

Ninth Series, Vol. XIV No.2

Friday, February 22, 1991
Phalguna 3 , 1912 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

**Seventh Session
(Ninth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. XIV Contains No. 1 to 11)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Friday, February 22, 1991/Phalguna 3,
1912 (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of our former colleague Shri M.S. Sivasamy.

Shri M.S. Sivasamy was a member of the Fifth Lok Sabha during 1971-77 representing Tiruchendur constituency of Tamil Nadu. Earlier, he had been a member of the Tamil Nadu State Assembly during 1967-70.

An able parliamentarian, he took keen interest in the proceedings of the House. During his membership of the State Assembly, he served on various Committees of the House, including the Public Accounts and Estimates Committees.

He took special interest in Agriculture and Foreign Trade and visited East Germany and U.S.S.R. to get himself acquainted with the latest developments in the field of agriculture and promotion of Foreign Trade.

Shri Sivasamy passed away at Tuticorin on 17 February, 1991 at the age of about 74.

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

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

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

MR. SPEAKER: Question No.1. Shri Vasant Sathe....

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, we have given notice for the suspension of the Question Hour... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translations*]

MR. SPEAKER: Malik Saheb, please take your seat. Why are you troubling Mr. Acharia. All of you may please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): We have also given notices; Sir.... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translations*]

MR. SPEAKER: Madhu Dandavateji, it

is your hour, the Question Hour. It is your right. Why do you lose your right?

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): The country is ours, the Gulf is also ours. That is also true, Sir. Under rule 388, I am seeking your consent to move for the suspension of rule 32 regarding the Question Hour so that we can straight away take up the Adjournment Motion on the failure of the Government vis-a-vis the Gulf conflict... *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Could not it be taken up in Zero hour? Zero hour is there for raising such issues. I am only saying this much to you, Somnath Baboo as to why should we suspend the Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: On such an important issue, we want the Question Hour to be suspended, Sir, so that we can immediately take up the Adjournment Motion for discussion. Sir, the country's foreign policy has been compromised, has been given a go-by... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Adjournment Motion can be taken up at 12 o'clock after the Question Hour... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, considering the importance of this subject, the Question Hour should be suspended and the Adjournment Motion should be taken up immediately.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, if you continue with the Question Hour the importance of the subject does not lessen. It is there.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: There is a precedent, Sir.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Budaun): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the grave situation you should suspend the Question Hour, especially for this issue. Today you should suspend the Question Hour and arrange a discussion on this issue. *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, even though this issue is important, you don't consider it. *(Interruptions)* The policy about the Gulf despite their current stand, in fact, originated with them. That is why they are hesitating to take this up. They may remember that from 1985 onwards it is their policy, with their intimate relationship with the U.S. Government, which led to this Gulf question. *(Interruptions)* What they are criticising is their own policy.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the matter is very serious. It could be taken up after 12.00 hrs.

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR (Bikaner): Gulf issue is not important for you. The Question Hour is important.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Very serious. It is very important... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KALKA DAS (Karol Bagh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Harijans are being massacred. Such a grave situation is prevailing in the country. It is most important. I have given a notice for Adjournment Motion. You should allow a discussion on this. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have received your notice.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: You suspend the Question Hour immediately. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, the other House also, recognising the primacy of this issue, is suspending the other business and taking up this issue. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would only like to submit... *(Interruptions)* Will you allow me, Sir? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: We want that you suspend the Question Hour. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I would only like to submit to you, Sir, that the Gulf crisis need not be and should not be an issue which divides the House. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI (Siwan): Mr. Speaker, Sir, please suspend the Question Hour. Atrocities are being committed on the Harijans in the country. There should be a discussion on it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALKA DAS: Atrocities are being committed on the Harijans in the country.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I would only like to submit that the Gulf crisis need not be and should not be an issue which divides the House because the nation's interest is uppermost. If this House gives an impression

that we are divided on this issue, its international fall-out will not be good for the country. I understand, in the Rajya Sabha, the very same Opposition parties had agreed for a unanimous resolution and discussion. We also agree on many of the points which they are suggested; there is no disagreement. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please suspend the Question Hour and allow a discussion on atrocities on Harijans.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, they have got the Budget suspended. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member Mr. Kurien has pointed out that in the Rajya Sabha they are having a discussion. In Rajya Sabha, there is no provision for Adjournment Motion. That is why they are forced to move the resolution. But here there is a provision for it and so we can suspend the Question Hour and start the Adjournment Motion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: In Rajya Sabha, Question Hour has been suspended and they have already taken up the Gulf discussion. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: I would only request that on such an important issue, the House need not be divided. So, immediately after the Question Hour we can take up the discussion.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: There is no time for that, because on Friday we cannot leave the Private Members' Business. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

atrocities are being committed on Harijans by the police. Harijans are being oppressed. They are being killed. As such the Question Hour may please be suspended and a discussion may be allowed on this issue.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not refusing to hold a discussion? *(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us conclude the Question Hour first and then the Adjournment Motion can be taken up.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kundu, please take your seat; there is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, heinous crimes have been committed by the police. Atrocities are being committed on Harijans. As such the Question Hour should be suspended and a discussion should be arranged on this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard you. It is a very important matter. Please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, we have given a notice for suspension of Question Hour to take up our Adjournment Motion immediately in relation to Gulf and specifically on the permission given by the Government to US Air Force planes to refuel in India.

MR. SPEAKER: My point is that let us get along with the Question Hour.

[*English*]

We will decide about it after Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: The incident of firing on Harijans is very shameful. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV (Faizabad): Please take up the case of massacre of Harijans first. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRIM. SELVARASU (Nagapattinam): There is a murder of democracy in Tamil Nadu. The Prime Minister should resign. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please resume your seat.

....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yadavji, please take your seat.

....(*Interruptions*)

SHRIDINESH SINGH (Pratapgarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of Harijans that was raised just now pertains to my constituency. I want to say that excesses have been committed on Harijans and the government have not taken any step in this regard. The Prime Minister is present here. I would, therefore, request him to get this matter investigated and take immediate action in this connection.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you did not listen to me..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am listening.

[*English*]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): After the question hour is over, adjournment motion can be taken up.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS: It is not being discussed... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Who is denying.

...(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have received notices of adjournment motions on several subjects. I am considering the matter. Let the House proceed with the question hour which is also the right of Members.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: After the question hour is over, I would give opportunity to Members to raise the issues.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI (Siwan): In the past occasions also question hour has been suspended for taking up important issues, then what is the hitch now.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: The issue relating to Harijans is of prime importance.

[*English*]

I am not entering into an argument with you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: If Budget can be suspended at the instance of Congress party then why can't you suspend the question hour.

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT (Jaunpur): The Uttar Pradesh is the biggest state of India and the situation in that state is alarming. If you do not want to discuss the situation of that state then what do you want to do.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not preventing you.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS: Suspend the question hour and take up the issue relating to Harijans.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You are raising the Harijan issue, they want to discuss a different point and there are still others who are raising some other topic. As such it is not possible to take up everything at the same time.

[*English*]

There are so many issues before the

Government. I am only requesting you to proceed with the Question Hour. Let us proceed with the Question Hour and then I will hear you what you say.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us proceed with the Question Hour and then let us proceed further. I am not saying no to your Adjournment Motion.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: This is a very serious matter. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV (Godda): The Harijan issue is a very serious matter. As such it is utmost necessary to discuss it at the earliest.

MR. SPEAKER: I have never denied it. The issue pertaining to Harijans will be discussed.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody prevents you from discussing the subject.

[Translation]

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (Delhi Sadar): Kindly suspend the question hour.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Out of the Adjournment Motions that you have received the issue relating to Harijans should be given top priority.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Thirteen persons have been killed. In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar the Harijans and the poor are being brutally murdered. In Ballia also they have been massacred. In

view of this first of all you should take up this issue.

MR. SPEAKER: Yadavji, please go back to your seat. I am looking into it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Khuranaji, I am not preventing you.

SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, kindly suspend the question hour and allow this discussion. Grave atrocities are being committed on Harijans.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota): Mr. Speaker, Sir, many people have been killed. Their deaths should be condoled and.....

(Interruptions)

SHRIRAMKRISHAN YADAV: There is widespread resentment in Uttar Pradesh. They want blood for blood. The situation will become dreadful...

MR. SPEAKER: Yadavji, please go back to your seat. I have listened to you. Your approach is wrong.

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a conspiracy to kill Harijans... because Harijans in this country are weakest...

SHRIDAU DAYAL JOSHI: The Harijans have been killed. The Mulayam Singh Government should be dismissed. The Prime Minister may kindly dismiss the Mulayam Singh Yadav Government.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Government is deliberately ignoring this issue. It is scared. The police is instrumental in the killings of Harijans. The Government is the culprit. Therefore, this government...

MR. SPEAKER: Yadavji, please resume your seat. I have listened to you...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You go back to your seat. Yadavji please take your seat. Kalka Dasji...

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mulayam Singh government should be dismissed.

MR. SPEAKER: I have heard you. Now you listen to me also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: This Government is the murderer of Harijans...

SHRI KALKA DAS: If this issue is not discussed the Harijans will feel...

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, why there is a suspicion in your mind?

SHRI KALKA DAS: If a discussion is not held over the massacre of Harijans, there may be serious repercussions in the country.

MR. SPEAKER: Kalka Dasji, I have heard you. Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Please suspend Mulayam Singh. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I can appreciate the anxiety of the hon. Members over various issues. I have listened to all the hon. Members and in the first instance I am calling various party leaders in my chamber to have a dialogue with them with regard to adjournment Motion in order to take a decision in this regard. Till the time we take a decision on this matter, a Chairman can occupy this seat and continue with the question hour, thereafter we shall commence the proceedings. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

I would like the Members to give a patient hearing to the Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that the points that have been made relate to serious issues and the government is eager to hold discussion on both of them. The Government would hold a full fledged discussion on the issue pertaining to murder of Harijans that has been raised by the hon. Members. Many of our friends have mentioned it earlier also. Dinesh Singh ji has just now sent me in writing also. We are in the process of getting information from the Government... *(Interruptions)* Our friend Shri Madan Lal Khurana has raised that question in a more effective manner. I am impressed by what Shri Madan Lal Khurana has said. In view of this Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we hold a discussion on it then it should be done in such an atmosphere in which we can at least listen to each other. For fifteen minutes I was unable to make out as to why Shri Khuranaji was so much excited? Therefore, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would urge upon you to carry on with the question hour and in the meantime you may take a decision as to which issue you would like to take up first for discussion. However, I would like to make a request to hon. Khuranaji that in case he wants to have a fruitful discussion on it then we should also be given some time so that we could gather some information about it... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KALKA DAS: The Prime Minister is not aware of what has happened. He says that Dinesh Singhji has informed. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: The Prime Minister has agreed that a discussion will take place, therefore, you should also agree and allow the discussion. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Both the issues are very serious. But a debate cannot

be held on both simultaneously. As such you give your verdict about the issue which you want to take up first. You may take a decision in consultation with the party leaders. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Lok Nath Choudharyji, please resume your seat, now I want to listen to the opposition leaders. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the members of the opposition have expressed their anxiety on these issues and they have given notice of adjournment motion on both the issues. A formal proposal to suspend the question hour is also there. Forty minutes have already gone. My submission is that the proposal regarding suspension of question hour may be adopted and you may allow discussion on whichever subject you consider more important. The hon. Prime Minister and the Government is ready for that. One of the two subjects relates to the massacre of 18 Harijans in Uttar Pradesh and the other one is... (*Interruptions*) other one is Gulf War. I think discussion should take place on both the issues, but I leave it to you as to which issue is to be discussed first. You may decide as you wish but the question hour goes on like this for another twenty minutes I do not think it would serve any purpose. Therefore it would be better if you allow suspension of question hour and allow discussion on one of the above mentioned subjects. This is my submission... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, we did not give the notice for suspension of Question Hour casually. It was not a casual decision. Because of the very serious issue that is involved regarding refueling of US aircrafts which are combat aircrafts, that is a matter vitally concerning the whole nation. And because of that, conflicting reports have been coming in the newspapers about the Prime Minister's decision. We came to know that the US has stopped taking fuel; not that our Government took any decision. (*Interruptions*) That is why, considering the seri-

ousness of the matter, we gave a notice for suspension of the Question Hour. It was not a casual decision. Is it a normal matter? I do not know what is the attitude of the Congress party on this. (*Interruptions*) We want to pinpoint on the refuelling issue. That is why we gave our adjournment motion. After forty minutes, the Government has responded to this. We heard the *de facto* Minister for Parliamentary Affairs. But what was the Government doing for the last forty minutes? There was no response. It is easy to say, "We are now agreeable to the discussion". Why then they were opposing all this time, keeping quiet and silent about this? Is this matter important or not important? I would like to know this from the hon. House. Therefore, I request you to take up the adjournment motion on the refuelling issue. I am not minimising the other issue. That is also very important. As Shri Advani rightly said, hardly 15 or 20 minutes left for the Question Hour to be over. Therefore, now let us start with the adjournment motion on the refuelling issue. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this issue is important for the entire Parliament, whether it is the Lower House or the Upper House.

AN HON. MEMBER: For the entire nation.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am talking of the procedure in Parliament. Sir, the very fact is that at the other place—it is customary not to refer to the other House, I can say, other place—suspending the Question Hour, the issue has been taken up for discussion. Members in both the Houses are concerned that the right to have the Question Hour should not be suspended normally. But, when a large section of this country and even many of us in this House feel that the time-honoured, policy of peace and non-alignment, in a number of respects in relation to the Gulf war have been violated—not only on the question of refuelling, but also other aspects and certain pronouncements—we would like this aspect to be discussed threadbare and we want to

discuss it through an adjournment motion, because there is an element of censure in that also. Therefore, as in the other place, here also we are insisting that we should have the discussion. I request you, since a few minutes are left, to allow us to move the adjournment motion and straightway we will proceed with the discussion on this issue which is today actually, engulfing the entire world. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY (Jagatsinghpur): Sir, the issue of refuelling of American aircraft during the Gulf War is important. The Gulf war itself is engulfing the whole world. Refuelling is an important matter and not a casual one. It is an important matter, which is against all traditions of India. Therefore, I request you to allow us to move the adjournment motion, suspending the Question Hour. The other issue is also important, I agree. In view of this, I urge upon you to suspend the Question Hour and allow the discussion on adjournment motion. The Prime Minister said that it should be discussed. The adjournment motion is to censure the Government for doing a work which no Indian would like. Therefore, it should be taken up.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): We have given notice for suspension of the question hour not in a casual manner. We have given our thoughts that the question hour belongs to the Members of the House. We do not, in any way, like to curtail the right of the Private Members business of the House. But, Sir, an extraordinary situation has developed, particularly in relation to the Gulf situation, in our country. We have given adjournment motion in order to draw the attention of the entire nation and the world that the Government of India's policies have not been in conformity with the nationally—accepted foreign policy of peace and non-alignment. Therefore, the Parliament is the right forum to condemn the Government and censure the Government on this issue.

You should not deprive this House of its right to exercise one of its major tasks. (*Interruptions*) I would implore upon you that

you should give this Parliament the opportunity of condemning and censuring the Government on this national issue. Therefore, we have given an adjournment motion for proper consideration. I feel, you should give us the opportunity of moving the adjournment motion.

So far as the other item is concerned, that is equally important. It should be taken up later. But attention should be focussed on the issue of Gulf because that violates the basic spirit of the nation's policy of peace and non-alignment. (*Interruptions*)

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are not under-mining the issues regarding refuelling and also Harijans which the Hon. Members have raised. But you have already mentioned in the House. We are having fifteen minutes of the question hour left. Therefore, we can take up the issue once we have finished the question hour. The Prime Minister also promised to take it up as soon as the question hour was over. (*Interruptions*) Today, we are having Private Members' business also. We want to know which issue are we going to take up now? As you have pointed out, the leaders of the various groups should discuss the issues. (*Interruptions*) We have no objection. I request all the Members and the Prime Minister to take them up after the question hour. And after 4 o'clock, Private Members' item can be taken up. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIJASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): Sir, the submission that I wish to make is that of the two issues that are under consideration, one is the atrocities on Harijans and the other has been rather focussed on the question of Gulf. My submission is, whichever subject you take up, of course, it is your decision. But when it comes to the question of discussion of the war in the Gulf, I would, through you, put it across to the House that, of course, the aspect of refuelling is very important aspect, but that is not the total aspect. The war in the Gulf has an impact on our economy. So, war has a nexus with the national security. Therefore, if we discuss Gulf, my submission would be that we discuss

the totality of the situation of the Gulf, not merely the refuelling issue. Therefore, it is for you to consider whether adjournment motion is the best way to do it or some other method for discussing the Gulf. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Sir, there are two motions before you: one, notice regarding adjournment motion and the other; motion regarding suspension of question hour. Now when these two motions are there, then the notice for adjournment motion gets priority.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Sir, this is such an important matter that without wasting any time, the matter on Adjournment Motion should be given the top priority. The Prime Minister has said that there is no foreign policy involved in this issue... (*Interruptions*)...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kundu, I have got your point. Please take your seat. Mr. Dinesh Singh.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH SINGH: Sir, there are two motions before the House, one is about the atrocities on Harijans and the other is about the Gulf. My friend has already given preference to the motion on the Gulf. Hon. Member, Shri Jaswant Singh said that the issue of refuelling is not a limited question. It is a much wider question of the Gulf as such. And there is a proposal by President Gorbachev which is now being discussed internationally. I think that the time has come for this House and the Government to express their support to the proposal given by President Gorbachev. Therefore, it would be more appropriate to take it up in a wider motion than the Adjournment Motion..... (*Interruptions*)... The Adjournment Motion on Harijans should be taken up and the Gulf issue should be taken up in a wider motion in which we can all express our views and

particularly, we support the proposals by President Gorbachev. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am taking up adjournment motion. Please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have been to Pratapgarh. On 14th night the police took away the harijans forcibly from their houses and shot them down in the jungle after tying their hands and feet... (*Interruptions*) Thereafter their bodies were brought in a jeep and it was told that the police shot them down in self-defence... (*Interruptions*) The Uttar Pradesh Government was later forced to suspend the concerned police officials. This proves that the policemen were really guilty and except a couple of persons, the rest were innocent. Not even FIR was lodged against them. This proves that the harijans in Uttar Pradesh are being deliberately killed by Mulayam Singh's Government... (*Interruptions*) Innocent people have been killed. Similarly, harijans who were killed on 14th January were all innocent. I would, therefore, urge the Government to give priority to this matter and the House should accept this proposal. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Hajipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri V.P. Singh and my friends from the Left Front, Shri Bhogendra Jha and Shri Saifuddin Chowdhury had also gone there. The incident is really heart-rending. The way in Chaura. (*Interruptions*) The District administration forcibly took away 10 persons from Chaura under Kunda Police Station in Pratapgarh area. Apart from these 10 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, 3 persons belonging to Komi Community were also massacred. Nobody was involved in any case. The police took them away on same pretext. They said that they were to identify the criminal involved in a dacoity case. Later they were riddled with bullets. All this was done by the police. That is why I think there is direct involvement of the ad-

ministration. Just now the hon. Prime Minister said that I am trying to get necessary information. Mr. Prime Minister this incident happened on 14 January... (*Interruptions*) One month and eight days have passed and the Prime Minister says today that information is being collected. Earlier also I had demanded the dismissal of U.P. Government... (*Interruptions*) It is good that you have decided to suspend the question hour and allow discussion on the situation arising out of the Gulf war. Similarly the issue of Scheduled Castes should also be given priority. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAM SAJIWAN (Banda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, 13 harijans were brutally murdered near Kunda Police Station in Pratapgarh area. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, Shri Bhogendra Jha and CPM member Shri Saifuddin Chowdhury had gone there. Many other Members of this House had paid a visit to assess the situation there. All of us are unanimous that it is a criminal case. Therefore there is no need for any investigation but those policemen should be sent to jail and prosecution launched against them. Last time when a harijan was murdered in Fatehpur, when Shri V.P. Singh was the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had paid a visit there, but now when 13 harijans have been massacred he did not go there nor did any top leader of his party. Not only this the opposition leader Shri Advani also did not go there. They are just shedding crocodile tears. Shri Dinesh Singh has shown lot of sympathy for them. I know the entire House has sympathy for them. The Prime Minister did not have the courtesy to even pay a visit there. This is a serious matter. The Mulayam Singh Government should resign or it should be dismissed. 2-4 years old infants are dying of starvation. They have not been provided any relief. The State Government has announced Rs. 25000 as ex-gratia payment to the next of kin. Our demand is to pay Rs. 2 lakhs in each case to the next of kin of the deceased. (*Interruptions*) Besides they

should also be given *Pattas* of land and at least one person from their family should be given Government employment also.

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

SHRIRAMSAJIWAN: The entire House condemns Prime Minister's not paying a visit to this area. Where has Shri Rajiv Gandhi gone? We ask him to explain... (*Interruptions*) The BJP raises a lot of hue and cry, they can reach Ayodhya but they can't reach the place where Harijans have been massacred. Why didn't Advaniji go there when the leader of CPM and our party could go there. The root cause of the problem is the Chief Minister himself, therefore we should ask for his resignation.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had raised this matter. The heinous murders that have taken place in Uttar Pradesh have not been committed by any person but police itself. Therefore a discussion on it is utmost necessary. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House is unanimous, that Shri Mulayam Singh should resign. It is unfortunate that the Prime Minister is not aware of the incident even after one month. He should resign for being ignorant about the incident.

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the atrocities committee on Harijans in Pratapgarh... (*Interruptions*) This relates to human lives. This massacre has been done at the instance of the Chief Minister. Therefore you give your ruling on this...

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: The question hour is over.

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

Effect of gulf war on Indian Economy

*1. SHRI VASANT SATHE:
SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gulf War has affected every sector of Indian economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to meet the economic crisis both by series of economy measures and resorting to fresh measures for raising additional resources (both internal and external) and the results achieved so far;

(d) whether any guidelines have also been sent to the state Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b). The Gulf Crisis/war has led to an acute strain on the balance of payments, a deterioration in the fiscal situation, accentuation of inflationary pressures, and an adverse impact on industrial and agricultural production.

(c) The measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Central Government Departments to deal with problems caused by the Gulf crisis/war include both direct and indirect tax measures to mobilise additional resources; economy measures to curtail public expenditure on petroleum products and foreign exchange; measures to boost exports and contain inessential imports; efforts to obtain crude oil and petroleum products from non-Gulf sources; mobilisation of additional foreign exchange resources from non-resi-

dent Indians, bilateral and multilateral sources, including the IMF; and preparation of action plans on the basis of different scenarios regarding the supply of POL. The package of measures are expected to combat the emerging difficult situation arising from the Gulf crisis. It is, however, too early to fully assess the results of the above measures.

(d) and (e). Cabinet Secretary has written to all the Chief Secretaries on 1st January, 1991, 25th January, 1991 and 12th February, 1991. A meeting of Chief Minister's was held by the Prime Minister on 17.1.91 the day the war broke out in the Gulfs. A meeting of all Chief Secretaries was also taken by Cabinet Secretary on 18.1.1991. State Governments have been advised to draw Contingency Plans particularly in respect of POL and fertilizers. The plan should envisage strategic stocking and an orderly distribution so that minimum dislocation is caused to the economy. The States have been advised to establish close coordination between Railways and State Road Transport Undertakings to ensure optimum utilisation of HSD. Supplies of POL are to be regulated in such a way as to avoid hardship to the long distance carriers and dislocation of supplies of essential commodities and critical inputs to Industry. They have also been advised to rationalise the fare structure of State Transport undertakings and power tariffs. General measures regarding economy and reduction in Government expenditure might also be initiated. The State Governments are to set up high Level Crisis Management Groups to deal with any situation which might arise in the context of Gulf war.

[Hindi]

Ownership Rights to Tribal People In Maharashtra

*2. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to grant ownership rights to tribal people, of the land which they have been occupying for the last several years in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, when the decision would be implemented;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) to (c). Government of India has issued guidelines to all State Governments including Maharashtra to regularise encroachments on forest lands in such cases where the State Government had evolved certain eligibility criteria in accordance with local needs and conditions and had taken a decision to regularise such cases prior to 25.10.1980. As per the information received from the Government of Maharashtra, encroachments that had taken place during the period 01.02.72 to 31.03.78 are covered under the guidelines, since a decision for their regularisation had been taken before the designated date.

[English]

Appointment of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

*3. SHRI A.K.A. ABDUL SAMAD:
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:

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

(a) the number of judges belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and minority communities in the Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 1 January, 1991, court-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate representation to these categories in these courts?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) The information received from the Registries of the High Courts in August, 1990 is given in the attached statement.

(b) The Government have addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts requesting them to locate persons from the Bar belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, minorities and women who are suitable for appointment as High Court Judges.

I	Name of High Court	Judges belonging to			
		Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe	Backward Class	Minority
1		2	3	4	5
	Allahabad	2	—	1	3
	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	3	2
	Bombay	4	—	2	7
	Calcutta	—	—	—	3
	Delhi	—	—	—	1
	Gauhati	—	2	—	1
	Gujarat	1	—	1	—
	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—
	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	2
	Karnataka	1	2	17	3
	Kerala	1	—	8	5

I	Name of High Court	Judges belonging to			
		Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe	Backward Class	Minority
1		2	3	4	5
	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	—	2
	Madras	3	—	11	6
	Orissa	—	—	—	—
	Patna	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	Punjab & Haryana	—	—	—	—
	Rajasthan	—	1	—	1
	Sikkim	—	—	—	—
		12	5	43	36
II	Supreme Court	2	—	N.A.	N.A.

Note: In some cases, some minority community are shown in the category of both Minority and Backward Class.

Black Money in Circulation

*4. **SHRI TARIF SINGH:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated black money in circulation at the end of 1990 as compared to the year 1989;

(b) the overall impact of the parallel economy on the fiscal structure of the country;

(c) the estimated black money generated annually through evasion of various taxes, smuggling of various contraband items and hoarding and selling of various commodities in the black market;

(d) the deficiencies in various measures taken to curb the growth of black money; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) to (e). There is no official estimate of the amount of black money in circulation in the country. The National Institute of Public Finance & Policy in their report titled "Aspects of the Black Economy in India" have estimated the black money generated in the year 1983-84 between Rs. 31,584 to Rs. 36,786 crores. The authors have, however, admitted that their estimate is based on numerous assumptions and approximations, each of which can be challenged. No estimate of the quantum of black money in circulation in the country has been attempted thereafter.

Black money generation has an adverse effect on economy such as fuelling inflation and conspicuous consumption and undermining the equity of the tax system. It also leads to distortion of Government's planning regarding investments as black money may be invested in non-priority sectors.

Black money is tax evaded income which may be derived from any economic whether legal or illegal. Income from illegal activities such as smuggling of contraband items and hoarding and selling of commodities in black market is not disclosed to the income-tax authorities and consequently results in generation of black money. However, it is not possible to make an estimate of the tax evaded income arising from legal or illegal activities separately.

The causes underlying the phenomenon of generation of black money are deep rooted in the economy. Some of the causes that have been identified, include, inter-alia, structure of taxation, complexity of economic controls, deterioration in moral standards, inflation and weak deterrence against tax evasion. Changes in economic policies such as lesser bureaucratic controls and delicensing have been effected which help in reduction of black money generation. Other measures taken are streamlining of tax rates and strengthening of the enforcement machinery to improve tax compliance. Evolving of steps in this direction is a continuous process. Necessary legislative and administrative steps as deemed appropriate are taken from time to time.

Income Tax Raids in Capital

*5. **SHRI R.M. BHOYE:**
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether raids were conducted by the Income-tax Department in and around the capital during January, 1991;

(b) if so, the details of each raid including those made on the petrol pumps;

(c) the outcome of each raid; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Statement containing details of searches conducted by the Income-tax Department in and around Delhi during the month of January, 1991 is attached. Appropriate follow-up action is taken in each case.

STATEMENT

Details of cases where searches were conducted in and around Delhi during the Month of January, 1991

Sl. No.	Name of the case	Nature of business	Date of search	Value of assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Narinder Kumar/Madan Lal & others	Manufacturing of PVC chappals and hiring of tables	8.1.91	2.05
2.	Smt. Minati Mishra Orissa Stevedores (P) Ltd.	Stevedores	9.1.91	Nil
3.	Shri Gian Gupta & Others, M/s Rakesh Filling Station	Running of petrol pumps, leasing and financing	14.1.91	41.37
4.	Shri J.C. Chawla	Manufacturing of soap	14.1.91	2.00
5.	Shri W.N. Kochhar & others, M/s Kochhar Transport, Carrier (P) Ltd.	Freight carrier	15.1.91	5.13
6.	Shri Pavan Kumar Chawla Shri Raj Kumar & others, M/s Ganesh Das & Co.	Manufacturing and sale of PVC sheets	18.1.91 & 19.1.91	27.51
7.	M/s Indpro Distributors	Dealing in paper and card board	17.1.91	Nil

Sl. No.	Name of the case	Nature of business	Date of search	Value of assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
8.	Shri A.K. Khanna	—	17.1.91	1.90
9.	Mrs. Geeta Chopra	Automobile dealer	21.1.91	Nil
10.	Shri Gurubax Singh	Dealing in plastic	29.1.91	2.20
11.	Bodh Raj Nagpal & others	Property dealers and builders	29.1.91	4.60
12.	Shri Mahesh Kumar Gupta & others	—do—	29.1.91	28.69
13.	Shri Kamal Kishore & others	—do—	29.1.91	16.66
14.	Shri R.K. Dhingra & others M/s Khanna Motors	Property dealer and dealer in auto parts	29.1.91	0.35
15.	Shri Vasudev Manchanda & others	—do—	29.1.91	1.83

Searches were also conducted in the following cases in continuation of the searches conducted in earlier months

Sl. No.	Name of the case	Nature of business	Date of search	Value of assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	U.S. Sitani & others	Chartered accountant, real estate, wholesale buyer of cigarettes	3.1.91	Nil
2.	Thakurdas Bhatia & others	Finance broker	3.1.91	Nil
3.	Sri Rakesh Kumar Agarwal & others, M/s Gulmohar Estates Ltd., M/s Apogee Investment Ltd.	Real estates, hotel and cigarette dealership	8.1.91	2.24
4.	—do—	—do—	10.1.91	1.16
5.	Shri Bhimsen Gupta & others, M/s R.K. Cable House	Manufacturing of electric cables	9.1.91	5.85
6.	Shri Gulshan Rai	Advocate	10.1.91	1.16
7.	M/s Delhi Watch Emporium	Dealer in watches	16.1.91	17.87
8.	Shri S.C. Jain, D.C. Jain & others, M/s Gulshan Toys, M/s Raja Toys	Manufacture of toys	11.1.91	Nil
9.	M/s Bhagwandas Khanna & others	Jewellers	14.1.91	Nil

Sl. No.	Name of the case	Nature of business	Date of search	Value of assets seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
10.	M/s Continent Pump and M/s Mahabir Export Import (P) Ltd., Ghaziabad	Manufacturing of pumps	14.1.91	5.23
11.	S.C. Jain, D.C. Jain & others, M/s Gulshan Toys, M/s Raja Toys	Manufacturing of toys	16.1.91	Nil
12.	M/s Sikand & Co.	Automobile dealer	15.1.91	2.55
13.	—do—	—do—	22.1.91	0.40
14.	M/s. Vikas Motors (P) Ltd.	Automobile dealer	24.1.91	147.70 (FDR)
15.	M.C. Gupta, S.B. Gupta, M/s Delhi Watch Emporium	Dealer in watches	24.1.91	Nil
16.	M/s Classic Motors (P) Ltd.	Automobile dealer	30.1.91	24.50 (FDR)

Trade Deficit

*6. **SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM:**
SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of balance of trade in terms of imports and exports;

(b) whether there has been a sharp increase in trade deficit during November 1990-January 1991;

(c) whether any concrete steps have been taken by the Government to increase the exports and reduce the imports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (d). The aggregate figures of India's foreign trade during current financial year are available upto April-December, 1990. According to provisional figures, India's exports during April-December, 1990 amounted to Rs. 23189 crores as compared to Rs. 19255 crores during April-December, 1989, there by showing an increase of 20.4%. At the same time, India's imports during April-December, 1990 amounted to Rs. 31724 crores as compared to Rs. 24773 crores during the corresponding period of previous year, showing an increase of 28.1%. The trade deficit at Rs. 8535 crores during April-December, 1990 was higher by 54.7% as compared to Rs. 5518 crores during April-December, 1989.

There has been a sharp increase in trade deficit since September, 1990 as compared to the previous months.

Government has taken several initiatives to increase the exports and to reduce the imports. Government has set up an Empowered Committee of Secretaries on Balance of Payments to monitor the performance on export front and to explore possibilities of providing additional exports with a small subsidy element, mainly in the form of CCS. Intensive discussions are taking place with exporters in all the major sectors to explore possibilities of creating additional exports. Special efforts have been taken to bolster agricultural exports by removing administrative bottlenecks and ensuring credit availability. Special efforts have also been taken to identify additional exports and to take advantage of increases in domestic production in some areas. Export Promotion Councils have been requested to initiate steps to maintain the tempo of exports by exploring alternative market to those affected by the Gulf crisis. Indian Missions in the Gulf region have been requested to identify items of export for which demand would have increased as a result of outbreak of war. Given the uncertainties in the world trading environment, we have initiated intensive bilateral discussion to boost exports. A beginning of this process has been made with visit of a high level delegation led by Commerce Minister to China. Simultaneously, efforts have also been made to curtail the non-essential and low priority imports.

Accumulation of Scrap at Steel Plants

*7. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:**
 Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity and value of scrap lying accumulated at the public sector steel plants, plant-wise;

(b) the reasons for such accumulation and since when it has accumulated at different plants, and

(c) the steps being taken for its recovery and disposals?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES

(SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) The estimated quantity and value of different varieties of scrap lying at the SAIL steel plants, plant-wise are given below:-

As on 1.2.1991

<i>Plant*</i>	<i>Approximate Quantity (in tonnes)</i>	<i>Approximate Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Bhilai Steel Plant	26500	582.00
Durgapur Steel Plant	18000	436.45
Rourkela Steel Plant	33566	206.00
Bokaro Steel Plant	10000	500.00
IISCO (Burnpur)	60000	1800.00
Alloy Steel Plant Durgapur	5000	200.00
Salem Steel Plant	240	27.00
V.I.S.L. (Bhadravati)	13856	806.98

*At Bhilai Steel Plant the stock information regarding quantity and value is as on 19.2.91.

Production at RINL (Vishakhapatnam Steel Project) has commenced recently and so there is no accumulation of scrap. The plant is in fact procuring some scrap from outside to meet its requirement.

(b) and (c). Generation of iron and steel scrap is an integral part of the iron and steel making process at the steel plants. The plants, therefore, continuously recover the scrap, recycle it at the plant, despatch to needy sister plants and also dispose of certain categories of scrap. The recovery of such scrap is done usually by the plants

themselves or with the help of public sector companies like M/s Ferro Scrap Nigam Ltd. and Metal Scrap Trade Corporation and HSCL (Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd.) In some cases like in Bhilai and IISCO the private contractors are also engaged in this process.

The disposal of surplus scrap to outside parties is done by the plants themselves through fixed prices, tender or by auction and also through Metal Scrap Trade Corporation.

[Translation]

Environmental Clearance for Laying of Railway Line and Widening of Roads from Lalpaniya to Dumri (Bihar)

*8. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have given environmental and forestry clearance for widening of roads and laying of railway lines along the forest area from Lalpaniya to Dumri (Bihar) to carry coal from collieries to meet the demand of Tenughat Thermal Power Station;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI:

(a) to (c). No, Sir. A statement on the status of forestry clearance is attached.

This Ministry has cleared Tenughat Thermal Power Project from environment and forestry angle. A proposal from Government of Bihar for diversion of 35.72 ha. of forest land for construction of railway track from Dumri (Bihar) railway station to Lalpaniya for Tenughat Thermal Power Station was received in May, 1990 for clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. As the proposal was incomplete and lacked essential details, complete information has been sought from the State Government and reply is awaited. Final decision could be

taken on receipt of complete information. The Ministry has not received any proposal for forestry clearance for widening of roads.

[English]

Leasing of Forest Lands in Kerala to Industrial Units

*9. SHRI MULLAPPALIY RAMA-CHANDRAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals recently from the Government of Kerala to lease forest lands to industrial units;

(b) whether any such lease of forest lands for industrial purposes was made in Kerala during the years, 1988, 1989 and 1990;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether forest lands in Kerala have been utilised for any other purpose during the years, 1988, 1989 and 1990; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Details of proposals approved during 1988, 1989 and 1990

Sl. No.	Name of proposal	Area in ha.	District/Division	Government of India order No. & Date
1	2	3	4	5

Proposals approved during 1988

- | | | | | |
|----|---|--------|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Lower Periyar H.E. Project | 127.00 | Munnar Division | 8-360/82-Fry (Cons.)/3.4.1988 |
| 2. | Construction of an open channle to divert surplus water of Peringalkuthu Reservoir for power generation | 7.5 | Vazhachal Division | 8-40/88-FC/18.4.1988 |
| 3. | Installation of a wind electric generator and laying of 11 K.V. line | 0.255 | Mannarkad Division (Palghat Spl. Division) | 8-325/88-FC/19.9.1988 |
| 4. | For constructing a well-cum-pump house at Mylmoood | 0.075 | Thiruvauanthapuram Division | 8-295/87-FC/1.11.1988 |

Proposals approved during 1989

- | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | For laying underground cable | 0.0009
(9 Sq. M) | Thiruvauanthapuram division | 8-523/88-FC/5.1.1989 |
| 2. | Laying 11 K.V.T.L. for | 0.9 | Nilambur South division | 8-128/89-FC/10.4.1989 |

Sl. No.	Name of proposal	Area in ha.	District/Division	Government of India order No. & Date
1	2	3	4	5
	electrification of Vennacode Tribal Colony			
3.	Construction of a power house for pumping water to Manappattuchira	0.0860 (860 Sq. M)	Ernakulam District Malayathur division	8-334/89-FC/9.8.1989
4.	Laying LT 3 phase T.L. to Perakuthu	0.24	Ernakulam District Kothamangalam division	8-524/88-FC/12.9.1989
5.	Drawing single phase line to areswaram temple	0.1989 (198.9 Sq.m.)	Trissur district Chalakudy division	8-475/89-FC/13.12.1989
6.	Lease of land for 10 years for Nedumpoll 68/11 K.V. Sub station	0.113	Cannannore district	8(b)-(4)-6/89-FC(S)/26.12.1989
<i>Proposals approved during 1990</i>				
1.	Peppara S.H.E. Scheme	0.63	Thiruvananthapuram district	8(b)-(8)-1/89-FC(S)/18.1.90
2.	Construction of a borewell in the premises of Kadakkamon depot	0.0120 (120 M ²)	Kollam District Punalur division	8(b)-(7)-4/89-FC(S)/5.2.90

Sl. No.	Name of proposal	Area in ha.	District/Division	Government of India order No. & Date
1	2	3	4	5
3.	Water supply scheme to Mlappara	0.3645	Idukki District Wild-life division. Thochkady	8(b)-(7)-5/89-FC(S)/22.2.1990
4.	Erecting T. Line to the tribal settlement at kachandappupara	0.08	Thiruvananthapuram district, Thiruvananthapuram division	8(b)-(4)-7/89-FC(S)/23.2.1990
5.	Water supply scheme to Thenmala	0.261	Thenmala division	8(b)-(7)-8/89-FC(S)/23.2.1990
6.	Construction of an electric line from Iilithodu to Mulamkuzhy	0.450	Malayattur division	8(b)-(4)-8/89-FC(S)/6.4.1990
7.	Installing wind monitoring instrument at Tholannur, Kottamala and Ponmudi	0.054 (540 M ²)	Tholannur and Kottamala in Palaghat district (palaghat Spl. division) Ponmudi in Thiruvananthapuram, district, Thiruvananthapuram division	8(b)-(13)-1/89-FC(S) 1198/23.4.90
8.	Laying pipeline in Kakkinikad Tribal Colony	200 M	Trissur division	8-233/88-FC/8.5.90
9.	220 K.V. Line from Lower Periyar to Cochin	16.41	Kothamangalam division Munnar division	8-284/87-FC/10.7.1990
10.	220 K.V. Line from Trichur to Kozhikode	22.40	Trissur division	8-98/87-FC/10.7.1990

Sl. No.	Name of proposal	Area in ha.	District/Division	Government of India order No. & Date
1	2	3	4	5
11.	220 K.V. Line from Idukki-Lower Periyar	25.585	Munnar division and Kothamangalam division	8-8/89-FC/10.7.1990
12.	Anakkayam Small Hydro-Electric Scheme	8.00	Vazhachal division	8-35/90-FC/18.7.1990
13.	66 K.V. Thenmala-Edaman Transmission line	14.1516	Punalur division and Thenmala	8-220/88-FC/10.7.1990
14.	For allotment to St. Thomas Church for burial ground	0.40	Ranni division	8(b) (XV)-4/90-FC(S) 1772/25.7.90
15.	400 K.V. Line to Udumalpet to Trichur	12.615	Trissur division	8-107/86-FC/6.8.1990
16.	Drawing 11 KV Konni-Manneera line	0.035	Konni division	8(b)-(4)-3/8-FC(S)/13.9.1990
17.	Cultivation of pepper in Softwood Plantation.	300.00	Wynad division Kozhikode "Wynad Wildlife division"	8(b)-(4)-3/8-FC(S)/13.9.1990

Abstract		
Year	Number of proposals	Area diverted (Hectare)
1988	4	134.8300 ha.
1989	6	1.5388 ha.
1990	17	401.4681 ha.
Total	27	537.8369 ha.

[Translation]

crops; and

Bank Loans to Farmers

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

*10. **SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO
DESHMUKH:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of implementation of 'Agricultural & Rural Debt Relief (ARDR) Scheme, 1990; State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the total amount reimbursed by the Union Government under the scheme so far, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government have ensured issue of fresh loans from the nationalised banks and co-operative banks to the farmers for the coming Rabi/Kharif

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) As on 18th February, 1991, 2.52 crores beneficiaries have been provided relief to the extent of Rs. 6516 crores. State-wise details are given in Statement I.

(b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has released Rs. 875 crores till date to State Cooperative Banks and State Land Development Banks as share of the Central Government to meet the cost of the scheme. State-wise details are given in Statement II,

(c) and (d). Under the Scheme, all borrowers whose loan accounts are closed or where the balance overdues are less than Rs. 1,000/- are provided fresh loans by the banks.

STATEMENT-I

Sl. No.	Name of States/Union Territories	No. of Beneficiaries identified	No. of beneficiaries who have been given relief	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2855198	2430308	712.13
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5277	4905	0.86
3.	Assam	522745	278570	59.31
4.	Bihar	3615315	2746570	680.22
5.	Goa	19783	17013	3.57
6.	Gujarat	1317421	1236406	465.30
7.	Haryana	580430	532196	209.36
8.	Himachal Pradesh	242716	79237	18.38
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15922	10527	3.34
10.	Karnataka	1607997	1321247	409.77
11.	Kerala	124554	31814	6.53
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1825297	1688897	393.53

Sl. No.	Name of States/Union Territories	No. of Beneficiaries identified	No. of beneficiaries who have been given relief	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
13.	Maharashtra	2877300	2760339	732.39
14.	Manipur	67989	17042	4.69
15.	Meghalaya	17209	16238	6.59
16.	Mizoram	2246	2009	0.91
17.	Nagaland	13301	9917	4.43
18.	Orissa	2272803	2060566	374.80
19.	Punjab	469259	418269	176.73
20.	Rajasthan	2029804	1688381	456.87
21.	Sikkim	8992	8501	2.51
22.	Tamil Nadu	1412737	1783754	487.00
23.	Tripura	173486	136731	21.34
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5085955	4341666	892.67

Sl. No.	Name of States/Union Territories	No. of Beneficiaries identified	No. of beneficiaries who have been given relief	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4	5
25.	West Bengal	2404824	1052584	193.93
26.	Chandigarh	1233	1027	0.44
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1211	1211	0.14
28.	Daman & Diu	217	211	0.07
29.	Delhi	16851	8713	3.55
30.	Lakshadweep	77	Nil	Nil
31.	Pondicherry	17844	17664	4.67
32.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	3961	2609	0.62

STATEMENT-II

		(Rs. in crores)			
Sl. No.	State	State Co-operative Banks	State Land Development Banks	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Uttar Pradesh	58.50	19.00	77.50	
2.	Madhya Pradesh	72.50	10.26	82.76	
3.	Rajasthan	43.00	7.33	50.33	
4.	Tamil Nadu	50.50	25.50	76.00	
5.	Gujarat	59.00	7.50	66.50	
6.	West Bengal	19.00	3.00	22.00	
7.	Punjab	50.00	3.00	53.00	
8.	Karnataka	27.00	6.50	33.50	
9.	Andhra Pradesh	47.00	22.67	69.67	
10.	Maharashtra	114.50	24.00	138.50	
11.	Bihar	46.50	28.50	75.00	
12.	Orissa	39.66	5.00	44.66	

(Rs. in crores)					
Sl. No.	State	State Co-operative Banks	State Land Development Banks	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	
13.	Assam	1.00	0.46	1.46	
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1.00	0.33	1.33	
15.	Kerala	23.33	5.00	28.33	
16.	Haryana	41.00	11.50	52.50	
17.	Manipur	0.66	Nil	0.66	
18.	Goa	0.50	Nil	0.50	
19.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.50	Nil	0.50	

Rise in the Prices of Food Items

*11. SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Price situation worsening" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 5 January, 1991;

(b) if so, whether the increase in the prices of general consumer items particularly food items in first nine months of the current financial year has been more as compared to the same period of the last financial year;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there has been less rise in the prices of manufactured goods as compared to food items;

(e) if so, the total percentage of price escalation registered during the period from March, 1990 to December, 1990;

(f) whether the Union Government had taken any steps to check this price rise; and

(g) if so, the details of the results achieved as a result of the steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e). The requisite information is given below:

<i>Percentage change in Whole Price Index (WPI) (Base: 1981-82=100)</i>		
<i>March to December</i>		
<i>Items</i>	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1989-90</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
All commodities	8.7	6.1
Food Articles	16.19	(-) 0.12
1. Foodgrains	14.64	(-) 1.81
(a) Cereals	16.06	(-) 3.15
(b) Pulses	8.33	5.43
2. Fruits and vegetables	25.16	(-) 5.57
3. Eggs, Fish and Meat	14.44	6.27
4. Condiments and spices	22.04	(-) 1.79

1	2	3
Food Products	7.95	7.30
(a) Sugar, Khandsari and Gur	(-) 0.07	8.06
(b) Edible Oils	21.65	8.21
Manufactured Products	5.27	8.84

The consumer Price Index for Industrial workers (Base: 1982=100) recorded an increase of 12.4 per cent during March-December, 1990 as compared with 5.4 per cent increase during corresponding period last year.

(f) and (g). The Government have accorded top priority to control of inflation. The measures taken/proposed to be taken to check the rise in prices and inflationary trend include strict fiscal discipline through monitoring of Government expenditure, check on expansion of liquidity in the economy, more effective management of supply and demand of essential/sensitive commodities and a strict action against hoarders and profiteers.

[English]

Danger to Indian Coastline due to Gulf Oil Slick

*12. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO:

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

(a) whether the Indian Coastline is likely to be affected by oil-slick in the Gulf;

(b) if so, the likely effects thereof on environment and the preventive steps being taken in this regard;

(c) whether a joint action plan of all the affected countries is proposed to be mooted out to check the ecological disaster; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) The present assessment is that the Indian Coastline is not likely to be affected by oil slick in the Gulf except for possible deposition of small quantities of tar balls on the west coast.

(b) The oil slick is not likely to affect the Indian environment. However, continuous watch is being kept on its movement.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal under consideration of Government to have a joint plan of action as such of all to oil slick.

Loan from World Bank and International Monetary Fund

*13. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:
SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans recently sanctioned to India by the International Monetary

Fund and the World Bank in view of the Gulf crisis and how far these will help in tiding over the tight foreign exchange reserves position;

(b) the terms and conditions for the repayment;

(c) whether any specific conditions have been laid down for the grant of these loans;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any allocations have been made or are being made for the utilisation of the said loans;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, when such allocations are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The International Monetary Fund has sanctioned two credits to India on Jan. 18, 1991, one under the Compensatory and Contingency Financing Facility (CCFF) for SDR 716.9 million and the other under a stand-by arrangement for SDR 551.93 million. These credits amount to about Rs. 3250 crores at the prevailing exchange rate and are expected to help India in maintaining a reasonable level of foreign exchange reserve which had come under pressure on account of developments associated with the Gulf crisis.

As for the World Bank, no separate loan has been sanctioned for meeting the financing requirements due to Gulf crisis. However, the World Bank has enhanced their share of financing in a large number of projects as a temporary measure for the period Sept. 1, 1990 to Dec. 31, 1991.

(b) Both the credits from IMF are repayable in eight equal quarterly instalments starting three years and three months from

the date of drawal and completed in the fifth year. Both credits are subject to a rate of interest which is determined from time to time depending on the prevailing SDR interest rate with certain adjustments. On Jan. 23, 1991 the calculated rate was about 9 percent. Currently the rate is 8.4 percent.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g). No, Sir. The credits would be utilised to meet the foreign exchange requirements of the country arising from time to time.

Investment by NRIs

*14. SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:
SHRI B.N. REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by the Government toward simplification of procedures and extending additional facilities and concessions for investment in the country by Non-resident Indians; and

(b) the extent to which the NRIs investment is expected to have an impact on the Indian economy in view of the critical situation posed by the Gulf war?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b). A large number of schemes/facilities were announced in 1982 to attract NRI investment. Government still attaches importance to investment by NRIs and has been taking a number of steps to make such investments attractive. The policies and schemes framed to attract investment by non-resident Indians are continuously reviewed in the light of suggestions received from different quarters including NRIs and NRI organisations.

Constant effort is also being made to streamline the procedures with a view to removing irritants and bottlenecks for prospective NRI investors. Government has recently set up a Coordination Committee to sort out any problem that might arise in the implementation of Government decisions and to respond to advice given by various NRIs and NRI organisations and to suggestions received in this regard. While efforts to encourage NRI investments would continue, the favourable impact of such investments on the balance of payment situation would depend on the magnitude of such inflows, which at present are not too large.

[Translation]

Disposal of Confiscated Gold

*15. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (in MT)</i>	<i>To whom sold</i>	<i>Value (Rs in crores)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1987-88	-	-	-
1988-89	-	-	-
1989-90	5.63	RBI	128.3

(b) Gold was sold to Reserve Bank of India at the prevailing London Metal Exchange price.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no justification for such sales. Government have not considered any such proposal.

(a) the total quantity and value of confiscated gold sold during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the conditions laid down for the purchasers of this gold and the places where it is sold;

(c) whether Government employees are also eligible to purchase it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The total quantity and value of confiscated gold sold during the last three years, yearwise, is as under:

Allotment of Land to Persons Identified as Encroachers of Forest Land in Madhya Pradesh

*16. SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent any proposal to the Union Government for allotment of land to persons

identified as encroachers of forest land as on 31 December, 1976;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to handover the entire deforested land to the Revenue Department and permit all the identified encroachers to continue to occupy the encroached land; and

(c) the details of the cases referred to the Union Government in this regard and the time by which these cases would be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted proposal seeking prior approval of Central Government under Section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of 2,72,458.370 ha. of forest land for regularisation of forest encroachment in different districts of the State in May, 1989. Subsequently on the advice of this Ministry, the State Government resubmitted district-wise proposals for diversion of 2,69,326.35 ha. of forest land for regularisation of forest encroachments in 45 districts of the State. The Central Government has approved diversion of 1,03,873.658 ha. of forest land towards regularisation of encroachments on the fringe of the forest in favour of eligible encroachers only in July, 1990 subject to certain stipulated conditions.

[English]

Uruguay Round of Gatt Negotiations.

*17. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI ANAND SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Workshop on the 'Proposals before the Uruguay Round of GATT Negotiations' held on 30th December, 1990 had concluded that if those provisions were accepted, it would have disastrous effect on some sections of Indian Industry;

(b) if so, what are the precise proposals to be taken up at the next Uruguay Round of GATT negotiations and in what way the same are likely to affect adversely the Indian Industry; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to safeguard the affected sectors of industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (c). A Workshop was held by the National Working Group on Patent Laws, a private organisation, on 30th December, 1990 which concluded inter alia, that "the magnitude of losses which the developing countries would suffer in the new areas of Trade Related aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) and services are colossal".

The Ministerial meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee of the Uruguay Round held at Brussels during 3-7 December, 1990 ended inconclusively. The proposals, particularly in the new areas of intellectual property rights, investment and services considered at the meeting, had not reached a sufficient degree of finality to enable an assessment of the costs and benefits which the eventual outcome of the Round would imply for India.

In TRIPs the text considered at Brussels reflects unresolved differences on crucial aspects. While some participants envisage a single TRIPs agreement encompassing all the areas of negotiations, others have proposed that the agreement on standards and principles concerning the availability, scope

and use of intellectual property rights is to be implemented not in GATT but in relevant international organisations. On the vital area of patentability while some participants want exclusions to be kept to the minimum, others have sought that the agreement should include the possibility of exclusion from patentability of certain products, and processes for the manufacture of those products, on grounds of public interest, national security, public health or nutrition. These include food, chemicals and pharmaceutical products and processes for their manufacture. They have also sought exclusions for plant and animals and an enabling provision for placing further limitations in regard to patentability of biotechnological inventions. All the points of view are reflected in the draft text which was considered at the Brussels meeting.

On TRIMs the basic divergences of view prevented the presentation of any official draft at the Brussels meeting. There was no agreement for instance on whether any disciplines including prohibition should be imposed on investment measures or there should be a case by case examination of these measures to examine any complaint of adverse trade effects.

On services, although a draft text of the agreement was submitted by the Chairman on his own responsibility, there remained many divergences of view among participants, and most of these are reflected in the text. Moreover, commitments on market access within the framework of the agreement have not even commenced and only some participating countries have given their initial and conditional offers.

Government will continue to pursue national interest and try to secure the objective not only that the overall package of results benefits the Indian economy but also that the legitimate interests of individual sectors of industry are safeguarded.

Import of coconut Oil and Copra

*18. SHRI V. KRISHANA RAO:
SHRI C.P. MUDALA-
GIRIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import coconut oil and copra from Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the quantity of coconut oil and copra proposed to be imported;

(c) whether the coconut growers and certain States have requested the Government not to import coconut oil; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) No such proposal is presently under consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Representations were made to Government against possible import of coconut oil.

(d) Government feel that the time is not appropriate now to import coconut oil.

Impact of Gulf War on Price Rise

*19. SHRI D.M. PUTTE GOWDA:
SHRI YUSUF BEG:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wholesale Price Index has risen sharply during the month of January, 1991;

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

(c) the impact of the Gulf war on the Indian economy stating the percentage rise in inflation and price index during the last three months; and

(d) the measures taken/being taken by the Union Government to check the price rise and inflationary trend and to stabilise the economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) (a) and (b). The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) has recorded an increase of 1.6 per cent during January, 1991 from 186.0 on 29th December, 1990 to 188.9 on 26th January, 1991. The corresponding increase in the WPI during January last year was 1.1 per cent. The build up of inflationary pressures in the economy is due to (i) fiscal imbalances resulting in a higher increase of money supply and, thus, effective demand (ii) supply and demand imbalances in sensitive commodities mainly due to shortfalls in supply, (iii) liquidity overhang and the inflationary expectations. The hardening of international prices of oil due to the Gulf crisis and the consequent rise in transportation costs have also adverse impact on prices.

(c) It is very difficult to fully assess the impact of the Gulf war on the Indian economy at this stage. The direct impact of a rise in petroleum products prices on WPI due to the imposition of the Gulf surcharge at the rate of 25 per cent in the month of October, 1990 is estimated to be 1.3 per cent (given the weight of petroleum products in the WPI). During the last three months (November, 1990 to January, 1991), the WPI has increased by 2.3 per cent from the level of 184.6 on 27th October, 1990 to 188.9 on 26th January, 1991.

(d) The Government have accorded top

priority to control of inflation. The measures taken/proposed to be taken to check the rise in prices and inflationary trend include strict fiscal discipline through monitoring of Government expenditure, check on expansion of liquidity in the economy, more effective management of supply and demand of essential/sensitive commodities, and a strict action against hoarders and profiteers.

Joint Marketing Strategy with Sri Lanka for Export of Tea

*20. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have worked out a joint marketing strategy with Sri Lanka for export of tea and its sale in the international market;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Environmental Clearance to Rajasthan for Narmada Project

1. SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rajasthan Government has furnished a report on the 'study of Environmental and Ecological aspects and remedial measures' in regard to Narmada Project in Rajasthan portion, which will cater the drinking water and irrigation requirements of desert areas of Jalore and Barmer districts

for examination and clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in granting the clearance; and

(c) when the clearance is likely to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c). Environmental clearance to Narmada Sagar and Sardar Sarovar Projects was accorded in June, 1987. Environmental Action Plans are, however, being detailed by the participating states individually under the overall guidance of the Narmada Control Authority.

Export Target

2. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports target for 1990-91 is likely to be achieved;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures the Government propose to take to achieve the target?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). It is expected that there may be a shortfall in the achievement of export target of Rs. 36,000 crores set for the financial year 1990-91. The main reasons for shortfall in the export target, inter alia, include slow down in world economy, recession in developing countries particularly USA, out break of Gulf crisis, etc.

(c) Government has set up an Empowered Committee of Secretaries on Balance of Payments to monitor the Performance

on export front and to explore possibilities of providing additional exports with a small subsidy element, mainly in the form of CCS. Intensive discussions are taking place with exporters in all the major sectors to explore possibilities of creating additional exports. Special efforts have been initiated to bolster agricultural exports by removing administrative bottle-necks, to identify additional exports of manufactures to take advantage of increases in domestic production and to find alternative markets to those affected by Gulf crisis, etc.

Scrapping of Priority Sector Lending Programme of Banks

3. D R.A.K. PATEL:
SHRI SHANKERSINH
VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the effect on the health of the public sector banks due to their priority sector lending programmes;

(b) whether the World Bank has suggested scrapping of the priority sector lending programmes of public sector banks in order to improve their viability;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in consultation with Government had appointed, in August, 1986, the Agricultural Credit Review Committee (ACRC) under the Chairmanship of Prof. A.M. Khusro to carry out an indepth review of the agricultural credit

system in the country as envisaged in the World Bank Staff Appraisal Report of NABARD I Credit Project Presumably, the Hon'ble M.P. is referring to the Agricultural Credit Review Committee (ACRC) report. The Committee has submitted its report to Reserve Bank of India in August, 1989 and has not suggested any scrapping of the priority sector lending programme of public sector banks, but has stressed upon the need to ensure that targets set to subserve social objectives should be within the banks financial capacity to bear the risk involved. The concept of priority sector lending was evolved after nationalisation of major banks in the country in 1969 and there is no proposal with Government to give up the same. Under the policy of Government and Reserve Bank of India, the banks have to fulfil the target of 40 percent of their outstanding credit to the priority sectors.

Amendment to Foreign Exchange Regulation ACT, 1973

4. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to amend section 28 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 to prevent the use of foreign brand names and derivatives to the detriment of Indian brand names in the consumer goods sector; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Export from Southern States

5. SHRI C.K.KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar was held recently in Madras to identify the areas of thrust for increasing export of different commodities from the southern States; particularly, Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the areas so identified and the steps proposed to be taken to increase the volume of exports from the southern States?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) A Seminar on Action Plan for promotion of Exports from Tamil Nadu State was held at Madras on 31.1.1991.

(b) The Trade Development Authority (TDA) had prepared an Approach paper for the Seminar and identified the following thrust areas for export development from Tamil Nadu:-

- (i) Agro-Based items,
- (ii) Leather Goods, Garments & Footwear,
- (iii) Mineral-Based items,
- (iv) Engineering Goods,
- (v) Consumer Electronics & Computer Software,
- (vi) Textile-Based Products,
- (vii) Chemicals & Related Products,
- (viii) Handicrafts.

The TDA gives products specific action plan for implementation by the concerned

agencies. TDA has also prepared a similar report for Andhra Pradesh.

Shortage of Steel

6. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is shortage of steel in the country;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to meet the shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SEN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Against the assessed domestic demand of 15.35 million tonnes of finished steel for the year 1990-91 domestic production is now estimated to be at about 13.4 million tonnes.

Production plans have not materialised mainly due to shortage of power and coal, leading to lower production. Shortages are also in respect of special types of steel, e.g. ship-building/boiler quality plates, fully killed deep drawing and extra deep drawing quality not and cold rolled sheets/ coils, TMBP, etc. due to inadequate domestic capacities.

