) if so, the details thereof?
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to disinvest Government share in IDBI; and

(b) The profit earned by the Industrial Development Bank of India(IDBI) before tax during the last three years is indicated below:

1989-90	1990 -91	1991-92
Rs.290.9 crores	Rs. 398.1 crores	Rs. 573.9 crores

Notes:- (i) The profits include capital gains.
(ii) The profits for 1989 -90 and 1990 -91 are combined profits under General Fund and Development Assistance Fund.

There has been no loss.

(c) & (e). Currently there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government either to convert IDBI into Company under the Companies Act or to disinvest its share holding.

(d) & (f). Do not arise.

Acquisition of Second hand Ships by Shipping Companies

3644.SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shipping Companies are acquiring second-hand ships from foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of ships acquired during the last two years;

(c) whether Shipping Companies are facing difficulties due to downward trend in freight rates and competition from foreign Shipping Companies; and

(d) if so, the necessary steps being taken by the Government to face challenges posed by foreign shipping Companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Shipping companies have acquired 14 second-hand ships during the last two years.

(c) During the last few months there has been a downward trend in freight rates in the International market. Consequently, earnings of the shipping companies, which are exposed to international freight rates and competition from foreign shipping companies, are expected to be adversely affected.

(d) Some of the important steps taken by government in the recent past are as under:-

(i) Simplification of procedure for acquisition of ship;

- (ii) The shipping company can acquire a vessel under Bareboat charter - cun - demise method, if they hold a valid approval for acquisition.
- (iii) The shipping company can acquire bulk carriers upto 30,000 DWT without obtaining Government approval.
- (iv) Doing away with the need to take government permission for chartering out of ships;
- (v) Simplification of the procedure for sale of ships.

Reimbursement of Share Amount to Maharashtra

3645. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Maharashtra regarding reimbursement of the share amount paid by the State Government to the textile mills of Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which the amount will be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (d). The Central Government owes a sum of Rs. 6,17,40,189 to

Government of Maharashtra towards Payment of decretal amount to the Punjab National Bank or account of guarantee given by the Central Government and the Government of Maharashtra for sanctioning working capital to India United Mills under NTC (MIN), Bombay. This amount has been released by the Central Government to National Textile Corporation, being the Custodian. Further action in the matter can be taken by NTC only on receipt of the actual claim s from the State Government of Maharashtra.

Seizure of Narcotics

3646. SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRI RAJENDRA AG-NIHOTRI:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be please to state:

(a) The quantity and value of each of the narcotic drugs seized during the last six months;

(b) The main source of the seizures made;

(c) The disposal of these seized narcotics and

(d) The number of persons arrested and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The quantity of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances seized in the country during the last six months is reported to be as under:-

<i>Name of the drugs seized</i>	<i>Quantity seized in Kgs. in 1992 (upto June)</i>
Heroin	764
Opium	535

Name of the drugs seized	Quantity seized in Kgs. in 1992 (upto June)
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Morphine	7
Ganja	19,942
Hashish	1,699
Methaqualone	2,564
Cocaine	0.350

Value of the drugs changes from time to time and from place to time and from place to place according to chemical composition and is relevant to the clandestine market. As such, it is neither feasible to assess the correct value nor necessary since most of these are to be disposed by destruction.

(b) It is not always possible to ascertain exactly the source of the drugs seized. However, most of the heroin seized is from South - West Asia, and a substantial quantity of Hashish and Ganja are reported to be from across the northern borders of the country along U.P. and Bihar.

(c) Seized drugs are disposed of by destruction either before trial under Section 52 A of N. D.P. S. Act or on courts orders after trial. As per available information 10 kgs. of heroin, 42 Kgs. of Hashish and 56,411 kgs of Ganja have been destroyed till June, 1992. These figures include Seizures made prior to 1992.

(d) As available information, 4,029 persons have been arrested upto June, 1992. During the same period the number of persons prosecuted, convicted and acquitted are 1,777,200 663 respectively. Figures in respect of prosecutions, convictions and acquittals also include cases booked earlier to six months.

Exports to Russia.

3647. SHRI MANDRANJAN BHAKTA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the goods exported to Russia during 1989 -90, 1990-91 and 1991 -92; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Main items exported to Russia during 1989-90, 1990 -91 and 1991 -92 include agricultural products, mineral and ores, chemicals and allied products, leather and leather manufactures, textiles and engineering goods.

(b) Trade with the former Soviet Union was being conducted only in non-convertible Indian Rupees in 1989-90 and 1990 -91 (upto December, 1991). Date on hard currency earnings for exports to Russia in the subsequent period is not yet available.

World Bank / I.F.C. Assistance for NTC Mills

3648. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI M.V. CHAN-
DRANSEKHARA
MURTHY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have finalised a scheme to seek loans for the revival of sick mills of National Textile Corporation from the World Bank/International Finance Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the terms and conditions under which NTC propose to get loans;

(c) the time by which the Government are likely to receive the loans from the World Bank/IFC; and

(d) the total amount to be spent on reorganisation, modernisation and integration, of textile mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

OLD Mandovi Bridge

3649. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4129 on August 23, 1991 and state:

(a) Whether the recommissioning of the Old Mandovi Bridge on NH-17 has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the penalty levied as liquidated damages; and

(e) the revised time scheduled for completion of work on the bridge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Recommissioning of old Mandovi Bridge is delayed mainly due to difficult work of demolition of old superstructure and increase in scope of work due to investigations and strengthening of existing foundations as also adoption of supplemental measures for increased durability.

(d) Rs. 11.54 lakhs.

(e) December, 1992.

Chelliah Committee Report

3650. SHRI PRATAPRAO B BHONSLE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received the final report of Chelliah Committee;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No Sir.

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

[Translation]

during 1992 - 93?

Funds Provided to States for Road Construction

3651. SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOURHARY:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA:
SHRI NITHS KUMAR:
SHRI RAM LAKHAN SING
YADAY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided by the Union Government to States for construction of roads during the last three years;

(b) the progress made towards the completion of these projects; and

(c) the funds likely to be provided

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Constitutionally the Government of India are primarily responsible for roads declared as National Highways only. Development of all roads other than the National Highways in States is essentially the responsibility of State Governments concerned. So far as National Highways are concerned, their development in various States is a continuing activity keeping in view existing condition of the National Highways, traffic intensity, inter se priority on an all India basis and total funds available for the purpose. The works approved on National Highways afaer in various stages of progress. A statement indicating the funds released for development of National Highways in various States during the last three years as well as allotment during current year is Annexed.

STATEMENT*(Rs. In Lakh)*

Sl. No.	Name of State	1988-89	1989-90	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2000.00	2200.00	2455.00	2700.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	25.00	48.00	50.00
3.	Assam	1100.00	1150.00	1255.00	1225.00
4.	Bihar	700.00	800.00	1142.00	1250.00
5.	Chandigarh	30.00	50.00	28.00	50.00
6.	Delhi	375.00	350.00	550.00	650.00
7.	Goa	950.00	700.00	900.00	850.00
8.	Gujarat	3200.00	3250.00	4770.00	4200.00
9.	Haryana	477.00	1250.00	1060.00	1620.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1145.00	1125.00	1140.00	1150.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	995.00	300.00	50.00	50.00
12.	Karnataka	1800.00	1800.00	1775.00	1650.00

Sl. No.	Name of State	1990-91	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Kerala	1500.00	1300.00	1120.00	1000.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1850.00	1850.00	1850.00	1850.00
15.	Maharashtra	2000.00	2750.00	3350.00	3100.00
16.	Manipur	300.00	300.00	250.00	250.00
17.	Meghalaya	400.00	300.00	450.00	350.00
18.	Nagaland	100.00	50.00	48.00	50.00
19.	Orissa	1295.00	1050.00	1384.00	1275.00
20.	Pondicherry	50.00	150.00	120.00	100.00
21.	Punjab	2545.00	2900.00	2850.00	2150.00
22.	Rajasthan	1817.00	1700.00	1800.00	2420.00
23.	Tamil Nadu	2000.00	1375.00	1422.00	1550.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5550.00	6500.00	6025.00	5300.00
25.	West Bengal	926.00	500.00	1634.00	2050.00
	Total:	32558.00	30725.00	37844.00	37900.00

[English]

Dereservation of SC/St Posts in Banks

3652. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
DR. RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether some of the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in direct recruitment to clerical cadre and sub-staff cadre have been deserved

in some branches of nationalised banks during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken by the government to avoid de - reservation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes posts in banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):(a) and (b). Available information from the 20 Nationalised Banks in respect of the de -reservation of the vacancies reserved for SC/ST during the years 1988 to 1990 is as under:-

Year	Clerical Cadre		Sub- Staff Cadre	
	SC	ST	SC	ST
1988	190	140	93	65
1989	6	7	-	-
1990	-	-	-	-

The de-reservation was necessitated primarily on account of non-availability of sufficient number of suitable SC/ST candidates for these posts.

Tribe member is being associated with the interview boards to safeguard the interests of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe candidates.

(c) The following steps have been advised to all Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions to fill the vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :-

4. Educational qualifications have been relaxed in favour of Scheduled caste/ Scheduled Tribe candidates to facilitate their intake in the services of the Public Sector Banks in an increasing degree, in the clerical cadre.

1. A lower cut off point is being prescribed for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe candidates for their selection vis -a -vis general candidates

5. Interviews of Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe candidates are being conducted in separate sittings/dates to avoid their being compared with general candidates during interview process.

2. per-recruitment training programmes are being conducted by Banks to prepare the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates for the recruitment tests.

6. Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe candidates are not required to pay examination fees to facilitate larger number of Scheduled Caste Scheduled Tribe candidates.

3 A Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled

dates applying for various posts in the banking industry.

7. Scheduled caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates called for interviews are being reimbursed travelling expenses, as per the rules.

8. A comprehensive proforma has been prescribed by the Government to enable the Banks and the Banking Service Recruitment Boards to ensure that full permissible backlog for the Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes is being included in the indent.

9. De-reservation of reserved vacancies after 1.4.1989 in respect of clerical and sub-staff cadres has been prohibited.

[*Translation*]

Import of Natural Rubber

3653. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of natural rubber imported during 1990 and 1991 and the quantity proposed to be imported during 1992-93;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange involved therein?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). The quantity and value of natural rubber imported during 1990-91 and 1991-92 STC, is as under :-

<i>Import</i>		
<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (MTs.)</i>	<i>Value Rs/Crore)</i>
1990-91	31,699	48.64
1991-92	Nil	Nil

There is no proposal for any import of natural rubber, by STC during 1992-93.

[*English*]

Central Road Fund Aided Schemes in Kerala

3654. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: SHRI T.J. ANJALOSE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the schemes for which the funds from the Central Road Fund was allocated to Kerala during the last three years;

(b) the details of the amount provided, project - wise ; and

(c) the details of schemes for which allocation from C.R.F. is likely to be made to the State during the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). During last three years (i. e. 1. 4. 89 to 31. 3. 92), the following two schemes costing Rs. 319.30 lakhs were approved against the accruals available to the State Government upto 31.3.92 on the basis of Old Resolution governing the Central Road Fund:-

S. No.	Name of Scheme	Amount approved
1.	Improvement to M. G. Road in Cochin	54.30 lacs
2.	Construction of Aroor-Arukutty bridge in Kerala	265.00 lacs
	Total:	319.30 lacs

Against various ongoing schemes under the CRF programme including the above, the following funds were released to Kerala during the last three years:-

Year	Funds released (Rs. in lacs)
1989 -90	135.016
1990 -91	150.00
1991 - 92	40.00

Since the State Government has already Utilised accruals upto 31.3.92 as per Old Resolution governing the Central Road Fund, it is too early to indicate the details of schemes likely to be approved under CRF for Kerala during 1992 - 93 which would depend *inter alia* on actual augmentation of the CRF as per Revised Resolution adopted by the Parliament of 13.5.88, free balance available for Kerala and the proposals recommended by the State Government.

**Manipulation in Allotment of Shares
by Companies**

3655.DR. VASANT NIIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint about manipulation in allotment of shares to public through use of computers by certain companies;

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

(c) the action taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS(SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Development of Handloom
Industry**

3656. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the details of the steps taken by the Government to protect the Handloom Industry from the encroachments by other sectors into its ares?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): In order to protect the handloom sector from the competition posed by powerloom and mill sectors, Government of India have taken the following steps in addition to the implementation of a number

of ongoing schemes of standing nature for ensuring adequate availability of raw - materials generation of additional employment, marketing support and welfare measures:-

- (i) Financial assistance for modernisation of looms;
- (ii) Scheme for decentralised training to train weavers on improved technology;
- (iii) Design support and provision of technological inputs through a number of Weavers' Service Centres in the country;
- (iv) Financial assistance to State Handloom Development Corporations and Handloom Co - operative Societies for setting up pre-loom and post -loom processing facilities with a view to improve the competitiveness of handloom product;
- (v) Protection to handlooms by reserving certain varieties of cloth for their exclusive production in the handloom sector; and
- (vi) A number of fiscal concessions to the handloom sector to remove the cost handlooms vis a - vis the powerlooms.

Civil Construction constricts with Foreign Companies

3657. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foreign companies having contacts in India together with value of the contracts and the names of the

construction works (civil) for which contracts have been given to them;

(b) the names of the works which are at the veroe of completion;

(c) whether more such contracts are proposed to be given to these companies in future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MANKHURSHEED): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Ban on Import of Raw Silk

3658. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from any quarter to ban the import of raw silk due to its adverse impact on domestic price and production; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have received a representation from the Government of Karnataka for imposition of a complete ban on import of silk.

(b) Under the new Export & Import Policy, the raw silk is included in the restricted list and can be imported only against a licence or in accordance with a Public Notice issued in this behalf. Thus the Government are already following a restrictive approach with regard to import of silk.

Further, the Government has decided that the balance quantity of 153.74 tonnes yet to be imported out of 200 tonnes permitted in the context of outbreak of pebrine disease, need not be imported.

Trade Relations With EEC

3659. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any efforts have been made to conclude treaty with European Economic Community for enhanced trade relationship before it becomes a single trade unit;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Steps have been initiated to examine the ways and means of strengthening the Indo-EEC relationship. A working Group is being established to explore possibilities of upgrading the economic, financial and technical cooperation in an integrated manner.

- (c) Does not arise.

Purchase of Jute Bags by D.G. S. & D.

3660. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of Textiles be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposal has stopped placing orders with jute mills for the purchase of jute badge; and

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

Revitalisation of DTC

3661. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any high level committee had been appointed for revitalisation and restructuring of DTC;
- (b) if so, the names of the members of the Committee;
- (c) whether the committee have submitted its report;
- (d) if so, the suggestions /recommendations made by the committee; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A Group of Ministers has been set up by the Government on 7th January, 1992 under the Chairmanship of Minister of Finance to workout an inter-connected package for the rehabilitation of Delhi Transport Corporation. The Composition of the Group is as under:-

1. Shri Manmohan Singh
Minister of Finance
Chairman
2. Shri S.B. Chavan, Minister

of Home Affairs.
Member

3. Shri C.K. Jaffer Sharief
Minister of Railways.
Member

4. Shri P. Chidambaram
(Then) Minister of State
Member
(independent charg) of
the Ministry of Commerce

5. Shri Jagdish Tytler Minister
of State (Independent
charg) of the Ministry of
Surface Transport.
Member

6. Shri P.K. Thungon Minister
of State in the
Member
Ministry of Industry.

(c) to (e). The group of Ministers in its meeting held on 16th Jun, 1992 considerd

the Action Plan for revival of DTC, submitted by the Ministry of surface Transport and made certain recommendations. These are being processed further for final by Government.

Gold Reserves

3662. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold reserves in the Country have increased after introduction of the gold import policy; and

(b) if so, the position of gold reserves as on January 1, 1990 January 1, 1991, January 1, 1992 and June 30, 1992 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAFR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Introduction of gold import policy has no relation with the gold reserves held by the Reserve Bank of India the position of which is as follows:-

As on	Gold Reserves with RBI. (In Kilogrammes)
Junuary 1, 1990	324,989
January 1, 1991	332,563
January 1, 1992	350,921
June 30, 1992	350,923

[Translation]

Development of Kosi River as Waterways To Nepal

3663. SHRI SURYA YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose

to develop Kosi river in Bihar as waterways to Nepal in collaboration with Government of Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There is no such proposal with the Central Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Rubber Plantation in Orissa

3664. SHRI K. PRODHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectares of land brought under rubber plantation in Orissa so far;

(b) the approximate annual yield of rubber from Orissa during the last two years;

(c) the additional hectares of land proposed to be brought under rubber plantation in the State during Eight Five Year Plan; and

(d) the names of new places in the State which have been found suitable for rubber plantation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) An area of 270 hectares of land has so far been brought under rubber plantation in the State of Orissa.

(b) The trees have not yet started yielding. A few seedling trees planted in 1965 on trial basis which have been test tapped and yield obtained is found to be encouraging.

(c) An area of 500 hectares has been proposed for rubber plantation in the State of Orissa during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) The survey of areas carried out by the Rubber Board has revealed that inland regions of Mayurbhanj, Balasore, Cuttack, Puri, Ganjam and Dhenkanal District of Orissa are suitable for rubber plantation.

Refinancing Vacillated to State Rural Development Bank of Assam

3665. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank has extended refinance facilities to the State Rural Development Bank of Assam for construction and repair of houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). National Hushing Bank (NHB) has reported that financial assistance from NHB to the Agricultural and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) of the various States including that of Assam is provided in the form of subscription by NHB to "Special Rural Housing Debentures" (SRHDs) floated by ARDBs (to the extent of 100%) in respect of eligible housing loans disbursed by them. The Assam State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Ltd. Had applied for and was accorded approval for subscription by NHB for SRHDs to be floated by them to the extent of Rs. 50 lakhs. This has not been utilised by them

(c) Does not arise.

Winding up of JCI

3666. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has decided to wind up its operation in stages;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of employees likely to be retrenched; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide alternate jobs to retrenched workers and support price to the jute growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): No, Sir.

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

[*Translation*]

Rebate to NTC Employees in Purchase of Cloth

3667. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether rebate is given to the employees of the National Textile Corporation for the purchase of National Textile Corporation Cloth;

(b) if so, the amount of such rebate given to the employees and officers of the corporation; and

(c) the reasons therefor when the mills under NTC are incurring losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOTH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rebate ranges between 10 to 20% and is subject to ceiling.

(c) The rebate is part of welfare measures for employees.

Loans to Government of Orissa

3668. SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) the amount of loans sought by the Government of Orissa during the last two years and the purposes thereof;

(b) the amount of loans granted to the State Government;

(c) whether the amount of loans given was much less than the loans sought by the State Government; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDJUKHE): (a) During the year 1990-91, Government of Orissa requested for an assistance of Rs. 135 crores for covering the opening deficit and Rs. 150 crores to meet the budgetary deficit during the year. The State also requested for a plan loan of Rs. 250 crores for funding the State's Annual Plan for the same year. In 1991-92 the State Government sought a plan loan of Rs. 150 crores for financing the Annual Plan of the State for that year.

(b) to (d). All the requests of the State Government were considered and a non-plan loan of Rs. 100 crores was released to the State to cover the budgetary deficit for 1990-91. The request for a plan loan of Rs. 250 crores in 1990-91 was not acceded to as the request was made in pursuance of para 7.31 of the Ninth Finance Commission's Second Report which was in the nature of a suggestion and not a recommendation and not accepted by the Government of India. The request for an assistance of Rs. 135 crores in 1990-91 and Rs. 150 crores in 1991-92 were not agreed to in view of the Centers own resource constraints.

Commercial Loans from Foreign Countries

**3669. SHRI MUMTAJ ANSARI:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of cases relating to seeking of commercial loans at higher rate of interest from foreign countries by the various companies in the private sector and other companies regulated by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act have increased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the commercial loans taken by the companies in the private sector and the companies regulated by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act;

(c) whether it is essential to seek permission from RBI or the Government in each case;

(d) the reaction of the Government in regard to seeking of commercial loans by

the private sector companies; and

(e) the number of companies granted permission to raise loans during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. Permission of both Government and Reserve Bank of India is required for availing medierr Foreign Currency Loans. Permission of RBI is required for credits below one year, excepting trade crsults upto six months obtained within the paframeters of the exchange control manual.

(d) There is no restriction on raising Foreign Currency Loans by Private Sector Companies for authorised purposes consistent with development priorities provided the terms & conditions of the loan are approved by the Ministry of Finance.

(e) The number of institutions and value of foreign currency loans approved, both to private and public sector, during 1989 -90 to 1991 -92 is given below:

Year	No. of Institutions		Values (Us\$ Million)	
	Public	Private	Public	Private
1989 -90	15	50	2517.29	662.95
1990 -91	17	30	1357.25	332.73
1991 - 92	26	96	1160.48	529.29

[English]

Declaration of Delhi- Kanpur Road as National Highway.

3670. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has made repeated requests for declaring the Grand Trunk Road from Delhi to Kanpur as a National Highway; and

(b) If so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Owing to financial stringency and other priority considerations, it has not been possible to accede to such requests for majority of States including Uttar Pradesh. For 8th Five Year Plan, different States including U.P. have sent 135 proposals aggregating to about 37,566 kms for declaration as new National Highways. In order to examine these proposals in detail, the State Govts. have been requested to supply information about each proposal in a prescribed format bringing out complete details/justification etc. This information is still awaited from a number of States. There is also paucity of funds. As such, it is too early to indicate any decision about new National Highways during the 8th Plan in various States including Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

Construction of Bye - Pass on National Highway in Shahi Jahanpur District

3671. SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to reply given /USQ No. 5175 on August 30, 1991 and state:

(a) the progress made so far in construction of bye - pass in district Shahi Jahanpur of Uttar Pradesh, which is lying pending for a long time;

(b) the hindrances being faced in the construction of this bye-pass, due to which the work has not yet started; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to remove the hindrances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). It is reported by the State Government that land for the by - pass has been fully acquired. Construction of the bypass is included in Annual Programme 1992- 93 for sanction at an estimated cost of Rs. 8.00 crores. The State Government has been asked to forward the estimate for complete project including the road and bridge portions along with reports on economic analysis and environmental impact.

[English]

Chinese Naval Base off Andamans

3672. DR RAVI MALLU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has set up a base off Andamans;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Government does not have any confirmed information in the matter.

(c) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Powerloom

3673. SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR SHRI D. VIENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of powerlooms in the country and the number out of them which have become obsolescent;

(b) whether any scheme has been prepared by the Government for the modernisation and encouragement of powerlooms in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the detail including financial implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) 11.60 lakh powerloom have been registered as on 30.4.1992. Details of obsolete powerlooms is not maintained.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Schemes have been formulated in the 8th Five Year Plan to open 20 new Powerloom Service Centres, for cooperativisation of powerloom, for infrastructure facilities to powerloom concentration areas, Health Insurance Scheme for Powerloom workers, rehabilitation scheme for those workers who are PSUs. The total outlay proposed for the Powerloom Sector in the 8th Five year Plan is Rs. 90.33 crores.

Expansion of Test Range at Chandipur

3674. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the Test Range at Chandipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons likely to be evacuated; and

(d) the amount of compensation likely to be paid to the affected persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, a total of 521 acres of land forming part of safety zone is under acquisition.

(c) About 600 persons are to be evacuated.

(d) Total cost of acquisition, including the compensation to the affected persons, is estimated at Rs. 1.45 crores.

Loans to women Enterpreneurs

3675. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether women entrepreneurs are being classified as a separate category for extending loans/financial assistance through nationalised banks and other public sector financial institution;

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

(c) whether there is any fresh proposals to help more women entrepreneurs in setting up their own businesses etc; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF FINANCE (SHRIDALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). Bank extend credit to women entrepreneurs as part of their priority sector lending programme. The request is considered by banks if the proposals for credit are viable. To safeguard the interest of women beneficiaries and also to ensure that an increased number of women are assisted under the priority sector and other poverty alleviation programmes, targets have been fixed for the women beneficiaries under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and 40 percent of the beneficiaries assisted should be women. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also issued instruction to commercial banks that households headed by women should get preference in the allotment of agricultural inputs and credit. Under the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises meant to encourage unemployed and under-employed urban poor to seek self employment ventures, 30 per cent of the funds are earmarked for women beneficiaries. Further, under the Differential Rate of Interest scheme formulated to cater to the credit requirements of the weaker sections in the rural areas, women's homes where saleable goods are made and for which no adequate and dependable source of finance exists, are eligible for credit for productive purposes. The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has operating a scheme for women entrepreneurs which provides training and extension services support along with financial assistance on liberal terms to enable them to set up units in the small scale sector. Further, SIDBI has devised "The Mailer Udyam Nidhi," a scheme to provide equity type of assistance to women entrepreneurs setting up new industrial projects in the small scale sector. SIDBI also operates a scheme for financial support to voluntary agencies working for benefit of women in their upliftment. The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) operates a scheme of interest subsidy for women

entrepreneurs. Under this scheme it provides one time interest subsidy on the loans disbursed by State Financial Corporations or State Level Institutions or bank for a period of one year subject to a ceiling of Rs. 20,000/- per annum in respect of projects by women entrepreneurs in rural, cottages, tiny small scale sectors with project cost up to 15 lakhs.

Review of Adjustment Programme of India's Economy by IMF

3676. SHRIANKUSHRAORAOSAHEB TOPE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether IMF has completed the first review of the adjustment programme of the Indian economy for the period upto March 31, 1992;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the second review is to be made in October this year; and

(d) if so, the basic-features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After review, a tranche under the Stand-by Arrangement of SDR 462 million on July 2, 1992 has been received by us.

(c) The second review of the Stand-by arrangement is proposed to be completed on November 30, 1992.

(d) These are contained in the Memorandum of Economic Policies for 1992-93 which was laid on the Table of the House on July 10, 1992 alongwith the letter of intent dated 2-6-92 of the Finance Minister.

**Tripartite Committee on Compensation Scheme to Retrenched Workers
of NTC**

3679. SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:
PROF. RASA SINGH
RAWAT:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have constituted a tripartite committee to work out retrenchment compensation scheme;

(b) the number of labourers retrenched by the National Textile Corporation management during each of the last three years, mill-wise.

(c) the main reasons for their retrenchment and whether the payment of all the dues has been made to the retrenched labourers; and

(d) the total amount of subsidy provided by the Government to these mills during the above period for the payment, year-wise and mill-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) National Textile Corporation has not retrenched any workers.

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

[Translation]

Schemes of U.P. for World Bank Assistance

3680. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans provided to Government of Uttar Pradesh for various World Bank aided projects in the State during the last two years, project-wise;

(b) the amount left unutilised in each case;

(c) the details of the schemes submitted by the Government of U.P. pending with the Union Government for World Bank assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). A list of projects committed for World Bank assistance in Uttar Pradesh for the years 1990-91 and 1991-92, and the unspent balance as on 30.6.92 is given at Statement.

(c) and (d). The schemes under active consideration for World Bank assistance in the State of U.P. at present are at Statement-II. However, the timing and extent of commitment of the projects which would finally be committed for World Bank assistance would depend on actual progress in preparation, donor preferences and commitment availability.

STATEMENT-1

Sl. No.	Project	Undrawn Balance on 31.6.1992 (U.S. \$ Million)
1	2	3
1.	Technician Education	196.6
2.	Child Survival and Safe Motherhood	193.7
3.	National Aids Control	84.0
4.	Fish and Shrimp Culture	85.0

The above are National/Multi-state Projects with a component being implemented in Uttar Pradesh. The figures relate to the projects as a whole.

STATEMENT-II

Sr. No.	Project	Projected Outlay (US \$ million)	
1	2	3	
1.	U.P. Primary Education	200	
2.	U.P. Socio-Lands Reclamation Project	100	
3.	U.P. Public Tube-wells III	200	

[*English*]

Recruitment of Women in IAF

3681. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TIN-DIVANAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to recruit women in the Indian Air Force;

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

(c) the branches in which such recruitments are proposed to be made and the number of women likely to be appointed in each branch?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It has been decided to induct women in the officer cadre of the IAF on experimental basis. The candidates selected will be granted Provisional Short Service Commission which will be confirmed after 1 year. The engagement period will vary from 5 to 10 years in case of various branches. Grant of Permanent Commission will be subject to suitability of the officer and requirement of the IAF.

(c) The branches in which such recruitments are proposed to be made are Education, Administration, Meteorology, Accounts, Logistics, Flying (Pilot) - Transport stream,

Flying (pilot)-Helicopter stream, Flying (Pilot) - Navigation, Aeronautical Engineering (Mechanical) and Aeronautical Engineering (Electronics). A total number of 12 candidates have been selected and are undergoing training in Administration and Education branches. For the remaining branches, recruitment process has not yet started.

[*Translation*]

Trade with Asean Countries

3682. SHRIMATI SUMITRAMAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present trade position between India and Association of South East Asian Nation countries;

(b) whether any joint venture has been signed with these countries recently; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) According to data from Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics our total trade with Association of South East Asian Nation Countries was Rs. 5505.72 crores during 1991-92.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Eleven joint venture proposals for ASEAN countries have been accorded approvals since January, 1992. Details are as per statement enclosed.