(c) Government is encouraging production of steel in the private/secondary sector. It has also been decided to allow creation of additional steel making capacity in the secondary sector with unit capacity upto one million tonnes based on electric arc furnace/energy optimising technologies including small blast furnaces. The integrated steel plants are also implementing projects for expansion and modernisation and technological upgradation. In the case of SAIL

plants, emphasis is also being laid on better maintenance of the existing plant and equipment and imparting technological discipline to operate them, encouraging research and development activities, and efforts to mould a better work culture, and ensuring adequate and timely availability of inputs of the required quality.

Imports of various categories of steel are allowed as per the import-export policy in force for the time being.

Assistance to Small Entrepreneurs in Karnataka by Banks

7. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the nationalised banks located in Karnataka have been making efforts to assist and protect the growth of small entrepreneurs in the State;

(b) if not, whether the Government have received any complaints from the State Government agencies against some of those banks; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and details of the effective measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS) (a) to (c). Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it provides refinance assistance, inter-alia, through Nationalised Banks in Karnataka against their term loans to units in small scale including artisans and tiny units. During the current year period from April, 90 to January, 91 refinance assistance disbursed to the Nationalised Banks stood at Rs. 23.32 crores out of Rs. 58.22 crores

availed by all banks in the State during the period.

NRIs Conference in New Delhi

8. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Second International Conference on NRIs was organised by the NRIs Welfare Society of India in New Delhi recently;

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

(c) whether any memorandum has been submitted to the Government by them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e). The NRI Welfare Society of India held the Second International Conference of NRIs on 21st January, 1991 in New Delhi. A copy of the speech delivered by the General Secretary of the Society and a memorandum were received in Government and examined. Government, from time to time, reviews the policies and procedures with a view to removing irritants for NRI investors, based on suggestions received from NRI's and NRI Organisations.

[*Translation*]

Banks Loans for Industries

9. SHRI BHOGEN DRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three-day entrepreneurial development camps were organised in

Madhubani and Darbhanga districts of Bihar during 1982-83 under the joint auspices of small scale industries departments of Central and State Governments wherein the representatives of nationalised banks also participated;

(b) if so, what was the contribution of the banks to promote the manufacturing units;

(c) whether such camps are being organised during the current year also in the said districts;

(d) whether Government propose to formulate any policy for sanctioning loans to the small scale and self-employment industries through banks on experimental basis in the said districts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE MINISTER AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e). IDBI has reported that it had not organised any EDP Camps in Madhubani and Darbhanga districts of Bihar. However, IDBI has been supporting EDPs, including EDPs, for women, in various States with the main objective of developing entrepreneurs enabling them to establish their own enterprises and in turn to create more job opportunities. IDBI has so far supported 67 EDPs at a total cost of Rs. 21.92 lacs in Bihar upto the end of March, 1990.

In Madhubani District, IDBI has supported in 1989-90 an EDP for women at a cost of Rs. 0.63 lacs, benefiting 25 trainees. Similarly, in Darbhanga District, IDBI supported one general EDP benefiting 49 trainees at a cost of Rs. 0.40 lacs, in 1988-89.

In the context of priority accorded to development of tiny and village industries for

creating self-employment in rural areas as also to provide wider flexibility to the agencies conducting EDPs, IDBI has recently decided to support rural EDPs.

[English]

Target for Export of Iron ORE

10. **SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:**
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government with regard to the export of iron ore;

(b) the target set for the export of iron ore to different countries during the Seventh Five Year Plan period and the total quantity of iron ore actually exported during that period, country-wise; and

(c) the target set for the export of iron ore during the Eighty Five Year Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) Export of iron ore is canalised through Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC).

Iron ore of Goan origin when exported to Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and West Europe is, however, allowed for export under OGL-3 subject to registration of contracts with Goa Mineral Ore Exporters Association.

Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL) is also allowed to export its products, viz., iron ore concentrates and pellets, directly to all markets.

(b) The year-wise overall target set for export of iron ore during the Seventh Five Year Plan period was as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target in million tonnes</i>
1985-86	29.60
1986-87	32.00
1987-88	34.40
1988-89	32.00
1989-90	33.00

Actual exports, country-wise during the same period are given in the attached statements. I do III

(c) Exports of iron ore during the Eight Plan Period is estimated to range between 33 million to 36 million tonnes per year.

STATEMENT-I

Export of Iron Ore by M.M.T.C. during Seventh Plan Period

Sl. No.	Country	(Quantity: Million Tonnes)						
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1.	Japan	9.017	9.899	8.987	10.496	10.083		
2.	Korea, Rep.	2.127	2.300	2.448	3.112	2.915		
3.	Rumania	3.394	4.148	1.416	2.356	2.325		
4.	Czechoslovakia	0.059	0.056	—	—	—		
5.	Hungary	0.048	0.030	0.015	0.051	0.010		
6.	G.D.R.	0.758	0.779	0.745	0.612	0.701		
7.	Bulgaria	—	—	0.109	—	—		
8.	Yugoslavia	—	—	0.055	0.036	—		
9.	Poland	0.070	0.072	—	—	—		
10.	U.A.E.	0.290	0.061	0.048	0.146	0.330		

(Quantity: Million Tonnes)							
Sl. No.	Country	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
11.	Kuwait	0.024	—	—	0.021	—	
12.	North Korea	0.093	0.167	0.098	0.343	0.364	
13.	Pakistan	0.121	0.147	0.284	0.338	0.391	
14.	Turkey	—	—	0.043	—	—	
15.	China	0.334	0.361	0.338	0.151	0.251	
16.	Australia	—	—	—	—	0.149	
17.	Nepal	0.003	0.003	—	0.002	0.002	

STATEMENT-II

Exports of Iron Ore by Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd.—VII Plan Period

Sl. No.	Country	Qty: Million Tonnes						
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
1.	Japan	1.383	2.600	2.723	2.367	2.82		
2.	Bahrain	0.343	0.059	—	0.128	0.457		
3.	Czechoslovakia	0.113	0.117	0.161	0.149	0.168		
4.	France	0.196	2.268	0.081	—	0.108		
5.	Yugoslavia	—	0.220	0.269	0.309	—		
6.	Australia	—	0.054	0.083	0.255	0.366		
7.	China	0.025	0.069	0.040	0.022	0.045		
8.	Hungary	—	0.984	0.435	0.594	0.531		
9.	Poland	—	0.036	—	—	—		
10.	Turkey	—	—	0.176	0.357	0.325		

STATEMENT—III*Export of Iron Ore by Goan Exporters during Seventh Plan Period**(Quantity: Million Tonnes)*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>1985-86</i>	<i>1986-87</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1989-90</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
1.	Japan	9.516	8.645	7.978	8.336	7.868
2.	West Europe	1.575	1.517	1.154	1.665	2.117
3.	South Korea	0.728	0.697	0.697	0.996	0.613
4.	Taiwan	0.106	0.125	Nil	Nil	0.036

Loan from World Bank and IMF

11. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the various loans received by the Government of India from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank from 1984 to 1990 with terms and conditions thereof: and

(b) the principal amount and interest repaid so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) No loans were contracted by Government of India with I.M.F. during the period 1984 to 1990. In 1984-85 there was a drawal of SDR 200 million from IMF, but this was under the

Extended Fund Facility (EFF) arrangement agreed with IMF in 1981. Details of loan/ credit agreements entered into with World Bank Group during 1984-1990 are given in the attached statement. The IBRD loans are repayable over a period of twenty years inclusive of grace period of five years, carry variable interest rate and commitment charge on undiscussed balance which is presently fixed at 7.73% and 0.25% respectively. IDA credits are interest free, carry variable commitment charge which is at present zero percent and a service charge of 0.75%. The IDA credits signed from 1988 onwards are to be repaid over a period of 35 years and those agreed to before 1988, over a period of 50 years including in both cases, a grace period of 10 years.

(b) The repayment of principal and interest to IMF and World Bank on various loans as on 31.12.1990 are as follows:

(In US & Million)

	<i>Principal</i>	<i>Interest</i>
IMF	4673.70	2241.01
World Bank	2252.04	3814.27

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Sanitation	73.0	14.11.84	30.6.91
2.	M.P. Fertilizer	184.6	25.5.84	30.6.91
3.	Railway Electrification	279.2	25.5.84	30.9.91
4.	Nhavasheva Port	250.0	25.5.84	30.6.91
5.	Dudhichua Coal	109.0	25.5.84	31.3.91
6.	NAEP-I	50.4	12.12.84	31.3.91
7.	Pilot Project for Watershed Development in Rainfed Areas	38.3	8.2.84	31.12.91
8.	Karnataka Social Forestry	27.0	9.2.84	31.12.90
9.	NCDC-III	220.0	12.10.84	30.6.91
10.	Kerala Forestry	31.8	12.12.84	31.12.90
11.	Gujarat Medium Irrigation	172.0	29.6.84	31.12.91

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
12.	Upper Ganga Irrigation Modernisation	125.0	29.6.84	30.9.91
13.	Periyar Vaigai Irrigation-II	35.0	12.10.84	30.4.91
14.	Cambay Basin Petroleum	213.5	25.5.84	30.9.90
15.	2nd Farakka Thermal	300.8	29.6.84	31.12.91
16.	4th Trombay Thermal	135.4	12.12.84	30.6.91
17.	Bombay Urban Development	138.0	1.3.85	30.9.91
18.	Kerala Water Supply and Sanitation	41.0	24.9.85	31.3.91
19.	Fourth Population	51.0	24.9.85	31.8.93
20.	Maharashtra Petro-Chemicals	300.0	10.5.85	30.9.91
21.	National Highway	200.0	16.9.85	30.6.92
22.	Jharia Cooking Coal	57.7	10.5.85	31.12.92
23.	NAEP-II	65.0	10.5.85	31.3.91

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
1	2	3	4	5
24.	National Forestry	165.0	24.9.85	31.12.90
25.	Maharashtra Composite Irrigation	99.0	27.9.85	31.3.91
26.	Narmada River Development—SSP Dam and Power	300.00	10.5.85	30.6.95
27.	Narmada River Development—SSP Water Delivery and Drainage	150.0	10.5.85	1.7.91
28.	Indira Sarovar Hydro-Electric	300.0	1.3.85	30.6.95
29.	Chandrapur Thermal	300.0	16.9.85	31.12.92
30.	Rihand Power Transmission	250.0	16.9.85	31.12.91
31.	Kerala Power	176.0	5.12.85	30.9.91
32.	West Bengal Minor Irrigation	99.0	27.9.85	31.8.91
33.	Gujarat Urban Development	62.0	15.4.86	31.12.92
34.	Co-operative Fertiliser	150.2	22.7.86	31.12.91

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
1	2	3	4	5
35.	Co-operative Fertiliser (IFFCO)	145.0	22.7.86	30.6.92
36.	Cement Industry	200.0	22.7.86	30.6.92
37.	Industrial Export (Engg. Products)	250.0	21.1.86	31.12.91
38.	NABARD-I	375.0	28.5.86	30.6.91
39.	NARP-II	90.8	25.2.86	30.6.93
40.	Second A.P. Irrigation	271.0	28.5.86	30.6.94
41.	Combina Cycle Power	435.0	27.10.86	31.12.97
42.	Third Bombay Water Supply and Sewerage	185.0	12.5.87	30.6.84
43.	Madras Water Supply and Sanitation	69.0	21.12.87	31.12.95
44.	U.P. Urban Deveioipment	150.0	21.12.87	31.3.96
45.	Gujarat Rural Road	119.6	12.5.87	31.12.94
46.	9th Telecommunications	193.0	20.6.87	31.12.92

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
47.	Coal Mining and Quality Improvement	343.0	29.6.87	30.9.94
48.	NAEP-III	93.5	26.6.87	31.3.94
49.	Drought Assistance	374.6	25.11.87	31.3.89
50.	Bihar Public Tubewells	68.0	13.1.87	31.5.94
51.	National Water Management	114.0	12.5.87	31.3.94
52.	Oil India Petroleum	140.0	29.6.87	30.9.94
53.	Karnataka Power	330.0	21.12.87	31.12.95
54.	National Capital Power Supply	485.0	21.12.87	31.12.96
55.	Talchar Thermal Power	375.0	21.12.87	31.3.96
56.	HDFC	250.0	21.4.88	30.9.91
57.	Tamil Nadu Urban Development	300.2	16.9.88	30.9.95
58.	Fifth Population	57.0	16.9.88	31.12.95

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
59.	Industrial Finance and Technical assistance	360.0	12.5.88	31.12.95
60.	Railway Modernisation	390.0	12.5.88	31.12.95
61.	States Roads	250.0	17.11.88	30.6.95
62.	Second National Dairy	360.0	13.1.88	31.12.94
63.	NSP-III	150.0	12.12.88	30.6.95
64.	Western Gas Development	283.5	21.4.88	30.6.94
65.	2nd Karnataka Power	260.0	27.7.88	31.12.95
66.	U.P. Power	350.0	27.7.88	31.12.96
67.	Vocational Training	280.0	16.6.89	31.12.96
68.	Sixth Population	124.6	11.9.89	31.3.97
69.	National Sericulture	177.0	16.6.89	31.12.96
70.	Industrial Technology Development	200.0	8.12.89	31.12.95

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
1	2	3	4	5
71.	Export Development	295.0	26.5.89	31.3.96
72.	Electronics Industry	210.0	7.7.89	31.12.95
73.	Petroleum Transport	340.0	11.9.89	30.6.95
74.	Upper Krishna Irrigation	325.0	16.8.89	31.12.96
75.	Naipha Jhakri Power	485.0	15.5.89	31.12.97
76.	Maharashtra Power	400.0	11.9.89	30.12.96
77.	Hyderabad Water Supply and Sanitation	89.9	23.5.90	31.3.98
78.	Technician Education	260.0	13.8.90	30.6.98
79.	Tamil Nadu Nutrition-II	95.8	14.9.90	31.12.97
80.	Vilth Population	96.7	23.10.90	30.6.98
81.	ICDS-I	106.0	26.10.90	31.12.97
82.	2nd Cement Industry	300.0	13.6.90	30.6.96

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the project</i>	<i>Amount of assistance (US \$ million)</i>	<i>Date of agreement</i>	<i>Date of closing</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
83.	2nd Petrochemicals	245.0	7.11.90	31.3.96
84.	A.P. Cyclone Emergency Reconstruction	210.0	23.10.90	31.3.94
85.	Punjab Irrigation and Drainage	165.0	9.2.90	31.3.98
86.	Northern Region Transmission	485.0	3.10.90	3.9.98

Discounting of Accommodation Bills by Non-Banking Finance Companies

12. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether non-banking finance companies undertake discounting of 'accommodation bills' on a very large scale;

(b) if so, whether such 'accommodation bills' are subsequently rediscounted by them with nationalised banks;

(c) if so, whether such rediscounting has the effect of circumventing the Reserve Bank of India's credit monitoring system and exceeding the credit limits fixed by the RBI; and

(d) if so, whether the Government will advise the nationalised banks to refrain from rediscounting 'accommodation bills' which are not backed by stocks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has no information regarding the extent of discounting of accommodation bills by the non-banking finance companies.

(b) Banks are not expected to entertain accommodation bills.

(c) All bills facilities form part of total working finance of a borrower which in turn is determined according to the inventory and receivable norms. Bills facilities extended outside such permissible bank finance would affect credit discipline.

(d) RBI has, through its circulars, repeatedly exhorted banks to be very cautious in their bills portfolio. Bills purchased/ discounted by banks are expected to relate to

genuine movement of goods. Whenever instances of financing of accommodation bills are noticed by RBI, banks are invariably asked to eschew such practices and take suitable corrective steps.

[Translation]

Bhagirath Gramin Bank Sitapur (Uttar Pradesh)

13. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to irregularities in the functioning of the Bhagirath Gramin Bank in Sitapur district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if no enquiry has been conducted, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Chairman, Bhagirath Gramin Bank, Sitapur was asked to enquire into the complaints. It has been reported that one of the complaints was against the alleged misbehaviour of an employee of the bank at its Rampur Branch and was not found to be true. The complaints of residents of Gram Sabha Kuneta Lachi Rampur, block Machhrehta about the non-granting of loan waiver to farmers is not correct as the concerned farmers were not found eligible for waiver under the Agricultural Rural Debt Relief Scheme. Another complaint about Chandpur branch in not disbursing loans to

farmers has also not been found to be correct, as since 1.4.1990.93 farmers have been disbursed crop loans of Rs. 3.03 lakhs.

[English]

Ferro Scrap Nigam LTD.

14. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited, a subsidiary of Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited, has been working without a Chief Executive;

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

(c) when the Chief Executive is likely to be appointed by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). The post of Chief Executive of Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited fell vacant in January, 1990 consequent upon the completion of the tenure of the then Managing Director. A candidate was selected against the vacancy, but he declined to take up the assignment. Action was therefore taken to select another candidate. This process was completed recently.

(c) The Chief Executive of the Company has been appointed and the order therefor was issued on 13.02.1991.

Export of Finished Leather

15. SHRI RAJAMOCHANAREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate to ban the export of finished leather in near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to ban the export of finished leather in the near future. With a view to encouraging the exports of value added products in place of the raw material, Government have issued a Notification dated 31st August, 1990 stating that with effect from 1st April, 1991, all kinds of finished leather shall be allowed for exports only under OGL No.3 of the Import & Export Policy, Volume II.

Hundred Percent Export Oriented Unit Scheme

16. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from the Confederation of hundred percent Export oriented Units pointing out the defects in the EOU Scheme which are adversely affecting even the approved export oriented units;

(b) if so, the suggestions given by the Confederation to improve the performance of export oriented units; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove the difficulties faced by EOU's?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) Confederation of 100% Export Units has been making suggestions in regard to the 100% EOU Scheme, from time to time.

(b) The suggestions, among others, relate to simplification of customs procedures and grant of full CCS to 100% EOUs, as are applicable to units in the Domestic Tariff Area.

(c) The problems relating to Customs have been taken up with the Department of Revenue at appropriate leaves and that Department is examining the suggestions made by the Confederation. Their suggestions for grant of full CCS, instead of 50% of the normal rate, has been agreed to recently, subject to the condition that at least 75% of the raw materials used are of indigenous origin.

Recovery of dues from Sick Units

17. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MEWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick units and the total credit from financial institutions and commercial banks outstanding against such units;

(b) the policy for recovery of dues of

financial institutions and commercial banks from these units;

(c) the existing rules to protect the rights of workers including their dues from these units; and

(d) how it is proposed to curb this spreading menace to financial and employment stability in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) As per RBI's statistics, as on 31.12.1988, the total number of sick units was 241814 with outstanding bank credit of Rs. 5528.30 crores. Particulars regarding sick units in the portfolio of four major financial institutions as on 31.3.1990 is as follows:

<i>Rs. in crores</i>		
<i>Name of Institution</i>	<i>No. of units</i>	<i>Amount outstanding</i>
1	2	3
IDBI	248	532.00
IRBI	283	300.47
ICICI	148	213.32
IFCI	169	200.05

(b) to (d). Detailed guidelines have been issued by RBI from time to time regarding formulation/implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick/weak units which are potentially viable for their revival. Rehabilitation package, inter alia, provides for funding of existing dues of banks and financial institutions with extended period for

repayment thereof in a phased manner, interest concession, grant of fresh term loan as also working capital facilities. Protection of workers due is ensured by grant of fresh rehabilitation term loans by bank/financial institutions on 50:50 basis under labour rationalisation scheme. Where units are considered non-viable, recovery of dues is

sought through court procedure, one-time settlement etc. The Reserve Bank of India has advised the banks to strengthen their organisational arrangement for early detection of sickness as also to review the adequacy of the information system and the administrative set-up for detecting incipient sickness.

The financial institutions also have comprehensive monitoring system consisting of periodical project implementation/ progress reports, plant visits, feed back from nominee directors of assisted units to closely follow-up the performance of any company. In cases where poor performance is noticed, necessary remedial steps are initiated in consultation with the sick units. While framing rehabilitation package for units found viable, the legitimate dues of labour are kept in view and suitable provisions made for their payment.

The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has been set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 to determine preventive and ameliorative steps in respect of sick units. The objective of the Act is inter-alia to secure timely detection of potentially sick industrial units for speedy determination of preventive measures.

Honorarium to officials engaged in defending cases in CAT

18. SHRIMADAN LALKHURANA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer the reply given to Unstarred Question No.5056 on 7th September, 1990 regarding honorarium to officials engaged in defending cases in CAT and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, when the same will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in collecting the information?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (c). Information with regard to Question No. 5056 had been collected and laid on the Table of the House on 28th December, 1990 in response to Unstarred Question No. 386, a copy of which is enclosed herewith

Honorarium to Officials engaged in defending cases

386. SHRI HARISH PAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given on September 7, 1990 to Unstarred Question No.5056 regarding honorarium to officials engaged in defending cases in CAT and state:

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it will be collected?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (c). Government has not taken any decision not to appoint private lawyers to defend the cases in the courts or tribunals. Since government cases are defended by government counsel, the question of cases being defended by officials or payment of honorarium to them in this regard does not arise.

Gold Mines in Karanataka

19. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARSIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of gold mines in Karnataka and the extent of gold deposits in those mines approximately;

(b) the average daily production of gold in those mines; and

(c) the projection made for gold production in those mines during the Eighth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) There are two gold mines in Karnataka-Kolar Gold

Fields Mines (KGF) of Bharat Gold Mines Limited and Hutti Mines of Hutti Gold Mines Company Limited. Total insitu gold ore reserves at KGF and Hutti Gold Mines are 3.87 million tonnes and 5.5 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The average daily gold production at KGF and Hutti Mines is 1.58 kgs of gold respectively.

(c) The projections for gold production at KGF and Hutti Mines during the Eighth Plan are:

<i>Year</i>	<i>KGF Mines (kgs)</i>	<i>Hutti Mines (kgs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1990-91	475	900
1991-92	440	1000
1992-93	440	1000
1993-94	440	1000
1994-95	440	1000

[Translation]

make them more effective?

Lok Adalat Movement

20. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lok Adalat movement has been able to achieve the objective for which it was started; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) and (b). The Lok Adalat Movement, by and large, had been started in the country around the end of 1985. As per information available with the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes, as on 7-2-1991, 4,319 Lok Adalat were held, where over 25.71 lakhs cases have been settled. The Lok Adalats are at present voluntary efforts for resolution of disputes through persuasive and conciliatory method. The above achievements reflect the success of the Lok Adalat Movement.

[English]

Transfer of Union Bank of India Officials

21. SHRI NANDLAL MEENA:
SHRI PRATAPRAO B.
BHOSLE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the tenure for which the employees of the Union Bank of India may remain in one branch and at one station:

(b) the number of officials working in the branches of the Bank in Delhi over the prescribed tenure and the reasons therefor:

(c) the steps taken to rotate all such employees; and

(d) the number of employees of the Bank who have been found to possess wealth and assets disproportionate to their known sources of income.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Union Bank of India has reported that the tenure of officers and clerical staff in one place of posting is generally for 3 and 5 years, respectively, subject to administrative exigencies.

(b) and (c). 69 Officers to the bank in its

branches in Delhi are reported to have completed the stipulated time period and are due for transfer. The rotation of the staff is proposed to be done by the banks in a phased manner on the close of the academic year subject to its administrative exigencies.

(d) Nil.

Tax Arrears Against Companies in Kerala

22. SHRI P.C.THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the companies/firms in Kerala against whom tax arrears amounting to rupees ten lakhs or more are pending realisation;

(b) the amounts due from each of them; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to recover the outstanding tax dues?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). A list of the names of Companies/firms with tax arrears amounting to Rupees ten lakhs or more is given in the attached statements.

(c) Legal, administrative and other measures as are considered necessary are taken from time to time to recover the outstanding tax dues.

S.No.	Name of the Company/Firm	Arrears Central Excise arrears as on 1.1.1991
1	2	3
1.	Kerala State Electronic Development Corporation, Trivandrum.	19.45

1	2	3
2.	Punalur paper Mills, Punalur.	735.00+ 105.00 (Penalty on Co.)
3.	L.N. Dalmia of Punalur Paper Mills.	25.00
4.	Ram Rubbers.	10.65
5.	Priya Rubbers	62.30
6.	Poabs Battery containers.	13.10
7.	Ruby Rubber Changanacherry.	21.35
8.	Triveni Rubbers	15.04
9.	National Rubber Factory	66.35
10.	Premier Tyres Kalamasserry	223.76
11.	Kerala Agro Machinery Corpn. Angamally	21.34
12.	Usha Rubbers, Kalamasserry	17.91
13.	Travancore Rayons, Perumbavoor.	10.27
14.	Vitco Rubbers, Kizhakkambalam.	19.53
15.	Arathi Rubbers, Products.	15.75
16.	Sedssel Rubbers, Kothattukuram.	31.28

1	2	3
17.	Rubicon Rubber Products	21.16
18.	Paulose & Mathen Gases, Eloor.	19.84
19.	Fact, Udyogamandal.	16.98
20.	Janso Soft Drinks, Aroor	30.59
21.	Jonacaps, Alleppey.	14.00
22.	Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd. Ernakulam.	79.16
23.	Metal Box India Ltd. Edapally.	11.01
24.	Tecson Rubber Products, Moorkanikkara.	124.63
25.	Teesun Rubbers	59.68
26.	Steel Industrial Forgings Ltd., Athani.	35.57
27.	Chandrika Printers, Irinjalakuda.	46.31
28.	Jyothi Rubbers, Vallivattom	58.90
29.	Pakshy Mark Beedi, Kollangode.	15.35
30.	Gwalior Rayons fibre Division.	21.51
31.	Calicut Rubber Co. Calicut.	77.30
32.	Mayin Beedi Co. Calicut	25.25
33.	Steel Industries Kerala Ltd, Shertallai.	25.34

1	2	3
34.	Polymer Products, Manjeri	13.77
35.	Bharath Plywood & Timber Products, Cannonore.	77.32
36.	Shalimar Rubber Industries.	14.44
37.	M/s, TELK, Aganamally.	11.93
38.	N.S Rathinam & Sons, Ship Breakers, Cochin,	25.73
39.	Gnat Rubber Works.	15.00
40.	M/s Rubby Rubbers, Aramuls, Aramula.	51.13
41.	Internatinal Rubber, Works	41.60
42.	Standard Rubber.	35.00
43.	Lamera Rubber Works.	11.00
		Income Tax arrears as on 30.6.90
44.	M/s Joseph Mishaël & Bros.	109.59
45.	Travancre Electric Chemical Industries Ltd.	148.97
46.	M/s Kerala Small Industries Development Corpn. Ltd.	77.68
47.	Rajmphan Cashew (P) Ltd.	76.60
48.	Shree Rama Cashew (P).	60.78
49.	M/s Travancore Sugar & Chemical Ltd.	92.92
50.	M/s The Malayala Manorama Co. Ltd.	46.08
51.	M/s The Neroth Oil Mills Co. Ltd.	37.16

1	2	3
52.	M/s The National Tyre & Rubber Co. of India Ltd.	30.26
53.	M/s The Tropical Plantations Ltd.	31.21
54.	M/s Alliance Iron & Steel	45.43
55.	M/s Upasana Hospital & Nursing Home.	25.95
56.	M/s Antoser (P) Ltd.	13.97
57.	M/s Durallex Coir Industries Pvt. Ltd.	13.82
58.	M/s Excel Glasses Ltd.	12.44
59.	M/s Kerala Kaumudi (P) Ltd.	12.85
60.	M/s N.C. John & Sons Ltd.	21.26
61.	M/s The Padinjarekara Agencies Ltd.	22.09
62.	M/s Mangalam Publications.	15.35
63.	M/s. Sree Murugam Trading Co. .	14.93
64.	M/s Oriental Finance & Exchange Co.	18.09
65.	M/s Olympic Wines.	17.21
66.	M/s Meena Handloom Centre	20.09
67.	M/s K.G. Purshothaman Associates.	17.28

Nalco's Production

nium by the National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) during 1990-91;

23. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be
pleased to state:

(b) whether the target has been
achieved;

(a) the target set for production of alumi-

(c) if so, the total production achieved

during 1990-91 so far; and

(d) the steps taken by NALCO to increase production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) NALCO had initially set a target of production of 1,80,000 tonnes of aluminium metal and 7,60,000 tonnes of alumina. Because of accidental fire in the Captive Power Plant in March, 1990 the estimated target for production of aluminium metal was revised downwards to 1,50,000 tonnes.

(b) and (c). By end of January, 1991 NALCO has achieved production of 1,20,878 tonnes of aluminium metal and 5,18,370 tonnes of alumina. During the year 1990-91 NALCO is likely to achieve the revised target of 1,50,000 tonnes of aluminium metal. However, there will be shortfall in production of alumina which is mainly due to disruption in railway movement in Damanjodi sector following a cyclone in Andhra Pradesh coast in May, 1990 because of which the alumina plant had to be shut down for total period of more than two months.

(d) Steps like increasing the number of pots and stabilising the pot parameters have been taken to achieve higher efficiency in pot output and further increase of aluminium production.

[Translation]

Bank Loans to Rural People in Orissa

24. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facility of granting bank loans has been provided to rural people of Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Sundergarh districts in Orissa, particularly the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and whether it is proposed to chalk-out a scheme to make loans available to the people of the said districts; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). The banks provide loans in rural areas in all parts of the country including the said districts in Orissa to borrowers belonging to all categories including Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The credit institutions participate actively in financing the beneficiaries identified under the various development schemes of the Government. Under the Integrated Rural Development Programme during the half year period from April to September, 1990, the credit institutions have disbursed loans in the said districts as under:-

(Amount in lakhs)

	<i>Keonjhar</i>	<i>Mayurbhanj</i>	<i>Sundargarh</i>
Cooperative Banks	1.32	-	0.42
Commercial Banks	12.44	14.41	29.34
Regional Rural Banks	7.86	11.23	3.18
	21.62	25.64	32.94

[English]

**Fall in Prices of Pepper, Ginger,
Coconut and Cardamom**

25. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the fall in the prices of pepper, ginger, coconut and cardamom as a result of the Gulf war;

(b) whether the Government propose to seek new and alternative avenues for increasing exports of these products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) Steps taken by the Spices Board in respect of cardamom are indicated below:

- (1) Regulate arrivals at auctions
- (2) Ensuring larger bidding
- (3) Monitoring the system of auction through cardamom planters, auctioneers and traders associations.
- (4) Ensuring higher exports
- (5) Providing CCS and air freight subsidy on exports in consumer packs to Middle East.

The average auction price for cardamom has been substantially higher than the prevailing international prices.

Information in respect of other spices is

being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). The following measures have been taken to increase exports:-

- (1) Exploring new markets, like China, Korea, Australia, etc.
- (2) Participation in trade fairs/exhibitions in various overseas markets.
- (3) Sponsoring of sales delegations.
- (4) Promotion of Indian brands in foreign markets.
- (5) Developing of markets for oils and oleoresins.

Drop in Remittances from Gulf

26. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of the loss suffered by the country due to drop in the remittances from the Gulf and the loss to various projects etc. due to the Gulf war; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). For 1988-1989 the Reserve Bank of India estimates total private transfer receipts (remittances at US dollars 2350 million of which US dollars 1060 million came from the middle East (including Gulf). About US dollars 200 million i.e. 8.5% of the total remittances came from Kuwait while the contribution made by Iraq was US dollar 5

million. It is estimated that the loss suffered by the country due to drop in remittances from the Gulf is likely to be around US dollars 200 million. As regards projects, two projects are currently funded by Kuwait Fund and no

disbursements could take place owing to the disturbances in the Gulf area since August 1990. Regarding details of the projects statement is attached.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Date of Effectiveness</i>	<i>Amount of Credit (Soft Loan)</i>	<i>Amount Utilised</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kerals Fisheries Development Project for Prawn Culture	27.6.1989 to 1.7.94	Kuwaiti Dinar	Nil 7.0 million
2.	Kalinadi Hydro Electric Project (Stage II)	23.9.1986 to	Kuwaiti Dinar 7.0 million	Kuwaiti Dinar 0.824 million

Clearance of Cheques and Drafts of Gulf Returnees

27. SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNNIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of undue delay in clearance of cheques and drafts of persons returning from Gulf by banks in Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to alleviate hardships being caused as a result thereof to persons returning from the Gulf?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). On account of disturbed/war conditions in Gulf's area; commercial banks have put certain restrictions on the encashment of financial instruments emanating from the Gulf countries. This is based on the dictates of commercial judgement and prudent banking with a view to ensuring that sufficient balances are available in rupee account of the banks issuing financial instruments. However, with a view to alleviating hardships caused to Indians returning from the Gulf, the State Bank of India has since relaxed these conditions and given directions to their branches to encash instruments issued by Exchange Companies in the Gulf region managed by them. In regard to financial instruments issued by correspondent banks and other Exchange Companies, SBI have directed their branches to encash instruments upto Rs. 10,000/- on presentation. Amounts in excess of Rs. 10,000/- are to be disbursed on verification of balances of the drawing banks/Exchange Companies.

Balance of Payment Position

28. SHRI K.S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position in the deficit of balance of payment;

(b) to what extent this has been affected due to Gulf war; and

(c) the preventive measures being considered by his Ministry in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The available data on balance of payment are for the period 1988-89 (provisional) only. However, the latest Balance of payments position is mainly reflected in the level of foreign exchange reserves. The Foreign exchange reserves level had fallen to Rs. 2152 crores by the end December, 1990 from Rs. 5787 crores at the end of March, 1990. The extent of the impact of the Gulf Crisis on balance of payments is evidenced by the depletion of foreign exchange reserves.

(c) The Government has initiated a number of measures to promote exports and curtail non-essential imports. Attempts are also being made to augment foreign earnings through capital inflows including accelerated disbursement of external assistance.

Computerisation Scheme to Monitor Implementation of Compensatory Forestation in States

29. SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have

introduced any computerisation scheme to monitor the implementation of compensatory forestation and other stipulations laid down while clearing projects in the States;

(b) whether the Government have found any State Government lacking seriousness in implementation of these schemes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Not all States have achieved the compensatory Afforestation targets in full in respect of all the proposals approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and the position is being reviewed with them.

Concessional Loan from ADB

30. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has recently been able to get the concessional soft loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB);

(b) if so, the quantum of the loan; and

(c) the terms for repayment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):
(a) No, Sir.

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

Import of Cast Scrap

31. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI S.N. VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow import of cast iron scrap under the Open General Licence;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) The suggestion for allowing import of cast iron scrap under Open General Licence has been examined recently in consultation with concerned Departments. However, it has not been found possible to include this item in the OGL List in view of the present balance of payment situation.

Effect of Gulf War on Exports from India

32. SHRI Y.S. RAJASEKHAR REDDY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI MONORANJAN SUR:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA SHELABA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the effect of Gulf war on exports to Iraq and other Gulf countries and inward remittances from these countries; and

(b) the efforts being made to boost exports to other countries to offset the fall in exports to Gulf countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) In view of the UN Security Council resolution imposing economic sanctions of Iraq and Kuwait, trade with these countries has been banned. As a result of Gulf war, normal exports to West Asian countries and inward remittances from these countries are also adversely affected.

(b) Some of the important measures taken are the following:-

- (i) An inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee has been constituted to resolve the problems of exporters to the Gulf countries. This Committee took a number of decisions to facilitate continuance of exports to the Gulf region.
- (ii) Export promotion Councils have been requested to initiate steps to maintain the tempo of exports by exploring alternative markets for their products.
- (iii) Indian Embassies in the Gulf region were asked to identify the potential areas for stepping up exports in a big way. Feedback received from our Missions were disseminated to the Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards.

Modernisation of IISCO

33. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI DHARIMPAL SINGH
GUPTA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the modernisation plan of

the Burnpur unit of Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited has not yet been finalised; and

(b) if so, at what stage it is?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). The Government is in the process of finalising the Modernisation Scheme of IISCO, various aspects regarding which are under examination at present.---

Effect of Gulf war on Bombay weather

34. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Society for Air Pollution Control has attributed the warming of Bombay weather to the enormous fuel combustion in missile rockets and supersonic flights deployed in the Gulf War,

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study of the Bombay warming up as a result of the Gulf War; and

(c) its outcome and the steps being taken to countenance the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Indian Meteorological Department have conducted studies of the above normal temperatures in Bombay between 23rd January to 30th January, 1991. These studies show that the above normal temperatures in Bombay during this brief period of about one week were not in any way related to the Gulf War. These are normal meteorological variations and do not call for any action.

Deposits in Indian banks from Gulf Countries

35. **SHRI P.M. SAYEED:**
SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian banks have received any deposits in foreign currency from the residents of the countries in the Gulf region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; if not, whether there is such a possibility;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any negotiations with private enterprises and also at Government level in this regard;

(d) if so, the results achieved; and

(e) the special incentives; if any, being demanded by these depositors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that they are not aware about the keenness or otherwise of big depositors in the gulf countries to keep their money in the Indian Banks due to Gulf War. However, Reserve bank of India received some proposals through banks operating in India for acceptance of large deposits from outside the country but those proposals have not materialised.

Steel Production in Secondary Sector

37. **SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) The quantity of crude steel produced in the secondary sector during the last three years;

(b) the role assigned to the secondary sector for augmenting the production of crude steel during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the steps taken for the modernisation of existing steel plants and also for the commissioning of the first phase of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and the present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) The quantity of crude steel produced in the secondary sector (Electric Arc Furnace) during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 was 3.11 million tonnes, 3.17 million tonnes and 3.13 million tonnes, respectively.

(b) Six million tonnes of crude steel is expected to be produced by the secondary sector by the end of the Eighth Plan.

(c) Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 2667 crores has been approved by Government in February 1989 and is under implementation.

Modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 2461 crores has been approved by Govt. in October, 1989 and is under implementation.

The proposals for modernisation of IISCO and Bokaro Steel Plants are under Consideration of the Govt.

All the major units under Stage-I of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant have been commissioned excepting Bar Mill and Coke Oven Battery No. 2 which are now scheduled to be commissioned during the first half of 1991. The units under Stage-II are proposed

to be progressively commissioned during 1992.

**Central Assistance for Development of
Environment and Forests in Eastern
States**

38. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from Manipur for financial and technical assistance for the development of Environment and Forests in that State, particularly in the hilly areas during the last three years;

(b) If so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to appoint an expert committee to study the matter in the context of the whole North Eastern States; and

(d) if so, the time by which this committee would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) Yes, Sir. Request for financial assistance was received from the State Government of Manipur for the following schemes during the years 1987-88 to 1989-90:

1. Development of National Parks
2. Development of Wildlife Sanctuaries
3. Captive Breeding and Rehabilitation of Endangered Species
4. Control of Poaching and Illegal Trade
5. Development of Minor Forest Produce
6. Wildlife Education and Interpretation
7. Operation Soil Watch
8. Rural Fuelwood Plantation
9. Conservation and Management of Loktak lake.

(b) Central assistance released for the development of Environment & Forests in Manipur during 1987-88 to 1989-90 is given below:

Sl. No.	Scheme	Assistance released (Rs. in lakhs)				
		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90		
1	2	3	4	5		
1.	Development of National Parks	11.69	13.45	2.35		
2.	Development of Wildlife Sanctuaries	—	—	9.20		
3.	Captive Breeding and Rehabilitation of Endangered Species	1.00	1.00	2.00		
4.	Wildlife Education and Interpretation	1.00	1.50	2.00		
5.	Control of Poaching and Illegal Trade	1.00	0.10	0.67		
6.	Development of Minor Forest Produce	—	—	11.00		
7.	Operation Soil Watch	43.96	43.26	61.10		
8.	Rural Fuelwood Plantation	62.89	70.16	109.91		
9.	Conservation and Management of Loktak lake	—	17.90	—		
Total		121.54	147.37	198.23		

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Revenue earned through Implementation of FERA etc.

39. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue earned by the Government through the implementation of 'FERA', MRTTP and other related Acts during the last three years;

(b) whether any review has been made in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (c). Information regarding revenue earned through implementation etc., of MRTTP and FERA Acts is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Pension scheme for employees of Financial Institutions

40. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand for implementation of Pension Scheme as third retirement benefit for the employees of the All India Public Financial Institutions?

(b) whether the Government have agreed to accept this demand?

(c) if so, the time by which a formal decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Retirement benefits in the form of contributory Provident Fund (CPF) and Gratuity are already available to employees of the Public Sector Banks/Financial Institutions. The demand of the employees of banks/financial institutions for pension as a third retirement benefit has not been possible for the Government to accept in view of the financial liabilities involved. In Reserve Bank of India, a pension scheme, broadly on the lines of the scheme as obtaining in the Central Government, has been introduced and made effective from 1.11.1990.

Challan of vehicles causing pollution

41. PROF. PREM KUMAR DHUMAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and private vehicles Challenged upto 31 December, 1990 with a view to check pollution in Delhi;

(b) the details of the fines imposed; and

(c) whether any efforts have been made to ascertain the extent of pollution reduced as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATIMANEKA GANDHI):

(a) The Directorate of Transport, Delhi, Administration, has challaned 1798 vehicles

upto 31st Dec. 1990, under the provisions of Section 190 (2) of Motor vehicles Act, 1988, for violation of pollution standards. This includes 1205 private vehicles, 384 Delhi Transport Corporation vehicles and 209 Government vehicles.

(b) Fines of Rs. 1000 each has been imposed by the competent courts in 969 cases for violation of pollution standards till 14.2.1991.

(c) The data collected by Transport Department indicate that of the vehicles checked the proportion of polluting vehicles has gone down to 15.4% between March, 1990 and December, 1990, as compared to 36% between December, 1987 to February, 1990.

Environmental Courts

42. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the scheme of setting up Environmental Courts in States and at the Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these courts are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) to (c). The matter is under examination.

Iraqi dues to Indian exporters

43. DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iraq owes crores of rupees

to Indian Exporters under the Deferred Payment Agreements;

(b) whether such dues are not forthcoming from Iraq;

(c) whether Government propose to offer some financial assistance to these Indian exporters to enable them to survive and keep their trade alive; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of the Deferred Payment Agreement signed in March 1990 with the Government of Iraq, dues of the order of US \$ 85 million were expected to be realised during 1990-91 through purchase of crude oil from Iraq. However till August 1990 dues to the tune of US \$ 21.17 million only were realised. In view of subsequent ban on trade with Iraq, there is practically no possibility of realisation of the balance dues of the companies during the current year.

(c) and (d). A proposal for financial assistance linked with additional export obligation on the project exporters concerned, is under examination for the unrealised portion of the amount due in 1990-91.

[Translation]

Theft in Directorate of Revenue Intelligence

44. PROF. YADU NATH PANDEY. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rajaswa Gupta Char Nideshalaya ke

Mukhyalaya main panch lakh ki chori" appearing in Jansatta dated 2 February, 1991;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the details of persons found responsible for this alleged theft; and

(d) the action taken against the guilty?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Yes, sir.

(b) to (d). An amount of Rs. 5 lakhs which was kept in a brief case in an almirah in the Administration and Accounts Section of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Indraprastha Bhavan, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi was found to be stolen on 31/1/91. A First Information Report was lodged with the Indraprastha Estate/ Central District Police Station on 31/1/91 and a case under Section 457/380 of Indian Penal Code has been registered by the Police. The case is presently being investigated by them. In addition, an internal departmental enquiry is also being conducted. The amount of Rs. 5 lakhs was however, recovered on 11.2.91 from a seized truck parked in front of the office building.

Disastrous effect on Indian environment due to Gulf War

45. PROF. YADU NATH PANDEY:
SHRI KIRPAL SINGH
SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV:
SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK:

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

(a) whether Indian environment has been affected by the use of missiles and nuclear weapons on large scale in the Gulf

war and the smoke billowing out of the devastating fire in oil wells in the Gulf countries;

(b) if so, the details of the damages caused to the Indian environment since December, 1990 till date;

(c) whether Government have chalked out any plan/scheme for protecting the Indian environment from the effects of war; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The movement of the oil slick is being continuously monitored by the Department of Space using satellite imagery. An inter-departmental committee is closely monitoring the developments for any remedial measures considered necessary.

Vacant posts of Judges in High Courts

46. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV:
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:

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

(a) the number of new judges appointed in different High Courts during the last two months court-wise;

(b) the number of posts of judges still lying vacant in these courts court-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government to fill up the vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI

SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: (a) and (b). The requisite information is given in the enclosed statement.

in High Courts the process of consultation among the constitutional authorities concerned has been expedited.

(c) For filling up the vacancies of Judges

STATEMENT

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>High Court</i>	<i>No. of Fresh appointments made from 15.12.1990 to till date</i>	<i>No. of vacancies as on 15.2.1991</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1.	Ailahabad	3	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	—	4
3.	Bombay	1	5
4.	Calcutta	—	3
5.	Delhi	—	3
6.	Gauhati	—	1
7.	Gujarat	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	1
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	—
10.	Karnataka	—	2
11.	Kerala	—	2
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1	5
13.	Madras	2	—
14.	Orissa	2	—
15.	Patna	—	6
16.	Punjab and Haryana	—	2

1	2	3	4
17.	Rajasthan	—	3
18.	Sikkim	—	1
Total		10	41
Supreme Court		—	3

[English]

Recovery of Agricultural Loans

47. SHRI M.S. PAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated amount of agricultural loans excluding the amount covered under the loan waiver scheme outstanding at the end of 1990, State-wise;

(b) the amount of loan recovered during 1990, State-wise;

(c) whether there has been slow recovery of the recoverable farm loans during 1990, if so, the reason therefor;

(d) the amount of farm loans, extended during 1990, State-wise; and

(e) what are the possibilities of recovery of the recoverable loans during 1991?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (d). The total loan outstandings as at the end of June 1990 (latest available) of agricultural and allied activities was Rs. 10,345 crores for cooperatives, Rs. 1,838 crores for regional rural banks and Rs. 16433.53 crores for public sector banks. A Statewise state-

ment of the agricultural loans of all the scheduled commercial banks as at the end of December, 1988 (latest available) is attached. It is not possible to identify as to how much out of these outstanding loans would have been written off under the debt relief scheme. However as at the end of December, 1990, Rs. 4947.24 crores has been written off by the public sector banks, regional rural banks and cooperatives for the beneficiaries, which cover farmers, artisans and weavers in rural areas.

(b), (c) and (e). The recovery performance of the public sector banks for the last three years (latest available) was as under:

Year	Percentage of Recovery to demand
1	2
June 1987	57.1
June 1988	56.8
June 1989	58.1

The figures after that date is still not available. It is not possible to make any estimate at this stage about the recovery

performance of the banks for the future years. However, the recovery of agricultural dues is monitored by the banks themselves and a

watch is also kept by the Reserve Bank of India and Government in this regard.

STATEMENT

<i>Name of the State/Union Territory</i>		<i>Balance outstanding</i>
1		2
I.	<i>Northern Region</i>	264016
	Haryana	58726
	Himachal Pradesh	6789
	Jammu & Kashmir	4956
	Punjab	95053
	Rajasthan	687884
	Chandigarh	17053
	Delhi	12663
II.	<i>North-Eastern Region</i>	17374
	Assam	11877
	Manipur	541
	Meghalaya	915
	Nagaland	1476
	Tripura	1798
	Arunachal Pradesh	211
	Mizoram	169
	Sikkim	386
III.	<i>Eastern Region</i>	148705
	Bihar	62227
	Orissa	33050
	West Bengal	53204

	1	2
	Andaman & Nicobar	223
IV.	<i>Central Region</i>	215575
	Madhya Pradesh	80912
	Uttar Pradesh	134663
V.	<i>Western Region</i>	220467
	Gujarat	78699
	Maharashtra	138891
	Goa Daman & Diu	2821
	Dadra & Nagar	561
	Haveli	
VI.	<i>Southern Region</i>	529436
	Andhra Pradesh	182680
	Karnataka	128168
	Kerala	58312
	Tamil Nadu	156733
	Pondicherry	3106
	Lakshadweep	36
	All India	1395572

National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology

48. **SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:**
DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology;

(b) if so, the details and the proposed location thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). No final decision for the setting up of a permanent complex for the National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology and its location has yet been taken.

(c) The question does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**Violation of Anti-Pollution laws by
factories adjoining Delhi**

49. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) The names of the factories in the
industrial areas adjoining Delhi which violated
the anti-pollution laws during 1990 and up till
31 January, 1991;

(b) the number of factory owners against

whom legal action has been taken for violat-
ing anti-pollution laws and the number of
persons prosecuted out of them; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be
taken by Government to stop the violation of
the anti-pollution laws in future?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):**

(a) According to the information available
with the Govt. the names of the factories
identified in the industrial areas adjoining
Delhi which violated anti pollution laws
are given below:-

HARYANA

Kundli Industrial Area

M/s. Cepham Laboratories

M/s. Cepham Organic

M/s. Rollatainers Ltd.

M/s. Surya Rubber Industries

M/s. Kashmir Katha Industries Pvt. Ltd.

Bahadurgarh Industrial Area

M/s. Belco Pharma

M/s. Sri Krishna Paper Mill

M/s. Saini Leathers

M/s. Advanced Chemical

M/s. Flow Pech Industry

M/s. Ajanta Polymer Works

M/s. Sattyam Synsav Ltd.

M/s. Pharma Chem

M/s. United Steel & Allied Industries

Gurgaon Industrial Area

Faridabad Industrial Area

M/s. Surya Plastic Cizers & Chemicals

M/s. Suntek Industries

M/s. Sun Flow Industries

M/s. Longwell Fore Ltd.

M/s. K.G. Khosla Compressor Ltd.

M/s. Khosla Foundary Ltd.

M/s. Samanta Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Jagsonban Pharmaceutical Ltd.

UTTAR PRADESH

Mohan Nagar Industrial Area

M/s. Mohan Crystal Glass Work

M/s. Alps Textile

M/s. Rituraj Textile

M/s. Chandak Textile

M/s. Chandak Export and Import (P) Ltd.

M/s. Kamal Board Mills

M/s. Kumar Board Mills

M/s. Shital Board Mills

M/s. DOON Synthetics and Chemical

M/s. Sumit Chemical

M/s. Rachna Chemicals

M/s. Sanjai Chemical

M/s. Bharat Chemical Co.

M/s. Batra Chemical

M/s. Surya Chemical

Sahibabad Industrial Area

M/s. Mahish Paper and Board Mills Ltd.

M/s. Pragati Paper Mill (P) Ltd.

M/s. Jain Processing & Weaving Mills

M/s. Sahibabad Dyeing & Printing Mills

M/s. Gupta Paper Mills Ltd.

M/s. Jain Processor & Engineering Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Kapri International Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Pawan Export Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Malvyia Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals
Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Rohni Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Continental Plastic Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Cryogenic India Ltd.

M/s. Neelam Textile

M/s. Premdyeing and Printing Mill

M/s. Magnum Paper Mills

M/s. Munjal Steel Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Meriteek India Ltd.

M/s. Advance Steel Tube Ltd.

M/s. Rani Sati Paper Mill

M/s. Hapuriya Paper Mills

M/s. Shiwani Board and Paper Mills

M/s. Sen Processors and Weaving Mills

M/s. Chandrawati Polymers Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Jawhar Metal Industries

M/s. United Export (P) Ltd.

M/s. Arihant Export (P) Ltd.

M/s. H.N. Chemical

M/s. Pal Chemical

M/s. Ambikal Steel Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. G.D. Steel

M/s. Mohta Plywood Ltd.

M/s. Modern Industries

NOIDA INDUSTRIAL AREA

M/s. Sundeeep Paper Mills

M/s. Singal Paper Mill

M/s. Shiwani Board and Paper Mill

M/s. Grewal Paper Mill

M/s. Sachdeva Dyeing and Bleaching Mills

M/s. Vijai Processors Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. R.C. Elorics

M/s. Rama Textile and Printing

M/s. Radhika Vitamitt Industries

M/s. Style dyers

M/s. Naveen Chemicals (P) Ltd.

(b) The concerned State Pollution Control Boards have initiated legal action against the following industries under the provisions

of Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and Air (Prevention and control of Pollution) Act, 1981:-

Haryana

Kundli Industrial Area

M/s. Ceplon Lab

M/s. Ceplon Organics

M/s. Kashmir Katha Industries

M/s. Elco Farma

Uttar Pradesh

Mohan Nagar Industrial Area

M/s. Mohan Mekins

M/s. Rituraj Textile

M/s. Chandok Textile*

Sahibabad Industrial Area

M/s. Pragati Paper Mill

M/s. Sahibabad Dyeing & Printing

M/s. Jain Processor and Eng. Pvt. Ltd.

M/s. Kapri International

M/s. Pawan Export

M/s. Rohini Chemicals

M/s. Wardex Pharmaceuticals

NOIDA INDUSTRIAL AREA

M/s. Grewal Paper Mill

(c) A time bound action plan for control of pollution has been prepared in consultation with the State Governments, under which polluting units are required to meet the standards by December 31, 1991.

Eco Task Force by Ex-Servicemen

50. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Himachal Pradesh Government with regard to formation of 'Eco Task Force of Ex-Servicemen' in the State; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The proposal will be examined on merits in the context of overall availability of funds in the Eighth Plan.

Felling of Trees in Bihar

51. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that illegal felling of trees is being done in the forests of Bihar on a large scale;

(b) whether felling of trees at the Betla Tourist Centre in the Palamu District of Bihar

is also being done without any check; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Government to check the illegal felling of trees in the said forests and tourist centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKAGANDHI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Income Tax Outstanding against Liquor Producers in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

52. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Income Tax outstanding against the liquor producers in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the action taken so far to recover the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and

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

[English]

Sale of Indian Goods in International Market

53. SHRI L.K. ADVANI:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of Indian goods in British and European markets has reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the sale of Indian goods in foreign markets?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

In fact India's overall exports to Britain and European markets (both East & West) have actually been increasing during the last three years as given below:

(Rs. in Crores)

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990 (Apr. Nov.)
U.K.	10.33.38	1164.89	1601.63	1349.42
West Europe	4362.85	5473.31	7660.76	5889.47
East Europe	2593.00	3356.00	5336.00	4034.00

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is the continuous endeavour of the Govt. to facilitate increased exports of Indian goods.

[*Translation*]

Effect of Gulf War on Tea Industry

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

(a) whether the Government have prepared a two point programme for making good the loss incurred by the tea industry on account of gulf war and for improving the position of India in the world tea market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the export price of tea has come down due to Gulf War; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Per Unit export realisation of Indian tea during the period from April to December 1990 is Rs. 52.76 per kg. as compared to Rs. 42.10 per kg. during the corresponding period of last year.

Irrigation Projects of Madhya Pradesh Pending Forestry Clearance

55. SHRI SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of major, medium and small irrigation projects from Madhya Pradesh pending forestry clearance; and

(b) the present position of those projects and when they are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) and (b). The details of irrigation cases of Madhya Pradesh pending forestry clearance together with their present status is furnished in the statement. Cases are disposed of on consideration of their merits and on receipt of complete information about the proposal.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Present position</i>				
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>				
1.	Chargaon Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Bastar	19,780 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.				
2.	Lahasuana Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Shahdol	35,180 ha.	Case referred to Regional Office for site inspection.				
3.	Moherenga Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	49,400 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.				
4.	Jhiniya Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	30,920 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.				
5.	Kotiaghiri Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Indore	10,660 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.				
6.	Murhipar Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	32,200 ha.	The case is under process.				
7.	Parsora Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	47,438 ha.	The case is under process.				
8.	Amha Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Panna	88,380 ha.	The case is under process.				
9.	Bandakpur Semar Khor Minor Irrigation Project	Damoh	102,050 ha.	The case is under process.				
10.	Padarkheda Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Shivpuri	77,500 ha.	The case is under process.				

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Present position</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
11.	Jhandia Kandia Minor Irrigation Project	Khargaon	46.210 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
12.	Amdania diversion Scheme	Rajnandgaon	5.240 ha.	Under process.
13.	Konesar Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	25.400 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
14.	Amzhor Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Shahdol	1.704 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
15.	Proda Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	6.928 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
16.	Madhar Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Shivpuri	265.050 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
17.	Majat Gandhi Tank Irrigation Project	Bastar	20.180 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
18.	Konde Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	25.400 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
19.	Saola Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Sarguja	56.680 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>District</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Present position</i>
1	2	3	4	5
20.	Dorde Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Bestar	4.040 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
21.	Pali Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	36.670 ha.	Case referred to Regional Office for site inspection. Report awaited.
22.	Pipali Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raisen	41.305 ha.	Case referred to Regional Office for site inspection. Report awaited.
23.	Caniyan Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Raipur	81.955 ha.	Case referred to Regional Office for site inspection. Report awaited.
24.	Devani Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Shahdol	3.900 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.
25.	Kit Tank Minor Irrigation Project	Shahdol	59.910 ha.	Additional information sought from the State Government.

Checking of Pollution at Religious Places

56. SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are working on some scheme to preserve environment and check pollution at religious places of national importance.

(b) if so, the names of such religious places; and

(c) the progress of the work undertaken to check pollution in Ayodhya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) There is no scheme with the specific objective of preserving the environment and checking pollution at religious places of national importance.

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

Schemes to Make Ganga and Yamuna Pollution Free

57. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government on various schemes to make Ganga and Yamuna rivers pollution free, scheme wise;

(b) whether Government have also formulated any scheme to evaluate the outcome of these measures; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Amount spent by the Government under Ganga Action Plan, schemewise is given below:-

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of Scheme</i>	<i>Amount spent (Rs. in Crores)</i>
1	2	3
1.	Sewage Interception and Diversion	89.12
2.	Sewage Treatment Plants	50.22
3.	Low Cost Sanitation	18.55
4.	Electric Crematoria	11.93
5.	River Front Facilities	11.70
6.	Others	9.61
Total		191.13

No expenditure has been incurred in respect of Yamuna River.

(b) and (c). The water quality of River Ganga is being continuously monitored at 20

locations on the main river and one location each on its 7 major tributaries. The changes in the water quality parameters are being observed before and after completion of Pollution Abatement Schemes. The param-

eter values observed at Allahabad where a major part of Pollution Abatement Programmes has been completed, show trends of improvement in the water quality.

Denudation of forests in Gujarat

58. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that illegal denudation of forests has been made on a large scale in Bharuch and Surat districts of Gujarat during the last five years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Barter Trade with China

59. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT:
SHRI K.S. CHAVDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have agreed to enter into barter trade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL):
(a) and (b). India and China have agreed, in principle, to resume border trade which in-

cludes barter trade possibilities.

Effects of oil Slick in Arabian Sea and Fire in Oil wells of Kuwait on Migratory Birds

60. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the oil slick in the Arabian Sea and fire in the oil wells of Kuwait have threatened the return of thousands of migratory birds including Siberian cranes (Sarus) and other Wild fowl which are at present at the Keoladeo national Park (Ghana) Sanctuary in Bharatpur (Rajasthan).

(b) if so, whether the Government have since contemplated any steps to save the migratory birds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) There has been no indication that the return of migratory birds is threatened due to the oil slick in Gulf of oil well fires in Kuwait.

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

Reduction in consumption of Petrol and Diesel by Government Vehicles

61. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the crisis created by the Gulf war, any directives have been issued to curtail petrol and diesel consumption by the Government and Public Sector Undertakings vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have issued instructions to the State Governments also in this regard;

(d) whether there is a proposal to give car allowance to officers instead of providing car to them so as to further reduce consumption of petrol/diesel;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the target and the results achieved so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Even before the Middle-East crisis, Government had initiated action to reduce oil consumption in Ministries Departments. Instructions were accordingly issued that the consumption of petrol/diesel in Government vehicles including staff cars should be reduced by 20% over the consumption during 1989-90. As a part of programme for further curbing the demand for oil, instructions were issued prohibiting the use of Govt. vehicles including staff cars, except deployment of Government vehicles for emergency and unavoidable operational duties, on Sundays. These instructions have been reiterated. Orders have also been issued that there will be no purchase of vehicles until 31.3.1991.

Similar instructions on curbing the use of petrol and diesel have been issued in respect of Public Sector Undertakings also.

(c) Instructions have also been issued to State Governments to take suitable steps to reduce the consumption of petrol and petroleum products.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) As a result of the measures indicated at (a) and (b) above, it is noticed that the consumption of petrol/diesel has reduced in some Government organisations. However, it is not possible to quantify the exact reduction achieved so far.

Funds for Construction of Assembly Complex of Goa

62. PROF. GOPAL RAO MAYEKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goa State has sought financial assistance from the union Government for the construction of the Assembly Complex there; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and the amount sanctioned by the Union Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The State Government requested for Central assistance of Rs.8 crores during 1990-91 for construction of Assembly Building in the State. The matter is under consideration.

External Debt

63. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI RAJAMOHAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of India's external debt position during the last five years;

(b) whether more borrowings are pro-

posed from International Monetary Fund during 1991; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) India's outstanding foreign debt (excluding NRI deposits) during the last five years is as under:-

Debt Outstanding at the end of	Rs. (in Crores)
31.3.86	39691
31.3.87	48348
31.3.88	54650
31.3.89	69361
31.3.90	79982

(b) and (c). On 23.1.91, the Executive Board of the IMF approved a loan of SDR 1268, 825,000 to India. Out of this SDR 551,925,000 (equivalent Rs. 1243,51,68,371) is under Stand by Arrangement and SDR 716,900,00 (equivalent Rs. 1615,21,44,232) under Compensatory and Contingency Financing Facility (CCFF).

Contracts for Trade with USSR

64. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Indian firms have bagged contracts worth Rs. 25 crores for trade from USSR;

(b) if so, the details thereof with par-

ticulars items involved in these contracts; and

(c) the steps the Government propose to take to boost the trade of more items with USSR?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) Contract-wise details of contracts concluded by Indian firms with organisations in Soviet Union are not maintained by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In order to boost trade, Government has been taking various steps. These include participation in trade, fairs, exhibitions and buyer-seller meets, exchange of commercial and business delegations, etc. As imports generate rupee funds for financing exports arising from the balanced rupee trading system with the USSR, the imports from that country are also being encouraged.

[Translation]

Export of Engineering Goods

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

(a) the extent of engineering goods exported during 1988-89 and 1989-90;

(b) whether the Government are making efforts to promote the export of engineering goods; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) The value of engineering goods, excluding electronic items, exported during 1988-89

and 1989-90 were as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>(Rs. in crores) (Provisional)</i>
1988-89	1589
1989-90	2350

(b) and (c). The Government have taken several steps to promote export of engineering goods. Some of the important steps taken are: grant of cash compensatory support, provision of inputs for exports at international prices, supply of export finance at concessional rates and other incentive schemes such as replenishment licence scheme and import of capital goods at concessional rate for export production under the Import and Export Policy.

[English]

Procurement of Rubber by STC

66. SHRI P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI SURESH
KODIKKUNNIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has started the procurement of rubber;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of rubber proposed to be procured; and

(d) the rates at which it is proposed to be procured?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). S.T.C. has been advised to procure RMA V Grade of rubber at the best price at which the rubber is available in the market. S.T.C. will purchase such quantities as to bring the price of rubber within the prescribed range.

Commerce Minister's Visit to China

67. KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited China recently to attend the second meeting of India-China joint group of trade and economic relations;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed in the said meeting;

(c) whether any trade protocol was also signed;

(d) whether he also met the Chinese Prime Minister and other leaders; and

(e) if so, the salient features of the talks held?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL):

(a) to (c). Commerce Minister led the Indian delegation to Beijing for second meeting of the India-China Ministerial Joint Group on Economic Cooperation and Trade, Science & Technology (February 6-8, 1991). The two sides reviewed developments in the fields of economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation in the two countries and discussed specific measures needed to be adopted in this regard. The meeting concluded with the signing of Agreed Minutes and Trade Protocol covering the period February, 1991 to February, 1992.

(d) and (e). Commerce Minister made calls on H.E. Mr. Song Jian, State Councillor & Minister-in-Charge of the State Science &

Technology Commission, H.E. Mr. Wu Xuegian, Vice Premier, H.E. Mr. Chen Jinhua, Chinese Minister of the State Commission for Restructuring the Economic Systems and H.E. Mr. Gan Ziyu, Vice Minister of the State Planning Commission and discussed matters such as expansion and diversification of trade, further strengthening of economic ties and cooperation in the fields of science telecommunication, railways, civil aviation, metallurgy, pharmaceuticals, etc.

Setting up of Project In Gulf Countries

68. SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has got extensive involvement in the Gulf countries in different

projects and the present war has adversely affected the same;

(b) if so, the details regarding Indian project exporters working in Iraq and their dues outstanding at present; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard so far as the question of exploring the possibilities of pooling the resources with any other country for the setting up projects in the Gulf countries is concerned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

STATEMENT

(Value : in US \$ MLN)

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	(A) Deferred Payment Agreements					(B) Cash Contracts	(C) Value of Blocked Assets	Grand Total 8+9+10	
		Contract value	Retention money	Final Bill	Interest dues	Other dues				Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Continental Construction Limited	115.00				140.0	255.0	3.0	72.0	330.0
2.	Makers Development Services Ltd.	31.90	3.05 0.736	0.13+ 0.032	7.05	19.69+ 4.672	67.26	0.035	0.029	67.324
3.	Indian Railways Construction Cel Ltd.	66.80	4.73	2.16	12.84		86.53	-	1.11	87.64
4.	Som Datt Builders Ltd.		8.187+ 2.685	35.967	6.378		53.217	3.59	26.42	83.227
5.	National Building Construction Corporation Ltd.	42.02	3.126	3.45	5.38	0.57	54.54	1.989	1.60	58.129
6.	Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.	57.56			2.49		60.05	26.583	41.66	128.293
7.	Larsen & Tourbro Ltd.	12.53	1.23		1.68		15.44	0.141	0.80	16.38

(Value : in US \$ MLN)

Sl No.	Name of the Company	(A) Deferred Payment Agreements					(B) Cash Contracts	(C) Value of Blocked Assets	Grand Total 8+9+10	
		Contract value	Retention money	Final Bill	Interest dues	Other dues				Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8.	Shah Construction Co. Ltd.	1.62	2.88	1.89	0.70		7.09		4.44	11.53
9.	Hindustan Construction Co. Ltd.	5.62	2.46	1.15	1.800		11.03	0.138	1.48	12.248
10.	Bhandari Builders Ltd.	9.12	1.51	0.47	1.88	19.344	32.324	-	3.0	35.324
11.	Bhagheratha Engg. Ltd.	13.85	1.38	0.10	3.18		18.51	-	4.0	22.51
12.	Dalal Consultants Ltd.	0.376					0.376			0.376
13.	Asia Foundation & Construction Ltd.	2.16		0.49	0.51		3.16	0.376	-	0.536
14.	Bridge & Roof Co. (I) Ltd.						-	1.75	-	1.75
15.	Engineering Projects India Ltd.	-	8.33	5.39	-	19.85+	42.22	-	-	42.22
						8.65				

(Value : in US \$ MLN)

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	(A) Deferred Payment Agreements						(B) Cash Contracts	(C) Value of Blocked Assets	Grand Total 8+9+10
		Contract value	Retention money	Final Bill	Interest dues	Other dues	Total			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16.	Gammon India Ltd.	4.26	-	-	-	-	4.26	-	-	4.26
17.	Recondo Ltd.	2.66	-	-	-	-	2.66	-	-	2.66
18.	Ansal Properties & Ind. Ltd.			0.59	12.88		13.47	-	1.60	15.08
19.	Bhasin Associates Ltd.	5.99	1.23	1.23	2.48	-	10.93			10.93
20.	National Projects Construction Corp. Ltd.	9.51	2.33	0.95	1.14	0.31	4.24			14.24
21.	U. P. State Bridge Corp. Ltd.	1.57	1.54			7.62	10.73			10.73

		(Value : in US \$ MLN)									
Sl. No.	Name of the Company	(A) Deferred Payment Agreements					(B) Cash Contracts	(C) Value of Blocked Assets	Grand Total	8+9+10	
		Contract value	Retention money	Final Bill	Interest dues	Other dues					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
22.	Rail India Technological & Economic Services.				2.82		2.82	2.0	1.388	6.208	
23.	Arvind Construction Co. Ltd.							0.32	0.32	0.32	
Total:		382.54	45.41	54.00	63.21	220.70	765.857	39.602	159.847	965.306	

Opening of Bank Branches in Kerala

69. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
SHRI SURESH
KODIKKUNNIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open new branches of the public sector banks in Kerala during 1991-92;

(b) the number of applications received by the Union Government so far in this regard; and

(c) the locations, if any, identified for opening bank branches in Kerala, so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issues licences to the banks under the provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 for opening of branches. The new branch licensing policy was issued by RBI in September, 1990 and the commercial banks were asked by them to submit their proposals for opening of branches in rural areas before 30th June, 1991 through lead banks and State Governments concerned. Any application or proposal received from individuals, organisations etc., in this regard, are also considered by RBI on merits. It is not possible, at this stage, to indicate the number of branches that will be opened by banks in Kerala during 1991-92.

[Translation]

LIC Loan for Jodhpur Lift Canal Project

70. SHRI GIRDHARILAL BHARGAVA:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has refused to give loan for the Jodhpur Lift Canal Project under the Plan Head despite approval of the Ministry of Planning; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India has already decided to sanction financial assistance for the Jodhpur Water Supply Project.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Modernisation of VISL

71. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated the detailed plans for the modernisation of Visveswaraya Iron and Steel Ltd. (VISL) a subsidiary of SAIL; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). SAIL is currently examining various options for modernisation and optimum utilisation of the facilities installed at Bhadravati works of VISL. As part of the overall modernisation, SAIL's proposal for installation of a 530 cu.m. Blast Furnace at a cost of Rs. 49.35 crores to yield 216,000 tonnes of hot metal per annum, as replacement to the existing power intensive four electric pig iron furnaces, is under consideration of the Government. The proposal has been recommended for

approval by the SFC at the meeting held on January 28, 1991.

Lapsing of LIC Policies

72. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations against lapsing of insurance policies issued under the Life Insurance Corporation's Salary Saving Scheme in Bombay and Bangalore;

(b) whether the onus of collecting premiums under the Scheme rests with the LIC;

(c) if so, whether the LIC has in some cases under the above scheme failed to collect such premiums and to keep these policies in force; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the effective steps proposed to be taken to protect the interest of small policyholders?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (c). Generally, almost all the employers are regularly paying the premiums in respect of insurance policies issued under the Life Insurance Corporation's Salary Saving Scheme. However, in respect of a very few employers, the premiums are not being received in time for variety of reasons, namely financial trouble, lock-out, strikes, etc. The number of such cases is negligible as compared to the volume of business. Under the Salary Saving Scheme, the recovery of premiums from the salary of the policyholder is effected by his employer on the basis of the authority letter submitted by the employee (policyholder) to his employer through LIC. This is only a facility extended by LIC for convenience of the policyholder. The onus

of keeping the policy in force by payment of premiums in time rests with the policyholder.

(d) The procedure in vogue in Life Insurance Corporation of India for deducting the premiums from the salaries of the employees concerned (before or after transfer) under its Salary Saving Schemes works satisfactorily and prevents lapses to a great extent. However, the Corporation has decentralised the servicing of policies including policies taken under Salary Saving Scheme to the Branch Offices and also introduced micro-processors to improve the services to the policyholders.

Anomalies in Tax Laws

73. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a tax seminar on 'Penalties and prosecutions' was recently organised by the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal Bar Association, Delhi;

(b) whether eminent personalities who attended the seminar expressed views against any prosecutions for fiscal omissions;

(c) whether anomalies in the tax laws were also debated in the seminar; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Newspaper reports indicate that various issues relating to the penalty and prosecution provisions in Direct Tax Laws were discussed in the seminar.

(d) Tax Laws, including penalty and prosecution provisions therein are reviewed periodically, taking into account all relevant views expressed in this regard.

Commerce Minister's Visit to Brussels

74. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI ANAND SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during his recent visit to Brussels he had a meeting with an Israeli Minister;

(b) whether this meeting was formal or personal in nature;

(c) whether this has caused a misunderstanding in Government, diplomatic and international circles; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to clear the misunderstanding?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) to (d). No official meeting took place between the Indian and Israeli delegation at any level during Commerce Minister's visit to Brussels. However, as the sitting arrangement in international conferences are in alphabetical order and consequently the Indian and Israeli delegation were seated near each other, conversation between the Commerce Minister and his Israeli counterpart was inevitable. As we do not maintain any official level contact with Israel and have no trade issues with Israel, such conversation caused no misunderstanding.

Expenditure by Nationalised Banks

75. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the first seven nationalised banks whose expenditure has been highest during 1989-90 and 1990-91, separately;

(b) whether any directions have been issued by the Government/Reserve Bank of India to the nationalised banks to curb expenditure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The names of the seven nationalised banks whose expenditure as per their published balance sheets has been highest for the period ended March, 1990 are indicated below:

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>
1.	Bank of India
2.	Bank of Baroda
3.	Canara Bank
4.	Punjab National Bank
5.	Central Bank of India
6.	UCO Bank
7.	Syndicate Bank

The accounts for the period ending March, 1991 are yet to be finalised.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government have impressed upon the public sector banks including nationalised banks the need for effecting economy in expenditure. Banks have been specifically advised to take measures to curtail expenditure on consumption of petroleum/diesel,

publicity, entertainment etc. Reserve Bank of India during the course of discussions with banks have impressed upon them the need to effect economy in expenditure on travel, stationery etc. Banks have also been advised to regulate their recruitment.

Seizure of Smuggled Gold and Silver in Kerala

76. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value and quantity of smuggled gold and silver confiscated along and off the coast of Kerala during 1990;

(b) whether the incidents of smuggling have increased in Kerala during 1990-91 as compared to 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Seizure of Smuggled Goods at Airports

77. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of smuggling incidents and quantity and value of gold confiscated at the different airports in the country during 1990; and

(b) the steps taken to check the smuggling activities at airports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTER-

NAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Effect of Financial Instruments on Collections under National Savings Certificates

78. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more attractive financial instruments introduced recently by financial institutions like the Life Insurance Corporation, mutual funds of banks involving tax benefits to the participants have adversely affected the collections under National Savings Certificates (NSC);

(b) if so, whether the quantum of funds available to States, which are related to the collections under the NSCs, will be relatively less; and

(c) if so, the action proposed to be taken by the Government to ensure that the States are not short of funds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No Sir.

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

Loss of Revenue Due to Stay Orders

79. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large amounts of Government revenue are locked up in "Stay" orders issued by Judicial authorities;

(b) if so, whether such "Stay" orders arise from defective notifications, misinter-

pretation/harassment by revenue collecting officers etc.;

(c) if so, the time taken in securing vacation of the "Stay" orders as well as the amount of revenue pending collection; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to expedite the revenue collections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). The amount of Central excise duty blocked in High Court/Supreme Court cases, as on 31.12.90, is estimated at Rs. 2048 crores. The income-tax demands stayed by the courts, as on 30.6.90, is Rs. 342.18 crores. The issues involved in all these cases relate to the interpretation of the relevant laws and orders/notifications issued thereunder. Legal, administrative and other measures, as are considered necessary from time to time, are taken to maximise the collection of taxes and to recover the arrears including the arrears blocked in court cases. The High Courts have also been requested to constitute special benches for quick disposal of such cases.

IBDI Study for Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India

80. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) had undertaken a detailed study for providing assistance to improve the performance of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India, a public sector undertaking;

(b) whether the same has been approved by the Government and other public financial institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that a viability study of the diversification/modernisation and renovation scheme for Tannery & Footwear Corporation of India (TAFCO) was carried out at the instance of Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Industry, based on the data furnished by TAFCO. The report was discussed in a meeting convened by Ministry of Industry on December 24, 1990, where the main finding that the scheme formulated by the company did not establish long term viability of TAFCO, was accepted. However, TAFCO was advised to resubmit a revised broadbased proposal to IDBI for its consideration which is yet to be received. The institutions do not have any financial involvement in the company nor was any assistance sought from these institutions at any point of time.

Loans to Farmers in Andhra Pradesh

81. SHRI RAJAMOCHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes under which credits are given to the farmers of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to liberalise and simplify the procedure for granting of loans to the farmers, particularly small and marginal farmers including tobacco growers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the schemes likely to be introduced in Andhra Pradesh in the near future for providing loans to farmers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). The farmers in Andhra Pradesh are being provided loans by commercial banks, regional rural banks and cooperative banks for all agricultural activities including tobacco cultivation. The financing of such activities by the credit institutions is a part of their normal lending on a continued basis. Reserve Bank of India has issued detailed guidelines to commercial banks for simplifying and liberalising lending procedures. These guidelines provide for:

- 1 Prescription of scales of finance for crop loans as worked out by the Technical Committee constituted in the districts for various crops and their uniform adoption by banks. These scales of finance are revised annually to take care of escalation of cost.
2. Disposal of loan applications upto Rs 25,000/- within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks.
3. Delegation of appropriate sanctioning powers to the rural Branch Managers so that majority of loan applications are sanctioned at branch level itself.
4. No collateral security should be taken by way of mortgage/charge of land or third party guarantee on crop loans upto Rs. 10,000/- and term loan upto Rs. 10,000/- where moveable assets are created.
5. No margin is required for agricultural loan upto Rs. 10,000/- for both short term, medium/long-term loans. The rates of interest charged on such loans are concessional.

Proposal to Reshuffle Economic Departments

82. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reshuffle economic departments like Imports-Exports and Customs and Central Excise; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Customs Duty Concession to NRIs

83. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to offer concessions in Customs duty to NRIs on the basis of the remittances made by them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). In view of ensuing Union Budget, it is not possible to reply this question.

Reorientation of Export Promotion Councils

84. SHRI VASNAT SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news report captioned

"Reorienting export promotion councils" appearing in the "Economic Times" dated 3 February, 1991;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the various observations made therein, particularly regarding the need for restructuring of the Export Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards;

(c) the particulars of Exports Promotion Councils and Commodity Boards presently functioning and whether their performance has been assessed objectively in terms of the set objectives; and

(d) the measures taken/ proposed to make them more effective and result-oriented?

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

(b) The observations made in the news report have been taken note of.

(c) and (d). Particulars of Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils are indicated in the attached statement. The performance and functioning of Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils is reviewed from time to time against annual targets. In order to improve the functioning of the Councils, a study was entrusted to the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and the recommendations made therein are under consideration.

STATEMENT

1. Tea Board,
Calcutta

2. Coffee Board,
Bangalore

3. Coir Board,
Cochin

4. Central Silk Board,
Bangalore

5. Tobacco Board,
Guntur

6. Spices Board,
Cochin

7. Rubber Board,
Kottayam

Export Promotion Councils

1. Engineering Export
Promotion Council,
Calcutta

2. Overseas Construction
Council of India,
New Delhi

3. Basic Chemicals Pharmaceuticals
and Cosmetics Export
Promotion Council
Bombay

4. Chemicals and Allied Products,
Export Promotion Council,
Calcutta

5. Plastic and Linoleums
Export Promotion
Council,
Bombay

6. Council for Leather
Exports,
Madras,

7. Sports Goods Export
Promotion Council,
New Delhi

8. **Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council,
Bombay**
9. **Shellac Export Promotion Council,
Calcutta**
10. **Cashew Export Promotion Council,
Cochin**
11. **Electronics and Computer
Software Export Promotion
Council,
New Delhi**
12. **Cotton Textiles Export
Promotion Council,
Bombay**
13. **The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles
Export Promotion Council,
Bombay**
14. **Indian Silk Export Promotion
Council,
Bombay**
15. **Apparel Export Promotion
Council,
New Delhi**
16. **Wool & Woollens Export Promotion
Council,
New Delhi**
17. **Carpet Export
Promotion Council,
New Delhi**
18. **Handloom Export
Promotion Council,
Madras**
19. **Export Promotion Council
For Handicrafts,
New Delhi**

Additional DA to Central Government Employees

85. **SHRI VASANT SATHE:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C.P. MUDALA
GIRIYAPPA:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR
MALHOTRA:
SHRI H.C. SRIKANTIAH:
DR. C. SILVERA:
SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK:
SHRI GOPI NATH
GAJAPATHI:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the Consumer Price Index number of Industrial workers from July, 1990 to December, 1990;

(b) whether with the sharp increase in the Consumer Price Index upto December, 1990, the Government are considering suitable neutralisation in the form of additional dearness allowance to their employees and pensioners; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken and the relief proposed to be provided to the Central Government employees and pensioners?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):
(a) The All India Consumer Price Index (Base 1960=100) as on 31.12.1990 was 981, as against 912 as on 30.6.1990.

(b) and (c). The matter regarding grant of additional dearness allowance/dearness relief to Central Government employees/pensioners is under consideration and a decision will be taken soon.

[Translation]

Advocates Welfare Fund Scheme in Maharashtra

86. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Advocated Welfare Fund Scheme is in operation in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the assistance being provided to the advocates under the said scheme and the purpose thereof; and

(d) the number of advocates provided such facilities since the adoption of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Performance of Regional Rural Banks in Maharashtra

87. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of branches of the regional rural banks in Maharashtra and the number of employees and officers working therein, district-wise;

(b) the total expenditure being incurred yearly on these banks;

(c) the details of the achievements of these banks during the last one year; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen the rural economy in the State through these banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that there are 589 branches of Regional Rural Banks functioning in Maharashtra as on March, 1990. While the district-wise details of number of employees and officers of RRBs working in Maharashtra is not available the Bank wise position as under:-

Sl.No.	Name of Field	Staff		Employed			Total
		Officer	F/S	Clerks	Others		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Marathawada Gramin Bank	280	74	384	244	982	
2.	Aurangabad Jalna Gr. Bank	72	8	6	122	208	
3.	Chandrapur Gadchiroli Gramin Bank	72	16	73	59	220	
4.	Akola Gramin Bank	56	7	56	37	156	
5.	Ratnagiri Sindhudurg Gr. Bank	47	11	59	9	12	
6.	Solapur Gramin Bank	48	8	47	37	140	
7.	Bhandara Gramin Bank	57	22	65	49	195	
8.	Yavatmal Gramin Bank	25	-	34	3	61	
9.	Buldhana Gramin Bank	27	24	-	2	63	
10.	Thane Gramin Bank	35	2	21	27	85	
Total		719	172	745	589	2225	

(b) The RRBs in Maharashtra has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 1867.14 lakhs during 1989-90, out of which Rs. 986.38 lakhs accounted for interest expenditure. Of the balance of Rs. 880.76 lakhs, as much as Rs. 636.01 lakhs was on salary and allowances etc. of officers and staff of the Regional Rural Banks.

(c) and (d). The RRBs working in Maharashtra put together disbursed a sum of Rs. 3144.18 lakhs in 73,857 accounts during the year ended March, 1990. The outstanding advance as of March, 1990 stood at Rs. 12,671.77 lakhs in 2,70,752 accounts and mobilised deposits amounting to Rs. 11105.45 lakhs in 9,17,127 accounts. The Banks have already assisted 2,70,752 accounts of weaker sections. They have also been actively participating in the Government sponsored programmes such as IRDP, DRI etc. which are exclusively meant for the weaker sections.

[English]

Indo-US Herpetological Project

88. SHRI TARIF SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Indo-US herpetological Project, the country has been losing rare fauna since 1984;

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

(c) whether the period of the project which has to last till 1987 has been extended till 1993; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOR-

ESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The Indo-US Herpetological Project is a research project, undertaken by the National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi, in collaboration with Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, USA, to study the environmental diversity of the amohibians and reptiles in selected regions of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Such of the specimens collected by field teams from selected sites as require further examination and analysis are sent to Carnegie Museum. The project Provides that 50% of the collected specimens will be returned to the National Museum of Natural History after completion of their study at the Carnegie Museum.

(c) and (d). Very limited field work was reported to have been completed upto 1990. Therefore, an extension of the project for another three years was approved in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding governing the project.

Merger of Public Sector Banks Incurring Losses

89. SHRI R.M. BHOYE:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:
SHRI R.N. RAKESH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to merge some public sector banks, which are incurring heavy losses, with other public sector banks:

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

(c) the names of the banks which are incurring losses;

(d) the time by which these banks are

likely to be merged with other public sector banks; and

(e) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the performance of those banks which are incurring heavy losses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) There is no proposal at present to merge any public sector bank with other public sector banks.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) UCO Bank and New Bank of India have reported losses in their operations during the year 1989-90.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government and Reserve Bank of India have taken a series of measures to improve the performance and profit earning capacity of the public sector banks. These include augmentation of their capital, rationalisation of service charges and interest rates structure, containment of staff growth and levy of commitment charges on unutilised portion of operating limits. Banks have also been advised to take measures to control expenditure in consumption of petroleum, publicity, etc., draw up action plans to improve their operational efficiency and take steps to strengthen their viability and profitability by means of effective business planning and development.

Gold Seized at Delhi Airport

90. SHRI R.M. BHOYE
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Gold Seized" which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 2, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what further action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Customs Officers of Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi, intercepted a passenger, named Jagdish Chander, who had arrived from Hongkong on 1st February 1991. Search of his person resulted in the recovery and seizure of 22 gold bars of foreign origin collectively weighing 2488 grams of 24 carat purity valued at Rs. 9.38 lakh approximately. The gold was concealed in a black coloured pouch tied around his waist. Shri Jagdish Chander was arrested and a complaint has been filed in the jurisdictional court under the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962.

Deforestation for providing Utility Services

91. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down by the Union Government to grant permission for deforestation for the purposes of providing utility services like electricity, water, roads, etc. to villages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI MATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) and (b). Detailed guidelines for submission of proposals for diversion of forest lands for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 were issued by the Ministry of Agriculture from time to time and consolidated guidelines have been issued vide this Ministry's letters dated 31.7.86, 23.6.89 and 24.10.89

Some of the guidelines concerning formulation of proposals seeking permission for diversion of forest land for utility services like providing electricity, water, roads, etc. to the villages are as under:-

1. The State Governments are required to submit proposals in prescribed proforma alongwith essential details of the project such as (a) map (b) area required for diversion (c) number of trees to be felled (d) recommendation of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest/Chief Wildlife Warden (wherever needed) and the State Government (e) details of compensatory afforestation etc. Forest diversions involving area less than one ha. are decided by the Regional Chief Conservator of Forest of the respective Regional Offices of the Ministry and forest diversions of one ha. and above are decided by the Ministry.

2. Some relaxations have been incorporated in the guidelines relating to the public utility services like:-

- (i) In cases of laying of Transmission line or pipelines for drinking water supply where felling of tree is not involved, a simplified proforma has been prescribed.

- (ii) Diversion of forest land for construction of building is not normally considered. However, such diversions are allowed for construction of buildings for schools,

Hospitals, Dispensaries, Community Halls, Co-operatives, Panchayats, tiny rural industrial sheds of Government, etc., which are to be put up for benefit of the people of that area, but such diversions should be strictly limited to the actually needed area and should not exceed one hectare in each case.

- (iii) In hill districts and in other districts having forest lands exceeding 50 per cent of the total geographical area, compensatory afforestation on non-forest land is not insisted upon and is permitted on degraded forest land twice in extent of the area diverted provided forest land involved is less than 5 hectares and the purpose of diversion is for construction of link road, small water-works, minor irrigation works, school building, dispensary, hospital, tiny rural industrial shed of the Government or any other similar works which directly benefit the people of the area.

Permission for Manufacture of Hazardous Chemicals

92. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the criteria or parameters laid down to define hazardous chemicals and the grounds on which permission is granted to manufacture such hazardous chemicals without damaging the environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): The criteria to define Hazardous chemicals has been laid down in rule 2 (e) of manufacture, Storage and Import of hazardous

Chemical Rules, 1989, under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, details of which are given in the attached statement-I. Details of the grounds on which permission is granted

to start and manufacture such hazardous chemicals, are given in the attached statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

(a) Toxic Chemicals:

Chemicals having the following values of acute toxicity and which, owing to their physical and chemical properties, are capable of producing major accident hazards

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Degree of Toxicity</i>	<i>Medium lethal dose by the oral route (oral toxicity) LD 50 (mg/Kg body weight of test animals)</i>	<i>Medium lethal dose by the dermal route (dermal toxicity) LD 50(mg/kg) body weight of test animals)</i>	<i>Medium lethal concentration in inhalation route (four-hours) LD 50 (mg/1) inhalation in test animals)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
1.	Extremely toxic	1-50	1-200	0-1-0.5
2.	Highly toxic	51-500	201-2000	0.5-2.0

(b) Flammable Chemicals:

- (i) Flammable gases: chemicals which in the gaseous state at normal pressure and mixed with air become flammable and the boiling point of which at normal pressure is 20°C or below;
- (ii) highly flammable liquids: chemicals which have a flash point lower than 23°C and the boiling point of which at normal pressure is above 20°;
- (iii) flammable liquids: chemicals which have a flash point lower than 65°C and which remain liquids under pressure, where particular processing conditions, such as high pressure and high temperature, may create major accident hazards.

(c) Explosives:

Chemicals which may explode under the effect of flame, heat or photo-chemical conditions or which are more sensitive to shocks or friction than dinitrobenzene.

STATEMENT-II***Details of Grounds on which permission is Granted for Manufacture of Hazardous Chemicals:***

- (i) **Notification of sites:-** An occupier is not permitted to undertake any industrial activity in respect of hazardous chemicals unless he has submitted a written report containing details specified at least 3 months before commencing that activity or before such shorter time as the Chief Inspector of Factories may agree.
- (ii) **Safety reports:-** An occupier is not permitted to undertake an industrial activity in respect of some hazardous chemicals unless he has prepared a safety report on that industrial activity containing the specified information and has sent a copy of that report to the Chief Inspector of Factories at least 90 days before commencement of that activity.
- (iii) **Preparation of on-site emergency plan:-** An occupier handling hazardous chemicals is required to prepare an on-site emergency plan detailing how major accidents shall be dealt with on the site before commencement of the new industrial activity.
- (iv) **Preparation of off-site emergency plan:-** The District authorities are required to prepare an off-site emergency plan detailing how emergencies relating to all possible major accidents on that site, shall be dealt with before commencement of the new industrial activity. Information for preparation of the

off-site plan is to be made available by the occupier to the District authorities.

- (v) Information to be given to persons liable to be affected by a major accident:-

The occupier is required to take appropriate steps to inform persons outside the site regarding the major accident that could occur and the 'Do's' and 'Don'ts' before commencement of the new industrial activity.

Decentralisation of D.G.S. & D

93. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to decentralise the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the stage at which the proposal stands at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) to (c). On a review of policy for centralised purchase of stores and equipments for the Government Departments/Ministries through DGS&D, it was decided last year to transfer from DGS&D all procurement of items for a Ministry/Department's own use to the various indenting Ministries/Departments alongwith the officers and staff doing such work in DGS&D. However, in response to the representations received from officers and staff Associations of DGS&D, from industry, and other quarters, and keeping in view various other aspects of the matter, the aforesaid decision is being reviewed and re-considered.

Pending Cases In Supreme Court and High Courts

94. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which the Government of India are a party, pending in the Supreme Court and in various High Courts, Court-wise; and

(b) what steps the Government have taken to ensure expeditious disposal of these pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Office Building Complex in Madras Steel Stockyard

95. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large office building complex has been constructed in the Madras steel stockyard of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) at Santanagadu;

(b) if so, the total cost of construction and name of the authority which approved the construction;

(c) whether the constructed floor space of the above complex is fully utilised; and

(d) is not, the reasons thereof along with the financial loss per annum due to non-utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) SAIL has constructed an office building having a floor

area of about 900 sq. metres, within its stockyard at Santanagadu in Madras.

(b) About Rs. 34 Lakhs. The construction was approved by the competent authority who in this case is the Deputy General Manager, Special Projects Division of SAIL.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (c) above.

[Translation]

Mining Work in Forests of Kodarma and Ganwa Tisri (Bihar)

96. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mining leases granted for mining mica and stone in Kodarma forests and in the valley and forests of Ganwa Tisri of Giridih, district;

(b) whether the mining work has been brought to a stop at the above places;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to allow the mining work to continue unabated on the condition that the lease holders would plant trees in an area equal to the land of limited mining leases; and

(d) the action taken by the Government against those persons who are responsible for destruction of hundreds of square kilometres of forest cover by illegal deforestation where no mining work is being undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) to (d). Detailed information has been called from the State Government and the

same will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

[English]

Rubber Prices

97. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of rubber has stabilised during the current year;

(b) the variations in the price of rubber recorded during 1990, month-wise;

(c) whether the Government have imported increased quantities of raw rubber during 1990;

(e) whether the Government propose to import more raw rubber during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) The price of rubber during January, 1991 and upto 14th February, 1991 fluctuated between Rs. 2010 and Rs. 2100 per quintal for RMA IV Grade.

(b) Variations in price of RMA IV Grade rubber during 1990;

Monthly price in Rs. per qtl.

1990	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM
JANUARY	2180	2140
FEBRUARY	2180	2100
MARCH	2190	2150
APRIL	2250	2175
MAY	2300	2240
JUNE	2500	2300
JULY	2300	2225
AUGUST	2050	2020
SEPTEMBER	2150	2050
OCTOBER	2125	1975
NOVEMBER	2000	1965
DECEMBER	2025	1960

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). The quantum of rubber to be imported during 1991-92 will depend upon the demand-supply gap.

[*Translation*]

Exports Earning by Export Houses

98. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the Export Houses are unable to earn sufficient foreign exchange through the export of their products;

(b) whether major chunk of foreign exchange is earned through the export of products of the small-scale units;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to make any change in the existing policy with a view to boost the exports; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DASPATEL):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The share of the small scale sector out of the total exports made by the Export House and Trading Houses is less than 50% during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. Sufficient incentive is being given by way of giving double weightage in the calculation of NFE earnings to products manufactured in the small scale sector while determining the eligibility for grant of Export House/Trading House status.

Foreign Loans

99. SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to seek fresh loan from foreign countries keeping in view the critical condition of the balance of payments in respect of foreign trade; and

(b) if so, the total foreign debt outstanding against India as on December, 1990?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):
(a) Yes, Sir. The Government seeks loans from time to time keeping in view the trade deficit, balance of payments and need to maintain debt servicing within reasonable limits provided the terms are acceptable and consistent with National Development priority.

(b) The total amount of foreign debt outstanding against India as on 31.3.1990 was Rs. 79982 crores. The figures for a part of the year are not available.

[*English*]

Gold and Silver Seizure by D.R.I.

100. SHRI R.N. RAKESH:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA
GAVIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has seized contraband gold in

Delhi and silver bars worth crores of rupees near Indore on 16th January, 1991;

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

(c) what further action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (c). The officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence have seized 40 gold bars weighing approximately 1 kg. each valued at Rs. 1.48 crores (approx.) in Delhi on 16th January, 1991. A mini bus valued at Rs. 1.5 lakhs and foreign currency worth Rs. 74,320/- have also been seized. Two persons have been arrested and subsequently detained under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

Insofar as the seizure near Indore is concerned, the Hon'ble MP is presumably referring to a seizure of 344 bars of silver weighing 10.7 tonnes approximately valued at Rs. 8 crores approximately seized from two trucks which were intercepted near the border of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa on 14th January, 1991, by the officers

of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence. Both the trucks and a Maruti van, collectively valued at Rs. 5 lakhs were also seized. 8 persons have been arrested and subsequently detained under the provisions of Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Projects of Maharashtra Pending Forestry Clearance

101. PROF. MAHADEO SHIWANKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the major, medium and small irrigation projects of Maharashtra pending clearance from the forestry angle; and

(b) the reasons for not giving approval to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The details of the pending irrigation cases upto 31st January, 1991 alongwith their status are shown in the statement annexed.

STATEMENT

<i>Present Status</i>	
A. Major Irrigation Projects	
1. Construction of Upper Wardha Major Irrigation Project (1357.41 ha.)	Additional information sought from the state Government is received. The case is under process.
2. Adan Major Irrigation Project.	State Government requested to furnish additional information.
3. Upper Parvara Major Irrigation Project in Ahmednagar district.	The decision is being communicated to the state Government shortly.
4. Construction of Lower Wunna Project Nagpur district. (131.06 ha.)	Additional information sought from the state Government is received. The case is under process.
B. Medium Irrigation Projects	
5. Construction of Medium Irrigation Tank at Dhamangaogadi in Amravati district.	State Government requested to furnish additional information. The reply is awaited
6. Construction of Ambederi Dehidi Medium Irrigation Tank in Nasik district.	Regional Office, Bhopal of this Ministry is requested for site Inspection Report which is awaited.

<i>Present Status</i>	
<i>C. Minor Irrigation Projects</i>	
7. Construction of Minor Irrigation Tank at Mahagaon Akola Karanja District (23.50 ha.)	Case discussed in the Advisory Committee. Under Process for decision.
8. Construction of Percolation Tank at Nane (20 ha.) Dhule distt.	State Govt. requested to furnish additional information. Reply is awaited.
9. Construction of Ranjani Pimparkhod distributory.	Case discussed in the Advisory Committee. The case is under process.
10. Laying of pipeline in Chandrapur District.	Additional information sought from the state Govt. is received. The case is under process.

Working of New Bank of India

[Translation]

102. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take any concrete steps to improve the working of the New Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether a proposal to merge the New Bank of India with another nationalised bank is also under consideration of the Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Government and Reserve Bank of India have taken a series of measures to improve the performance and financial position of all the public sector banks including New Bank of India. These include augmentation of their capital, nationalisation of service charges and interest rates structure, containment of staff growth and levy of commitment charges on unutilised portion of operating limits. Banks have also been advised to take measures to control expenditure in consumption of petroleum, efficiency and take other measures to strengthen their viability and profitability by means of effective business planning and development.

(c) There is no proposal at present to merge New Bank of India with another nationalised bank.

Granting Approval to Projects Under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

103. SHRI CHHAVIRAM ARGAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of difficulties in granting approval to the projects under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) whether any circular has been issued by the Union Government regarding grant of approval under this Act;

(c) whether the proposals of projects on which work had been started before 25 October, 1980 are to be kept out of the purview of this Act or they are to be considered on easy terms by the Union Government;

(d) whether it is proposed to grant approval to such projects where both forest land and non-forest lands were involved and work was started, without considering it as a violation of the said Act; and

(e) whether in view of the special conditions prevailing in Madhya Pradesh, the condition of non-forest area plantation will not be enforced and the plantation will be recognised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) Some of the main difficulties faced by this Ministry in clearing the proposals received from the State Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 are due to incomplete formulation of proposals by the State Government confirming to the guidelines issued by this Ministry like:—

(i) Inadequate maps.

- (ii) **Non-identification of equivalent non-forest area for compensatory afforestation and its details.**
- (iii) **Specific comments of Principal Chief Conservation of Forests/ Chief Wildlife Warden are not given by the State Government.**
- (iv) **Non-formulation of proper rehabilitation scheme by the State Government, where displacement of people is involved.**
- (v) **Non formulation of reclamation plan by the State Government in respect of mining projects.**

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Cases in which specific orders for **dereservation or diversion of forest areas in connection with any project** were issued by the State Government prior to 25.10.80, need not be referred to the Central Government. However, in cases where only administrative approval for the project was issued without specific orders regarding **dereservation or deforestation of forest land**, prior approval of the Central Government would be necessary under this Act.

(d) Projects involving both, non-forest land and forest land and where work was started in non-forest land can only be approved subject to justification of forest diversion and merit of the case.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Export of Indian Engineering and Chemical Items to USA

106. **SHRIBALASAHEB VIKHE PATEL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken up with the US Government the matter regarding lifting of curbs on export of Indian engineering and chemical items and to allow export of these items liberally under the generalised scheme of preference;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the US Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) to (c). Most of the engineering and chemical items of interest to India are already eligible for exemption of duty in the USA under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP). However, during the annual review procedure the US Government considers exclusion of specific items from the GSP on application made by the domestic industry. In recent years a number of products e.g. steel wire ropes, clinical thermometers, ibuprofen and oleoresins have been subjected to such review. Following representations made by the exporters the petitions in respect of oleoresins, ibuprofen and clinical thermometers were rejected. However, subsequently clinical thermometers were removed from GSP only for India as Indian exports having a share of more than 50 percent were hit by the competitive need criterion. Steel wire ropes were also removed from GSP for all countries. Another petition in respect of ibuprofen is under consideration.

During the annual meetings in UNCTAD for review of GSP schemes we exhort all developed countries to improve and strengthen the GSP schemes inter-alia through expansion of product coverage and bringing about greater stability. The matter is also taken up at the bilateral meetings periodically, the most recent one being the meeting of the Indo-US Economic and

Commercial Subcommission held in Washington DC on April 2-3, 1990.

In response the US Government generally emphasises the autonomous nature of the concessions under the GSP.

Import of Gold by NRIs

107. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:

SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow non-resident Indians to bring gold into the country to contain gold smuggling;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) the estimated quantity of gold likely to be brought annually and the results expected to be achieved in containing gold smuggling;

(d) whether the Government also propose to make amendments in the criteria for recognition of Trading and Export Houses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). At present Government is not considering any proposal to allow NRIs to bring gold into the country.

(d) and (e). Review of Import and Export Policy and procedure is a continuous process and necessary corrective measures are taken from time to time inter-alia with regard to the criteria for recognition of Trading and Export

Houses, keeping in view the needs of the economy.

[*Translation*]

CBI Raids at Premises of Bank Officials

108. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 176 on March 23, 1990 and state:

(a) the details of the action taken against the officers from whose residential/office premises, illegal assets had been discovered during the said search operations; and

(b) the present position of these cases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Information is being collected from the Central Bureau of Investigation and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and feasible.

[*English*]

Ecological Balance in Gangotri Region

109. SHRISHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan has been chalked out to save Gangotri region in the Himalayas and to restore the seriously disturbed ecological balance of the area; and

(b) if so, the broad features and financial implementations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b).

1. The following action has been taken by the Government of Uttar Pradesh to save the Gangotri region:

- (a) A Special Area Development Authority has been constituted.
- (b) A draft master plan for the region has been prepared by the State Government.
- (c) A notification to establish a sanctuary and a national park in the Gangotri area has been issued.
- (d) Issue of permits to cut timber has been completely stopped.

2. The following further steps have been suggested:

- (a) A policy decision not to grant additional pattas or allow addition residential facilities.
- (b) Strict control over mountaineering expeditions in the region.
- (c) Control of pollution from sewage from Uttara Kashi.
- (d) Eviction of encroachments in the Gangotri valley.
- (e) Not allowing any additional over-night accommodation for stay in Gangotri.
- (f) Promotion of alternate sources of energy and supply of kerosene and LPG to save the forests.
- (g) Orienting the Special Area Development Authority to-

wards conservation and management of the watersheds rather than propagation of tourism.

Performance of Foreign Banks

110. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the share of foreign banks operating in the country in the total branch network;

(b) the total profit earned by the public sector banks during 1989-90;

(c) the total profit earned by the foreign banks from their operations in the country during the same period;

(d) the names of these foreign banks and which out of them have garnered most of the profit; and

(e) the reasons for better performance of the foreign banks as compared to the Indian banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the percentage share of the foreign banks' branches vis-a-vis the branch network of all scheduled commercial banks in India as of March, 1990 stood at 0.2%.

(b) As per the published annual accounts for the year 1989-90, all the public sector banks, except New Bank of India and UCO Bank, have shown profits aggregation to Rs. ₹366.88 crores.

(c) The total net profits earned by the foreign banks from their operations in the

country during the year 1989-90 aggregated to Rs. 183.80 crores.

(d) Out of 22 foreign banks functioning in the country as on 31.3.90, the net profit of six banks viz. American Express, ANZ Grindlays Bank, Bank of America, Citi Bank, Hongkong Bank and Standard Chartered Bank, together aggregated to Rs. 158.96 crores which constituted 86.5 percent of the total profits of all the foreign banks in India.

(e) Better performance of foreign banks could be attributed, among other things, to their concentration in metropolitan and port towns, mechanisation and computerisation of operations, lower priority sector lending and high level of non-fund business.

Situation Created by Gulf War in the Field of Stock-Exchange etc.

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

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures to meet the situation created by the Gulf War, particularly in the field of stock exchanges and other financial institutions which have a bearing on the Indian economy; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Government have already taken appropriate measures for conserving foreign exchange, increasing inflow of foreign exchange to the country and bringing about economy in expenditure. Government have initiated several austerity measures for minimising expenditure on account of consumption of petrol, official entertainment, staff training programmes, tours etc. RBI has advised the scheduled commercial banks to

make substantive efforts to support exports. The Industrial Development Bank of India has been continuing its efforts in the different international markets to mobilise foreign currency resources to the maximum extent possible with a view to providing support to the balance of payments position of the country. Further, it has also been making efforts to draw down the bilateral and multi-lateral sources as quickly as possible. The Stock Exchanges have also taken measures with a view to ensuring the smooth functioning of the Stock Exchanges.

Elections to Tamil Nadu Assembly

112. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to conduct elections to the Tamil Nadu Assembly after the State was put under President's Rule;

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter so far; and

(c) the approximate time by which the elections are expected to be conducted?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (c). The State is presently under President's rule. A decision for holding elections to the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu will be taken at appropriate time, keeping in view the situation obtaining in the State. Election Commission has, in the meanwhile, taken necessary steps to be in a position to hold elections at short notice.

Import of Machinery by M/s. Pepsi Foods Pvt. Ltd.

113. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Pepsi Foods Pvt. Limited is alleged to have over-invoiced the machinery imported by it from USA through M/s. Crunch Barrel Foods Inc., Dallas, Texas, USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the case has been investigated by the Government; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). Investigations regarding the alleged over-invoicing of import of machinery by M/s. Pepsi Foods (P) Ltd. through M/s. Crunch Barrel Foods Inc. Dallas, Texas, USA have been initiated by the Directorate of Enforcement.

Trade with China

114. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI SUKHENDRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new areas and identification of items for import and export between India and China have been worked out recently;

(b) whether during his recent visit to China, any kind of new assurances have been given; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) to (c). Commerce Minister led the Indian delegation to Beijing for the second meeting of the Joint Ministerial group on Economic Cooperation and Trade, Science and Technology. The two sides recognised potential for development of Trade, Economic and Technological Cooperation and discussed measures needed to be adopted to realise this. On conclusion of the meeting, Agreed Minutes and a Trade Protocol covering the period February, 1991 to February, 1992, were signed.

Both sides agreed to expand and diversify bilateral trade.

The Trade Protocol lists non-traditional items such as oil field. Chemicals, Agro-chemicals, Power generation equipment, tele-Communication equipment, Photocopiers, Railway rolling stock, Computer softwares as items of export interest to India. Coking coal, Oil drilling equipment, Petroleum and petroleum products have been included in Chinese items of export. It has been agreed that China would import more iron ore from India and supply larger quantities of raw silk and silk yarn. Both sides have agreed, in principle, to resume border trade.

Demand for separate bench of Andhra Pradesh High Court at Vishakhapatnam

115. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation demand from the general public of Andhra Pradesh to set up a separate bench of Andhra Pradesh High Court at Visakhapatnam;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals for the establishment of benches of High Courts away from their principal seats, are entertained only if received from the concerned State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court. No proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Review of Credit Card Scheme

116. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the commercial banks were asked by the Reserve Bank of India to review the operation of credit card scheme; and

(b) if so, the main points brought out in the review and steps taken to rectify the drawbacks, if any?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the banks engaged in credit card business were advised by RBI in November, 1990, to prepare comprehensive review reports on the operations of credit card schemes in their banks and place such review reports before their respective Boards. The review reports are required to cover, inter-alia, details of the number of cards issued and outstanding, number of active cards, average turn over per card, average time taken for recovery of dues from the card holders, cost benefit analysis of the credit card business, etc.

(b) RBI has received such review reports from some of the banks engaged in credit card business. These indicate that credit card business has contributed to the overall profitability and customer service of those banks. On the basis of the reviews, the boards of the concerned banks have impressed the need to shorten the time taken for recovery and to closely follow up the overdue accounts.

Indo-China Border Trade

117. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
PROF. YADUNATH PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) when the Indo-China border trade had been suspended and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government have decided to reopen border trade with China;

(c) if so, the new areas identified therefor; and

(d) when the Indo-China border trade is expected to be resumed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) A Border Trade Agreement was signed with China on 29th April, 1954, for a period of 8 years. With neither country having expressed desire to further extend it, the Agreement expired in 1962.

(b) to (d). India and China have agreed, in principle, to resume border trade. Actual resumption of border trade can take place only after details are mutually finalised between the two countries.

Geological Survey in North Eastern States

118. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has undertaken or proposes to conduct mineral surveys in the North Eastern States, especially in Manipur and Nagaland; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) Geological Survey of India has undertaken and also proposes to conduct mineral surveys in North Eastern States including Manipur and Nagaland.

(b) Current mineral surveys of Manipur and Nagaland indicate cement grade limestone and chromite/platinoids in Ukhrul district in Manipur and basemetal in Ziphu-Washello area, Phek district in Nagaland.

Opening of Permanent Bench of Guwahati High Court In N.E. States

119. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 30 March, 1990 to Unstarred Question No. 2967 regarding setting up of benches of High Courts and state:

(a) the progress made in the opening of permanent benches of the Guwahati High Court in the States of Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) whether necessary infrastructural facilities for establishment of these benches

have been provided by the concerned States;

(c) if so, when these benches are likely to be set up; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (d). A permanent bench of the Guwahati High Court has since been established at Aizawl in Mizoram w.e.f. 5.7.90. The Governments of Manipur, Tripura, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh have not yet reported completion of pre requisite infrastructural facilities for establishment of High Court benches in the respective State capitals to the satisfaction of the Chief Justice of Guwahati High Court. The matter is pursued regularly with the State Governments.

[Translation]

Imports during November 1990 to January, 1991

120. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the value of goods imported during the period from 10 November, 1990 to 31 January, 1991; and

(b) the value of goods exported during the same period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b) Information for the period 10th November, 1990 to 31st January, 1991 is not available as date-wise data are not maintained.

Expenditure Incurred in BBIL

121. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred on Bharat Business International Limited B.B.I.L. from its formation to dissolution;

(b) the names of institutions from which the said amount has been drawn; and

(c) how the Government propose to repay the said amount to the concerned institutions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL):

(a) Total provisional expenditure on BBIL since its inception till January 1991 is Rs. 169.88 lakhs.

(b) The amount has been disbursed by MMTC and STC and debited to BBIL.

(c) The expenditure would be shared by the subsidiary companies of BBIL in proportion of their turnover.

Opening of Zonal Office of Bank of Baroda in Bareilly Uttar Pradesh

122. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received for opening a Zonal Office of the Bank of Baroda in Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the said Zonal Office is likely to be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIDIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

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

Export Oriented Units in U.P.

123. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up hundred percent Export Oriented Units in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these units will be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL):

(a) and (b). 100% EOUs are set up by entrepreneurs and Government only considers such proposals through the Board of Approvals.

[English]

Price of Natural Rubber

124. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the bench mark price of natural rubber recommended by cost Account study of Ministry of Finance and the bench mark price fixed by the Government;

(b) whether the Government propose to review and enhance the bench mark price;

(c) whether the Government have started to purchase rubber at bench mark price through agencies; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Gov-

ernment in this regard and to ensure the declared price for cultivators?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILALPURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) and (b). Bench mark price of RMA-4 grade of Natural rubber recommended by the Cost Accounts Study of the Ministry of Finance and fixed by the Government w.e.f. 15.1.1991 is Rs. 21,450/- per Metric Tonne.

(c) and (d). Government has advised STC to purchase RMA-5 grade of natural rubber and STC has started purchase of the same through agencies at the best price at which rubber is available in the market.

[*Translation*]

Effect of Gulf Crisis on Trade

125. **PROF. YADU NATH PANDEY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the difficulties faced due to recession in Indian and foreign trade and in business as a result of present Gulf war and the extent of the total loss suffered;

(b) the names of the countries with which trade relations have been adversely affected and the details of goods exchanged with these countries; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to normalise our trade relations with these countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILALPURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) It is estimated that overall impact of Gulf war on the Balance of Payments position will be of the order of US \$ 2.8 billion over a 12 month period from October 1990, assuming oil prices at US \$ 25/barrel.

(b) and (c). As a result of economic sanctions imposed by the UN Security Council against Iraq and Kuwait, trade with these countries has been banned. Prior to the ban on trade, major items imported from these countries included crude oil, sulphur and chemicals. Items exported to these countries included engineering goods, rice, tea, spices, textiles, processed foods etc. Our trade relations will be normalised once the embargo on trade with Iraq and Kuwait is lifted.

Modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant

126. **SHRI JANARDAN YADAV:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for expansion and modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). While the Government has already accorded approval in principle to the modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant, SAIL has proposed to implement the scheme in two phases. Government has received the proposal on the first phase which aims primarily at introducing continuous steel casting technology and facilities. The proposal is currently under examination. It will be taken up for implementation if it is found to be techno-economically viable.

[*English*]

Suspension of IIFT Employees

127. **SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees in his

Ministry and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) under suspension for more than 5 years, separately;

(b) the reasons for keeping them under suspension for such a long period ignoring Government directives/instructions on the subject and for not revoking the suspension orders even after starting enquiry proceedings in each case; and

(c) the remedial taken to avoid undue hardship to the suspended officials and loss to the Government by paying the suspended officials without their doing any work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL).

(a) 2 (two) employees of the Ministry of Commerce and 1 (One) employee of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade are under suspension for more than 5 years.

(b) Two employees working in the Ministry of Commerce had been placed under suspension upon their conviction by the trial court, in a criminal case in which they had been charge sheeted by the C.B.I. in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate, Delhi. The matter is still pending in the Supreme Court as the accused employees preferred appeals in the higher courts.

The IIFT employee continues to be under suspension due to his non-cooperative attitude in completing the enquiry. He filed a suit for declaration and injunction in the court against the enquiry in 1985. For some intervening period, the court had stayed the enquiry. Even after vacation of the injunction in May, 1988, the enquiry could not proceed because the charged officer has been obstructing the enquiry proceedings on one pretext or the other including allegations of bias against almost all persons connected with the enquiry including the Inquiry Officers because of which enquiry officer had to

be changed a number of times. To meet the allegation of bias, one officer of the level of Director in the Ministry of Commerce was appointed as Inquiry officer who has since submitted his report. The report of the Inquiry Officer is presently under consideration of the Disciplinary Authority.

(c) The suspension of these employees is being reviewed regularly by giving due weightage to the Government directives/instructions on the subject as also the hardship likely to be caused to the suspended officials and the loss to the Government on account of payment of subsistence allowance without their doing any work. The suspended officials are being paid subsistence allowance admissible as per Government rules.

Fraud Cases in Banks

128. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY:
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fraud cases reported/detected in banks during 1990, Union Territory/State-wise and bank-wise;

(b) the amount involved in these cases, Union Territory/State-wise and bank-wise;

(c) the number of bank officials involved in the various cases;

(d) the number of bank officials found guilty and punished Union Territory/State-wise and bank-wise; and

(e) the amount of money recovered from these officials during the above period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that existing management information system does not yield information regarding bank frauds State/Union Territory-wise. However, a Statement-I showing number and amount of frauds as reported by the public sector banks during the year 1990 is attached. Another Statement-II showing the number of bank employees awarded punishment during the year 1990 and those against whom action is pending in respect of fraud cases is attached bank-wise.

(e) RBI has reported that separate figures of recoveries made from bank employees are not available. However, according to latest information available with the RBI, as reported by the commercial banks, an amount of Rs. 795 lakhs approximately has been recovered during the year ended December, 1990. This amount of recovery is in respect of all cases of frauds pending with different commercial banks and not only those of 1990.

STATEMENT-I

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of frauds</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of India	506	990.94
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	32	113.94
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	24	74.16
4.	State Bank of Indore	13	335.60
5.	State Bank of Mysore	34	30.86
6.	State Bank of Patiala	12	36.04
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	8	21.87
8.	State Bank of Travancore	11	33.77
9.	Allahabad Bank	31	24.97
10.	Andhra Bank	38	799.40
11.	Bank of Baroda	80	181.83
12.	Bank of India	81	255.73
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	6	1979.19
14.	Canara Bank	156	2295.96
15.	Central Bank of India	50	148.63

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of frauds</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
16.	Corporation Bank	17	49.16
17.	Dena Bank	22	24.35
18.	Indian Bank	45	87.10
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	46	11.04
20.	New Bank of India	25	774.63
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	12	26.10
22.	Punjab National Bank	63	268.40
23.	Punjab & Sind Bank	15	33.70
24.	Syndicate Bank	113	123.36
25.	Union Bank of India	59	343.70
26.	United Bank of India	42	17.36
27.	UCO Bank	29	131.88
28.	Vijaya Bank	33	1069.81

(Data provisional)

STATEMENT-II

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	No. of employees convicted	No. of employees given major/ minor penalties	No. of employees out of (4) dismissed/ discharged/ removed	No. of employees against whom pro-secution proceedings are pending in Court	No. of employees against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	State Bank of India	45	141	68	144	342
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	-	30	6	11	51
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	2	1	1	17	22
4.	State Bank of Indore	-	-	-	5	23
5.	State Bank of Mysore	-	11	10	2	16
6.	State Bank of Patiala	-	9	6	9	4
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	-	6	1	14	10
8.	State Bank of Travancore	2	9	7	1	24
9.	Allahabad Bank	-	76	12	12	29

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	No. of employees convicted	No. of employees given major/ minor penalties	No. of employees out of (4) dismissed/ discharged/ removed	No. of employees against whom pro- secution proceedings are pending in Court	No. of employees against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Andhra Bank	1	21	3	16	79
11.	Bank of Baroda	1	16	9	49	52
12.	Bank of India	-	18	5	10	31
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	-	2	1	9	14
14.	Canara Bank	-	27	16	6	71
15	Central Bank of India	-	22	19	37	21
16.	Corporation Bank	-	7	1	11	11
17.	Dena Bank	-	21	11	21	39
18.	Indian Bank	18	34	6	14	63

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>No. of employees convicted</i>	<i>No. of employees given major/ minor penalties</i>	<i>No. of employees out of (4) dismissed/ discharged/ removed</i>	<i>No. of employees against whom pro- secution proceedings are pending in Court</i>	<i>No. of employees against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	-	23	14	18	40
20.	New Bank of India	-	15	-	21	38
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	-	4	2	9	11
22.	Punjab National Bank	-	22	16	53	62
23.	Punjab & Sind Bank	-	4	-	-	19
24.	Syndicate Bank	1	43	21	18	75
25.	Union Bank of India	-	24	14	-	15

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	No. of employees convicted	No. of employees given major/ minor penalties	No. of employees out of (4) dismissed/ discharged/ removed	No. of employees against whom pro- secution proceedings are pending in Court	No. of employees against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	United Bank of India	-	16	9	35	66
27	UCO Bank	4	13	2	44	28
28.	Vijaya Bank	-	7	1	46	10

(Data provisional)

Punjab Representation Regarding New Import Export Policy

129. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any representation from Punjab Government in regard to new Import Export Policy;

(b) if so, the issues raised therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The issues raised in the representation related to reduction in the minimum prescribed threshold of Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 2 crores (on NFE basis) for recognition as an Export House. The matter was considered by the Government. However, it was not found possible to accept the suggestion.

Destruction of Forests in South

130. SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that forest wealth has been destroyed systematically in the southern states; and

(b) if so, the action Government have taken or propose to take to punish the offenders indulging in large scale destruction of forests as well as the wild life in the South thereby creating environmental problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) and (b). The State Government look after the protection of Forests and Wildlife. No reports of systematic destruction of forest wealth in the Southern States have been received. But on specific cases of destruction being reported the State Governments act to curb them and take punitive action as warranted.

Alleged Harassment to Persons Coming from Abroad

131. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3946 on 31 August, 1990 regarding alleged harassment of persons coming from abroad by Customs officials and state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, when it will be laid on the Table; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in collecting the information?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) The information is being collected

(b) In response to assurance given in reply to Question No. 3946 dt. 31.8.90, time had been sought from Lok Sabha Sectt to place the information on the Table by 28.2.91. After compilation, the information is expected to be laid on the Table by 31.3.91.

(c) Information had to be collected from various International Airports who have to scrutinize all records for last two years.

Delegation of Powers Under Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947

132. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have delegated the powers to make provisions for controlling imports and exports under section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports; and

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to lay a copy of such delegation orders on the Table of the House?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The matter regarding delegation of powers under Section 3 of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports is under active examination and as soon as it is finalised, the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

Revision in Royalty Rates on Major Minerals

133. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether revision in royalty rates on major minerals has been effected by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and when the revision in rates is likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) The rates of royalty on various minerals excluding Coal, lignite and sand for stowing were last revised with effect from 5.5.1987.

(b) The present rates of royalty on minerals are given in the attached statement.

(c) As per Section 9 (3) of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 the Central Government is empowered to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral subject to the condition that no enhancement in the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral shall be made more than once during a period of three years. As such enhancement in the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral excluding coal, lignite and sand for stowing became permissible only with effect from 5.5.1990. No final decision has yet been taken by the Central Government as to whether the States of royalty on minerals other than coal, lignite and sand for stowing are to be revised.

STATEMENT*Revision in Royalty Rates on Major Minerals**(The Second Schedule)**(See section 9)***RATES OF ROYALTY**

1. Agate	Fifty five rupees per tonne.
2. All precious and semi-precious stones (except agate and diamond)	Twenty per cent of the sale price at the pit's mouth.
3. Apatite and Rock Phosphate:	
(a) ores with more than 27% P_2O_5	Fortyfive rupees per tonne.
(b) ores with 20% P_2O_5 to 27% P_2O_5	Twentyfive rupees per tonne.
(c) ores with less than 20% P_2O_5	Ten rupees per tonne.
4. Asbestos:	
(a) chrysotile	Two hundred and eightyfive rupees per tonnes.
(b) amphibole	Fifteen rupees per tonne.

1. Substituted by G.S.R. 458(E), dated 5-5-1987.

5. Barytes :
- (a) white (including snow white and supersnow white) Twenty rupees per tonne.
 - (b) off-colour Ten rupees per tonne.
6. Bauxite Ten rupees per tonne.
7. Cadmium Sixteen rupees per unit percent of cadmium metal per tonne of ore and on pro rata basis.
8. Calcite Fifteen rupees per tonne.
9. China clay; also called Kaolin (including ball clay) and white shale:
- (b) Crude Eight rupees per tonne.
 - (b) Processed (including washed) Thirtyfive rupees per tonne.
10. Chromite (both Lumpy non-friable ore and concentrates):
- (a) containing 48% Cr_2O_3 and above Sixty rupees per tonne.
 - (b) containing less than Thirty rupees per tonne.