JULY 31, 1992

STATEMENT*List of approved JVs upto 20th July, 1992*

Sl. No.	Name of the Indian company	Country	Field	Indian Equity	% age
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Euro Vista Trading Co. Ltd. Bombay	Singapore	Trading	\$S\$ 130,000	65%
2.	Kirtoskar Electric Co. Ltd. Bangalore	do-	Trading	\$S\$ 93,750	37.5%
3.	Capital Trust Ltd. New Delhi	do-	General Trade with sp. emphasis on Export of cotton yarn.	\$S\$ 83,000	49%
4.	Indian Telephone Industries Bangalore	do-	Manufacture of Telecom equipments.	US\$ 1,51,250	55%
5.	Advanic Oerlikon Ltd. Bombay	Malaysia	Mfr. of Welding Electrodes	M\$ 5,00,000	25%
6.	Titanium Equipment & Anode Mfg. Co. Ltd. Madras	do-	For fabrication of equipment out of exotic metals like titanium & tantalum & consultancy on energy saving & pollution control	M\$ 673,000	70%
7.	ATV Projects India Ltd. Bombay	do-	Sugar Factory	M\$ 20,00,000	50%
8.	Krishna Udyog Ltd. Calcutta	do-	Stainless Steel Kitchen ware	M\$ 1,00,000	50%

List of approved J/s upto 20th July, 1992

Sl. No.	Name of the Indian company	Country	Field	Indian Equity	% age
1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	S & S Power Switchgear	Malaysia	Switchgear, Circuit Breakers	M \$ 37,500	30%
10.	The Thirumangal Rubber Co. Ltd. Coimbatore	Thailand	Mfg of Centrifuged latex skim bloc	Baht 450,000	60%
11.	Indian Airlines New Delhi	-do-	Purchase of shares in the Aeronautics Radio of Thailand	Baht 1,79,000	

[*English*]**Allocation of Janata Cloth to Bihar**

3683. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target of allocation of Janata Cloth to States is fixed on the basis of handloom operating in the States and their previous production capacity;

(b) if so, the annual production in this regard in Bihar during each of the last two years;

(c) the annual allocation of Janata Cloth made to Bihar during each of the last two years and the proposed target for 1992-93; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure easy availability of Janata Cloth to the poor people in rural areas of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The production of janata cloth in Bihar during the years 1990-91 and 1991-92 has been estimated at 12.00 million square metres and 11.64 million square metres respectively.

(c) the target of janata cloth allotted to Bihar during the last two years and during current year are as follows:

Year	<i>Target of production (in million square metres)</i>
1990-91	42.16
1991-92	24.00
1992-93	21.50

(d) The State Government who are entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring delivery of janata cloth to the target group have been directed by Government of India to take effective steps for ensuring distribution of janata cloth to people living below the poverty line. Guidelines for distribution of janata cloth provide that not less than 75% of cloth shall be sold to target group in rural areas. Care is taken to identify such agencies which have distribution outlets in gram panchayats and rural areas.

Investment of Provident Fund in Banks

3684. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific investment policy followed in respect of the Investment of Provident Fund in different banks;

(b) if so, the guidelines in charging the interest rate;

(c) whether the rate of interest offered for the investment of Provident Fund is different in different banks; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to issue guidelines to all banks to follow uniform policy in charging the interest on the investment of provident fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: (a) Provident Funds recognised under the Income Tax Act are required to deposit their funds in Post Office savings bank account or in a current account with any scheduled bank. Funds not so deposited are to be invested as under:

(i) not less than 15% in securities issued by a State Government or guaranteed by a State Government; and

(ii) not exceeding 85% in Special De-

posit Scheme of Central Government.

(b) Central Government pays interest at 5.5% per annum on balances in Post Office Savings Bank account. Banks do not pay interest on current accounts.

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

Loans from South Korea

3685. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have sought loans from South Korea recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether South Korean Government has rejected the guarantee of State Bank of India for the above loans;

(d) if so, whether the Government have been able to get the guarantee from any International Bank as directed by South Korea;

(e) if so, the names of the Banks; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f). Does not arise.

[Translation]

Smuggling in Coastal Areas of Gujarat

3686. SHRI CHITUBHAI GAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details and the value of smuggled goods and other contraband items seized in the seacoast areas of Gujarat border in Pakistan, during 1992 so far; and

(b) the number of smugglers arrested and the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). The quantity and value of gold and silver and the value of other contraband seized by the Customs authorities in Gujarat during the calender year 1992 (upto June) are given in the table below:-

	<i>Quantity (in kgs.)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in crores)</i>
Gold	152	6.74
Silver	20986.58	17.03
Others	—	0.90

In the one case reportedly booked off the coastal areas of Kutch District (Gujarat) near the Indo-Pakistan border, 75.725 kgs. of gold valued at Rs. 3.58 crores (approximately), have been seized. The gold was dumped in the sea and attached to a floating buoy. Since the gold was unclaimed, no person was arrested.

[English]

Rating Training Institutes

3687. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee on Maritime Education and Training has recommended to set up Rating Training Institutes in the country;

(b) if so, the places where these institutes are proposed to be set up; and

(c) the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Committee on Maritime Education and Training has recommended the following proposals for setting up Ratings Training Institutes in the country -

(i) The proposals of National Union of Seafarers' of India for setting up a new ratings training academy at Goa with an annual capacity to train 600 pre-sea and 300 post-sea ratings. The capacity for training pre-sea ratings should be further increased to 1200 per year by 1995.

(ii) The proposals of Foreign Owners and Shipmanagers Association for training of 360 pre-sea ratings at Bombay with the assistance of Bombay Port Trust, subject to standards of eligibility, training syllabus and other conditions.

(iii) The proposal for institutes at Paradip and in Kerala under the auspices of the Government should be left open until a review of the ratings' manpower is undertaken at the beginning of 1993.

(c) An Empowered Committee has been set up to examine the recommendations of the Committee on Maritime Education and Training. A final decision on the recommendations will be taken after the examination by the Empowered Committee.

Establishment of Profit Centres by MMTC.

3688. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVISINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether MMTC has undertaken a programme to establish profit centres;

(b) if so, the main objective in setting up of such centres;

(c) whether there is a need to restructure the MMTC; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objective of setting up of such profit centres by the MMTC is to make quality management concept as a day-to-day feature in MMTC's operations.

(c) and (d). With the decanalisation of a number of items under the new Export and Import Policy, there is a need for MMTC to restructure itself into specific profit centres in order to compete with private trade. Improvement of quality management, identification of new markets/products and registration with Confederation of Indian Industries for quality improvement and training requirements are some of the steps taken in this regard by the MMTC.

Gold Policy Board

3689. SHRI HARIN PATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Gold Policy Board in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) the benefits likely to accrue from it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to(c). No such proposal is under consideration by Government.

Investment by Financial Institutions in Kerala

3690. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount deposited in Unit Trust of India, nationalised banks and Life Insurance

Corporation under Small Savings Scheme and other deposit schemes in Kerala during each of the last three years; and

(b) the amount invested in various development projects out of these deposits in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). The data reporting system does to generate the information in the manner asked for. However, as per the report of the Reserve Bank of India, the amount of aggregate deposits and gross credit on the last Friday of March, 1990, 1991 and 1992 in the Public Sector Banks in Kerala and CD Ratio for the same period were as under:

(Rs. in crores)

<i>As on last Friday of</i>	<i>Deposit</i>	<i>Credit</i>	<i>C:D Ratio (%)</i>
March '90	5037	3211	63.7
March '91	5934	3483	58.7
March '92	7084	3607	50.9

Further, the amount of assistance sanctioned and disbursed by Unit Trust of India &

Life Insurance Corporation in Kerala during the last 3 years 1988-89, 1989-90 & 1990-91 (latest available) was as under:-

JULY 31, 1992

(Rs. in crores)

	1988-89			1989-90			1990-91		
	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Sanctioned	Disbursed	Sanctioned
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
Unit Trust of India	2.8	4.3	1.7	1.8	2.2	1.0			

Life Insurance Corporation
of India (Direct Assistance)

Supply of Cotton Yarn to Weavers In Punjab

3691. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton yarn supplied or proposed to be supplied to the weavers during each month of the current financial year and the names of the agencies through which the supply is to be made;

(b) whether the quantity supplied/to be supplied is sufficient to meet the requirement of the weavers in the State;

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government to assist the handloom weavers of Punjab in view of the rising prices of cotton yarn, dyes and chemical; and

(d) the assistance provided by the Union Government to the weavers of Punjab during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Government do to directly supply cotton yarn to the weavers in the country. The State Handloom Agencies with financial assistance from Central Government are undertaking supply of cotton yarn to the weavers, in addition to the private sources of supply. The National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) is also supplementing the efforts of the State agencies.

(b) There is no problem in the availability of cotton yarn in Punjab.

(c) Government of India is implementing a number of schemes of standing nature for ensuring adequate availability of yarn to the handloom weavers at reasonable prices. These schemes include on (i) Hank yarn Obligation order which requires every

producer of yarn to pack atleast 50% of their marketable yarn in the hank form; (ii) Loan assistance for setting up of new and expansion of the existing weavers cooperative spinning mills and for their modernisation; and (iii) Scheme for supply of yarn to handloom weavers at mill-gate prices. In addition a number of fiscal concessions have been extended to the inputs used in the handloom sector.

(d) The following are the details of financial assistance provided to Government of Punjab during the last three years for the development of handloom sector in the State.

Year	(Rs. In lakhs) Amount released
1989-90	32.21
1990-91	50-62
1991-92	43.86

[Translation]

Sainik Schools in Bihar

3692. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places in Bihar where Sainik schools have been set up so far;

(b) the number of students who have been studying there and the expenditure incurred on them during last three years;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open more Sainik schools in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The Sainik Schools Society has only one Sainik School in Bihar. It is at Tilaiya.

(b) The strength of Sainik School, Tilaiya and the expenditure incurred by the school during the Accounting years 1988-89 to 1990-91 are as follows:-

Year	Strength including Day-scholars	Expenditure in Rs. lakh
1988-89	925	103.75
1989-90	933	112.15
1990-91	958	116.90

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

(d) Does not arise.

Loans to West Bengal

Foreign Assistance for Projects

3693. SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some countries including Germany and France have proposed to provide assistance for some projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the States where these projects are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir. Many donor countries, including Germany and France, have proposed to provide project related assistance to India.

(b) and (c). The spatial distribution of the project area in various states of the country to be covered under any new project likely to be established with foreign assistance, would depend on aid requirements, detailed project preparation, donor preferences and commitment availability.

3694. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans demanded by the Government of West Bengal during each of the last three years and the amount given to the State Government, year-wise;

(b) whether the amount of loan given was less than the demand made; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) There was no request from the Government of West Bengal for loans in 1989-90. However, in 1990-91 the State Government asked for a medium term loan of Rs. 200 crores to enable the State to protect their plan expenditure and to incur expenditure in priority sectors. In the following year i.e 1991-92, the State Government requested for a medium-term loan of Rs. 200 crores for protecting their plan outlay for that year. They also pressed for a plan loan of Rs. 135 crores outside the Gadgil Formula for funding the Annual Plan for 1991-92.

(b) and (c). The request for a loan of Rs.200 crores in 1990-91 was not accepted to because of Centre's own ways and means difficulties. The requests for loans during 1991-92 were also not agreed upon as the Centre had, by then, initiated steps for restoration of fiscal balance.

[*Translation*]

Collections under small savings schemes in Delhi.

3695. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected under small savings schemes in Delhi during the last financial year;

(b) the target fixed in this regard for the current financial year and the percentage increase therein as compared to the target for last year; and

(c) the extent to which this target has been achieved so far during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Provisional figures of net collections under small savings schemes in Delhi during 1991-92 are placed at Rs. 147.51 crores. These exclude net collections through banks from Public Provident Fund Scheme and Deposit Schemes for Retiring Employees, which become available after a time lag.

(b) Central Government's estimates of small savings collections shown in the Union Budget do not have a State/Union-territory-wise disaggregation. However for planning purposes, certain internal targets are adopted by State Governments and Union Territories administration. Delhi Administration has

adopted an internal target of r.489 crores for 1992-93 representing an increase of 15% over the revised target of Rs.425 crores for 1991-92.

(c) The net small savings collections in Delhi excluding Public Provident Fund and Deposit Schemes for Retiring Employees through banks during the current financial year upto May 1992 amounted to Rs. 32 lakhs.

[*English*]

Meetings Held by National Road Safety Council

3696. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings held by the National Road Safety Council during 1992; and

(b) the details of the recommendations made therein and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No meeting of the National Road Safety Council has been held in 1992.

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

Financial Position of Public Sector Units

3697. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector units functioning under his Ministry indicating the

details of their profit or loss during each of the last three years;

(b) whether a large number of units are running in losses;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps contemplated by the Gov-

ernment to make those units economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) There are 9 Public Sector units functioning under the Ministry of Textiles. Details of profit and loss for these PSUs are as under:

Name of PSUs	1988-90	1990-91	1991-92	Profit (+) / Loss (-)
	0	1	2	3

National Textile Corporation Limited	.203.53	• 191.58		.321.21 (P)
National Handloom Development Corporation	+1.2923	+1.3745		+0.0631
British India Corporation		.31.36		.21.30
Cotton Corporation of India Limited	+23.24	+62.85		+32.07 (F)
National Jute Manufactures Corporation	.53.47	.65.18		.60.00 (P)
Jute Corporation of India Limited	+21.18	+25.23		NA.
Central Cottage Industries Corporation	+0.4721	+1.203		+0.6975
North Eastern Handicraft and Handloom Development Corp.	.0.1538	• 0.4653		.0.1736 (P)
Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation	+0.11			+0.13

(P - Provisional; E - Estimated)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Reasons for losses incurred are as under:

(i) due to obsolete machinery

(ii) low productivity

(iii) excess labour force

(iv) lack of adequate funds for modernisation

(v) non-availability of essential raw materials

(vi) heavy interest burden etc.

(d) The Public Sector Undertakings have prepared a strategy to revitalise the mills which involves modernisation, labour rationalisation, financial restructuring etc.

Silk Yarn

3698. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will

the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of silk production damaged due to pebrine disease during the last six months, State-wise; and

(b) the rate of import duty being charged on Chinese raw silk yarn at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The pebrine disease, which affects silk cocoons production, was reported in the major silk producing States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh & Tamil Nadu from the month of July, 1991 onwards. Immediately, the Central Silk Board and the concerned State Governments had taken remedial measures and the disease was brought under control in these States in the month of February, 1992.

The quantum of cocoons transacted in the Government cocoon markets of each of these States during the period January to June, 92 as also during the corresponding period of the last calender year are as under:-

	January-June, 91	(in tonnes) January-June, 92
Karnataka	24,914	23,960
Andhra Pradesh	3,036	3,521
Tamil Nadu	598	869

These States have not yet furnished the raw silk production figures for the period January-June, 1992.

(b) The rate of import duty on raw silk yarn (including Chinese yarn) is 30% advalorem.

New Container Terminal at Calcutta Port

3699. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta Port Trust

propose to set up a new container Terminal with the assistance of Asian Development Bank;

facilities will be similar to CPT's pattern.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Trade Unions concerned were consulted on this issue; and

(d) if so, their reaction to this and how far it is in consonance with the CPT's pattern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes Sir. Calcutta Port Trust are setting up container handling facilities with the assistance of the Asian Development Bank.

(b) The sanctioned cost of the scheme is Rs.24.37 crores and the Asian Development Bank is giving a loan of 6.4 million US Dollars. The ADB loan will be utilised for procurement of mechanical equipment as well as computers.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The Trade Union have welcomed the commissioning of the container handling facilities. Working of the container handling

Production in Units of NTC and BIC Ltd., Kanpur

3701. SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production, their value and quantity that have been achieved in the mills under the National Textile Corporation and British India Corporation limited located in Kanpur during the last year;

(b) whether the units working under these two Corporations are being totally neglected in the matter of supply of raw materials and imports;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The details of production in the mills under National Textile Corporation and British India Corporation located in Kanpur, during 1991-92, are given below:-

S.No.	Name of the mills	PRODUCTION		
		Quantity	Cloth (lac. mtrs)	Yarn (lac. kgs)
<i>National Textile Corporation</i>				
1.	Muir Mills	39.67	1.40	4.97
2.	New Victoria Mills	32.80	-	4.85
3.	Swadeshi Cotton Mills	39.13	1.04	5.29
4.	Laxmirattan Cotton Mills	21.38	0.63	3.36

S.No.	Name of the mills	PRODUCTION		Value (Rs. in crores)
		Quantity Cloth (lac. mtrs)	Yarn (lac. kgs)	
5.	Atherton Mills	3.14	0.01	0.24
<i>British India Corporation</i>				
1.	Cawnpore Woolen Mills	10.73	-	15.10
2.	Elgin Mills	162.80	-	23.13
3.	Cawnpore Textiles	99.48	-	15.99

(b) to (d). The mills owned by National Textile Corporation and British India Corporation in Kanpur are faced with problem of resource constraints, lack of modernisation, low capacity utilisation and surplus labour. The non availability of working capital has led to reduction in purchase of raw material etc. NTC and BTC have prepared strategies to revitalise these mills which involves modernisation, labour rationalisation, financial restructuring etc.

Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd.

3702. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oriental Insurance Company Ltd., has resumed its business operations in the war-ravaged Gulf State of Kuwait;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Company has earned some foreign exchange through post war reconstruction works; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. has resumed business operations w.e.f. 20th July, 1991.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The Company has earned Gross Direct Premium of KD 581,636 upto June, 1992 which includes the premium earned during the post war reconstruction work also.

[Translation]

Operation of CARGO Ship on National Waterway No. 1

3701. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRASPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operation of cargo ship and LCT steamer on Allahabad-Haldia route of National Waterway No.1 on the river Ganga has been stopped with effect from 1st June, 1992;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposed to

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

re-operate this ship; and

(b) to (e) Do to arise.

(d) If so, the details thereof?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The LCT ferry service between Kahalgaon and Karagola was stopped by Central Inland Water Transport Corporation from 1st June, 1992 since the Company was incurring huge loss on this service. Ferry service is primarily a State subject and they have accordingly been informed to take action as deemed fit.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Monitoring of New Scrips

3704. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to monitor jointly with the Reserve bank of India and the Planning Commission the new scrips hitting the stock markets;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal;

(c) whether the proposal has been put into action;

(d) if so, the results thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the proposal is likely to be put into action?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) There is no such proposal.

Non Supply of Jute to NJMC

3705. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jute Corporation of India has stopped the supply of jute to the mills of the National Jute Manufactures Corporations;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of mills affected thereby, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) JCI is ready to supply raw jute to NJMC in accordance with mutually agreed terms and conditions.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

[*English*]

Insurance Claims Settled by GIC

3706. PROF. (SMT) RITA VERMA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S.
CHAUHAN:
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:
SHRI N.K. BALIYAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

the number of claims filed and settled by the General Insurance Corporation during 1991-92 in each State and how do these figures compare with the figures of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): General Insurance Corporation of India underwrites Aviation Insurance Business of India and Indian Air Lines. The Four subsidiary companies transact General Insurance Business all over the country. Sta-

tistics of Claims Intimated and Settled by companies is not compiled statewise. No. of Claims intimated and settled by General Insurance Corporation of India, Bombay and its four subsidiary companies during 1991-92 and the previous three years is given below:-

Year	No. of Claims Intimated		No. of Claims Settled	
	G/C	Four Subsidiaries	G/C	Four Subsidiaries
1988-89 (15 months)	660	22,46,027	639	21,26,717
1989-90	609	19,07,756	526	18,22,810
1990-91	635	19,95,094	511	20,35,067
1991-92	711	20,66,454*	724	20,09,626*

[*Translation*]

and (b) above vacant as on June 1, 1991;

Top Posts In Banks

3707. SHRI JAGMER SINGH BRAR:
SHRI S.B. THORAT:
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:

(d) the additional posts which fell vacant during 1991-92;

(e) the number of posts which were filled during that year; and

(f) the reasons for the continuance of vacancies, if any?

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Chairmen, Chairman-cum-Managing Directors and Managing Directors in the public sector banks as on June 1, 1991;

(b) the number of posts of Directors in those banks, excluding the ex-officio Directors, as on the above date;

(c) the number of posts mentioned in (a)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FIANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (f). The relevant information in regard to the posts of Chairman, Chairman and Managing Director and Managing Director in respect of the State Bank of India and the 20 nationalised banks where the Central Government is the appointing authority is furnished in the attached statement. Government have already initiated necessary steps to fill up the vacancies.

STATEMENT

20 nationalised banks

State Bank of India

1 2 3

Number of posts of Chairman/Chairman and Managing Director/Managing Director that can be appointed as per the statute.

(i) Chairman and Managing Director
one in each bank

(ii) Managing Director -
Not more than two.

Number of posts of non-official directors that can be appointed as per the statute.

(i) Chairman and Managing Director -
Not less than two and not more than six.

Number of posts of Chairman/Chairman and Managing Director/Managing Director and non-official directors vacant as on 16.1.1991.

(i) Chairman and Managing Director - 4
(ii) Non-official directors - 80

Number of posts of Chairman/Chairman and Managing Director/Managing Director and non-official directors which fell vacant from 26.1.1991 to 30.6.1992.

(i) Chairman and Managing Director - 1
(ii) Non-official directors - Nil

Number of posts of Chairman/Chairman and Managing Director/Managing Director and non-official directors filled up during the period from 2.6.1991 to 30.6.1992.

(i) Chairman and Managing Director - 1
(ii) Non-official directors - Nil

[English]

C.R.F. Share for Maharashtra

3708. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Government of Maharashtra regarding its share of Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The Parliament had adopted a Revised Resolution about augmentation of the Central Road Fund on 13.5.88, but actual augmentation of the Fund on this basis has not taken place so far. However, against the free balance of Rs. 10.58 crores available for Maharashtra on 31.3.92 as per Old Resolution of CRF, 42 schemes costing Rs. 17.70 crores sponsored by the State Govt. on priority basis were approved, subject to the condition that cost over and above Rs.10.58 crores will be met by the State Govt. from their own Plan resources.

Widening of N.H. No.4

3709. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether conversion into four lane of National Highway No.4 from Km. 43 to Km. 67 stretch is proposed to be undertaken during 1992-93;

(b) if so, the time schedule fixed for the same;

(c) the allocations made for the Projects; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRASPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) Development works on National Highways are taken up depending on overall priorities and availability of resources. There is no provision for this work in Annual Programme 1992-93.

[*Translation*]

Posts of Judges in Motor Accident Claim Tribunals in Delhi

3710. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some posts of judges in Motor Accident Claim Tribunals in Delhi are lying vacant since long;

(b) if so, the names of the Tribunals where these posts are lying vacant and since when; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill up these posts for expeditious disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-

(i) MACT, Tis Hazari since 27-5-1991.

(ii) MACT, Patiala House since 30-5-1991.

(iii) MACT, Shahdra since 4-6-1991.

(c) The Delhi Administration advertised in the news-papers for filling up the posts of Presiding Officers of the MACTs on 29-4-1992. The last date for receipt of the applications was 15-5-1992. Further action to select the candidates is being taken by Delhi Administration.

[English]

Appointment of Notaries in Karnataka

3711. SHRIG. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of notaries appointed by the Union Government and the State Government separately, practising in Karnataka as on date;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase their number during 1992-93; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As on 27.10.92, 28 notaries appointed by the Central Government and 65 notaries appointed by the State Government are practising as notaries in the State of Karnataka.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Criminal Cases Pending in Supreme Court

3712. SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of criminal cases pending in Supreme Court as on date; and

(b) the efforts being made to clear the backlog expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINSTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). As per information received from the Supreme Court, as on 30.6.92, 5260 criminal cases were pending in that Court. The Supreme Court has streamlined the listing procedures with the help of Computer which ensures that proper priority is given to old cases. Cases involving common question of law are being grouped together and posted before the same Bench. The Benches are also being so constituted that they function for longer period and work is so allotted that similar matters are posted before the same Branch. Besides, the pendency position is being monitored constantly and the list of business and the Constitution of Benches are so arranged as to maximise disposal without compromising on decision making process.

Protection Force for Banks

3713. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Protection Force to protect the property of banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does to arise.

(c) The banks have generally been implementing instructions/guidelines regarding security arrangements issued by the Government of India/Reserve bank of India/ Indian Bank's Association from time to time. Security measures implemented by public sector banks are also reviewed on an on-going basis.

[*Translation*]

Export of Fruits and Vegetables

3714. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:
 SHRI VILASRAO NAG-
 NATHRAO GUNDE-
 WAR:
 SHRI DHARMANNA MON-
 DAYYA SADUL:
 SHRI SOBHNADREES-
 WARA RAO VADDE:
 SHRI BAPU HAR CHAURE:
 SHRI ANAND RATNA
 MAURYA:
 SHRIMATI CHANDRA
 PRABHA URS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the fruits, their products and vegetables exported during each of

the last two years and the current year so far and proposed to be exported during the remaining period of 1992-93, alongwith the quantity of each item;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned and proposed to be earned therefrom during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage the exports of fruits and vegetables and also to ensure that these products are easily available at reasonable prices to the consumers in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) and (b). The major fruits exported are mangoes, grapes, apples, pomegranates, watermelon etc. The onions and okra and among the major vegetables exported from India. The processed fruits and vegetables products exported from India are canned and bottled fruits and fruit juices such as mango pulp, guava pulp, papaya pulp, pickles and chutneys.

The details of quantity and value of these items exported during the last two years and likely to be exported during the current year are as under:-

Qty. in M's Val. Rs. Lakhs

1990-91

1992-93

1992-93

April, 92-May, 92"

1991-92"

June 92-March, 93"

(Target)

	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Fruits 46849 5199 60000 7200 3094 486 469948 40055
 Vegetables 267648 10679 420000 21500 76958 3061 Included in Fruits
 Processed & 36748 4806 47000 7500 670 169 49680 11062
 Fruits & Vegetables Products

(including vegetables)

DGCS" Provisional based on Party Returns" Targets.

Source:

To boost exports of fruits and vegetables major products, Agricultural and processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) extends financial assistance to the exporters for various developmental schemes, participates in International Food Exhibitions and conducts buyer-seller meets. In the case of items of mass consumption, restrictions such as quantitative ceilings or a complete ban on export of agricultural products are stipulated where necessary.

[*English*]

Central Silk Board

3715. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have since streamlined the functioning of the Central Silk Board in order to promote silk production;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to boost the silk production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). The functioning of the Central Silk Board and progress of various schemes being implemented by the Board is reviewed periodically and, as and when necessary, steps are taken to ensure smooth functioning/implementation of the programmes of the Board.

The steps being taken to boost the production of silk include bringing additional area under mulberry, introduction of new varieties of mulberry, improving silkworm seed quality, development of new varieties of

silkworm races, effective disease control measures etc.

Development of Minor Ports as Major Ports

3716. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK:
SHRI V. SOBHA NADREES-
WARA RAO VADDE:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the name of minor/intermediate ports proposed to be developed as major ports during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Orissa for development of Gopalpur port as an all weather port; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISHTYTLER): (a) Government is not considering any such proposal.

(b) No formal proposal has been received. However, in September 1990, State Government has requested for ADB assistance for this Port.

(c) Government did not find the proposal of ADB assistance feasible.

National Export Insurance Fund

3717. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a national export insurance fund to cover large value exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the benefits likely to accrue therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd. (ECGC) have submitted a proposal for setting up a National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) for underwriting those large value export business and high risk transactions which cannot be insured on its own account on commercial considerations, but which need to be supported from the point of view of long-term national interest.

Alleged Evasion of Customs Duty

3718. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:
SHRI ANIL BASU:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3943 on March 20, 1992 and state:

(a) whether investigations into the alleged evasion of customs duty has since been completed;

• (b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) the particulars of persons found guilty in this regard; and

(d) the action taken against each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-

WAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Show cause notices have so far been issued to two firms, namely, M/s. Rajendra Brothers and M/s. N.S. Overseas and seven other persons for alleged violation of the conditions of the Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate with regard to duty free import of zinc ingots during 1991. The notices seek to confiscate the 175 metric tonnes of zinc ingots and impose penalties on the firms/persons concerned. It also demands payment of customs duty of Rs. 1,04,69,503 (alongwith interest) which is alleged to have been evaded. The show cause notices will be decided upon in quasi-judicial proceedings.

Export-Import Plans of Industrial Houses

3719. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have asked large industrial houses to present their export and import plans for the current year to boost export;

(b) if so, the details of such large industrial houses which have submitted their plans to the Government;

(c) whether the Government have since examined their plans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the exports are likely to be increased as a result thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-

MAN KURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) List of the 18 Large Industrial Houses with whom meetings have been held so far is placed in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d). The export projections for coming years have been discussed with these large Industrial Houses and it is expected that their exports will be up substantially.

STATEMENT

1. Larsen & Toubro Group
2. I.C.I. Group
3. Thapars Group
4. Ranbaxy Group
5. Bajaj Auto
6. Britannia
7. Mahindra & Mahindra Group
8. Arvind Mafatlal Group
9. Mukand Group
10. Ashok Leyland
11. M.R.F. Group
12. H.S. Singhania Group
13. Kirloskar Group
14. I.T.C. Group
15. Usha Martin Group
16. Arvind Lalbhai Group
17. V.K. Modi Group
18. Hindustan Lever Group

Goa - Bombay National Highway

3720. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the amount spent for the repairs and maintenance of Goa-Bombay National Highway via Mahad during 1991-92 and 1992-93 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): As reported by the State Governments of Maharashtra and Goa the following amounts have been spent on repair and maintenance of this portion of NH 17 during the periods indicated below:

1991-92	Rs. 357.72 lakhs
1992-93 (upto June, 1992)	Rs. 15.94 lakhs

Import of Plants and Equipments by Burma.

3721. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: SHRI RATILAL VARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Burma propose to import plants and equipments from India; and

(b) if so, the details and value of the plants and equipments proposed to be imported by Burma during 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Govt. of India.

(b) Does to arise in vie of (a) above.

Development of National Waterways during Eighth Plan

3722. DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the achievements made by the Inland Waterways Authority during the last three years;

(b) the details of the national waterways proposed to be developed during the Eighth plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Navigation channels of 1.5 metre depth ad 45 metres width in Haldia-Ballia Stretch of National Waterway No.1 and 2 metres depth and 45 metres width in Dhubri-Gamari Stretch of National Waterway No.2 were provided. In both the National Waterways, the channels were marked to facilitate day navigation and pilotage was provided. Fortnightly river notices were issued for safety of navigation. Further, data were collected and analysed to study the river morphology which is essential for planning future development works. A scheme for construction of a cargo handling terminal at Patna at an estimated cost of Rs.4.90 crores was formulated which was sanctioned by the Government in September, 1991. The Authority had also formulated schemes for terminal facilities at Calcutta and 24 hours navigation facilities between Calcutta and Farakka on National Waterway No.1 and from Guwahati upto Bangladesh Border in National Waterway No.2.