48% Cr_2O_3 and more than 40% Cr_2O_3

(c) containing 30% to 40% Cr_2O_3

(d) containing less than 30% Cr_2O_3

11. Coal :

(i) Group I Coals :

(a) Coking Coal
Steel Grade I
Steel Grade II
Washery Grade I

(b) Hand picked Coal
produced in Assam,
Arunachal Pradesh,
Meghalaya and Nagaland

(ii) Group II Coals :

(a) Coking Coal Washery
Grade II
Coking Coal Washery
Grade III

Twenty rupees per tonne.

Five rupees per tonne.

Seven rupees per tonne.

Six rupees and fifty paise per tonne.

(b) Semi-coking coal
Grade I
Semi-coking coal
Grade II

(c) Non-coking coal
Grade A
Non-coking coal
Grade B

(d) Ungraded R.O.M.
Coal produced in
Assam, Arunachal
Pradesh, Meghalaya
and Nagaland.

(iii) Group III Coals :

(a) Coking Coal Washery
Grade IV

(b) Non-coking coal
Grade C

(iv) Group IV Coals :

Non-coking Coal Grade D

Non-coking Coal Grade E

Five rupees and fifty paise per tonne.

Four rupees and thirty paise per tonne.

(v) Group V Coals:

Non-coking coal Grade F

Two rupees and fifty paise per tonne.

Non-coking coal Grade G

(vi) Group VI Coals:

Coal produced in Andhra Pradesh
(Singareni Collieries Company Limited)

Five rupees per tonne.

Explanation : For the purpose of this item the specification of each such grade of coal shall be as prescribed under clause 3 of the Colliery Control Order, 1945.

12. Copper ore

Five rupees per unit percent of copper metal contained per tonne of ore and on pro rata basis.

13. Corundum

One hundred and ten rupees per tonne.

14. Diamond

Fifteen per cent of the sale price at the pit's mouth.

15. Diaspore

Thirty rupees per tonne.

16. Dolomite

Eight rupees per tonne.

17. Felspar

Six rupees per tonne.

18. Fire clay (Including plastic, pite, lithographic and natural (pozzolanic) clay) Five rupees per tonne.
19. Fluorspar : (also called fluorite)
- (a) containing 85% CaF_2 or more One hundred and ten rupees per tonne.
 - (b) containing 70% CaF_2 or more but less than 85% CaF_2 . Seventy five rupees per tonne.
 - (c) containing more than 30% CaF_2 but less than 90% CaF_2 . Fifty rupees per tonne.
 - (d) containing 30% CaF_2 or less Twenty rupees per tonne.
20. Garnet (abrasive) Fifteen rupees per tonne.
21. Gold Two rupees per one gram of contained gold per tonne of ore and on prorata basis.
22. Graphite:
- (a) with 80% or more fixed carbon Seventy five rupees per tonne.

- (b) with 40% or more fixed carbon but less than 80% fixed carbon. Forty rupees per tonne.
- (c) with 20% or more fixed carbon but less than 40% fixed carbon. Fifteen rupees per tonne.
- (d) with less than 20% fixed carbon. Ten rupees per tonne.
23. Gypsum Eight rupees per tonne.
24. Ilmenite Ten rupees per tonne.
25. Iron
- (i) Ore lumps :
- (a) with 65% Fe or more Six rupees per tonne.
- (b) with 62% Fe or more but less than 65% Fe. Three rupees and fifty paise per tonne.
- (c) with 60% Fe or more but less than 62% Fe. Two rupees and fifty paise per tonne.
- (d) with less than 60% Two rupees per tonne.
- (ii) ore fines:

(A)	fines (including natural fines produced incidental to mining and sizing of ore)	Three rupees and fifty paise per tonne.
	(a) with 65% Fe or more	Two rupees per tonne
	(b) with 62% Fe or more but less than 65% Fe.	One rupees and fifty paise per tonne.
	(c) with less than 62% Fe.	Fifty paise per tonne.
(B)	Concentrates prepared by beneficiation and/or concentration of low grade ore containing 40% Fe or less.	
26.	Kyanite & Andalusite	Forty rupees per tonne.
27.	Lead ore	Three rupees per unit per cent of contained lead metal per tonne of ore and on pro-rata basis.
28.	Limeshell (including calcareous sand and chalk)	Ten rupees per tonne.
29.	Limestone (including lime kankar)	Ten rupees per tonne.
30.	Magnetite	Ten rupees per tonne.

31. Manganese ore:

(a)	Manganese dioxide (containing 78 per cent or more of MnO ₂ and 4 percent or below Fe.)	Fortyfive rupees per tonne.
(b)	46% Mn and above	Fifteen rupees per tonne.
(c)	35% Mn and above but below 46% Mn	Nine rupees per tonne.
(d)	Below 35% Mn but above 25% Mn.	Six rupees per tonne.
(e)	25% Mn or below	Two rupees per tonne.

32. Mica:

(a)	Crude mica	Ten rupees per 100Kgs.
(b)	Trimmed mica or qualities other than heavy stained, dense-stained or spotted second quality.	Sixty rupees per 100 Kgs.
(c)	Trimmed mica of heavy stained, dense-stained or spotten second quality.	Thirty rupees per 100 Kgs.
(d)	Waste and scrap mica	Four rupees per 100 Kgs.

(e) Waste rounds	
33.	Five rupees per 100 Kgs.
34.	Forty rupees per tonnes
35.	Two rupees per unit percent or contained nickel metal per tonne of ore and on pro rata basis.
36.	Six rupees per tonne.
37.	Twenty five paise per unit percent of sulphur per tonne of ore and on pro rata basis.
38.	Ten rupees per tonne.
39.	Five rupees per tonne
40.	Five rupees per tonne.
41.	One hundred rupees per tonne.
42.	Forty paise per tonne.
43.	Twenty rupees per tonne.
44.	Fifty rupees per tonne.
45.	One hundred and fifty rupees per Kg. of metal.
	Eighteen rupees per tonne.

46. Talc, Steatite and Soapstone :
(a) insecticide grade Ten rupees per tonne.
(b) other than insecticide grade Thirty rupees per tonne.
47. Tungsten ore Twelve rupees per unit per cent contained of WO_3 per tonne of ore and on pro rata basis.
48. Vermiculite Eight rupees per tonne.
49. Wollastonite Thirty rupees per tonne.
50. Zinc ore Six rupees per unit per cent of zinc metal contained per tonne of ore and on pro rata basis.
51. Zircon Ninety rupees per tonne.
52. All other minerals not here-in-before specified. Ten percent of sale price at the pit's mouth.
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Maintenance Cases of Divorced Wives In States

134. DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI L.K. ADVANI:

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

(a) the number of cases of maintenance for divorced wives filed in various courts during the last three years and the current year; year wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of such cases disposed of; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the disposal of all the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) Various steps have been taken to reduce the pendency of cases in the Courts. The recommendations of the Arrears Committee, constituted by the Government to make an indepth study of the problems of arrears and to suggest remedial measures, have been sent to all the State Governments/ High Courts for necessary action. The various State Governments have also been requested from time to time to set up Family Courts under the Family Courts Act, 1984, expeditiously where these have not so far been set up.

[*Translation*]

Bank Loans to Sick Units

135. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many big industrialists after obtaining bank loan worth crores of rupees, set up industries, declare them sick and again apply for loans;

(b) whether any cases of loans realisation against these big industrialists are pending in courts;

(c) whether the Government propose to take any action in such cases; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) to (d). IDBI has reported that financial institutions grant assistance to such industries as are in conformity with national priorities as set out in the National Development Plan. Each individual project is appraised in regard to technical feasibility and commercial profitability, financial soundness, managerial competence etc. and only such projects that satisfy the criteria laid down are assisted. Subject to these criteria, preference is given to projects in backward areas, projects promoted by new and technically qualified entrepreneurs, projects with large employment generating capacity and those which are export-oriented and import substitutive. While considering sanction of assistance the institutions generally go into the background and antecedents of the promoters including their track record in managing other units. Financial institutions also have separate cells for handling cases which are sick or showing signs of incipient sickness. These cells closely monitor problems faced by the assisted units and the involved in working out need-based remedial measures.

IDBI has further reported that when all measures to revive the sick unit fail, the institutions take recourse to referring the

cases for realisation of loans to the Courts. There are some cases of loans against big industrialists which are pending in the courts in respect of IDBI and other participating institutions/Banks.

Credit Camps

136. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of credit camps organised so far since 1 January, 1989;

(b) the amount of loans distributed by each bank in these credit camps;

(c) whether the loans so distributed have been recovered by these banks; and

(d) if not, the reasons for non-recovery?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). For the scheme of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), credit camps may be organised at the village level where the cases of beneficiaries upto the stage of sanction can be finalised. The data reporting system under the scheme does not generate information of the number of credit camps organised in this behalf. The banks can also organise the credit camps on their own in order to provide assistance to weaker sections. As per available data with Reserve Bank of India the percentage of recovery of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) loans in respect of public sector banks was 39 percent last year.

Representations from SC Bank Employees

137. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from the officers and employees belonging to Scheduled Castes working in banks wherein complaints have been made regarding their harassment;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received since 1 January, 1990;

(c) the action taken by the Government to alleviate the grievances of those officers/employees; and

(d) if no, action has been taken, the reasons therefore?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Financial Assistance for Setting Up Small Scale Industries in Bihar

138. SHRI RAMDAS SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether people in rural areas of Bihar do not get adequate financial assistance from the banks to start small scale industries; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that rural people of Giridih and Dhanbad districts get adequate financial assistance to start small scale industries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has advised banks to pay special attention to credit requirements of

small scale industries. To facilitate timely sanction of adequate credit facilities, banks have been asked to ensure that branch managers are vested with sufficient discretionary powers and enforce strict time discipline in dealing with such credit proposals. Reserve Bank has prescribed simplified formats for applications to be filled in by intending borrowers. SIDBI has also been assisting units in SSI Sector through its Refinance Scheme. The Refinance Assistance sanctioned to small scale units in Giridih and Dhanbad districts of Bihar during April to December, 1990 amounted to Rs. 26.51 and 392.31 lakhs respectively. RBI has also reported that the number of borrowal accounts and outstanding bank credit involved in the SSI Sector in Bihar show an increasing trend.

Payment of Power Dues by Bhilai Steel Plants

139. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board outstanding against Bhilai Steel Plant; and

(b) the reasons for the non-payment of this amount till date by Bhilai Steel Plant?

* THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). The matter pertaining to the outstanding dues from Bhilai Steel Plant to Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board has been

settled to the mutual satisfaction of Bhilai Steel Plant and Madhya Pradesh State Electricity Board on the 17th February, 1991 and all outstanding amounts due to MPSEB have been fully paid by the Bhilai Steel Plant. There is now no outstanding payment to be made to MPSEB.

Election Petition pending in Supreme Court and High Courts

140. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of election petitions filed during the last Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Supreme Court and various High Courts in the country, court-wise; and

(b) the number of such petitions pending before the various High Courts/Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) and (b). The Election Petitions relating to Lok Sabha and Assembly elections are filed before the High Courts and only appeals against the orders of the High Courts in such election petitions lie with the Supreme Court. Three Statements I, II and III) showing the number of election petitions and appeals filed, disposed of and pending before the various High Courts and the Supreme Court pertaining to the last Lok Sabha and the Assembly elections held in November, 1989 and February-March, 1990 as on 13.2.1991, as made available by the Election Commission, are attached.

STATEMENT-I

(As on 13.2.1991)

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
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	—	2	—	—	—
2.	Bihar	8	2	6	1	—	1
3.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Gujarat	1	—	1	—	—	—
5.	Haryana	6	3	3	1	1	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Karnataka	2	—	2	—	—	—
8.	Kerala	3	3	—	2	—	2
9.	Madhya Pradesh	6	2	4	—	—	—
10.	Maharashtra	9	2	7	4	2	2

(As on 13.2.1991)

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.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Orissa	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Punjab	2	2	—	1	—	—	1
14.	Rajasthan	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
15.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Tamil Nadu	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
17.	Tripura	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
18.	Uttar Pradesh	13	1	12	—	—	—	—
19.	West Bengal	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20.	Dadra, Nagar & Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(As on 13.2.1991)

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
21.	Daman & Diu	2	2	—	1	—	1
22.	Delhi	2	2	—	—	—	—
Total:		63	21	42	10	3	7

STATEMENT-II*(As on 13.2.1991)*

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
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	8	23	3	2	1
2.	Goa	4	1	3	—	—	—
3.	Karnataka	18	1	17	—	—	—
4.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Uttar Pradesh	32	4	28	1	—	1
Total:		85	14	71	4	2	2

STATEMENT-III*(As on 13.2.1991)*

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Election Petitions in the High Courts				Appeals in the Supreme Court		
		Filed	Disposed of	Pending	Filed	Disposed of	Pending	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	—	2	—	—	—	
2.	Bihar	55	2	53	2	1	1	
3.	Gujarat	11	1	10	—	—	—	
4.	Himachal Pradesh	4	1	3	—	—	—	
5.	Madhya Pradesh	49	1	48	—	—	—	
6.	Manipur	1	—	1	—	—	—	
7.	Maharashtra	33	1	32	3	3	—	
8.	Orissa	5	2	3	—	—	—	

(As on 13.2.1991)

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Election Petitions in the High Courts			Appeals in the Supreme Court		
		Filed	Disposed of	Pending	Filed	Disposed of	Pending
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Rajasthan	19	1	18	—	—	—
10.	Pondicherry	2	—	2	—	—	—
Total:		181	9	172	5	4	1

**Environmental Clearance to
Govindpura Irrigation Project of
Madhya Pradesh**

141. SHRIPYARELAL KHANDELWAL:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Govern-
ment has completed all the formalities in
regard to Govindpura Irrigation Project in
Guna district and have sent the proposal to
the Union Government for environmental
clearance;

(b) if so, the reasons for not granting
environmental clearance to this project so
far; and

(c) when it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a) to (c). Minor irrigation schemes do not
require environmental clearance. Therefore,
Govindpura Tank Irrigation Project has not
been referred to the Ministry for environ-
mental clearance.

Forest clearance to this proposal has,
however, been granted in September, 1990.

[English]

Setting Up of EOU in Madhya Pradesh

142. SHRIPYARELAL KHANDELWAL:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased
to state:

(a) the number of Export Oriented Units
set up in Madhya Pradesh together with their
names, promoters name, outlay and export
commitment;

(b) the names of units which have been
able to meet their export commitments and
the amount of export during the last three
years;

(c) the names of units which have not
been able to meet their export commitment
and reasons for the same; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government
to see that the Export Oriented Units perform
well and meet their export commitment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MIN-
ISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL
PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) to (d). A
Statement is attached.

STATEMENT

- (a) the number of Export Oriented Units set-up in Madhya Pradesh together with their names, promoters name, outlay and export commitment;
- a) As per records available, the following three units have been set-up in Madhya Pradesh under the 100% EOU Scheme:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Unit/Promotor</i>	<i>Outlay (Investment) indicated in project</i>	<i>Projected Export turnover in five years</i>
1	2	3	4

- | | | | |
|----|---|----------------|-------------------|
| 1. | M/s. Kalpana Lamp Components Pvt. Ltd., Indore
(Sh. G.A. Shenvi) | Rs. 110 lakhs | Rs. 360 lakhs |
| 2. | M/s. Mathsons Plastic and Glass Pvt. Ltd., Pithampur
(Mr. K.O. Mathewkutty, NRI) | Rs. 168 lakhs | Rs. 1305.30 lakhs |
| 3. | M/s. Woolworth (India) Ltd., (Shri K.K. Jhunjhunwala) | Rs. 1432 lakhs | Rs. 2536.19 lakhs |

- (b) the names of units which have been able to meet their export commitment and the amount of export during the last three years;
- (a and c)
- i) M/s. Kalpana Lamp Components P. Ltd. have reported export performance as under:—
- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|----------------|
| 1986-87 (September–December) | — | Rs. 1000/- |
| 1987-88 | — | — |
| 1988-89 | — | Rs. 1.41 lakhs |
- (c) the names of units which have not been able to meet their export commitment and reasons for the same and

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Unit/Promotor</i>	<i>Outlay (Investment) indicated in project</i>	<i>Projected Export turnover in five years</i>
1	2	3	4
		<p>ii) M/s. Mathsons Plastic and Glass P. Ltd. have not so far reported any export.</p> <p>iii) M/s. Woolworth India Ltd. have reported that they have gone into trial production prior to effecting exports.</p> <p>(d) The performance of 100% EOUs is monitored and requisite action initiated where necessary.</p>	
	(d) the steps taken by the Government to see that the Export Oriented Units perform well and meet their export commitment.		

Opening of High Court benches in States

143. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the broad principles, criteria and procedure followed by the Government for the opening of a bench of High Court;

(b) whether some High Court benches have been opened during the last ten years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) In its report submitted to the Government on 30.4.85 the

Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a bench of a High Court away from the principal seat and the factor to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said bench. The report of the Commission was placed in the Parliament Library on 15.10.86 and was laid on the Tables of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 20.4.87 and 21.4.87 respectively, which may be referred to. The question of opening a High Court Bench is considered by the Central Government in the light of these principles and criteria as and when a proposal is received from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

(b) and (c). The details of the High Court benches opened during the last 10 years are given below:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State</i>	<i>Name of the Bench of the High Court</i>	<i>Date from which the Bench began functioning</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Goa	Panaji (Bombay)	30.10.1982
2.	Maharashtra	Aurangabad (Bombay)	27.8.1984
3.	Nagaland	Kohima (Guwahati)	10.2.1990
4.	Mizoram	Aizawl (Guwahati)	5.7.1990

Gold Seizure in Gujarat

144. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold worth Rs. 4 crores was seized in December, 1990 from a ship/vessel on the Jamnagar sea coast in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). It is presumed that the Hon'ble MP is referring to one of the two cases in which significant quantities of contraband gold have

been seized by the officers of Collectorate of Customs (Preventive), Gujarat, during December 1990 in Jamnagar. In one case, 2060 gold biscuits weighing 20600 tolas (approx.) were seized from a cargo vessel 'MSV-SAIFALA' on 9.12.1990. In the other case, 2500 gold biscuits weighing 25000 tolas (approx.) worth Rs. 9.77 crores (approx.) were seized from a cargo vessel 'NSV-NARANPRASAD' on 12.12.1990. 5 persons have been arrested in connection with the above cases.

Policy of Restricted Imports

145. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently changed their policy of restricted imports to save foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A number of import compression measures have been taken by the Government recently to conserve limited resources of Free Foreign Exchange. These include, inter-alia:—

(i) A cut of 15% has been imposed on the import entitlement, whether under OGL or against a licence, of Actual Users engaged in the manufacture of automobiles, electronic items and consumer durables.

(ii) A number of items of raw materials, components and Capital Goods have been removed from OGL list in view of indigenous angle.

(iii) A closer scrutiny of Supplementary Licensing applications is being made where value exceeds Rs. 2 crores. Actual users are required to surrender REP/Addl. licences of value equivalent to 50% of the amount in excess of Rs. 2 crores.

(iv) The facility for import of items of raw material, components, consumables and spares as well as jigs, fixtures, moulds etc., not specified in the Import Policy, under OGL, has been suspended for a period of 8 months with effect from 6th November, 1990.

Free Legal Aid in cases of maintenance for Divorced Wives

146. SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide free legal assistance in cases of maintenance for divorced wives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): (a) to (c). Women including divorced wives are already being provided free legal assistance at all levels right from the Subordinate Courts to the Supreme Court without any limitation as to income.

Decontrol of Steel

147. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are contemplating to review the steel distribution policy and to decontrol the supply of steel to the domestic consumers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). The report of the Task Force constituted by the Government for the review of the existing Guidelines of the Joint Plant Committee for the Distribution of Iron and Steel is under consideration.

There is no statutory control on the supply of iron and steel.

Pending Projects for Environmental Clearance

148. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKATA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects pending with the Union Government for environmental clearance for more than six months, State/ Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether Government have fixed any norm and time limit for expediting the Environmental Clearance; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) A list of 64 projects pending for environmental clearance for more than 6 months is given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Decision regarding environmental clearance is taken within a period of 90 days after the receipt of complete environmental data and action plans.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the State/U.T.</i>	<i>No. of projects pending for Environmental Clearance for more than six months</i>
1	2	3
A. STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	12
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	1
6.	Haryana	1
7.	J&K	1

1	2	3
8.	Karnataka	3
9.	Kerala	1
10.	Madhya Pradesh	5
11.	Maharashtra	6
12.	Punjab	1
13.	Orissa	4
14.	Rajasthan	2
15.	Sikkim	1
16.	Tamil Nadu	4
17.	Uttar Pradesh	6
18.	West Bengal	8
B. UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	A & N Islands	1
		64

[*Translation*]**SAIL's Production**

150. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been record production of steel by the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in the month of January, 1991;

(b) if so, to what extent the total production achieved by different units of SAIL in

this month exceeds their target and capacity; and

(c) the month-wise details of the steel production by different units of SAIL during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

The saleable steel production achieved during the month of January, 1991 by different plants of SAIL has been the 'best ever'. The details are as under:

(Unit: '000 T)

<i>Plant</i>	<i>Plan</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>% Fulfilment of Target</i>	<i>% Capacity Utilisation</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
BSP	257.0	270.1	105	101
DSP	66.0	76.1	115	95
RSP	99.0	102.5	104	103
BSL	248.8	229.6	92	86
IISCO	29.4	33.1	113	115
SAIL	700.2	711.4	102	96

(c) A Statement giving details of sale-able steel production monthwise during the last five years has been given in the Annexure.

STATEMENT

(Unit '000 Tonnes)													
Plant	Year	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
BSP	1985-86	140.2	126.1	142.1	159.0	165.2	160.0	167.3	172.3	203.2	194.0	182.1	243.7
DSP	1985-86	47.0	55.1	50.3	58.1	58.0	52.0	44.1	58.0	58.0	70.2	72.0	100.6
RSP	1985-86	51.8	26.1	26.2	102.6	107.2	103.2	100.9	103.2	88.1	66.9	95.3	133.2
BSL	1985-86	75.1	85.1	135.5	150.0	150.0	151.0	150.0	150.1	167.0	161.5	140.0	205.1
IISCO	1985-86	40.1	40.2	39.2	33.1	38.8	40.0	42.0	39.0	40.6	45.1	44.5	57.5
SAIL	1985-86	354.2	332.6	393.3	502.8	519.2	506.2	504.3	522.6	556.9	537.7	533.9	740.1
BSP	1986-87	107.7	149.8	116.7	167.2	180.0	180.5	182.6	189.6	196.6	217.6	204.6	257.2
DSP	1986-87	56.0	46.1	39.1	43.1	30.0	68.0	78.0	70.0	75.1	80.0	80.1	85.6
RSP	1986-87	63.8	67.9	45.7	103.1	104.0	104.1	105.1	106.1	106.3	102.1	95.3	136.6
BSL	1986-87	100.1	100.1	90.1	83.1	102.6	146.4	165.2	181.0	186.3	175.1	182.0	232.6
IISCO	1986-87	36.0	38.4	39.2	46.6	45.4	40.3	41.1	45.0	46.2	43.2	48.0	56.3

(Unit '000 Tonnes)													
Plant	Year	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
SAIL	1986-87	363.6	402.3	330.8	443.1	462	539.3	572	591.7	610.5	618	610	768.3
BSP	1987-88	169.4	140.7	130.5	160.1	181.0	168.0	183.1	156.7	204.2	228.2	205.0	246.0
DSP	1987-88	55.2	58.1	62.0	67.2	64.5	70.0	75.0	72.0	75.0	81.0	73.1	82.2
RSP	1987-88	90.1	85.5	55.6	80.0	88.1	100.7	102.2	97.2	102.1	112.2	105.0	137.6
BSL	1987-88	140.6	150.7	109.7	120.1	153.7	161.6	166.0	156.6	191.4	190.5	200.1	227.2
IISCO	1987-88	37.0	40.6	44.3	44.1	44.0	40.4	48.0	44.9	46.3	49.2	47.8	55.2
SAIL	1987-88	492.3	475.6	402.1	471.5	531.3	540.7	574.3	527.4	619	661.1	631	748.2
BBSP	1988-89	195.4	193.2	183.1	200.2	192.7	194.0	210.1	225.1	220.2	240.1	230.0	257.7
DSP	1988-89	60.0	59.2	57.0	50.0	70.1	70.0	69.0	75.0	78.1	82.2	72.0	88.9
RSP	1988-89	80.5	85.3	70.1	92.0	95.1	100.1	100.2	102.1	102.9	105.3	96.2	138.5
BSL	1988-89	176.4	171.1	188.0	176.6	182.3	164.5	185.8	200.8	201.1	176.5	190.3	263.7

Plant	Year	(Unit '000 Tonnes)											
		April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
IISCO	1988-89	43.5	40.2	40.3	45.1	38.4	38.3	35.4	28.6	29.1	33.5	32.2	37.7
SAIL	1988-89	555.8	549	538.5	563.9	578.6	566.9	600.5	631.6	631.4	637.6	620.7	786.5
BSP	1989-90	170.6	166.6	163.9	196.2	204.7	197.4	243.2	232.0	240.1	264.6	236.9	277.5
DSP	1989-90	52.0	54.0	44.0	43.5	50.5	50.5	54.9	68.2	66.6	69.0	63.1	83.7
RSP	1989-90	85.4	70.5	68.5	89.0	90.5	88.0	100.1	103.7	102.5	104.3	86.4	122.5
BSL	1989-90	159.8	183.0	167.9	192.0	200.7	74.7	201.0	201.6	180.1	202.1	190.4	271.9
IISCO	1989-90	27.9	25.5	25.8	34.6	28.5	18.1	24.1	25.2	32.1	28.6	27.5	35.0
SAIL	1989-90	495.7	499.6	470.1	555.3	574.9	528.7	623.3	630.7	621.4	668.6	604.3	790.6

Trade with Neighbouring Countries

meeting; and

151. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items being exported to neighbouring countries and imported therefrom;

(b) the value of export and import transacted with the neighbouring countries during the last three years; country-wise;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to further strengthen trade relations with the neighbouring countries;

(d) whether any discussions regarding trade have taken place in the SAARC

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) to (c). Efforts are constantly being made to improve India's mutual trade with various countries of the world including her neighbours. The major items being exported are Engineering goods, Marine Products, Basic chemicals, Machinery, Transport, Coal, ores and Minerals and Iron and Steel, etc. The main imports include:— Pluses, Metalliferous ores, Metal Scraps, Raw-Silk, Alloys, Oil-seeds, Plastic Materials, Paper Board, etc. The value of Exports and Imports during the last 3 years with these countries have been as under:—

(Rs. Crores)

Country		1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	
Bangladesh	E	186.81	261.94	458.03
	I	14.79	14.53	19.60
China	E	33.70	64.40	39.10
	I	159.30	132.40	65.80
Maldives	E	2.72	5.91	6.83
	I	0.01	0.01	0.005
Myanmar	E	0.99	2.25	1.34
	I	56.62	77.38	83.85
Nepal	E	93.68	97.28	83.41
	I	44.66	34.74	56.27
Pakistan	E	20.12	36.43	51.39

1		2	3	4
	I	30.59	72.58	53.79
Sri Lanka	E	101.63	146.92	97.38
	I	11.71	27.54	23.40

E — Exports; I — Imports; Figures are provisional.

Source — DGCI & S. Separate figures for Bhutan are not maintained.

(d) and (e). Bilateral issues are not raised in SAARC meetings but ways to improve trade and economic relations in the region have been discussed, SAARC Secretariat is bringing out a Regional study on Trade and Regional Cooperation.

Expenditure incurred on Protection and expansion of Forests and to check denudation in Rajasthan

152. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on protection and expansion of forests and to check their denudation in Rajasthan during the last three years, year-wise and the results achieved therefrom;

(b) the extent of forest area in Rajasthan at present;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any special policy in order to check the increasing desert; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) The required information is being col-

lected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The extent of forest area in Rajasthan is around 31,151 Sq.Kms.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government of India are providing 100% assistance to the State Government under the Desert Development Programme to check the increase of the desert. The Programme is being implemented in the selected 11 districts of the State viz., Jodhpur, Bikaner, Ganga Nagar, Jhunjhuna, Sikar, Nagor, Churu, Barmer, Jalor, Pali and Jaisalmer.

[English]

Creation of Economic Zone for NRIs

153. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the creation of an exclusive economic zone for NRIs to improve the balance of payments situation was put forward to the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have considered the proposal; and

(c) to what extent it has been agreed to implement the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Government receives from time to time, various suggestions to streamline procedure, review policies and provide better incentives to create a more favourable climate for NRI investments. These suggestions are duly examined and implemented to the extent they fit in with the over objective of economic development and increasing foreign exchange inflows.

Restrictions on Indian Exports by USA

154. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have urged the United States Government to ease the present restrictions on Indian exports so as to increase trade and investment flow between the two countries;

(b) if so, the reaction of the U.S. Government thereto; and

(c) by what time final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) to (c). At the meeting of the Indo-US Economic and Commercial Sub Commission, held in Washington in April, 1990 the Indian delegation mentioned a number of impediments that still exist on Indian exports, including counter-vailing duties and anti-dumping investigations, textiles quota and health and sanitation regulations. The US side took note of our concern and promised to examine them.

Similar matters are also being discussed multi-laterally in the Uruguay Round of Negotiations. The Round was expected to be completed by December, 1990, but has had to be extended. It is not possible to say when these negotiations would be completed.

Rehabilitation of Sick Units

155. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have stipulated that the promoters of the sick/weak industrial units considered as potentially viable will have to give contribution of fresh funds as distinct from internal generations and proceeds from sale of assets already charged as a part of the rehabilitation package of that particular unit;

(b) if so, whether any detailed guidelines in this regard have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India to the public sector banks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that invariably sick industrial units do not have internal generation of surplus cash for meeting the cost of their rehabilitation scheme. If at all, any small surplus generation during the period of implementation of rehabilitation scheme could be attributed to the reliefs and concessions granted by institutions and banks. As regards proceeds from sale of assets, it has been reported that invariably, assets stand charged to institutions/banks and any proceeds from their sale could reasonably be expected to be applied towards reduction of loan or towards acquisition of fresh assets.

The promoters' contributions are, therefore, by way of fresh injection of funds as distinct from internal generation and proceeds from sale of assets already charged. Proceeds from sale of assets not so charged are, however, taken as promoters' contribution.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of Special Courts to Try Economic Offenders

156. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up special courts to try economic offenders in metropolitan cities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when these courts will be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). There are 14 Special Courts already functioning in different cities, including some of the metropolitan cities, for speedy trial of economic offenders.

Bottlenecks In Exports

158. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has urged the Government to remove the bottlenecks in export activities; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the steps proposed to be taken to boost exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has conducted a study on 'India's Export Performance and Policy' at the instance of the Planning Commission and submitted a draft Report to them which has not been accepted by the Planning Commission who have suggested alternatives and modifications to be carried out.

Gold Prices

159. SHRI BANWARILAL PUROHIT:
SHRI B. DEVARAJAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of gold increased to an all time record high level as the news of the Gulf war spread;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since contemplated any steps to bring down the prices of gold; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The price of standard gold recorded a peak of Rs. 3850/- per 10 gms. in the Bombay market on 17.1.91 on the first day of Gulf War. In the Madras market it recorded a peak of Rs. 4000/- on 18.1.91. But subsequently the price declined gradually and is currently prevailing at the level Rs. 3356/- per 10 gms. in Bombay market on 20.2.91.

(b) and (c). Since Gold is not an essential commodity Government do not regulate its price.

Rate of Interest on G.P. Fund

160. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the rate of interest on General Provident Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government employees will be permitted to withdraw finally the amount contributed by them in excess of the compulsory contribution to GP Fund to enable them to invest the money in Indira Vikas Patra, etc; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). No such proposal is under consideration.

(c) and (d). Subscribers to the GP Fund are eligible to make final withdrawal subject to the conditions specified in the GP Fund Rules.

Setting up of Steel Plant in Private Sector in Karnataka

161. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a steel plant in Karnataka in the private sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). A few proposals, for issue of letters of intent, for manufacture of steel by the private sector in the state of Karnataka have been received by the Government. The proposals are at the initial stages of examination.

[Translation]

Extinction of Wild Animals

162. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether wild animals are on the verge of extinction even where the game sanctuaries have been established for their preservation;

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

(c) the amount spent on Jaisamand sanctuaries in Udaipur, Rajasthan during the last 10 years; and

(d) the number of wild animals there at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government of Rajasthan has spent Rs. 43.929 lakhs during 1989-81 to 1989-90 on the maintenance and development of the Jaisamand Wildlife Sanctuary. In addition to this, Rs. 2.00 lakhs was sanctioned in 1989-90 for the development of the Sanctuary under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Assistance for Development of Sanctuaries".

(d) The populations of various species of wildlife in the Jaisamand Sanctuary, as per the 1990 census carried out by the State Forest Department are reported to be as: Leopards 19; Hyaenas 31; Wild boars 311; Sambhars 14; Four horned antelope 41; Chinkara 217; Porcupines 75; Hares 458; Mongoose 60; Langurs 4000; Peacocks 307; Civets 21; Foxes 48; Wild cats 26 and Cheetal 38.

Efforts for Afforestation

163. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the area under forests at present in the country, State and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the efforts made by the Government for afforestation and the achievements made so far;

(c) whether there is any proposal to involve the local people in protecting the existing forests and developing new ones by giving them title rights; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):

(a) The total area in the country under actual forest cover is 64.01 million hectares. Statewise details are given in Statement-I. This assessment is based on the interpretation of satellite imagery for the period 1985 to 1987. It has been carried out by the Forest Survey of India and published in the State of India's Forest Report 1989.

(b) The targets and achievements under the Twenty Point Programme for afforestation/tree planting activities, during the Seventh Five Year Plan are given below:—

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5	6
Targets	1.45	1.71	1.79	2.0	1.68
Achievements	1.51	1.76	1.77	2.12	1.71

(Area in million hectares)

The targets and achievements in the year 1990-91 are given below:—

	Target	Achievement (upto 31.12.90)
1	2	3
Farm Forestry (Seedlings)	250 crore	117.38 crore
Area (in million ha.)	0.55	0.67

(c) and (d). There is no proposal to involve the local people in protecting the existing forests and develop new ones by giving them title rights on forest land. However, the local people are being involved in forest protection and development by giving

them usufructory benefits etc. Detailed guidelines on the subject have been issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests on 1st June, 1990 and are given in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

Actual Forest cover 1989 assesment

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>Forest Cover 1989 Assesment (area in million ha.)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.7911
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.8763
3.	Assam	2.6058
4.	Bihar	2.6934
5.	Goa	0.1300
6.	Gujarat	1.1670
7.	Haryana	0.0563
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.3377
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.0424
10.	Karnataka	3.2100
11.	Kerala	1.0149
12.	Madhya Pradesh	13.3191
13.	Maharashtra	4.4058
14.	Manipur	1.7885
15.	Meghalaya	1.5690
16.	Mizoram	1.8178

1	2	3
17.	Nagaland	1.4356
18.	Orissa	4.7137
19.	Punjab	0 1161
20.	Rajasthan	1.2966
21.	Sikkim	0 3124
22.	Tripura	0.5325
23.	Uttar Pradesh	3.3844
24.	Tamil Nadu	1.7715
25.	West Bengal	0.8394
26.	A & N Islands	0.7624
27.	Chandigarh	0.0008
28.	D & N Haveli	0.0205
29.	Daman & Diu	0.0002
30.	Delhi	0 0022
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	—
		64.0134

Source:— The State of Forest Report-1989.

STATEMENT-II

No. 6-21/89-F.P.
Government of India
Ministry of Environment of Forests
Department of Environment, Forests and
Wildlife
Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O. Complex, B-
Block,
Lodi Road, New Delhi

Dated: 1st June, 1990

To

The Forest Secretaries
(All States/UTs)

Subject: Involvement of village communi-
ties and voluntary agencies for
regeneration of degraded forest
lands

Sir,

The National Forest Policy, 1988 en-
visages people's involvement in the devel-
opment and protection of forests. The re-
quirements of fuelwood, fodder and small
timber such as house-building material, of
the tribals and other villagers living in and
near the forests, are to be treated as first
charge on forest produce. The Policy docu-
ment envisages it as one of the essentials of
forests management that the forest commu-
nities should motivated to identify themselves
with the development and protection of for-
ests from which they derive benefits.

2. In a D.O. letter No. 1/1/88-TMA dated
13th January, 1989 to the Chief Secretary of
your State, the need for working out the
modalities for giving to the village commu-
nities, living close to the forest land,
usufructory benefits to ensure their partici-
pation in the afforestation programme, was
emphasised by Shri K.P. Geethakrishnan,
the then Secretary (Environment and For-

ests).

3. Committed voluntary agencies/NGOs,
with proven track record, may prove par-
ticularly well suited for motivating and
organising village communities for protection,
afforestation and development off degraded
forest land, especially in the vicinity of habi-
tations. The State Forest Departments/Social
Forestry Organisations ought to take full
advantage of their expertise and experience
in this respect for building up meaningful
people's participation in protection and de-
velopment of degraded forest lands. The
voluntary agencies/NGOs may be associated
as interface between State Forest Depart-
ments and the local village communities for
revival, restoration and development of de-
graded forests in the manner suggested
below:

- (i) The programme should be
implemented under an arrange-
ment between the Voluntary
Agency/NGO, the village com-
munity (beneficiaries) and the
State Forest Department.
- (ii) No ownership or lease rights over
the forest land should be given to
the beneficiaries or to the Vol-
untary Agency/NGO. Nor should
the forest land be assigned in
contravention of the provisions
contained in the Forest (Con-
servation) Act, 1980.
- (iii) The beneficiaries should be en-
titled to a share in usufructs to
the extent and subject to the
conditions prescribed by the
State Government in this behalf.
The Voluntary Agency/NGO
should not be entitled to
usufructory benefits.
- (iv) Access to forest land and
usufructory benefits should be

only to the beneficiaries who get organised into a village institution, specifically for forest regeneration and protection. This could be the Panchayat or the Cooperative of the village, with no restriction on membership. It could also be a Village Forest Committee. In no case should any access or tree patta be given to individuals.

- (v) The beneficiaries should be given usufructs like grasses, lops and tops of branches, and minor forest produce. If they successfully protect the forests, they may be given a portion of the proceeds from the sale of trees when they mature. (The Government of West Bengal has issued orders to give 25% of the sale proceeds to the Village Forest Protection Committees. Similar norms may be adopted by other States).
- (vi) Areas to be selected for the programme should be free from the claims (including existing rights, privileges, concessions) of any person who is not a beneficiary under the scheme. Alternatively, for a given site the selection of beneficiaries should be done in such a way that any one who has a claim to any forest produce from the selected site is not left out without being given full opportunity of joining.
- (vii) The selected site should be worked in accordance with a Working Scheme, duly approved by the State Government. Such scheme may remain in operation for a period of 10 years and revised/renewed after that. The Working Scheme should be

prepared in consultation with the beneficiaries. Apart from protection of the site, the said Scheme may prescribe requisite operations, eg. inducement to natural regeneration of existing root stock, seeding, gap filling, and wherever necessary, intensive planting, soil-moisture conservation measures etc. The Working Scheme should also prescribe other operations eg. fire-protection, maintenance of boundaries, weeding, tending, cleaning, thinning etc.

- (viii) For raising nurseries, preparing land for planting and protecting the trees after planting, the beneficiaries should be paid by the Forest Department from the funds under the social forestry programme. However, the village community may obtain funds from other Government agencies and sources for undertaking these activities.
- (ix) It should be ensured that there is no grazing at all in the forest land protected by the village community. Permission to cut and carry grass free of cost should be given so that stall feeding is promoted.
- (x) No agriculture should be permitted on the forest land.
- (xi) Along with trees for fuel, fodder and timber, the village community may be permitted to plant such fruit trees as would fit in with the overall scheme of afforestation, such as aonla, Imli, mango, mahua etc. as well as shrubs, legumes and grasses which would meet local needs, help soil and water conservation, and

enrich the degraded soils/land. Even indigenous medicinal plants may be grown according to the requirement and preference of beneficiaries.

- (xii) Cutting of trees should not be permitted before they are ripe for harvesting. The forest department also should not cut the trees on the forest land being protected by the village communities except in the manner prescribed in the Working Scheme. In case of emergency needs, the village communities should be taken into confidence.
- (xiii) The benefit of people's participation should go to the village communities and not to commercial or other interests which may try to derive benefit in their names. The selection of beneficiaries should therefore, be done from only those families which are willing to participate through their personal efforts.
- (xiv) The Forest Department should closely supervise the works. If the beneficiaries and/or the Voluntary Agency/NGO fail or neglect to protect the area from grazing, encroachment or do not perform the operations prescribed in the Working Scheme in a satisfactory manner, the usufructory benefits should be withdrawn without paying compensation to anyone for any work that might have been done prior to it. Suitable provisions in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for this purpose should be incorporated.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Mahesh Prasad)

Secretary to the Government of India

Pollution of Water In Udaipur Lakes

164. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA:
Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check pollution of water in the lakes of Udaipur;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to enact special laws to check pollution of water in lakes in various states; and

(c) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI):
(a)

- (i) The Government of Rajasthan has taken up phased construction and augmentation of sewerage and drainage systems and treatment facilities, including peripheral sewer lines, to prevent and control sewage outfall into the Pichola Lake.
- (ii) The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board has directed the management of major Hotels to effectively treat domestic sewage before discharge into the lakes.
- (iii) The State Pollution Control Board has also directed the industries, particularly those discharging industrial effluents into the Udaisagar Lake, to treat their effluents to meet the prescribed standards.
- (iv) Prosecutions have been filed against two major units which have failed to comply with the prescribed standards.

(v) The Central Government has identified the Pichola Lake as one of the sixteen wetlands in the country where measures for conservation and eco-restoration are to be taken up. The State Government has prepared a management action plan in this regard.

(vi) The State Government has released Rs. 7.0 lakhs during 1989-90 for removal of weeds in the lakes, and for programmes generating environmental awareness.

(vii) It is proposed to intensify all the measures needed to check the pollution of Udaipur Lakes.

(b) No Sir, The Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended in 1988 includes adequate provisions to control pollution of lakes.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Trade With Pakistan

165. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made to improve the existing trade and economic relations with Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter had figured in the SAARC meeting; and

(d) the details of the joint plans

programmes drawn up by both the countries on the expansion of Indo-Pak trade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). Efforts to improve trade and economic relations with Pakistan have been made through discussions at official level and by exchange of trade delegations.

(c) Bilateral issues are not raised in SAARC meetings but proposals for improving trade and economic relations regionally have been discussed.

(d) No specific joint plans/programmes have been drawn up for the expansion of Indo-Pak Trade.

Target for Tea Export

166. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for the export of tea during the Seventh Plan period and the actual achievements made;

(b) whether the Government have a proposal to increase the export of tea during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) if so, the target set therefor, and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) The target set and achievement made for the export of tea during the Seventh Plan period is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Targets</i>	<i>Achievement</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1985-86	235	214
1986-87	244	196
1987-88	252	202
1988-89	267	204
1989-90	281	203 (Est)

(b) and (c). In the Approach paper for the Eighth Plan the following targets have been proposed for export of tea:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Targets</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
1990-91	255
1991-92	265
1992-93	277
1993-94	291
1994-95	305

(d) The important measures for export promotion are as under:

- (i) Cash Compensatory Support on tea bags (8%), Packet tea caddies (18%), instant tea (8%) and Quick brewing black tea (12%) has been allowed.
- (ii) To counter misbranding of other teas as Darjeeling teas, a new logo for Darjeeling tea has been launched. Only packet teas (In-

dian & Foreign) containing a minimum of 60% pure Darjeeling tea will be allowed to use that Logo.

- (iii) Tea bags have been exempted from Excise duty.
- (iv) Customs Duty on filter paper used in manufacture of tea bags has been abolished.
- (v) Tea Board also undertakes promotion campaign through its offices abroad.
- (vi) A rebate of Excise Duty at the rate of 50 ps./ 150 ps./kg on export of bulk tea.
- (vii) Full rebate of additional Excise Duty on packet tea exports.

Permission to Cut Trees in View of LPG Shortage

167.SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Government have requested the Union Government to permit them to cut trees for fuel purposes in view of the shortage of LPG due to Gulf crisis;

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

(c) the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise.

Gas-Based Sponge Iron Plants

168. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the

Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some gas-based sponge iron plants are proposed to be set up in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such plants and the places where these are proposed to be set up; and

(c) the names of the companies which are setting up these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Four gas-based sponge iron projects have been sanctioned "in principle" by the Government. The names of the companies and the locations where the plants are proposed to be set up are given below:-

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Location</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Grasim Industries Ltd.	Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra.
2.	Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.	Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra.
3.	Usha Rectifier Ltd.	Distt. Sultanpur, U. P.
4.	Kalyani Steels Ltd.	Distt. Raigad, Maharashtra.

Bauxite Deposits in Orissa

169. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new bauxite mines have been discovered by the Geological Survey of India or the State Directorate of Mines in Orissa;

(b) if so, the name and the location of

such mines; and

(c) the extent of bauxite deposits discovered in the new areas?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) to (c). During the 70's there was discovery of major bauxite deposits in Koraput and Kalahandi districts of Orissa by Geological Survey of India (GSI) with the help of State Directorate of Mining and Geology. Out of the total

reserve of about 2,600 million tonnes of bauxite in India the deposits in Orissa account for about 1,600 million tonnes. Consequent upon discovery of Panchpatmali bauxite deposit a Mining and Refinery Complex of National Aluminium company Ltd. (NALCO) has been set up at Damanjodi in Koraput district.

Recently the Directorate of Mining and Geology of Orissa has taken up further investigation and has discovered three new bauxite deposits at Sargihatimali, Ratamadi and Karki within an area of one square kilometre near Laxmipur in Koraput district of Orissa. Investigation is still in progress and reserve estimation has not yet been completed.

Export of Hides and Skin

170. SHRI P. C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scope to increase export of hides and skin;

(b) the quantity and value of export of

these items during the last five years;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage the export of these goods; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a), (c) and (d). The Government policy is to progressively displace the exports of the raw material by value added products. Towards this end exports of hides and skins and semi finished leather have been progressively restricted from 1973 onwards. Exports of semi-finished leather were totally phased out by April 1990. Government have also issued a Notification dated 31st August, 1990 indicating that with effect from 1st April, 1991, exports of finished leather will be allowed only under OGL No. 3 of the Import & Export Policy, Volume II.

(b) Exports of semi finished and finished leather during the preceding five years have been as follows:

(Value in Rs. crores)

S. No.	Item	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Semi Finished leather	49.07	52.50	72.59	45.00	21.07
2.	Finished leather	288.20	400.89	485.97	649.88	693.53

Environmental Awareness

171. SHRI PALANI K. M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken

any steps to create environmental awareness in the country;

(b) if so, the results achieved; and

(c) the future plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A National campaign has been launched for creating environmental awareness. The Government agencies and non-governmental organisations including voluntary agencies, educational institutions and professional societies in several States and Union Territories have been involved in the campaign. Various target groups such as legislators, administrators, professionals, student communities and general public have been covered under this campaign.

(c) The Campaign will be continued with wider coverage of programmes throughout the country.

Export of Iron Ore

172. SHRI A. K. A. ABDUL SAMAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron ore exported during the last 3 years; year-wise and country-wise;

(b) the average value per unit, FOB Indian port, year-wise and country-wise in SDR's and in Indian rupees; and

(c) the target of quantity and value of export of iron ore during 1990-91?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). Details of the quantity and value of iron ore exported during the last 3 years year-wise and country-wise in respect of MMTC, KIOCL and GOANS are given in the attached I to III statements. The unit value realisation ranges widely and is not comparable as it depends on various factors like the type of ore (lumps fines, concentrates or pellets) grade of ore (low, medium, high grades depending on Fe contents) size of vessels loaded, rate of loading etc. The SDR exchange rate during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 was ISDR = Rs. 17.21, Rs. 19.262 and Rs. 21.368 respectively.

(c) The target for export of iron ore during 1991 is 33 million tonnes at an estimated value of Rs. 1160 crores.

STATEMENT-I

Qty: *Million Tonnes*Val: *Rs. crores*

Sl. No.	Country	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
		3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Japan	8.98	192.46	10.49	247.25	10.08	333.11
2.	Korea, REP	2.44	50.79	3.11	71.53	2.91	71.32
3.	Hungary	0.01	0.30	0.03	0.70	0.01	0.34
4.	Bulgaria	0.11	2.18	—	—	—	—
5.	Yugoslavia	0.05	1.11	0.04	0.81	—	—
6.	U.A.E.	0.05	0.90	0.15	2.81	0.33	6.61
7.	Kuwait	—	—	0.02	0.30	—	—
8	Korea, DPR	0.09	1.60	0.34	6.20	0.36	7.64
9	Pakistan	0.28	5.75	0.34	6.93	0.39	10.12

Qty: Million Tonnes**Val: Rs. crores**

Sl. No.	Country	1987-88			1988-89			1989-90		
		Qty.	Val.	3	Qty.	Val.	4	Qty.	Val.	8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
10.	Turkey	0.04	0.56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	China	0.34	6.77	0.15	3.82	0.25	7.98			
12.	Australia	—	—	—	—	0.15	5.12			
13.	Nepal	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.03			
14.	Romania	1.41	17.89	2.35	29.61	2.32	35.74			
15.	G.D.R.	0.74	14.08	0.61	11.29	0.70	18.75			

STATEMENT-II

(Quantity in Million Tonnes)

(Value: Rupees Crores)

Sl. No.	Country	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Japan	7.978	118.47	8.336	133.28	7.868	162.36
2.	West Europe	1.154	14.68	1.665	22.78	2.117	35.56
3.	South Korea	0.679	10.55	0.996	16.87	0.613	12.96
4.	Taiwan	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.036	0.80

(Qty. in Million Tonnes)
(Value in Rupees Crores)

Sl. No.	Country	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Turkey	0.176	—	0.357	—	0.325	—
11.	Indonesia	0.004	—	0.043	—	0.127	—
12.	Qatar	—	—	0.025	—	0.052	—
13.	North Korea	—	—	0.020	—	—	—
14.	U.S.A.	—	—	0.109	—	0.056	—
15.	West Germany	—	—	0.176	—	0.115	—
16.	Malaysia	—	—	0.011	—	—	—
17.	Taiwan	—	—	0.060	—	0.059	—
18.	Iraq	—	—	0.032	—	0.090	—

(Qty. in Million Tonnes)

(Value in Rupees Crores)

Sl. No.	Country	1987-88			1988-89			1989-90		
		Qty.	Value		Qty.	Value		Qty.	Value	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
19.	Iran	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.031	—	—
20.	Bhilai (India)	—	—	0.019	—	—	—	—	—	—
			77.62		116.39		174.40			

Foreign Exchange Reserves

173. SHRI A. K. A. ABDUL SAMAD:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the status of foreign exchange reserves in S.D.R.'s and in rupees as on April 1, 1988-89, and 90 on the first of every month during 1990-91; and

(b) the value of the foreign loans including institutional loans, and commercial borrowings during 1990-91, actually credited to our accounts in SDRs/rupees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIDIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The status of India's foreign exchange reserves comprising foreign currency assets of the RBI, Special Drawing Rights and gold held by the Reserve Bank of India on April 1, 1988, 89 and 90 and on 1st of every month during 1991 (up to February 1991) in rupee and SDR terms is given in the statement-I.

(b) The value of the foreign loans credited to our account during 1990-91 in SDRs and rupees is given in the Statement II.

Statement - I*Foreign Exchange Reserves*

<i>As on</i>	<i>Rs. Crores*</i>	<i>SDRS Million**</i>
1	2	3
1.4.1988	7687	4486
1.4.1989	7040	3715
1.4.1990	6251	3045
1.5.1990	5700	2783
1.6.1990	5882	2821
1.7.1990	5843	2784
1.8.1990	5541	2601
1.9.1990	6001	2712
1.10.1990	5656	2523
1.11.1990	11241	4324
1.12.1990	10343	4001

1	2	3
1.1.1991	9302	3659
1.2.1991	11973	4492

Note: * Gold is valued at Rs. 84.39 per 10 Grammes up to October 16,1990 and closer to its International Market price thereafter.

** Gold is valued at SDR 35 per fine troy ounce as in the International Financial Statistics up to October 16,1990 and closer to its International Market price thereafter.

STATEMENT-II*Value of Foreign Loans designated in SDRs and Credited into Government Account*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Date/Period</i>	<i>SDR million</i>	<i>Rs. crores equivalent</i>
1	2	3	4	5
1.	IDA	1.4.1990 to 31.12.1990	296.957	720.15
2.	IFAD	1.4.1990 to 31.12.1990	3.492	8.27
3.	IMF	23.1.1991	1268.8	2858.7

Capacity Utilisation of Steel Plants

174. SHRI A. K. A. ABDUL SAMAD:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be
pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel produced, im-
ported and exported during 1987-88, 1988-
89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 (so far);

(b) the capacity utilisation of the in-

stalled and operational steel plants in the
country, separately for public and private
sector during these years; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken during
1990-91 to improve the capacity utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES
(SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) The
quantity of finished steel produced, imported
and exported from 1987-88 onwards is as
under:

(in lakh tonnes)

	<i>Production</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Exports*</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1987-88	116.84	16.9	0.42
1988-89	128.43	16.0 @	1.13
1989-90	129.96	13.6 @	2.32
1990-91	108.68	N/A @	3.05 (Likely)

(upto Jan.'90)

@ — Imports through Major Ports only-Authoritative figures have not yet been published
by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Calcutta.

* — Relates to exports by main producers only.

(b) The capacity utilisation of the Steel Plants in terms of installed capacity is as under:

	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>1988-89</i>	<i>1989-90</i>	<i>1990-91</i> <i>(likely)</i>
SAIL	77%	81%	76%	78%
TISCO	110%	112%	94%	93% (Expected)
Secondary Producers*	N/A	72% to 90%	65% to 90%	N/A

* There are 169 commissioned units and the range of capacity utilisation is given above.

(c) The steps taken to improve the capacity utilisation in the SAIL plants are as under:-

1. Ensuring adequate availability of inputs of right quality and in the required quantity including import of low ash coking coal.
2. Augmentation and optimisation of captive power generation.
3. Improved maintenance of plant and equipment for better availability.
4. Strict adherence to technological norms.
5. Change in work culture conducive to higher production and productivity.
6. Increasing awareness and spirit of accountability.
7. Modernisation and technological upgradation of Plants.

The capacity utilisation of TISCO is already above the licenced capacity.

Secondary producers are allowed to modernise their plants and instal energy efficient equipment with a view to improve their capacity utilisation.

Inflation Rate

175. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of inflation has increased further during the past two months;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken

any effective steps to contain inflation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the result achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). During the past two month (December, 1990 and January, 1991) the Wholesale Price Index (Base 1981-82=100) has registered an increase of 1.9 per cent from the level of 185.3 on 24th November, 1990 to 188.9 on 26th January, 1991.

(c) and (d). The Government have taken several measures to contain inflation. These include strict fiscal discipline through monitoring of Government expenditure, check on expansion of liquidity in the economy, more effective management of supply and demand of essential/sensitive commodities, and a strict action against hoarders.

Waiver of Agricultural Loans in Kerala

176. SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNNIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of assistance given by the Union Government to the Kerala Government for waiving loans under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990;

(b) whether the Government of Kerala has demanded more funds for waiving loans under the Scheme.

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that till 18th February, 1991, they have released Rs. 28.33 crores to Kerala State Cooperative bank and Kerala State Land Development Bank as grant to wards 50% Government of India share for implementation of Debt Relief Scheme and similar amount of Rs. 28.33 crores has been provided to the above co-operative banks as loan for meeting 50% share of the State Government under the Scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). State Government of Kerala had represented to the Government of India to bear the full burden of debt relief towards cooperative loans under the Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme. However, the Central Government is following a uniform policy for all the States in meeting only 50% of the cost of Scheme for Cooperatives.

Punalur Paper Mill

177. SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNNIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of the Punalur Paper Mill has asked for loan from the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and the Canara Bank for reopening of the Mill;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for re-opening of the Mill; and

(d) if so, when the Mill is likely to be re-opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since the company and its promoter have not yet arrived at a settlement with the financial institutions and bank for payment of their dues, it is not possible to indicate time frame regarding likely date for re-opening of the Mill.

Exemption to Cement Concrete Blocks from Excise Duty in Rajasthan

178. SHRI KAILASH MEGHLAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Nahar Board, Rajasthan has requested the Central Board of Excise and Customs for allowing clearance of pre-cast cement concrete tiles/blocks manufactured by the Rajasthan State Bridge Construction Corporation Limited for exclusive use as lining material in the construction of canal system of the Indira Gandhi Nahar without payment of Central Excise Duty so that the high cost of construction may be reduced; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) Exemption from payment of Central Excise duty under Section 5(A) (2) of the Central Excises & Salt Act, 1944 has been

given by order No. 1/91, dated 23rd January, 1991.

Fraud and Theft Cases in Bank Branches in Jamnagar, Gujarat

179. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fraud and theft cases detected in the branches of some banks in Jamnagar, Gujarat from 1 January, 1990 to 31 January, 1991;

(b) the amount involved therein; and

(c) the number of persons involved in these cases and the action taken against them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that no case of theft occurring during 1st January, 1990 to 31st January, 1991 in Jamnagar has been reported to them by any bank. As regards frauds, RBI has reported that such information is not maintained City-wise and, therefore, the same is not available.

Complaints Against Bank Officials in Jamnagar and Rajkot Districts in Gujarat

180. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRI S. N. VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received against bank officials in Jamnagar and Rajkot districts in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints

received during January, 1990 to 31 January, 1991; and

(c) the action taken in such case?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c). Information is being ascertained, and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and feasible.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Mini Steel Plant in Bihar

181. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Bihar Government to set up a mini steel plant in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) to (c). An application was received in June, 1989 from Bihar State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. (a Government of Bihar Undertaking) for an Industrial license to set up a 2,50,000 TPA hot rolled coils and low alloy sheets project at Chandil, district Singhbhum, Bihar. The capacity applied for was subsequently raised to 5,00,000 TPA. This application was submitted under Press Note No. 37 (1988). Subsequently, all those who had applied under Press Note No. 37 (1988) were advised to apply afresh under Press Note No. 6 (1990), if they so desired. However, no application has been received from the Bihar State Government or any of its undertakings under Press Note No. 6 (1990).

[English]

Internal Resource Generation by SAIL

182. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has undertaken a massive plan to generate larger quantum of internal resources during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the quantum of the internal resources proposed to be generated; and

(c) the purpose for which these resources will be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). During the VIIIth Plan period, SAIL (excluding sub subsidiaries) plan to generate gross internal resources to the extent of Rs. 4,785 crores.

(c) The resources will be utilised for repayment of loans and financing part of the investments on various capital schemes for modernisation, technological upgradation, additions, modifications and replacements etc. of plants and equipments.

Investment Instruments Introduced by SBI Capital Markets Ltd.

188. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the SBI Capital markets Limited has any proposal to introduce a package of investment instruments to suit the needs of both the domestic and the non-resident investors;

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

(c) whether there is also a proposal to

constitute a special non-resident fund for the NRIs;

(d) if so, the objectives behind the constitution of the funds; and

(e) the measures proposed to make the new instruments more attractive?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Merger of Regional Rural Banks with Commercial Banks

184. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided not to merge the regional rural banks with the commercial banks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps proposed to make the regional rural banks viable and useful in the rural sector; and

(d) the approximate amount involved for subsidising these banks per annum?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to merge Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) with commercial banks. The RRBs were specially created to serve rural clientele in their area of operations and are a part of the multi-agency approach to rural credit.

(c) and (d). Some of the steps taken to make RRBs viable are as follows:-

- (i) Enhancement of issued capital.
- (ii) Refinance interest rate of sponsor banks reduced from 8.5 to 7 per cent annum.
- (iii) Posting of Senior and experienced Officers in Scale IV and above as Chairman.
- (iv) Sponsor Banks have been assigned greater responsibility in helping and guiding RRBs.

The performance of RRBs are also being monitored by Government of India and NABARD periodically to improve their functioning.

The Government has provided Rs. 5.25 crores to be given as additional share capital to 42 RRBs in 1990-91. The same is proposed to be enhanced in the coming year.

Export of Gem and Jewellery

185. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether diamonds, coloured gemstones, gold jewellery and non-gold jewellery registered in impressive growth in exports during 1989-90;

(b) if so, the break-up of the exports of these items during the last three years; and

(c) the targets set by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council for the year, 1990-91?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DASPATEL):

(a) Exports of gems and jewellery during 1989-90 were Rs. 5479.37 crores (Provisional) as compared to Rs. 4580.96 crores in 1988-89, representing an increase of 19.6%.

(b) The export performance of gem and jewellery items is given in the attached statement.

(c) The projection as reported by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council for 1990-91 is Rs. 5950 crores.