Hydrographic surveys and techno-economic feasibility studies were carried out in various stretches of West Coast Canal, Brahman, Godavari and Krishna rivers.

(b) Kollam-Kottapuram Stretch of the West Coast Canal, alongwith the Champakara and Udogmandal canals would be developed as a new National Waterway during the 8th Plan. The Allahabad-Haldia Stretch of National Waterway No.1 and Sadiya-Dhubri stretch of National Waterway No.2 would continue to be developed further.

Tea Prices

3723. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of some of the finest tea produced in the country are prohibitively high;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the finest tea produced in the country is mostly exported;

(d) if so, the names of the countries which import the tea in large quantities; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down the process of the tea in domestic market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Prices of certain finest quality teas produced in India is significantly higher than the average of good/common teas produced in the country.

(b) Reasons attributable are the superiority in quality and flavour as well as forces of supply and demand.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Germany and Japan are the importers of finest tea from India.

(e) Average price of tea at the Indian

auctions during 1992 has been lower than during the last year.

[*Translation*]

SC/ST Posts Vacant in NTC

3724. SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATH RAO GUNDEWAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SC/ST posts lying vacant in National Textiles Corporation during the last three years, category-wise and year-wise;

(b) the number of posts among them filled up by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates;

(c) the number of SC/ST posts lying vacant during the current financial year; and

(d) the steps being taken to fill up these posts expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLLOT): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Use of Compressed Natural Gas in Transport Sector

3725. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRASPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the possibilities have been identified to use compressed natural gas in transport sector;

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

(c) whether the Government have formulated a comprehensive scheme to use compressed natural gas in transport sector; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRIJAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). Use of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in the road Transport Sector is still in the experimental stage. The focus in the beginning would be on the use of CNG in petrol driven vehicles, as financially CNG would be attractive to the consumers. The Ministry of Petroleum have approved the first phase of the proposal covering 220 petrol powered vehicles to run on CNG on experimental basis.

On account of the price factor and inadequacy of technical data, the question of replacement of diesel by CNG needs further techno-economic examination. In Delhi five DTC buses would be converted to run on CNG-diesel dual fuel mode on an experimental basis this year. The Madras Refineries Ltd. has also taken up a pilot project to convert on an experimental basis 10 buses and the first bus started operating on CNG-diesel dual fuel mode from 22.3.92. 6 more buses have since been converted and are in operation.

The techno-economic feasibility of large scale use of CNG in road transport sector would depend on the technical and economical results of these experiments.

[*English*]

Agro-Export Policy

3726. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to make some major changes in

the existing agro-export policy;

[*Translation*]

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any emphasis has been given on the promotion of agricultural products from the eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Government have already taken a series of measures to improve policy environment for exports. These measures have been further reinforced by the new Import-Export Policy, which has come into force with effect from 1st April 1992 for a period of five years.

(c) and (d). Large Cardamom and Shellac are the two agricultural products which are produced pre-dominantly in the Eastern region. Spices Board has set up its offices in Calcutta and Sikkim and the Shell Export Promotion Council has its headquarters at Calcutta to extend all possible help to export these items from the Eastern region.

Repair of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

3727. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRASPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposals from Madhya Pradesh for repair of National Highways in the State pending with the Union Government at present;

(b) since when these proposals are pending; and

(c) the action taken by the Government so far on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFAC TRASPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Details of estimates for repair of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh pending with the Ministry are given in the attached statement.

(c) The estimates are at various stages of processing and the final decision will depend upon necessity of the work and availability of funds.

JULY 31, 1992

STATEMENT

S. No.	Details of Estimate	Amount	Date of Receipt	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Abstract particular estimate for the maintenance and repairs of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh for the year 1992-93	Rs. 1964.00 lakhs	30.3.92	An interim release of Rs. 516.32 lakhs has already been made so far during 1992-93 for maintenance of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh.
2.	Special Repair estimate for reconstruction of damaged protection wall of Pariy Nullah Bridge in Km. 33888 on NH-6.	Rs. 2.761 lakhs	16.4.92	
3.	Special Repair estimate for pipe railing of crossing in Km. 3158 NH-6.	Rs. 0.804 lakhs	24.7.92	

Raids Conducted by Customs Department on Export Oriented Units

3728. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether officials of customs department recently raided the premises of some major export oriented units and found some irregularities;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cases of similar nature detected during 1991 and in 1992 till date; state-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Government against these units; and

(d) the steps being taken to check recurrence of such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Transportation of Crude Oil by Private Shipping Companies

3729. SHRI CHADULAL CHANDRAKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed private shipping companies to transport imported crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the companies to whom the permission has been granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Government formulated guidelines for the deployment of Indian flag vessels both in the Public and Private Sectors for carrying crude, in the year 1984, which were partially modified in 1985. The preferences for employment of vessels for transportation of crude are as under:-

(i) Indian Public Sector Tankers including VLOCs.

(ii) Indian Private Sector Tankers.

(iii) Indian Public Sector OBOs.

(iv) Indian Private Sector OBOs.

(v) Foreign Flag Tankers and OBOs.

(c) At present the vessels of M/s. Essar Shipping Company Limited, M/s. Great Eastern Shipping Company Limited and M/s. India Steamships Company Limited have been deployed for transportation of crude oil in addition to the vessels owned by Shipping Corporation of India Limited.

[*Translation*]

Pearls Manufacturing Firms of Varanasi

3730. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Pearls manufacturing firms in Varanasi have taken more loans, as compared to their business, from the overseas branch of the State bank of India, Varanasi and from some other banks at the minimum rate of interest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these firms have left more than sixty export bills worth crores of rupees for the last several years in the foreign countries as outstanding and the foreign exchange has not yet been brought to the country;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action against the aforesaid frauds by these firms;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The State Bank of India has reported that no pearl manufacturing firm has been financed by its Overseas Branch, Varanasi. The Reserve Bank of India has also indicated that they too have no information similar finance having been provided by other commercial banks.

(b) to (f). Do not arise.

[English]

Admission of Students in IIFT

3731. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students admitted in the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade at the Post-Graduate, level during the last two years and proposed to be admitted during the current year, State-wise; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to accommodate more students in the Institute?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) In the two Foundational Programmes (Two year Master Pro-

gramme in International Business-MPIB and one year Post Graduate Diploma in International Trade-PGDP) 171 students in the last two years have been admitted. In the current year (1992), 82 students have been admitted. A statement indicating the details of the students admitted in the years 1990, 1991 and 1992 for MPIB and PGDP, statewise, is laid on the Table of the house.

(b) Besides the two Foundational Programmes, the Institute organises a number of shorter duration programmes in International Marketing and Business, Export Documentation and Procedures, Import Policy etc. Such Programmes are also held outside Delhi in places like Bombay, Bangalore, Calcutta etc. 95 such programmes have been organised during the last two years.

STATEMENT

Master Programme in International Business

<hr/> 1990 <hr/>	
West Bengal	4
Tamil Nadu	2
Delhi	19
UP	4
Rajasthan	2
Andhra pradesh	5
Punjab	1
Karnataka	2
Maharashtra	1
Bihar	2
Total	42

1991

Delhi	13
Punjab	3
West Bengal	5
UP	7
MP	1
AP	3
Manipur	1
Maharashtra	6
Bihar	3
Rajasthan	1
Tamil Nadu	2
Karnataka	1
Goa	1
Gujarat	1
Total	48

1992

Maharashtra	8
Gujarat	3
MP	3
West Bengal	6
UP	4
Delhi	16
Bihar	2

Tamil Nadu

Haryana	1
Orissa	1
Total	47

Post Graduate Diploma Programme in International Trade

1990

Delhi	14
Tamil Nadu	6
Rajasthan	2
Karnataka	1
AP	2
UP	9
Goa	1
Haryana	2
Kerala	1
Maharashtra	1
Bihar	1
Orissa	1
Total	41
1991	
Delhi	21
Bihar	1
Tamil Nadu	5

Andhra Pradesh	3
UP	3
Maharashtra	2
West Bengal	1
Punjab	1
Himachal Pradesh	1
Haryana	1
Rajasthan	1
Total	40

1992	
Delhi	5
Karnataka	2
Gujarat	3
Maharashtra	9
MP	1
Punjab	1
Rajasthan	2
West Bengal	2
Tamil Nadu	2
Bihar	4
Haryana	2
AP	2
Total	35

Import of Chemical

3732. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether massive quantities of chemicals, which if catches fire, emits poisonous gases like the MIC gas, are imported every year manufacture of foam material;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating names of the chemicals and quantities imported during each of the last three years;

(c) whether in view of the deadly nature of the gases Government propose to put a ban on such imports; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Mainly polyols, MDI and TDI are used in manufacture of polyurethane foams. The items, polyols and MDI are not separately classified under Indian Trade Classification on the basis of which foreign trade statistics of India are maintained. Quantities of TDI imported during last three years for which data are now available is as under:-

	<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (In tonnes)</i>
	1986-87	369
	1987-88	699
	1988-89	727

(c) and (d). Under Export-Import Policy, 1992-97 all items except those covered by Negative List of Imports of are freely allowed

except when they are regulated under any other law i force as give in para - 8 of the Policy. However, export-import policy is constantly kept under review and changes there in are made as and when considered necessary.

Separate High Court for Punjab and Haryana

3733. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH HOODA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up a separate High Courts for Punjab and Haryana States;

(b) the present strength of judges in the Punjab and Haryana High Courts as also the number of vacant posts of judges as on date;

(c) the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up; and

(d) the number of pending cases in the Punjab and Haryana High Court as on March 31, 1992?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRIK. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As on date, 29 Permanent/Additional Judges are in position in the Punjab and Haryana High Court against its sanctioned strength of 33 permanent/Additional Judges, leaving 4 vacancies of Addl. Judges to be filled up.

(c) The process of consultation envisaged in article 217(1) of constitution for appointments of Judges in the Punjab and Haryana High Court is on. However, it is not possible to indicate the time by which the vacant posts are likely to be filled up.

(d) According to the information received from the Punjab and Haryana High Court, there were 98,467 main/misc. cases pending in the High Court as on March 31, 1992.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Sick Textile Mills of M.P.

3734. DR. LAXIMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the policy adopted by the Union Government in providing loans or Central Assistance to the sick textile mills of the States to make them viable;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Madhya Pradesh to provide Central assistance to the sick textile mills of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) To make the sick textile mills viable, the financial institutions provide modernisation assistance.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Central Government have received requests from a few mills of Madhya Pradesh for providing loan for taking over the mills under the rehabilitation scheme submitted by the Mills' Management. The mills can approach the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI)/Banking Institutions for the grant of modernisation loan under Textile Modernisation Fund Scheme (TMFS) and for resumption of the banking operations.

Hydrographic Survey of Gandak and Kosi Rivers in Bihar

3735. SHRI LAL BABU RAI:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI
ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the hydrographic survey of Gandak and Kosi rivers in Bihar has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the percentage of work done so far; and

(d) the time schedule for completion of this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). A Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Govt. of Bihar costing Rs. 47.07 lakhs was sanctioned in October, 1986 for carrying out hydrographic survey of Gandak and Kosi rivers in Bihar. The scheme was to be implemented by the State Govt. and was scheduled to be completed by August, 1987. On river Gandak so far construction of 99 survey pillars out of 561 pillars i.e. 17 percent has been completed. On river Kosi, work has not yet started. The State Govt. have recently intimated that they hope to complete the work by November, 1992.

[English]

Export Target

3736. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with which exports

have increased during the last three years;

(b) the policy formulated by the Government for increasing the target of exports in future; ad

(c) the benefits likely to accrue therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MANKHURSHEED): (a) The principal countries in respect of which India's exports registered an increase during the period 1989-90 to 1991-92 include Belgium, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom, Sweden, Switzerland, Australia, Iran, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Hongkong, Nepal, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Canada, United States of America, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Poland etc.

(b) and (c). Several changes in trade policy were introduced since July, 1991, aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantive volume of import licensing and rationalising the import tariff structure. Rupee has been made partially convertible to encourage generation of foreign exchange. These steps have been further consolidated in the new Export Import Policy which, inter-alia, aims to promote productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian industry and thereby to enhance its export capabilities. These policies are in line with the 13.6% per annum growth of exports projected in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Recovery of Amount Owed by West Asian Countries to Indian Companies

3737. SHRID. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is finding it difficult to recover huge amount owed to its companies by some West Asian countries as reported in the 'Hindu' dated May 2, 1992;

(b) if so, the total amount each of these countries owe to India;

(c) the reasons for non-recovery of this amount; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Union Government to recover the money from these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) to (d). The approximate claims of Indian companies from Iran, Iraq and Libya, at current rates of exchange are, Rs.130 crore, Rs. 1870 crore and Rs.350 crore respectively. The principal reasons for non-realisation of these dues are economic difficulties of the countries concerned, problems concerning externalisation of money and, in the case of Iraq, United Nations sanctions too. Government of India is seized of the matter and has periodically take up the issue with the countries concerned.

[*Translation*]

Export Target

3738. DR. P. R. GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the targets of export in various fields fixed and achieved by the Government during the last three years;

(b) the target of export fixed for the current year and the except of increase made therein;

(c) the details of export targets alongwith

their value in rupee and dollar fixed for various fields during last year and the current financial year; and

(d) the effective steps being taken by Government to boost export and to achieve the target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The details of targets of export and achievement by principal sectors during the years 1989/90 and 1990/91 and export performance during 1991/92 is attached at statement-1. No export targets were set for the year 1991/92 due to uncertainties in the global trading environment, collapse of the erstwhile Soviet Union, and the timelag for the far reaching reforms initiated since July 1991 to have a real impact on exports.

(b) An export target of Rs. 57,850 crores is set for the year 1992/93 envisaging a growth of 31.5%.

(c) No export target was set for 1991-92. A statement indicating export targets for the year 1992/93, set by the Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards and accepted by the Government in rupee and dollar terms is attached at statement II.

(d) Several changes in trade policy were introduced since July 1991 aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and rationalising the import licensing and rationalising the import tariff structure. Rupee has been made partially convertible to encourage generation of foreign exchange. These steps have been further consolidated in the new Export Import Policy which, inter alia, aims to promote productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian industry and thereby enhance its export capabilities.

STATEMENT-I

India's export targets/achievements during 1989-90 to 1991-92

Sl. No.	Sector	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	
					1989-90	1990-91
1.	Plantation	1300	1264	1450	1322	1445
2.	Agricultural & Allied	2500	2672	3310	2891	4568
3.	Marine Products	840	687	850	960	1439
4.	Minerals & Ores	1600	1716	2350	1740	2287
5.	Leather & Leather Mts.	2000	1950	3000	2566	3077
6.	Gems & Jewellery	6300	5296	7000	5247	6750
7.	Sports goods	60	82	100	86	108
8.	Chemicals & Allied Products	3000	2670	4100	3189	4775
9.	Engineering goods	3000*	2775	3300	3443	4861
10.	Electronics & Computer Software		514	1500	483	642
11.	Textiles"	6600	6737	9600	9039	12470

Sl. No.	Sector	1990-91			1991-92		
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
12	Petroleum products	500	697	800	938	1022	

Total (Incl. Others)	28000	27681	36000	32553	40978

*Includes Electronics and computer software.

** Including raw cotton, handicrafts & carpets.

STATEMENT II**Export Targets for 1992-93**

	1992-93		US\$ Million
	Rs. Crores	1	
1.	Plantations	1600	557
2.	Agricultural & Allied Products	5748	2000
3.	Marine Products	1767	615
4.	Minerals & Ores	2700	940
5.	Leather & Leather Manufactures	4253	1480
6.	Gems & Jewelry	9300	3236
7.	Sports goods	86	30
8.	Chemicals & Allied Products	6385	222
9.	Engineering goods	5910	2057
10.	Electronics & computer software	1005	350

	1	2	3	4
	As. crores			
	US\$ Million			
11.	Textiles*	17796	6193	
12.	Petroleum Products	1300	452	
	Total (incl. others)	57850	20132	

*Including raw cotton, handicrafts and carpets

[*English*]

Monitoring Mechanism in Banks

3739. SHRI ANBARASU ERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any monitoring mechanism is available in the banking system for preventing misuse of the position by writing off huge sums without proper justification;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the guidelines laid down in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to have such a mechanism to avoid misuse of the power by the banking executives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINACE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that they have issued detailed guidelines to all public sector banks on write off of bad debts/losses and compromises with debtors/borrowers. These guidelines identify the issues to be taken into consideration before any amount is written off by the authorities. These guidelines stipulate inter-alia, that the authority which sanctions the advance in question should not write off the same. The guidelines also provide that all possible steps should be taken for recovery of the dues before deciding on write off/compromise. A statement of bad debts/losses written off is also required to be submitted to the Board of Directors periodically.

Loan from world Bank for Comprehensive Development Projects in States

3740. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan sanctioned by the

Worldbank for comprehensive development projects in the States;

(b) the names of such projects and amount sanctioned in each case;

(c) whether the Government also propose to contribute to these projects; and

(d) if so, the percentage of contributions to be made by the Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) No comprehensive development projects have been taken up in the States with the World Bank assistance.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Construction of Roads In Madhya Pradesh

3741. SHRI YOGANANDSARASWATI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received the estimates from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the construction of 14 States roads in 1984 and 61 State roads in 1985;

(b) if so, whether Government have accorded approval to these estimates; and

(c) if not, the time by which approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

World Bank Assistance for Road Sector

3742. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No.1498 on July 17, 1992 and state:

(a) the details of the projects for which World Bank has agreed to provide assistance, Statewise; and

(b) the amount likely to be provided by the World Bank project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The World Bank has agreed to provide loan/credit assistance equivalent to US \$306 million for 6 National Highway Projects in different States and one State Road Project in Orissa as indicated in the statement annexed.

STATEMENT

S.No.	State	Job Description	Preliminary estimated cost (in million Rs.)
1	2	3	4
A. National Highway Projects			
1.	Haryana	4-laning from Karnal upto Haryana/Punjab Border km. 132.68 - 212.16 of NH.1	1400.00
2.	Punjab	4-laning between Shimla & Punjab/Haryana border km. 212.2-252.25 of NH.1	730.00
3.	West Bengal	4-laning between Rantiganj & West Bengal/Bihar border km. 438.6-474.0 of NH.2	871.80
4.	Madhya Pradesh	(a) Construction of Indore bypass (NH.3) (b) 4-laning between Indore & Dewas km. 573.0 to 590.6 of NH.3	683.60 264.40
5.	Maharashtra	4-laning between Bassin Creek and Manor km. 439 to 497 of NH.8	1150.00
6.	Orissa	4-laning between Cuttack & Bhadrak km. 0.0 to 27.8 of NH.5	1267.40
		Total:	6667.20
B. State Road Projects			
1.	Orissa	Reconstruction of damaged bridges on State Roads	583.50
		Total:	

[Translation]

Loans to Sugar Mills by Financial Institutions

3743. SHRI CHHITUBHAIGAMIT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the outstanding amount against Public Sector Undertakings out of the loans sanctioned by financial institutions like Industrial Financial Corporation of India, Industrial Development Bank of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India and Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of loans outstanding against public sector sugar mills and private sugar mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The loan assistance by Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and Industrial Reconstruction bank of India (IRBI) outstanding in respect of public sector undertakings as at the end of March, 1990, 1991 and 1992 is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the Institution	31.3.90	31.3.91	31.3.92
IFCI	391.79	470.44	494.70
IDBI	1122.74	1321.70	1469.20
ICICI	110.53	99.39	117.57
IRBI	85.63	97.78	112.09

(b) Loan assistance by these institutions outstanding in respect of public and

private sector sugar mills as at the end of March, 1990, 1991 and 1992 is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

	31.3.90	31.3.91	31.3.92
IFCI	31.19	39.49	42.62
IDBI	10.24	33.50	72.10
ICICI	50.00	50.00	50.00
IRBI	6.74	13.19	16.13

Private Sector			
	31.3.90	31.3.91	31.3.92
IFCI	55.59	68.71	93.07
IDBI	54.25	99.80	157.54
ICICI	29.40	44.61	84.25
IRBI	23.20	29.55	34.16

[English]

Retrenchment of Employees in Indian Engineering Export Promotion Council

3744. SHRI ANAND AHIRWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation against the proposed retrenchment of employees of the Indian Engineering Export Promotion Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMANKHURSHEED): (a) to (c). Consequent to the Government decision to phase out Government Grant to the Export Promotion Councils over a number of years, certain representations apprehending retrenchment of employees of the Engineering Export Promotion Council were received. Engineering Export Promotion Council, however, has no plan to retrench its employees.

Special Funds for Welfare of Ex-Servicemen

3745. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are specific funds constituted for the welfare of ex-servicemen/widows/dependents;

(b) if so, the details of such funds with the names of the authorities administering the same;

(c) whether there is any committee for monitoring/controlling of the funds; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY O DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d). The following four Welfare Funds, operated by the Kendriya Sainik Board have been constituted for the welfare of ex-servicemen/widows/dependents:-

(i) Amalgamated Special Fund for War Bereaved, War Disabled and other Ex-Servicemen/Serving Personnel;

(ii) St. Dunstan's (India) and Kendriya Sainik Board Fund;

(iii) Flag Day Fund; and

(iv) Indian Gorkha Ex-Servicemen Welfare Fund.

The Funds at (i), (ii) and (iii) above are managed and monitored by Managing Committees headed by the Raksha Mantri. The Fund at (iv) above is managed and monitored by a Committee headed by the Defence Secretary.

Each State/Union Territory is also having its own Fund(s) for the purpose.

Central Road Fund for Maharashtra

3746. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHON-SALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes for which Central Road Fund has been allocated to Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) the project-wise amount provided during each of the above years ; and

(c) the schemes for which the C.R.F. is likely to be provided during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The Central Government does not make scheme-wise allocation of funds to the State Governments under C.R.F. Only a lump sum amount is placed at the disposal of States against the approved schemes. The following allocation of funds was made to the State Government of Maharashtra during the last three years:-

Year	Allocation (Rs. in lakhs)
1989-90	19.01
1990-91	4.50
1991-92	90.00

(c) it is too early to indicate the schemes to be considered for approval under C.R.F. during 1992-93, as it would depend *inter-alia* on augmentation of Fund as per Revised Resolution adopted by the Parliament on 13.5.88, free-balance available for the State of Maharashtra and proposals recommended by the State Government.

Branch Offices of Central Silk Board

3747. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHAR-GAVA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some branch offices of Central Silk Board in the country particularly in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year Plan for the development of sericulture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Regional Sericulture Research Stations, Technical Service Centres, Research Extension Centres, Seed Production Centres, Reeling spinning Demonstration-cum-Training Centres etc. are proposed to be set up for strengthening/ expansion of the existing country wide network of units set up for providing R&D, Extension, training & infrastructural support for development of sericulture industry in the

country. The proposals in respect to the State of Rajasthan include the establishment of the following:-

(i) 1 Research extension Centre for Tasar.

(ii) 1 Basic Seed-cum-Multiplication Centre for Tasar.

(iii) 1 Cocoon market and 22 Chawkie Rearing Centres under World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project (NSP).

(c) Does not arise.

Indo-Pak Trade Relations

3748. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVISINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to improve the trade relations with Pakistan;

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

(c) the areas in which Indo-Pak bilateral trade has been established?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. It has always been the endeavour of the Government to improve trade relations with Pakistan through bilateral discussions.

(c) India's exports to Pakistan broadly cover oil meals, spices, iron ore, paints and varnishes and engineering goods, while the principal imports from Pakistan are fruits and nuts excluding cashew nuts, textile yarn and made-up apparel.

Bilateral Agreement on Textiles/ Readymade Garments

3749. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any bilateral agreement with any country in the field of textiles/readymade garments during the last one year;

(b) if so, the names of countries with which bilateral agreement have been signed; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase the export of textile/readymade garments to these countries during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). India's bilateral textile agreements with United States of America, European Economic Community, Canada, Norway, Austria and Finland which were expiring on 31.12.91 were either got extended by one year with appropriate modifications or a new agreement for the year 1992 was entered into with provision for extension for one more year, as a result of the bilateral negotiations held during the period November-December, 1991.

(c) Government have taken a number of steps to increase exports like fixing of floor prices for quota items in terms of convertible currencies, introduction of Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System, facilitating import of new textile and garment machinery items without licensing requirements, liberalised Export Promotion (capital goods) Scheme, facilitating import of secondhand machinery required for manufacture of garments, hosiery and made-ups without licensing requirements, facilitating easier access to raw material of international quality through advance licence scheme, encouragement to manufacturer-exporters and non-quota exporters through appropriate policy measures etc.

[Translation]

CICI's Agreement with Swiss Bank

3750. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement for getting export credit facilities from the Central Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation has been signed with the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited; and

(b) if so, the value of credit facilities and the extent of percentage of these facilities likely to be made available for the import of capital goods from Switzerland?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). ICICI has entered into an agreement with Union Bank of Switzerland for an export credit facility of SF 20 million in April, 1992. The export credit from Swiss Bank Corporation has been approved by the Government of India and the agreement between ICICI and Swiss Bank Corporation is expected to be signed shortly. This facility is also for SF 20 million.

Both these facilities are available only for import of Capital Goods from Switzerland.

[English]

Vehicular Pollution

3751. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Drive to control auto emission suffers setback" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi dated July 15, 1992;

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

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the expert committee set up by the Central Pollution Control Board; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Central Pollution Control Board had constituted an Expert Committee to:-

(i) Suggest mass emission standards for 2-3 and 4 wheelers to be implemented from year 1995 and year 2000 AD with respect to Carbon Monoxide, Hydrocarbon and Oxides of Nitrogen.

(ii) to identify the nature of changes required in engine design and types of devices to be installed to meet the suggested standards.

The expert Committee have since submitted their recommendations on the emission standards and the technological changes required in design and type of devices to be installed to meet the suggested standards. No final decision has been taken on these recommendations.

Off-Shore Mutual Funds Schemes of LIC

3752. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has launched some off-shore mutual funds scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof with special features of the scheme;

(c) whether any desired results have

been achieved with the launching of this scheme; and

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

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Participation in Exhibitions Abroad

3753. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India Trade Promotion Organisation has decided to give some reliefs to India exporters for taking part in exhibitions held abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these reliefs are likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c). India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) is presently giving relief to Indian exporters for taking part in exhibitions held abroad varying from 20% to 80% of the total cost of participation which includes space rent, construction and decoration, freight, handling and clearing, insurance and publicity etc. Further, 10% concession on the subsidised rate is given to registered small scale industries participating in the fairs.

Lately, India Trade Promotion Organisation is also arranging participation of Indian companies in some of the events abroad on total cost recovery basis without any relief.

Defence Research Development Organisation

3754. SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major projects undertaken by the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) during the last ten years;

(b) the number of such projects which have been successful so far and the details of the notable achievements made;

(c) whether any cost-benefit analysis of the successful projects has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNAKUMAR): (a) During last 10 years, DRDO has undertaken 13 major projects each costing more than Rs.20 crores.

(b) Two major projects have been successfully completed which are Heavy Alloy Penetrator Project (HAPP) and Interim Test Range (ITR). Under HAPP, an automated factory for indigenous production of FSAPDS, which is highly lethal and accurate anti-tank ammunition, has been set up and handed over to DGOF. ITR, a fully instrumented test facility, has been set up and is being used for flight tests of rockets missiles and other systems.

(c) to (e). Cost-benefit analysis as appropriate in Defence Research & Development environment is carried out. However,

unlike socio-economic projects, the prime benefits sought from these projects include self reliance in critical technologies and these projects include self reliance in critical technologies and assurance of uninterrupted supplies of sophisticated state-of-the-art military hardware, unaffected by international arms control regime. The HAPP has already supplied the strategic FSAPDS ammunition worth several crores of Rupees to Services. ITR has been extensively used for flight tests of missiles, rockets and other systems.

[Translation]

Welfare Scheme for Junior Advocates

3755. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any nation-wide scheme for the welfare of junior advocates;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). A proposal to constitute an Advocate Welfare Fund at the national level was made earlier. This proposal was examined in 1990 and it was decided that the advocates themselves establish their welfare fund. However, Government is to review the earlier stand in this regard.

[English]

New Quota Policy on Fabric Exports

3756. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have

formulated a new quota policy for the garments, fabrics and textile exporters;

(b) whether the Government have also received any representation from any quarter against the said policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLLOT): (a) Garment Export Entitlement Distribution Policy (quota policy for garments) and Textile Export Entitlement Distribution Policy (quota policy for textiles) currently in force are long term policies announced in August, 1990, for the period 1991 to 1993. Based on the working of these policies during the year 1991, certain modifications were made in the two policies effective from 1.1.92.

(b) to (d). Government have received certain representations suggesting some changes in the policies for the year 1993. These suggestions will be taken into consideration at the time of review of the Policies.

Insurance Scheme for Weavers.

3757. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:]

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether an Insurance scheme for handloom weavers has been launched in Jammu & Kashmir recently;

(b) if so, whether the said scheme is likely to be introduced in other States also;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Government of India has introduced during the current financial year i.e 1992-93, a Group Insurance Scheme for handloom weavers throughout the country including Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) Under the scheme, a weaver will be provided an Insurance cover of Rs.10,000/- for annual premium @ Rs. 120/. This premium will be shared equally between the beneficiary, the Central Government and the State Government. The State Governments will have to identify agencies for implementation of the scheme, and would have to come up with appropriate demand for funds.

(d) Does not arise.

Losses in BIC Ltd.

3758. **SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:**
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British India Corporation Ltd has submitted a modified rehabilitation plan to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BIC has suffered heavy losses during the last three years;

(d) if so, the reason therefor; and

(e) the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). The British India Corporation Ltd has made a reference to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under Section-15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The BIC has been afflicted by severe working capital constraints, obsolete plant and machinery, non-availability of essential raw material, heavy interest burden, high cost of production, etc.

(e) The BIC has prepared a strategy to revitalise the mills which involves modernisation, labour rationalisation, financial restructuring, etc.

Advance Release of Revenue to States

3759. **DR. VASANT PAWAR:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to withhold release of revenue dues in advance to States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount being withheld, State-wise;

(d) the period upto which the Government propose to withhold these funds; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that States maintain their expenditure within limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Entitlements of the State Governments are being released by the Central Government on due dates.

The question of withholding the amounts which have not fallen due does not arise.

(b) to (d). Question does not arise.

(e) It is for State Governments to limit their expenditure within the framework of their receipts.

Export of Marine Products to European Community Markets

3760. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of marine products to European community markets have decreased during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to increase the export of marine products to European community markets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

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

Off Shore Mutual Funds

3761. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted the banks and financial institutions to float mutual funds in foreign countries;

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

(c) the names of the banks which have so far floated the off shore mutual funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-

WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Banks and financial institutions are permitted to launch off-shore mutual funds with the prior permission of Government and the Reserve Bank of India with a view to attracting foreign institutional investment to Indian capital market. There are presently for off-shore funds in operation, two funds sponsored by the Unit trust of India and two by nationalised banks.

(c) The banks which have so far launched the off-shore funds are State Bank of India and Canara Bank.

[Translation]

Import of Potassium Carbonate etc. by Firms In Varanasi

3762. SHRI RAJNATH SONKEAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under advance licence scheme only those raw goods of materials are imported which are used for export production;

(b) whether the Government had granted permission to some firms in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh under the advance licence scheme during 1990-91 to import Potassium Carbonate, Cadmium Sulphide, arnic dioxide, antimoni dioxide, Salenian metal powder and avenchurin block glass etc. when these imported materials are not utilised in manufacturing artificial pearls;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government against the offenders in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Advance Licences were given for import of these items which are considered essential according to Technical Authorities for the manufacture and export of Glass beads, Necklaces, Strings etc.

(c) and (d). In view of (b) above question does not arise.

[English]

Enforcement Checks of Companies

3763. DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of companies identified or selected for enforcement checks as compared to the number of registered companies and the nature of enforcement checks done during each of the last three years;

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make enforcement checks effective and to amend the Act to overcome the hurdles in the enforcement checks;

(c) whether any enforcement checks were carried out in any public sector undertaking units/companies during each of the last two years; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Inspections of books of account and other books and papers were conducted under Section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956 in respect of the following number of companies during the last three years:

<i>Year ended</i>	<i>No. of Companies inspected</i>	<i>No. of Companies at work at the end of the year</i>
31.3.1990	129	2,02,128
31.3.1991	119	2,24,452
31.3.1992	160	1,50,397

(b) It is felt that the existing provisions of Section 209 A of the Companies Act, 1956 are adequate.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(c) No inspection of any Government Company was undertaken during the last two years.

(a) whether India has been a recipient of one of the largest US and multi-laterally assisted foreign aid programme in the last four decades, but has failed to alleviate poverty or push economic growth;

(d) Does not arise.

Study Report of CATO Institute

3764. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the study report published by Washington based CATO institute; and

(c) to what extent foreign aid has failed to reduce India's poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). In the past several years, India has received substantial financial assistance from various multilateral agencies and other foreign sources; although on a per capital basis the aid received is one of the lowest compared to most other developing countries. The funds available to Government of India from external as well as domestic sources have been used to pursue, among others, poverty alleviation programmes. As a result, the incidence of absolute poverty has significantly declined over the years. The Report published in the Washington based CATO Institute, incidentally reflects the personal views of the author about the pattern and process of development in India and the role of foreign assistance in India development.

Over-Drawals by Union Government

3765. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been over-drawing from the Reserve Bank of India during the past two years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with head of Accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank is the banker to the Central Government. There is a standing arrangement under which as and when Central Government's cash balance becomes insufficient to meet the Government's expenditure, the Reserve Bank replenishes the cash balance to the extent necessary by creating ad hoc 91 day treasury bills in its favour.

These constitute short term borrowing from the Reserve Bank and are accounted for under Public Debt of India. Technically, therefore, the Central Government does not at any time run into over draft with Reserve Bank.

The net amount raised by way of treasury bills, adjusted to cash balance, constitute the budgetary deficit. This deficit is the net effect of all Government transactions by way of receipts and expenditure both under Consolidated Fund and Public Account of India. Hence, it is not possible to attribute the deficit to any single item or items.

[Translation]

Central Road Fund for M.P.

3766. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh had sent proposals on October 3, 1989 for Rupees 93 crores to be provided under the Central Road Fund;

(b) whether the Government have accorded approval to only five proposals whereas approval for the rest of proposals is still awaited;

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

(d) the time by which funds for the remaining proposals are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Since actual augmentation of Central Road Fund, against which the proposals were invited, has not yet taken place, the

remaining proposals could not be processed for approval.

(d) It is too early to indicate the target date for augmentation of Central Road Fund to enable additional proposals to be considered.

[*English*]

Foreign banks Reaction to Janakiraman Report

3767. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign banks are sore at Janakiraman report;

(b) if so, the details of the objections raised by these banks; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have not so far received any communication adverse or otherwise from foreign banks on the interim reports of Janakiraman Committee.

Family Courts in Delhi

3768. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed family courts have now been set up in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of such courts set up so far and the strength of the judges in these courts; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). Not yet, Sir. Delhi Administration have, however, initiated action to set up two Family Courts in one of their buildings in the Mehrauli Institutional area in the first instance. The necessary preparatory infrastructural work has already commenced.

Export of Pharmaceuticals and Cosmetics

3769. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVISINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for exports of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the achievement made during this period;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the export of cosmetics and pharmaceutical items during the Eighth Five Year Plan and

(c) if so, the efforts proposed to be made in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) A statement is annexed.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Trade and fiscal reforms initiated by the Government would help in increasing export of pharmaceuticals and cosmetics from India. Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals & Cosmetics Export Promotion Council entrusted with export promotion of these products, has taken a number of measures to increase exports. These include exchange of business delegations, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, organising buyer seller meets, mounting of sales-cum-study teams to the potential countries etc.

STATEMENT

Targets and achievement of exports of pharmaceuticals & cosmetics during the Seventh Five Year Plan

(Rs. in Million)

1	2	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88	
		Targ	Achiev.	Targ.	Achiev.	Targ.	Achiev.
1.	2.	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	1933.0	1932.0	2230.0	2700.00	2775.0	
2.	Cosmetics & Toiletries	996.0	843.0	830.0	858.0	850.0	855.0

(Rs. in Million)

JULY 31, 1992

1988-89 1989-90

	Targ.	Achiev.	Targ.	Achiev.
2	9	10	11	12
Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	3400.0	4002.0	7250.0	6647.0
Cosmetics & Toiletries	900.00	1398.2	2250.0	3596.0

[Translation]

[English]

Training in Export**Octroi Duty**

3770. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to impart training in export to ensure a successful entry into the highly competitive international market;

(b) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in this regard;

(c) the places where the training is proposed to be given; and

(d) the number of persons proposed to be given training and the benefits likely to be accrued therefor in exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SLAMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d). There is no such proposal at present under consideration of the government. However, the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) set up by the government is the premier training and research organisation in the field of foreign trade, especially export trade. As part of its training activities, the IIFT offers a variety of Executive Development Programmes to suit the needs of business executives of different levels in export organisations with a view to upgrading their knowledge and technical skills for better market penetration and exploitation of opportunities in a highly competitive international setting. Besides, the government officials are also deputed abroad to attend training programmes, workshops, seminars on export promotion and related subjects, organised by the international organisations under various projects implemented by them from time to time.

3771. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: SHRI RABI RAY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a committee to go into the whole gamut of contentious issues relating to collection of "Octroi"

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the members of the Committee and specific task that have been assigned to the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SRUFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Government have decided to set up a Committee consisting of the representatives of Central Government and the State Governments which would examine all issues pertaining to Octroi and Pathkar. The Composition and terms of reference of the Committee are yet to be finalised.

Trade Relations with Romania

3772. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expend the trade relations with Romania;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to expand trade between the two countries during the last three years;

(c) the programmes drawn up in this regard for the current financial year; and

(d) the import-export target set with Romania for the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEE): (a) and (b). It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to expand trade with Romania. Some steps taken in this regard include exchange of commercial and business information/delegations, signing of Annual Trade Protocols and periodic review of trade.

(c) and (d). The Trade and Payments Agreement between the two countries provides for Annual Trade Plans on a calendar year basis and import/export targets are set accordingly.

The Indo-Romanian Trade Plan for 1992- provides for a total trade turnover of Rs. 5100 million with export to Romania envisaged at Rs. 2400 million and import from Romania at Rs. 2700 million.

Financial Crisis in Jammu & Kashmir

3773. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Jammu and Kashmir if facing acute financial crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) to (c). Jammu and Kashmir is facing a marked financial imbalance due to mismatch between the State's receipts and expenditure. The Government of Jammu & Kashmir opened the year with a deficit of Rs. 491.71 crores. The huge opening deficit is the main reason for their financial difficulties. A Group of officers repre-

senting the Ministries of Finance and Home Affairs and the Planning Commission has been set up to go into the financial imbalance faced by Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab. It has been decided to keep the recovery of dues of Rs.143.50 crores payable by the States Government to the Centre during 1991-92 and carried over to 1992-93 in abeyance for the present pending finalisation of the Group's report. In the meanwhile, State Government's entitlements were pre-poned in May, June and July when they reported about their ways and means difficulties to the Finance Ministry.

Regarding Unintended Profits of Companies

3774. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to ask the companies manufacturing consumer products to deposit the unintended profits earned by them in the Government account as has been done in the case of drug companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). It appears that the term 'Unintended Profits' used in the Question refers to the issue of 'Unjust Enrichment' of companies by way of refund of Customs & Central Excise duties. Suitable legal provisions in this regard have already been made by the Government through enactment of Customs & Central Excise Amendment Act, 1991 (41 of 1991). Under these provisions any amount collected by any person from the buyer of any goods in any manner as representing Customs & Excise duties would have to be forthwith paid

to the credit of the Central Government. The amount so paid shall be adjusted against the duty of excise payable by the person on finalisation of assessment. Any surplus left after such adjustment shall be either credited to the Consumer Welfare Fund or as the case may be, refunded to the person who has borne the incidence of such amount.

(c) Does not arise.

Decanalisation of Fertilizers Import

3775. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATEL:
PROF. ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to decanalise import of fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; together with the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SAL-MANKHURSHEED): (a) and (b). At present, there is no proposal to decanalise the import of fertilizers. However, the Export and Import Policy is kept constantly under review and changes are made therein as and when deemed necessary.

12.05 hrs.

RE PREMATURE RETIREMENT
SOUGHT BY SHRI MADHAVAN, JOINT
DIRECTOR, CBI INVESTIGATING
SECURITY SCAM - CONTD.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me complete what I have to say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You comment after I complete.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: See, though I did not allow your notice, yet I did not refuse to hear you. I did not allow it not because today is Friday, and the Private Members Business will be taken up from 3.30 p.m. and you will get less time to speak. I had this idea in my mind also. Probably you too had this idea. This was not the reason. I had two options. One of them was that I should leave this House after suspending the Question Hour. The other was that I should allow you to speak. I thought it was better to allow you to speak than suspend the Question Hour. I did not want that you should keep your feelings suppressed. At the same time your strong feelings can be expressed here in a different manner. Therefore, I want to express my gratitude not only once but every time that Shri Vajpayee spoke. What happens here is that whoever rises forcibly to speak in this Hour, only he can speak and one, who wishes to speak remains deprived of the opportunity. Thus, injustice is meted out to several people. This too should be taken into consideration.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seat. Are you understanding What I am saying? I do not say that what your leaders have said is not true. We can understand your feelings. Members from the ruling side were rising time and again to speak, I asked them to wait for a while. The Government does not have any opinion different from yours.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is exactly what I object. I am trying to facilitate your work and you are not trying to understand. You should not appear to be interested only in getting up and speaking out which is not heard by anybody. At least you should be heard if I am not heard. At least see that you are heard. That is the minimum that you can do to yourself. If you are not doing that to yourself, then, who will do it? Allow me to do it. Allow me to do it in cooperation with all of you.

I have been saying that nobody is going to shut out this discussion. We will have this discussion and we will do it.

All the same, I would not like to labour on this point. We have accepted the suggestion given by all the leaders in this House. We are going to meet here in Delhi on the 23rd and 24th of September to discuss as to how we can help ourselves in conducting the business of the House. This is no aspersion on what the leaders have said. I can really understand their feeling. If I sound like that, please excuse me. I do not mean that. I am just trying to keep the things in order. One can understand your feelings and you have done your duty in your own fashion, may be just by not following the rules exactly. But you have done your duty and nobody can object to it. And I am not objecting to it. I am not saying that what you have done is wrong but I am saying that it would have been better if you would have followed the procedure. Let us end it here. I am allowing Mr. Nitish Kumar to speak. Now it is beyond 12 O'Clock. You have the right to speak now. Afterwards, I will allow the Minister to respond.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosera): We had given notice under Rule 388....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right. You gave a notice.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in a way you called me but our hon. Member Shri Vajpayee...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever you like you may speak, I am not to change my opinion in this regard.

MR. NITISH KUMAR: We agree that normally there should be Question Hour and in today's List of Questions. There was a question in my name at members and I was denied the opportunity and I was deprived of the opportunity for getting information...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, you have been given chance after 12 O'Clock.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: The disputed matter was raised during the Question Hour. On that basis certain hon. Members proposed suspension of Question Hour under Rule 388. It is the issue of the resignation by Shri Madhavan. This issue does not pertain to any ordinary officer, rather it is a matter concerning the functioning of the entire Government. It is an issue affecting the credibility of the Government. It is a question of intent of the Government regarding the investigations as a whole. If the intention of the Government is not clear and its credibility is questioned how can other business of the House proceed? If a Government has no integrity? What answer can it give? Though it is more than 12 O'Clock now, and technically the Question Hour is over, yet I request you to suspend the zero hour with retrospective effect.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Well, I welcome it very much.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGERET ALVA): Sir, I am not answering to the debate as such or to the points that

have been raised. I am just placing the facts before the House since they have been asked for.

Shri Madhavan had made a representation for change in the recruitment rules in the post of Additional Director, CBI on 27.3.92. The representation had been sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs with the comments of the CBI Head Office. Since all the central police organisations would be affected by any change in the recruitment rules, it would be affected by any change in the recruitment rules, it would certainly take time for the Home Ministry to consider the implications. It is still under the consideration of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri K. Madhavan, Joint Director has served a notice addressed to the Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training Government of India intimating that he would like to go in for voluntary retirement from service with effect from 31.10.92 with retirement benefits as are permissible under the rules. This was received by the Director, CBI on the morning of 20th July, 1992.

I have got the original copy of the letter of resignation. I would read it out, Sir, If they would like to know...*(Interruptions)*

On 20th July, 1992, Shri Madhavan met the Director, CBI when Shri S.K. Seth, Additional Director was also present. He explained that he has taken a very conscious decision so that he could join the legal profession. He, however, assured Director, CBI that he would continue to supervise effectively the seven bank scam cases which are under his charge presently.

Presently, for these seven cases, he is assisted by three DIGs exclusively, along with a number of DSPs and IOs. Shri Madhavan was asked to specify the circumstances referred to in his notice for voluntary retirement. In his reply, he has stated that whenever any officer seeks voluntary retirement, there are always some circumstances therefor. He feels that for seeking voluntary retirement, circumstances need not be

mentioned in the notice. Therefore, he does not wish to set out the circumstances due to which he proposes to retire. Subsequently he told the Director, CBI on phone from Bombay on 24.7.1992 that it was entirely for personal reasons that he was seeking voluntary retirement.

Shri Madhavan has been handling the Bank Scam cases from the very beginning. This is his area of work also. He has been given full freedom to act and there has been no interference with his work. The Government has sanctioned the additional strength he required for investigation of the Bank Scam cases which are on.

This is all I have to say...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): Had we got any written statement, we would have pointed out the shortcomings in it one by one. The facts stated by the hon. Minister prove that he is a true officer who does not want to disclose all those things publicly before he relinquishes his charge. But the allegations against the Government which appeared in the newspapers revolve around the question whether Shri Madhavan was asked at any stage that if he came across name of any political person, he should not mention his name in the report. Is it true? If it is true it is a very serious matter. It is right that I did not talk to Shri Madhavan personally but whatever information I have received is very serious. I shall mention it elaborately during the discussion on security scam.

Now it seems to me that this Government has taken a stand regarding the Bofors issue. In this House the motive of the Government was suspected. It was said that it was absolutely and Government was pursuing the matter though Shri Madhavan was taken to from it. Then there was something about Madhav Singh and it is now confirmed that the motive of the Government was not clear. It seems that the word Madhavan is ominous for the Government. Once the Madhav Singh episode called the motive of

the Government in question. Today, the Madhavan episode which is associated with the scam episode but now it has got its independent importance, has again called the motive of the Government in question. In my opinion the Government wants to protect the political leaders and officers who are responsible for this issue which has incurred national loss of more than Rs.5000 or Rs. 6000 crore.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear from the statement of the hon. Minister that Shri Madhavan did not give his application in March for his own sake. He did it so for the benefit of all. What is the advantage of illustrating it here? Had Shri Madhavan requested for his own promotion? he did not do it for his own sake. He did so according to cadre rules only which is a general thing. Do not try to put it otherwise. Because according to information received from newspapers and reliable sources such attempts are being made. The second thing is related to the Bofors issue. It seems that they will succeed in the Bofors issue also. In the former case also they had succeeded in their manoeuvres. The credit of success like sealing the accounts of Banks, bringing documents of A.E.Z. services and secret papers of Audit Bureau of Sweden here goes to the former C.B.I. Chief Shri Jhakhar. But he was removed in the same manner. Now efforts are being made to remove Shri Madhavan also who is looking into the issue of security scam. Therefore, such a situation has been created. We are not being told its reasons. There might have been certain things which he did not want to disclose. It is clear that if he speaks it will be embarrassing for the Government. The second thing which is clear that the Government has power to reject the application of any officer who seeks voluntary retirement. There is no question of wooing him to continue in service. The Government should inform him categorically that it is not doing so. It is very simple that Shri Madhavan is ready to look into the security scam issue. Why the hon. Minister does not say the third thing that no officer puts forth his resignation and says.

[English]

"I am walking out."

[Translation]

He has no right to do so. Therefore, the Government should mention its responsibility and clarify it today. The fourth thing is that if all this has appeared in the press is wrong, I am happy but according to the newspaper reports I do not know whether he knows about it or not. We are not levelling any charges. But a very senior officer from the Prime Minister's office has intervened into the matter. Shri Madhavan was displeased with it and he tendered his resignation. This too should be clarified. I can mention the name also. But this is no occasion for disclosing the name. If the Government has any decency, it should admit that it happened. His application should be rejected and he should be entrusted with duties.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Sir, I would like to know whether on behalf of the Government anybody is prepared to tell the House whether the Government is accepting the application which Mr. Madhavan is supposed to have given for premature retirement or trying to dissuade him from pressing his application. Are they at all interested in retaining his services for this very important inquiry? They have not said a word about whether they appreciate his service, his skill or not. Would they not think at this critical moment that it would be for the benefit of the country and in the national interest if he did not leave and if he continue his work? Are they trying to persuade him to not to press it or are they preparing to let him go?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I only want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has found so far that the work done by Mr. Madhavan has been extremely useful in ascertaining the truth or that he has been proceeding on right direction. If that is so, whether the Government thinks that his services should

be allowed to be continued so that he can go into the depth of the matter? If Mr. Madhavan has been doing his work in a proper manner and he has been able to find out any material evidence, fact which will go to the ultimate finding of the truth, then is it not the Government's duty to try to persuade that officer not to go out of service and to continue and render his service to the country in unearthing the real cause of the scandal and the persons involved in it? It is the Government's duty, about which no word was spoken. Not a word has been said about the Government's response, or Government's reaction to his premature retirement, and what is the Government's assessment of the work done so far by Mr. Madhavan. If the Government feels that his work is useful and he should continue, then Government has to take action. But not a word has been spoken about it. We would like to know what is the Government's reaction on this.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to say one thing here that the statement made by the hon. Minister and the statement of the Government spokesman, which appeared in newspapers today, is bit contradictory.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, attempt has been made to create an impression that Shri Madhavan was not promoted, though he wished. Therefore, he decided to quit. What the hon. Minister has said, makes it clear that Shri Madhavan was not talking about his promotion only.

As Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh said that if non-IPS officers and non-IAS officers are appointed in CBI why cannot they be appointed as Additional Secretaries. If a non-IPS and non-IAS officers is functioning as Joint Director why can't he be promoted to the post of Additional Director. This is a serious issue and it is not limited to just cadre level, but the official spokesman has tried to impress as if he was interested in his own promotion, he did not get it; so he resigned in protest or applied for leave.

Besides, I would like to submit and I hope my colleagues would tolerate it to some extent. We would like to know whether there are any political links in the Banking scam or not. Now the whole responsibility is being thrust on Shri Madhavan. Even the Prime Minister had written letters to all the Ministers telling them to reply whether they had bought any shares or not and if they had, were they involved in the matter or not, and the extent to which they were involved.

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): He has not written any such letter.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Hasn't he written any letter? O.K., one point is clear. Now I would like to clarify another point. Which the newspapers also have reported.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): We know Shri Kesri does not read any letter. I have written a letter to him which he has not read so far. That is why he is not aware whether Prime Minister has written any letter or not.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I cannot make such statements regarding the people of Bihar.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: I know, because you yourself are a Bihar.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, I am pointing towards another issue. If Prime Minister did not write any letter then the reports published in newspapers are really confusing and another issue would be raised whether the Prime Minister tried to gather information or not. Suppose the Prime Minister did not gather information, in that case since the names of certain Ministers are being quoted, these Ministers can voluntarily stand in the House and make a declaration. They should stand in the House and say that they have bought shares and that buying of shares is not a crime, it is not illegal. The job of ascertaining the number of shares in the name of each politician should be left to one officer and CBI should investigate into it and it is not right for politicians then to make

allegation that particular person is not letting the investigation completed. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are constituting a JPC. They should make statements about their shares, JPC should examine the case of Madhavan first of all. But you are taking a lot of time in constituting the committee.

MR. SPEAKER: All parties have to submit the names.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The delay is causing many complication.

MR. SPEAKER: This is right. We will expedite the matter.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: The political leader especially the Ministers can streamline the process of announcing voluntarily as to the extent to which they are involved in the scam. If they are not involved in the scam, they should say clearly that they are not involved in the scam. That way the problem can be solved.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Shri Kesri did not receive the letter, but others remained silent. This means they have received the letter.

SHRI SITARAM KESRI: I read all the letters very carefully...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, no denial some come from that side.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): There can be at least one response.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not want anybody to be instigated.

Madam, if you want, you can reply at the end of the debate.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the news item which appeared in different newspapers reported one aspect and the hon. Minister has not replied to that.

The only point is whether PMO is involved and whether the PMO has interfered in Mr. Madhavan's case.

SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH (Adoor): No.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Who says no?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): We are all saying 'no'.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Where is the Prime Minister? You are not supposed to say 'no'. This is the only point viz. whether Mr. Madhavan has resigned due to interference by the Prime Minister's Officer or not.

MR. SPEAKER: You are taking that responsibility on yourself.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: You have put a question mark

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: In the interest of the nation, let the hon. Minister tell about her own Ministry and not about PMO as she perhaps does not know about the PMO's affairs. Let the Prime Minister come to this House and explain that PMO is not involved.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand, if you put a question, it is a different thing; if you assert a thing, it is a different thing; if you assert a thing, then you take the responsibility on yourself.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: This point was raised while the hon. Minister was replying about PMO's involvement. So, unless it is contradicted by somebody responsible, by any Minister or by Prime Minister, we will confirm that PMO is involved in this matter. So, let the Prime Minister say that they are not involved.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Speaker, The hon. Prime Minister gave a statement in this House when it was decided that is Government would not spare anyone, no matter how high post he may be holding in the Government. The Prime Minister has stated in clear terms and asserted again that if Shri Madhavan or anyone else, would give the name of some person involved in the scam he would not be spared. This is the commitment of our Government... *(Interruptions)*

First listen to me just a minute. Advani has submitted two points here that Government has pointed towards it.... *(Interruptions)*

Just listen to me for two minutes. You have submitted almost everything. I would like to reply all these points. Shri Advani and Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh have raised one question each but both the members have raised separate issues. Advaniji said that it is apprehended that Government has asked Shri Madhavan to resign. Government never pressurised anybody to resign whether it was Advani ji or Madhavan. The Government is ready to give a reply in this connection. Government would neither allow any such action to be taken nor it has ever allowed any such action to be taken. The Prime Minister has made such statements in the House and in Public also that Government is ready to take action against the people found guilty.

Secondly, Shri Vishwanath Ji has submitted that Shri Madhavan has been relieved from his duties, but Shri Madhavan has tendered his resignation and it is clear from the statement made by the Minister of Personnal Affairs. It is clear from the statement that Shri Madhwan is free to State anything in the interests of the country and Government would react to it and punish the guilty. Shri Madhwan should take initiative. Just to submit that you yourself are involved. Our

Government is not so weak as not to take any action. you may blame us. If our government does not take any action. But Madhwan ji should at least react. They should tell either a Minister or some other person told him or pressurised him to take such a action. But to blame the Government after the statement of the Prime Minister to the effect that nobody would be spared, is not correct. If anyone is found involved in the matter, he would not be spared. Even our Finance Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has made statement in this regard. It will not be good in a democracy to go on blaming the government inspite of all these actions taken.

JPC would be constituted. Government has got the powers to constitute. JPC if there is a need of any enquiry or any hon. Member got any information regarding any person then he can seek the help of the Government. if the Government backs up, then it should be held responsible. But if you go on making allegation's without providing any concrete information it will not be good for democracy in the country...*(Interruption)*

SHRIVISHWANATH PARTAP SINGH: Pilot ji, I have submitted a very specific points, I have not used the word 'Government'. I have not made a general statement I have talked about a high official of P.M. Office. This is my information. O.K. If it is wrong all right. His name is... .

MR. SPEAKER: No, No please...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: You have asked for information. So I am providing the information. *(Interruptions)* Sir he has asked for information that is why I am on my legs. I am only asking a question and not making allegations...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You do not understand the implications.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRIVISHWANATHPRATAP SINGH: He should deny the allegation, I would be satisfied.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. I do not think it is correct. I understand it. You have not said it. But I think the name should not go. you have given the indication...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Balia): Mr. Speaker, why should the name not go on record?

MR. SPEAKER: If you want, I will quote the ruling.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Before your quote the ruling, let me know one thing. How is it that when continuously for one fortnight things are being said about Ministers and officiars, the Prime Minister has not come to make a statement? Do not quote the ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Chandra Shekhar, it is not like that.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, the other side is telling, "Give the name". Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh did not volunteer himself. you did not stop this side that they should not ask for the name. There should be somebody in the Government to say that if this allegation or the suggestion of Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh is correct, that officer will go tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Please.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIVISHWANATHPRATAP SINGH: I am not making any allegation against any officer. What has come out is this information. I want it to be corrected. if my information is wrong, you can correct it. That is all I wanted. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: Unless and until he is hundred percent sure about what he is saying in the House, he should not say so...(*Interruptions*)

SHRIVISHWANATHPRATAP SINGH: This bullying about will not go on.

I will not allow it. This cannot go on like this. I(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. now.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIVISHWANATHPRATAP SINGH: In a more seasoned way try to put the question.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh, please sit down. I would not blame the leader of the Janata Dal, Shri Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh for having mentioned the name, because he was not mentioning the name. Somebody said, "Mention the name" and he responded. Now, as far as the rule is concerned — please listen — he had given enough indication. The ruler is that the reference to the Government officials by name is not done. I am reading rule 352. I would not allow any other Members of the House also to go on record. I am just following it. Now you please continue.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kalp Nath Rai, if it is absolutely necessary you speak.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: If it is absolutely necessary, you may speak. Otherwise you can leave it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the discussion

hon. George Fernandes said that Power Finance Corporation is also involved in bank Scam. I would like to inform the House that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will request the hon. Minister to study the point and make a statement. Please do not take it on yourself. Off hand, do not say anything.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not take it on yourself.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We are not interested in getting ourselves into a difficult situations.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow Kalp Nathji to make the statement after he studies it, not off-hand.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (GANDHI NAGAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and pensions has made a very brief statement. The misgivings, apprehensions, doubts expressed from this side have not been addressed at all. The first part refers to a letter written by Shri Madhavan way back in March, 1992 and which is totally irrelevant in the context of the apprehensions we have expressed. I do not know why that was mentioned. So far as the latter part is concerned, I would like to know what is the considered response of the Government to this letter that has been submitted by Shri Madhavan on the 20th July. What is the Government's response because you would notice that in this House as well as outside this particular official has built up a measure of credibility and the Government has awarded him this year on the 26th January? Therefore, government's response is crucial in this matter. Do you want to take advantage of his feeling of disgust at the moment? A name has been mentioned. P.Ms Office has

been accused and it will not say merely in the general way in which Shri Rajesh Pilot has said that from the Government side we would like all the accused to be unearthed. This is not sufficient. We would like to understand what precisely has prompted or forced or impelled Shri Madhavan to seek pre-mature retirement. Here, he has, as is usual in these cases, sent in his papers for retirement because it is according to the rules. It is upto the Government to allow him to retire or not. It is not his right. He has a right to resign. But, he has no right to retire prematurely. Therefore, in all propriety he has refused to say anything apart from saying that for personal reasons; I want to go into the law practice. But the truth, as is known to very many people, is not confined to Shri Madhavan only. It is known to very many people who even before 20th July were telling me that this kind of pressure is acting upon him and he may be forced to quit. Therefore, what you have said is totally insufficient, it is inadequate to remove all the misgivings that have been expressed in this House and in all the newspapers of the country. I may mention that not a single newspaper has given credit to the Government that it is something personal, it has nothing to do with the scam business. You are trying to hush up the biggest scandle of history and the nation is not going to permit you.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I want to say only one thing. None of us is trying to hush up anything. We have been very categorical about it...*(Interruptions)*.