STATEMENT*(Value in Rs. Crores)*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Diamonds</i>	<i>Precious and semi-precious stones</i>	<i>Pearls</i>	<i>Gold Jewellery</i>	<i>Non-Gold Jewellery</i>	<i>Sales to foreign tourists</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>
1987-88	2439.74	98.50	8.90	86.21	6.30	12.91	2652.56
1988-89	4238.18	146.74	7.72	171.42	7.26	0.64	4580.96
1989-90	4971.93	194.82	8.62	282.90	13.54	7.56	5479.39 (P)

(Source : GJEPC)

(P = Provisional)

Coffee Tax in Karnataka

186. SHRI R. N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news item that appeared in the "Hindustan Times" dated 10 January, 1991 under the heading "Karnataka coffee tax worries Centre";

(b) if so, the factual position thereof; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL): (a) and (c). The factual position and the action taken by the Union Government are as follows:

- (i) The Government of Karnataka is maintaining the rate of purchase tax at the rate of 13% as against 6% in the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The State Government of Karnataka has been requested to bring down its rate at least in tune with rates prevalent in the neighbouring coffee growing States.
- (ii) The target set for coffee export for the year 1990-91 is Rs. 400 crores. The export of coffee during the first ten months of the current financial year was 87,134 tonnes valued at Rs. 239.99 crores. This is due to the low crop of 1989-90 available for marketing in 1990-91. In addition, the international prices for coffee which has declined considerable after the suspension of international coffee quotas has also af-

ected the total export earning on coffee in 1990-91.

- (iii) The domestic consumption of coffee has been stagnating around 55 thousand tonnes for the last many years. In order to increase the domestic consumption of coffee, the Coffee Board has formulated a three year pilot project at a cost of Rs. 63 lakhs and a five year project at a cost of Rs. 9.5 crores. These projects are being examined by the Planning Commission.

Amount Collected by Way of Small Savings

187. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected by the States by way of Small Savings during the last two years, till date;

(b) the details of the amount collected by the Union Government from the States, State-wise; and

(c) the amount, out of that, proposed to be spent in the priority sectors by the Union Government, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No amount is collected by the States by way of small savings.

(b) The net small savings collections in various states are indicated in the attached Statement-I.

(c) New small savings collections in a State are advanced as long-term loan to that State for developmental purposes. The loans

sanctioned to State Governments during statement II.
1990-91, (till date) are given in the attached

STATEMENT - I*(Rs. in lakhs)*

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>1989-90</i>	<i>1990-91 (Upto Nov' 90)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48718	31214
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	122	73
3.	Assam	24055	9038
4.	Bihar	42108	25800
5.	Goa	4366	1214
6.	Gujarat	78076	40036
7.	Haryana	24505	9628
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	18061	2723
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14725	5647
10.	Karnataka	44176	10457
11.	Kerala	21839	9292
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30702	11021
13.	Maharashtra	49409	19135
14.	Manipur	294	161
15.	Meghalaya	2888	340
16.	Mizoram	95	95
17.	Nagaland	260	81
18.	Orissa	18205	8374

1	2	3	4
19.	Punjab	38237	16817
20.	Rajasthan	33470	21369
21.	Sikkim	124	95
22.	Tamil Nadu	32464	11491
23.	Tripura	2503	755
24.	Uttar Pradesh	113234	65937
25.	West Bengal	100414	55557

STATEMENT - II*(Rs. in lakhs)*

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Amount</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	38026
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	369
3.	Assam	11707
4.	Bihar	46350
5.	Goa	3348
6.	Gujarat	58906
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7827
8.	Haryana	13791
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	4941
10.	Karnataka	21780
11.	Kerala	13142
12.	Madhya Pradesh	20696

1	2	3
13.	Maharashtra	71292
14.	Manipur	531
15.	Meghalaya	806
16.	Mizoram	383
17.	Nagaland	479
18.	Orissa	9120
19.	Punjab	25008
20.	Rajasthan	26868
21.	Sikkim	401
22.	Tamil Nadu	20109
23.	Tripura	2344
24.	Uttar Pradesh	81653
25.	West Bengal	68933

Floor Price of Natural Rubber

188. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the floor price of natural rubber has been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether S.T.C. propose to import natural rubber in 1991-92;

(d) if so, the quantity proposed to be imported; and

(e) the steps taken to keep the price of

natural rubber in the market at a reasonable level?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRISHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): (a) and (b). Government does not fix any floor price for natural rubber. However, it has been fixing the Bench Mark Price for RMA IV Grade of natural rubber. The Bench Mark Price for RMA IV Grade of Natural Rubber has been increased from Rs. 17800 PMT to Rs. 21,450/- PMT with effect from 15.1.1991.

(c) and (d). The quantum of rubber to be imported during 1991-92 will depend upon the demand supply gap.

(e) The Government has introduced the Buffer Stocking Scheme for natural rubber to keep the price of natural rubber at reasonable level.

Financial Assistance To Industrial Units in Punjab

189. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of the Punjab National Bank and the State Bank of India functioning in Punjab, bank-wise and district-wise;

(b) the number of small industrial units in Punjab financed by the above banks during the last three years, bank-wise;

(c) the number of small industrial units in Punjab which have sought additional finance or the benefits of revival of sick units; and

(d) the number of cases where revival benefits have been granted by the above banks during the last three years, bank-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The Number of branches of Punjab National Bank (PNB) and State Bank of India (SBI) functioning in Punjab as on 30th June 1990 are given below:-

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Number of branches</i>	
	<i>PNB</i>	<i>SBI</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
Amritsar	55	30
Bhatinda	19	17
Faridkot	20	24
Ferozepur	28	22
Gurdaspur	34	23
Hoshiarpur	35	11
Jullundur	52	37
Kapurthala	17	3
Ludhiana	35	27
Patiala	17	9
Rupnagar	11	5
Sangrur	15	12

(b) to (d). As reported by State Bank of India, they had financed 2896 units in Punjab during the period from January 1988 to January 1991. The bank was approached by nine sick units for the benefit or revival, and the same have been granted to five units during the last three years.

Punjab National Bank has reported that they have financed 13,558 small industrial units in Punjab during the last three years (1988-1990). The bank was approached by 39 sick units to seek benefit of revival and during the above period, the same have been granted to 12 units.

Validity of REP Licences

190. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Export Organisations, New Delhi have made any request to the Government to extend the validity of REP Licences under issue or already issued from 18 to 24 months; and

(b) if so, the Government's reaction thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) and (b). The Federation of Indian Export Organisation, New Delhi, has suggested that the existing validity of all REP/Additional Licences may be extended to 24 months instead of 18 months. However, this suggestion has not been agreed to.

Concessions to Export of Handicrafts and Other Products for Recognition of Export Houses

191. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given concessions for export of handicrafts in the

matter of eligibility requirements for recognition as Export Houses; and

(b) whether the Government propose to extend these concessions to other products, particularly to readymade garments manufactured by small scale and cottage industries which are also labour intensive?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Review of Import and Export Policy and Procedures in a continuous process and necessary corrective measures are taken from time to time keeping in view the needs of the economy.

Free Port or Free Trade Zone in East Coast

192. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had a proposal to develop a free port or free trade zone in the East Coast;

(b) if so, the place identified for its location; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) to (c). A committee has recently been set up to examine the desirability and feasibility of setting up a Free Port in the country and to recommend a suitable location therefor.

Export Inspection Authority

193. SHRIPRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some requests have been received by the Government to scrap Export Inspection Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILALPURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL):

(a) A report to this effect has appeared in some news papers.

(b) and (c). There is no proposal under consideration of the Govt. to do away with Export Inspection Agencies.

IMF's Contingency Compensatory Financing Facility

194. SHRIPRATAPRAOB. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has taken some loan from the International Monetary Fund under the arrangements of the Contingency Compensatory Financing Facility?

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

(c) what are the terms of this loan; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to avoid such a situation in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India approached the IMF for access to resources under the Compensatory and Contingency Financing Facility, available to

member countries, to cover the large increase in the cost of oil imports. On 18th January, 1991 India was authorised to draw SDR 716.9 million under the CCFF. The amount was drawn on 23rd January, 1991.

(c) The amount drawn is to be repaid in eight equal quarterly instalments with the first instalment due 3 years 3 months from the date of the drawal-(Jan,23, 1991). The amount is subject to a rate of interest which is determined from time to time depending on the prevailing SDR interest rate with certain adjustments. (On Jan. 23, 1991, the rate was about 9 percent. Currently the rate is 8.4 percent).

(d) finance Minister is his statement to the Parliament on 27th December, 1990 detailed the problems and the intended course of action.

Import of Cardamom

196. SHRIK. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Spices Board has recommended to stop the import of cardamom; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILALPURUSHOTTAMDASPATEL):

(a) and (b). Import of cardamom is not allowed except under the Advance Licensing Scheme, for re-export on a minimum prescribed value addition.

Production and Export of Coffee

197. SHRIK. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coffee exported during 1990-91, till date;

(b) the quantity of coffee produced during 1990-91;

(c) whether there is any increase in coffee production as compared to previous years; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) A total quantity of 87,134 tonnes of coffee has been exported from April 1990 upto the end of January, 1991.

(b) a quantity of 1,73,000 tonnes of coffee is expected to be produced during 1990-91.

(c) and (d). The coffee production during 1989-90 was far lower than the immediately Preceding year i.e. 1988-89. The production of coffee during the last five years were as under:-

Year	Crop in tonnes
1985-86	1,22,450
1986-87	1,92,260
1987-88	1,23,000
1988-89	2,15,000
1989-90	1,17,800

Coffee Prices

198. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the present financial subsidy to the coffee growers;

(b) whether the Government have considered the demand of coffee growers to increase the support price for coffee;

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the coffee cultivation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no support price for coffee.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) In the VIII Five Year Plan, the main thrust is on increasing the productivity per unit area and not for increasing area under cultivation.

[Translation]

Assistance by State Financial Corporations for Development of Industries

199. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5764 on 20 April, 1990 and state:

(a) whether any arrangement has been made to provide livelihood to the technical entrepreneurs who are not allowed to undertake any other project or diversification of the project in case the industries assisted by the institution become sick;

(b) whether the Financial Corporation of Rajasthan has imposed a restriction on

the entrepreneurs that they cannot publish any political literature;

(c) if so, the rationale behind such restriction; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the rules.

Abolition of Sales Tax

200. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of meetings of the Chief Ministers were held during the last five years to discuss the issue of abolition of Sale Tax;

(b) whether any consensus was arrived at in this regard;

(c) if not, whether the Union Government propose to issue directive to the State Government to abolish the Sales tax or to bring uniformity in the rates of Sales tax; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

(d) No, Sir, since sales tax is a State subject under the Constitution.

(e) Does not arise in view of answer to (d) above.

Raising of Funds by International Financial Agencies

[English]

201. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are laware of any proposal under consideration of international financial agencies to raise funds to help the countries which have suffered great loss due to the Gulf war; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Bank Group has proposed a phased programme for additional lending to countries affected by Gulf Crisis in the form of special emergency assistance including resettlement of displaced workers, strengthening adjustment programmes, higher cost sharing arrangements to accelerate disbursements and extension of IDA concessional assistance to a number of lower middle income countries which are currently IBRD borrowers. The IMF has recently amended the Contingency and Compensatory Financing Facility (CCFF) to include an oil import element into the CCFF. This dispensation would be available till the end of 1991 and would cover excess costs of imports of crude petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas. Asian Development Bank has in identified several countries including Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan,

Philippines and Sri Lanka as severely affected Developing member countries and additional assistance is being proposed by utilising the savings from loans, enhancing the Bank's share in project finance, use of Imprest Fund and emergency loans.

Sale of Steel Rails by SAIL

202. SHRI R. L. P. VERMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of rails were sold by the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to Northern Leasing and Industries Limited (NLIL) for resale to Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) if so, the year-wise quantities sold;

(c) whether the individual lengths of supplied rails were more than eight metres;

(d) the listed price of rails of SAIL having individual lengths of more than eight metres and the actual price charged;

(e) whether the rails were of tested Industrial Use (IU) category.

(f) what are the stipulated marking on IU rails;

(g) whether any formal power of Attorney was issued by UPSEB in favour of NLIL to obtain the supplies;

(h) whether SAIL had ever sold any quantity of material on account of any other electricity board, directly to any such agent or financier; and

(i) if not, who approved the supplies and the circumstances under which the supplies were made?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI ASHOKE KUMAR SEN): (a) and (b). About 3600 tonnes of untested rails (52 kg) were supplied by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to M/s. Northern Leasing & Industries limited (NLIL) during 1988-89, on the basis of a letter of authority issued by the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board in March, 1988. No rails were supplied to them during 1989-90 and 1990-91.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Rails are supplied by SAIL at JPC prices prevailing from time to time. The base prices are announced by JPC on the basis of the quality of rails and not on their length. The details are as given below:-

<i>Prices of Untested Rails</i>	<i>Rs./Tonne (for Rail Head Station Exclusive of Excise Duty)</i>			
<i>Profile</i>	<i>With Effect from</i>			
	<i>24.12.87</i>	<i>1.4.88</i>	<i>8.1.89</i>	<i>2.6.89</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
37 kg	4990	5030	5630	5765
45 kg	4960	5000	5600	5735

Prices of Untested Rails**Rs./Tonne (for Rail Head Station Exclusive of Excise Duty)****Profile****With Effect from**

	24.12.87	1.4.88	8.1.89	2.6.89
1	2	3	4	5
52 kg	4960	5000	5600	5735
60 kg	4960	4980	5580	5715

The actual price charged from M/s. NLIL for rails was the JPC price applicable on the date of delivery for the quality and quantity concerned

(e) No Sir.

(f) Industrial use rails are tested category rails conforming to the specifications evolved by the Indian Railways. These specifications prescribe the marking on the rails as under:-

"MARKING": In addition to marking mentioned in IRS specification No. T-12 for first class rails and draft specification for 90 UTS rails, the letters 'IU GR. I' or 'IU GR. II' (industrial use grade I/II) as the case may be in 18 mm size shall be stamped on both end faces of flange and on both sides of flanges for a distance of 500 mm from each end for easy identification".

(g) A letter of authority was issued by Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board in favour of M/s. NLIL to obtain the supplies from SAIL.

(h) Iron and Steel are supplied by SAIL to customers directly or to their authorised

representatives or agents, as desired by the customers concerned

(i) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Baramulla) Sir, now the question hour is over and it is zero hour. Actually I have moved a motion. In your wisdom, you may decide about the adjournment motion as also the subject of the motion. You are supreme here and you have to take the decision. But I have to express my opinion. I feel that it will be better not to divide the House on the question of Gulf War. So, I would appeal to you... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): There must be a division. There can be no unity between the Treasury Benches and the Opposition.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Mr. Speaker Sir, you are the supreme judge. I would request you to kindly confine the issue of adjournment motion to the refuelling of US planes... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

12.02 hrs.

RE. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received thirty four notices of adjournment motion regarding failure of Government to take timely decision about stoppage of refuelling of U.S. planes and proper initiatives in regard to Gulf War compatible with the pronounced national foreign policy from the following members:—

1. Shri Yamuna Prasad Shastri
2. Shri Sontosh Bhartiya
3. Shri K.S. Chavda
4. Prof Saif-ud-din Soz
5. Prof. Madhu Dandavate
6. Shri Indrajit Gupta
7. Dr. Chinta Mohan
8. Shri Manjay Lal
9. Dr. Venkatesh Kabde
10. Shri M.S. Pal
11. Shri Hari Kishore Singh
12. Shri Ram Singh
13. Shri Taslimuddin
14. Shri I.K. Gujral
15. Dr. S.P. Yadav
16. Shri Palas Barman
17. Shri Srikant Jena

18. Shri Anadi Charan Das
19. Shri A.K. Roy
20. Shri Basudeb Acharya
21. Dr. Biplab Das Gupta
22. Shri Sudarshan Raychaudhuri
23. Smt. Subhashini Ali
24. Shri Gopal Pachherwal
25. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
26. Shri Saifuddin Choudhury
27. Shri Harishankar Mahale
28. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan
29. Shri Bhajaman Behera
30. Shri Harsh Vardhan
31. Shri Yusuf Beg
32. Shri Ganga Charan Lodhi
33. Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan and
34. Shri Chitta Basu

I give my consent to Shri A.K. Roy who has secured first place in the ballot to move the motion in the following form.

"Failure of Government to take timely decision about stoppage of refuelling of U.S. planes and proper initiatives in regard to Gulf War compatible with the pronounced national foreign policy"

[Translation]

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT (Jaunpur):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, when will the matter of

Pratapgarh be taken?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I am also thinking about it. I will certainly take it, I will inform you later on.

MR. SPEAKER: Before Shri A.K. Ray starts his speech, let the Papers be laid, which will take only one minute.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will tell you. Extensive discussion will take place on Pratapgarh.

12.07 hrs.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA (Shajapur): When will the matter of Harijans be taken?

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications under Customs Act, 1962 and Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944 etc.

MR. SPEAKER: I am telling that extensive discussion will be held on the issue of the Harijans of Pratapgarh.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): On behalf of Shri Digvijay Singh I beg to lay on the Table:

[English]

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): I seek leave of the House to move my Adjournment Motion regarding failure of the Government to take timely decision about stoppage of refuelling of U.S. Planes and proper initiatives in regard to Gulf War compatible with the pronounced national foreign policy.

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

MR. SPEAKER: Is the leave opposed?

Leave is not opposed

Leave is granted

DR. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): How much time you are going to allot?

MR. SPEAKER: 2 1/2 hours.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: It should be four hours.

(i) G.S.R. 686(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 86/90-Cus., dated the 20th March, 1990 so as to substitute the word 'Firm' by the word 'Unit'.

(ii) G.S.R. 843(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to partially exempt specified furskins of white artic fox, Persian lamb and Rabbits (Black and White) from basic

customs duty so as to levy 20 per cent basic customs duty.

- (iii) G.S.R. 844(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe 5 per cent auxiliary duty on specified furskins.
- (iv) G.S.R. 845(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to include names of seven more centres in the Table of the authorised work centres annexed to the Notification No. 228/88-Cus., dated the 1st August, 1988.
- (v) G.S.R. 909(E) and G.S.R. 910(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th November, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to heavy water when imported for use in atomic power stations from basic customs duty in excess of 40 per cent *ad valorem* and whole of the additional and auxiliary duties of customs leviable thereon.
- (vi) G.S.R. 951(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe a basic customs duty of 40 per cent *ad valorem* on raw wool.
- (vii) G.S.R. 952(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to raise basic customs

duty on carpet grade wool from 5 per cent *ad valorem* to 10 per cent *ad valorem*.

- (viii) G.S.R. 953(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to pulp (except rayon grade wood pulp) derived by mechanical or chemical means from any fibrous vegetable material when imported into India from the basic customs duty in excess of 10 per cent *ad valorem* and from the whole of the additional duty leviable thereon.
- (ix) G.S.R. 954(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to rayon grade pulp when imported into India from the basic customs duty in excess of 25 per cent *ad valorem* and from the whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon.
- (x) G.S.R. 955(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 322/76 Cus., dated the 2nd August, 1976 and 386/86 Cus., dated the 29th July, 1986, 140/88-Cus., dated the 22nd April, 1988, 97/89-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1989 and 35/90-Cus., dated the 20th March, 1990.
- (xi) G.S.R. 956(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with

- an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 178/90-Cus. and 179/90-Cus., dated the 31st May, 1990.
- (xii) G.S.R. 957(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe partial exemption from auxiliary duty in excess of 5 per cent on certain goods which are partially exempted from basic duty.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 958(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe exemption from auxiliary duty in excess of 25 per cent on certain goods which are partially exempt from basic duty by the Notification.
- (xiv) G.S.R. 959(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding Notification Nos. 183-Cus., and 184-Cus., dated the 31st May, 1990.
- (xv) G.S.R. 969(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt imported replenished raw materials and components used in the manufacture of the final products supplied to a hundred per cent export-oriented undertaking or a unit within free trade zone from payment of the customs duties.
- (xvi) G.S.R. 970(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to raw materials and components imported as replenishment for manufacture of goods for supplies to oil sector from the payment of customs duties.
- (xvii) G.S.R. 972(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 181/87 cus., dated the 29th April, 1987.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 980(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to machinery and equipment for generation of electrical power (including generating sets) of capacity of 1 MW and above from the basic customs duty in excess of 35 per cent *ad valorem* and from the whole of the additional duty of customs leviable thereon.
- (xix) G.S.R. 981(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 155/86-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1986 and 59/87-Cus., dated the 1st March, 1987. [Placed in Library See No LT 2127/91]
- (2) 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) G.S.R. 781(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide that exemption will not be available to plastic bags or sacks made from strips or tapes of plastics.
- (ii) G.S.R. 782(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th September, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to withdraw the exemption available to plastic bags or sacks made from strips or tapes of plastics.
- (iii) G.S.R. 800(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 53/88-CE, dated the 1st March, 1988.
- (iv) G.S.R. 823(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding partial exemption to aero-tyres from excise duty so as to levy 30 per cent excise duty on these tyres.
- (v) G.S.R. 960(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind the Notification No. 23/88-CE, dated the 1st March, 1988.
- (vi) G.S.R. 961(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th

December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to certain Notifications.

- (vii) G.S.R. 982(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1990 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to electric generating sets of capacity of 1 MW and above from the whole of the duty of excise leviable thereon. [Placed in Library See No LT 2128/91]

- (3) A copy of the Post Office Recurring Deposit (Amendment) Rules, 1991 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 16(E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th January, 1991 under sub-section (3) of Section 15 of the Government Savings Bank Act, 1873. [Placed in Library. See No LT 2129/91]

Annual Report of and review on the working of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi, for 1990-91

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAM DAS PATEL): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1989-90 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, new Delhi, for the year 1989-90.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above [Placed in Library See No LT 2130/91]

12.08 1/2 hrs.

BILLS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 1994 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.08 1/2 hrs.

ASSENT TO BILLS

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following five Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 5th October, 1990;—

1. The Cantonments (Amendment) Bill, 1991
2. The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1991
3. The Appropriation Bill, 1991
4. The Assam Appropriation Bill, 1991

5. The Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation Bill, 1991.

Sir, I also lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the following six Bills passed by the Houses of parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 5th October, 1990:—

1. The Public Liability Insurance Bill, 1991
2. The Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1991
3. The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1991
4. The Reserve Bank of India (Second Amendment) Bill, 1991
5. The Jammu and Kashmir Criminal law Amendment (Amending) Bill, 1991
6. The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Conditions of Service) Bill, 1991.

12.09 hrs.

RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Third Report

[Translation]

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK (Durg): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Third Report (English and Hindi versions) of the Railway Convention Committee (1989)

on Rate of Dividend for 1991-92 and other
Ancillary Matters.

12.09 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI L.K. ADVANI (New Delhi): Sir, with your permission, I rise to record my Opposition's protest against the Government's decision not to present the full Budget and instead to come forth and seek a Vote on Account. It is something unprecedented.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Unanimous Opposition.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Entire Opposition.

I think that the decision is extremely unwise. It is improper. It has serious consequences for the economy. I am sure that after two or three months, the Government itself—whether it is still the Government or not—would realise that it has done great disservice to the country by agreeing to this proposal from whichever quarter it may have emanated. This is a Session which is called the Budget Session; and by this decision, that appellation has become a misnomer. It is no longer the Budget Session. In fact, we received formal communications from the Lok Sabha Secretariat. I saw a Bulletin dated 15th February in which we were told; 'Members are informed that in pursuance of rule 204 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha, the President has been pleased to fix the following dates for the presentation of the Railway and General Budgets for the financial year 1991-92; Railway Budget—Monday, the 25th February 1991...' (*Interruptions*)

PROF SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Baramulla): I am on a point of order... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Under which rule you are raising the point of order. Which rule has been violated.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

PROF SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: I have no objection to Advani Ji making a statement regarding the proposition of Vote on Account, or his suggestion that a full Budget should be presented; but my objection is that you took notice of Mr. Roy's adjournment motion, and said that now we were taking up the adjournment motion. Under what rule is Mr. Advani speaking now... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no point of order in it.

[*English*]

The Speaker has to regulate the proceedings of the House. You know that.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. Now Mr. Advani.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I was quoting from the Lok Sabha Bulletin No. 1152 which goes on to tell us that the General Budget would be presented on Thursday, 28th February 1991. I have no information, because it is under the President's direction that this Bulletin has been circulated, and this direction also is obviously under Article 112 of the Constitution which requires the President to fix the dates for the presentation of the Annual Financial Statement. I do not know,

[Sh. L.K. Advani]

Sir, whether this particular decision of the President has been formally rescinded, because all that we know is that the Prime Minister has announced that the Government does not intend to present a full-fledged Budget... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): Sir, what he is saying can be taken up any time.. That is the rule now. We have all respect for you, Sir; but once you say that the adjournment motion is taken up... (*Interruptions*) Mr. A.K. Roy moved the adjournment motion. You gave your consent. (*Interruptions*) Now under what rule... (*Interruptions*) Sir, you are the master of this House, we agree. But under what rule do you say that the adjournment motion is now suspended and Advani Ji has to make these points?

MR. SPEAKER: I have given permission to Mr. A.K. Roy. I will allow him to move the Motion. I am here to allow the adjournment motion.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Once the adjournment motion is on, can any hon. Member get up and start saying all these?

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed the Ministers to lay the papers first.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Laying of papers is different. Sir, are you exercising your discretion to stop the adjournment motion? Please tell me.

MR. SPEAKER: No, who told you so?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Then why do you allow a different subject to be raised by the hon. Leader of the Opposition? I would like to know this. Please tell us. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow Mr. A K Roy to move the adjournment motion.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The entire Question Hour was wasted, and now we are having this, instead of the adjournment motion. I would like to know under what rule you are allowing this.

MR. SPEAKER: With the permission of the House I allowed the papers to be laid, and allowed Mr. Advani also to make this statement.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikara): Then we should also be allowed.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Then let us discuss this subject, and not the adjournment motion. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: If you are allowing him to make his submission, then you should also allow us to react to that. (*Interruptions*) This is violation of the rules. If you allow the Leader of the Opposition to say something on this, then we should also be allowed to say something on this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed Mr. Advani...

(*Interruptions*)

PROF N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Are we supposed to do like this here? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I will call upon you to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. N.G. RANGA: Surely the Speaker is not above the rules that he can allow anybody and everybody to raise any point at any time. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed the

Leader of the Opposition to make his submission.

(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY (Hoshiarpur): Have you given your ruling that the Adjournment Motion be adjourned? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will also allow anybody from this side to speak.

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: This is violation of the rules. *(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I said if any hon. Member from the Congress Party wants to react, he could do so.

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Neither you nor the Leader of the Opposition nor anyone of us are above the rules. We are governed by the rules. I would request you to tell us under what rule are you going to allow Mr. Advani to make his submission when the Adjournment Motion has been taken up? Please quote the rule to us. We do not know whether you have suspended all the rules.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I allowed him after taking Leave of the House and after consulting the Minister.

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not on that.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. A.K.Roy has yet to move his motion. He has taken the leave.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: No, no. *(Interruptions)* He has moved it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: As far as Adjournment Motion procedure is concerned, there are two parts. The first part is that the concerned members seeks leave of the House. If the leave is granted, the Speaker, in consultation with the House, decides the time. So, moving an Adjournment Motion and moving for leave are two different motions. The first motion has been moved. Leave has been granted; and when you call them to move an Adjournment Motion, that is the time at which he gets up and move the motion. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Sir.....

MR. SPEAKER: I am not permitting you again. I had heard you. There is no point of order.

(Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Prof. Dandavate has misinterpreted it. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Advani.

(Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I had sought the permission of the Speaker yesterday. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will call you afterwards.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I am aware of this. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Let it be on record that only first motion is moved: "I seek leave of the house to move the following Adjournment Motion." Leave is granted. Now he will move the motion and start speaking. That is the procedure. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: Mr. Speaker, as I said, I would like to know from you whether this particular direction given by the President under Article 112 of the Constitution, which in pursuance of Rule 204 you have informed us; has it been formally rescinded or is it still there? Has any formal communication been given to you that hereafter this requirement made by the President under the Constitution is no longer there? This is a very pertinent question which the House would like to know. Because, I am, along with the entire Opposition, of the view that this particular decision taken by the Government is going to hurt the economy very badly, that it will accentuate the climate of political uncertainty and instability which has been there ever since the formation of this Government and therefore on the whole this is a decision which is against the interests of the country. It should not have been taken. If the Government has any explanation, I would be happy to listen to it.

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): Allow me to speak, Sir. (*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to enter into this controversy. But I do not want that any misgivings should be created on this ground. When the notice was issued, subsequently, the President was informed of the changed situation and what has been done, has been done, with the knowledge and consent of the President.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. A.K. Roy.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE

(Bolpur): We have something to say on this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: The Lok Sabha Secretariat received a communication in this regard on February 14. One day after that this Bulletin was issued. Had that particular communication been rescinded?

12.22 hrs.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Failure of Government to take timely decision about stoppage of refuelling of U.S. Planes and proper initiatives in regard to Gulf War compatible with pronounced national foreign policy

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. A.K. Roy, will you please move the Adjournment Motion?

SHRI A.K. ROY (Dhanbad): I have already moved.

MR. SPEAKER: You are to move that "The House do now adjourn." You have not said that. You should know the procedure of the House.

(*Interruptions*)

MRSPEAKER: Mr. A.K. Roy, you should know the Rules. You must say "That the House do now adjourn".

SHRI A.K. ROY: I have already said. I have already said it.

I beg to move:

"That the House do now adjourn".

We are in the midst of a very serious

situation and my elderly colleagues have rightly pointed out certain serious developments in the country and there were definitely reasons for being agitated on that. I do support them on the question of abandoning the Budget, Harijan murder and all sorts of things have been said. But today the biggest problem to which attention has been drawn which is of concern to us and also to the world outside, is the Gulf War. And we, the people of India are very much concerned with that. We are concerned not only with the big devastation which is taking place there. Every day we are reading all sorts of miseries and destruction and death. It appears that all those things have ceased to be new now. Obviously, people used to be agitated even for a very fraction of that. But now we are also getting immune to the routine of information of how many people are dying and about their miseries. Blatant aggression is being committed with from outside in the name of liberation. But, it appears, some times I feel that we are helpless to the sick tragedy which is taking place openly. More than one lakh sorties have been taken and more than one lakh tonnes of TNT have been dropped which is six to seven times more than whatever was dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and people died.

Only a few days back we have seen how women and children are being killed within the safest bunkers and ultimately the U.S. Government, the so-called leader of the allied forces, had to agree that it was a mistake and their information had to be up-dated. But that was not being done. And in this we are witnessing helplessly the crime which is being committed in the name of liberation and justice.

I like to say here that we, the Indians are agitating on two fronts...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Who is the Foreign Minister of this Government?...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Prime Minister, Sir. He just went out with my permission.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is here. He will depute for the Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): Sir, every ounce of fuel is given to U.S. Airforce. Therefore, the generator is not functioning...(Interruptions)

SHRI A.K. ROY: We know the seriousness of the Government towards this issue. But atleast we want that the seriousness should not be demonstrated in this way in the House itself. They are exposing their callousness to the entire tragedy. It is being manifested in the House. When they are taking up this debate on Gulf war in this House, atleast I desire that some of the senior Ministers and the Prime Minister should have been present to hear what we say on the policy they were pursuing so far.

Sir, the Gulf war affects us in various ways. It affects us economically, it effects us politically and it affects us culturally. India was tied to the Arab world since long time in the history. And after that also, in the recent time also, our relationship with the Arab people especially the Iraqi people, is very good. On every occasion, in every crisis, the Iraqi Government has shown its respect towards secularism and it has been supporting the cause of India in every affair, and not to encourage the communal forces and other things, which have always been playing mischief in this continent.

Sir, now our friendly country in the friendly region is in trouble and they are

[Sh. A.K. Roy]

being bombarded every day and our people are agitated over it. But the Government is callously watching the scene. Not only that but conniving with aggression in different ways. This is the first thing.

Secondly we are economically connected with the Gulf war also. Nearly fourteen lakh Indians live in the Gulf region. More than Rs. 200 crores are being remitted from that place. After the breakout of the Gulf war, our entire economy is in trouble because most of the petroleum products are in short supply. The Gulf war has created scarcity of the petroleum products. This crisis is affecting our entire economy and our Budget. Today itself, in the answer to one of the questions, which could not be taken up, the Minister had to agree that the Gulf war had affected all the aspects of our economy. So, when the Gulf war is affecting us economically, politically socially and culturally and when our trusted friends are in distress, it was the responsibility of the Government to take initiative to enforce peace and peace with honour so that the people of the Gulf, especially the Arab world, would remember the contribution of India in bringing peace to them.

Some people are trying to equate the Iraq's annexation of Kuwait with the American intervention in the Gulf. The two cannot be compared. We must have some sense of responsibility in doing that. It was an intra-Arab affair. I have always held so. If you go through the history, you will find that all those small countries were created by the imperialist machinations because they were all under the Ottoman Empire in the beginning. Now after 1920 when the Ottoman Empire collapsed, those countries were created. The Iraq also came into being as an independent nation at that time. And also, the Saudi Arabia and other countries actually divided the Arab world. Lebanon and Syria went to French and the rest of the countries went to

England. After US granting independence to Iraq which became independent in 1932, Kuwait was kept under their control because of their oil wells and other economic interests. Ultimately Kuwait, which was always a part of Iraq culturally, politically and in every respect and a district of Basra—it was a small area of hardly 20 lakh of people and that too mostly outsiders and some 18000 square miles area—was made independent in 1961 by the British after keeping its economic interests there. Iraq at that time objected. Not only that but at that time also those who were ruling Kuwait, the feudal rulers, brought Britishers there for their safety. So it must be observed and realised that this was a dispute inherited from the history. So annexation of Kuwait by Iraq may not be supportable in that way, but it must be understood that there are certain historical reasons behind that. It is a legacy of the history. It is the same continuing process. It was a dispute which was continuing and the hands of the imperialists were always there in creating all those small States in order to further their exploitation. It was something like balkanisation of the Arab world which they did after the First World War.

The fight between Kuwait and Iraq is something, between Iraq and Syria and between Iraq and Iran is something but jumping of America with the entire NATO strength is something else. If some wrong was done to Kuwait, Kuwait people and Arab people were free to fight that and in that way we could have decided on which side the justice belonged. But Arab people are silent. You have not seen any resistance in Kuwait. You have never heard any people's agitation in any of the Arab countries including Iran against Iraq's annexation of Kuwait. That means, there are certain profound reasons for those actions which, of course, may not be supportable in that form. But why are the Americans being agitated? It is not because they have great love for the liberty and freedom of smaller nations but because of their oil in-

terests there—the entire oil of Kuwait, the entire oil of Saudi Arabia and entire oil of other people including previously Iraq also which has now been removed after the nationalisation of Iraq petroleum companies where the Britishers were to hold the entire share. Because of that, they have to keep their puppets in the entire region and at the ruling place. So it is nothing but a blatant aggression by one of the so-called super powers of the world against an Arab country. So the intra-Arab conflict which was historically descended is one thing but the aggression from outside, from the super powers with this ruthless bombing is something else. So it is the duty of the country, of our Government and also of our people to protest against this aggression and against

12.34 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

this type of naked attack on a country.

Here from the very beginning we have seen that the Government has taken a decision in the name of neutrality of actually appeasing, actually supporting, actually condoning, actually approving all those naked crimes of the US imperialist on a small country like Iraq. It has equated Iraq's withdrawal with American withdrawal. It is not so America with its entire NATO force must withdraw unconditionally. They have no business there. If there is some element of grievance among the Arab countries. The Arabs should fight it out in whatever way they like but the Americans and the NATO powers have no business to interfere. So, that must be condemned first. Secondly, we should tell Iraq that theirs also is not a proper way of settling the inter-Arab dispute. But our Government has not acted in that way. I had also sent a telegram asking the Government to call a special session of the Parliament to decide this issue but nothing has been done. Not only that, what is more shameful is the

continuation of the refuelling of the American combat planes at the Bombay airport. Every party, including their godfather, their mentor, the Congress(I) party, warned them that this is something where we are moving away from our policy of non-alignment, but they did not listen. Ultimately perhaps some secret dealings took place to save their face and the America had to stop the refuelling. America stopping the refuelling at the Bombay airport shows something more. It shows that the U.S. Government is more intimately and secretly linked with the present Government. That is why to save this Government and to save their face, they have themselves stopped refuelling at the Bombay airport. It shows that there is a collusion between the two Governments, which is a shame to us. You remember, Sir, that when the Korean war took place, there also Americans played the same role. I was reading a book on Radhakrishnan by his son Mr. S. Gopal. He says that when the news came that the Resolution on the Korean war was supported by India, he reacted sharply. He said that this Resolution should not have been supported by the Indian Government in that way because that would have tarnished the Indian Government's non-aligned posture. After his great efforts, the relationship was corrected and ultimately India took a position which was appreciated by all. But now it is something even more horrible, more criminal. In this way we are giving support to the American aggression which has no basis. Nobody in the world has authorised America to act as a policeman for the entire world. Who has authorised America to act like that? It is not a United Nations' force, it is American-led allied force. It is beyond the ambit of the so-called Resolution No. 678 of the United Nations which did not authorise America to go and bomb Baghdad and that too to kill the women and children. It has authorised any country, if they can, to liberate Kuwait. But here, they could not move an inch. They do not have the courage to move an inch into Kuwait and that is why they are

[Sh. A.K. Roy]

bombing Baghdad. These are the super powers which have come not to liberate Kuwait, not to liberate Saudi Arabia but to save their puppets ruling in those areas so that their oil interests may continue.

Here I would like to say that it has been reasonably raised here that if the United Nation's Resolution No. 678 is to be accepted and respected, why not the two Resolutions of the UNO also which call for withdrawal of Israel from the Golan Heights, the West Bank of Gaza Strip and all those places which they occupied? There is no reasons why it should not be done. I would like to ask how many U.N. Resolutions have not been honoured where the allied forces have not come. Their conscience did not prick at that time. For example, the implementation of Security Council Resolution No. 242 of 1987 calling for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the territories (West Bank, Gaza Strip) occupied after the 1967 conflict, of Resolution No. 465 of 1980 demanding an end to Israeli settlements in occupied Arab lands and of Resolution No. 478 to 1980 again condemning legislation in Israeli Parliament that declared Jerusalem an indivisible capital of Israel. Thus you will find that nowhere the conscience of Americans and all those Western people has pricked them and their desire for keeping freedom is never there. But here it comes. Why? because the fear is there that 1000 billion barrels of oil is in the Gulf area and the people are coming up against their governments, against those Amirs, Sheikhs and Sultans, who have still kept up their grip on the Government maintaining a total feudal and neo-colonial rule. So, the people's movement is there now. The American aggressors, therefore, came there and you know how many places have been bombed. More than one lakh tonnes of TNT bombs were dropped there. Many people died. I would like to know if America will accept the logic that if America has a right

to bomb Baghdad and if the Soviet Union has the same right to bomb Tel Aviv to enforce the U.N. Resolution No. 242, what would have been the reaction of the entire world today? So, Sir, it is nothing but a naked aggression on the Arab countries by the Imperialist West and intimidation on the Arab aspirations. Even with the neutral position India should stand solidly with the Arab people, the aggressed people of Iraq. Sometimes I feel such type of aggression could not have been possible earlier. Everybody is silent including the Soviet Russia. If the Socialist world did not get weakened, America could not have dared to attack the Arab lands. They have done it because the socialist world became weak. If the world was in the position of 1950, they could not have dared to attack the Arab lands. So, this is also something which the entire world should know. The socialist weakness gives them the courage to attack the Arab lands. These have also brought to light certain other aspects. We have always criticised fundamentalists or the religious politicians who mix religion with politics. They are the agents of big bourgeois class and big landlords and capitalists of the country. Similarly, in the Gulf war it is demonstrated that all those who used to export politics mixed with religion like Saudi Arabia and Pakistan posing as the embodiment of Islam, are nothing but the puppet agents of US imperialism sheltering the Americans to bomb their fellow Muslims in Iraq. This is the character of these people who mix religion with politics.

A few days back we are hearing the speeches of the Pakistan Prime Minister. His position has become shaky because people have gone in revolt against him. Not only that. The Prime Minister of Pakistan has become so shaky that he had to telephone to our shaky Prime Minister. He has come to such a position to ask as to what to do in this Matter. Pakistan has taken its forces to support America which the people of Pakistan are resenting and they are revolting against

it. Those are very good lessons for all the people. All those people who mix religion with politics are nothing but agents of the imperialist and capitalist forces and they cannot represent the aspirations of the people in my hour of crisis. This is what we have seen in the name of Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid in India and we are seeing it in the Middle East now. So, in the present circumstances, India should take a positive move; India should condemn the American aggression of Iraq and India should take a peace initiative connecting the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait with the withdrawal of Israel from the entire Arab territory. India should stop the refuelling also. They say, it is stopped but it is continuing. I think the other speakers will expose it. But I would like to know one thing. Even if that was continuing it would have been continuing in the normal time, but once the war has broken out, once our friendly country is attacked, India has every right to review all the past agreements and contracts and suspend the same in this abnormal period. Iran also has not taken a very correct position. All the Iraqi planes have landed there. They have immobilised them saying that so long as the war continues they will not be allowed to be used. India should have come out with a statement that whatever contracts might have been there earlier, they are meant for normal times and not for the war time. But they have not done that. They are afraid that our IMF loan will be affected. This is an invisible conditionality of the IMF loan and it has dishonored our nation before the Arab world. I would like to say that this Government stands condemned for approving this blatant US imperialist aggression on a friendly Arab country who stood by us in all our hour of crises. This American aggression on Iraq cannot be equated with Iraq's annexation of Kuwait because it was a continuation of historical dispute. Kuwait has unilaterally reduced the price of oil thereby suddenly putting Iraq and other countries to loss. So, the entire Arab conflict should be solved by the Arab people

themselves. America and NATO have no business to come and act as policemen for the whole world.

We censure this Government strongly for its failure to rise up to the occasion in this hour of crisis and to uphold the honour of this country. With these words, I conclude my remarks.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Today being Friday, the House is to take up Private Members' Bills at 3-30 p.m. as usual. Since the House is discussing adjournment motion which may go up to 4 p.m. or beyond that, if the House agrees the Private Members' business may be taken up after the disposal of the adjournment motion and some other business also.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): The House must adjourn at one O'clock for lunch. Today is Friday.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As per the decision, on Friday, there will be lunch hour. But if you agree, we can continue this discussion.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: We must have lunch hour to go for Namaaz.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will have Lunch hour.

AN HON. MEMBER: At what time voting will take place?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will be around 5 O'clock. Motion moved:

"That the House do now adjourn".

Now, Shri M.J. Akbar.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the motion on which I rise to take part today in my view is a very simple

[Sh. M.J. Akbar]

one—whether India shall be a nation—State or municipality; whether the foreign policy of the nation shall be guided by independent morality or by somebody else; whether India shall be a municipality which runs at the behest of foreign powers, particularly those powers which have controlled us in the past which had subjugated us to the colonialism which we thought left us on 15th August, 1947.

Sir, we are today also discussing this issue when we have heard this morning news that President Gorbachev and President Saddam Hussein have agreed on a particular peace policy. It is a 8-point peace policy, which I think, all of us in the House, readily welcome it. All of us in the House would, in fact, only regret that it did not come sooner. But the reasons why it did not come earlier, have been briefly hinted by my colleague, Shri A.K. Roy when he said that the Socialist world to an extent has abdicated its responsibility. But for me, the sadness is not whether the Soviet Union has abdicated the responsibility or the Socialist world has abdicated the responsibility. What I feel sad about it is, to a large extent, I think, we have also abdicated our responsibility in responding to a very serious situation in the Gulf.

Today we hear of the Soviet Peace policy. I know on the date of war began, President Gorbachev sent the message to the Government of India saying that India and Soviet Union should have regular, perhaps even daily discussion, on how to bring about peace. If the Soviet initiative, Gorbachev initiative had been followed through with the kind of promptitude—I think only belatedly we have responded now—today we would have Indo-Soviet peace initiative rather than merely the Soviet initiative. That saddens me.

I think, the reason why there is a debate,

anguish today is partly to what we have done with the popular response, popular anger, as we seemed to shift from the distinctive deep ideological commitment to our popular value, in a sense, a shift from ideology of this nation called India. Policies, particularly foreign policies are not made by Budgets alone. Government of India cannot be an accountant manipulating profit and loss which is a very illusory arithmetic in any case. Policy, particularly foreign policy, if it does not evolve out of ideology, it leads to confusion and to betrayal. If we need any example of this, then we have to look no farther than at our neighbour, Pakistan. If you look at the history of the last 40 years, almost consistently Pakistan's policy has been completely at variance with the declared wishes of its people. Mr. Nawaz Sherif, being a good little tail of Mr. Rambo Bush, sent 10,000 soldiers towards the Gulf and today he does not know how to get out of that muddle because the people of Pakistan have risen virtually unanimously, I can say. If Mr. Nawaz Sherif goes and checks the opinion of the people, he will realise what they will do to him.

Pakistan is built on false ideologies. Therefore, if its Government bows to that false ideology and takes up essentially false policy, there is not very much we can say. That is expected. If we do that, then we are betraying something very deep and fundamental to our very existence.

I believe that the shift, the abdication of our foreign policy commitments began a long time ago, at least a year ago. I hope that Mr. Gujral will reciprocate the affection that I have for him. But I cannot have said that the refuelling issue which we are debating today is not something that was done in isolation. The refuelling decision was preceded by, something even worse, by a larger and a bigger sell-out of the Indian interests and that sell out took place in August and that sell-out took place in September and that sell out took place by the V.P. Singh Govern-

ment when it, by an unprecedented decision, allowed the use of air corridor for US military planes.

A lot of dust is being sought to be thrown upon this whole issue of refuelling. People who have a great deal to hide are trying to mislead the nation. One of the ways in which they are trying to mislead the nation is by saying "Oh! there is nothing wrong. This refuelling, this and that, this has been going on for the last 40 years.

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (Barrackpore): Are you referring to your own party?

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: No. I am not referring to my own Party. I am referring to your particular politics on this issue. I have absolutely no hesitation in saying that foreign policy in this country was run by certain consensus. Within that consensus, bilateral relations between friendly nations of refuelling was allowed. That refuelling was allowed in peace time. There is nothing wrong with it. We still insist there is absolutely nothing wrong with refuelling our planes. I do not know the details of it. But I am absolutely sure that our military aircraft must have taken fuel from countries either hostile, friendly, in between or wherever, in the past. Refueling is always done. But, there is a fundamental and a very formidable difference between refuelling in peace time and refuelling on support basis during war time.

The situation that arose in the Gulf did not arise and did not begin on 17th January. On 17th January, something called Operation desert storm began. Before Operation desert storm, there was something Operation desert shield. In case you do not know about it, I would only advise you to check up with Mr. Gujral and with Prof. Madhu Dandavate. They will tell you all about desert shield.

America declared its intentions. America had openly and publicly over and over again declared its intentions about what it was going to do in the Gulf. There is one thing about the Americans. This is the difference between the Americans and the British. The British put it in a more sophisticated way. Let us at least thank the Americans for this much, that they say everything they want to say quite bluntly. If they want President Saddam Hussein dead, then the President of America publicly says "I want him dead." (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): What were you doing. (Interruptions)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: When the crisis in the Gulf began in August, in this House I was sitting there, Prof. Madhu Dandavate and Shri Gujral were sitting here. At that time we were all seized of that issue. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI (Rewa): At that time only the point of issuing economic sanctions was under consideration. When the question of refuelling their A.F. planes was taken up....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Shastri, you can make your speech later on.

[Translation]

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: It is not proper to make such wrong statements here. he should not level such type of charges here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. You can speak latter on.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: Please do not be afraid of the truth. Truth is a very great thing.

[Sh. M.J. Akbar]

House stands adjourned for Lunch to meet
at 2 p.m.

More such things will come to fore. You
cannot escape it.

13.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch
till Fourteen of the Clock*

SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI:
The Janata Dal and the people all over the
country condemned the question of refuelling
A.F. planes of the V.S.A. Only the Congress
(I) is supporting this move. This action on the
part of the Government has tarnished the
image of the Government.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch
at Five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shastriji, if
you want to make a speech, I will give you
time.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

[*English*]

Don't disturb.

DR. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Sir, I want
a clarification from the Chair. So many
speculations are going on regarding the time
factor as to whether the voting is going to
take place at 4 p.m. 4.30 p.m. or 5.30 p.m.
because today the Private Members' Busi-
ness is going to be there at 3.30 p.m. I would
like to know whether you are going to extend
this debate till 4 O'clock or 4.30 p.m. and
carry on with the Private Members' Business
in the remaining time. Otherwise are you
going to take up the Private members' Busi-
ness at 3.30 p.m, finish it and then resume
the debate on the adjournment motion?

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: At that time, we
were in the House. We were all seized of the
Gulf issue for very immediate reasons apart
from the reasons of foreign policy. When
there was a difficult situation, our people in
the Gulf wanted to come back and so on and
so forth. I do remember sitting there, hearing
the Foreign Minister of Shri V.P. Singh who
stood up and said certain things.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT: Sir,
let us adjourn for Lunch.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have al-
ready made a statement in the House that
the Private Members' Business will be taken
up after the adjournment motion is disposed
of. I have said that between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m.
Members should be here for reply also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him fin-
ish his speech and then we will adjourn.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore):
He will not finish now.

DR. THAMBIDURAI: When the voting
is taken up we have to be here. That is why
I raised this point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Akbar,
will you continue after Lunch?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri M.J.
Akbar to continue his speech.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right. The

14.06 hrs.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

**Failure of Government to take timely
 declsion about stoppage of refuelling of
 U.S. Planes and proper Initiatives in
 regard to Gulf War Compatible with the
 Pronounced National Foreign Policy**

[English]

SHRI M.J. AKBAR (Kishanganj): Sir, I would like to pick up from where I stopped and that is in the origin of the whole refuelling controversy. Once again I repeat that an unnecessary amount of dust and confusion is being created. We repeat that there is nothing wrong in refuelling as long as it is peace time. The issue before us, is what is the purpose of refuelling, what is the purpose of the permission that was sought by the America as it was granted by them. I want to revive the memory of this House that there is now today—in February—a feeling that the war has started only on the 17th January or that the situation in the Gulf started post United Nations Security Council Resolution. It must be remembered that the situation in the Gulf began to deteriorate and turned into a war situation as early as August last year I quote from a caption in Life magazine—and I seek your permission to quote it—in order to give the background of what exactly was the situation.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN (Mahbubnagar): There is no Defence Minister present here Sir.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND
 CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIA-
 MENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA
 PRAKASH MALVIYA): I am present here
 Sir. (Interruptions)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: I think these facts are extremely relevant to our understanding

of what the situation was in August. Not since D-day World War-II has the United States moved its military so swiftly and so decisively within days of Iraq's August 2 lightening attack on the oil rich Kuwait. American men, women and material were poured into the inhospitable Saudi Arabia's desert at a rate of one plane load every seven minutes. I repeat, one plane load every seven minutes, forming a crescent shaped bulwark against the aggression. By the end of November, US military capability of Saudi Arabia had grown from two Generals armed with a single pocket knife—I trust there is an element of journalistic exaggeration here; but I can convey what I am saying—to a quarter million soldiers and reservists equipped with one hundred tanks, fifteen hundred planes and fifty warships.

About the Operation Desert Shield—I repeat that Operation Desert Shield is the father of the Operation Desert Storm

[Translation]

SHRI SHOPAT SINGH MAKKASAR: You start from 15th January.

[English]

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: The combat situation started when the American military build up started in August. At that time the House was in session. We were then very much agitated about the situation because of the refugees problem and all sections of the House were also agitated.

Mr. Gujral is here now, I remember, one sentence was etched deeply in my mind when talking about it, maybe it came out inadvertently, when he said that how can I talk to Saddam Hussain, we have no policy. I repeat, it is not true that there was no policy. There was a policy except that it was a secret policy. There was a policy except that it was a secret deal. It was in August that the

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Americans asked for an air corridor, for a space in order to build its military build-up that we have just heard about—a plane load every seven minutes. These planes were coming from all directions of the world, including the bases in Manila and I understand from Thailand also. At this moment, I may add that we must know the technicality of the refuelling in the past. Refuelling in peacetime has been acceptable to everybody and there is no debate about that. Even then, refuelling has been given, I think, on a flight to flight basis. For the first time in August, an omnibus permission was given to the air-corridor and I would say that, that is even more dangerous because those planes were not halting. When a plane halts, in our country, we have our sovereign right to examine those planes and see whether they are carrying the things inside, which they have allegedly said that they are carrying such and such things. That free air-corridor was an open sanction to the American build-up. I would also say firmly that Parliament was in Session and the Government of the day, despite the fact that discussions regarding Gulf came up day-after-day, did not take this House into confidence about its secret deal. The question is, why did it not take the House into confidence, if it was not guilty? If it was not guilty, if it was firm about its decision, if it did not have any reservation about it, it should have come and said, "We have allowed this; this is the secret deal which has come about; and this is the deal which we have made in the interest of India's policy or national interest or whatever you may call it."

Why did they not come and tell this House? It is because of the guilt; because they wanted to hide; because they know and I can say this that the Communist friends would not have supported this policy. I am right about that. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore):

why are you raising it only now? What were you doing all the time? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: Because we did not know; because it was secret. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the August decision was (a) secret decision; the country was not told about it by the last Government. I believe that certainly more than a hundred planes used the air-corridor. I raised this outside Parliament. It was not a peacetime; it was a combat situation. (*Interruptions*) If you still think that it was not a combat situation, I cannot help it. But, it was a combat situation; it was a war situation it was a situation when the Americans were building up the military strength. And you allowed the air-corridor then. When I raise it first, outside the House, immediately on behalf of Janata Dal, there were immediate denials. My good friend, Shri Satya Pal Malik said,

[*Translation*]

A very ridiculous thing.

[*English*]

Shri Gujral also said effectively and denied it; it was broadcast all over. I would like to ask this and this is a very good point to clarify. Shri Gujral is sitting here.

SHRI I. K GUJRAL (Jalandhar): I will speak afterwards.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: May I know whether air-corridor was allowed in August/September or not. 'Yes', or 'no' will clarify the position. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Damdum): You talk about refuelling. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: Refuelling is the child of air-corridor. The genesis, the father of the decision lies in air-corridor given and

It there was sub-services, that sub-servience took place in the Government of Shri V. P. Singh and Shri Gujral. This is an opportunity and 'yes' or 'no' would clarify the position. I ask them. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Why don't you give your views on the present situation?

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): You put some questions to the present Government also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: Sir, I am seeking an answer from the. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Akbar, answers will not be given like this; he will reply when he speaks; you may continue now (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: He is not replying. It is very sad that he is not replying.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, it should not be so.

[*English*]

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: Sir, I am still waiting because the country must know.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He will put the records straight. You put some questions to the present Government. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Akbar, you may continue now.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: Sir, I suppose that

silence would imply consent. (*Interruptions*) I would now like to turn to the reason why refuelling was stopped. Our party has made its position clear on the subject. From the moment the news broke out, we have been against refuelling. We have conveyed our views to the Government. Very categorically, our leader, the Congress President, has written to the Prime Minister. After an exchange of views, refuelling has been stopped. We are relieved. (*Interruptions*) We raised the voice first. The moment *The Times of India* published the news in the morning, my colleague Shri V. N. Gadgil from the AICC office denounced it by 4 O'clock at the first briefing.

[*Translation*]

They have been a little bit late in the matter.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I think, your statement came before refuelling.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: Sir, it is not a substitute for an answer. We shall await Mr. Gujral's answer when the time comes. (*Interruptions*) Sir, the Prime Minister said that he would listen to public opinion. He did not want the country divided on this issue. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh): Why did you not take any cognisance of the refuelling issue? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: I am afraid that the friends of Shri V. P. Singh are a little more loyal than the Raja. (*Interruptions*) I would like to draw the attention to one fact which, I think, is very important to our country. There has been an effort in the country to try and label the reaction into a communal problem. Some parties have sought to do that. One of the happiest facts of this whole crisis is that it may

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be a little subsidiary—is the fact that the country has reacted not in the least of Hindu-Muslim problems. The country has reacted as a country. The country has reacted without falling into the trap of any fundamentalists whether it was Shri Ashok Singhal or whether it was Shahi Imam. One of the most heartening things that I find in the response is not just this but in this silence of those particularly among our Muslim community who make them-selves self-appointed guardians of so-called Muslim interests. I mentioned Shahi Imam by name. Shahi Imam is dear friend. His men have been made MPs. He has been awarded status and so on by the last Government.

[Translation]

Today, there were Friday prayers and he did not raise his voice in today's congregation. When it comes to the real issues, when it comes to people's issues, these fundamentalists do not represent anything but their own interests and their interests have been purchased by Government, have been purchased by vested interests inside and outside.

[Translation]

Today Shri Imam is silent, because he has been purchased.

[English]

They have been bought either by dollars or petro-dollars. I do not know but they have been bought. (*Interruptions*) I hope you will send some measure of desperation in the irrelevance of the comments. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, returning to the specifics of the Gulf situation, we would again like to clarify that we are not and we cannot be for the usurpa-

tion of any country by another country. When Iraq invaded Kuwait, which was an independent country and a Member of the United Nations, we have made it clear that we cannot support the invasion. From the very beginning, our point is clear. Our point is, whether the Resolution of the United Nations is asking for vacation of Kuwait by Iraq or whether it has been usurped by a larger fact, that is, the USA military aid, this in fact far exceeds the jurisdiction and the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 678. We believe that the American led alliance, in particular, exceeded the mandate of the United Nations Security Council Resolution. And when peace is still very much an option, this is now no longer, I may say, a commentary. It is now, after the transcript of the talks between De Ceullar and Saddam Hussein has been released, that we still have an opportunity, when the American led alliance launched into a murderous and even barbaric assault on Iraq. Sir, I do not want to take much time by going into the details of the UN Security Council's Resolution and their consequences. I am sure other speakers will discuss it in more detail. But I want to end on two points.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please try to complete. Time is short.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: I would like to say one thing and I cannot help saying it. I am extremely impressed and amused by the dedication with which the United Nations has sought to impose the United Nations Security Council's Resolution as if they have never been in the history of United Nations Security Council's Resolutions before. Leave aside South Africa. Were were their great troops? Sir, the palestinian issue is there with us. Its linkage with the whole situation in the Middle East is quite obvious. Those who deny that linkage, I think, are doing injustice to the Palestinian cause.

To sum up, I would like to end with what

might be called the origin of Indian foreign policy. I think it is not widely appreciated that India's foreign policy, in fact, is a little older than even India's freedom. In 1946, when Jawaharlal Nehru became what could be the equivalent of the Prime Minister but not quite so, he took the Foreign Relations portfolio with him and even before freedom, he chartered the cause for India's foreign policy. One of his very first speech that he made after joining the interim Government in 1946 was his speech on foreign policy. It was made in September 1946..... (*Interruptions*)Sir, the Asian Relations Conference was a landmark....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Akbar, you have taken more than half an-hour. Please try to complete.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: I will just end by two quotations which I hope are relevant on 23rd march, 1947, he said:

"For too long, we, of Asia, have been petitioners in Western Courts and Chancelleries. That story must now belong to the past. We propose to stand on our own feet and cooperate with all others who are prepared to cooperate with us. We do not intend to be the plaything of others."

On his very first visit to the United States, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, in fact, showed that he how to implement what he said. At that time there was a very serious food crisis. And America was awash with food and there was a lot of pressure from the Government and from the bureaucrats that Shri Jawaharlal Nehru went and asked for it. There are very interesting stories about it how Shri Jawaharlal Nehru reacted to this.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude now.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: I would just like to end up with one sentence. When Shri Jawaharlal Nehru was summing up his visit, he spoke on this issue and said that Americans expected something more than gratitude and that more he could not supply. I think this is extremely relevant and extremely important as we continue to charter the course of our national and international policy.

I thank you, Sir, for having given me the opportunity to speak on this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You have forgotten to tell the House whether you support the Adjournment Motion or oppose it.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: You shall know a little more after Shri Gujral's clarifications.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Jaswant Singh.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): I request you to permit Shri Gujral to speak first. I would be obliged if you permit me to speak soon after that, because that would be more relevant.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Shri Akbar had said that he would reply to me question at the end, namely why they are supporting the Government, which he says, has abdicated its responsibility.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He will reply to your question outside the House.

SHR' SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He will tell that after he heard Shri Gujral.....(*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: The Prime Minister was here when I was making the point regarding refuelling of USA planes. After our

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discussions, the refuelling was stopped.....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not going to allow this question answer.

Shri Gujral.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL (Jalandhar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is not very pleasant for me to speak on an Adjournment Motion on a vital issue like the Gulf because I feel that foreign policy is one such sphere where we have over the years built a national consensus. It would have been more pleasant for me to talk about the Gulf crisis as such, to talk about the new scene that is emerging, to talk about the new scenario that is coming up and then try to see if India unitedly can respond to the situation or not.