Secondly, I want to say that we received this letter on the 20th July. It has not been accepted. In fact, there have been two meetings by the Director, CBI with Shri Madhavan asking him what really are his reasons, why is he going and whether it is not possible for him to stay on. We have talked to him. We have not accepted it. The fact is that it is only ten days now and we have not accepted it...*(Interruptions)* The point is that he has given three months' notice. There is time till the end of October for him to make up his mind. We have not accepted it and it is

still pending with the Government. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If he has to wait till October for getting the Government's reaction, how then can he function properly?

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzafarpur): What was the reason yesterday which compelled you to make that letter public. Why did you leak it out yesterday? What is your intention behind the act?...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I have asked a very specific question. Does the Government find his functioning proper? Has his investigation been useful to the Government in unearthing the scandal. I would like to know if that is the view of the Government then they must try to see that he continues. There is no reply to that.

SHRIMATI MARGAET ALVA: Sir, I am not here to give an individual certificate to any individual officer in Parliament...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: We want an answer not a certificate. Why did you leak it to the Press?...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Why did you leak this letter to the Press...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members have tried to present this point in a good and attractive manner. We will discuss this matter also. It will also provide guidance to the Joint Committee which will be formed later. It is 1 O'Clock now. The Private Members' business is to be taken up at 3.30 p.m. Please let it not happen that it is not taken up. Please do not prolong it unnecessarily. If something is wrong people will come to

know. This is also your intention. If discussion takes place keeping these things in mind it will be meaningful and helpful.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Madhvan's resignation and discussion on Bank Scam are separate issues. The Prime Minister himself should make the statement. I do not agree at all with Shri Pilot's statement. His presence is must.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH (Sheohar): In the meeting of the consultative Committee of the Finance Ministry hon. Manmohan Singhji had declared that no Minister was involved in the scam. Minister of Commerce resigned after that. The prime Minister wrote a letter...(*Interruptions*) If the Government thinks itself to be so honest, why does it not ask Shri Madhavan? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Not only Shri Madhavan is under pressure but also all the members in this House...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRILAL K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the Minister for enlightening the House about some aspects of the situation. One is that the government has not accepted Madhavan's request for premature retirement. Second is that the Director of the CBI has had two meetings with him, trying to ask him what exactly has prompted him to put in his papers. I am sure, the Government is now in the full know of things and it is not this public version of it that he wants to go in for law practice. He has misgivings about the scam, about the investigation. I do not want to invoke precisely what he told the Director. I can understand the confidences that have to be maintained. But in a situation of this kind, a broad indication to this House would be quite in order, of the Government's information as to why he wants to quit. The CBI Director knows. He has had two meetings - it is not just one meeting, you have said two meetings. Even after that, the Government has not yet accepted his request. What has transpired in these two

meetings? Could the Government inform the House of the gist of these talks? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He does not know all the things. He has also to collect information from others in this regard.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Sir, please rescue the lady Minister. She is under pressure from two male Parliamentary Affairs Ministers..(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a good remark against some person.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, it has been referred that something had happened in the P.M.O. Some Officer in the P.M.O. has tried to say something to Shri Madhavan. Now, how do we know what happened at the P.M.O.? What is this P.M.O. an unconstitutional and unparliamentary authority? How to know it unless the Prime Minister comes here to give details. how can Shrimati margaret Alva clarify on it? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Do you think that we need so much of repetition to understand that point? That has been made clear by many others.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY: If that be the case, I stop at this point (Interruptions)

SHRI HANAN MOLLAH (Uluberia): Sir, why is it that the reply is not coming? What is the intention behind it? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us take up the business listed in the agenda. Secretary General to report a message from Rajya Sabha.

12.52 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 115 of the rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 29th July, 1992, agreed to the following amendments made by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st July, 1992, in the India Ports (Amendment) Bill, 1991:-

ENACTING FOUMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1,- for "Forty-second" substitute- "Forty-third".
2. That at page 1, line 4,- for "1991" substitute "1992".

12.53 hrs.

RE. PREMATURE RETIREMENT SOUGHT BY SHRI MADHAVAN JOINT DIRECTOR, CBI, INVESTIGATING SECURITY SCAM

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzafarpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, what is going on? Will the Prime Minister come and tell something or the matter is over only with this discussion. I am asking it so that you may not say tomorrow that I am raising this matter again and again.

[English]

SHRI SPEAKER: I will tell you one thing. I do not think that it is connected with the scam at all. You are going to discuss it and the Government is going to reply to it. Please wait until that happens.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg your pardon. These two things are totally different from each other.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not so.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me, these are totally different.

MR. SPEAKER: I don't see any.

SHRI MADAL LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Shri madhavan's resignation will lead this discussion to a dark corner. So, I am doubtful about any fruitful discussion on scam until a clarification is made about his resignation.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I think they are not serious about the scam. They do not want the scam to be discussed. That is why they are adopting these tactics.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI MARGARET ALVA): I think you do not want the scam to be discussed. (Interruptions) It is not correct. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): Sir, I have given notice under the rules about the defence Minister. What about it?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. The Defence Minister has given me a statement. He may reply after your point.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like your clarification on this, once again. You have repeatedly said JPC has been constituted.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a matter of Zero Hour.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The discussion has to take place here. This matter will not go before J.P.C.

MR. SPEAKER: Why not?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: JPC is related with scam, not with it.

MR. SPEAKER: Why not?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You may check any rule of JPC or Parliamentary Rule but it will not be in accordance with any rule.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection if the Government wants to make a statement.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERADES: I want to know the whether the Prime Minister would make any statement or not. Please tell us?... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down. It is enough.

357 *Re. Premature Retirement SRAVANA 9, 1914 (SAKA) Re. Judgement of Bombay 358
Sought by Sh. Madhavan,
Jt. Dir., CBI*

High Court dt. 9.7.92 on irregularities in allotment of land to Govt. Empl. Coop. Housing Society in Maharashtra

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, a statement from the Prime Minister should come. (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): Sir, before going to any other subject the main issue before the House should be settled. The issue is whether the PMO is involved in this interference with the CBI enquiry or not. That is the main issue. Let the prime Minister come to this House and explain about it. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kapse, what is your point of order?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You will again say the same thing if I raise this issue tomorrow and Shri Atalji will again complain.

MR. SPEAKER: You please do whatever you like. I can give direction according to the rule. I have said that we are going to discuss the scam.

[English]

The matter is before the Government and the Government has taken a stand on that.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The Government cannot take any stand on anything. The Government's only stand is to suppress the entire investigation. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, let us not give a wrong impression outside. It is not correct.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: You are repeatedly saying no, your actions show that you want to suppress the investigation.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what about Question Hour?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: On Monday at 11 O'Clock you will have the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

RE. JUDGEMENT OF BOMBAY HIGH COURT DATED 9.7.92 ON IRREGULARITIES IN ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO THE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETY IN MAHARASHTRA

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kapse, be brief.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: (Muzaffarpur): I am on a point of order. Today in the morning I have given notice of a motion seeking to censure the Defence Minister under Rule 184 on the same subject on which you are calling Shri Ram Babu.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have submitted it at 9.30 a.m. in the office.

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: It is not my mistake.

MR. SPEAKER: Please tell me.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: This has happened with me second time.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I expect the notices to be given to the office as well as to the concerned Minister. Have you given the notice to the concerned Minister?

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have given notice of a Censure Motion under Rule 184.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you are raising any matter against any Minister, you are expected to give a notice to him also.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I am not raising a matter against any Minister. I have given a motion under rule 184. It is a censure motion. I am required to give a notice to the Secretary-General and I have conformed to the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: You please quote the rules. I will give you the ruling.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I have given a notice under rule 184 and rule 187 says:

"The Speaker shall decide whether a motion or a part thereof is or is not admissible under these rules and may disallow any motion"

MR. SPEAKER: I have not received that notice.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I will read it out to you. It says:

"Sir,

I give notice of the following motion under rule 184 to censure Mr. Sharad Pawar, Minister of Defence.

That having considered the judgment of Justice K. Sukumaran and Justice Dr. B.P. Saraf, judges of the Bombay High Court in Writ Petition No. 1754 of 1989 preferred by Bal Kalyani, a pre-primary school and also a trust, registered C/o Smt. Sushila Adavarekar, Shri Madhukarao Chaudhri, President, Bal Kalyani Trust (presently Speaker of Maharashtra Assembly); Shri Chan-

drashkar Prabhu, Vice-President, Bal Kalyani Trust; Smt. Sushila Adavarekar (Ex. MP); and Shri B.J. Sukhtankar, Honorary General Secretary, Bal Kalyani Trust versus State of Maharashtra, dated July 9, 1992 which has indicted Mr. Sharad Pawar, the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra in the matter of allocation of certain land to a cooperative society of IAS and other officers and charged him with *malafides* in the performance of his duties and thus acting against his oath of office by the constitution, and further condemned him for resiling from the solemn duty of preserving the State property and ensuring compliance with the legal provisions by throwing to the winds all basic principles;

"this House hereby records its deep indignation against the conduct of Mr. Sharad Pawar as Chief Minister and calls for his resignation."

MR. SPEAKER: My ruling is, I would expect such matters to be given to the Speaker well in time so that the Speaker would be in a position to apply his mind and come to a conclusion. This is one. Secondly, you have referred to something which can be treated as a defamatory matter and rule 353 applies here. Rule 353 expects that a notice of this kind will be given to the Speaker as well as to the concerned Minister and the concerned Minister is given the opportunity to look into the matter and be ready to respond to this matter. As these two things are not fulfilled, I am not allowing this matter.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: The motion under rule 184 is not covered by rule 353. I have not said anything defamatory. Every word here is from the High Court judgement. Can the High Court judgement be termed as defamatory? How can the High Court judgement be termed as defamatory? Rule 353 does not attract this motion under rule 184.

MR. SPEAKER: You know that once I have given a ruling, you do not challenge it. You can convince me in the chamber, not here. Shri Kapse to speak now.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Rule 184 is not qualified by rule 353.

SHRI VILAS MUTEMWAR (Chimur): Sir, this should be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER: Let me deal with it. I cannot talk to both the sides at a time. We are all colleagues here and we would be very circumspect and very careful in saying things against one another. I would expect that this courtesy will be shown to each one of us.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani): On a point of order. That should be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER: I will take care of that. I am not allowing many people to say. One gentleman can say whatever he wants to say on this point.

SHRI RAM KAPSE (Thane): I have given notice under rule 353 and I want to raise the matter arising out of the Writ Petition. The judgement was delivered on 9th of July, 1992. Actually Mr. George Fernandes has referred to Writ Petition No. 1754 of 1989. Actually, there are two Writ Petitions clubbed together. Another Writ Petition is No. 2085 of 1989 filed by Save Bombay Committee, a duly registered public trust and Mr. Kisan Mehta against the State of Maharashtra and others.

I will stick to the judgement while speaking about Mr. Sharad Pawar as far as the allotment of land in Bombay is concerned. I will first refer to a sentence on page 69 of the judgement:

"When the nation is facing a crisis in values, those who were entrusted in the solemn duty of preserving the State property and ensuring compliance with the legal provisions chose to throw to the winds all basic principles."

These are harsh strictures delivered by the learned Judges, hon. Shri Sukumaran and hon. Shri Saraf while delivering judgment in Writ petition No. 1754 of 1989 and Writ petition No. 2085 of 1989. The judgement was delivered on 9th of July, 1992."

The judges have strongly criticised the nexus between the politicians and bureaucrats which has vitiated the proper functioning of the Government and protection of the weaker sections. There was a pre-primary school run just to remember Mr. Tendulkar who wrote the biography of Mahatma Gandhiji and the land was allotted to them. The judgement is about the transfer of that land. This we should keep in mind.

Today I am placing before the House the damning judgement given by the learned judges about the political masters who were running Maharashtra State on 30.8.1988 when the order was issued by the Government through which the Angarka Society formed by the IAS officers was allotted a prime land on the Malabar Hill with astonishing speed violating various Government guidelines and involving demolition of a school for weaker sections of the society.

Mr. Sharad Pawar is indicted by the learned Judges for being guilty of having failed in his duties as Chief Minister of Maharashtra. He had a special responsibility to intensely scrutinise the allotment of a land to the society formed under the leadership of a Revenue Secretary and recommended by the Revenue Minister who have a responsibility to see to it that the interests of the State and the people to be guarded.

This was a clear case where self-interest of IAS officers was involved and therefore demanded all the more thorough examination but the Chief Minister, when he was expected to protect the Government guidelines, decided to keep a mum.

[Translation] "Maunam Sammati Lakshnam"

which means silence is half consent and did not review the irrelevant note of the Revenue Minister and, therefore, according to the hon. judges, he is guilty of non-application of mind where application of mind was a must.

According to the judges, "the political administration set to themselves a wrong direction and strayed along irrelevantly". The entire transaction is vitiated by *mala fides*, says the judgement.

"It started illegally; continued illegally and ultimately culminated in an illegal order" the judges observed. Who is finally responsible for all the irregularity, the illegalities and the *mala fides*? Surely not the bureaucrats because the verdict of the High Court says that it was done at the instance of the bureaucrats but by whom?

It was by the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra and today our Defence Minister. A transaction ends with the CM's signature and if the transaction is vitiated by *mala fides*, the CM is accused of *mala fides* and no person against whom charges have been raised and held valid by the court can continue in any office. Imagine a Defence Minister of India against whom charges of *mala fides* have been proved in the High Court, would be responsible for the country's security. In continued case of illegality, who does own responsibility, the person who puts up the file or the person who signs it? Would the allotment have been made if the CM had not put his signature? The answer is 'No'. If this is so, then who can be held responsible for the illegality? The then CM and the present Defence Minister. The court has ruled the matter should have gone before the Finance Department for concurrence whose responsibility was to see that the necessary procedure was followed. It was the CM's responsibility. He has failed to fulfil it.

He just kept mum. He did not write a word. He did not discuss and there is no nothing on the file, complete absence of mind. He could have ruled that the matter was not placed before the cabinet and so, as

such, it was an irregular practice. Whose responsibility is it to place the matter before the Cabinet? It was the duty of the Chief Minister to ensure that the procedures were followed.

He did not make all those queries and just signed on 30th August, 1988. To say that non-application of minds leads to constitutional invalidity and hon. Shri Sharad Pawar has been found guilty of non-application of minds, it means that he has been found guilty of aiding and abetting in an act which leads to constitutional invalidity. Moreover, the judgement goes further to state the importance of application of minds.

In any case of allotment of land, the bureaucracy is expected to apply its mind for the executive in such cases and where it involved others, even in such cases. It does not absolve the Chief Minister from the crime of non-application of mind. But the CM knows that in this particular case, the bureaucrats stand to gain pecuniary advantage and hence the possibility cannot be ignored that they may not process the file by going by the rules. This case, Therefore, warranted more critical application of mind, at least some queries had to be asked, like whether the legal opinion had been sought or whether the Finance Department had to be consulted. Moreover, the note from the Secretary, PWD was clear that no procedures had been followed and that there was no isolated plot and that the said land was not available for disposal. Though the file had all these notings, it is highly unlikely that the hon. Shri Sharad Pawar who had the experience of being the Chief Minister earlier would sign without due consideration.

The consideration must be something else. That is for the House to decide.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Nagpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the decision of the Court as quoted by the hon. member is not correct. The decision of High Court is totally different. The High Court did not say this thing in its

judgement. In its decision the High Court did not hold responsible the then Chief Minister Shri Pawar. Therefore, the statement given by the hon. Member is wrong. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: It is an unauthorised judgement.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We can avoid innuendoes. As per the rules, we avoid the innuendoes.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: We avoid that. But the point is: Should I not reply to that? (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. I said that as per the rules, we avoid the innuendoes.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Shri Sharad Pawar is about to make a statement... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): How do you know? (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I would like to ask the hon. Speaker whether all the interruptions have been expunged. If they are to remain there, I would like to reply to them.

MR. SPEAKER: You please follow your own line.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Whatever I have quoted, it is from the judgement. I have never said a word about Vasaivirar scandal. I have not said a word about all those 285 plots. I

have not said anything. (Interruptions) I have not said anything about the cases which are to follow. I have not said about it. I have read the judgement. (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is making a statement that he has quoted everything from the judgement. But he has mentioned the name of Shri Sharad Pawar concerning all the paras, whatever has been mentioned in the judgement. So, he should understand the difference between the two. His own interpretation of the judgement is one thing and quoting from the judgement is altogether a different thing because, here, he is not censuring the officer. He is censuring the hon. Defence Minister. So, the only portion where the censure is against the Defence Minister should be quoted. That is what I expect because the confusion will be there that whatever he has read, all of it is concerning the Defence Minister. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I would like to reply.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Bombay North): Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, what is your point of order?

SHRI RAM NAIK: Shri Chandra Shekhar has raised a point of order.

The judgement is very clear. It is on page No. 63. I quote:

"In the present case, what is disturbing is not a revision of the opinion, but the absence thereof. The Chief Minister did not express any opinion whatsoever. The opinion expressed by the Revenue Minister was, with great respect, on aspects, which were irrelevant in relation to the crucial question. The points on which the mind had to be applied and the opinion expressed, as noted earlier, had been totally missed.

(Interruptions)

We are satisfied, having regard to the peculiar situation of this case, the order is irredeemably vitiated for non-application of mind as well."

This is what is contained therein. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I would like to reply to it and on that point he should be censured. (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: If Chief Ministers can be censured on this point, I do not think any Chief Minister or any Prime Minister will continue. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me say. Please, you hear me again.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Just a minute. Before you give the ruling, please listen to me because he has given advice to me.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not giving a ruling. I am asking a question. Is this written in the judgement? Or, is this the interpretation of the judgement?

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I have read extensively from the judgement. (Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: He has read the final order signed by the hon. Minister on 30th. This order is a Malafide order. Mind has not been applied in it.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have raised a point of order. Here, in this House, we are entitled to censure Shri Sharad Pawar.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a point of order. I have not allowed that.

Empl. Coop. Housing Society in Maharashtra

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: We can ask a question about his conduct. We are not discussing the judgement of the High Court. We are not discussing the conduct of the officers. He has read from the whole judgement. From that, an impression will go that the Judges have said all this about Shri Sharad Pawar's behaviour. I have read that judgement thoroughly. The only sentence is that Shri Sharad Pawar did not apply his mind or express his opinion; he did not give any opinion. In the context, the opinion was that of a Revenue Secretary, the opinion was that of a Revenue Minister, and the Chief Minister just initialled. This is the fault that he has committed. On that if he wants to censure, he is well within his right. But he should not give a wrong impression that all the judgment is against him. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: You have asked me a question and he has given me the advice and I would like to reply to that. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will repeat my question so that you can be very clear and help me also. I would like to know: What you are saying now is the part of the judgment or your interpretation.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I have read from the... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This side of discussion will not help me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You please sit down and let him reply.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What Shri Chandra Shekharji has been saying, I find some substance in it. Your interpretation should not be such as to mislead the House or outsiders also. If it is written in the judgment, you are entitled to quote it. If it is not written

In the judgment, you are not entitled to take sentence from here and sentence from there and put an interpretation to it. Whatever is against him, you can quote it. But please do not bring other things against him which are not written.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I have quoted from the judgement in the beginning. I told like that I am quoting from the judgment. Even on the page number... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point is limited. We are discussing the conduct of Shri Sharad Pawar as the Chief Minister who happens to be the Defence Minister today. Judgment pertaining to the role of Shri Sharad Pawar as the Chief Minister should be brought before the House here and he should limit his speech. All other things he has said is irrelevant and that should be deleted. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: There is nothing like censure in it.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no censure in it.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAM KAPSE: I have quote from the judgment one para on page 69, then another para from page number 63. I will read it for the benefit of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: No, no.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM KAPSE: It says:

"In the present case, what is disturbing is not a revision of the opinion, but the absence thereof. The Chief Minister did not express any opinion whatsoever. The opinion expressed) by the

Revenue Minister was, with great respect, on aspects, which were irrelevant in relation to the crucial question. The points on which the mind had to be applied and the opinion expressed, as noted earlier, had been totally missed."

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: That remark is about the Revenue Minister and not about the Chief Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh): I have a point of order. In my opinion, this is a serious matter..... (*Interruptions*)

All right I will speak in Hindi. It is not a question of any member of this House whether he is from treasury benches or from the opposition. If you allow any member to interpret any judgement according to his will an if goes in the record. It has also been said that the Defence Minister of the Country is not capable of discharging his duties as a Defence Minister because the High Court has given a judgement against him. All these things are a serious matter because a judgement has gone against him. It is related to the fundamental rights of a member. To deliver such a long speech on any issue in the House and to interpret the judgement of the High Court according to his will, all these things should not go in the records, otherwise these things will come in the knowledge of press. Only the matter relating to the judgement should go on records.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: My ruling is in this case only the statement made by the hon. Judge in the judgment pertaining to the Minister is relevant and everything else is not relevant.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two paragraphs in the relevant judgment which are about the Chief Minister. And I read from page number 63, "In the present Case...and all that". That is relevant

according to your ruling. Another thing is on page number 69, which says:

"When the nation is facing a crisis in values those who were entrusted in the solemn duty of preserving State property and ensuring compliance with the legal provisions goes to throw to the winds all basic principles. The Revenue Secretary who should have functioned as a watch-dog in keeping vigil over the assets of the State, engineered a decision of allotment of a valuable plot of Government land in favour of a group including himself. The Court cannot be consistent with its Constitutional obligation to permit such action to go unnoticed or unchecked. We have no hesitation to quash the allotment of land for the various reasons indicated above."

Then the reasons have been given.
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Nagpur): It is concerned with the Revenue Secretary and not with the Chief Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kapse, please make it brief. It is not necessary that you should interpret the entire thing. You had enough time.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The relevant problems which were discussed are: Whether it was an isolated plot and it was decided that it was not an isolated plot; whether there was a malafide and it was decided that it was malafide; it was questioned whether the Finance's concurrence was taken and it was decided that it was not taken; then, it was asked by the Judge whether there was malafide and it was decided that it was a malafide. Again, it was asked whether the application of mind on the part of the Chief Minister was there and it was decided that it was not there.

On all the four counts, the judgment says that it is viciated. So, the whole allotment of the land is viciated according to the Court. The real problem is, the whole thing was done at the instance of the bureaucracy — the Revenue Secretary. But, at the instance by whom? By their political masters and that was written in so many words in the judgment. And the political masters are the Chief Minister and the Revenue Minister. that is, it was done at the instance of the bureaucracy by somebody, by political masters and that was part of the court judgment. And, therefore, I demand the resignation of Shri Sharad Pawar, the Defence Minister of India.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMADAN LAL KHURANA: There is an affidavit given by the Revenue Secretary in which it has been stated that the file has not been sent to him. The file was sent directly to the Revenue Minister and to the Chief Minister...(*Interruptions*)

13.27 hrs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY MINISTER

Matter Raised by Shri Ram Kapse
MP regarding judgement of Bombay
High Court dated 9.7.1992 on Irregularities in Allotment of land to the government Employees Co-operative Housing Societies in Maharashtra during was
Chief Minister ship.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): Mr. Speaker Sir, in pursuance of the policy in vogue in Maharashtra State regarding allotment of land to the Government Employees Co-Operative Housing Societies, the Chief Promoter of Angarka Cooperative Housing Society Ltd., applied for allotment of a plot of land on 25th July, 1986. the application was processed by the Revenue Department and the Collector of Bombay and was submitted to the government for allotment of plot bearing C.S. No. 211 (Part) of Malabar Hill, Bombay.

The then Revenue Minister after clearance by the Chief Secretary and the Minister of State (Revenue) had specifically recommended on 21.6.1988 for allotment of this plot giving detailed justification for such allotment. Before a final decision was taken, there was a change of Government and I took over as the Chief Minister of Maharashtra on June 25, 1988.

The proposal for allotment of the plot was duly scrutinised and processed from July 1986 till 21.6.1988. The file was processed by the Collector of Bombay, Secretary (Revenue), Chief Secretary, Minister of State (Revenue) and Minister (Revenue), without any dissenting or a differing opinion.

SHRIGEORGE FERNANDES: (Mujafarpur) Each one of them got a plot. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): The plots have been allotted to the Revenue Secretary, additional secretary, Police Commissioner and 14 other Members...plots have been allotted to I.A.S. Officers also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it not a fact that Mahatma Gandhi had given plots to freedom fighters? But why these officers were allotted plots?..(*Interruptions*)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, each of the officers has been allotted a plot.

[*English*]

.....(*Interruptions*).....I am sorry; do not allow the bureaucracy to take over the country. Hear is one more illustration of the IAS people taking over a prized land in Bombay. Please understand it.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: (Thane) this is a nexus between bureaucracy and the politician. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: After I assumed office on 25.6.1988, the file was once again duly processed by Minister of State (Revenue) and Minister (Revenue) of my Government and as there was no conflict of opinion on record between the previous Government and my government, the said proposal was approved in normal course.

The learned Judges, in their Judgement dated 9.7.1992, have only made a passing reference about me stating that, "the Chief Minister did not express any opinion whatsoever". this comment, by any stretch of imagination, does not amount to passing any strictures on the decision taken by me as the Chief Minister. The Judgement does not, at any point of time, raise even an iota of doubt about the *malafides* on my part in according the sanction. The Judgement also does not attribute any misconduct or motive to me.

A malicious vilification campaign was resorted by some persons for deliberate misrepresentation of the facts and distortion of the High Court Judgement to suit their political ends. Thus an impression was erroneously sought to be created that the Judgement had indicted me on some imaginary ground. The sole purpose appears to be to mislead and misinform public opinion.

Under these circumstances, I am pained and anguished to say that the demand made by some of my esteemed colleagues for my removal from the Union Cabinet, is clearly and blatantly motivated by extraneous and political considerations, more to malign my reputation in the public eye. the manner in which the demand was raised at a time when I was out of the country on an important official mission, shows the anxiety of my political detractors to discredit me. (*Interruptions*)

I would like to assure this august House that my Government's decision to grant the plot in Bombay to the above-mentioned Cooperative Society was in good faith. I am not seeking protection behind legislative quibbling. I may be permitted to assure every hon. Member of this august House that my

conscience is clear. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.32 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at thirty seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Memorandum of understanding between Bharat Electronics Ltd. and the Department of Defence Production and Supplies, Ministry of Defence for 1992-93.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English Versions) between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the Department of Defence Production and Supplies, Ministry of Defence for the year 1992-93.

[Placed in Library See No. 27-2381/92]

Review on the working of and Annual Report of National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd. Lucknow for 1991-92.

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLLOT): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers, (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the National Hand-

loom Development Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1991-92.

(2) Annual Report of the National Development Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptrol-ler and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2382/92]

Notifications under Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985 and Motor Vehicles Act, 1986 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLLOT): Sri on behalf of Shri Jagdish Tytler, I beg to lay.

(1) A copy of the Inland Waterways Authority of India Amendment Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notifica-tion No. G.S.R. 551 (E) in Ga-zette of India dated the 22nd May, 1992 under section 36 of the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2383/92]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English Versions) under sub-section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Ve-hicles Act, 1986:-

(i) S.O 451 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th June, 1992 specify-ing the types of Transport Vehicles and Non-trans-port Vehicles mentioned in the table given in the Notification.

(ii) The Overall Dimensions of Motor Vehicles (Pre-scription of Conditions for Exemption) Rules, 1991

published in Notification No. G.S.R. 583 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th September 1991.

(iii) The overall Dimensions of Motor Vehicles (Prescription of Conditions for Exemptions) (Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 634 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 1992.

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) of item (2) above.

(Placed in Library *see* No. LT-2384/92)

(4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Ports Act, 1963:-

(i) G.S.R. 739 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 1991, approving the New Mangalore Port Trust Employees (General Provident Fund) Regulations, 1992.

(ii) G.S.R. 127 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th February, 1992, approving the Calcutta Port Trust Employees (Haldia Dock Complex) (Recruitment, Seniority and Promotion) Second Amendment Regulations, 1992.

(iii) G.S.R. 373 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 1992, approving the Madras Port Trust Employees'

(Acceptance of Employment after Retirement) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1992.

(iv) G.S.R. 399 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd April, 1992, approving the NMPTE (GPF) (First Amendment) Regulations, 1992. (Placed in Library *see* No. LT-2385/92)

(5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1990-91.

(ii) Annual Report of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited Bombay, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

(Placed in Library *see* No. LT-2386/92)

Notifications under Income Tax Act, 1961 and Expenditure Tax Act, 1987 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-WAR THAKUR): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961:-

(i) The Income-tax (Certified Proceedings) (Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 273 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th April 1992.

(ii) The Income Tax (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 302 (E) in Gazette of India Dated the 28th April, 1992.

(iii) The Income-tax (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 357 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 1992.

(iv) The Income-tax (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 385 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th May 1992.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2387/92]

(v) The Income-tax (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 492 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1992.

(2) A copy of the Expenditure-tax (Amendment) Rules, 1992 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 271 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 8th April, 1992 under sub-section (4) of section 31 of the Expenditure-tax Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2388/92]

(3) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 674 (E) (Hindi and Eng-

lish versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notifications No. 203/90-Cus., dated the 21st June, 1990 under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2389/92]

Notification Under Life Insurance Corporation Act 1956 and Annual Report of Deposit Insurance ad Credit Gurantee Corporation Bombay 1991-92 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy of the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Regulations, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. 3/4/35/91 in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 1992 under sub-section (3) of section 49 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-390/92]

(2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Gurantee Corporation, Bombay, for the year 1991-92 along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Gurantee Corporation Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2391/92]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Investment Centre, New

Delhi, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.

255 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st April, 1992.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2392/92]

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the government on the working of the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

(ii) The Imports and Exports (Control) Order, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O. 447 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1992.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2392/92]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91 along with Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2394/92]

(2) A copy of the Notifications No. 22 (N-3)/92-97 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th June, 1992 making certain amendments in the Export and Import Policy 1992-97 issued under paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Export and Import Policy 1992-97.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2395/92]

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the government on the working of the Indian Investment Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1990-91.

14.40 hrs

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that under Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, hon. Speaker had nominated the following Members as Members of panel of Chairmen:

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2393/92]

Notifications under Imports and Exports Act, 1947 and Export and Import duty 1992-93.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 :-

(i) The Imports (Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 1992 published in Notification No. S.O.

1. Shri Sharad Dighe
2. Shrimati Malini Bhattacharaya
3. Shri Tara Singh
4. Shri P.M. Sayeed
5. Shri Ram Naik
6. Shri Peter G. Marbaniang

Now, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri M.M. Jacob will make a statement.

14.41 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

(i) **Recovery of huge Quantity of Arms and Ammunition at Ahmedabad (Gujarat)**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI. M.M. JACOB):-

Sir, I rise to inform the House of the seizure of huge quantities of arms and explosives made in Ahmedabad recently.

The chain of events started with the arrest of one Lal Singh alias Manjit Singh in Bombay on the 16th of July. During the course of his interrogation he revealed certain details of his activities pertaining to Gujarat. These included acquisition of a few houses and vehicles. The houses were used for sheltering terrorists as well as storage of arms and explosives brought in from Pakistan. The vehicles including a truck were used for transporting the weapons etc. to various destinations. On the basis of the disclosures, searches were conducted of these houses as well as of those of his accomplices in Ahmedabad on 24th July, 1992. In the course of these searches, the following arms and explosives were seized:-

(1)	Rocket Launchers	-	4
(2)	AK-56 Rifles	-	35
(3)	Pistols	-	14
(4)	Magazines of AK-56 Rifles/Pistols	-	100
(5)	Drum Magazines	-	1
(6)	82.2 Grenades	-	25
(7)	H.G. 36 Grenades	-	12
(8)	Light Machine Gun	-	1
(9)	Packets of White coloured explosives	-	20
(10)	Packets of black coloured explosives	-	35
(11)	Packets of gelatine	-	34
(12)	Rockets	-	8
(13)	Electric wire for explosives	-	5
(14)	Insulating Roll	-	14
(15)	Booby wire Tape	-	9
(16)	Bundles of detonators	-	3
(17)	Plugs	-	14

(18)	Cartridges of AK-56 Rilles	-	5413
(19)	Cartridges of Pistols	-	1004
(20)	Cartridges of 9 mm	-	699
(21)	Fuse Plastic Rolls	-	14
(22)	Hand Grenades	-	10
(23)	Transistors Bombs	-	3

Cases have been registered under TADA, Arms Act and I.P.C. against Lal Singh and eleven other persons. Four persons namely Akram, resident of Palampur, Mohmed Anwar, Mohmed Ismail Saiyed, resident of Kureshi Nagar, Haider Hussain Kalubhai Kureshi, resident of Juhapura and Muzahin Abdul Samir Shaikh also of resident Juhapura have also been arrested so far.

Investigation to find more details of Lal Singh's terrorist activities and linkages is continuing. In view of the wide ramifications of these developments within the country and abroad, the government on the request of the State Government has decided to entrust the investigation to the CBI.

These seizures and disclosures made by Lal Singh reconfirm our apprehensions of the sinister designs of the terrorists and the support being received by them from Pakistan. I am sure, the House would join me in expressing grave concern in the matter.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Gandhi Nagar): I join the Minister in sharing the concern of the Government because he has appealed to the House and said that the House would join him in expressing grave concern in the matter. But I would not confine myself merely with sharing his concern. I would express my disappointment over the Government's failure to check all this continuing influx and infiltration from across the border both in the West as well as in the East. I would request the Government to give us an opportunity to

discuss this particular matter at some length. This discussion can be not merely in respect of Ahmedabad, but in the overall context of the massive influx of arms, money and men that has been going on. The Whole thing has become a kind of a scene. Our country has become a kind of a Dharmashala, that way! Anyone can come in any time and bring in anything! Very often, bona fide people are restrained but these people who come with ulterior ends and sinister motivations are not stopped. We are unable to check them. As far as the long list of these rocket launchers, light machine guns, etc. are concerned, I am told that all these add up to a value of more than two and a half crores of rupees. This is the value of this ammunition! So, I would request the Government to have one day discussion on this particular matter.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA (Godhra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the third trip. He could not be detected during his earlier two trips. Lal Singh is the terrorist who master minded the plan to blow up the Kanishka aircraft. The hon. Chief Minister made an announcement at 11 O'clock of the night hastily. Had he waited for one more day, some more information could have been extracted. They were detected in their third trip. The arms seized were valued at more than Rs. 2 crore in each trip. The value of arms may much be more than detected. A mere statement will not serve the purpose. It should also be enquired as to where did the

[Sh. Shakesinh Vaghela]

arms go and who took them.

The hon. Home Minister had himself gone there and I think the hon. Defence Minister had also gone there. The border is open. Truck and camel loads of arms and ammunition can be brought in. There is no check on it. It is such a serious matter.

14.43 1/2 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business durint the week commencing 3rd August, 1992, will consist of:

1. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from Today's Order Paper.
2. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the foreign Exchange Conservation (Travel) Tax Abolition Ordinance, 1992 and consideration and passing of the Foreign Exchange Conservation (Travel) Tax Abolition Bill, 1992.
3. Discussion and Voting on:
 - (a) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1992-93.
 - (b) Demands for Excess Grants (General) for 1988-89.
4. Discussion on the Resolution regarding further continuance of Presidents's Rule in the State of Jammu & Kashmir and Discussion & Voting on the Balance

Demands for Grants (Jammu & Kashmir) for 1992-93.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad): I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

Attempts by large business houses to takeover small private banks.

Need to review the present Formula for assistance under the Calamity Relief Fund and to formulate interim formula for CRF assistance till new guidelines are prepared by the Tenth Finance Commission.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Spekaer, Sir, I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. The office of the Post Master General functioning in jaipur in the eastern region of Rajasthan, which was transferred on orders from Central Government should be retransferred to Ajmer immediately.
2. A Central School should be set up in Beawar, the famous industrial city and business centre of Ajmer district of Rajasthan keeping in view the demands of the Central Government employees.

[English]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): I request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:

Need to provide financial assistance to the special category States.

[Translation]

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): I

request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda.

Various irrigational projects of Rajasthan have been stalled due to inter-State water disputes. Efforts to solve them should be made at the higher level.

[*English*]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI (Pune): I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:

Declaration of National Highways in Maharashtra State.

Shifting/closures of the Central Technological Research Institute, Nagpur.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): I request that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

Problems of Public Sector Units, particularly Fertiliser Plant, Talcher (FCI).

Evasion of income-tax by different Trusts including the Kalinga Trust in Orissa.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda:

Inclusion of Rajasthani language in 8th schedule to the Constitution.

The proposal of shifting of Railway Workshop from Jodhpur and retrenching 3000 employees should be abandoned and the workshop should be utilised for Broadgauge coaches repairs and manufacturing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Deputy, Sir, I request that the following items

may be included in the next week's agenda:

Allocation of funds should be made for construction of new power projects for the development of Bihar and immediate clearance should be given to them.

14.50 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE Eighteenth Report

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Eighteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th July, 1992."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Eighteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th July, 1992."

(*Interruptions*)

14.50 1/2 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[*English*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Sir, I have not made my submissions.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Jha, you please make your submissions.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Only the written text will go on record.

(ii) *Doordarshan & AIR coverage of 25th Olympic Games at Barcelona, Spain*

"That this House do agree with the Eighteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th July, 1992."

The motion was adopted.

14.54 hrs.

[*English*]

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS (GENERAL) 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANIARAM POTDUKHE): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1988-89. (Placed in library see. No. Lt - 2407A92)

14.55 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

(ii) *Doordarshan and Air coverage of 25th Olympic Games at Barcelona, Spain*

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA):

Doordarshan:

Doordarshan has made arrangements for covering the 25th Olympics at Barcelona. Approximately 110 hours of coverage, live as well as the recordings of the games, would be provided by Doordarshan. The opening ceremony has already been telecast live on 25th July, 1992. The closing ceremony will also be telecast live on 10th August, 1992. The semifinals and finals of hockey and football, the finals of volleyball, badminton and women's singles tennis would also be shown live. The other games which

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): I have already written a letter to the Planning Minister Yesterday, after we had the B.A.C. Meeting. He is the person who is to do it. I have already sent the letter to the Planning Minister to do so.

14.53 hrs.

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE-
CONTD.**

Eighteenth Report

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

would be shown live for varying periods of time are boxing, gymnastics, athletics, rowing cycling, equestrian, archery and yachting. Sixteen capsules of 60 minutes duration containing the highlights will also be shown. The first capsule was shown on 26th July, 1992. The recorded version of the league matches of the Indian hockey team will also be shown by Doordarshan. The first match between India and Germany was shown on 27th July, 1992.

Doorshan have also deputed a four member team to cover these Olympic Games. This team will produce 30 minute capsules specifically highlighting the performance of the Indian participants in the games.

All India Radio: In addition to the running commentary of the opening ceremony broadcast on 25th July, 1992 All India Radio will provide similar running commentary in respect of the closing ceremony, the semi-finals of the hockey and the match for the bronze medal. All India Radio will also broadcast daily one 15 minutes capsule containing the highlights of each day.

In the order to facilitate the people and all who are interested to know the schedule, the schedule of Doordarshan programmes on Barcelona Olympics was published prominently in leading dailies in English, Hindi and other regional languages.

14.57 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Scam Involving Operations in Government Securities running into thousands crores of rupees.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up discussion under

Rule 193 on Securities Scam.

Dr. Debi Prosad Pal	Absent
Shri Murli Deora	Absent
Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar	Absent
Shri Prithviraj D. Chavan	Absent
Shri Digvijaya	Absent
Shri A. Charles	Absent
Shri Somnath Chatterjee	Absent

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE

(Dum Dum): If Speakers from that side as well as this side are not present, it will not be correct to take up this 193 today for only half-an-hour. It is much better if this item is taken on Monday. This piecemeal discussion is O.K.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Somebody from Congress can start. Anybody who is ready.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): If there is no speaker, why should we carry on this Business?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, there are speakers.

[Translation]

SHRI SANKERSINH VAGHELA
 (Godhra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a discussion was going on in the House on the bank scam but Shri Chandra Shekharji intervened in it and got it stopped. No one will forgive him. The time when the matter was hearing its climax he stopped it. Had the discussion been continued something spectacular must have come to light. More facts could have surfaces, but he did not allow the

[Sh. Sankersinh Vaghela]

discussion to proceed further. As a result a decision in the matter has been further delayed by a week.

Sir, though you, I want to say that this scam is like a vicious circle which wil drag more people into it and trap them. No one can escape from it. Mr. Finance Minister, you say that employee of the Reserve Bank of India is involved in it. You also say that no Minister is responsible for it. Close on the heels of your clean chit that no Ministe is involved in it, comes the resignation of the hon. Minister of Commerce. Most probably some more resignations might follow suit. Under the circumstances how can you say that nobody is involved in this scam. Only two reports have come and both of these reports have exposed many loopholes. The third one is likely to come. I would like to request you to table the third report also. Many more scandals will come to light through this report and the people of the country will come to know about them. your have conducted raids on th Fairgrowth company only the day before yesterday.

15.00 hrs.

(SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*)

There is no use of crying over split milk. What will be the use of raiding this company. I, therefore, want to ask some questions to you, Mr. Finance Minister. Harshad Mehta is only a tip of an iceberg. i want to ask as to how long will he kept under remand. have you ever thought of arresting any of your officers. is not the Governor of the reserve bank responsible for this? The supervision authority of the Reserve bank of India could furnish a report within 15 days time about the total amount of securities deposited so far. The scandal has been continuing for last so many months. What did the Reserve bank of India do? It remained inactive over the matter. you have also been the RBI Governor. Don't you know that it is your responsibility?

If somebody commits theft and he is caught, he is being applauded. So the theft was committed at you instance and they belong to your company. later on, you say that such and such persons should be apprehended. You know everything as to whom you are arresting. Even then you appointed mr. Janaki Raman, a Deputy Governor of the RBI as the Enquiry officer. How can a Deputy Governor write against the Governor. Had you made some other person as Chairman then many things would have come to light and some ex-Governor could also have been exposed. As such, a subordinate officer cannot write against his senior officer.

you are giving too much protection to the National Housing Bank. If somebody is to be held responsible for the bank scam, it is the Ministry of Finance and the RBI which should be put in the first place. it is the prime responsibility of the Prime Minister of this country also. For how long and how will you ot spare? you have shunted out Mr. Madhwan. I would not like to go into its details. It has been the recorded history and culture of the Congress party that whenever a scandal took place, the party did everthing to get rid of the right person from the scene. The party wants that there should be a scam of one or the other type. He was removed from Bofors investigation. When mistakenly, he was assigned the job of investigation in the bank scam he was pressurised to seek compulsory retirement. mr. Chairman, Sir, the work—"Supari" is being used in Bombay in Maharashtra by the Dawood gang against Madhwan and harshad Mehta. In view of this will you give them adequate protection? The gangsters of Dawood will kill Madhwan or Harshad Mehta whenever they get a chance as it was done in the case of Nagar wal involving bank money of Rs. 60 lakh. Therefore, you shoul dprovide adequate security to Harshad Mehta and Madhwan, otherwise there are many bad characters in the country who will kill them. Politicians are also involved in it and are in collusion with the Dawood gang and the Bombay based mafia. our politicians have links with the Bombay

based people. As such security should be provided to them, otherwise anything could happen to them at any time.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the four major foreign banks, viz the Citi Bank, the Standard Chartered Bank, the Bank of America and the Grindley's Bank are also involved in the 70 percent transactions of this scam. Out of it the Citi Bank and the bank of America account for 40 percent transactions. Therefore, what will be the utility of these banks in our country. Will they only earn profit or will there be some control over them by you.

You must think of the utility of the foreign banks in our country. An enquiry should be held against these banks also. If more than Rs. 10 thousand crore are involved in it who will share the loss? Will all the banks share it? Will you ask all the banks to cover the loss? It is the innocent who is accused. You have to reply to it. Mr. Harshad Mehta is not new in the trade. How much donation has been given by Mr. Harshad Mehta to Rajiv Gandhi Foundation. Who are the trustees of the Foundation. For what purpose they have taken Rs. 25 lakh as donation? The Reliance people have donated rupees one crore. Why did the Government accept it? Did the government accept the donation just to give protection? How will you bring him into the dock after taking a large amount of money as donation? You already know about the influence of money and how it works.

Not only that, Harshad Mehta came to Delhi before presentation of the Budget. Now Mr. Krishnamurthy has resigned. But our Finance Secretary was appointed through Mr. Krishnamurthy. All information relating to budget, perspective position of rupee and possibility of its convertibility was given to Mr. Harshad Mehta. The value of shares was increasing. The Government was happy. North Block was happy and credit was being given to the Industrial policy and budget for high rise in the value of shares. There are big cartal bull cartal and bear cartal in the stock exchange. The Bull cartal has entered into

the business. The Government would not come to know if the Bear Cartals had not exposed him. These things came to limelight through their mutual competition.

Therefore, I may inform the hon. Finance Minister, that the entire Finance Ministry, the Finance Secretary and the Commerce Secretary were involved in the scam. This way, Mr. Harshad Mehta had influenced the Government. Information regarding the Budget was leaked, but he could not get the information regarding the value of rupee in future. Under these circumstances, he entered into share business. He did business with the help of your money and the money of crores of poor people including the people of low status like peons etc.

There is maximum share business in Gujarat State also. I feel ashamed that our Gurajati people have been commission agents in the scam. Mr. Harshad Mehta has become scapegoat. Bank officials, Director and Chairman of the bank are responsible for making him a scapegoat. What is the criteria for selecting the Chairman of bank? What is the criteria for selecting the Chairman of bank? What are the guidelines to appoint a Director of the bank? Don't you examine the past history and political pressure while appointing people against these posts. Do you know about the integrity of the official? You appoint a Chairman after taking bribe. Although you know the integrity of a man is doubtful yet you appoint him as Chairman. You have appointed many such people as Chairmen and Directors whose past history was known to you. Later on you say that you are not aware of it.

Mr. Chairmen, Sir according to the Budget, he got only Rs. 490 crores as commission. How much money will be taken back from him out of this brokerage? How will the Government recover it? If you had collected his shares lying with him, at least the amount of interest would have been recovered. It means that it was your political obligation. The Government should express

it's concern over the stigma attached to it due to Mr. harshad Mehta and scam. The situations like lack of faith and doubtful integrity have been created about the economy of India throughout the world. henceforth no country will believe India. Today rupee has no value and our economy has no value. There was a great bungling due to minor mistake of adopting industrial policy and other policies. No country of the world wants to have dealings with India regarding import-export or about money matters. We have lost our credit. We have lost our credibility throughout the world.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a list. I don't know the number of people mentioned in the list. In my opinion, copies of it have been circulated to all M.P.s.

[English]

The Ministers who are involved in the stock scam scandal are

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, how can he mention these names? He has to substantiate the charges. He has to take the responsibility and prove it.

Sir, he has mentioned the names of certain Cabinet Minister and other Ministers...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The names will not go on record.

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKERSINNGH VAGHELA: The list is with me. If you wish, I place it on the table of the House. (*Interruptions*) For the first time...after independence there is such a

JULY 31, 1992 *Govt. Securities running 400 into thousands of crores of rupees*
scam...(*Interruptions*) The Prime Minister has assured us that the persons involved in the scam would not be spared...(*Interruptions*)

I would like to place a paper on the Table of the House...(*Interruptions*) There are so many names in the air but the Prime Minister says that he will not spare anybody. The third report which the Government has received may be laid on the Table of the House. He says, "I shall not spare". What does it mean. in Bofors case also he used to say that he would not spare anybody...(*Interruptions*) He has lost his memory. What is his method? The hon. Prime Minister says that his Minister of External Affairs does not know who has given him this letter. Please announce the name...(*Interruptions*) You have said that the country would forgive me if I was involved in the scam. You cannot prolong it. How long would you save yourself. Mr. harshad Mehta was raided the day budget was presented. The same day, he was being interviewed about the budget by our door-darshan. Expect Harshad Mehta why other could not be approached for interview. What was recovered during raid? Nothing, no documents no bundles of security papers were recovered during raid on 27th march. Nothing was recovered from the house of the person involved in the scam of Rs. 4000 crore. it was the only raid. Has anybody in India ever written a cheque for an amount of Rs. 126 crore? Where from has he gained this large amount of money? Why an enquiry was not conducted to know it? You are worried only about Mr. Janakiraman, and Mr. Venkataraman. You should not worry about them. All these people, including Chairmen of banks and officials of Reserve Bank who were involved in the scam should be brought into the dock. The Government has caught one culprit. But there are so many people involved in the scam. You have caught Mr. Narottam Shah, who belonged to Daud gang. Please let me know where is Narottam Shah...(*Interruptions*) He must have been the partner of Harshad Mehta. Our Government has not expressed any concern about something which should have

been considered so far... (Interruptions) I would like to request the Minister of Finance not to issue a certificate to the. In spite of your announcement, Mr. Chidambaram and Mr. Krishnamurthy were found involved in the scam. When Mr. Krishnamurthy was appointed a member of Planning Commission, you were not aware about his past history.

It has been published in many more newspapers today. There has been a raid in Bangalore today, what does the Government want to prove by conducting this raid after so long time. The Government should lay its third report on the table and should explain to the world as to how it is leading the country towards economic prosperity or it should accept the responsibility for the shortcomings and should declare that it would not be repeated in future. The hon. Minister is also responsible for it. It has been discussed here that anything could be known only after the submission of the report or after constituting of the Joint Parliamentary Committee. But it would be better if the government makes an announcement in advance. I would like to say about the joint Parliamentary Committee that it should not waste time by lingering on the case. Grace and glamour of the whole thing will fade. If it is possible, you should consult the Hon. Prime Minister about the Joint Inquiry Committee. But it would be better if the Government makes an announcement in advance. I would like to say about the Joint Parliamentary Committee that it should not waste time by lingering on the case. Grace and glamour of the whole thing will fade. If it is possible, you should consult the Hon. Prime Minister about joint Inquiry Committee and should suggest to elect Chairman from the opposition parties who are not supporting your Government. I may, however, be excused for making such a statement I know, the A.I.D.M.K., Tulu Desham, Janata Dal and Shiv Sena are all opposition parties but they are all your supporters.

[English]

Vikash means an Opposition party and

it should be an Opposition party in real sense.

[Translation]

The Chairman should be from one of the opposition parties. There should be time-bound programme and it should be implemented. Besides, cases of bungling of more than one thousand crore rupees in public undertakings like O.N.G.C. have come to light. Officials of Public undertakings have earned profits in the scam while money was being deposited in bank on the 31st March which is the last month of the fiscal year. They are not only the recipients of the commissions given by the companies, rather, they may be exused, the officials do also charge their own commission for giving money to be deposited in the Banks. For that the bank officials give money on the interest rate of two percent. From where do they provide money and from where do they get it. It is so big a scam that concerns several crores unaccounted money. It can be assessed through this angle. I have a list of the Chief Ministers of four to five States who are also reportedly involved. It actually involves half of the cabinet and a large number of officials. The country has been made bankrupt. If you do not express your anxiety even on such a big scam how the Public will forgive you. You have been dealing with financial matters throughout your life. At one time you had been an advisor to Shrimati Indira Gandhi. You have been on such good posts. So if you do not do anything who else will do. The hon. Minister has never been a politician, he has never been an active member of the Congress Party. He should save the economy. He can help the hon. Prime Minister who is in an embarrassing position. Nobody else will have as much information as the hon. Minister has. He should be concerned about that and he should also remove the Bank officials. Arresting a Harshad Mehta and a handful others will not do, actually all those who are responsible should be arrested and remanded. The Minister simply ordered the officials to go on leave and he thought that it was all. They went on leave with crores of

[Sh. Sankersinh Yaghela (Godhra)]

rupees and enjoying. All the concerned official should be taken into custody like Harshad Mehta and they should be remanded.

You should not try to protect the officials of the National Housing Bank and the Reserve bank. Undue protection should also not be given to the employees of the Finance Department. There is need of framing a good policy to run the country properly. This will ensure credibility of the public and of the foreign countries in us. People will then know that how and why Harshad Mehta and others have been arrested. he is a responsible man and he is at the help of affairs. Things are happening under his nose only. He should try to know the reason. He is also responsible for all that what is going on. He should therefore raise himself above these things and should assure the country and the world that what has happened will not be repeated. he should assure to provide a right direction to the country and should also assure to clean the economic system.

With these words I conclude my speech and I fear that the cases of Harshad Mehta and Madhawan may take the shape of Nagarwala case and there may be a repetition of it.

[English]

SHRI K.P. REDDAIAH YADAV (Machilipatnam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to express my views.

The whole country is very much eager to know the outcome of the scam. It is agitating the minds of the millions of the people of this country. I submit that personally I have no grudge against any person in this House. I want to present a few facts before this hon. House.

Sir, it is said:

"Yatha Raja Tatha Praja

and

Yatha Praja Tatha Raja"

It is inter-linked. If the 'Raja' is not good, the people also will follow suit. If the people are not good, if they are not electing the correct persons, the political system-the Assemblies and Parliament-is polluted. Therefore, the origin starts there.

I submit that it is not a scam which has started one year ago or some time ago. It is accumulated over several years. Our Indian people-bureaucrats, politicians etc., have deposited not less than 60,000-70,000 crores in Swiss banks. I do not want to go into those details now. only want to bring a few facts to the notice of this august House.

The people of this country have got trust and faith in Dr. Manmohan Singh's ability, sincerity and efficiency. I hope that he will keep it up.

Actually speaking, in the normal course, investment in the trade of buying and selling shares is not a mistake. Anybody can invest in this and purchase shares. Even Ministers, M.P.s. or bureaucrats-anybody who has got money can invest. There is nothing wrong also. I submit that if Shri Harshad Mehta came and met our Opposition Members or somebody else and offers shares what will they do? if shares are offered at Rs. 10 what will they do? In that way, with confidence and faith in him, Shri Chidambaram might have given a cheque for Rs. 2 lakhs to purchase of shares. It is good to that extent. It is all right.

But how the manipulators, brokers, political brokers and power brokers managed them later and what they have done are things to be analysed by us. He has given some shares to M.P.s., Ministers, bureaucrats etc. O.K. There is nothing wrong. But afterwards he has managed the banking system to help him.

I want to know how a cheque in other person's name has been credited in Harshad Mehta's account. This is the serious thing. This is the thing where Ministers, bureaucrats are involved. Or else, how can a cheque in the name of UCO Bank or ANZ Grindlays Bank or some other bank be credited in Harshad Mehta's account? Their backing must be there. Their support to him is likely to be there. This aspect has to be looked into.

So many issues come up in this respect. It is not the issue as to who is involved in this. Everybody is involved here. I think so many names will come up in the inquiry. It will be no wonder if the names of Chief Ministers from Opposition parties also figure in the list—that is what I heard. I think even some of them are involved. It is no secret.

I want to narrate to this House as to the whole system has become what it is today in the country. During Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's time, every political party needed some assistance or money for conducting elections etc. At that time, big industrial people used to give donations. After that, degradation of the political standards have come thereby, the bureaucracy has taken the upper hand. You will be surprised to hear that some of the senior IAS officers are getting tickets in some parties to their own henchmen and these IAS officers are getting their candidates nominated for the post of Ministers or Chief Minister. This is how the political system is working in the country. Some bureaucrats are keeping some MPs and MLAs under them and making them Ministers and they have now come upto the Chief Minister. Some poor Minister might have purchased some shares. It does not matter, but what about the linkage between the bureaucracy and the political system?

I know that some of the Ministers are getting instructions from the senior IAS officers. It is like that not only in Delhi it is there in Andhra Pradesh also and thereby the whole administrative system has gone to dogs. Now, we ourselves are unnecessarily

getting degraded. Just now, we have heard Shri Sharad Pawar's case. Is it not the duty of the Revenue Secretary or the Finance Secretary to bring that nothing into the notice of the then Chief Minister? Therefore, all of a sudden, we cannot say that the Ministers are alone responsible or the bureaucrats alone are responsible. If you go to any bank officer, he will a lengthy list of questions for sanctioning a loan of Rs. 10,000/- Take the bio-data of 100 bank officers who are involved in this and see the cases where there are no money transactions. You will see that he would have written about 100 queries for sanctioning a loan to an industry or for a hotel or for a hospital. Do not think they are unaware of all these things. It is clear now that the bank officers and IAS officers are involved. Why should we blame this Government? All the newspapers are saying that it had started dueing Mr. V.P. Singh's Government, during Mr. Chandra Shekhar's Government and it is continuing now. It is not the question of only one political party, but the entire political system in the country has been completely degraded to the extent that the Ministers are depending and getting instructions from the IAS officers or from CMDs, because the persons who are elected to this House have got no background.

Sir, earlier, during the time of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Puchalapalli Sundaraih, Jyoti Basu and Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji, when their disciple is an honest man and a man with credibility and integrity, they used to be very happy.

Now, unless the disciple of the present leader is completely third-graded, man, unless he is completely a corrupt man, unless he is an anti-social element, the leader will not make him an MP or MLA. What I say is, the present political system is wrong. Let the national leaders put their mind and heart to make a search. (*Interruptions*)

Is there any leader who is giving a lift to a person in the Congress Party or BJP unless he is an anti-social element? How

[Sh. Sankersinh Yaghela (Godhra)]

15.32 hrs. 1/2 hrs.

can you produce a good Minister? Out of the stuff only, the Prime Minister has to select the Ministers. Where are the good Ministers like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhai Patel?

~~MR. CHAIRMAN:~~ Mr. Yadav you can continue next time.

Now we take the Private Members Business.

Shri Amar Roypradhan.

15.32 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Twelfth and Thirteenth Reports

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Twelfth and Thirteenth Reports of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 29th July, 1992."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twelfth and Thirteenth Reports of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 29th July, 1992."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rup Chand pal may continue his speech on his Resolution.

RESOLUTION RE REVIEW OF DISINVESTMENT POLICY-CONT'D

[English]

SHRI RUP CHAND PAL (Hoogly): Sir, while moving the Resolution, what I tried to impress upon the Government was, that the Government has no authority to disinvest the shares of the public sector because neither in the manifesto of the Congress Party nor in the reports of any committee, for that matter there has ever been mention about it. The Government is selling the property of the nation without having any reference to such action to the people.

So I have said that the people will not tolerate the *malefic* action of the Government.

Second point that I wanted to make was regarding the *modus operandi* had the shares for disinvestment were under-priced. The book value of the shares were taken into consideration and I had given some examples. The paid up capital of Bharat Heavy Electrical Ltd., was to the tune of Rs. 240 crores, but the replacement cost is about Rs. 25,000 crores. So also in the case of five public undertakings in the oil sector, namely Bharat Petroleum Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Limited, Madras Refineries, Cochin Refineries and Bongaigaon Refineries, I wanted to impress upon the Government that those shares were under-priced. The whole deal was made under the veil of secrecy, in the name of disinvesting the shares a manipulation had been made and it was a bonanza, almost a free gift to new purchases.

I have already made it clear how the reserves of Bharat Petroleum and others have been handed over these resources are to the tune of hundreds of crores of rupees. They were given as free gift to the people who had purchases the shares.

Here in this case, the Government has been saying that the new layers were the mutual funds or the financial institutions but the janaki Raman Committee has shown that through these outfits, frontal organisations like the Allahabad Bank and others, the foreign banks had purchased large chuck of the shares.

The concept of public sector was a product of the freedom struggle. From the days of freedom struggle, the leaders had been assuring the nationl that when we become independent, we should depend heavily for our self-reliance on the public sector which wee should take to the commanding heights of the economy.