Our foreign policy was not made yesterday, nor was it made day before yesterday, nor was it made by those who preceded us in the Government. The principles of India's foreign policy, one could say with pride, were spelt by the freedom struggle and one could say with equal satisfaction that after freedom, Nehru worked out its details and placed it on a firm ground. Very often in this House and outside, we have discussed those postulates. Very often here, we have tried to remind ourselves of the famous speech of Nehru after freedom wherein he said that India woke up as a nation when the whole world was sleeping on that particular night. I say with concern that today what we witness is that Government of India is sleeping, when the whole world is awake. This is a sad aspect of the situation that we have come to.

It is important for us to know that the fore of events is close to us. The Gulf is not far away from us, that anything happening in the Gulf not affect us. But for several reasons and and several counts, one could say that

whatever happens there, ultimately affects us. There is a long history of it. It happened in the days when the colonizers were coming via that side. We also can recall what effect the Gulf region had on us then. We have close relations with people who live in that area, Cultural relations, relations of religion, relations of common bonds, relations of should History of colonial era and relations forged during our freedom struggles. Therefore, whatever happens there ultimately affects us and vice versa.

This mini-war which was unleashed a month ago shattered many dreams. One of the shattered dreams pertained to the new situation that emerging at the end of the Cold War. We were hoping and expecting that this new epoch would be a period of cooperation, wherein issues would be settled by discussion and mutual cooperation. But unfortunately, the war which was unleashed has shattered such dreams.

Here, on one point I agree with Mr Akbar. The war was neither sanctioned by the United Nations, nor was it ever fought under the auspices of the United Nations. The Secretary General of the United Nations is on record, having said so. I feel that unfortunately in the sweep of events and also because of the barrage of propaganda of disinformation, war was not be avoided.

We feel that there were four occasions at least when the war could have been averted.

The war could have been avoided when the Gulf Countries met in Riyadh soon after 2nd of August. There was every prospect and there is enough evidence available that Mr. Saddam Hussain was not only willing to withdraw but had actually started withdrawing. But this may not be the occasion for me to tell you in detail what I was told by the King of Jordan himself, who confirmed to me that but for strident attitude taken by a par-

particular power that was extremely keen on war, the war would have been avoided.

The war could have been evaded second time too during the Cairo meeting of the Arab nations. There also it was possible, the discussions could have been led in that way. But again, the way the President of Egypt conducted the meeting all such possibilities were neutralised. That was about the 12th of August; At that time as I have said it was possible to avoid war.

It was again possible in January itself when the United Nations Secretary General went to Baghdad and had meetings with both the Foreign Minister and Saddam Hussain. I do not know why his report was not made public then. This report clearly states that Saddam Hussain was willing to listen. And that was my impression also, when I met Saddam Hussain in August as well, I did not think that Saddam Hussain was inflexible. All those who now project that war was foreseeable all that time live in a world, that is far away from reality. All of those who were dealing with diplomacy at one level or the other were not only hoping but also believing that war could be avoided and the lingering problem could be sorted out peacefully. Now we seen that it is the peaceful citizens who have suffered and are in the midst of misery.

Saying this, I do not mean that in any way India at any stage condoned the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq. We were in step with the rest of the world. Very frequently in this House, I had myself presented and enunciated details of other policies as the Gulf Crisis was developed.

I had stated that our policy was three-pronged rather four-pronged. One we were against the occupation of Kuwait. We wanted Kuwait to be evacuated. We were keen that this problem should be sorted over peace-

fully. That is why, even while voting in the United Nations every time we said it.

Last time when I addressed the United Nations at the end of September, I insisted on it. I said that the problem could be and should be sorted out peacefully. The third aspect that persistently emphasised was that it should be possible to work out a solution of entire problem of West Asia. This is the three-pronged policy.

Then there was a fourth dimension of it. That dimension was very close to our hearts, it was the fate and lot of our fellow citizens living in Kuwait and in Iraq.

My hon. friend Shri M. J. Akbar whom I respect a great deal knows it. Very often, I had talked to him about it those days. He would also kindly recall that while I am a very humble person who went to these countries, to Baghdad and to Kuwait on my return. I was done a unique honour in this House and in the Rajya Sabha by all sides of the Houses have applauded the pursuit of my foreign policy at that time. It might not suit Mr. Akbar now to remember it. It might not suit Mr. Akbar's party to think that anybody else can also understand the policies of foreign affairs apart from those who are his patrons and chiefs. There are also people who have dedication to the foreign policy. There are some people who have spent a life time studying foreign policies. There are also people like me who may be humble who may not have been born in a particular family they also have tried to understand Nehru's heritage. Nehru's heritage is not meant for one family nor for one party and therefore the policy that we pursued was consistent with that legacy. Mr. Akbar has been very keen to know about all these things. I have a great respect for him because he is an intellectual but unfortunately his political qualities are somewhat different. Therefore, unfortunately I would say, when he mixes his fact, he does not want to stick to truth because truth is a

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calamity in the policies that his party presents.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi-with whom I had the privilege of working as a junior Minister—was a very remarkable lady in many ways. She gave all her time and attention to the foreign affairs. She has added some new dimensions to it and one such dimension was to try to improve relations with China. She also tried to improve relations with America. She also tried to improve relations with all those countries which were not on our side in the part and I must say, to a large extent, she succeeded. Her policies also initiated some processes. One of the decisions that she took to let alien ships and aeroplanes pass across the skies and the seas. They were also provided facilities rest, recreation and re-fuelling. This was done in 80s. Mr. Akbar's Leader pursued same policies. I agree with those policies as well.

I did not agree with the policies of his Leader regarding neighbours. It was in the neighbourhood, that much harm was done. It in this are a that we tried to apply correctives. Now, much is being talked about the over-flying. Mr. Akbar might have known that August itself that was coming. I was trying upto the last moment to see that War was averted. That was also effort of the United Nations, I went to all corners of the world, everywhere in that pursuit. We activated the in several ways. We went to the United Nations. I went to Moscow and to various countries of Europe and elsewhere in quest for only one objective and that was to keep war at bay. Therefore, when you view a policy of the over-flying or anything else we did not assume that war was inevitable, therefore, we took all steps in this direction. May I tell you one thing more? He is very keen to hear my views that continuity or the foreign policy being a major asset of India's diplomacy. We were all the time also keen to

see that, our anti-warism does not mean anti-Americanism. We were not anti-America and we are not anti-America, even today. We were anti-war then and we are anti-war even today and will be so tomorrow. That has been a good policy that I want to pursue. It was not in August.....(*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I agree with my hon. friend Mr. Gujral that India's foreign policy has been on the basis of national consensus. I shall like to say that we do not rake up the past because it will give a very bad name to this country.(*Interruptions*)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (Calcutta South): You had also done it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Everybody is doing. All right, if one has one it, the others should not follow it. I think we should restrain somewhere. Criticise the present Government as much as you like; but why do you go into the past? Otherwise, it will not present a very happy picture. This much I can say, (*Interruptions*)

SHRIM. J. AKBAR: The reply has come. How does this allowing of the military planes help the cause of peace, is something that I cannot understand. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir: I am very sorry that when our friend Mr. Akbar was referring to the past and—according to us he was making some distortions—the Prime Minister did not get up and give the advice to Mr. Akbar; the advice is coming only when Mr. Gujral is trying to remove the misunderstanding. And I am sure Mr. Gujral will say nothing that will actually harm the past. On the contrary, we will draw upon the glorious past, for a glorious future. (*Interruptions*) I said, 'according to us'.

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: I stand by that,

because Mr. Gujral has just confirmed that he allowed air flights. He also said he did not believe in anti-Americanism. He said so. He allowed air flights, because he did not believe in anti-Americanism. He said that allowing them, according to him, helped the cause of peace; and he was trying to bring peace to the Middle East and the Gulf by allowing American military planes and air corridor. He said it just now. I would like some comments from my friend. I would like to have some comments. How long are you going to defend it? How long can he go on defending this? I would like him to comment on this policy: How long can he carry on this Policy of pro-Americanism? He has admitted it on the floor of the House. Let him answer. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time is very very short. Please help us, because if there is cross talk going on, it will be very difficult. The present subject is also very big. To the extent it is necessary, you can refer to the past policy also, and you have to. Otherwise, you will be totally without any roots; but the time is very limited, and the subject is very vast. May I request all of you to cooperate? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sir, I have a great deal of respect for what you have said.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not precluding your referring to the past.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I have great respect to what the Prime Minister has said. Particularly because I have great regard for the views of Mr. Chandra Shekhar, not today, not yesterday, but all these years. If he says that I should not go into the past, I shall refrain, except to put the record straight. Since Mr. Akbar is very keen to find an talic for his own policies, I will only try to correct that. Therefore, I am not in any way trying to defy what the Prime Minister wants me to do.

I will definitely talk about the present, but I would prefer to go even to the future.

But so far as over-flights were concerned, one aspect must be kept in mind: and that is that overflights did not start in India in 1990. They started in 1984, and the overflights were going on during all the peacetimes. That was the policy which continued. The only regret that I have—and that is what I submitted personally to the Prime Minister also—relates to my feeling that all policies in foreign affairs, in peace time, should be reviewed when even a war comes. Therefore, when war came, it should have been reviewed. If at all I have a grievance about refuelling, it is on that account. If Government, in its wisdom which they will possibly tell us, thought that they were serving India's interests by permitting refuelling, I will be glad to hear that. But so far as we are concerned, I can only tell you that a request for refuelling came to us also which we rejected for reasons that we have already given. (*Interruptions*)

I have said that, and I resume my own trail viz. that the policies we were following had four prongs: (1) Kuwait must be evacuated; (2) The issues must be settled peacefully; (3) the West Asia crisis must be looked into; the occupation of the Arab lands; Golan Heights and elsewhere should not be condoned either. At the same time, Palestinian people's cause must be kept in the fore.

Fourthly, another policy prong was how to get our people out from that difficult area. I hope this House will recall and I would like again to say with gratitude that the way nearly 50,000 people came out was something which very few countries have achieved. I do not want to claim any personal glory for it; it was India's effort; it was Indian Government's effort; it was the effort of those who worked for the Government of India that we succeeded and I think in that context India should take pride in that.

[Sh. I.K. Gujaral]

The bombing of Iraq has been going on for more than a month now. I will not take your time to tell you what havoc it has played. Our media has told us how many people have died, how many houses have been destroyed and how many lives have been lost.

Unfortunately, from the every beginning, we saw that whereas the United Nations was all the time were talking in terms of evacuation of Kuwait, the United States had different policy objectives, and if you kindly recall. President Bush's first speech, after the war on January 17, you would see that he was changing the war aims and conveyed that destruction of Iraqi power had come to be a very important part of the American Policy. Neither the United Nations nor any of the United Nations' resolutions ever endorsed I also learnt it during my visit to U. S. Capital. But since I need not go in detail, I can only say this that we are feeling very much worried that the war aims should be this changing. When we talk of refuelling, we have to keep this aspect in mind as well. If the war objectives were this changing, and if the diplomats in our Ministry has noticed that the objectives were the destruction of the Iraqi power then this dimension would acquire far more difficult position. I would like to say what some of the Media has said that the refuelling facility given because of the IMF loan and what not. I do not go with that. I hope, when the Prime Minister or his any other Minister replies to the debate, he will clarify it.

When the Americans were bombing Vietnam and Hon. Mrs. Gandhi knew full well the its condemnation could mean a lot. It was at that time, you will kindly recall, that we were facing a famine and PL-480 was the issue. But Mrs. Gandhi took the risk and this had brought pride to India. She condemned the bombing of Vietnam and Hanoi, this is

the tradition of India's Foreign Policy that we have tried to work out.

Mr. meeting with Saddam Hussein gave me an impression. You will kindly recall that I met him twice last year. I had met him in June on bilateral visit and again during the crisis I met him. If I recall correctly, I think on the 20th August or so, about 18 days after the crisis began, I had met him. I did not get an impression that his stand was inflexible; I did not get an impression that given an opportunity, issue could not be sorted out peacefully and that was why I was trying to persuade NAM to take the initiative; it was because of this that I was trying to approach other Powers to persuade them to see that it could be sorted out peacefully and effectively. When I went to the United Nations, I met the Secretary-General of the United Nations also. When I spoke in the United Nations, I emphasised the same point again. Unfortunately, the powers that were, were trying to push things in a different direction.

I mentioned a while ago about the U.N Secretary General's report after meeting President Saddam Hussain. Why was that report not circulated? What was circulated was keep to secret. Why was it not made an open document? Why were the verbatim records, of the talks between the Secretary-General and Mr. Saddam Hussein not circulated as U. N. documents? There are some questions which still remain unreplied.

When the war began, we saw that the Government's drift here began. Whereas all of us, including Mr. Akbar's party and ourselves—we all-demanded straightaway a cease-fire, because that again has been a tradition of India's foreign policy that whenever a war breaks out we try first to have a cease-fire and then only think of other things but on the 18th the Government of India's policy was evacuate Kuwait first and everything else would follow. There was a shift on the 20th the Government of India's policy

was evacuate Kuwait first and everything else would follow. There was a shift on the 20th, again a shift on the 21st, and again another shift on the 22nd, and yet again a shift when the Foreign Minister went to the NAM group meeting in Belgrade. This created different impressions. I am not asking them to condemn, nor am I asking them to denigrate anybody. But I think this drift has done a great deal of harm. If, from the very beginning the united voice of India would have been in favour of a cease-fire, then perhaps the result would have been different. The NAM's voice could have been different. Unfortunately, the NAM's voice was not heard for several reasons. May be for reasons historical. The fact is that the NAM powers themselves were divided in the Arab lands and due to the fact that all of us were functioning through the United Nations. I am one of those who believe firmly and strongly that the Non-Aligned Movement has a great deal of relevance and a great deal of force. And I think particularly today when there is a great pressure coming on all of us, the Non-Aligned Movement provides an umbrella for all of us to come together. Therefore, nobody should be under the impression that because the cold war has ended the role of NAM has ended. What is under attack today? When the NAM was formulated in Mr. Nehru's time, at that time our political sovereignties were under attack. Now our economic sovereignties are under attack. And, therefore, only collectively we can safeguard ourselves. Otherwise, we see the new scene emerging in Europe. We see the new condominiums emerging to pressurise us, sometimes in the name of Uruguay rounds and sometimes in the name of protection and what not. The NAM is a protection, a collective protection for all of us and therefore I think we must not let anybody make us believe that NAM has become irrelevant or something that can be disposed of.

Now, I come to a new situation that is emerging. If the news given this morning by

the Radio is correct that the initiative taken by the Soviet Union is getting some results and there is a Possibility of sorting this out, this would be a new situation helpful for us.

A few days ago Mr. Baker gave a testimony before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Congress of the United States. And he tried to spell out his security perceptions for the West Asia. I hope this House and particularly the Government will read it carefully, because it is very ominous for us. The way it is begin spilt out, it is going to affect our security very adversely and this is something which we have to sort out. That also spells out the possibility of the foreign powers not withdrawing from this area.

This morning I saw in the Times of India a statement by the Kuwait Crown Prince in which he has said and I quote,

"If I believe that the security of my country needs to have some troops from foreign countries I would not hesitate to use them so."

Well, from Kuwait's point of view, one may say it may be right or wrong. From the point of view of the region it means that now a methodology is being discovered whereby these forces, both naval and air may not be withdrawn. And if they do not withdraw we should in that situation particularly, try to understand security implications for India, should try to work out responses. I hope that the Government will try to build up an all party consensus on that basis. This adds to our anxiety. I think the time has come when India must clearly and categorically re-state and loudly India's Arab policy. We must re-state where we stand. We stand for the Arab unity. We stand for the sovereignties of those nations. We stand for the rights of the Palestinian people. We stand for the evacuation of the occupied lands. We also at the same time say that Iraq's state structure, its Army, its integrity, its unity must not be disturbed.

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And I think that is something which we must state categorically. We must state categorically also that if any forces are needed to see to it that Kuwait is peacefully evacuated then these forces should be UN forces and these forces should not be supplied by one power or the other. If one super power stays there, then the entire region will see a new situation, which we cannot possibly tolerate. Also we must see to it that no punitive actions are taken against Iraq because in the name of punitive actions, we have seen as to how the countries have been destroyed. We must also see to it that the monitoring of the future West Asian security is the responsibility of the region itself. And if non-regional powers are to be invited, then India has an interest. India's interest must be safeguarded this time not because we want to go in another's land. But if any other countries with whom our security interests do not coincide are brought and sucked into this thing, then India has to see to it that the issues are settled not by outside powers. They are not imposed from elsewhere. All security arrangements for the region must be voluntary. They must not be imposed from outside and they must be with him is the region itself, without any exceptions. No country should be kept out. Iraq should not be kept out of it. Iran should not be kept of it. These are the issues which are not receiving our attention.

Much is being talked about the nuclear weapons and the poisonous gas weapons. India has been correctly and, I think, continuously opposing the nuclear weapons. India is also opposed to all those weapons who have prospects of mass alienation. Then, when we decide that the Iraq should abstain from this, we must also look and see that Israel does it. If Israel's nuclear weaponry is kept in tact and that fact remains, that adds a new dimension for us. In these issues, I think, India can play a role. India should play a role. I believe that India has a capacity to

play a role on these issues. I think, one thing is to be decided. I do not mean any disrespect. I hope the decision must be known as to who is taking the decision—the Government or some extra constitutional authorities who would dictate from outside. Those extra constitutional authorities should not dictate and let the Government function on its own. (Interruptions) I am not blaming you. Why are you worried?....(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The guilty conscious is always vocal.... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. J. AKBAR: In your case, it was silent.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: The perception of Indian interests should not be viewed in terms of petty contracts. The perception of the Indian interests is far more vital and far bigger. We have security interest. We have interests for the future of peace in this region and those interests have to be safeguarded. We must help and assist the Arabs to get out of their psychological injuries. We must help in securing peace in the Arab land and we must help in consolidating our relations with the Arab world. We must see to it that the new economic order that we are thinking of does not spell doom for any country. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is on record having said that he could have done it. But he did not do it. Therefore, now a time has come. We must formally and clearly state our policy. I do hope that the Government of India will get out of this slumber and will not do what it did in the last one month.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jodhpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have heard with rapt attention the intervention of my friend, the former Minister of External Affairs. He attempted to correct a wrong that had taken place.

Sir, I believe, a much wider subject of profound importance to us has unfortunately been reduced to an issue of adversarial contention of approval or disapproval or censure of this Government. We sit in Opposition to this Government. The leader of my Party is the leader of the Opposition.

15.00 hrs.

I am, therefore, struck by the sense of irony that participants in this governance ought to be attempting to censure the Government. In effect what has happened is that a major international development, a development that affects India's economy and hence our domestic policy, a development which has very close nexus with our national security both short and long-term, has been limited in focus. Because we have limited it in focus instead of examining the much broader canvas of our total foreign policy perception, then in the context of the Gulf or of the conceptualisation of examining and re-examining the relevance of that concept, we as Parliament will limit ourselves to a view of just one aspect and that too not of the totality of policy perceptions but merely of the conduct of policy in just one regard.

I had before the beginning of the discussion when the motion for adjournment was taken up, suggested to the hon. Speaker that instead of taking up this particular subject as a motion of adjournment it would be far more beneficial if we engage ourselves in an examination of the totality of the Gulf policy, of the totality of the situation as exists in the Gulf today. That is why, we cannot go entirely or totally with the Mover of this adjournment motion or the subsequent hon. Members from the Congress party who have supported this motion for adjournment.

Since the whole aspect has been focussed only on the question of refuelling let me make it clear where the BJP stands on this particular point. But before making it

clear let me very briefly try to draw the attention of this House to what happened in 1962. I then had the honour of wearing the uniform. And what happened in 1962 need not be recounted less. What happened in 1972 is also relevant. What happened in 1972 because of the developing relations between the People's Republic of China and the United States of America and what it amounted to us as India also need not be recounted. In the contest of 1979-80 Afghanistan, I need not remind this House as to what happened thereafter. But I would lend support to what my previous speaker had said.

It is in 1984 when the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan was still continuing and when late Mrs. Gandhi was the Prime Minister, if I am not mistaken, in August, 1984 that re-berthing facility, the facility for refuelling, overflight etc. were extended yet again to the United States of America. Of course, that has been existing on the basis of non alignment. But non-alignment, as my previous speaker mentioned, cannot be reduced merely and blindly to anti-Americanism or anti-Sovietism.

The present phase starts really and there I share the hon. Member from Kishanganj talking of 2nd of August as the decisive date. Though I hold him in very high regard and as a personal friend, if 2nd of August was the date on which there was aggression caused on Kuwait, then 2nd, 3rd or 4th of August was also the date when re-examination or review of the refuelling facilities ought to have taken place. It is all very well for my good friend, hon. Mr. Inder Gujral to say that once hostilities broke out, a review ought to have been conducted on that particular facility. I believe that in the situation that emerged after 2nd of August when Government knew that refuelling facilities existed then such a review must have been conducted. I wish to put it to you that the one overriding impression is that the Central

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persuasion in whatever we wish to do in terms of foreign policy or in examining or re-examining the conduct of one or another Government, must be a rational examination, clinical and objective, of national interests, our national interests and only our national interests, and those national interests in a rapidly changing world. In the context of changes, it perceptions remain static, then we will have to pay a price as a nation. that is why in the context of refuelling, BJP stated clearly on 19th January and subsequently on the 1st of February in Jaipur that:

- (i) Refuelling, berthing, hospitality is a routine courtesy shared between and extended to sovereign nations.
- (ii) If refuelling was granted to the United States of America, that was an act in consonance with all earlier practices and also an extension of India's national interests.
- (iii) India enjoys and benefits from such reciprocal courtesy from at least fifteen countries. Routinely, Indian Air Force/Indian Navy has an opportunity to berth in various countries of the world and IAF aircrafts have a facility to refuel at least in fifteen other countries of the world.
- (iv) The first review of this refuelling facility ought to have been made by the Government on or soon after 2nd of August, 1990.

We have further stated, and explicitly, that such a review should have included a process of consultations with all political leaders and all political parties in Parliament.

BJP has further and explicitly stated that it stands for strengthening of U.N. efforts in regard to the Gulf conflict. I am somewhat intrigued by the intervention of my good friend hon. Inder Gujral when he was referring to UNSCR 678, or perhaps UNSCR 660 to 678. Of course, the stated war aims of United States of America- to which I will come in a moment- and the stated Resolution of the United Nations Security Council do not harmonious and I share this perception. But the entire process of UNSCR 660 to 678 is, if I am not mistaken, under Chapter 51 of the United Nations Charter, and that Chapter in relation to Kuwait gives the totality of these Resolutions a much wider coverage. So, the BJP has stated clearly that we stand for full implementation of all U. N. Resolutions for the entire West Asia. We have stated clearly that to this purpose, we recommend an early convening of a comprehensive conference on West Asia; that we believe and stand for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, just as we believe that Israel has its right too to co-exist in a comity of nations. We have further said that we are opposed to the extension of this conflict, either geographically or conceptually, in other dimensions, whether atomic, chemical or biological, whether by Iraq or by Vice-President Quayle when he talks of the possibility of the use of tactical nuclear weapons. The BJP has also explicitly stated that we do not subscribe to a division of the globe in blocs, either of super power or of just one powers. We do not believe or accept regional security systems imposed from outside, of one or the other variety. That is why the BJP stated that we stand for and wish to encourage all efforts that are directed towards peace.

All this the BJP has stated clearly and I just reiterate. It is necessary for me to make clear our perception on the strategic underpinnings of this conflict-the respective war aims of the two principal combatants. I believe, Sir, that the underpinning of this is

control over a strategic raw material-oil-and the control over a strategic raw material, oil, is a desire pursued by not just the United States, but also Iraq. That is the aim. There were subsidiary aims and those subsidiary aims of Iraq are the hegemony or primacy in the Arab world and just as the subsidiary war aims stated by President Bush, go to the extent of talking of the destruction of Iraq war machine, of the industrial capacity of Iraq or of its nuclear capacity. We are unable to convince ourselves that these subsidiary aims are the aims that were moved in the United Nations in the resolutions which it has passed, from Resolutions 660 to 678. But before I come to the specifics of what ought to be done now, I do wish to share with you, Sir, and this House, and take a minute to say what ought to have been or what are our national interests, hence aims, in the context of this present conflict. I believe, Sir, that in the debate that has taken place, in the often stated protest that we saw of the Congress Party on this limited aspect of refuelling, what have gone as a casualty and what have been put aside are national interests and national aims. I would like to very briefly state about this. We must primarily protect and preserve Indian economic interests flowing from the Gulf War. Secondly, we must try and ensure the presence of our voice as a nation in the Gulf. Thirdly, we must shield against adverse impact on our national security during the continuation of this conflict and after this conflict. Fourthly, we must, at all costs, prevent the importation of this conflict on Indian soil, particularly as a factor in our domestic polity. These three or four very briefly stated national aims or national goals could be subscribed to. Then it will be for us to assess whether this re-fuelling was a correct step or was not a correct step. It is in that context that we have to examine our policy and then only we can examine initiation of the Gulf policy and after that, the conduct of our diplomacy in the context of the Gulf.

A very brief word, Sir, about non-alignment. I do wish to make it very clear, Sir, that the BJP stands for a re-examination of what is commonly understood by non-alignment. We have got into the habit of paying lip service to a perception merely because it is 40 years old. I would happily engage in a debate with my friend, Inder Gujral, to examine the role and relevance and continued importance of non-alignment as a concept that we are practising and as a concept that can be applied relevantly to India's national interests. Sir, I do wish to, and in saying that I know that perhaps I will earn the ire of many many in this House. The BJP does not subscribe to the continuance of Nehruvian non-alignment. It would hurt a great many, but I do believe, Sir, that what was held as relevant 40 years ago need not automatically be treated as continuing to hold relevance for perpetuity. Unless we examine the dogma, the doctrine, purely outside the sentiment, we will be committing very grave error not just for today, but for coming years. I do not have time to elaborate this. But I want to make it clear where we stand. So far as the moves for restoration of peace are concerned, we welcome the initiative taken by the Soviet Union and President Gorbachev. I would like to share with the House and with you that I have just been informed had-an-hour back that the United States has rejected the Soviet initiative. I believe that in the rejection of the initiative taken by President Gorbachev, India should obtain an opportunity to make its presence felt. I did not believe that the Gorbachev initiative was a final document. What Mr. Gorbachev has set in motion is a process and its acceptance precisely at this moment by President Bush would have surprised me and indeed the fact that the United States of America has not found it convenient to accept that initiative need not discourage the process of peace. I believe that in the eight point formulation that President Gorbachev has put across, there is a useful blueprint for continuance of nego-

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tiations, for continuance of talks. That is where I believe the present Government ought to play a positive and meaningful role. I do not again have time to elaborate this in details. But I would like to leave that thought with the present Government.

On the question of Indo-Arab relationship, a great deal is spoken in sentimental terms of traditional Indo-Arab friendship. When my good friend Mr. Gujral was referring to Indo-Arab traditional friendship, I do not know to which historical period he was going. But during the First World War, Indian troops have fought in Mesopotamia and defeated the forces of the Ottoman Empire. We have fought in West Asia in the Second World War. So, when he talks of the traditional Indo-Arab relationship, perhaps he means Non-Alignment, that the initiative that was taken after the Non-Alignment concept came into being and he is talking of traditional Indo-Arab relationship, the post-Nehruvian or Non-Alignment period. Even then, the centre point of that was Indo-Egypt friendship and you cannot forget it. If you do it, you cause grievous injury to our long-term interests by merely making it an Indo-Iraq equation. Yet again, Sir, I do not have time to enaborate all the points. I will conclude after leaving two or three thoughts.

Firstly, the mistakes of foreign policy—unlike mistakes in domestic policy which can be corrected quickly—afflict successive generations and the consequences of mistakes in foreign policy have to be paid by many generations to come. I need only Jammu and Kashmir and our China policy to point out the mistakes in foreign policy which have left us with the legacy. Therefore, whatever we decide today, let us reflect on the fact that mistakes on foreign policy, particularly when you take them with sentiments uppermost in your mind will afflict succeeding generations of Indians to come. The second thought is

that yesterday's idols cannot continue to be validated for ever. (Interruptions) I wish to reiterate that mistakes of foreign policy will continue to afflict succeeding generations. Therefore, when you think of foreign policy, think of it outside of the sentimentality. We cannot continue to worship yesterday's idols for ever and perpetuating them in our 'temples' of South Block.

A great deal is being spoken of consensus on the issue of foreign policy. Try and build that consensus Mr. Prime Minister, not on sentimentality but on the reality of national interests.

That is all that I would like to say.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Marmugao): I believe that allowing refuelling of the American aircraft at this point of time when they were going to Gulf region and participating in the Gulf war, what does it indicate? There has been a statement of the American Embassy in Delhi where the American Embassy has come out clearly saying that these aircrafts were carrying spareparts for their military hardware. It is clear, whatever the nature of these aircraft, it in some manner, they were involved in the war efforts, then we should not have allowed them to refuel because the international law is very clear. This type of facilities, whatever designation they may go, can only be given to allies and we are not allies of the coalition forces. We are not allies of the United States at this point of time. Therefore, this refuelling is not a very correct step. It goes without saying, while these aircrafts would be there in the airport for one or two hours, inspection of what type of materials they were carrying actually could not take place less than 24 hours. That is what the experts say. Therefore, there is no weight in saying that these aircrafts were not carrying military hardware.

It is true that our approach to this whole question has not been within the tradition of

Indian foreign policy or within the tradition of Non-aligned policy. There may be many reasons for this. There might be the fact that this Government took over quite recently and they are concerned with so many major issues. It may also be, as has been said, that we are in the deep economic crisis which is not the creation of this Government. Now those who can help us in this crisis may be putting pressure. They are doing to all other countries which are much more powerful than our own country. They are exerting pressure for changing the foreign policy. But then, whatever difficulties may be there, but the message from this House, the message from this Government has got to go loud and clear that India is not for sale; that Indian foreign policy is not for sale on dollars or otherwise. Indian foreign policy is not for sales and whatever difficulties we are facing, let us face them bravely let us face them on principles. Therefore, this should be our approach.

I would like to say, I would not support the adjournment-motion. I do not see ground for this House supporting this adjournment-motion. It is because, compared to what the previous Government policy on the very Gulf crisis has been, the performance of this Government has in any manner be less creditable. I have the highest regard for Mr. Gujral as a very capable, intelligent and pleasant person. Now that he has thought it fit to make some reference to the past and has waxed more eloquence on the successes of his own policy, let me use his own words to set the record straight.

I along with my colleague here, Mr. Basheer—we have been the only two Indian citizens, including all citizens, politicians and officials—who had the opportunity to go to Kuwait after the take-over by Iraq, apart from Mr. Gujral himself. I must inform this House what transpired in our meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister of Kuwait, Mr. Ramadan. He was very unhappy with our

Government because when Mr. Gujral had a meeting with Mr. Gujral, he has repeatedly mentioned to us in our meeting with him in Baghdad. Mr. Gujral has promised that India would supply food stuff and medicines in the planes that would come to take back our citizens in Kuwait mainly and to some extent in Iraq. The Deputy prime Minister of Kuwait has made it very clear: "We never asked for foodstuffs and medicines. It was your Foreign Minister who offered this facility." And having offered, we are very sad and very surprised and, in fact, certainly disillusioned, by the fact that though the UN embargo does not and cannot be against supply of medicine and foodstuffs, Indian planes are coming without the see essential things for our men, women and children.

This reflected down the line in the Iraqi administration with the result that there was an unpleasant feeling towards Indians that while, I a Member of Parliament and my colleague, another member of Parliament were allowed into Baghdad, not only Baghdad but even Kuwait, a Union Minister like Shri Unnikrishnan and other Ministers of the State Governments of Kerala and Goa were not allowed, in fact, even anywhere in side Iraq. They were not given visas.

This shows that the previous Government foreign policy antagonised Iraq and what was unprecedented achievement-with utmost respect I am saying this, but this is what transpired the foreign policy of the previous Government managed this unprecedented achievement of antagonising both the parties, both Iraq and Kuwait.

I will tell you what happened when Mr. Gujral went to Kuwait. We went to Kuwait and we had a meeting with the Indian citizens there. They were wholly disappointed by the performance of our own Government when Ministers went there. That related particularly to the public meeting that Mr. Gujral had in Kuwait. At this public meeting, Mr.

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Gujral was eloquent again on our friendship with Iraq, with the Iraqis and justified all sorts of things. This was a public meeting. Lakhs of people were there, not only Indians but also Kuwaitis and the result was that a backlash of the Kuwaitis against Indians started. At that time, the slogan on the walls of Kuwait was "One Dinar for a Palestinian killed." After that day, a slogan was added to that "One fil for every Indian killed." A fil is a hundredth part of a Dinar. That was really the humiliation and the trouble that Mr. Gujral, in his enthusiasm, has created for the people.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I wish he had spoken before I did. Then I would have had adequate time to reply. But since he has made some allegations, I hope he will kindly let me respond to them. Of course, he has one advantage and, that is he can say anything because he does not have to back it up. Therefore, all the talk that he is talking of two or three months after coming from Iraq, absolutely loses its relevance. At no stage during my visit to Baghdad, did I meet the Deputy Prime Minister he is referring to. The question of my talking to him did not arise. I did not talk.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: The Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Kuwait.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I did not talk to him. President Saddam Hussein neither asked me nor did I promise supply of food and medicines. All the same, as a humanitarian nation, we did send medicines later on. Also, you will kindly recall that both for our nationals and also for the people of other nationalities who were stuck there, we sent a food ship and India was the only country which succeeded in getting UN approval for sending food ship. Even after the food had been distributed some 5,000 tonnes were left un-

used, at that time again, Iraq was asking us to give it to them. We told them that we could do it only after UN approves and UN did approve it and the food was left there. I am very sorry he has flung all the filth on my talks in Kuwait. He is a friend of mine. But it is untrue and I totally and strongly contradict it.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Mr. Gujral, it is very easy to say that it is untrue. I was there. Mr. Basheer was there. My talk with Mr. Ramadan is already there. There is a record of it and there are all the Indian citizens on the Committee. Who will say what actually happened?

I mention this only to say that this is not merely a fault of this Government. The distortion of foreign policy began by the previous Government and that is my submission based on my personal knowledge and personal experience of my going to that part of the world, that very few people, hardly a dozen, have been allowed to go. It remains a matter which is really not very good but it is almost a regret for the Government of India that while private members of Parliament were allowed by the Government of Iraq to go to Baghdad not merely, but to Kuwait, Union Minister like Mr. Unnikrishnan of that Government to which you belong, Mr. Gujral and, Ministers of the State Government that accompanied him, were not allowed. Would you explain why this unpleasant and such an unfortunate situation arose? I will just make a point that we must correct those distortions on the ground. It has been mentioned here by Shri Gujral that about 150000 Indian citizens who have come from there went through a lot of troubles, they went through enormous troubles in the desert, whilst the Americans, whilst the Britons, whilst the Germans who are the coalition forces were allowed to go straight from Kuwait to Frankfurt, to New York, to London but the Indian friends of Iraq who were allowed to go were made to go through the desert suffering so many indignities.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: How many were there?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: It is a large number. There is not talk about that. The point is this. I have mentioned that the Embassy in Baghdad at that point of time was not merely effective. It is a matter of great sadness and shock which this Government must correct that. Even at this point of time, our Ambassador in Baghdad has deserted his post, he is not there while so many other Ambassadors are there. The Ambassador of Cuba-Cuba is a small country-is not only there but he is also reporting to the outside world, he is reporting to his own Government. Further, it is not merely the Ambassador of Cuba who is there but doctors, nurses and other people of Cuba are there to help the civilians there. But our people, the leader of Non-Aligned Movement, leader of the third world have deserted and the responsibility goes to the Head of the Mission in Baghdad about whom I have already in a letter to Shri Gujral at that point of time pointed out that he was not really doing what was required of him.

Sir, I would, therefore, like to submit that our policies on that region have to be corrected. The Coalition Forces are undoubtedly violating the mandate given to them by the Resolution of the Security Council, No. 678. The Resolution of the Security Council is to liberate Kuwait. But what the Coalition Forces are doing is they are destroying Iraq. They are not merely destroying the military installations but also destroying and killing civilians and that is what is actually happening at this point of time. What is happening is not liberation of Kuwait but it is the destruction of Iraq. This is against all canons of international law and this is against the Resolution No. 678 specifically which permit them to engage in a conflict with Iraq.

In this context, I cannot get in better witness than one of the most eminent citi-

zens of the United States, a former Attorney-General of the United States, a leading light of the World Peace Movement Justice Ramsey Clark. He has written a letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 12th of this Month reporting his visit of Baghdad during the period from February 2 to February 8, 1991. I will just quote the points that he made.

Sir, permit me to quote this. This has come from a very impartial source, a man who is not an India, who is a citizen of the United States, who is a legal mind, a judicial mind highly respected all over the world. I will quote from Mr. Ramsey Clark's letter to the Secretary-General of U. N. dated 12th of this month:

".....No UN resolution authorizes any military assault on Iraq, except as is necessary to drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait. The bombing that has occurred throughout Iraq is the clearest violation of international law and norms for armed conflict, including the Hague and Geneva Conventions and the Nuremberg Charter. It is uncivilised, brutal and racist any moral standard. With few if any exceptions we witnessed, the destruction is not conceivably within the language or contemplation of Security Council Resolution 678/44.

I urge you to immediately notify the Member States of the General Assembly and the Security Council of the information herein provided. I urge you to ask for the creation of an investigative body to examine the effect of U. S. bombing of Iraq on the civilian life of the country. Most urgent, I ask you to do everything within your power to stop the bombing of cities, civilian population, public utilities, public highways, bridges and all other civilians areas and facilities in Iraq, and elsewhere. If there is no cease fire, bombing must be limited to

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military targets in Kuwait, concentrations of military forces in Iraq near the border of Kuwait, operational military air fields or identified Scud launching....."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no time for all these things. You have made your point.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Should I lay it on the Table of the House?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is not necessary. It is not allowed according to the rules also.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Right, Sir. I am making this point that it is a violation of international law the way the destruction of Iraq is being conducted. And, therefore, our Deputy Minister now, who goes to join the Non-aligned Ministerial Team, he should be requested and he is required to go to Iraq to call and urge the United Nations to form an investigative team to investigate into these violations of the United Nations mandate. Also, our approach should be that Iraq must undoubtedly withdraw from Kuwait. Use of force in international relations and take over of another sovereign State is not permissible. But at the same time, the Resolutions that had been violated, are not merely the Resolutions concerning the Kuwait but other Resolutions of the Security Council have also been violated. Peace it is said is indivisible so in international legitimacy. It is necessary, at this point of time immediately to go in for cease fire. What is immediately required is cease fire. It is also necessary at this point of time to have a time-bound programme for convening international conference so that there is stable peace in the Middle East and Palestine State is created.

I would just take one minute to mention something which is crucial and will be shock-

ing and unfair to our people if this is not referred to today, namely, the plight of the Indian citizens who have come from that area. It is most unfortunate that our national committee for the rehabilitation of these people, which was an assurance given by the Government in this House, has not yet been constituted. The national relief fund for these people is also an assurance given to this House. But after six months, it has not yet been constituted. An important point of concern to them is, there has been a stoppage of passport service. There was a bond entered into by them for their repatriation, that bond was cancelled by the previous Government. Now having been cancelled, the Government now is asking for the refund of that money. This is a humanitarian point. I feel very strongly about it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please be brief.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: This bond which has been cancelled is most unfair to our people who have contributed their money to our reserves. NRI deposits of the gulf people are more than the reserves of the Government of India at this point of time. They have been stopped from getting any passport service. So they cannot get absorbed in India. They cannot go abroad because the passport services have been stopped for them. Bond should be truly cancelled and passport services to returnees from Kuwait and the gulf should be immediately restored.

Secondly, NRI status of these people and all the attached privileges must be maintained until normalisation of the situation in that area.

Thirdly, their children must be allowed to have their births registered in India because the Indian registration authorities are asking them to register their births in Kuwait. Can you imagine the insanity of the situation?

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These things must be done immediately. These are the difficult times for the South. East-West confrontation is over. North-South confrontation may begin. (Interruptions)

Let us once again courageously and bravely assert the leadership of non-aligned movement, assert our right and our duty to work to maintain the sovereignty of the smaller countries of the poorer countries and the integrity of the third world with the world. With these words of greater and greater needs of South-South cooperation in this difficult times of confrontation, I end my speech.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: On the 9th of February a meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Foreign Affairs Ministry was held. It was a very well attended meeting. The meeting put on record the good services rendered by the ambassador and the officials in Baghdad. Therefore it is highly unfair on his part to try to attack those people who worked under very difficult circumstances and therefore put themselves in a very admirable and remarkable position.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I have a right for personal explanation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no allegation against you.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: I have produced the evidence to the Member. How can he raise this issue in this manner? (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): About the refuelling issue the Congress spokesman is silent. Why is he silent about it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY): We also know what you did. (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Mr. Swamy

and Mr. Khashoggi both are responsible for that.

SHRI SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: About Mr. Khashoggi, BJP knows more.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is really going out of control. Please Let Mr. Indrajit Gupta to speak.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Midnapore): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I don't know why Mr. Subramaniam Swamy is getting so agitated. There is no doubt of the fact that on this issue of refuelling of the American aircrafts this Government was totally isolated from public opinion in this country. There was not a single party or a single section of the Press which supported it. Because it was so blatantly and crudely a violation by this Government of the entire traditional foreign policy which is wedded to non-alignment, peace and against war. It was an effort and a behind-the-scene attempt to make this country involved in the war efforts on the side of the Americans—something which cannot be tolerated.

Therefore, as Mr. Akbar said, some alleged air corridor at the time of Mr. Gujral's Government was kept a secret, this refuelling also was kept a secret until he learnt about it from the Times of India. How this refuelling was stopped is also being kept a secret! It was not declared by this Government. First it came from Washington. It was the United States Government which I think has good information as to what is the atmosphere in this country, what is the public opinion, how people are reacting, how embarrassed or not this Government is getting, which has announced that it has decided to make alternative arrangement for fuel, to bail these people out from the difficulty into which they have got.

Therefore there is no doubt of the fact that this refuelling incident that has taken

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place has sullied the image of India throughout the world. Our reputation, our record of the past, our ties with the Arab countries, our ties with the non-aligned movement, everything have been jeopardised and endangered by this refuelling. So it is a good thing it is over now.

Now I want to know only one thing. I am not going to make a long speech. What is going to be the outcome of this debate in this House? The Press report everywhere says that more and more countries are supporting President Gorbachev's proposal which Saddam Hussain is supposed to have accepted. I don't know what the exact position is. More and more Governments are welcoming it, supporting it and pressurising everybody concerned that this Gorbachev's proposal should be made the basis for bringing about a cease-fire and an end to the hostilities and for a peacefully negotiated solution. But what is over Government's attitude towards this Gorbachev's proposal, I don't know upto now.

They may say that we do not know as to what is the content of it. We were told a little while ago that a month or two ago, President Gorbachev had made a proposal to our Government that we should have a day-to-day contact and day-to-day consultation in this situation. Now, we are supposed to believe that they do not know; that the Government of India has not been informed; we have not got an Emissary in Moscow; our relations with the Soviet Union no longer exist; we do not know as to what are the contents of that Resolution. I do not believe it for a single moment. But we are keeping quiet. Governments which are on the side of the so-called coalition, the United States led coalition have reported in the Press-Government of Italy, Government of Egypt, Government of Belgium, Government of Iran, so many Governments and some

more of them. Even the authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany, Chancellor Helmut Kohl is reported to have said that this is the only chance that you will get; get hold of the Gorbachev proposal and use it in order to bring about an end to the hostilities, because the war has been going on for a month. We must note the fact that this is for the first time that Saddam Hussein has agreed to talk directly to a Government which is a member of the Security Council. His attitude was that all the members of the Security Council who have voted for the Resolution 678 are the enemies of Iraq; they passed that Resolution in order to destroy Iraq. But, here a time has come, whatever the reasons may be; we need not have to go into all that now when he has agreed to send his emissary directly to Moscow to talk with the Soviet Government which was very much a supporter of Resolution 678 and it was permanent of the Security Council. This shows a big shift. I think it shows a big shift in Saddam Hussein's position. Maybe some people may say it is because of his weakness now; because his country has been bombarded for one month, and therefore he is feeling shaky. It may not be that. We know what the UN Secretary-General has said. He has gone on record as saying that Saddam Hussein told him that what I have been demanding—that the Kuwait is part of Iraq and I will not leave Kuwait—is not something which is irreversible. This is what UN Secretary-General was quoted as saying. He was told by Saddam Hussein that his insistence on holding on to Kuwait is not an irreversible decision. Even though he was saying that. Of course, the bombers were up in the sky already and Saddam Hussein a part from the aggression he committed against Kuwait for which the whole world is condemning and there is no doubt about it. Kuwait was an independent country; a member of the United Nation in its own right; a sovereign States with its own Government. He sent troops there and took over Kuwait and I would blame him more for the fact that because of

the action of his-indefensible action- he gave an opportunity, he gave an excuse to President Bush to mobilise its huge concentration of military power in the middle-east region. They wanted such an excuse; they got it because of Saddam Hussein. Now we can see what is going on. Americans have not defined clearly their war aims. President Bush should be asked by our Government also to define his war aims. Is it limited to the question of the liberation of Kuwait? Or does it go beyond that? Does he want-as some of the American spokesmen are asking—that we should have a new order; and a new world order has to be created? British Government has said it more openly that the war should be followed by a new order to be set up in the middle-east which means that they want to have a permanent presence there, to dominate that whole region, to dominate the Arab countries of that region, to dominate the oil resources of that region. That is their was aim; not simply the liberation of Kuwait, for which they are saying that they are shedding tears which they never shed before, in case of Panama or Granada or Nicaragua or anyone else. They never shed any tear at that time.

So, we have to understand this. We have to work seriously as a major country of the third-world for bringing about a speedy end to the war and for a peaceful solution. Otherwise, if the war continues, if the war is allowed to continue, we will be faced with a pax-Americana. The war will end with a pax-American a in that whole region and it will be a threat, a standing threat not only to the middle-east; it will be a threat to India. It will be a treat to the Soviet Union. It will be a threat to all the countries round-about in this area. Therefore, it is a country which now feels that it is the only super power left in this world. The other super powers for various reasons have become weakened and one super power exists. They are showing it every day in this huge concentration of armies, of new technology in weapons, of

planes and thanks, of everything, that they are capable of doing whatever they like. Everybody will have to kneel down before them. The continuation of the war of hostilities will be disastrous not only for all this region but for us also. Therefore, I would like to state clearly here whether they will add their voice here and now to that comity of nations which is saying that Gorbachev proposal must be taken hold of and made the immediate instrument for bringing about a cease-fire and an opening to a negotiated settlement. Mr. Chandra Shekhar should not keep quiet on it. What is his attitude towards this Gorbachev proposal, we want to know. If the Governments of the FRG, of Italy, of Egypt, of Belgium can speak out, why the Government of India can't speak out? (*Interruptions*) It is too late in the day to try to indulge in jokes. The country has already been taken for a ride by your policy. Kindly do not try to leave it off now. It is too serious a matter.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I am quite serious about it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: All right, very good.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: If you want my response on that, I shall give it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The response has, of course, to come at the end of this debate. (*Interruptions*) I only want to say is that Resolution 678 never sanctions the use of force. It said that if he does not vacate Kuwait by the 15th of January, any means that are required or considered necessary to make him vacate will be undertaken. It does not say that as soon as the deadline of 15th January is over, from the 16th or 17th, you should begin an all-out military assault on Iraq. This is what they did. Therefore, everybody is now understanding that they were very eager to carry on this war until, as they say, they can destroy Iraq, perhaps dis-

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member Iraq as a country, finish off Saddam Hussein, finish off all his military strength. They have said. They are saying it every day in different ways. But that was not the war objective. That was not the objective of the United Nations Security Council resolution. Therefore, we must not allow people to run amuck. This whole war has gone absolutely contrary to the world developments of the last two or three years. It is a tragic fact. The whole world was moving in a different direction for the last two to three years. The people had begun to think that there will be no more wars perhaps—a world free from wars. All kinds of declarations were signed and announced in different parts of the world—Gorbachev-Rajiv Gandhi, somebody and somebody and all that—based on this hope that a new era has opened of disarmament of reduction of troops, all kinds of security arrangements, no more wars, no more wars. Here something has happened which has run contrary completely to the whole development of these last two or three years. It is a serious matter which we should talk about.

Even in a country like Pakistan now demonstrations are taking place every day in every town and city. Those 10,000 Pakistan troops there, who have been sent, they say, should not fight on the side of the Americans but to defend the holy shrines of Mecca and Medina. Now Mr. Nawaz Sharif's problem has begun: How to bring back those troops? People are demanding it and saying why have they been sent. Demonstrations are taking place all over American cities and towns because the bodies of the dead American soldiers have not yet begun to arrive in America as they used to arrive from Vietnam in those wooden coffins and created so much trouble in the USA. They will come if the land war begins, if President Bush is determined to launch the land war. Up to now, he has had one-way traffic raining bombs from the skies when there is no Iraqi

Air Force to counter it. Saddam Hussein has got some land army, we believe. Every military expert has said it, written about it. They have experienced troops who have fought for eight to nine years in the war against Iran whereas the majority of the US troops in Iraq are people who have never seen active combat or warfare in their lives.

It is not going to be a joke. And then the casualties will come. The American casualties will mount up. Mr. Bush may not care about it but the American people do care. They do not want to see their brother, sons and fathers butchered in the sands of Arabia in order to defend a country called Kuwait. So Sir, we must see which way the wind is blowing in the world. Nobody wants war except a few mad men. What is required now is that the voice of India should be heard loud and strong. This Parliament of India, if possible, should speak out. I do not know whether it is possible or not. You consider it. I am told that in the other House they are trying to do something. You better find out as to what is going on. I do not know whether it can be done or not. You people are running the Government. You should decide what to do. You find out whether anything more can be done from here in favour of a cease-fire and a settlement in this regard... (*Interruptions*)... Sir, you are in the Chair. You can also consider it. But why the Parliament of India, only after one month of this barbarous bombing is coming out on this issue? Sir, the city of Baghdad is going without water, electricity and food. People are being bombed round the clock. I doubt whether any other Arab country could have stood up to this kind of a thing. I doubt whether any country of the third world could have stood up to this kind of a situation. Do not talk about Vietnam. That was different case. They had Ho-chi-minh; and they had fought against the French and the Americans before that. But which are the countries of the third world which can stand this situation? I am really surprised at the way the Iraqis are standing up to this thing.

Their children have no milk. Water is polluted in the city of Baghdad and epidemics will break out any day. Perhaps, they have already broken out. There is no electricity. Houses are being destroyed everyday and they are standing up to it. Merciless bowling is going on. Therefore, it is high time to act.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): I agree with you. Let the entire House adopt an identical resolution as in Rajya Sabha. Let us pass a resolution unanimously here and show our total support and solidarity for secession of this war. Why not we do that? We support you....(Interruptions)... We will ask the Government to do it. Let us all ask together. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We ask you to do it.... (Interruptions)... This is a Government about which Mr. Akbar has said that it has abdicated its responsibility and even then, you are supporting this Government. It is existing only because of you. You cannot get them have a resolution. (Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Let us convert the Adjournment Motion into an unanimous resolution. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The worst thing of all is that by this action of the Government, the United States for the first time got an opportunity to tell the whole world. 'Look! a great champion of peace and non-alignment like the Republic of India is supporting us in this war.'... (Interruptions).... It is a matter of shame. Our self-respect is lost.... (Interruptions).... You always are worried about August and January. (Interruptions)

SHRIM.J. AKBAR: It has been accepted by Mr. Gujral (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: We have heard Mr. Akbar's hair-splitting distinction

between Operation Desert Storm and the other Operation. In any case, once the war broke out openly, why did not you come out with your stand and stop it?

SHRI M.J. Akbar: It is because you were in power. You might have stopped it. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: When the war broke out on the 17th January, you were in power and not ourselves... (Interruptions)... If we go harping only on what happened before the war, then I withdraw my suggestion. I do not think that any agreed resolution will be brought out.... (Interruptions)...

I think you are more interested in that and not in what you should do now to stop the war. I do not know the Government's intention or purpose. They will have to consult with their friends. Let them do it. There is no Minister of External Affairs and there is no Minister of Defence here. Mr. Subramaniam Swamy is holding the fort. (Interruptions)

16.00 hrs

In spite of what Shri Gujral said, he goes on saying no, no..... (Interruptions). The whole thing started with Shrimati Indira Gandhi..... (Interruptions)

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: Shri Akbar, true to his style, as his party's spokesman, thinks that repetition of lies makes it a truth. He has been repeating.....(Interruptions)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: Shri Gujral can check up the text of his own speech. He has admitted that he could not afford to be anti-America..... (Interruptions)

Sir, he has used the word**. I object to it. He must withdraw it right away. He has said that** (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I know that some unparliamentary words have been used. All the unparliamentary words which have been used will not form part of the record. It will be examined and such words will be removed from the record.

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: What is there to be examined. He has admitted himself during the course of his speech....(*Interruptions*)

PROF MADHUDANDAVATE: The word **is unparliamentary, but **is parliamentary. There is a distinction between the two.....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will examine that. I have already said that it will not form part of the record, if it is unparliamentary. There is no point in saying anything further. It is not only the words which have been said against you, but against any other Member also.

Now, Shri Sudarsan Raychaudhuri.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI (Serampore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I must say one thing that today we are discussing a very serious matter, the Gulf war and the India's role in it, from a particular angle. We should have discussed it much earlier in this House, so that we could have arrived at some at some sort of of a decision for ending the war, maybe some consensus also. May be, because Now, the Congress (I) Members are trying to delink the refuelling issue from the adjournment motion, and I am afraid, when the time of voting comes, they would delink themselves from supporting the adjournment motion also. In fact, all the Left parties had asked for convening an emergency session of Parliament to voice the demand of our people for an immediate end to this war, but the Government did not care to listen to our sug-

gestion. Maybe this Government does not want even a regular, normal session to be held, not to speak of any emergency session. We cannot expect anything otherwise from this minority government.

Since the 17th of January, when the United States started war against Iraq; what was this Government doing? Is this Government observing silence most of time as if to mourn the death of our foreign policy of non-alignment? But when our Prime Minister, who most of the times speaks in a sermonising tone as if he commands two-thirds majority in the House, has declared that the issue of Kuwait cannot be linked with the Palestinian issue, in fact it was George Bush speaking through our Prime Minister. The US imperialists want Israel to continue to occupy the Arab Territories, West Bank, Gaza, Golan Heights and the South of Lebanon. Nobody can stop them. Israel knows that its regime would continue its acts of aggression in the entire West Asia with impunity, because it is backed by the US imperialists. Since it is representing the interests of the US not only in West Asia but throughout the world, even in Central America, no one can condemn Israel. It would be a sacrilege to say that unless Israel withdraws from the Arab territories, no peace, no order and no stability is possible in the Middle East.

Our Prime Minister being a man of principles declared therefore that the Palestinian question should be delinked from that of Kuwait. But Sir, is this the way of upholding our policy of non-alignment? Allowing the US warplanes refuelling facilities is just a manifestation of the distinct policy of this Government. This is policy of abject surrender to US imperialism. This is the policy of naked of make appeasement of US imperialism, of destroying our policy of non-alignment.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, historically, ideologically and even realistically, non-alignment is basically anti-imperialist in character. It has developed that way since Independence, since the time of Freedom Struggle. Nobody can distort it because this is the policy of people, not of a particular party, nor that of a particular leader and nor that of a particular family. But this Government which had its birth in political expediency, which thrives and survives in politics expediency thinks otherwise. This Government thinks that the days of non-alignment are over in this so called unit-polar world. Is this the reality? Has imperialism changed its character as some gullible people fondly believe? Don't you find the contradictions between the imperialists and the people of third world countries accentuating day by day? Are you not able to recognise the predatory nature of US imperialism? Then, why did this Government do nothing against this country? Why did they feel shy of speaking against the US? Do you think that liberation of Kuwait is the real objective of US? Is it not a fact that the US really wants to destroy Iraq, to kill even Saddam Hussain? And Saddam Hussein was not inflexible as was pointed out by Shri Gujral.

The United States always tries to thrust its word on West Asia. I must say that no one can support Iraq's action against Kuwait. It is indefensible and it cannot be condoned. But who is this United States to work as the world's policeman? Is it known for its respect for international law? Can we forget the case of Vietnam, Panama, Granada, Nicaragua and Chile? Sir, the ultimate objective of the United States is to subjugate the entire world, particularly the Third World countries. It wants to subjugate their people and their resources. This is the American concept of new international order-Pax Americana! What is the interest of the United States in the Gulf? It wants to control the oil of the entire region, to have puppet government in those Gulf countries who would allow the US and its oil

companies to amass huge profits at the cost of the poor Arab people. Our own Government find fault in it but Iraq has stood against it for more than a month. The US and its allies are pulverising Iraq. Thousands of civilians have been killed. Hospitals, water works, power projects, places of worship, places that represent ancient Mesopotamian Civilisation and everything has been destroyed. Even people, including women and children in underground shelter are not being spared. But Iraq has not surrendered. It is fighting valiantly. The Iraqi people are not alone, the entire people of the third world countries, even of the Western countries, in America and in every other places are with them. Rallies are being held, demonstrations are being held against these war machinations, against this war game of the US. In Bonn, in Berlin, in Tokyo, in Spain, in Italy, in America and in cities after cities, we are seeing that rallies are being held because people know that this is not an UN War. The Resolution-678 calls for using all necessary means but it did not mean, use of force only. All peaceful means should have been exhausted before going in for war. The Resolution neither permits destruction of Iraq. America is clearly violating the UN mandate. Let me refer to Para 4 of the Resolution-678.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. For this quotation, there is no time. There are many other hon. Members who want speak.

SHRI SUDRASAN RAYCHAUDHURI: It says: "Requests the States concerned to keep the Security Council regularly informed on the progress of actions." What did the US and its allied forces do to inform the U.N?

What about Resolutions of UN against Israel? The Resolution 242 asks Israel to leave occupied Arab territories, to stop atrocities there. America did nothing to restrain Israel. In fact, it abetted Israel. This is the true picture of American justice. Our Government too is following that canon of

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justice, i.e. the Palestine issue should be delinked. This is our newly interpreted Non-Alignment. Therefore, it was just natural that this Government allowed re-fuelling facilities to US warplanes, even though, the domestic consumption had been curtailed, domestic flights had been cancelled, *Kisans* were not getting diesel, trains had been cancelled. These US warplanes could have this refuelling facility in Karachi or in Singapore, but they preferred India just to show the world that NAM country is also supporting it. By doing so, our Government had offered credibility to this war, a justification to US war. In spite of demonstrations and appeals from all the major parties, this Government went on giving such facilities. The Prime Minister had told that this action was based on humanitarian grounds. What is this humanitarian ground? The US had destroy even the only one babyfood factory that was there in Iraq. This Government has brought absolute unmitigated disgrace to our nation, to our foreign policy. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi tells that this Government had acted as a hapless spectator in the course of this war. It is not a fact. This Government has actually acted as an better, a collaborator to this US war. Now, the Government of US has come forward to save this Government by telling that it will have some other alternative arrangement and it does not need refuelling facility from India. Mr. Chandra Shekhar did not stop this refuelling. Mr. Bush did it. At least this puppeteer is sensible. Here, the domestic puppeteer directs the Government to topple an elected Government in Tamil Nadu and then to suspend the presentation of the Budget.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I want that, you should be a little more discreet in using the words and phrases.

SHRI SUDARSAN RAYCHAUDHURI: Fresh loans from the IMF are in pipeline. The

puppet Government is grateful and perhaps from this sense of gratitude, it appears today—even in today's Paper, I do not know whether it is *Indian Express* or *The Hindu*—that it is going to allow South Korean warplanes to overfly to Gulf. What is South Korea? They are the collaborator of the US. They would hold one joint military exercise this year, 1991. This Government is allowing South Korea, though appeasing South Korea to appeate United States.

Thanks to a great ruling of the hon. Speaker we have got rid of the defector Foreign Minister. Now, we should find means for getting rid of this Government. This Government should go lock, stock and barrel.

SHRI IBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT (Manjeri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir: I thank you for giving permission to participate in the discussion on the adjournment motion. All of us know that India is the biggest democracy in the East. Together with this, India is the biggest democracy in the East. Together with this, India is the leader of NAM and also a member of the Security Council at present. But India, I must say, and has addicated its responsibility, under the Chandra Shekhar Government by not darking initiative to stop war. India must have taken a strong stand to see that this war is stopped, and the entire humanity is was saved from misery and destruction. This was not done. This was the biggest failure.

The bloody war is going on now, in the Gulf for more than a month. It has got a potential for great catastrophe for the entire mankind. Therefore it is, that all of us desire that the war should end, and there should be a cease-fire, so the concerned parties can settle the dispute around a table, through peaceful negotiations.