While we are debating about the Ram Janambhoomi Babri Masjid controversy, about the construction of the temple on the disputed place, violating the court order, another case of violation of the Constitution, another case of dismantling of the temples of modern India, the public sector undertakings—that is the expression used by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru about the public sector giants—has taken place without the mandate of the people. This is being done at the dictates of the IMF and the World Bank. It was made amply clear in the Budget Speech of the Finance Minister that if we were to reduce fiscal deficit, Rs. 2500 crores will have to be collected by way of disinvesting the Government shares of public sector undertakings and were given to understand that the rest will be used for national renewal fund.

This compromise, this surrender at the dictates of IMF and the World Bank, compromised our economic sovereignty and our self-reliance. So oppose this very action and our demand is that the Government should halt, stop, and without giving away the already sold shares, they should be bought back and no further disinvestment should take place. The Government should assure the nation that whatever mistake it might have committed, whatever compromise it

might have made, whatever surrender it might have done at the dictates of IMF and World bank, they are not going further to surrender to disinvesting and they should assure the nation that whatefer is sold out, would be bought back by the Government.

I stongly believe that the whole House will support me and the Government should just honour my resolution and stop and desist further investment any buy back the already sold deinvested shares.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE
(Panskura): Sir, my hon. colleague Shri Rupchand Palji has spoken on the general policy of disinvestment. While fully agreeing with him, accordind to my own practice, I shall not repeat anyone of those arguments. I shall only give some examples, where we are standing on the brink:

I would like to know form the hon. Minister what he wants to do about them. i quote the example of Tyre Corporation of India. in this it was actually agreed upon earlier that a scheme of Rs. 40 crores would be taken up. That was the understanding. There was another understanding that in the Kakinada Tyre Division, Rs. 99 crores would also be invested. Then, before that also, a lot of discussion was there.

Actually, the Status Paper did recommend these expenditures. Even then, this has been sent to the BIFR. I would like to know whether the pious wish, and pious declaration of our hon. Minister that they would not disinvest, would be carried on in this Corporation. I would also like to know whether they would invest the said amount.

Before going to anything else, I would like to come to my oft-repeated question of bengal Potteries. A criminal act has been done towards it. on the floor of the House, for 12 years. I could extract a promise. For 12 years, the Government was forced to give only the wages. A paltry sum of Rs. 500 crores was refused for this great bengal

[Smt. Geeta Mukherjee (Panskura)]

Potteries of ours, which is a pride of our nation, which earns foreign exchange like anything and that is at the tail end of it. Now, that is under discussion with the Ministry of Industries.

The representatives of all Parties of West Bengal went there and Prof. Kurien assured us that he would be recommending to the Prime Minister that the liabilities should be written-off. I can tell you, Sir, even if the liabilities are written-off, even today there will be people who are ready to invest here. So, this policy, which has started earlier, of denying working capital has landed the bengal Potteries in this situation. This is one of the biggest examples to show how you have become penny-wise and pound foolish. I would like to know your reaction in this regard.

Let me take another thing. I come to NJMC now. In West Bengal, there is a nationalised Jute-mill. Those who have been to the Exhibition here, which was opened by hon. Shivraj Patil-ji the other day, would have seen how many new products from jute can be produced and most of them can earn foreign exchange. Even then, why is the NJMC in trouble? Why cannot the Government coordinate its functions? Why cannot the Government buy jute at the proper price? Let the jute barons not fleece the peasants any more. Also, without spending the money, they have spent it somewhere; they have sent it elsewhere. They have ultimately put not only our workers in difficulty but also our country in jeopardy, our foreign exchange is seriously undermined. I would like to know that what the Minister wants to do about it.

Then, I would like to know about another thing. That is about the Fertilizer Corporation of India, Sindri. This is one of the But before I come to Sindri, I would like to mention about the heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi. A Working Capital of Rs. 26 crores was agreed upon in the Memorandum of Under-

standing between the Union and the Government. But it was not coming. Why? Ranchi is such a place which is surrounded by Adivasis and I am sure among the workers, it is an important component. Why should Ranchi be made a *Page a Gar* a mad people's place where we will all go?

Sindri Fertilizers is one of our oldest corporations. Here also, no working capital is being given. Lot of loans are given to input suppliers. Who are the input suppliers? They are the companies like the Indian Oil Corporation, BCCL. Are they pauper? Is IOC pauper? Why not IOC pay back dues to Sindri Fertilizers Corporation? And all the proposals for revamping which were agreed upon between the Board of Directors and the Government of India which have been kept in abeyance be revived. I am giving these four examples. There are many examples. I would like to know apart from the pious wishes what else we can expect. If you think that privatisation is going to pay us, then please remember that the best of our Indian monopoly capital, the Tatas for whom we have some soft corner has a zero tax returns. Please do not forget that. That is what you get back from them. If this is the position, why should not disinvest? There are very many places where actually public share can be floated. You can do it and help it. Instead of wasting money like this through horrible schemes, why should you not revive organisations like this and protect our public sector to the best of our capacity.

I would just conclude by saying that there is a complaint that there is no work culture in the public sector undertakings. I admit that became the position for some time. But I can assure you that the workers of the public sector undertakings, whom I met now, they are really very eager to give their best for the production. Please take this message and revive our country along with the millions of workers who are involved in these industries. I hope we will get your answer. Thank you.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution whole-heartedly moved by Shri Roopchand pal. I congratulate him on this occasion because he has raised a very important issue which concerns not only several lakhs of workers engaged in these public sectors but also the interest of the nation as a whole. He deserves congratulations from the House.

I want to remind the House about the genesis, of the concept of this disinvestment. As a matter of fact, our Finance Minister Shri Manmohan Singh referred in his Budget speech for disinvesting Rs. 2,500 crores. I do not know what was the intention and the objective of that? To me the whole idea, the whole concept was to reduce the fiscal deficit of our country. And that was because of the diktats of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. The diktat was that the deficit should be narrowed down to 6.6 percent of the GDP. And under that instruction, the Government - Shri Manmohan Singh - wanted to disinvest to the amount of Rs. 2,500 crores.

Sir, as at present, the first round brought us Rs. 1442 crores; the second round brought us Rs. 1608 crores totalling to Rs. 3037 crores. It is neither my complaint nor Mr. pal's, but the general complaint is that these shares have been under-priced; under-priced heavily. Some calculations suggested by somebody is available with me, which says that instead of Rs. 3037 crores, the Government could have obtained Rs. 20,000 crores; that is a net loss of Rs. 17,000 crores, caused by way of taking to a strategy of disinvestment and it has brought a greater loss to the country.

Sir, in this connection, I want to draw the attention of Shri Thungon, though it is not Shri Thungon who is concerned, and as a matter of fact, it is the entire Government which is concerned, if the primary consideration was to reduce the fiscal deficit of our country, was there not any other way left to

us other than this disinvestment. I would say there was.

I have got some documents to prove that these public sector enterprises have a retained profit of Rs. 5167 crores. Who prevented the Government to take recourse to what I would say as retained profit, in order to tide-over the crisis of fiscal deficit than instead of having Rs. 3003 crores while losing more than Rs. 20,000 crores? We could have avoided this situation; we could have averted this economic crisis and we could have brought down the fiscal deficit by simply taking recourse to this retained profit of the public sector enterprises.

Sir, I have got my time to explain what is meant by retained profit and that would not have cost any loss to the nation and to the country. On this occasion, I also want to bring to the notice that the public sector shares belong to the people, it belongs to the nation and not to anybody, not to Shri Manmohan Singh or to Shri Thungon or to me. I referred to a calculation made by Shri K. Ashok Rao, who happens to be the General Secretary of the Public Sector Employees Association. He has calculated this and he has said:

"That the value of the capital invested in the Central public sector enterprises as per the Public Sector Enterprises Survey is Rs. 1,13,324 crores. However, the placement value of the public sector enterprises assets taken at the current price would easily be over hundred times. Thus for a population of 85 crores this was how owns to an asset ownership of Rs. 1 lakh per day. Thus, every single Indian owns an asset of Rs. 1 lakh in the public sector enterprises."

Sir, every Indian, according to his calculations, owns an asset of Rs. 1 lakh in the public sector enterprises. And you - the Government - completely are oblivious of this public asset and treated it as your own asset and treated it as your own house property. I do not want to use some other harsh words. Therefore, as I have mentioned, it is

[Sh. Chitta Basu]

not the question of this factory or that factory; it is the question of the nation as a whole and squandering away the assets of the public.

For the time being let us assume that the Government has got a policy frame regarding this disinvestent, though I do not think they have got any policy objective might be to realise some more money for the Government. In this case Mr. Pal has explained that his strategy has not been appropriate, you have lost more than you have gained; you have lost Rs. 20 thousand crore and you have got only Rs. 3300 crore. Therefore it is not the appropriate strategy of realising money, it is the wrong strategy.

The second policy objective might be to dilute the holdings of the public sector undertakings in the direction of your desire, that is privatisation. You may want that instead of cent percent holding there should be some dilution, so that ultimately we can get it privatised. But that is also a foolish set.

Some reports say that it is 8 percent. Of course 31, or 32 if you include Maruti, shares have been sold. In certain enterprises you have off-loaded 5 percent, 2 percent, 1 percent and sometimes 20 percent. Therefore simply by loading off some percentage you are not having any control or any dilution and that does not lead to a considerable extent the control over that industry by a private person or private shareholder. Therefore that purpose is also not very much effective.

The third objective might be to bring about reduction of losses thereby reduce the budgetary allocation. Here you have sold away the profit earning undertakings share and therefore there is no question of reducing losses. On the other hand you have loaded off the shares of profit earning undertakings. Therefore you are not reducing the losses and also not reducing the quantum of

budgetary allocation. I shall come later on to these things.

Therefore if there is any policy then the objectives are not clear. If there is any objective the strategy you have adopted is self-defeating and counter-productive. Therefore I say that this Government has nothing to build up its case in so far as disinvestment is concerned.

Another grouse is that it has become a fashion today to denigrate the public sector in our country as a whole. I shall give certain information to the hon. Minister who is very much concerned with the public sector. Is it not the fact Mr. Minister that 85 percent of the capital invested in the public sector is giving fairly reasonable dividend of 8 percent? It is admitted by the Government that 85 percent of the total capital invested in the public sector enterprises brings proper returns, fair returns, reasonable returns of eight percent; yet you are eloquently denigrating the public sector. Now, let us take into account this fact. In the Sixth Plan, the government obtained Rs. 27,570 crores by way of excise duties, customs duties, corporate tax and dividends from these public sector undertakings. In the Seventh Plan, the Government obtained rs. 57,873 crores. These public sector enterprises do not hide their profits, they do not maintain a second book. They are bound to pay the corporate tax, they are bound to pay the excise duties and they are bound to pay whatever is to be paid to the government, unlike the private sector.

Now I am reminded of what late lamented Mrs. Indira Gandhi said. Once in this very House she was heard saying that the private sector is really private. That means, we do not know anything of the private sector; everything is private to them. But, in the case of public sector, everything is public and it is known to everybody.

I have calculated and I have seen that if the investment is Rs. 1,14,000 crores, these public sector industries - even after incurring

loss-give a net profit of about Rs. 70,000 crores, if we take into account all the statements of accounts right from the day of the inception of the public sector in our country. As for example, let us see this. I have taken all the years together to see what is the total income of the Government by way of Central excise duty, dividend, corporate tax, etc. What is the budgetary allocation for the year? I have chosen the year 1990-91, I have got a fascination for this year. Figures are readily available with me. In the year 1990-91, this Government obtained Rs. 20,000 crores by way of excise duty, customs duty, corporate tax, etc. In that year, the budgetary allocation for the public sector was Rs. 4,575 crores. The trend has been to further reduce the budgetary allocation for the public sector and that is the reason which has resulted in today's condition of several public sector undertakings, as has been mentioned by comrade Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee today and yesterday morning, that even the budgetary allocation which is already made, is not being released to the public undertakings.

Therefore I think that the Government's disinvestment policy is wrongly conceived and it requires to be reviewed. I feel it is not to be reviewed, it is to be thrown away, lock, stock and barrel.

It is not to be business of disinvestment, rather it would be the Government's business to invest more in the public sector undertakings. I would conclude by reminding Shri Thungon that they have given access to the Eighth Plan document to the World bank. I am not raising that question here. But at least you should know what is there in the Eighth Plan document regarding the public sector.

I know that the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are not going to approve this line. They have already commented adversely against this portion of the Plan document. I quote from the document in regard to the Eighth Plan:

"The public sector has numerous

achievements to its credit. The development of our crucial infrastructure sector has been pioneered by the PSUs. Other vital segments of the industrial sector have been built up by public enterprises. The public sector has contributed richly to the widening and diversification of our industrial structure. The public sector will continue to perform a key role in the coming years."

I appeal to the Government, I appeal to Mr. Thungon, I appeal to this House that in the interest of rapid industrialisation of the country, in the interest of strengthening the economic base of our country, in the interest of developing our combatting strength against the multinationals and neo-colonialist policies of the Western Powers, it is necessary that the Government should abandon its present policy and take to the path as indicated by the Eighth Plan Document.

I hope the Government will accept the resolution and throw away the policy of disinvestment lock, stock and barrel.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion. This was for the first time that the Government decided for unloading of its public sector shares. Now we are having a discussion. I think, after hearing the speeches of my learned friends I am certainly convinced on one point, that is, our friends sitting on the other side have developed the habit of reading much more into everything, much more than what it deserves. I am convinced about it. They read much more into everything, every deal, every policy. Of course, you have the right to make a detailed analysis. But you read between the lines sometimes just to criticise for the sake of criticism.

I also say that when the decision was taken for the first time, there was a purpose behind it. What was the purpose? This decision of unloading of public sector shares was the one not taken by the present Government. Initially, it was decided in January, 1991.

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

Who was the Prime Minister then? Which Government was there? And Mr. Chandra Shekhar also made an announcement to this effect. Of course, that Government was not there to look after its implementation. And what was the purpose? Our hon. friends sitting across will agree that it was out of bare necessity for the Government to see that the budgetary deficit was squeezed and narrowed. And you know that the budgetary deficit was widening further and further from year to year. Whatever might be the stipulations and expectations in the Budget, at the end of the financial year, it was not coming to be true. They were making efforts. Many steps were spelled out in the Budget speech to narrow down this budgetary deficit. But on a different pretext or situation, there used to be a gap. Instead of narrowing down, it was further widened and Sir, you know the impact. A large budgetary deficit which the economy of our country cannot and could not contain resulted in inflation and other things. There was an impact. Therefore, this was done, as far as it could be possible, in an anxiety to arrange for funds and to find out resources.

As far as unloading of public sector shares and the target are concerned, to start with, they were thinking to have it for two years. In the first year, the target fixed was Rs.2500 crores. Of course, this exercise earned about Rs.800 crores more. They got Rs.3300 and add crores. Sir, I would like to refer to a press interview of Mr. Suresh Kumar who was the Secretary to the Department of Public Enterprises and who used to be the central point. I do not know what he is now. But he was in charge of this exercise. He claimed success in this exercise whereas I feel concerned about one aspect. As you know, on different occasions, so far as policies and decisions are concerned, they are very well intentioned and decisions are taken keeping in view the larger national interest. But while coming to the implementation part of it, in some cases, something goes wrong

and thereby the purpose, however noble and laudable it may be, is not fully achieved. Here the target has been exceeded. But there is a criticism from knowledgeable circles including economists who are well acquainted with the health of the public sector. There are some who criticised it. I think the Government should not dismiss it as such. They say that in some cases, this unloading and selling of shares has been done for a mere song. If it is true, then it is very very serious. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it has come to the notice of the Government. If so, has any enquiry been held and what is the outcome?

Whenever, there is a new policy, its implementation should be monitored. I always reiterate this point. I emphatically state on the floor of this House that implementation part should not be totally left to the bureaucrats. The other day, when we were discussing the Bhopal Gas Tragedy also, I gave the same advice. Our experience with regard to bureaucrats in this country is very bitter, though some of them are very capable. (Interruptions)

SHRI Sriballav Panigrahi: Why are you ringing the bell Sir? Do you want me to sit down? Members have enough time in Private Members Resolutions. We are not at all hardpressed for time. If you have any pressure, I will sit down. Let me have another four or five minutes.

I am saying that we have got quite competent and capable officers. But sometimes some of them work without applying their minds. Some of them work rather indifferently. And some of them work with some motives-pecuniary motives- in their mind. This pecuniary motive is always there in various sectors, in the bureaucracy, in political circles and in so many other spheres. So, we have to be very careful.

This gentleman, Shri Suresh Kumar, Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises has given a very peculiar, funny and ridicu-

ious answer to some other query. When asked about the evaluation or assessment of the shares, he replied that they did not know much because it was a new thing or something like that. Again he claimed that from all this, they got 33 per cent more than what they had expected to get. And yet, they do not even know what it should have been and how it should be fixed normally. They do not know anything clearly and probably they are groping in the dark. If they handled this issue in this manner, then it is very serious. An inquiry should be held into this and we should be more careful in future.

Again, I come to understand that the Steel Authority of India Limited was also in the list of these 31 public sector units whose shares were sold like this. Of course, these shares have been sold to the Mutual Funds in the public sector. In the present security scam, tens of thousands of families who are in small and middle income groups have been affected. But here, they have benefited through these Mutual Funds, in which there are several thousands of ordinary people. Because of the security scam, we do feel concerned about these things. Whatever it be, if the shares were not evaluated properly and if the amount was not fixed properly and if the amount was not fixed properly and something was done out of some ulterior motive, a serious view should be taken of this. There should be deterrent action also. Since no exemplary action is taken or punishment given, corruption is on the increase in different sectors. We have to deal with it very firmly. This is one aspect I would like to emphasise.

A question was asked about the flow in the first run. It is stated that in the first run they just did not know how to evaluate for the purpose of market. But this time they know about the price which the mutual funds give to each of its share. It appears to be ridiculous. so, the criticism that was there that in some cases the shares were sold for a song, probably has some substance.

Then I would say that shares should be spread over to a large number of people rather than its remaining in the hands of a single individual or a corporate body. We say greater autonomy should be given to the public sector units. They should manage their affairs themselves. On the other hand, when they are protesting- at least I can say about SAIL-they are saying that perhaps it is the time of depression for SAIL, for the steel industry and they want better time to come. How ridiculous it is. On the one hand the Secretary says that his was a new thing and they did not have any experience and on the other hand they express satisfaction that each bundle was worth Rs. 10 crores and we got about Rs. 20 crores. I would say, probably the fixation was done without any rhyme and reason. This should be looked into afresh and precautionary measures should be taken in future.

Out of Rs. 3300 crores, Government got Rs. 2500 crores. It was meant to meet the budgetary deficit. Rest of it was meant for the renewal fund. What is the present position with regard to the renewal fund? Repeatedly, we are given assurances - even yesterday and today also it was said that no public sector unit is going to be closed. Of course, they have introduced voluntary retirement scheme and so on but what is the actual position. The idea to introduce this scheme was to see that where the public sector units are losing and when there is no hope for their revival, they should be wound up once for all. And, for the workers also something should be done. So, the Renewal Fund was thus created. What is the position? What has it contributed?

Now, I will come to public sector. We are proud of our public sector undertakings. We are wedded to democratic socialism. Democratic socialism loses much of its meaning without a vital or strong public sector. There is a philosophy behind the public sector. It should occupy commanding heights in our economy. Of course because of mismanage-

[Sh. Shriballav Panigrahi]

ment and several other factors, some of the units have not achieved that, although they are capable of earning profits. So, instead of making profits, they were suffering losses.

After the present Government came into power, the New Industrial Policy was brought. A new signal has gone to the people who are incharge of the public sector undertakings in particular, that they should forget their differences and work in a team spirit. So, a greater awareness is prevailing now. Some of the units which were running in losses are now making profits. Take the examples of CIL, IDPL and so on. IDPL is engaged in manufacturing the basic life saving drugs. This company was on the verge of closure.

Yesterday, I took the representatives of the IDPL Union to the Prime Minister. He was quite sympathetic. If you refer such cases to the BIFR, because of uncertainty, the sickness is aggravated. So, it goes on lingering. Once it goes before the Tripartite Committee- the banks and other financial institutions the industries etc.- stop financing them viz the organizations which were in need of oxygen, for survival. They die without it. So, it becomes a sort of an unnatural death. I would say that even if you refer the cases to the BIFR, the budgetary support to such very important industries should not be stopped. You have to give them the necessary support, guidance and proper leadership. If you do so, I am sure, the public sector undertakings, baring a few units here and there, will be doing a good job and they will also be earning profit.

With these few words, I would like to thank you once again for giving me time to participate in this debate and I also thank Mr. Pal, for having initiated a discussion on this in the House.

SHRI ASTUBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA (Khalilabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Govern-

ment should now be at least a little serious to implement the one year back declaration of restructuring the public sector. As a matter of fact the stage of implementation comes later, what is first required is to set up a section for that but no step has so far been taken by the Government. The Government, when it came into power in June 1991, declared that there would be a restructuring of those public sector undertakings that were running in deficit. It further declared that the interest of the employees affected by the restructuring would be safeguarded and there would be investment with the motive of ensuring profit in the Public Sectors and participation of the public. I know that the Government has taken this decision under the pressure of the world Bank.

The World Bank in its report of November 1990 clearly directed in the first para to limit the Public Sector. In the para 9.63 and 9.64 of the report it directed the Government to close those units that were running in loss and to restructure them. And it further directed to raise such a fund which might be utilised for the interest of those employes who are to be affected by the restructuring. The Government has taken the decision under that pressure. But industries are constantly running in deficit after the Government took that decision.

When we compare the profits of industries of the year 1990-91 and 1991-92, we find a deficit of Rs. 125 crore. Not only that, there has been a gross decline in the productivity of the public Sector. In May, 1992 the production target was of Rs. 660.68 crore, but we got the production worth rupees 583.69 crore only. Meaning thereby, there has been a constant decline in production. The reason, you know, is the policy of the Government. This policy has generated a feeling of insecurity among the employees. Their are frustrated. They now doubt and the reason of their doubt is the different statements made by the Hon. Prime Minister, the hon. Minister of Industry and the hon. Minister of Coal. Their own statements differ. In

one or his statement made on 8th April Shri P.K. Thungon said that the Public undertakings running in deficit might be handed over to the Cooperative Societies. At the same time the then Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce Shri P.Chidambaram had declared in Los - Angels on the last 10th April that those undertakings might be closed. A similar announcement was made by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal Shri P.A. Sangma. Similarly, the Hon. Prime Minister in his reply to the letter of the chairman of N.G.Os said that there would be a separate serious consideration about each sick unit and that no general formula would be adopted about the Public Undertakings. So it is clear by this that on the one hand the hon. Minister intends to restructure or close the sick industries and at the same time on the other hand the officers of the Industrial Development and Company work departments are considering to hand over these undertakings into the hands of the private entrepreneurs.

This aspect is certainly not in favour of entrepreneurs, rather it is because of this that there is a fall in production. Has the Government reviewed the priorities regarding the establishment of the industries of the Public Sector as to why the Public Sector undertakings are becoming sick? Why are they running in deficit? Why are they facing closure? When on the one hand the Public Sector undertakings are in such a bad state and on the other hand Private Sector Industries are constantly making profits. We will have to review it, We have to be anxious about as to whether there was a demand of the Public Sector undertakings in the places where they were established and whether the raw-material was available in those areas? Whether something was done to boost the morale of the employees? Similarly, whether we tried to know as to who are those persons who are officers there. Whether they are efficient to run such industries? To impose an officer from bureaucracy will, I think, never help to ensure success in these industries. So we need to fix

priorities and suppose even this experiment fails what will then be the fate of those industries. Should we close the industries, should we keep watching our industries running in deficit or should we carry on the sick industries? Will it ensure the development of the nation and will it ensure employment?

I feel that we will have to find out another way to it. But this does not mean that my party or I myself are against the Public Undertakings. But we will have to fix the priorities. We will have to fix a limit. that is why I would like to know whether the Government has taken loan from the World Bank through National Revolving Fund. As per the estimate of the World Bank we will be needing about 30 billion dollars to improve the condition of our industries. Has the Government chalked out a policy in regard to it? The Government's decision can be a good decision. But the Government has set up a National Renewal Fund scheme to keep the unviable and sick industries alive. The Government should clarify the objectives of this Fund. It should be the concern of the Government that the public sector undertakings should run in profit and make more and more production. The Government will have to assure that there would be no retrenchment of employees. Other people may think that Golden Hand Shake Policy is beneficial for the labourers but it is not so. Therefore, this scheme should not be implemented in public Sector undertakings; it should be withdrawn with immediate effect.

At the same time the corrupt practices being indulged into by the high level officers in Public Sector Undertakings should be checked, their wasteful expenditure should also be controlled and the experts of the concerned field should be appointed there. The Government should remove the restrictions imposed on having the negotiations with labourers and labourers and throw open the way of negotiations. Workers participation in the management should be allowed. The Government should prepare a blue print

[Sh. Astubhuja Prasad Shukla]

in regard to the measures to be taken to improve the working of those Public undertakings which are sick, running in loss or on the verge of closure. I think it would be better if the industry which are sick or running in loss are handed over to trade unions.

I think that these are the issues which need consideration. Therefore, I support the Bill and would like the matter to be reviewed again. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also thank you for the opportunity you have me to speak.

(English)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (Jadavpur): Thank you, Sir, for having allowed me to speak for a few moments on this subject. I am fully in agreement with the Resolution and it is my hope that the warning that has been given to the Government through this Resolution will be taken seriously by the Government and a full review of the disinvestment policy will be made.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to inform the august House that the time fixed for it was till 4.40 P.M. If it is the consensus of the House, the time can be further extended.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Extend the time by two hours

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, extend it by one hour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: O.K. it is extended by one hour.

(English)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: Thank you, Sir.

Sir, Abhimanyu in *Mahabarat* knew

how to get into *chakravyuha*. He did not know how to get out of it. The tragedy of this country is this. The Government has led the country into a *chakravyuha* and the Government does not know how to get out of this *cakravyuha*.

Why are you following this policy of disinvestment in the public sector? On of your arguments at least is that you have to make up for your fiscal deficit; you have to narrow down the fiscal deficit.

Already one of the earlier speakers has mentioned how the assets of the whole nation are embodied in these public sector units. May I know from the Minister, who has given the Government this authority to do away with, to liquidate the assets of the whole nation in this manner? Sir, even when an individual is in dire economic distress, he tries to do without selling his most immediate, his dearest assets. Unfortunately in our country in these days we have been hearing of cases where parents in dire economic distress sell their children. But that is what they do last of all. This Government has begun by selling its children, the assets that were entrusted to this Government. That is the record that the Government has left for itself. Surely there were other ways of raising money in order to narrow the fiscal deficit. Surely there might have been more of direct taxation. In fact you have reduced wealth tax. In fact you have done away with wealth tax on financial assets. You might have drawn out the enormous amounts of black money that are running side by side with our white economy. There were several ways of raising money. Without trying and testing these, to go into disinvestment it seems is a folly which our future generations will not forgive. Of course our country has always had a mixed economy. There has always been a private sector and a public sector. But certain important areas, certain basic areas were reserved for the public sector. Now in a momentous and a disastrous decision, the Government has declared a reduction in the list of industries reserved for the

public sector from 17 to eight. The Minister, only a couple of days back, in Rajya Sabha has reiterated this decision of the Government. Has the Government given any reason? According to what argument, on what basis was it decided by the Government that these nine areas, these nine sectors, which has so far been public, are to be given over, are to be shared with private capital? They have not given any reason. One argument that is presented is that we have now grown up and therefore, we can face competition; we can face competition even from the international market. Is there any question of competition if you are really giving away assets from which you might have earned hefty revenues? Is there any question of competition, particularly with multi-nationals, particularly with foreign capital, if you rely more and more on foreign technology and refuse to develop indigenous skills? What was happened in the oil sector? The oil sector is the most glaring example of the totally arbitrary and irrational way in which the investment is being done.

Recently in an article in the Far Eastern and Economic Review it has been said that in order to get ADB loans in November, 1991, privatization was promised in the oil sector. subsequently, for world bank loan to the tune of 850 million dollars, the Government of India has taken a decision virtually to hand over three proven howl fields to Mukta, Panna and Neelam near Bombay high. The multinationals are being allowed entry here because all the technical facilities they are going to provide. These technical facilities might have been partially provided even without handing over these oil fields. But, these are being handed over for a mere 1.3 billion dollar and the profit that the multinationals are likely to make of these oil fields would be over 200 to 300 per cent. We want to know whether this information is true. As a prelude to this capitulation, we also find that ONGC is also already violating its own route and investing its funds in foreign banks instead of public sector banks. Is that true, Sir? The basic question that comes to our

mind is-it seems to be lunatic- why it is that the oil sector has to be privatised and taken over by multinationals when it can bring to our country so much profit at a time when a time when we are losing so much foreign exchange by importing oil. The only reason that one can see is that the Government has to comply with certain World Bank prescriptions. therefore, in order to comply with these prescriptions, it seems the Government is liquidating itself because by liquidating the public sector, the Government is also liquidating its own responsibilities as well as its on rights.

In the Rajya Sabha the hon. Minister quoting the finance Minister's Budget speech had said that there is going to be only 20 per cent disinvestment of public shares. The trouble with the Government is that they tell us only half of what is in their minds. The rest is said to the World Bank. Probably the Minister has forgotten or probably he wants us to forget what the hon. Finance Minister had written in his letter to shri L.T. Preston President of the World Bank, which was written in November, 1991 - a letter which we succeeded in getting after making many demands in the parliament. I am going to read out a few lines from our hon. Finance Minister's letter to Shri Preston in which he said:

" the 1991-92 budget confirmed the Government's decision to sell partial equity interest (upto 20%) in central public enterprises, totalling Rs. 25 billion, through mutual funds."

Then, after a few lines, he said:

" Over the course of the next three years, the Government intends to raise a total of upto Rs. 75 billion from partial disinvestment."

" A more comprehensive programme of disinvestment of public holdings is under formulation with the objective of increasing the scale of divestiture

[Smt. Malini Bhattacharya]

from 20 per cent to 49 per cent of equity through a mix of sales of shares to mutual funds, stock market floatation, labour buy-outs and joint ventures with private investors."