As far as invasion of Kuwait by Iraq is concerned, all have condemned it. We do

not condone invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq. But one thing must be understood, about the situation today. With the linkage of evacuation of Kuwait, with the evacuation of the occupied areas of Palestine by Israel, the entire situation has changed. It is here, we support the attitude of Iraq, because we cannot allow aggression from any quarter, and in any part of the world. As you all know, the American policy has been very partisan. It has been an imperialist policy, a policy which treated different countries of the world according to America's own whims and fancies. Zionist Israel occupied certain areas through aggression. Israel occupied various areas of Palestine. It occupied the West Bank, Golan Heights and also the Gaza strip. No doubt, at that time the Security Council had passed resolutions condemning the aggression of Zionist Israel accepting certain proposals. If Palestine but those resolutions were always vetoed by the USA. Therefore what is said is that the USA has always adopted double standards. There has been complete discrimination. Therefore, we cannot accept the policy adopted by USA, where USA is out to destroy Iraq and not liberate Kuwait. Further have to say that the bombardment is going on day and night against Iraq while talks are going on for cease-fire, to settle matters. At the same time, barbaric bombardment is going on, cruel bombardment is going on. By whom? By the imperialistic USA and European countries, all put together against one country, viz. Iraq. What sort of bombardment is it? All of us know it full well: bombing of civil areas, hospitals, schools and along with it, places of worship and civilian safety shelters are also being bombarded where thousands and thousands of people died and suffered grievous injuries. Therefore in this background I welcome the initiative taken by President Gorbachev of USSR to do and the war where. The initiative of NAM was very late. NAM delegation is now thinking of going to Washington, and of going to Baghdad for negotiating a cease-fire. They must have

taken the initiative much earlier. India, a great country, as the leader of NAM, as a member of the Security Council must have taken the lead in the matter. But India failed; and, therefore, we have lost the initiative, and we have abdicated our responsibility. I demand that the Prime Minister should now come out clearly on what is his stand, with regard to the peace proposals of Mr. Gorbachev, the President of U.S.S.R.

As regards refuelling facilities, it is said that we were giving refuelling facilities during peace time. But during war time, you cannot have the same yardstick: you cannot have the same perceptions as during peace time. We must understand that there is difference between wartime and peace time. Therefore, I say that the refuelling facilities given to U.S. warplanes were completely unjustified and they were partisan. These facilities should have been stopped much earlier. They were against all principles of non-alignment. I am very happy that refuelling has been stopped now.

The talks are going on for a ceasefire. We are told that Iraq has accepted the proposal presented by Gorbachev, President of U.S.S.R. for a cease-fire and evacuation of Kuwait. Mr. Bush, President of U.S.A. rejected the proposal and is adamant in continuing the war. He has gone mad being an imperialist power. It is highly essential now to spell out clearly our attitude towards initiative taken by the President of USSR. I must say very clearly that we must take a stand for Arab unity; we must stand for the integrity and the sovereignty of the Arab world and we must stand for the integrity of Iraq.

If we now demand vacation of aggression from Kuwait and Iraq, then why not say that simultaneously the American troops also should be withdrawn from the soil of Saudi Arabia. Shri Gujral, our former Minister of External Affairs has said, there should be a

[Sh. Ibrahim Sulaiman Sait]

Again on February 4, Mr. Bush made it clear as follows:

U.N. force to supervise all withdrawals and to see that peace is established and the security and integrity of Arab land is maintained. Together with this, we should also see that our friendship with our Arab brothers is established on more firm basis and I wish that all of them live in peace in decades to come.

"There would be no need to fight another one because of the new world order."

Now the question is what is the new world order? This new world order, which they want to impose upon the people, particularly the third world countries, Arab countries, is to exploit the oil wells, to permanently perpetuate their political, economic and cultural hold over these areas and to control the entire world.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I rise to demand from the Government that there should be a forthright condemnation of the United States' aggression on Iraq. I don't think it is necessary for me to recapitulate the events which have ultimately led to the war. It has always been the obstinate attitude of the United States of America which has foiled all attempts for averting this war. Therefore, it is necessary for us, as a country, whose foreign policy is based on peace and NAM, who wants to see that the third world should not be assaulted upon, should have taken a positive measure to avert the war. In this case, the Government of India has miserably failed. The Government of India has also miserably failed to understand the intentions of the United States of America for unleashing such kind of a war in that region, the Gulf region.

Their idea or their intention is to perform the role of international police. If this is the intention behind the war, if this is the aim, if this is the global strategy of the United States of America, India which is committed to the policy of peace and non-alignment, to the policy of prosperity of the advancement of the third world countries, and which is committed always to take a stand against imperialism, should have taken a policy decision to combat this kind of attitude and intentional war efforts of the United States of America. On the other hand, we have allowed the American aircraft to be fuelled in our airports. By these acts we have not only departed from our traditional foreign policy, but willy-nilly we have made ourselves a party to this war. We are no longer non-aligned. We have become aligned with the United States of America and the multi-national forces. And, therefore, this is a great mistake committed by the Government of India.

For the benefit of the House, I want to quote a small paragraph from the speech of the U.S. Defence Secretary, just to make it known to the House what have been their war aims, what has been their global strategy, etc. He said, as follows:

Our Prime Minister at the very initial stage of the war made a very damaging statement. The statement was that there cannot be any linkage between this issue of Kuwait and other West Asian peace issue. As it is known, we cannot conceive of the West Asian problem without the question of Palestinian liberation movement and other important issues which are very much a part of the West Asian problem.

"The United States has enduring requirements. We have the need to maintain our capacity to control the world's oceans and keep our commitments both in Europe and Pacific, in South West Asia, and Panama, to continue to protect American lives and interests."

Lastly, I want to say that as we have seen it, it has been all along the obstinate attitude of the United States of America which has unleashed the war. Even when Mr. Saddam Hussein was agreeing to a proposal for withdrawal from Kuwait, the United States President characterised it as a cruel hoax. Look at the language! What an obstinate attitude!

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Points which have been already made may not be repeated.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: That means there will be no negotiations, there will be no concessions, and there is nothing to give. What can you expect? I heard today as some of my predecessors were saying, the United States of America has also rejected the Gorbachev peace plan. Therefore, it would be in the fitness of things that this Parliament which is committed to uphold the principle of non-alignment and peace, should condemn the attitude of the United States of America and take an immediate initiative so far as the cessation of the war is concerned.

We also want the Prime Minister to tell the House and the nation what the Government's attitude is towards Mr. Gorbachev, peace Plans, which is now being discussed all over the world. If we fail this time I think that the country will not forgive us. I think that the Government will make its position clear on this aspect also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All the points which have been made may please be not repeated.

DR. THAMBI DURAI (Karur): My name has already been given.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you want to make any fresh points, I will give you time.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: My name has

already been given, as I have said.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Okay. I will give you time. But please do not repeat. We have continued for a such a Long time.

Prof. Soz.

PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ (Baramulla): Although I am not in support of this Adjournment Motion, my feelings on refuelling of the American war planes have been very strong. I voiced my feelings outside the House through a statement and now in the House I feel that the refuelling of the American war planes has been a mistake.

I am happy that the Prime Minister has already taken measures to stop the refuelling of the American planes. But, of course, Shri Indrajit Gupta has said that the American Government itself had decided to stop getting their planes refuelled in India.

Now, on the very question of the situation in the Gulf, initially the Prime Minister came very close to our perception. The Prime Minister's perception was that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait and he also wanted cessation of hostilities. But the war has continued. We have yet take a position on the question of Palestine. Sir, rightly or wrongly an impression has been created that there was some pressure from the United States on our Government. So, when the Prime Minister rises to answer to this debate, he will kindly dispell those fears and remove that misunderstanding.

We have no quarrel with the people of America. We must hold friendship, further friendship with the people of America. But we must take notice of one thing. The feelings of the American people on the situation in the Gulf are the same as we have. In America, there is a powerful movement which says that America should not involve in the Gulf confrontation because it is no holy war

[Prof. Saif-ud-din Soz]

for them. Sir, we must be conscious of one thing India has very rich past. India gave leadership to the NAM countries. India was the first founder of the Non-aligned Movement. It lies in India's mouth to inform America that it is not in its interest to perform a policing role in the Gulf because in this age it is not possible to do so. No country in the Gulf wants a school master to teach them as to how they should behave. They do not want to see America, a policeman, around them.

Now, Mr. George Bush has not even mentioned Saddam Hussein's name properly. An arrogant memsahib, who is no more on the U.K. scene as the Prime Minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher was referring Saddam as the bully. What about the bullies in America? What about the bullies in Europe? Forget about the past in Italy, Germany and France. But in present day world, we see many more bullies in Europe and America. That arrogant memsahib had gone.

So, Mr. George Bush will have to come forward to understand the perceptions of the people of his great country on the situation in the Gulf.

Sir, as the Prime Minister has initially said, I am for the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait because the sovereignty of Kuwait must be respected. But India has yet to come forward with a plan, for a consolidated effort. It is a painful for me to say that on the question of Palestine, India at this moment is not performing well according to its tradition of supporting the Arab cause and supporting the Palestinians.

Now, America is so much exercised on the U.N. Resolution No. 678. What about numerous resolutions that were passed by U.N. and particularly the resolution on the question of Palestine? So now at this moment, India has very excellent chance of coming

forward to perform its role. Of course, I am happy that India's Foreign Minister went abroad so many times. So our Ministry of External Affairs did try to find a solution of this problem. But I feel that we have not put in substantial effort commensurate with the status of India. But now we have a very brilliant chance. And that will be a friendship with Americans also. India must give total support to Gorbachev formula for peace. The House must not be told by the Prime Minister that Government of India has yet to see the peace plan. The Prime Minister should assure this House that Gorbachev's peace proposal will be accepted. Government of India must try and plead with the US Government and With Mr. George Bush that he should see the reason in not destroying Iraq. So I feel that if the Government will try, Mr. Bush will see the reason in accepting Gorbachev's plan. Otherwise, I am confident that America will be totally isolated on the question of the situation in the Gulf.

SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA (Rajamundry): Iraq has offered to withdraw its troops unconditionally from Kuwait. That was the news at 1 O' clock.

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): I would like to make two brief comments and ask some clarifications from the Prime Minister.

Firstly, we seem to be indulging once again in our national pastime of self-condemnation of a policy of our own policies.

Secondly, I get the feeling that we are making a mountain of a mole-hill. And I say this with good reason. I would like to ask the Prime Minister: Is it or is it not a fact that Iraq and President Saddam after the refuelling was being done and notwithstanding the criticism and attack of the Iraqi Ambassador against our policy, approached us and requested us to look after their embassies in Egypt and in Turkey? Therefore, it seems to me that when a routine facility has been

provided to which Iraq has no objection, we seem to be unnecessarily going all out to condemn-refuelling.

I would also like to ask the Prime Minister in the light of his recent contact with the leader of the PLO Movement, Col. Gadaffi and other leaders and also President Gorbachev, whether any Arab nation has objected to the provision of this facility. My own information is that no such protest has been received.... (*Interruptions*)

Secondly, I want to ask the Prime Minister: Are we supporting the UN Security Council's resolutions or are we not supporting? Do we have any mental reservation? Resolution 678 specifically requests all member-nations to extend help in the operation. If we are not supporting them, we can take a particular line. But if we are supporting the UN Security Council resolution, then I cannot see how we can object to this facility

Thirdly, I would like to ask the Prime Minister: Is non-alignment neutrality? I do not think, it is neutrality. Therefore, we have to judge every issue on merit. Non-alignment only means extension of our independence at home to independence abroad. Therefore, the issue is: Was it done in the best national interest or was it not done in the best national interest? Earlier in the day, we heard Mr. Inder Gujral tell us that during Mrs. Gandhi's time it had been decided that we should try and build friendly relation with the Americans. Now I want to know whether this is still a part of the policy or not?

Every one has been talking in terms of the condition exceeding forces the U.N. mandate. As far as I know, the U.N. mandate is very clear and authorises all necessary means. Therefore, I also want to know whether there is any magic formula by which Kuwait could be liberated without attacking the Iraq bases. All I say is we are for Iraq but

what is the point? The point simple is are we going to stand up for some principles or are we going to allow everyone to turn populist and allow our own judgement to be confused and clouded by political considerations at home?

DR. THAMBIDURAI (Karur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are today discussing about the Gulf situation. We are discussing this subject not only now but we have discussed it in previous sessions also on different occasions. At that time we discussed about the problems of Indians held up there and about how to evacuate them from that country. We evacuated all Indians from Kuwait and Iraq anticipating the war, but our friend Mr. Gujral said in his speech that he could not anticipate such kind of a war. That is why he could not say whether the USA planes were getting refuelled for their military operations. I want to know from our Prime Minister-because he may be well-informed-whether the US Air Force, during the period when they used the refuelling facilities in India, misused the permission which they got for refuelling purpose. I also differ from Mr. Inder Jit on what he said just now. It is not the matter whether Iraq objected or not, what matters is what are we for-are we for for giving refuelling facilities to U.S. planes here or not. Secondly, the prime Minister only has to explain whether we differ from our Arab cause. I think still we are for Arab cause. We have never deviated from that. We have always been fighting for the Palestinians. We have always been against the Israel for what they have been doing.

Most of the Members have said about the U.A. Resolution. We also do not approve of the Iraq's action of occupying Kuwait. We are also against that. But whether we want this kind of a war or we want to solve everything in a peaceful manner, that is important. India's effort has always been to see that this kind of problems are solved in a peaceful manner. We know about the U.S.

[Dr. Thambi Durai]

imperialist attitude. We need not necessarily discuss that. We have suffered a lot from the U.S. imperialism every body knows that. Therefore, if at all they are trying to use the U.N. Resolution, it is only for their own ends. In that case we have to see whether we have to allow the U.S. Air Force planes to get refuelling facilities at the Indian airports. We have read in the newspapers that so many planes came at Madras Airport also and they have got some facilities there. We are also annoyed on that. After seeing the newspaper reports that the Congress Party and others passed Resolutions in their Party, objecting this kind of refueling facilities, we also felt it because the whole nation in feeling that this kind of facility must not be allowed. But the Prime Minister came forward at that time and explained that this was a continuation of the policy which the previous Government also followed. Therefore, I want to know whether is said is correct or not because the nation expects it. Even though the Prime Minister said we cannot open the past events but sometimes it is essential to know our Indian policy. Therefore, once again I would request our Prime Minister to see that these refuelling facilities must be stopped. Already he has announced that it has already been stopped. Whether USA announces it first or our Government announces it first, the is immaterial..... (*Interruptions*).

AN HON. MEMBER: Why?

DR. THAMBI DURAI: I am telling. Because we saw it in the Press also that before the USA announced its decision, our Prime Minister had already announced that it has been stopped.... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum): When the Prime Minister made the statement, it was not stopped.

DR. THAMBI DURAI: Therefore, even

though we also respect the sentiments of the Left Parties and others who raised this issue, yet I am not this Adjournment Motion. (*Interruptions*). Whatever it is, I request that let the Prime Minister come forward and answer all the points raised.

[*Translation*]

SHRI YADVENDRE DATT (Jaunpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak, but I am distressed to see that the Prime Minister is not present in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have to make your submission within a short time as others from your party are also on the list of speakers.

SHRI YADVENDRE DATT: I shall abide by your orders and shall not take much of your time. The first question is whether government have made a thorough study of the United Nation's resolution No. 6-7-8 or the one that was adopted earlier and tried to get to the bottom? If such an attempt was made, was any reservation expressed at the U.N. to the points which went contrary to the declared policies of the Government of India? If not, we should take it that you accepted that measure in its totality. Will the prime Minister kindly clarify whether he took the nation and the leaders of various political parties into confidence before accepting that measure? Much hue and cry is being raised today on the question of refueling, etc. Let me say that Government should also keep in mind the stand taken by India during the Korean war. Without going into the past, I would like to say that our policy should be based on immutable law of the of the needs and it should be flexible so as to change according to the conditions, time and needs. Can it be said with certainty, that the policy which we pursued between fifties and seventies and which was correct policy judging the conditions obtaining during that period,

is correct in today's context? The world at that was bi-polar but today's international politics has become multi-polar. Much has been said about Non-Aligned, but as the events have turned in the Gulf war, the entire concept of non-aligned has been demolished. Arab nations are a divided lot. Non aligned countries including Yugoslavia are also divided on the issue. If we attach that much importance to non-aligned movement, I want to know whether India gave consideration to the peace proposal put forward Algeria? I do not think, Government of India even gave a thought to it. Did India know what the peace initiative was; did our Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shri Gujral know about the Algerian peace proposal? The Government of India should have supported the peace initiative, especially when India had friendly relations with both Iraq and U.S.A. Shri Gujral had given a clear hint:

[English]

Saddam was flexible. What was the flexibility?

[Translation]

Why did not Shri Gujral take initiative on the basis of that flexibility, why did he wait for others to take such an initiative. What was the flexibility? Is it not a fact that Saddam wanted to have Iraqi control over Rumillia Oil Fields and Buaniyan islands? If that was the flexibility, Kuwait would have been left with nothing but desert. Is it not a fact that Kuwait has been invaded. Today when we raise hue and cry over the invasion, why do we forget that China too invaded India and the Chinese continue to occupy our land? Our Government convenient by forgot that invasion. Since all your declarations are against invasion, you will have to adopt one yardstick. What is most urgently needed today is that war should come to an end. If this region remains peaceful, it will have good effect on us. At the same time, it is also necessary that

power equation should not be imbalanced in that retain. Therefore, Iraq too should not be allowed to go unpunished. There is need to destroy the aggressive tendency of Iraq. The same treatment needs to be given to Israel also. After the Gulf war comes to an end, the Israel- Palestine problem should also be solved. India should think in terms of creating strategic frontiers with a view to providing security to both Israel and Palestine and take initiative accordingly. India should take initiative to restore peace and a resolution to this effect should be moved because it will be in our interest. It will be detrimental to our interests if a foreign power establishes its supremacy in the gulf and tries to usurp smaller countries of the region. Since Saddam Hussein committed aggression against Kuwait and annexed it, he must quit Kuwait. At the same time, Iraq should be asked to pay compensation to Kuwait for the damage it caused to that country. Both sides should agree to release prisoners of war. Kuwaiti prisoners should also be released forthwith lest they should be entangled in cases of treason. It should be ensured that U.S.A. does not establish its military base in the gulf. There is yet another impending danger to which I must point out. A new axis is developing in that part of the world. Turkey, Iran and Pakistan are trying to project themselves as the saviours. This is not in our interest. Therefore, the Government of India must think in this direction.

In the end, I would like to reiterate one point. My colleague Shri Jaswant Singh has said that the policy should be integrated. I would say that we should formulate our policy by giving due consideration to strategic and economic security of the country. There is need to make an intensive study of the changes taking place in Europe, America, Japan and China before we frame our foreign policy. Our old policy has become ineffective in view of the changed environment and, as such, there are no takers; Hence there is a need to formulate a new policy as that would

[Sh. Yadvendra Datt]

be in the national interest. We can express a clear cut view in favour or against it only after the Hon. Prime Minister clarifies all these points.

[English]

SHRIM.J. AKBAR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to make a submission. I think all sections of the House will be pleased to learn that our leader, the Congress President Shri Rajiv Gandhi is going to Tehran tomorrow at the invitation to Iran to participate and to help in the peace process. I hope that all sections of the House will help in what is a serious peace effort and I am sure it will reflect the consensus apart from may be the extreme options. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Is he the new External Affairs Minister of the present Government? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M.J. AKBAR: Sir, for our Leftist friends, I would like to correct it. He will be going via Moscow where he is likely to meet President Gorbachev. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI A.K. ROY: I want to know on what authority he is going? Is he extra-Constitutional authority? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: They should also know that Mr. Rajiv Gandhi and Mr. Bush are quite intimate friends? (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: MR. Roy, you will have a right to reply and you can the point which you want to make.

If anybody is going to any place, he can go as a citizen of the world, as a citizen of India and if he is able to contribute towards peace, it should be welcome.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is it the place to make announcement? Is it the Congress office? Why is he announcing it here?

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar): Is he going there as a Member of Parliament or he is going s Congress-I Chief? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIUDDIN CHOWDHURY (Katwa): If the Iranian Government has invited him, then he must go! (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Samarendra Kundu.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU (Balasore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I thank you at the fag end of the debate, you have been kind enough to look at me and give me some time. I am filled with anguish and anger that India is taking a back seat in the peace negotiation to stop the Gulf war which is one of the worst disasters that has been wrought on Iraq. When I open TV, the peace negotiation is either at Tehertan or Moscow and not New Delhi. I feel very sad to kind that the Congress-I and J.D.(S) has brought this country this sorry pass.

If you look into the whole matter, the important thrust of the Non-aligned movement is not neutrality but dynamic neutrality to work for peace, to work for freedom, to work for development and to work for disarmament. Now when the negotiation for peace is going on, we are taking a back seat. This is too much a sorry state of affairs to bear with.

How do we retrieve from this situation? Is there any chance? It was said here in this House that the foreign policy should be based on consensus. We have seen how the foriegn policy has been made a Party policy repeatedly by the Congress regime and the present Government is following that. The

present Prime Minister has further diluted this policy. Otherwise, Mr. Akbar would not have dared to announce here a Party decision about Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's visit to Teheran.

PROF. MADHU DANDVATE: It is part of the daily briefings.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: It is urged here that the Security Council Resolution gave full mandate to America and allied forces to wage a war against Iraq. That is not true. To go to war is at the bottom of the meaning of the Security Council resolution. In the Security Council meeting, why didn't our country's representative work and fight to the last to have peace in Iraq and Kuwait? I am told sanctions which were operating against Iraq earlier were giving the result. So, they could have waited for six months, another one or two years. It is a ghastly act to see poor children are being killed in Baghdad; there is no milk. Water is polluted. Mahatma Gandhi never thought of this, when at the Asian relations conference in 1946, Non-aligned movement got a new direction. This is a situation to which our representatives who are in the UN Security Council have brought this country.

17.00 hrs

It is not corrected to say that Security Council has given a mandate to go and finish Saddam. I was shocked the other day when I heard Mr. Bush saying that Mr. Saddam must go. Has the Security Council resolution authorised it? No.

Coming back to the refuelling question, it is really shocking. It is a very sad thing that India being a champion of non-aligned movement and peace, warplanes are allowed to be fuelled in India when war has broken out and they are going to be used in the war.

I was at Kanpur and I read in a newspaper that Mr. Akbar said that V.P. Singh Govern-

ment was responsible for allowing refuelling of American planes. I was shocked. The next day I found that Mr. Akbar said it was a joke.

Some press man asked what would have happened to India if Akbar would have been another Jehangir. I paused for a moment and said "Look, come to Lok Sabha and see for yourself what would have happened to India."

This sort of cliches do not pay. Playing to the gallery and gimmicks frustrate the hopes of millions of people of India where non-alignment is their faith. We should be very serious. We should not start having politicking on matters which we all agree and which is own faith and on which our image is likely to be furnished.

I will just make a proposal. Now an hon. lady member said that Iraq has agreed to withdraw unconditionally. I am very happy if Saddam Hussein has really done it. But that is not an end of the matter.

Post-war reconstruction of Iraq and Kuwait must be planned and the Palestinian question and the Arabs question must be solved. Hon. Members must know that after World War II 122 wars have been fought in the developing countries alone and not a single war was fought in America Canada, Europe or any other developed country. We must also seriously think how to check future wars in the developing countries

I have a suggestion to offer. To implement the ideas of peace and development, let this Parliament unanimously elect a body of persons who will go to Kuwait and Iraq and America and Moscow and work out the post-war reconstruction programme and see that war never comes to this country.

Since you are pressed with time and are pressing the bell, I do not what to speak more.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. My senior colleague, Shri Jaswant Singh has already touched the basic points, but I would like to put a few question to the hon. Prime Minister, because it is not simply a question of refuelling. I would like to point out that as per newspapers report five thousand tonnes of mutton including 500 tonnes of beef is shipped daily for U.S. armed forces from Bombay port with the permission of the Government of India. This decision was taken by the Prime Minister in consultation with Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Sharad Pawar. Not only that, shipments of eatables are also sent daily from thereto the U.S. armed forces. Such items have been detected in the ships which come to the port for docking. This has resulted in a great resentment among the people. I would like the Prime Minister to clarify this point when the replies to the debate and comment on the veracity of these news reports. I would also like to say that the Government of India should endeavour to fully implement the U.N. resolution on this question. When we talk about Palestine or any other nations, we should not forget that our Parliament has unanimously adopted a Resolution that we have to liberate the area of our country which has been unauthorisedly occupied by the China. Today when we talk of the liberation of other nations we should also try to liberate our areas which have been occupied by other countries. (Inter-

...)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Yadav, please sit down. If you speak on all the subjects, other Members of big political parties will not get opportunity to speak. Why are you rising again and again. Best efforts are made to give opportunity to all Members to speak but that would be of no use if you go on repeating the same points.

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV (Azamgarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party I would like to make my submission within two minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When big political parties are not getting time, how I can allot time to small parties.

[English]

This is not correct. I am allowing you this time. Next time, don't repeat it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRISHAN YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we had attained our freedom from imperialism and colonialism through 'Ahimsa' and that is why our foreign policy is also based on peace and it is anti imperialism and anti colonialism. We have strongly opposed all those imperialistic forces who have tried to capture other countries.

So far as I know we have friendly relations with Iraq. Our friendship was not only to get oil from Iraq but lakhs of Indians are also working there and earning foreign exchange. If we had not to stand by the Iraq we should have atleast criticised US action. USA wants to interfere not only in the internal matters of India but in the matters of whole world and intend to trap the entire world in its economic imperialism. The present Government provided fueling facility to US planes which according to me was a wrong step. Instead of remaining neutral and non-aligned we have created a suspicion that India is not a non-aligned country and India has inclined towards U.S.A. In this regard I would say that India should have remained neutral and raised her voice but India obliged USA. USA never stood for us and contrary to that Iraq and socialist countries always stood by us. Therefore, the Government should explain whether its foreign policy have any inclina-

tion toward USA or not. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRIP.V.NARASIMHARAO (Ramtek):
 Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it was my understanding that this Adjournment Motion is specifically on a single issue of refuelling facilities. But we have seen that the debate has gone far afield and it has more or less covered all the aspects of the Gulf crisis and perhaps the decision to have another debate on the Gulf crisis generally is almost obliterated. So, I would first specifically refer to the subject matter of the Adjournment Motion and then go on to make a few comments very briefly on the Gulf situation on which commentary has been very elaborate from all sections of the House and I don't have to repeat what all these friends have said.

Sir, the debate has become a little acrimonious because of the fact that we concentrated on who did what, which decision was taken in which regime. This, according to me, is subsidiary—in fact not quite relevant to what we are discussing today. I would concentrate my attention on what you, Mr. Prime Minister, are landed with today. Never mind who took the decisions, when they were taken and how they were taken. The first point is about the question of refuelling. Peace time, as everyone has said, is totally different and in normal times, landing facilities, refuelling facilities—these are the order of the day. We get them, we give them to others. There is no dispute about that at all.

Now there is another question of over-flights. Over-flights are also, in normal times, very common. We have been given permission to over-fly several countries when we were going to a far off destination. We give similar facilities to other countries. In fact, when a VVIP is over-flying, a President of the country or the Prime Minister of a country over-flying India, we do not even take the

matter to the Secretary concerned or the Minister concerned. A Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs or whatever Ministry is the nodal Ministry, is authorised to automatically give permission. But the fact remains that permission is given whether it is given by the Prime Minister of India or by a Deputy Secretary. Every over-flight is permitted individually. That is a part of our sovereignty.

But Mr. Prime Minister, you are landed with a decision today that any over-flight made by a particular country from a particular area to the gulf, needs no permission at all from you, needs no permission from the Government of India. Is this correct or not correct? If permission on a permanent basis, permission on a cumulative basis, not an individual basis, for an indefinite number of flights, night or day, has been given, a blanket permission, an omnibus permission like this has been given, how is the Government of India going to cope with this? Is the decision going to continue, is it going to be modified? How are we going to deal with this? Or is there no such permission? We would certainly like to know because this is important. Where there is a landing facility, if an aircraft lands, according to our sovereignty, at least in theory, we are empowered to search the aircraft if we have any suspicion. This has not happened. I agree. This has not happened for 15 years, 20 years and 25 years. Our aircraft has not been searched. We have not searched other's aircraft. But it is a part of our sovereignty that we can search if we wish to. But if someone is over-flying, over-flying without permission, over-flying at any time, day or night, taking anything he wants along with him, is this not even a more serious matter to deal with than landing, searching or not searching, deliberately not choosing to search and giving them the permission to refuel and go? It is not a question of posing one against the another. Let us be very clear about it. It is one plus the other. There are two kinds of situation you

[Sh. P.V. Narasimha Rao]

are facing. It is not that one situation cancels the other out. So, we would like to know whether this permission which was granted earlier—no matter by whom—will stand. Even in peace time if you had granted a permission like this that: "You do not have to land, you can go straight across, here is a corridor". I would say that that would not be in conformity with national sovereignty. It does not matter which time. If each over-flight was being technically permitted, there was no question at all, there was no delay at all and it was being done as a matter of course, why was the permission on an omnibus basis asked for? It was not for nothing that it was asked for. It was asked for a particular area; it was asked for a particular destination. Now, why was it asked for? Did we examine why it was asked for when there was no need? If there are a hundred flights, a hundred permissions can be given. Within minutes it is given. Has this aspect been examined and if it has been examined has it been found eminently in the interest of the country or in conformity with the sovereignty of the country to have permitted that? We would certainly like to know and would be grateful for any response from the Prime Minister on this point.

So far as refuelling is concerned, yes, there has been some wobbling in between. There have been different signals coming; but finally I am glad that the Prime Minister has decided, the Government has decided to fall in line with the national consensus. I take it as the triumph of the national consensus, after all the wobbling. I look at it that way. I don't look at it as who did what, who said what, why this was done and why that was not done. I say that ultimately the consensus that has inhered in our foreign policy, has asserted itself. That is the triumph of India's foreign policy and we should continue this. There is no question of changing it, there is no question of going back on it.

Foreign policy is a very big basket. It consists of lots of things. We have to go into it, into the fine print as to what is to be done in a particular situation. What is to be done in the non-aligned movement for instance? As Mr. Gujral pointed out, the non-aligned movement is even more relevant today than ever before. But it cannot be doing the same as it was doing before. It has to do something different because the context is different, the forces are different, the requirements are different and the aspirations of the people are different. Therefore the non-aligned movement, while it is still very very relevant, has to change its tactics, it has to change the immediate destination, immediate emphasis, methodologies and lots of things.

Well, successive Governments have been trying to do whatever they could. If I say I did whatever I could, it only means that I am admitting my own limited capacity. That is all there is to it. There is nothing more to comment on that. So I am sure that any Government, one Government succeeded by the next, will have to do the same thing. The results will be different according to the capacities of the persons or the Governments concerned. That is a fact of life which everyone has to agree and admit.

Today we have to concentrate on a cease-fire. Withdrawal has been agreed to, that too unconditional withdrawal. This word, unconditional can be interpreted differently by different people in different contexts. What really has to be brought about is a package. If there is one issue, there is another issue and there is a third issue. We don't say that we go in for one issue being solved while other issues are still simmering or still continue to simmer. That is not a package. That is an isolated solution. We are not for an isolated solution. We have been talking about linkages. Someone says there should be linkages, someone else says there should be no linkages. This linkage has again be-

come a word being played with different interpretations.

There has been a resolution of today, there has been a resolution of 20 years back. The same Security Council has passed both resolutions. Why shall one resolution be more sacrosanct than the other? Why should one resolution be implemented to the hilt forthwith while the 20 year old standing resolution has to go on standing there on the records of the Security Council for all time to come? It is not clear. Now, today a situation has arisen where—whether you call it a linkage or not, whether you call it a quid pro quo or not, whether you call it a precedent or not—the fact remains that the criticality of the Palestinian question, the centrality of the Palestinian question in the entire gamut of West-Asian relations cannot be denied. The time has come when the realisation of this criticality, of this centrality has to be given a shape, as a part of the peace process in West-Asia. This is how we have to look at it. There is no use of making statements which only trade charges against one another, particularly where we are concerned with a national consensus. This would be my appeal to all the sections of the House. The Prime Minister will have to look into this kind of a consensus; he will have to create it and in that, any party can certainly do its best, whatever it can, in order to exert its influence, exert its old relationships, exert its old friendships. All this should be done. There is no question of someone feeling bad about someone else doing some good. It is a contradiction in terms. If some good is done, everyone should feel good about it and that is how, I think, the good of all this effort will come about.

Sir, there is one question which has been nagging me for some time, for which I have not got really a satisfactory answer so far. There has been a bilateral understanding between India and the United States. Why should it be bilateral? I have not been

able to understand why the United States Government as a part of a 28 nation-force, should call it bilateral, if they ask for some permission from the Government of India and the Government of India gives it. To me, it does not look bilateral at all. It looks as if in pursuance of Resolution 678 or in anticipation of something going to happen in the Gulf, we gave them some permission. They were not going somewhere else; they were not going to the North Pole; or they were not over-flying our country to go to some other destination. They have to go to a particular place which, they knew, we knew and everyone knew, was going to be a scene of conflict, unless the conflict was resolved earlier. When they ask for the permission, the possibility of conflict was there; and when we gave permission it was there. So, that contingency was at the back of their mind, our mind and everyone's mind. In that view, there was no need for us to make it a purely and simply bilateral issue. Today, we do not have to resort to the rhetoric of our being anti-this or anti-that, anti-this country or anti-that country. No, if it is in pursuance of a Resolution. We have every right to comment on the Resolution and co-operate with it accordingly. Those who are parties to the Resolution are commenting on the Resolution. They are saying that what is being done today in Iraq is, far in excess of that Resolution. They are saying that the Resolution in turn did not intend this result, intend this action. That is good enough for us to say that if this is so, then, we do not think that we should give facilities in order to do something which is not in line with the spirit of the Resolution. We could have done that. Why should we make it an Indo-US matter? I really do not know. United States is friendly to us; we are friendly to the United States; we are friendly to the Soviet Union. India itself being a non-aligned country, for ages and ages, we have never considered any country as enemy. We wanted friendly relations with all countries; we tried to establish friendly relations, maintain friendly relations,

[Sh. P.V. Narasimha Rao]

strengthen friendly relations with all countries. That being our case, may be it was not quite in order to make this a bilateral issue. Never mind. You made it a bilateral issue. But I interpret it as something between India and US. I am entitled to interpret this arrangement or agreement or understanding, as something connected with what is happening in the Gulf today. In that view, the moment the Gulf war ends, the Gulf situation calms down, it comes back to normal, all these arrangements become unnecessary. If you want to conclude something with U.S. on the basis of national interest, that is a different story, that is a different chapter. But that need not be confused with this present Gulf situation. This is what I would like to say. So please make this distinction. Having made this distinction, treat them differently. What US and India do in order to help each other is bilateral. But this is not strictly bilateral as I see it. As I have said the matter has ended and all is well that ends well. But the question of over-flights, omnibus permission for over-flights would remain and you will have to deal with this.

With these words, I say that the adjournment motion has lost its punch. It is just like flogging a dead horse, not even a horse. So, it is totally out of place and I oppose it.

17.27 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had a long debate. The matter concerns the whole nation. Not only the whole nation, the whole world is looking to our nation on this issue.

I also know that some of our Hon. Members are exercised over this problem. I can well understand their sentiments and emo-

tions. I shall not like to go into all the details of the questions that have been raised. I shall try to refrain myself from going into the past. I shall not like to apportion blame to any other person or any other regime. I think that what has happened is the responsibility of this Government. The only thing is that I shall like to clarify certain points that have been raised by important Members. Otherwise, it will be considered as if I am trying to conceal something.

First, I shall take the speech made by Hon. Shri Narasimha Rao. About the free corridor given to US planes in this country, I tell this House that since this Government came, there is no free corridor to any Government anywhere. Why this free corridor was given at that time, I cannot answer. And I am not entitled to say about the past.

I shall like to tell my friend, Shri Gujral. He knows that it is customary in the international norms that every over-flight has to have a transit landing. Some Hon. Members said, transit landing gives the facility to the country concerned to check what is going in this particular aeroplane. This point was emphasised by Hon. Shri Narasimha Rao. If you give a free corridor and transit landing is not compulsory, in my opinion, that is not a very happy situation. Free corridor is given only to the VIPs, Heads of State, Heads of Government or very important military personnel whose movement is notified beforehand. This is the custom. I am not very much conversant with the traditions and nuances of diplomacy but this has been the routine practice all over the world. And this is being done not only in relation to US but to many other countries. We have been allowing such facilities to almost every country—whether of one bloc or the other bloc. It has nothing to do with our non-alignment. It is the tradition which this country has been following for quite sometime. Mr. Speaker, Sir, whenever we allow a plane to go on our air space, we make it compulsory to land at one place,

what we call as 'transit landing'. It becomes compulsory also to give them the refuelling facility because if a plane lands, refuelling is a must and every country gives it. Our planes and Air force planes are perhaps flying, even at this moment, over 24 or 20 countries and we are getting that facility. There are bilateral arrangements with some of the countries that we do not ask them for having this transit landing but not with the USA. I want to make it clear. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that a situation was developing in the Gulf and everybody knew that a war-like situation was there. We also knew that the situation may deteriorate and war may take place. And this is why when we gave them the permission—we took from them the guarantee that no lethal weapon will go. It is for the first time that the Government of India has insisted for this type of guarantee. I do not want to make tall claims. But this was done and the Government of the United States of America agreed to this.

The other question which is very relevant and I agree with Mr. Narsimha Rao that it was in the normal times and times of peace. When the war started, at that time, it should have been stopped. Mr. Speaker, I may very frankly say that I did not see any serious departure from our old policies; I did not see even any departure from the old traditions or the old practices which have been followed during the last 40 years. I also did not see any threat to our non-alignment nor we got from any quarter any whispering doubt about our tilting to one side or the other. It has nothing to do with our policy of non-alignment. I say that the Government of India, as of the old, is sticking to non-alignment, of course, with certain amount of flexibility depending on our national interests and that has been the practice again from the very beginning. My friend, Mr. Jaswant Singh told what happened in 1962 and 1971. He was in the war theatre. He knows more about it. I do not know. That is why, I shall not like to talk about it. Mr. Dinesh Singh was at

the helm of affairs in those days. He might be knowing about it. So, it will not be proper to say that at that time there were not certain adjustability or adjustment in our policy in allowing people to fly or to refuel or to do things. But there was no agreement with any Government at any time. It was just a tradition that was being maintained and has been maintained. Mr. Speaker, when I saw the opinion developing in this country that this refuelling facility should not be given, I convened a meeting of the Opposition parties immediately. And I told them, "If you want, I can ask them to stop it today itself." But this is again not done in international dealings. My friend, Mr. I.K. Gujral knows, Mr. Narasimha Rao knows and Mr. Dinesh Singh knows. It is just not like saying "I allow you", "I do not allow you", because national interest is again involved. The only thing we can say is that "the situation is such that if this facility cannot be used by you, it will be better". Immediately, when I came to know about the opinion, not of all sections of the House but important sections of the House, I immediately conveyed to the US Government that they should discontinue it. It takes some time. If I am at fault on that, you can blame me. But some of my friends have been trying to point an accusing finger and I feel sad, Mr. Speaker, when Mr. Gujral said whether the decision is being taken by this Government or by some extra-Constitutional authorities directing this Government. Mr. Gujral and myself have been friends for a long time. Mr. Speaker, you know that Mr. Gujral might have been getting directions from extra-Constitutional authorities at one time or the other. Never in my life I have taken any instructions from any extra-Constitutional authority. I shall not like to bring personal matters in this House..... (Interruptions) I would not have taken up this personal matter if it would not have come from Shri I.K. Gujral. I would have ignored any other comment, but not from Shri I.K. Gujral, whom I know for a long time and for whom I have got great regard and respect,

[Sh. Chandra Shekhar]

and he at least knows me for quite some time. I may be lacking in anything, may not have his wisdom, or his nuances of foreign policy, but one thing I do not lack is courage and that is why when somebody asked whether we have given this facility, I said, yes. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall leave that matter there.

The other question was raised, and a very important question, by my friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta. He said whether the Government of India was doing something about the Gorbachev formula or whether they were sleeping over it. Shri Gujral also said that—he was very much awake and we were sleeping. But I do not know that. During the last one month, I have exchanged views with Mr. Gorbachev five times. Even today, at this moment, we are in constant touch with him. It does not mean him personally, but with the Government of USSR. Our permanent representative in the United Nations since yesterday or day before yesterday has been contacting all the members of the Security Council and of the nations of the non-aligned movement to see that we are able to restore the authority of the Security Council and the peace proposal is not left to certain people. We have said it clearly and categorically that we support the move made by the President of USSR. Not only this, we have been taking all measures, all initiatives; I shall not go into the details of that. During the last one month, envoys from all important countries who are supporting Saddam Hussein have visited Delhi and had discussions with me. None of them was as exercised as my friend, Shri Gujral is exercised.

AN HON. MEMBER: You met Khashoggi also.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Yes, Khashoggi also. He is a diplomat in your eyes, not in my eyes. I meet so many

Khashoggis. But I am not talking of Khashoggis, I am talking of Arafat, I am talking of Algerian President's envoy, I am talking of the Chinese Prime Minister, I am talking of the Iranian President and I am talking of the people who are concerned about the matter and who matter in this problem.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, everybody says that we have gone against Saddam Hussein and we have destroyed our relations with Saddam Hussein. I categorically want to say that our stand on the Palestinian question remains the same and I told everybody that on the Palestinian question there cannot be any compromise. We also said that our friendship with Iraq is there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, you will be pleased to know that in Egypt when the Iraq Embassy was closed, the President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, chose none else but India, the inimical country, to look after Iraq's interest! This is the situation. But if people think that giving statements or trying to find bold words or pointing accusing fingers is part of the international politics, I do not know that.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Shri Rajiv Gandhi?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I do not know what you mean by Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been helping in finding a solution to this problem and I have been in constant touch and dialogue and consultation with Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Even today I say that while the Government is making efforts, I was talking of our permanent representative and I was talking of our Deputy Foreign Minister who is going to Tehran and Baghdad. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, along with Shri Narsimharao and others, is going tomorrow to Moscow enroute to Tehran in order to find a solution to this problem. It is not only Shri Rajiv Gandhi, I shall request Shri Gujral also, because he seems to have cordial relations with Saddam Hussein and others. I shall be

ready to get his support. The efforts of anybody who is ready to contribute to establish peace in that area will be appreciated. When I said that I did not want to divide this nation on this issue, I sincerely meant it. We have many problems... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, if I cannot make myself intelligible to them, I cannot help it because I can give arguments and I can give facts, but I cannot give the brains to understand. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Shri Narasimha Rao asked a question. And the same question was asked, in a different language, by my friend Shri Indrajit Gupta. I assure you on the questions of policy, non-alignment is still relevant. It is relevant because we do not want that any power, whether one or the other, should take the responsibility of restoring peace in a particular region. If it is allowed in one region, it will affect us also. We are conscious of our interests.

Shri Chitta Basu said that we should condemn the United States. I have not run the politics of condemnation. It is his government which does it. I do not condemn people. I condemn the action of particular people and of particular nations. He would know it if he has tried to read the newspapers. The day when there was a statement by the U.S. Vice-President that he would have to keep his options open to use nuclear weapons, I said that it was a crime against humanity. I said any talk of using nuclear weapons and any talk of chemical war would be a crime against humanity. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we oppose it. But there are certain methods in dealing with the situation. Some people feel that they should talk very boldly against some people. And some people have the instinct of self-condemnation and self-pity. They say that India has not been able to do anything and that India has been relegated to background. What has happened to France? What has happened to China? What

has happened to Iran? What has happened to USSR?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Shri Rajiv Gandhi said so! (*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: If Shri Rajiv Gandhi has said so, he has also been doing something... (*Interruptions*) But some people are only saying all these things and doing nothing. That is the difference. If you do something, then you can say something. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, my friend Shri Indrajit Gupta wanted to know whether the Government of India has any knowledge about the Soviet move or not. We have some knowledge. But there are limitations. If the Government concerned say that this is a secret thing, a confidential thing, then the Prime Minister of another country howsoever insignificant he may be, has not got the liberty to express it to the press. This is the limitation. But now, the Soviets themselves have come out through Tass today.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Not today, it was yesterday.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Yesterday? The details of their proposals are with me. I shall just read out the points

1. Iraq announces a full and unconditional withdrawal of its forces from Kuwait.
2. Withdrawal begins on the second day after the cessation of hostilities.
3. Withdrawal of forces will take place in a fixed time frame.
4. After withdrawal of two-thirds of all Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the eco-

[Sh. Chandra Shekhar]

conomic sanctions imposed by the UN will cease to apply to Iraq.

5. At the end of the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the causes would cease to exist, as also the causes for the corresponding resolutions, so those resolutions would cease to be in effect.
6. Right after the cease-fire, all the prisoners of war would be immediately released.
7. Withdrawal of forces would be monitored by countries not directly involved in the conflict, being so entrusted by the Security Council.
8. The work on determining the details and specifications continues. The final outcome of this work will be made public today to member countries of the UN Security Council.

This is what has come.

Mr. Speaker, it may be just a coincidence. I do not want to claim any credit. Out of these eight points, four points have been taken up by our U.N. Representative from the very beginning for the consensus in the Security Council and outside. It must be just a coincidence or it must be just a luck for the Government of India... (*Interruptions*)... That is what you may be saying.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (Calcutta South): Certainly.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: So, this is what you have been doing.

If you want our reactions, we are for supporting this move. I have been told that

the President of the United States of America has certain reservations on this. Though I am told that at one stage, they said that they will be discussing with their allies and they will come to some decision but at the lower level, somebody has said that they would reject this formula for this proposal by the Soviet Union. It will be a grave mistake. I may make an appeal from this House that Mr. George Bush should take this opportunity—should not miss this opportunity—in order to establish peace in that area. It provides a beginning for a meaningful dialogue, for a talk, to come to some conclusions. I have got certain information about his reservations but I do not think it will be prudent to talk about reservations of the President of the United States of America. I hope and trust that he will be able to discuss with allies and come to some understanding because in war nobody triumphs. In war only humanity is defeated. It is the agony, it is the suffering of the people that makes us think about it. We are more concerned about it. Mr. Faleiro told perhaps that we have special concern because our citizens are involved in it. More than 5,000 of our people even today are in Kuwait and we feel concerned about it. These were the people who refused to come out of Kuwait even till this last moment. I shall not like to go into the details, as to what initiatives we have taken; how we tried to see that the deadline should be postponed, something should be done. Repeatedly, we tried but when the stubbornness comes in the minds of certain people, not only the voice of India was not heard, the voice of USSR, the voice of China, the voice of Iran, the voice of even very friendly persons like Mr. Yasser Arafat and others and even the French voice did not carry any conviction with them. I do hope and trust that now the atmosphere has changed and I agree that India has to play a very important role because we are concerned with the developments in the Arab world. We have our relations for a long time. I shall not like to go into the history, otherwise, again I shall jump into the controversy raised by Mr.

Jaswant Singh and Mr. Gujral. I am not that good a student of history but our recent history with the Arab world and especially with Iraq has been that of cordiality and friendship. We shall never like to see that dismemberment of Iraq. We want that their political unity and integrity should be maintained. My friend Mr. Indrajit Gupta wanted to know whether we stand by the U.N. Resolution or not. If we have to remain in U.N., then we will have to stand by U.N. Resolution but the question is that of interpretation, that of its area, how long it can be stretched in order to find convenience to have your move. It is a delicate issue. I shall appeal to Members that they should give some concession to the Prime Minister who has never been in the Government and has never been in the international affairs.

All other Members seem to be more knowledgeable about the international affairs and the happenings in the world. But what little I know through the good offices of our Ambassador, our Foreign Office and brilliant statements, sometimes issued by all of you, I have tried to take them into consideration and I have tried to live upto your expectations. If there any faults why do you divide the country on this issue? Are there not enough problems? I shall appeal to the Members—I am told that in the other House, there has been a unanimous Resolution—through you, Mr. Speaker, that let us remain united on this problem, in the interest of world peace, in the interest of the rights of humanity, especially of the down-trodden, of the exploited, of the developing world, of the poor nations of the world, because they look towards us with expectations and hope.

SHRI A.K. ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir: The Government's action has already demoralized the country; and the Prime Minister's speech will demoralize Parliament. (*Interruptions*)

Sir: Nobody would be convinced by the

Prime Minister's argument, which clarifies none of the points raised in the House. It is aimed at confusing the confused, (*Interruptions*) and expecting that there should not be any person having a clear thinking on the issue.

There are two basic points. It is not simply a question of technicalities. Two basic points have been raised on which a country like India should react, and react with conviction. The first point is whether USA would be permitted to act as the international policeman; the second: whether the Monroe Doctrine should be applicable on this side of the Atlantic. These two basic points are there. Thirdly, his explanation on the question of refuelling will equal all the arguments against it. It has been said that it was continued. The point was made, that it was there as an old practice, during peacetimes. A question was asked whether it should continue during times of war also. There, no answer was given. The Government did not show guts to stop it, but it only appealed to that Government to discontinue this. Because of this spineless attitude of the Government of the biggest democracy in the world, and one of the staunchest supporters and a friend of the Arab world, India would cut a very sorry figure outside.

I would also like to say this: what my friend from the BJP said, also deserves some comment. He said that we have some special reasons for backing Saddam Hussain. Only a few days back, I was listening to the speech of the Prime Minister of Pakistan, as broadcast by the Pakistan Radio. It was justifying his taking sides with America, and said that Saddam Hussain had, on important issues like Babri Masjid and Kashmir, sided with India. So, he cannot be on Pakistan's side.

We are now finding a peculiar spectacle, wherein the fundamentalists of the Hindu variety and of the Muslim variety are in

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one boat, and are acting as approvers of the most heinous crime on the Arab world. It is very peculiar. They are sailing in the same boat. It is Saudi Arabia, it is Pakistan which exported communal politics. In India, it is this honourable party which is practising communal politics within the country.

They are now one. They are birds of the same feather flying together. This is the point. Many members have raised a question whether bombing of Kuwait was under the jurisdiction of the U.N. vague Resolution No. 678. Similarly, many members have raised a question whether anything speaking outside the question of refuelling is within the ambit of this Adjournment Motion. I like to say it is definitely within the ambit of this Adjournment Motion. After refuelling, the Adjournment Motion says: "And proper Initiatives in regard to the Gulf war compatible with the longstanding national foreign policy." So, the Adjournment Motion itself contains the scope of dealing with and viewing the issue in a wider perspective.

It is true that the Prime Minister has said something about that particular Resolution of the U.N. But what I emphasised in the beginning, I would like to repeat it here again: Iraq's annexation of Kuwait is a legacy of history. When Kuwait was created in 1961, at that time also, Iraq objected to that because it was a part of district Basra and was having the same culture, everything of that area. After the Ottoman Empire, in 1920, the Imperialists tried to divide the Arab countries, to balkanise the Arab countries and to get control over the oil pockets like Kuwait, which would boost their oil reserves, which would last for more than 100 years; while the American oil reserves would last only for 10 years if they use their own oil reserves. Today, in order to control all these oil reserves, they have created so many small States headed by Sultans, headed by Amirs,

headed by Sheikhs and headed by Kings. But that does not mean that it can be annexed in that way; that argument may be there. But it is Arabs' affair; it is an internal affair which can be settled by themselves. But aggressing across the Atlantic with all sort of sophisticated weapons to test their accuracy is treating it as guinea-pig. This is how the bombings are going on there. They are also taking some photographs for all sorts of enjoyment. It is a naked aggression; it should be condemned lock, stock and barrel. Are we to approve the American policemen'ship of the world and jump over the Arab world? This sort of spirit must not be there. But here in the speech of the Prime Minister nothing is there.

NAM is just not a neutral point; it has a purpose; it has a political purpose; and NAM is tied, was tied and has always been tied with the constant struggle against imperialism and colonialism. Some people have tried to make it equi-distant between USA and USSR. Should that be a policy? During our entire freedom struggle, USA did not back us; USSR backed us. (*Interruptions*) And even today the secessionists of Kashmir and Punjab are getting shelter in the USA, not in USSR. One of the extremist leaders, Mr. Mann offered to send his Khalistani commando to fight on the side of America. So, America presents all sorts of subversive elements whether in India or in the Arab world. The Muslim fundamentalists are trying to subjugate the Arab world. (*Interruptions*) We must know their politics and their politics must be kept in mind. Those who are fighting against Iraq are enemies of India, basically the enemies of India.

18.00 hrs.

So, India's sympathy, even keeping neutrality apart,—neutrality is a flexible thing which can be twisted in favour of even the imperialist countries as it has been twisted today—should be twisted always in favour of

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the subjugated people and the suffering people. So, our neutrality and non-alignment should be twisted in such a way that it serves positive neutrality and it serves the suffering people of Baghdad and not the United States policy of imperialism.

It is true that Mr. Gorbachov has given a proposal. It is not a final one. India can go a step ahead of Mr. Gorbachov. But the proposal of India should be that of peace. Here we should come out with a proposal that first there should be a cease-fire immediately. Secondly America and the other multi-national forces must withdraw.

Next, the third point is Iraq must start quitting Kuwait. At the same time Israel must start quitting the Arab lands and fourthly, with the help of Mr. Gorbachov we should decide on the future course of the entire Arab world. That should be the approach. It is not that Iraq should withdraw and the U.S. Army imposes its imperialist policy and spreads its tentacles in the Third World.

At the end I would like to say that the Gulf War has created a gulf between the people and the governments in each country and in India also it is very natural it will increase the gulf between the people and the Government. And, it is very surprising and very unfortunate that it looks as though it has become a part of the every day life to tolerate the crimes that are being committed in the Gulf. The days of elder statesmen ruling the country are gone and some preferred people are ruling the country. In a sense India was a land of Suns and galaxies and we can also say that now it is being governed by some satellites.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the House do now adjourn".

Those in favour will please say 'Aye'.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: 'Aye'.

MR. SPEAKER: Those against will please say 'No'.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: 'No'.

MR. SPEAKER: I think the 'Noes' have it. The 'Noes' have it.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: The 'Ayes' have it.

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Lobbies be cleared—

MR. SPEAKER: Now the Lobbies have been cleared.

The question is:

"That the House do now adjourn".

The Lok Sabha divided

18.07 hrs.

Division No.-1

AYES

Acharia, Shri Basudeb

Ahmed, Shri Anwar

Ali, Shrimati Subhashini

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Bala, Dr. Asim

Barman, Shri Palas

Basu, Shri Anil

Basu, Shri Chitta

Beg, Shri Yusuf

Bhartiya, Shri Santosh

Kundu, Shri Samarendra

Bhattacharya, Shrimati Malini

Mahata, Shri Chitta

Brahmbhatt, Shri Prakash Koko

Mahato, Shri Shailendra

Chakravorty, Shri Susanta

Malik, Shri Purna Chandra

Chatterjee, Shri Nirmal Kanti

Malik, Shri Satya Pal

Chatterji, Shri Somnath

Manjay Lal, Shri

Choudhury, Shri Lokanath

Masudal Hossain, Shri Syed

Choudhury, Shri Saifuddin

Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram

Dandavate, Prof. Madhu

Misra, Shri Satyagopal

Das, Shri Anadi Charan

Mukhopadhyay, Shri Ajoy

Dasgupta, Dr. Biplab

Negi, Shri C.M.

Datta, Shri Amal

Nitish Kumar, Shri

Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra

Pacherwal, Shri Gopal

Giri, Shri Sudhir

Pal, Shri Rupchand

Gujral, Shri I.K.

Pani, Shri Ravi Narayan

Gupta, Shri Indrajit

Panwar, Shri Harpal Singh

Hannan Mollah, Shri

Paraste, Shri Dalpat Singh

Hansda, Shri Matilal

Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas

Heera Bhai, Shri

Paswan, Shri Sukdeo

Hota, Shri Bhabani Shankar

Patel, Shri Ram Pujan

Jena, Shri Srikanta

Patnaik, Shri Sivaji

Kabde, Dr. Venkatesh

Pramanik, Shri Radhika Ranjan

Kaushik, Shri Purushottam

Prem Pradeep, Shri

Khan, Shri Sukhendu

Rai, Shri Lalbaboo

Rai, Shri, M. Ramanna

Zainal Abedin, Shri

Ray, Dr. Sudhir

NOES

Raychaudhuri, Shri Sudarsan

Adaikalaraj, Shri L.

Routray, Shri Nilamani

Agarwal, Shri J.P.

Roy, Shri A.K.

Akbar, Shri M.J.

Roy, Shri Haradhan

Anbarasu Era, Shri

Roypradhan, Shri Amar

Antony, Shri P.A.

Sanyal, Shri Manik

Antulay, Shri A.R.

Sayeed, Shri Mufti Mohammad

Arunachalam, Shri M.

Selvarasu, Shri M.

Asokaraj, Shri A.

Shastri, Shri Yamuna Prasad

Atinder Pal Singh, S.

Singh, Shri Har Govind

Bajpai, Dr. Rajendra Kumari

Singh, Shri Mandhata

Bala Goud, Shri T.

Singh, Shri Pratap

Balaraman, Shri L.

Singh, Shri Ram Prasad

Bali, Shrimati Vyjayantimala

Singh, Shri Ramashray Prasad

Bansi Lal, Shri

Sur, Shri Monoranjan

Basavaraj, Shri G.S.

Tyagi, Shri K.C.

Basheer, Shri T.

Vijayaraghavan, Shri A.

Bega Ram, Shri

Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad

Benjamin, Shri S.

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Bhagat, Shri H.K.L.

Yadav, Shri Mitra Sen

Bhajan Lal, Shri

Yadav, Shri Ramendra Kumar Ravi

Bhakata, Shri Manoranjan

Yadav, Dr. S.P.

Bhardwaj, Shri Parasram

Yadav, Shri Surya Narayan

Bhatia, Shri Ram Sewak

Bhosle, Shri Prataprao Baburao

Dore, Shri Raja Ambanna Nayak

Bhoye, Shri Reshma Motiram

Faleiro, Shri Eduardo

Bhuria, Shri Dileep Singh

Fernandes, Shri Oscar

Birender Singh, Rao

Gadgil, Shri V.N.

Chand Ram, Shri,

Gaikwad, Shri Udayasingrao

Chandrasekhar, Shrimati M.

Gajapathi, Shri Gopi Nath

Chandrashekharapa, Shri T.V.

Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka

Charles, Shri A.

Gandhi, Shri Rajiv

Chaudhary, Shri Kamal

Giriyappa, Shri C.P. Mudala

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Gomango, Shri Giridhar

Chennupati, Shrimati Vidya

Gudadinni, Shri B.K.

Chidambaram, Shri P.

Gupta, Shri Janak Raj

Chinta Mohan, Dr.

Handoo, Shri Piyare Lal

Chowdhary, Shri Dasai

Het Ram, Shri

Das, Shri Bhakta Charan

Inderjit, Shri

Deb Burman, Shri K.B.K.

Jag Pal Singh, Shri

Dennis, Shri N.

Jai Prakash, Shri

Deora, Shri Murli

Jamuna, Shrimati J.

Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan

Janardhanan, Shri Kadambur M.R.

Devarajan, Shri B.

Jayamohan, Shri A.

Devi Lal, Shri

Jeevarathinam, Shri R.

Dhakane, Shri Babanrao

Jhikram, Shri Mohanlal

Dhankhar, Ch. Jagdeep

Kalvi, Shri Kalyan Singh

Dhawan, Shri Harmohan

Kamal Nath, Shri

Dinesh Singh, Shri

Kamble, Shri Arvind Tulshiram

Kareddula, Kumari Kamalaji

Murthy, Shri Kusuma Krishna

Kaul, Shrimati Shella

Muthiah, Shri R.

Khan, Shri Zulfiquar Ali

Naikar, Shri D.K.

Kodikunnil, Shri Suresh

Narayanan, Shri K.R.

Konthala, Shri Rama Krishna

Narayanan, Shri P.G.

Kotadia, Shri Manubhai

Nayak, Shri Nakul

Krishna Kumar, Shri S.

Netam, Shri Arvind

Kumaramangalam, Shri P.R.

Nikam, Shri Govindrao

Kuppuswamy, Shri C.K.

Odeyar, Shri Channaiah

Kurien, Prof. P.J.

Oraon, Shrimati Sumati

Kushwaha, Shri Jagdish Singh

Palanisamy, Shri K.C.

Lakshmanan, Prof. Savithri

Pande, Shri Rajmangal

Mahabir Prasad, Shri

Pandian, Shri D.

Mahadik, Shri Vamanrao

Panja, Shri Ajit

Mahajan, Shri Y.S.

Patel, Shri Arjunbhai

Malik, Shri Mangaraj

Patel, Shri Shantilal Purushottam Das

Malikarjun, Shri

Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Marbaniang, Shri Peter G.

Patil, Shri S.T.

Mathew, Shri Palai K.M.

Patil, Shri Shankarrao

Mishra, Shri Balgopal

Patil, Shri Uttamrao

Mishra, Shri Janeshwar

Penchalliah, Shri P.