Labour buy-outs has not happened, joint ventures with private investors may be, but stock market floatation certainly we are seeing happening.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI P.K. THUNGNON): what is the date of the letter?

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA: The date of the letter is November 11, 1991. This was presented before the Parliament. It was laid on the Table of the House, after we made vociferous demands. Why was the public sector initiated in India? Because there were certain areas, industrial areas, there were certain areas of consultancy where private companies had failed. Private companies had failed to run airlines. That is why the Indian Airlines was instituted. Public sector in steel was set up because private investors were unable to take up steel production. Do you think that the private sector today is any more able to take up production in these sectors. Look at the private sector today. The amount of funds locked up in four lakh sick private sector units is Rs. 8,000 to 10,000 crores. Seventy-five percent of these units are large borrowers, many borrowing from public financial institutions. It has been estimated that Rs. 14,000 crores may have to be written-off by Indian financial institutions in order to benefit these sick private sector units. These are the people to whom our public assets are being handed over. Would they be interested in enhancing production? Would they be interested in enhancing the productivity of the people? Would they be interested in

modernising, in tightening up the infrastructure, in improving the management? They might have if your policy had been otherwise. But your policy is such that the interest of these private shareholders lies altogether in a different direction.

As I said before, wealth-tax for financial assets has been abolished. So, it is easier to play in the stock market than to produce. I am told that you can make more money, you can make immediate money by putting shares from this side to the other.

[Translation]

What is the need to engage ourselves in production if we can make more money by putting shares from this site to the other.

[English]

This is what you have been teaching our prospective producers in the private sector. Why is the outflow of NRI capital continuing? It is because only those people are still bringing in their money to India who are interested in making quick money, not interested in production.

It is already known very well how the foreign banks minted money in India. This is not something that we have been saying. This is something that the Janakiraman Committee has pointed out that during the time when the bubble in the stock market was growing, certain nationalized banks acted as conduits to City Bank and to the Bank of America for the sales of public sector shares. After allowing the public sector shares to be used in this way, Sir, does the Minister any longer has the right to sit here?

And at what price? This has already been elaborated by other hon. Members. I am not going to do that. But I just want to put some questions to you. Why did the transactions in public sector shares start before they had been listed? I want to ask why was there no revaluation of the assets. Why were

the reserves not capitalised before the sale of equity was made? In Britain also certain public sector units were privatised. But before that they have made a thorough assessment, re-assessment, of the value of their assets and that is why when they were sold off, the Government made some money. You are selling away your profits at a rate which is next to nothing. At first the argument of the Government was that the public sector was a 'white elephant' and, therefore, that way the unprofitable units were to be disinvested. But now we find that it is the profitable units which are being dis-invested.

If you come to the question of sickness in the public sector, how did they become sick? sometimes we find that the sick public sector units were taken over from private sector and subsequently there was not enough investment. You starve a person for days and then that person falls mortally ill and then you give him up as a lost case. That is your policy with public sector units.

In today's Indian Express- itself you can find how some profit-making units of the N.T.C. were deprived of loans by the Industrial Development Bank of India. These units - mind you- were profit-making . However, the General Manager of I.D.B.I., Shri S.H.Patil, in a letter dated July 9, turned down the plea for loan. Without referring to the performance of the units concerned, the General Manager wrote "poor operating performance and unsatisfactory credit record of N.T.C. units in general" as reasons for not sanctioning the loan.

There are profit-making units which are being starved. We find this in other units also. At the same time we find that there are some major public sector units, consultancy units like the P.B.I.L. - which was to give consultancy for fertiliser industry - and the M.A.M.C. etc.- which are being starved of Government orders. What can they do except fall sick? Of course, I will not mention the case of the engine for which order was put to the A.B.B - Asia Brown Boveri - when it could

have been made by the Chittaranjan Locomotives. The price paid for ships built at Cochin Shipyard - which has now been put to the B.I.F.R. - is less than the cost of manufacture of the ships.

17.00 hrs.

So, how can you say that it is because of these sick units disinvestment is necessary? Many of these sick unit might not have turned sick if there had been proper investment, if there had been proper management and if there had been sufficient orders from the Government.

Sir, it seems to us that the way of disinvesting the public sector is no way to improve and revitalise the public sector. It is rather the way to de-industrialise. The pressure upon employment as a result of disinvestment cannot be counteracted by the National Renewal Fund. This National renewal Fund is like that mythical 'hall of Draupathi' from which she could feed 5,50, or 500 people. When we ask the Finance Minister as to where from the money will come for rural development, where from the money will come for training people in the unorganised sector and where from the money will come for safety nets in the public sector units, every time the answer is that it will come from the National Renewal Fund. Earlier, it was Rs. 200 crores. Now, the Government has said it is Rs. 1,000 crores; may be tomorrow you will say that it is going to be Rs. 2,000 crores. But, I want to know from the Government as to what efforts have been made so far to set up this. You have declared that you are going to set up this National Renewal fund. That is all you have done so far. Again , a part of this National Renewal Fund may have to come from loans taken from the IMF and the World Bank for which you will have to succumb to certain conditionalities and for which you will have to disinvest more public sector units.

So it is my earnest submission to the Government that instead of this disinvest-

[Smt. Malini Bhattacharya]

ment policy, if the public setor units are in need of money, at least allow them to sell their own shares at the market price, let them raise money for themselves, give them sufficient orders from the Government, tighten up the management and give them more autonomy, while at the same time making them accountable to the people, to the Parliament and promote internal democracy by giving the workers more say in running these institutions and use other means of raising money. Please do not make indigenous industry, indigenous skill and scientific knowledge a pawn to your transactions with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

With these words, I fully support this Resolution.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI
(Berhampur): Mr. Chairmen, Sir, the current resolution moved by my learned colleague, Shri Rupchand Pal is a significant one. Indeed, in our country a good number of public sector undertakings are incurring losses. Of course, some private sector industries are also sick. The losses incurred by the public sector undertakings cannot be attributed to the faults of the concerned undertaking alone.

Sir, the policy of the Government with respect to the public sector understandings should also be reviewed from time to time. Of the All the same, the Government cannot be solely blamed for the industrial ills, since they have to take into account a number of issues and interests of all concerned while formulating the policy or taking a decision.

For example, the fertilizer units are running in deficits since the Government are supplying fertilizers at subsidised prices in order to help the poor farmers. The Delhi Transport Corporation as well is increasing losses because of the rates of diesel and petrol are increasing practically every year.

17.06 hrs.

(PROF. MALINI BHATTACHARAYA -
in the chair.)

Consistent with this increase, it is not possible to raise the bus fare every year. The oil sector as has been pointed by me even earlier, requires total gearing up in right earnest. More incentives to new units coupled with tax concessions to industrial houses must be actively considered by the Government. If the total installed capacity of the public sector undertakings is properly utilised, there is no possibility of the public sector undertakings incurring losses, in general. Hence the Government should supply adequate funds to needy and revivable public undertakings, particularly recommended by the BIFR institution and help them overcome the genuine difficulties faced by them.

Further, NRI's participation in our industrial sector should also be welcomed. Moreover, the workers' participation in the management and the workman's welfare should also be reviewed by the Government from time to time.

I wish to highlight in this august forum particularly the case of a public sector undertaking, Indian Rare Tharts Ltd., at Chaerapuri in Orissa State coming under the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India, requiring the Government's immediate intervention. The poor labour-management relation and the slow implementation of the modern production techniques have made the unit thoroughly sick. On a lucrative exproterited public sector undertaking like the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., be allowed to incur huge losses of Rs. 2 crores regularly every month.

It must also be pointed out that there is positive political will of the Government to financially assets and revive most of the sick public sector undertakings, in our country. Special efforts are also being made by the

technical, financial and allied advisory bodies to help sick units recover at the earliest possibility.

In conclusion, therefore, in view of the aforesaid views expressed, keeping in mind the Government's firm will in the right direction of general liberalisation and 40% of disinvestment policy my esteemed colleague Shri Rupchand Pal might perhaps withdraw his thought provoking Resolution.

[*Translation*]

SRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Madam Chairman, I would like to thank Shri Rupchand Pal for bringing this important matter for discussion through a Resolution. One year ago when the recent Government came into power, a new economic policy to recognize the public sector was announced. BJP, from the very beginning has been of the opinion that their functioning should be reviewed and the priorities determined. But uncertainty prevails even after one year. It has been coming in the way of proper management and employees are also agitated because of their uncertain future.

I would like the Government to clarify the situation immediately and bring the reality to the fore. It is true that we started making plans for the country only after we got independence and in view of the prevailing circumstances the Government found it beneficial to encourage Public Sector at that time.

In 1951 the work was started with the investment of just Rs.29 crores which has now been increased to more than rupees one lakh crores in about 250 industries; we will have to think as to where do we stand today even after making such a huge investment. BJP has adopted a very clear ideology. We should consider that and take decision accordingly. BJP has clearly mentioned in its manifesto "We will review the role of Public Sector Undertakings keeping in view their contribution in the development of the soci-

ety and we will make such policies while reorganizing them that would prove productive, efficient, profitable and public oriented. It appears that uncertainty still prevails. I would like the hon. Minister to take personal interest in it and take a decision which may strengthen the country. Because the third world countries are looking towards India for every thing, while the Government of India out of it. It has not been able to take a final decision on such an important issue so far.

Since the hon. Members have already expressed their views on the matter, I would not like to say more. In the end I would only submit that we should take decision at the earliest; and because uncertainty can not continue to prevail for long. We have to take into consideration that at present more than 100 Public Undertakings are running in loss. It is true that we have not taken a decision in favour of complete privatisation. But we will have to think as to which direction we want to take our country.

I will not say much. I would only submit that the hon. Minister is present here, he should give an assurance to the effect that he would take a decision keeping in view the future of the employees and also the type of management that would be beneficial to us. I would like to draw the attention of the august House to the deplorable condition of lakhs of employees who are totally uncertain about their future. Keeping their prevailing condition in view our decision should be in accordance with the need of the hour. With these words, I thank you for the time you gave me to express my views.

SHRI KRISHAN DUTT SULTANPUR (Shimla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by Shri Rupchand Pal. With the launching of Five Year Plans, industries have flourished all over the country and lakhs of people have got employment in industries. Industries have been set up in the public as well as the private sectors. The officers working in Public sectors run their

[Sh. Krishan Dutt Sultanpuri]

own industries in the private sectors also. People in the Private sectors have been trying to liquidate factories in the Public sectors. This is what has been happening in our country. There are many factories in the Public sector which fare well. Workers have been getting jobs and wages regularly. People who run industries in the private sectors have been exploiting labourers and taking extra work from them and pay low wages. Moreover they show deficit in the in balance sheets and take sufficient and from the Government. People running private sector industries are given facilities like loans and subsidy of Crores of rupees and . The poor people of this country have not so far been helped properly. The poor people could not be given necessary help they deserved. Referring to public sector Undertakings, the hon. Members of the opposition complain that the Government did not work properly at all and rather it worsened the situation. The unfortunate people of our country do not understand this fact. People have set up factories with great labour to strengthen the economy of the country. In order to run those factory properly, this issue must be discussed here. The labourers should not be exploited here. Unless the labourers are involved in factory management mismanagement and dishonesty will prevail. Therefore, the involvement of labourers in the management should be ensured and there must be a director to represent the labourers in the factory so that the factories make production properly and the country becomes self-reliant. Labourers of many states have been assured many things including giving scales given in Punjab so as to protect their interests. They have also been assured not to be retrenched from their jobs, youth have also been assured employment. But the Government could not give employment and factories did not run properly. As regards privatisation, it seems that they are going to privatis the Government also. All productive units including the power projects etc. will be privatised. This will lead to exploita-

tion of labourers. If they want to improve the lot of the labourers, they will have to give guarantee to factories in the private sector. In that case it must be ensured that the workers appointed by the Government are not to be removed. There are many factories which have gave since been closed and there is no production, yet the officers get their salary. It as been said that the hon. Minister has made different statement at different places. There have been agitations everywhere against the policy of the Government and it was discussed in the House how to run the industries in the country. All the hon. Members presented they view. Every one says that he is against privatisation, but a survey should be conducted to find out the people who are in favour of privatisation because they are the people who set up same kind of factories in Delhi, U.P., Himachal Pradesh and Haryana. They have formed a caucus and they have set up factories in the names of their sons and daughters everywhere. Even the Nationalised Banks advance them loans. These Banks give security even to people who have no repaying capacity. They are advanced loans. This too should be probed. If this Government wants to work with zeal in the entire country, it should look into these things. Shri Thungan, the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry is young and the Minister of state of the Ministry of Textiles who is sitting here, is also young and energetic. They are rendering their services to strengthen this country. But the Government must pay attention to the problem of exploitation of the poor.

We are permitting the people in the private sector to set up factories. They are the people who have closed their factories and today they want to take advantage of privatisation of power sector. They are making an effort to prove that they ar capable of running factories very well. There are the people who cheat the officers and politicians of this country and convince them that they can run factories very smoothly. These people will fail the power sector also in the way they failed textile sector earlier. Before

starting a factory they prepare some infrastructure and say that they would require 400 labourers. But when the factory is commissioned and production starts, we find only 100 labourers. We have found such instances while working in the estimates Committee and the Committee on the Welfare of Schedule Castes Scheduled Tribs. There are many factories in the country which do not show any profit and exploit to poor labourers. If we want that the country should make progress and its economy should be strengthened, attention will have to be paid to it. The Resolution that Shri Pal has brought forward is a very good one. He is an experienced person. He has presented this matter after giving due thought to it. There are two streams of thoughts running at present. On the one hand there are people who are in favour of privatisation. On the other hand there are people who are in favour of privatisation. On the other hand, there are people who support nationalisation. It would be better if competition is held between the two so that the country may prosper. Today, the privatised companies in Bhopal, Calcutta are running in profit. But they would be given liberty to that extent only so that besides making their both ends meet, they earn something also. It should not be so that the labourers are deprived of their sustenance and they die of starvation. We have to do away with this injustice. Then alone the country can make progress.

So far as Himachal Pradesh is concerned, I would like to make a submission about it and conclude. The economy of this State depends on production of apple, potato, peach, apricot, plum and pear. Unless factories under private sector and Public sector are set up there and Financial assistance is given to them, our state cannot make progress. Nothing is done on a permanent basis in the State. A person comes, submits his application to set up industry there. He gets it sanctioned, takes loan from the Government and then neglects it. Then the unit becomes sick.

It does not provide any help to poor people. They cannot even be helped to set up factories. The Government should therefore take over the private factories. There was a railway factory in Nahan. It had its branches in Karnal and Delhi, but these days they are lying sick. I requested the Government that these factories should be taken over. When mills of Bombay could be taken over by Government, why cannot the factories of Himachal Pradesh be taken over. This factory is in my constituency. The present practice is not helpful to the labourers. Only talks should not be made to improve the lot of the labourers. It should be done practically. If we are serious about the upliftment of labourers, then their participation in management must be ensured. Unless their participation in the management is ensured nation cannot prosper. Finally, I would like to quote the following couplet:-

Resham ke glicaon per dhan an ka
beta sota hai, Aur Jinki badaulat sab kuchch
hai, woh rat ko baitha rota hai Dhanwan
khajana bharta hai aur kanoon hifazat karta
hai Majdoor bechara ro-ro kar takdir ki syahi
dhota hai."

Madan Chairman, I would, therefore, like to submit that there should be participation of labourers in management. They would get respect. Only then this nation can prosper.

With these words I would like to thank my colleague who brought forward this Resolution and conclude.

[English]

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI(Contd): Madam, Chairperson, I extend my thanks to you for giving me a chance, to deliver upon the resolution brought forward by prof. Ruphand Pal. The resolution deals with the public undertaking problems and has demanded for the review of the policy.

[Sh. Sudhir Giri]

Madam, there are two aspects attached to it. One aspect is economy and the other aspect is political. Let us deal deep into the background which led to the establishment of public undertaking in our country.

Madam, during the British regime, there was exploitation and floundering; there was famine and lot of people were deprived of their basic amenities, basic needs. And in those days, the patriots, the freedom fighters of our country fought against the British regime with a promise to the people that after the removal of the British regime, they would provide the basic amenities to the people of India. We achieved freedom and humiliation to mankind came to an end in India in so far as we are concerned. It is also a fact that the Indian National Congress was the major party, was the major force to fight for the freedom of our country, although there were some other smaller parties which were fighting for the freedom. And the leaders of the Congress party came into a formula of compromise with the British Government. There is a compromise, I think, between the landlords and the industrialists of our country and the Congress on the one side and on the other the British Sovereign. When the power was transferred, the power was shared predominantly by the Congress people which was representing the landlords and industrial class of our people. So in 1949, the Constitution came into being; when, in the Constituent Assembly, the Constitution was being debated often, a sizeable section wanted that like the fundamental rights, basic provision for basic amenities of like should also constitute the fundamental rights of the Constitution. But because there was the dominant forces of landlords and the bourgeois that demand could not be acceded to in the Constituent Assembly. There were some leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who were imbued with some principles of socialism, some principles of social justice. They also demanded that something should be done for the poor

people of the country. And then came the Directive Principles of the state policy which were enshrined in our Constitution. The Directive Principles of state policy called upon the Government to take steps, so that the wealth of the country is not accumulated in a few hands of the country; that should be equally distributed among the people and a judicious distribution should be there but unfortunately Pandit Nehru though reigned for about fifteen years could not get into the problems and solve the problems of poverty and providing basic amenities of life to the people.

However, after Bombay plan it was Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose who wrote during the British Regime to Pandit Nehru delineating the contours of five year plans. He proposed that after achievement of freedom they would resort to such five year plans. However, subsequently Pandit Nehru also adopted the five year plans. In the five year plans it was a fact, it was amply deliberated, that there should be public undertakings on which the Government control should be established because the private undertakings, private ownership would not subserve the interests of the country. It is the public undertaking which would exclusively and intensely deal with the problems of unemployment, etc. It is the background of establishment of our public undertakings.

So not only the economic, but also the political aspect of it should be taken into consideration. If they do not take these things into consideration, then the whole objective of establishing the public undertakings would be lost. So I demand that the Government should review the perspectives of the public undertakings and revives the disinvestment policy.

There has been a charge against the public undertakings that there is inefficiency. I know a public undertaking in which an executive has been appointed by the Central Government and that executive is squandering away lots of money by going here and

there and by getting into the cars and planes and doing nothing. On the other hand workers of the factory are not getting their salary every month. This is the sad aspect. If the politicians and bureaucrats' influence is taken away or if the bureaucrats do not exercise any influence over the executives, then the executives can work freely. They can work to subserve the best interests of the workers and of the industry itself. Instead of doing so, when the industry falls sick, it is referred to BIFR; it is declared sick; declared unviable; and the sick unit is thereafter closed. There are efficient managers, efficient workers; if they are given proper opportunity, if they are given proper atmosphere, they can prove their efficiency like the workers in the private sector.

It has been charged that the public undertakings are lethargy. Yes, they are lethargy because the executive officers are living luxuriously; they are squandering away money; they do not take into account or care for the interest of the country; they do not care for the people of the country; they do not care of the political aspect of the establishment of the public undertakings. So, there has been lethargy. But that can be removed and set right, if the proper steps are taken in this regard by the Government. It has been said that the public undertakings are expensive. Yes, I admit that they are expensive because there are overhead costs which go beyond the limits of the firm itself. So, it is outwardly expensive. But all these defects can be removed and can be set right, if the Government takes proper steps. It has also been argued that element of competition is necessary. We admit this. We also admit that the public undertakings should have the principles of competition with other industries. They are also ready, if they are given the proper scope and opportunity. If you do not provide them the opportunity, if you do not provide them the sufficient funds, they will be deprived of the basic opportunity and the basic atmosphere in which they can play their role very distinctively and freely.

so, this disinvestment policy should be reviewed as demanded by prof. Pal. One more point I would like to add here. The point is this. There is a motive, I think it is an ill-motive, which is working behind the formulation of the disinvestment policy. What is the motive? The administrators who were at the helm of administration of the country were found to be involved in the Security scam. They advise the Government to resort to liberalisation in industrial policy, liberalisation in economic and trade policies. It is amply clear to us that their motive was to gain personal interest. They wanted to make money and that is why they have advised the Government to resort to such principles and to such policies.

I also think that those advisors who are advising the Government to disinvest public share of the the public undertakings have also a motive and they are caring not for the interest of the country, not for the interest of the working class, not for the interest of the common people as a whole, but for the interest of their own self. So, this policy should be considered carefully.

I conclude by saying that this policy should be referred to the people as a referendum because neither from the Constitution nor from the Election Commission the present Government has got any authority to substantially change the industrial policy of our country, the policy relating to public undertakings.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have already reached the time-limit allowed by the House. So, with the permission of the House, I think, the time-limit can be extended for another hour.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: yes.

MR. CAHIRMAN: so, I presume that with the permission of the House, we can extend this discussion for another hour.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Madam chairman through you I would like to express my views on the resolution moved by Shri Rup Chand Pal, that regarding disinvestment policy in the public sector undertakings there is in fact urgent need to review it.

Suppose a person produced something and after sometime he is bent upon destroying that thing, or if a tree which does not bear fruit for one reason or other is cut down or a milch cow which stops giving milk is beaten and turned out, same is true of public sector undertakings in the present context. The situation is painful and also ridiculous.

I would like to submit that we had created public sector undertakings with great hope of making this country strong, of augmenting production in this country, of reducing foreign dependence and of making our country strong and powerful in every way and there is no doubt that, there are many public sector undertakings which have done commendable work and the results have also been very good and they are earning profit worth crores of rupees, but on the other hand, there are certain public sector undertakings wherein due to administrative inefficiency or due to the lack of adequate care they are in loss.

Madam Chairman the Government should have reviewed the working of all those public undertakings which are in loss well in time. If management or officials were incapable inefficient or incompetent, they should have been replaced or action should have been taken against them. But since a new industrial policy, has come in force and the changes in economic policy and the pressure of the world bank has been felt by us, and we have been getting foreign investment including that of N.R.I. Government has started disinvesting the shares of public sector undertaking. Government control is being removed and those shares are going

in the private hands. If a multinational company or foreigner gains control of these public sector Undertaking they will not give priority to the interests of the country as they do not have any love for this country, or for the people of this country. Whatever profit they earn will be sent abroad.

The workers all over the country are worried. I would like to submit that the policy of disinvestment of the government of public sector undertakings in the name of privatisation, liberalisation, and foreign investment is not only detrimental but also a big question mark on the self reliance of the country and public sector undertakings. The workers are apprehensive of the future. This thing which is causing serious concern is the golden hand shake. Workers are being forced to seek voluntary retirement and the lure is salary of a few months. In some cases workers are being pressurised and retrenched and in this way the public sector undertakings are in process of being handed over to private sector.

Madam chairman, through you I would like to submit to the Government to review this policy otherwise we may become dependent on foreign countries and will have to beg from them. If this is done the day is not far when we may have to get everything from foreign countries. This is true about the D.T.C. also. D.T.C. is in loss to the tune of crores of rupees but at the same time there is no doubt that the public is being immensely benefitted by the D.T.C. There is need to remove the administrative deficiencies of improving the maintenance system, increase productivity and streamline the management. There is need to review these things. But if it is handed over to private sector or if the Government loses control over it public interest will be forgotten for ever because the prime motive of private sector is profit and we may have to suffer in future on that account.

I would like to give an example. I had gone to Gorakhpur to see a fertiliser factory. That factory has been closed for now almost

a year. There are 4000 to 5000 workers and it is spread over many miles. They are sitting at home and drawing their salaries, because all the machines are useless and the production of fertiliser has come to a standstill. As a result, employees are sitting at home and getting their salaries. The Government on its own whether at the level of the ministry or the secretariat or IFFCO, KRIBHCO should take action in this regard as this factory is a public sector undertaking. This kind of a situation is in fact causing concern.

I.D.P.L. is one of the biggest public sector undertaking which produces medicines. But now, the stat Government as well as the Central Government, Buy all mediacies for their dispesaries and small hospitals from the private sector. The private sector does not manufactrue quality medicines, or injections nor do they have so many resources. But because they give medicines at slightly cheaper rates or the practice of buying it though inviting tendrs is faulty, they succeed in supplying medicines of inferior quality to Government dispensaries and hospitals. Most of these pharmaceutical companies are located in small industrial areas whereas the public sector undertakings in this field are not able to compete and get the tender because of the high price of their medicine as compared to private companies.

Through you, I would like to submit to the Government that efforts should be made to encourage such big institutions or public sector undertakings. Priority should be given to those where the production is of high quality. You should give priority to manufac-ture of those items in public sector undertakings if they are of a high quality. You should also try to improve their condition.

Besides, workers should not be removed or retrenched at all. Efforts should be made to improve condition of those undertakings where there is inefficiency, increase the production and make good the loss. But at the cost should these undertakings be handed over to private sector in the name of

Dunkel proposals, or under the pressure of the world Bank. I mean to say that we should not repeat history and compromise the sovereignty of the country as happened in the past in the case of East India Company. We should remain vigilant about it. There are many countries in the world of which Philippines is one, where a lot of privatization has been done .Today various problems have been created in capitalist America. It is true that communism has failed in orissa and the economy of communist countries has shattered completely. We have become apprehensive because of this , but the circumstances of our country are different. The control of Government should remain in our public sector undertakings even if they are on the basis of cooperatives being run with the help of private sector, Efforts should be made to give all kinds of facilities to industries and production should be in the interest of the country.

With these words I fully support the resolution moved by Shri Rup Chand Pal.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Madam Chariman, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I would also like to thank the learned member shri Rupchand Pal who has moved his resolution. I suport the resolution which he has moved.

Madam, many of hon. members participated in this discussion and gave their valuable suggestions. The youth of our country had made great sacrifice to gain Independence. Many such names can be remembered in this connection:

After gaining Independence, we had thought that everyone will get equal rights whether they are in the economic or social field. But when we gained Independence, we realised that the reigns of power were not in the hands of workers. The poor worker class did not get freedom in the true sense of the term. He certainly fought the war of Independence, but the big landlords, capital-

[Sh. Ramashraw Prasad Singh]

ists and feudal had the real power. They began to mould the country in their own way

The first prime Minister of our country was Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. He ruled for 15 years. Being a great visionary he formulated many policies including the industrial policy. All these policies indicated his desire to take the country along a socialist path. But he did not pay full attention to the poor and the downtrodden. Perhaps he did not understand their pain. The consequences apparent to all of us today. He thought that privatisation would not benefit the country much. He was of the view that if industries are set up in the public sector, the country will prosper become strong and make progress. His approach was absolutely correct. On the one hand we say we have not drifted from that policy but on the other hand there are many indicators to this effect. Nationalisation has increased the financial burden and that is why attention in being paid towards privatisation.

Whatever we gain from nationalisation or Government control is national gain. Our country is strengthened by this in every respect and we make progress. Even in privatisation the money is ours, but the profits are reaped by private entrepreneurs. These entrepreneurs have a little share in the business whereas the major share is of nationalised banks and many financial organisations but even then they remain the masters. About public sector undertakings they say that these are running in loss and that is why the Government is privatising them. If this Government propose to do this, it should not, because the national industrial policy had been made keeping in mind the public opinion in the entire country. If it has to be nullified let a popular consensus be built and invite suggestions as to what action should be taken in this regard. You do not have a right to do this on your own. The worst sufferers will be the workers who are

enjoying many benefits because of the rules under nationalisation. Under privatisation they will not get those benefits. What nationalisation gives privatisation can never give and workers will be exploited to the maximum. You might be aware that in England during the industrial revolution the workers had to work for 92 hours at a stretch. All this happened because of privatisation. At that time the workers thought that the machine was his enemy and that is why there was disorder. But today things are different. There are unions to raise demands and they know which is a better option-industries under Government control or Privatisation. Everyone knows it well but implementation is difficult.

I rise to support the cause of workers and would like to submit that if we give importance to the union....

(English)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would you like to continue next time?

SHRI RAMASHRAW PRASAD SINGH:
Yes Madam.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you can continue next time. discussion is to be continued next time. Now, I request Shri Rameshwar Thakur to lay on the Table paper mentioned against his name.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Central Excises and
Salt Act 1994, and Customs Act, 1962
etc

17.57 hrs.

(English)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESH-
WAR THAKUR). Sir, I beg to lay on the
Table-

(1) a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:-

(i) Notification No. 79/92- Central Excises published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 31/88-CE, dated the 1st March, 1988 so as to exempt Rifampicin from excise duty

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2397/92]

(ii) Notification No. 80/92-Central Excises published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to three specified drug intermediates used in the manufacture of Rifampicin from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon.

Placed in Library See No. LT 2399/92]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 159 of the Customs Act. 1962:-

(i) Notification No. 249/92-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 64/79-Customs dated the 6th March, 1979 so as to delete certain entries as a consequential change.

(ii) Notification No. 250/92-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to specified drug intermediates from the whole of the basic duty of customs leviable thereon.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2400/92]

(iii) Notification No. 251/92-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe a basic customs duty of 10 per cent *ad valorem* on specified drug intermediates for manufacture of Rifampicin

[Placed in Library See No LT-2401/92]

(iv) Notification No. 252/92-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend certain Notifications *inter alia* so as to impose a basic customs duty of 35 per cent *ad valorem* on Rifampicin.

[Placed in Library See No. LT-2402/92]

(v) Notification No. 253/92-Customs published in Gazette of India dated the 31st July, 1992 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to the Notification No. 190/92-Customs dated the 14th May, 1992 so as to exempt goods covered by the Notification Nos. 250/92 and 251/92-Customs dated the 31st July, 1992 from the whole of the Auxiliary duty of Customs.

[Placed in Library See No LT-2403/92]

MR CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet on Monday at 11.00 hours.

17.59 hrs. "

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 3, 1992/ Sravana 12, 1914 (Saka)

PLS. 40. XIV. 18.92

670

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**Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and
Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Seventh Edition) and printed
by S. Narayan & Sons, Delhi-110006.**