Mishra, Shri Raj Mangal

Peruman, Dr. P. Vallal

Mohammad Shafi, Shri

Poojary, Shri Janardhana

Muraleedharan, Shri K.

Pradhani, Shri K.

Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa

Reddy, Shri Kotla Vijaya Bhaskara

Purohit, Shri Banwarilal

Reddy, Shri M.G.

Purushothaman, Shri Vakkom

Reddy, Shri P. Narsa

Rahi, Shri Ramlal

Reddy, Shri R. Surender

Rai, Shri Kalp Nath

Reddy, Shri Rajamohan

Rajeshwaran, Dr. V.

Reddy, Shri Y.S. Rajasekhar

Rajeswari, Shrimati Basava

Sadul, Shri Dharmanna Mondayya

Raju, Shri M.M. Pallam

Sahay, Shri Subodh Kant

Raju, Shrimati Uma Gajapathi

Sait, Shri Ibrahim Sulaiman

Ram Babu, Shri A.G.S.

Saran, Shri Daulat Ram

Ram Sagar, Shri (Bara Banki)

Sathe, Shri Vasant

Ramachandran, Shri Mullappally

Save, Shri Moreshwar

Ramamurthy, Shri K.

Sayeed, Shri P.M.

Ranga, Prof. N.G.

Sekhar, Shri M.G.

Rao, Shri J. Chokka

Selvam, Shri Kanci Panner

Rao, Shri J. Vengala

Sema, Shri Shikiho

Rao, Shri K.S.

Shah, Shri Jayantilal Virchandbhai

Rao, Shri P.V. Narasimha

Shakya, Shri Ram Singh

Rao, Shri R. Gundu

Shankaranand, Shri B.

Rao, Shri Srinivas

Shanmugam, Shri P.

Rathva, Shri Narayanbhai Jamlabhai

Sharma, Shri Chiranji Lal

Rathor, Dr. Bhagwan Dass

Sharma, Shri Dharm Pal

Reddy, Shri A. Venkata

Shekhada, Shri Govindbhai Kanjibhai

Reddy, Shri B.N.

Shingada, Shri D.B.

Reddy, Shri Bojja Venkata

Sidnal, Shri S.B.

Silvera, Dr. C.

Thomas, Shri P.C.

Singaravadivel, Shri S.

Thorat, Shri S.B.

Singh, Shri Anand

Thungon, Shri P.K.

Singh, Shri Dhanraj

Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan

Singh, Shri K. Manvendra

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

Singh, Shri, Lalit Vijoy

Umbrey, Shri Laeta

Singh, Prof. N. Tombl

Varma, Shri B. Rajaravi

Singh, Shri Uday Pratap

Varma, Shri Dharmesh Prasad

Singh Deo, Shri A.N.

Venkatesan, Shri P.R.S.

Sinha, Shrimati Usha

Viswanatham, Dr.

Solanki, Shri Surajbhanu

Yadav, Shri Chhotey Singh

Sonkar, Shri Kalpnath

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Soz, Prof. Saif-ud-din

Yadava, Shri Ramjilal

Sukhbuns Kaur, Shrimati

Yazdani, Dr. Golam

Sultanpuri, Shri K.D.

Yuvraj, Shri

Suman, Shri Ramji Lal

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to corection, *
the result of the Division is:

Sumbrui, Shri Bagun

Ayes : 83

Sundararaj, Shri N.

Noes : 206

Thambi Durai, Dr.

The motion was negatived

Thomas, Prof. K.V.

* The following Members also recorded their votes.

Ayes : Sarvashree Shopat Singh Makkasar, Ajay Singh, Satyapal Singh Yadav, Taslimudin

Noes : Shri Chandra Shekhar, Shri Kapil Dev Shastri, Shri Kamaluddin Ahmed, Shri
Nandi Yellaiah, Smt. T. Manemma, Shri Manku Ram Sodhi.

18.10 hrs.

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Nineteenth Report**

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): I beg to present the Nineteenth Report of the Business Advisory committee.

MR. SPEAKER: Since the report is to be

adopted today, Shri Kumaramangalam may read it out so that Members may know its contents.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: The Business Advisory Committee held sitting on Thursday, the 21st February, 1991.

The Committee recommend the allocation of time to the following items of business as shown against each:-

(1)	Discussion on the Resolution regarding Presidents Rule in the state of Tamil Nadu	4 hours
(2)	Discussion on the Resolution regarding continuance of President's Rule in the State of Jammu & Kashmir.	3 hours
(3)	Discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.	12 hours
(4)	The Rehabilitation Council of India Bill, 1990.	2 hours
(Consideration and passing)		

The Committee also recommend that the discussions under rule 193 on the following subjects may be taken up on a date and time to be decided later:-

- (i) Gulf war
- (ii) Price rise

The Committee further recommend that in order to provide sufficient time for completion of essential items of Government and other business, the House may sit during lunch hour except on Fridays.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Nineteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd February, 1991."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Nineteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the

House on the 22nd February, 1991."

The motion was adopted

18.13 hrs.

RE. SITUATION IN GULF

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Wardha): May I request you that after all this debate let a message of solidarity go from this Parliament, largest Parliament in the world. I request you that you yourself suggest that the proposal of President Gorbachev should be welcomed by this House and supported. If it comes from your side, I think, the entire House will support it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgpur): It should come from the Chair.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Jaipur): This proposal came up during the discussion itself. In principle there can possibly be no two opinions about the two Houses of Parliament speaking with one voice here. Secondly also in principle, if at all a unanimous resolution of the House is to be adopted, then, of course, that resolution must be moved by you from the Speaker's Chair and from any other part of this House. But we have one particular difficulty which is only a procedural difficulty, that the text of the resolution which is to be moved and adopted, has only just reached. I, therefore, request you that this very thing of unanimously adopting a resolution may be done on Monday. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not talking of the resolution. I know the difficulty. We have got the text just now. It would really look odd if one House passes it today and we were to do it two days after. All I am suggesting is that there should be one line resolution

from the Chair that we support the initiative of Gorbachev for bringing peace in the Gulf. I think, they should have no objection to this. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I am just asking what is the difficulty in adopting it on Monday? There will be two days and we will use these two days... *(Interruptions)*

HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Advani ji, it will lose its effect if we do not do it today. We are the larger House, the House of the People. If Rajya Sabha passes it today and we were to keep quiet, it will really lose the significance... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, today is the crucial time. Iraq has also accepted the proposal... *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): I have one request to make to you, Sir. I do not think there is any division on this

MR. SPEAKER: No division.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I will only make a request to the BJP that in the other House their representatives have also approved that and, therefore, without loss of time, a proper signal will go. So, if it is adopted today from the Chair, it will carry a bigger weight. Since their Members have accepted in the other House, I will earnestly request the Leader of the Opposition to go with the entire House and let us try to have unanimity... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am persuaded by the desire to bring unanimity. Certainly. All that I suggested was that if unanimity is to be achieved and if consensus is to be achieved, consensus is

[Sh. Jaswant Singh]

not mere conformity, consensus is arriving at a viewpoint after consultation. Because we have received this document... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Mavelikana): We are not insisting on that Resolution. We are only suggesting that let there be a one-line Resolution, one-sentence Resolution... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: It is a simple point. It is not one line or two pages that matters. It is a question of unanimity and unanimity being arrived at after consultation. That was the point. However, if the entire A House feels... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I have a request to make to Jaswant Singhji. (*Interruptions*). If he has agreed to the Resolution, well and good.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: If unanimity is to be achieved, it has to be there through consultation. Certainly, I bow to the greater wisdom of the totality of the House and the request made by everyone and certainly I will not stand in the way of that unanimity. I have only made a submission.

18.20 hrs.

RESOLUTION

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am placing the following Resolution before the House.

"This House,

Aware of the incalculable human suffering caused by war in the Gulf, the danger it poses to the environment in the region and to international peace and security.

Distressed at the devastation unleashed

by the war because of which many innocent lives have been lost and civilian properties, including thousands of dwelling homes, have been destroyed and millions of civilians are without shelter or protection and are facing health hazards due to the absence of electricity and increasing shortage of drinking water.

Convinced that the implementation of the Security Council resolutions constitutes the basis for restoring peace in the Gulf.

Convinced also of the central role of the United Nations, when appropriate through the Security Council, in bringing about a cessation of hostilities and restoring and promoting durable peace and security in the region.

Stressing that the objective of the Security Council resolutions is to liberate Kuwait and not to subdue Iraq or to dismantle its technological and physical infrastructure or to cripple its social and economic life.

Gravely concerned by the possibility of the commencement of an even more destructive phase in the conflict that can result from a ground war.

Noting the statements made by some parties engaged in the Gulf War about the possible use of nuclear and chemical weapons.

Recognizing the role of the Non-aligned Movement in promoting a peaceful solution and the need for affirmative and prompt action in this regard.

Heartened by the reports that an eight Point Peace Plan proposed by President Gorbachov has been accepted by President Saddam Hussain.

Gratified to note that it is very much in line with India's own peace proposal submit-

ted at the NAM meeting in Belgrade.

Convinced that the war must be stopped immediately and peace restored in West Asia.

(1) Urges the Government of India to exert all efforts in the Security Council to mobilise global support for the acceptance of the Gorbachov Proposals to bring an end in West Asian War and work for sustained peace in the region.

(2) Further urges the multinational forces to desist from launching a land offensive pending efforts and negotiations being currently undertaken in regard to the Gorbachov proposals.

(3) Affirms that:

(a) The Security Council shall monitor the situation in the light of the objectives specified in its relevant resolutions and keep it under constant review; and

(b) the Security Council shall play the primary role in the re-establishment of peace and security in the area, in consultation with all the parties concerned;

(4) Urges that agreement should also be reached in the Security Council, to address, in a comprehensive manner, after the completion of the process of withdrawal, the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly the Palestinian question, through the convening of an international conference, based on the relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions on this subject and with the participation of the PLO; and

(5) Considers that any regional security arrangement in the area should emerge from the initiative of the regional countries themselves, should be worked out under the overall aegis of the United Nations, guaranteed by the Security Council and UN Peace

Keeping Force and underpinned by disarmament measures which are universal in character."

I hope the House adopts this Resolution unanimously.

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The Resolution is unanimously adopted.

The Resolution was adopted

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): It should be circulated.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes.

18.25 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing 25th February, 1991, will consist of:

1. Presentation of the Interim Railway Budget for 1991-92 immediately after disposal of Questions on 25th February, 1991 for obtaining vote on account.
2. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
3. Discussion on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

SHRIVAMANRAO MAHADIK (Bombay South Central): Sir, the following item may please be included in next week's agenda:-

More than century old Carnac Bridge/ Bunder Railway Goods depot in Mumbai was abruptly closed due to the self-motivated interest of some railway officials.

Carnacbunder railway goods depot was closed in last October by stopping the arrival and departure of the goods wagon and from last January, 1991, the area is closed for the entry and all commercial transactions putting railways in the daily loss of 12 lakh rupees as revenue. This closure had also directly affected more than 8000 families whose daily earning was on the transactions of the Railway depot. Due to closure of the depot there is rise in the prices of the essential commodities for the local purchasers as road transportation is costlier than railways.

I herewith request the hon. Minister of Railways to re-open the Carnac Bridge/ Bunder Railway Goods Depot immediately keeping the interest of the 8000 families and millions of Mumbaikars (Bombayites) who are facing price rises due to closure of the Carnac Depot.

DR. VENKATESH KABDE (Nanded): Sir, the following item may please be included in next week's agenda:-

Statutory Development Boards are to be granted to Marathwada, Vidharbha and Konkan as per declaration of previous Government. An official amendment to article 371 (2) of the Constitution may be brought up to include Konkan for grant of Statutory Development Board alongwith Marathwada and Vidharbha.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): The following items may be included in the

next week's agenda:

1. The 3 up-4 down trains running between Delhi-Ahmedabad, which were cancelled earlier due to Gulf crisis, should be reintroduced.
2. The construction of Air strip at Ajmer should be expedited and Ajmer may be connected with air service.

[*English*]

SHRIPRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT (Baroda): Sir, the following item may please be included in next week's agenda:-

That this House expresses its concern over the increasing terrorist activities in the country and urges upon the Government to take effective administrative and political steps to curb these activities.

This matter should be discussed separately, as the terrorist activities are spreading from Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab to Uttar Pradesh and other States also. Hence, I urge the hon. Minister to find a suitable date and time to discuss this issue separately during the current week of the Session.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA (Ujjain): The following items may be included in the next week's agenda:

1. Adequate measures should be taken to check the rising prices and foodgrains, edible oil, sugar and other essential commodities should be made available to the consumers at fair prices.
2. Atrocities committed on Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections should be checked

and protection should be provided to them.

18.29 hrs.

[DR. THAMBI DURAI—in the Chair]

[English]

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO (Mormugao): Sir, the following item may please be included in next week's agenda:

We should specifically discuss the plight of Indian citizens who have returned from Kuwait and other countries in that region in the wake of Gulf crisis. About six months have passed since their return but Government have not taken any step for their rehabilitation. Assurances given in this regard have not been implemented. Furthermore, the following just demands from the returnees from Kuwait should be immediately met:

- (a) restoration of passport services to them,
- (b) extension of their NRI status until normalisation of the situation in the Gulf, and

(c) registration of the births of the Indian children born in Kuwait.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:

Eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh, where forty lakh people are living, have been demanding a separate hill State "Uttanchal" for quite a long time. In such a vast state like Uttar Pradesh, justice is not being done with the hill area from development, political and

administrative point of view. This area is along with the international border and has its separate identity. Due to the economical backwardness, people are migrating from there which is dangerous to the national security also.

Therefore, I would suggest that the Government should propose a creation of 'Uttanchal' State for this area.

[English]

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Sir, the following items may please be included in the next week's agenda:-

1. Uniform wages for agriculture labourers may be brought in the next week's agenda.
2. Regarding nuclear policy of Government.

SHRI SATYAPRAKASH MALVIYA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government will pay full attention towards the items towards which the hon. Members have drawn the attention and whatever is possible will be done.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, some school children of New Delhi Municipal Corporation School fell ill after taking inferior quality milk yesterday... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are taking Private Members' Bills now. Please sit down.

Now Bills for introduction.

Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam-not present.

Shri Harish Rawat-not present.

Shri Kusuma Krishna Murthy.

18.31 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Fifth Schedule)

[English]

SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY (Amalapuram): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: I introduce the Bill.

18.31 1/2 hrs.

CONSUMER ASSOCIATIONS (REGISTRATION) BILL*

[English]

PROF. RAMGANESH KAPSE (Thane): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the registration of consumer associations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a

Bill to provide for the registration of consumer associations and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

PROF. RAM GANESH KAPSE: I introduce the Bill.

18.32 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 371)

[English]

DR. VENKATESH KABDE (Nanded): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

DR. VENKATESH KABDE: I introduce the Bill.

18.33 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 316, etc.)

[English]

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri):

I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: I introduce the Bill.

18.32 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Article 324, etc.)

[English]

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: I introduce the Bill.

18.33 1/2 hrs.

BAN ON CHILD LABOUR BILL*

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT

(Baroda): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for ban on child labour and for matters connected therewith.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for ban on child labour and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted

SHRI PRAKASH KOKO
BRAHMBHATT: I introduce the Bill.

18.34 hrs.

SALARY, ALLOWANCES AND PENSION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

(AMENDMENT) BILL

(Amendment of Section 8 A)

[English]

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK (Bombay South Central): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Salary, allowances and pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954."

The motion was adopted

SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK (Bombay South Central): I introduce the Bill.

18.34 1/2 hrs.

**SPECIAL-TAX ON EMPLOYEES IN THE
ORGANISED SECTOR BILL****[English]*

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to levy a special-tax on employees in the organised sector for the welfare of unemployed and employees in the unorganised sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to levy a special-tax on employees in the organised sector for the welfare of unemployed and employees in the unorganised sector."

The motion was adopted

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: I introduce the Bill.

18.35 hrs.

**CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES)
ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL*****(Amendment of the Schedule)***[Translation]*

PROF. MAHADEO SHIVANKAR (Chimur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

*The motion was adopted**[Translation]*

PROF. MAHADEO SHIVANKAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I introduce the Bill.

18.35 1/2 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL**(Amendment of Articles 341 and 342)***[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN: By Shri Ram Lal Rahi now the House will take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Ramlal Rahi on the 28th December, 1990, namely:-

"That the Bill further to amend the constitution of India be taken into consideration."

Shri Ram Lal Rahi was on his legs.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI (Misrikh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my views regarding the Bill further to amend Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution moved in the House. In this context, I would like to submit that I have got with me the State-wise list of the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I would like to give you the State-wise number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In Andhra Pradesh there are 59 Scheduled Castes and 33 Scheduled Tribes and in

Assam the number of Scheduled Castes in 16 and the number of Scheduled Tribes is 14. In Bihar, there are 23 Scheduled Castes and 30 Scheduled Tribes and Gujarat has 30 Scheduled Castes and 29 Scheduled Tribes. Similarly, in Haryana the number of them is 37. There are 56 Scheduled Castes and 8 Scheduled Tribes in Himachal Pradesh. Similarly in other states also, there are people of both communities, and if I read out the complete list of every state, it will take a lot of time. What I mean to say is that there are in all 1643 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in our country, out of which only 5 to 7 communities are such which are found in the neighbouring states also, otherwise these are found in the original state alone. Sir, if you go through the complete list, though it is prepared State-wise, you will find that there are certain states like Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala where certain persons are classified as Scheduled Castes in a limited region only. If I go further into the details, I find that in Madhya Pradesh there are some people who have been classified as "Dhobi" but it has been mentioned in the list that the people of Dhobi caste are found only in Bhopal, Raisen and Sihore districts. The members of "Dhobi" caste are recognised as Members of Scheduled Caste, only in these districts and not in the rest of the State. The members of "Dhobi" caste are not recognised as members of Scheduled Caste in the entire state, even though they are the original residents of that State. Similarly, you will see that in Tamil Nadu there is a caste known as Ayyanwar. The People of this caste are recognised as scheduled caste only in districts of Kanya Kumari and Tirunelveli, and they are not recognised as scheduled castes in the rest of Tamil Nadu. Similarly, in Tamil Nadu State there are many other castes like Bakkalan, Kabra, Kuran, Mannau Pannayan, pathian and Khandan which are included in the list of scheduled castes. The castes that I have mentioned are considered as scheduled castes only within the limited area of the State, but if the same people migrate to other

districts or other parts of the same State, They do not get the facilities available otherwise to these people as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Similarly, you will see that in all the States and Union Territories, the list of these communities prepared separately whether district-wise or region-wise are covered under the lists of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Sir, in this context, I would like to say that after 42 years of Independence, the people of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have got a chance at least to live freely in any corner of the country. They can now reside and settle anywhere in India and they are now residing and are doing their own job anywhere in India. Why had they to move to other places, is a different question. The reason behind their migration is that they don't get employment at their native places, so in search of job, they migrated to other places. Secondly, there have been people of exploiting nature, who started exploiting them at local level. In order to save themselves from such exploitation, these people migrated from one district to the other and settled there in search of jobs and since then they have been living there and they have settled there. These people have been living at these places for the last 20-25 years. They married there and their children were born there. Now, when they are sending their children to schools for education, they require help in the form of text books etc., and neither the State Government, nor the Central Government provides them the facilities admissible to the people belonging to the scheduled castes and tribes. If a boy completes his education and sends an application for a job, he won't get the facility of reservation in that State. Why is it so?

Sir, I, therefore, request the Government through you that the amendment moved by me may be accepted. In this Bill, I have mentioned two communities Pasi and Dhobi. These are such communities which live in

[Sh. Ram Lal Rahl]

almost all the divisions of all the states in India and they are doing their own jobs. I have mentioned communities like Khateek, Kori, Kanjad in the bill. These communities are living in almost all the regions of the country. Irrespective of the fact whether these people are employed in the service of some person or they are working as labourer or they are in the Government service or they have started their own business, they should be considered as members of scheduled castes everywhere. I would like to give you an example. Pasi, Kori, Dhobi, Khateek and Kanjad castes are included in the list of Uttar Pradesh, but not in the List of Andhra Pradesh. Similarly, Kori, Khateek and Kanjad castes are not included in Assam List. Likewise Dhobi, Kori and Kanjad Castes are not included in the list of Gujarat. In Haryana list Dhobi caste is not included, when every one is aware of the fact that there is no metropolitan city or any town in the country now-a-days where you won't find people of these castes. These people migrated from one place to the other in search of job and settled there and in a way became the original residents of that place. I, therefore, request the Government through you that the government should seriously consider the amendment brought by me, and make an amendment in the definition given in the Article 341 and 342 of the Constitution, and include all the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and all such people, in all the states and all the divisions, under the list. I would like the Central Government to issue such a directive, and bring forward such an amendment so that all the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are included in the list and a single national list should be published. This is also necessary. I am saying this because in states like Punjab, Kashmir and Assam problems of separatism, casteism or Bodos have arisen there is Khalistan problem in Punjab Similarly people of other castes, who have hitherto been ignored by

the Government, are developing separatist tendencies. I would like the people belonging to Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes to have faith in this country and that is possible only when the Government gives them their due.

There have been many discussions in the House regarding reservation in Government jobs. States have shown laxity in this matter and whenever an explanation was asked for, it was said that suitable candidates were not available. Even if at some point of time no suitable candidate is available in a state such candidates can be sought from other states where they are bound to be available. The need of the hour is to consider the issue of separatism from the broadened perspective of unity and integrity of the country. For this purpose the Government should accord recognition not people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that they are not excluded from the developmental programmes of the Government. That is why I have brought this amendment. It is difficult to estimate the number of Scheduled Caste people who have settled in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. I have visited these states to speak to the people. The average person is employed as a daily wage worker in private industry and their children have got proper education. A committee was appointed to conduct a survey. When the topic of reservation was brought up it was found that there was nobody even to put up an application. When the names of the local Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people have not been included in the list, how can the reservation quota be filled? Regarding the constitution (Amendment) Bill brought by me, I request the Government to include the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central list so that they get an opportunity to come into the national mainstream. Not only this, they should also have the liberty to live anywhere in the country thus inculcating a sense of belonging to the country. It is with

these things in mind, I have brought this Bill. I request all hon. Members to whole-heartedly support this Bill. Only then can people belonging to the backward classes and weaker sections feel that the Government is doing something for them.

Sir, when Shri Ram Vilas Paswan was Minister of Welfare in the previous Government he had brought a Bill to include certain castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. That Bill included those castes which had become neo-Buddhists. Participating in that discussion he had said that conversion of religion does not change that social and economic status of a person. I am in agreement with him in this matter. In this context I would like to submit that the social and economic status of a washerman, potter or cobbler does not change if he moves from one place to another. Why is it that a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe is not recognised as such if he moves from one state to another? So in the national interest it is necessary that one Central list be prepared so that people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes get due facilities wherever they choose to settle. I shall not take much time as I must obey the order of Choudhary Sahab. So I have expressed my views with regard to this Bill. I have said that the castes which I have mainly touched upon in the Bill are not included in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe list in many states. The castes that have been mentioned should be included in the list. I shall once again emphasize that hon. Choudhary Sahab should bring a more comprehensive Bill if my Bill is not acceptable so that all the castes included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes get national-level recognition in case they were from one state to another then they should get all those facilities available to the People belonging to which are these castes already settled there. with these words I conclude.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think Shri Ram Lal Rahi has got some misunderstanding that the work relating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is dealt with by Agriculture Ministry because I he has been referring to Shri Devi Lal.

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: I have been referring to Shri Devi Lal in his capacity of Deputy Prime Minister and not because he heads the Agriculture Ministry.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Hon. Mr. Chairman Sir, I support the constitution (Amendment) Bill brought by Shri Ram Lal Rahi to introduce a proviso in Articles 341 and 342 of the constitution. This Amendment Bill has been brought because Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been suffering from educational, economic and social depravity for centuries. It was with the intention of alleviating the suffering of these people that a provision for reservation was made in the Constitution and a list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was included in Articles 341 and 342 of the constitution.

Unfortunately, some places at only some of the Castes were included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes when the Constitution was being framed in 1947. Some of the better known castes were included but many of the lesser known sub-castes were not included belonging to such sub-castes are looked down upon treated as untouchables but are not included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes the people of these castes are socially and economically backward but are denied the facilities due to them. According to a list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes issued by Governors of various States if a person

[Sh. Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat]

belonging to a Scheduled caste goes to another State to look for employment he would be denied the facilities available to him in his home state if his caste is not included in the list of the state to which he migrates. Such people, who are educationally socially and economically backward, have to face a lot of problems.

I am sorry to say that the people who talk of upliftment of the backward classes are not present in the House. If they were truly sympathetic to the problems of the backward classes in their respective constituencies, they would have certainly put forward their views today...

19.00 hrs.

Even though I don't belong to a backward class, where ever I visit my constituency, people of the 'Bhand' caste complain that some groups belonging to their castes like 'Dholis', 'Nachaks' and 'Bhanus' have been included in the list but not 'Bhats' so I would like to say that the names lither to excluded should be included. Also, a person belonging to a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe should be eligible for similar facilities all over the country. They should not be deprived of facilities like bank loans or scholarships in whichever state they go to. On behalf of my party I want to submit that various Castes should be appended in the Constitution (Amendment) Bill brought by Shri Rahi.

I would like to cite an example related to Rajasthan. There is a caste called 'Meena' in Rajasthan and this caste has been included in the list of Scheduled Tribe. But people belonging to 'Meena' caste and living in Delhi, U.P. Madhya Pradesh or Maharashtra are not treated as Scheduled Tribe. Similarly people belonging to the 'Ravat Meepe' caste of Udaipur's adivasi area who are living here

have been included as a Scheduled Tribe. But people living in the 'Mekhara' area of Udaipur and in Ajmer and Pali are not treated as Scheduled Tribe. There for such anomalies should be removed and a list prepared in any state should be applicable all over the country. The purpose of reservation should be removal of untouchability and casteism from society. Swami Dayananda Saraswati and Swami Shradhanand raised the slogan of "Ajyeshta as and Aknishtas" meaning that nobody is of upper caste or lower caste in society. Sages in ancient times introduced a system of 'Varnashram' for the all-round development of mankind. Unfortunately, this system was not based on division of labour. When this division of labour took the form of classes it became a curse for society. There are 3600 castes and sub castes. Indian society. In conclusion I would say that this Amendment Bill should be passed and various anomalies should be removed.

SHRI YUVRAJ (Katihar): Sir, I support the Bill brought by Shri Rahi seeking amendments in Articles 341 and 342 of the constitution. There is no logic in one state classifying one caste as a Scheduled Caste and another State not doing so Preparation of such lists calls for co-ordination between states. The castes which are educationally and economically backward should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Sir, as you know that reservation facility for SC/ST is not available to the fullest extent for lack of uniformity. In my state, there is one labour class called 'Chator' The people belonging this caste, speak Bengali, and have come from west Bengal and settled on the banks of the river from Rajmahal to Kishanganj in Bihar. Similarly, the 'Desiya-Poliya' people are a backward class whose status has been recognized in Bengal but not in Bihar. Similarly, there is no gazetted officer among the 'Muriyari' caste, which is a backward class, So I suggest that these neglected classes should be given special facilities.

Sir, according to Articles 341-342 of the Constitution the President can, in consultation with a State's Governor, issue a notification to include various castes and tribes in the list of SC/ST. Last month the Central Government issued directives to some states and Union Territories to include certain oppressed castes in the SC/ST list but 'Chator', 'Desia-Polia' and 'Muriyari' castes were left out. Recently the Minister of State in the Ministry of welfare visited Bihar. I don't know whether he is aware or not but there is a tribal sub-plan in Bihar which is run with Central assistance. This is a programme for tribal welfare but the Bihar Chief Minister summoned a meeting of his cabinet and diverted 3.5 crores of funds meant for this programme towards purchase of Maruti vehicles. The Regional Development commissioner Shri Suverno, who is of the rank of chief Secretary, said that the State Government had no authority to act as it did. This happened 20 days ago. Serious note should be taken of this and the state Government should be asked to explain its action.

Secondly, the castes which I have mentioned must get a better deal. Between 1951 to 1978, Presidential Ordinances have been issued 14 times in case of Scheduled Castes and 6 times in case of Scheduled Tribes regarding provision of facilities to these classes. A survey should be conducted in respect of the 'Chator', 'Desia-Polia' and 'Muriyari' castes so as to include them in the list of Scheduled Tribes at the earliest.

With these words, I support the Bill to amend Articles 341-342 of the Constitution.

[English]

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Mr. Chairman Sir, my friend Mr. Ram Lal Rahi has brought forward this discussion on the amendment of the constitution. Article 341 of the Constitution is to give additional protection for certain groups in certain parts of the

country. He wanted to say that his main objective of bringing this Bill is to generalise everything. The thrust of Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution and his objective does not tally at all. Shri Rahi should have brought forward amendments to some there Articles of the Constitution. I also do not know why this Bill was not sent for legal or constitutional opinion by the experts. The idea of Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution is very specific and these Articles are intended to give additional protection to certain groups in some parts of the country. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the hon. Member has stated that Dhobis and Passis are recognised as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in U.P. and Bihar States and, therefore, they should be brought in this list in other parts of the country also. When compared to Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka with other areas of north, a lot of difference is there. Among the Dhobis there are two types of Dhobis in Andhra Pradesh, the scheduled caste Dhobis and the forward class Dhobis. If that type of class is there among the Dhobis, I do not know how these amendments can bring additional support to all these Dhobis and Passis.

Then, in Karnataka, while Vaderas are recognised as scheduled castes, in Andhra Pradesh, they are recognised as backward classes. I have all sympathies for Dhobis and Vaderss in other parts of the country. But if you want to get them included in the Scheduled Castes, there are a number of other poor people in different parts of the country also. There are so many Brahmins who are below the poverty line. They also need sympathy and support from the Government. This Article 341 as also Article 342 do not help much for the Dhobis and Passis. Christians in Andhra Pradesh and different parts of the country also wanted to get themselves included in the Scheduled Castes. Recently, we had an amendment in the parliament to include neo-Buddhists also in this category. A number of people want

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recognition as scheduled Caste. It is a Pandora's Box. If you go on opening it under political or some other pressure, we will not be doing justice to the nation.

I, therefore, submit that Shri Rahi, instead of bringing amendment in this manner, should have brought an amendment seeking special protection for the Dhobis and other backward classes. These people should have been provided some other protection from the Government. I, think, Shri Rahi is totally confused in bringing forward this amendment. With these words, I conclude my submission.

[Translation]

SHRI PREM PRADEEP (Nawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to express my thanks to Shri Ram Lal Rahi who has introduced Bill to make an amendment in the Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution. Through this amendment seems to be a trivial one, but it is actually very effective.

It is a well known fact that in this country we can settle in any state and earn our livelihood. In our Constitution provision has been made for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. But I am unable to understand as to why a person considered to be of scheduled caste in Uttar Pradesh is not recognised a scheduled caste when he goes to Bengal to earn his livelihood. Which special change does occurs in him that he is excluded from the category of scheduled castes. Harijans, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are there throughout the country-in all the states including union territories. The point to be considered is as to what are the reasons that they are considered as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in those particular states. This clearly reveals that they are socially backward, due to which they have been deprived of social justice,

and thus they have lagged behind economically and educationally. Keeping this fact in view, we will have to treat the people of these castes settled in other states also. Similar facilities which are provided to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes should be provided to them in other states also. I hail from Bihar. Majority of the scheduled caste people in Bihar are agricultural labourers. They migrate to Punjab and Haryana only because local landlords exploit them and very meagre wages are paid to them with which they cannot make their both ends meet. In Haryana and Punjab and even in Bengal, wages are a little better. But that does not mean that they are backward only in Bihar. By earning a little better wages in other States, the agricultural labourers have not become capitalists like Tatas, Birlas and Goenkas. Recently, riots took place between Jatavs and Jats in Uttar Pradesh. Jatavs are considered Harijans, while Jats are not included among Scheduled Castes. The point of dispute was whether a Jatav could ride the horse in a Barat or not. Jats consider themselves to be of upper caste and only they can pass through their villages on an elephant or a horse. Even after forty three years of independence, social system is the same even today. Backward and economically weaker sections which have not yet been recognised as scheduled castes will have to be taken into consideration. Their inclusion in the scheduled castes will lead to social justice and widening of opportunities for them. This would be a good step by any Government. Therefore, the Government should adopt a broad outlook and amend the articles 341 and 342 so that people of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes get a social security and they move ahead. In the constitution special reference has been made to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. As it has been pointed out that people of only those castes have their say and make progress whose leaders are influential whereas the people of those castes remain backward, whose leaders are not influential. Hence, leaders should not be involved in such matters. They should be provided due social status in the society. Unless this is

done, our efforts to show concern about them will be nothing more than shedding crocodile tears. The hon. Deputy Prime Minister is present here, and I hope that under his leadership same criteria will be adopted to prepare the list for all the States. Afterwards scheduled castes and scheduled tribes be included without any discrimination in any state. This is my last appeal to him. With these words I conclude.

SHRI THAN SINGH JATAV (Bayana):
 Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank Shri Rahi for introducing the constitution (Amendment) Bill and also agree with what he has argued in favour of the inclusion of provision in that Bill. At the time of drafting of the constitution, Baba Saheb Ambedkar was asked as to what facilities would be provided to the socially and economically backward people. It was proposed that list of those who are socially and economically backward and also of those who are economically backward and also of those who are economically weak, but not socially backward should be prepared. In this manner, schedule were attached to the constitution and scheduled castes and scheduled tribes were identified. Besides, there are certain nomadic tribes which wander throughout the country, whereas some communities are called criminal tribes. All these tribes were enlisted in two lists, which was really astonishing. For instance, some castes in Ajmer in Rajasthan are considered scheduled castes, but in the other districts of the same state the same castes are not included in that list. In this manner, those communities which shift to some other part are not given any recognition as scheduled castes. In 1956 an amendment was made as a result of which Scheduled castes and Scheduled tribes were separated. Still there are a number of castes which are not considered as scheduled castes. I would like to cite an example. At places like Keshwrai Patan, Nainva, Mangron, Kota and Bundi, communities which earn their livelihood as Nat, Bhand, Bhungi, Dom and Kanjar are categorised as Bhaktan, Bhakt and Jogi, but their social condition is very bad, they are considered as

untouchables and they are not allowed to draw water from wells and enter the temples. They can sing or perform their dance only on the road in front of the temple. But as they are not enlisted in any list, they are deprived of social and economic benefits. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to recognise the castes like Bhagat, Bhangin and Devdasi as scheduled castes, otherwise their children will also remain backward and will be deprived of the facilities. In regard to their economic condition I would like to submit that at the time of prayer in the temple cooked rice are spread on the floor, the people of koli caste who are considered to be people of scheduled caste are allowed to take those spread rice while the remaining cooked rice are given to Bhagat, Jogin and Devdasi. This shows that the financial condition of these people is very bad. They should be recognised as scheduled caste people and included in the list of scheduled castes. In Rajasthan Dhanak, Dhanuk and Dhanakya castes are considered as Scheduled Castes, whereas 'Dhanaka' caste is considered as scheduled tribe. People of Dhanuka Caste, though of scheduled caste, are not given any scheduled caste certificate even though their occupation is unclean. They do the hereditary work of mid-wives and nurses. Therefore, they should also be included in the list of scheduled castes.

Similarly, 'Kabadi' and 'Sapera' castes are considered as scheduled castes in Madhya Pradesh, but not in Rajasthan. Sapera roams everywhere. If he is considered to be a man of scheduled caste in one region and not in the other region, he will be deprived of the facilities which he deserves. People of 'Kabadi' caste are there in Rajasthan as well as in Madhya Pradesh. 'Guna' area of Madhya Pradesh adjoins the border of Rajasthan where Chhabra is situated. 'Kabadi' caste in that region has not been enlisted as the scheduled castes, due to which they are being denied the facilities. We support the amendment for this purpose. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the amendment proposed by Shri Ram Lal Rahi should be accepted and the proposal to include the proviso should also be approved.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM (SHRIDEVILAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, our Minister Shri Ramji Lal Suman will reply to this question, but the amendment moved by Shri Ram Lal Rahi is justified. Not only it is justified, but I would like to bring it also under his notice that for the last three years, the Haryana Government is giving Rs. 1 to every child everyday whether belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or backward classes, for attending the school and if the child attends regularly his school for 6 months his parents are given Rs. 5000 for purchasing a plot. I mean to say that Jats are considered to be high in the society. But the real position is that there are 261 I.A.S. officers in Rajasthan, out of which 4 belong to Jat community, 3 belong to Gujars and 27 belong to Rajputs. From the upper categories, there are 67, Baniyas 46 Brahmins and 17 cultivators. They malign us by calling us A-J-G-R. In fact, we haven't coined the word A-J-G-R. We didn't mean to say this. "H" means Harijan and "M" means minority. "R" means Rajput, "G" means Gujar and "J" means Jat. These communities actually work in the villages and they should be provided the status of backward classes. I am giving the examples of U.P., Haryana and Rajasthan I.A.S. Cadre Haryana is the most politically forward State. There are 200 I.A.S., out of which 6 belong to Jats, no Rajput, no Gujar and only 1 belongs to the Ahir community. Other backward castes do not count and from the upper castes, 51 belong to Baniyas, 46 to Khattris, 6 to Kayasthas and 16 to Brahmins. So, there are 129 officers from upper castes and only 15 belong to our communities. You can understand who is "AJGR" we or they. In U.P. there are 501 I.A.S. officers from those communities, who are known as ruling community in the State, there are only 3 Ahir 2 Jat and 48 Rajput I.A.S. officers. There are only 56 from the entire State. There are 4 other communities and 278 I.A.S. officers belong to these 4 communities. I mean to say that the backward classes should be brought forward. A list of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be prepared in every State and they should be given all the

facilities as provided in the Constitution. Because I was particularly pointed out, so I rose to speak the truth. Our Minister Shri Ramji Lal Suman will reply to his question.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to Shri Ram Lal Rahi for presenting a very important suggestion before this House. It is not only today that this question is being discussed in this august House but it has been discussed in and outside the House earlier also. Some of our friends became very agitated on these questions which relate to the atrocities on Harijans and the extending of lists of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and so on. It does not mean much. This particular topic should have been confined to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes only, because some of our friends belonging to these castes, do not get the facilities provided to these people, when they go to another State.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is true that every State in our country has its own social and geographical structure. Every state has a different social set-up, language, educational level and cultural activities. I think that these standards are kept in view while a list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is prepared in any State. It is also true as Shri Ram Lal Rahi and others said here that the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes remain unemployed and had to migrate from one place to another in search of livelihood. It is also a fact that even after 42 years of independence, there is social tension and people are still burnt. Our society is not ready to compromise with its feudalistic mentality even today. When social tension creates, these people have to migrate from there. The poverty situation of some States also force these people to migrate to those States where there are possibilities of employment and where situation is somewhat better. If people continue to migrate like this, the poverty stricken States will continue to be poor and I think this is not proper in view of the regional balance of our country. Shri Yuvraj also raised a lot of questions today. I have visited his constituency. Shri Yuvraj, there is a prescribed

procedure to include the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the list. The State Government forward the names of the communities. We direct them to clarify their point of view regarding those castes, then the Central Government takes positive action in this regard. That process is totally different. It is true that some castes have been left over. I would like to assure him that we have no intention of leaving out any caste. Instead the Government wants to include them in the list. So far as the question of providing protection and facilities to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes by the Central Government is concerned, all the facilities available to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are provided to all the officers belonging to 'A' and 'B' class services throughout the country and for 'C' and 'D' class services, figures, with regard to percentage of members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various states are available with me and they are selected by the State Governments according to that percentage. So far as the question of centrally run educational institutions is concerned, people belonging to these castes get all the facilities. This is being done by the Central Government. I would like to mention here a case decided by the Supreme Court—Shri Chandra Shekhar Rao verses the head of the Institution Shri G.S. Medical College: This is a civil writ petition No. 989/89. The stand taken by the High Court in this regard was that a particular caste has different social conditions in different States, it will not be proper to include that particular caste or tribe in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the entire Country. Despite all these things, we are making contacts with our Law Minister Shri Swamy as to what can be done on these issues. I fully understand the feelings of Shri Rahi. I associate my feelings with his feelings. Before becoming the Minister, I have said a lot of things on these issues and I am fully aware of my duty but whenever we will discuss these issues, we will take the decision keeping in view the suggestions given by Shri Rahi and others. I again thank Shri Rahi for calling the attention of this august House on this

issue and I request him to withdraw the motion.

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Minister and especially to our Deputy Prime Minister who has welcomed this Bill as well as the spirit behind this Bill. As far as I know him, I can say that he tries his best to implement the idea which he supports. Hon. Sumanji in his reply has pointed out two things. One is about adding certain castes in the lists of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, which had not been included earlier. I have no objection to it, because it is true that some castes, whose social and economic condition is as poor as that of the castes included in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, have not been included in the said list. Rather I would be very glad if such castes after a thorough verification are included in this list. But Sir, my Amendment Bill is aimed at adding a simple proviso only in the Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution. I do not understand as to how he has said that the social conditions of these castes vary from place to place. I admit myself that their condition vary from place to place. I do not say that it is not different, but at the same time this fact should not be overlooked that despite this difference from place to place, the social and economic condition of these castes is almost the same at all places in the country and on this very basis the lists of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been prepared. So, I think that there should not be any difficulty in implementing the provisions regarding these castes at the nation level. A for example, if a person belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Tribe, residing in chamoli district of Uttar Pradesh goes to Kerala or Tamil Nadu or Andhra Pradesh or in Kachhar of Gujarat to settle there and adapting himself to the very atmosphere, food habits, dress and life style of the concerned place, will he be excluded from the list of Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes on the basis of difference in various region? Will similarly one not be considered any longer a member of Sched-

[Sh. Ram Lal Rahi]

uled Castes if one hailing from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Gujarat or Andhra Pradesh migrates to Kanpur or Lucknow?

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: Rahiji, kindly yield for a minute. Let me say something. Leave aside the matter of other places for the time being and see the major difference of life style and food habits between the Scheduled Castes living in the Eastern U.P. from where you come and those living in the Western U.P. from where I come.

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: If it is so, exclude them from the lists through an Amendment. But I do not see any such difference between them.

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: The conditions of the Scheduled Castes living in these two regions differ from each other as much as my face and your face differ from each other.

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: I do not agree with you. I have represented in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly also and have seen in each session that whenever any discussion regarding the social and economic upliftment of these castes was held in U.P. Assembly, the most of issues which were raised in the Assembly were related to the suppression of the Scheduled Castes living in the Western U.P. at the hands of the forward castes. Had their economic condition been strong in Western U.P., they, instead of being the victims of the suppression, might have faced their oppressor effectively. Why is their condition discussed in the Legislative Assembly, if it is strong one. Do not give such arguments and listen attentively to what I am saying.

The list of these castes has been prepared on one basis. And since the basis is same, so a Harijan will continue to be a Harijan only at every place wherever he goes for earning his livelihood—whether one goes from Uttar Pradesh to Kerala or from Kerala to Lucknow or Kanpur of Uttar Pradesh

or from Bihar to Punjab or Haryana or from Haryana or Punjab to Bombay or any other place of Maharashtra and so on. There will be no change in his social status. Hence preparation of a national list applicable throughout the country would in my opinion, provide justice to this class of people.

I had submitted to you that the issue which I have raised, makes a hint to an important point. If state-wise lists are done away with and lists are prepared on a national level, there would be rise of neo-consciousness and nationalism after ending all sorts of parochialism among the Scheduled Castes and Tribes.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit that after 42 years of independence, the Members of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes community, irrespective of their districts and provinces possess at least the right to go and to earn their livelihood in any part of the country. They also have rights to breathe in the open air like others. Though they might go to any part of the country, there is not any change in their social status and economic condition. Then the question arises as to why they should be debarred from getting the facilities at new places, which they used to avail of earlier at their original places? Would you not like to end the feeling of regionalism among them and to inculcate the spirit of nationalism and consciousness among them?

Sir, almost in every session of the Lok Sabha and that of the different Legislative Assemblies of the country, the issue of reservation of jobs for the members of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes does arise and it is often complained during the discussions that their jobs-quotas are lying vacant. If my proposal is accepted, such complaint would no longer exist, because their quotas will be completely filled up then.

Sir, finally I want to say in this context that they would find better opportunities to develop at the new places, as there they would be beyond the reach of their exploiters. It would be a step forward for their social

and economic emancipation. They would work hard at other places and they would try to educate their children. And thus, there would be a qualitative change in their lives. So this is the demand of the time that you should accept this Amendment. I do not know the reason of your insisting upon me to withdraw my Bill. I may withdraw it provided you assure me of doing some positive things in this regard. You have appreciated the spirit of this Bill and have said that you agree with its provisions. If you agree with the provisions of the Bill, you should assure us of bringing comprehensive Amendment Bill in this regard after discussing it in the council of Ministers. If you assure as such, I will withdraw this Bill.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: I would like to submit that all of us are aware of the dignity of the courts. As I have already said that the Supreme Court has given its verdict on this issue. As far as our taking any step regarding this is concerned, we shall do it after we get the advice of the Ministry of Finance. I assure you that your suggestions and feelings would be kept in mind. You are my old colleague. We shall do all the best from our side if any positive result comes out through the discussion between us. I would like to assure you further that our Government is equally concerned for the welfare of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes and we shall do all the possible things for them. Hence, I request you to withdraw your Bill.

SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: I think that the hon. Minister's assurance of protecting the interests of the weaker sections of the society, included in the concerned lists is in the interest of national welfare. As he has said that the High Court in its judgement has said that the High Court in its judgement has said that the varied conditions of different places have been considered in preparing those lists, in this context I would like to say that despite these varying conditions the said lists are based on the equal conditions. The High Court and the Supreme Court cannot ignore these facts. With the above words I withdraw this Bill.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Has the hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw his Bill?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

The Bill was by leave, withdrawn

19.49 hrs.

ELECTROPATHY SYSTEM OF MEDICINE (RECOGNITION) BILL

By Shri Jagannath Singh

[English]

SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH (Sidhi): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the recognition of electropathy system of medicine and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, many years ago doctors' prospects seemed to be very dark but now with the advent of new system of medicine i.e. electropathy it appears to be very bright. Electropathy is a new system of medicine. In our country there are four systems of medicine namely Allopathy, Ayurvedic, Yunani and Homeopathy which have recognition at the national level. Allopathy system has come from foreign countries and is also known as Western Medical Science. Only Ayurved and Unani systems are our indigenous systems. But the Government of our country did not recognise these systems despite the demand made by thousands and lakhs of Ayurved doctors in this connection. First of all, the German Government recognised the Ayurvedic system in view of its properties. When our Government found that the system evolved in India has been recognised by the

[Sh. Jagannath Singh]

German Government then they realised it and recognised the Ayurvedic and Unani Systems.

Homeopathy system has come from Germany. Its founder was Dr. Samuel Hanneman who came from a *Kumhar* family. He had obtained a degree of Doctor of Medicine in alleopathy and was working as a Deputy C.M.O. On seeing the side effects and reaction of Allopathy medicines, he burnt all his degrees and started looking for a new system of medicine. Then he invented the Homeopathy system of medicine. The Maharaja of Lahore Maharaja Ranjit Singh, brought this system of medicine to India in the year 1839 with the help of Dr. Honi Burger. In India, various organisations propagated and patronised the Homeopathic system of medicine from 1839 to 1948. Finally, when many State Governments put pressure on Health Ministry, the Central Government constituted a Homeopathy enquiry committee in the year 1948. This committee submitted its report to the Health Ministry in 1950 and on the basis this report the government of India recognised this system of medicine.

Our country is the second largest populated country in the world. With the increase in population our country is facing many adverse circumstances. The main problems are that of poverty and lack of good health. Because of poverty the condition of a common man is so pitiable that he does not even has a piece clothe to cover his body and one square meal to eat. He can not get quality food. He is unable to get all the nutritious elements required to maintain sound health. If a man is not healthy he is likely to be afflicted by various diseases.

Today, medical science has developed wonderful equipments and medicines. But all these wonderful medicines are of no use for a common man. The medicines and the equipments are so costly that the common man is not in a position to afford them. The people living in the villages are very poor.

Food, clothing and Housing are their main problems. As they are very poor they should have such a system of medicine which is cheaper. Medicines are costly and are beyond their reach. So we need such system of medicine which helps common man in curing their ailments at a very low cost.

The Government of India had recognised Homeopathy in the year 1953. After that no other system of medicine could be propagated in this country. Apart from the existing four system of medicines, there is another system of medicine which is totally different from them and is known as Electropathy. I feel that this system of medicine should be adopted and propagated in our country. Government should patronise and recognise it. It would be better to recognise a system of medicine which is cheaper. As a matter of fact an Italian Dr. Count Ceaser Matty of Germany was the founder of Electropathy. He was also Member of Parliament of Rome and while working as Government servant he discovered this system. This was a new system in the field of medical science which is widely known as Electropathy in Germany. Dr. Matty made a thorough study of Homeopathy and found that all other systems were incomplete. He started looking for a cheaper and more effective system. The Electropathy theory of Dr. Count Matty is based on the principles of fluid.-Substance and blood. According to fluid-substance and blood are such constituents of human body that if they are pure and healthy human body would remain free from all diseases. In case fluid-substance in the body or blood or both get infected then man would fall sick. Keeping this basic principle in mind, Dr. Count Matty prepared two groups of medicines. One to purify the blood and the other to purify the fluid-substance and cough. These medicines purify the fluid-substance and the blood in human body and keep the human body free from all diseases. Dr. Matty combined a number of effective medicines to prepare the medicines under this system. In this way these medicines proved extremely effective and useful. These medicine work on human body at an electric

speed as such this system has been named as electropathy.

20.00 hrs.

According to Dr. Matty, human body is not made up of a single constituent. The constitution of human body is complex. As such to keep the body fit, a system of complex medicines have been evolved. A reference has also been made in our old text "Ayurved" about the complex constitution of our body. According to it human body is made up of five constituents viz Earth (soil), Sky, Air, fire and water. Even medical science recognizes the above complex constitution of our body. Despite this, other systems have not accepted the idea of using complex medicines for curing diseases. For example, in Homeopathy for treatment of one ailment, the principal of one medicine at a time has been adopted, whereas it has been proved that the entire human body gets infected once a disease is there. To overcome this deficiency Dr. Count Matty discovered electropathy which is based on a scientific and complex theory and prepared medicines to treat the human body having complex constitution.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the medicines under this system are prepared purely from vegetation. In electropathy there are only sixty medicines which are enough to treat all the ailments of human body. In all 114 types of plants are used for preparing the entire lot of medicines. All these plants are easily available in our country. Dr. Matty had read the philosophy of an international scientist Dr. Paraselses who had stated that in every plant there is an electric force which is known as Odd-Force. If its full 'force' or power is derived without any damage to it and if it is effectively used on human body, it can root out the disease itself within a very short period. It is true that the scientists throughout the world have by and large categorized particular herbs to be effective for certain diseases. On this very basis, Allopathic and Ayurvedic systems of medicine have been manufacturing medicines out of these herbs. Dr. Matty collected the roots and buds of the

herb of which he wanted to extract the essence.....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Say only what you want to say, please do not describe the whole system.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that this new system of medicine which is called electropathy is most useful for a poor country like ours. In this scientific age of today, four systems of medicine are prevalent in our country. If this new system of medicine is popularised and recognised, the masses in our country would be definitely benefited.

Here I would like to point out that Dr. Narendra Kumar Awasthi is the founder of electropathy system of medicine in India. There are 60 medical colleges of this system of medicine throughout the country. Presently a free-of-cost Hospital of this system is running in Janakpuri, New Delhi I have personally seen it. 60 colleagues are being run under Naturo Electro Homeo Medicos of India (N.E.H.M. of India) and its head office is located at C-2C/1123, Pocket-12, Janakpuri, New Delhi. In fact nominal charges are taken from the patients for equipments that are used in this system of medicine. The poor are particularly benefited. Therefore I want that this system of medicine must be recognised so that the masses are benefited. Those who take up medical courses in this system are awarded BEMS and DEHM Degrees and Diplomas. A committee was constituted by the Health Ministry to look into the question of giving recognition to this system of medicine. The committee found out that the institutions which are running under this system are functioning satisfactorily. The committee had reviewed the working of 4 institutions which was found to be satisfactory. The report of the committee in regard to recognition should suffice. I think that keeping in view the merits of these institutions, there is nothing which goes

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against granting recognition to these institutions. This new system of medicine was discovered by Dr. Count Matty of Germany. It should be provided protection and recognition in our country also. The present systems of medicine are not available in remote rural areas particularly inhabited by Harijans and backward classes. With a view to provide health care facilities to them, granting of recognition to this system of medicine is very essential..... (*Interruptions*) The masses in rural areas do not get adequate health care facilities. Therefore, this new system of medicine is the need of the hour for the poor masses of this country and it should be given recognition by the Government.

With these words, I conclude.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the recognition of electropathy system of medicines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration "

Now, Mr. Kabde.

DR. VENKATESH KABDE (Nanded):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to raise certain points in connection with this Bill.

As you know, in our country, we have different systems of medicine and predominantly, it is the Allopathic system, that is being followed by a large number of people. In fact, it is now a universal system with largest number of people in the world following Allopathic system. The Allopathic system has become most acceptable in the world because of certain qualities inherent in it and because of its effectiveness and reproducibility.

In our country, the other systems of medicine which have been mentioned, namely Unani, Homeopathic and Ayurvedic

systems of medicine have been granted recognition by the Government. A certain number of people have been following this system of medicine. However, as compared to Allopathy, the other system forms a very small percentage.

I would like to mention here that it is a sad reflection on some of these paths that Government is spending large sums of money for Ayurvedic Unani and homeopathic education. But, the doctors who are turned out from these institutions do not practise what they have been taught. For example, I would like to tell you that after getting about seven years of Ayurvedic education, the doctors come out of the Ayurvedic institutions. But, it is common knowledge that they mostly use only Allopathic medicine. This may result in lot of problems for the patients in the sense of wrong use of medications and other complications.

With the introduction of this Bill, we are now trying to promote another pathy in our country. I would say that it is a very new introduction because most of the people in our country are not aware of electropathy. It came into existence in 1865. It is based on certain assumptions that there is electrical energy in the body. In this treatment, certain active principles from the vegetable plants are used for during different diseases.

I do not claim that one system of medicine could be called superior to the others because their argument can go on and it is endless. However, there have been certain methods of verifying whether ascertain medicine is useful or not or, a certain modality of treatment is useful or not. This kind of hard acid test has to be applied to all systems of medicine. I think it would be appropriate to see that some kind of test has applied to see the effectiveness of electropathy system of medicine regarding certain diseases. If it is found that the diseases are not cured in a controlled fashion or in a random fashion, then the amount of emphasis the Government has to give will decrease.

I would like to mention that in our country,

by and large, it is quite right, as the hon. Member has mentioned, that people from the rural areas do not have any means of getting proper medical care. We do not have the sympathy from the doctors, let alone all those different pathys. That sympathy also we do not get from the doctors at the time of need. So, people are victimised by different quacks and different superstitions. They fall a prey to different superstitions. We do not want to have another pathy which will create problems for our patients because in the rural areas anything can be sold in a very improper fashion and people can be very easily heated.

I have already seen many sign-boards in the name of electropathy in different cities now. Many colleges are coming up. They are mushrooming. Now, in our country a stage has come where medical and engineering education is being commercialised to a very great extent. Many private medical colleges are coming up without getting proper recognition from the Medical Council and they are giving degrees of MBBS. They are giving admissions to candidates on the basis of money.

My question is, are we again introducing another system by in which we are going to mushroom institutions of corruption in our country. It has been mentioned in this Bill that there is no authority or sanction, and there is no Council, but a large number of institutions of electropathy have been set up all over the country. This is something which the Government has to take into consideration because I am sure that this will promote lot of confusion. It will mislead lots of students and it will also lead to a lot of malpractices. So, due care has to be taken. I might say that I have nothing against electropathy system of medicine. To me its utility is yet to be proven. I would like to say what this Bill may be referred to an Expert Committee or the whole matter of formation of this system, the Council or Authority may again be critically evaluated by the Government before according any kind of recognition to this system of medicine. Electropathy will add one more item to the plethora of many non-effective systems which

endanger the lives of millions of people in our country. Although I have already stated that I have nothing against electropathy, but at this stage, I oppose this Bill.

[Translation]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member said just now that four systems of medicine are already working in our country and the hon. member has brought this Bill which seeks to provide recognition to this fifth system of medicine viz. Electro-Homeopathy. At the outset I would like to submit that there are many requirements for giving recognition to a particular system of medicine and lot of deliberations are done before giving recognition. The criteria is the history of the system, health care, concept of the system of medicine, scientific achievement in respect of diseases, logical and scientific conclusions. Just now my friend Shri Jagannath Singh pointed out that this system of medicine was discovered by Count Matty of Germany. I would like to inform him that Electro-Homeopathy is not practiced anywhere in the world. We have made a lot of enquiry about it, but it could not be proved that Electro-Homeopathy system of medicine is a recognised form of treatment in any part of the world. The doctors of Electro-Homeopathy claim that their system of medicine is similar to Homeopathy. In Homeopathy, medicine is formulated in a particular measure, whereas in Electro-Homeopathy medicines are manufactured with the help of a number of mixtures. Therefore, Electro-Homeopathy cannot be compared with Homeopathy in any respect. The Ministry has received requests from several Ministers, social workers, MPs and MLAs that Electro-Homeopathy should be recognised as fifth system of medicine. In view of these requests, Government had set up a committee in September 1988 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Paintal who was Director-General of ICMR to enquire into Electro-Homeopathy system of medicine. The committee collected

[Sh. Dasai Chowdhary]

information from a number of places where Electro-Homeopathy System of medicine was being practiced. The Committee did not find enough reason to recognise Electro-Homeopathy as fifth system of medicine when we already had four systems of medicine working effectively. I would like to quote the recommendation of the committee and I hope you would bear with me as it would take a few more minutes. It would be evident from it as to what is the opinion of the committee regarding this system of medicine and why we do not want to recognise it. At the outset the report mentions that this system of medicine, which is being claimed by Indian Doctors as fifth system of medicine is plant based system of medicine. Instead of curing the symptoms, this system of medicine lays emphasis on rooting out the disease itself. Under this system, there are 36 basic formulations derived from 115 plants. Secondly, the committee stated that there are many books written by Indian authors on Electro-Homeopathy and after going through them, it has been found that this system has been developed only in 19th century. The Committee could not find enough evidence that Electro-Homeopathy has been recognised in any part of the world. The medicines used by the doctors of this system are manufactured and exported to developing countries like India by Germany alone. It has been said that this system of medicine is being practiced as a system of medicine, but claims are made on the basis of some books that it is very effective. No information is available on pathological tests that are conducted in this system of medicine. The committee suggested that in order to cure and check certain peculiar diseases, research should be conducted on a long term basis in the field of Electro-Homeopathy and pathological tests should also be included in it. According to the information available there, there does not appear to be much similarity between Electropathy or Electro-Homeopathy and other modern systems of medicine or Ayurveda, Homeopathy or Unani System of medicine. All these systems of medicine are based on different concepts,

principles and opinions. Electro-Homeopathy seems to be based completely on the opinion of Court Matty, which he propagated in 1865 and all the available literature is based on his comments and observations. There is no authentic medical literature available on this system of medicine. There are many colleges of Electro-Homeopathy which are imparting education in this system. There is no recognised State level or National Council to which these colleges are affiliated. Many of these Institutions are registered under the Societies Registration Act. Even the degrees that are awarded by these institutions are not uniform. The teachers in many of these institution are Homeopathic or allopathic doctors. In some of them, they are even part-time teachers of modern system of medicine.

In 1970 when Homeopathy was not a recognised system of medicine, there were many Homeopathic institutions in the country and a large number of Homeopathic doctors were practising without recognition from the Government. Almost same is true of Electro-Homeopathy. In spite of the committees' report, the experts of Health Ministry constituted another committee to explore the possibilities of the action that could be taken on the report. We think that granting of recognition to fifth system of medicine is not practicable. Therefore, I would request the hon. Member to withdraw this Bill.

SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH (Sidhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Committee was constituted to decide whether Electro-Homeopathy system of medicine should be recognised or not on the basis of its merits and demerits but the Government should have included doctors and specialists in the field of Electro-Homeopathy in that committee. The Members of the Committee were related to Allopathy Homeopathy and other system of medicines. It is fact that the specialists who are related to other systems of medicine which are flourishing in our country would not like the expansion, publicity and introduction of new system of medicine. Therefore, at the time of constitution of the Committee it should have been ensured that the

specialists in Electrotherapy were also included in the committee.

The hon. Minister said that it hardly made any difference. The Government should have collected necessary information about it whether it is appropriate for our country or not, where Electrotherapy is being practised in the country and how many medical colleges are being run in the country. Under this system of medicine, about 62 medical colleges are being run in the country and definitely some people are misusing it by giving false names to this system at different places and in different cities in the country. And if the Government intend to recognise this new system, it should conduct an extensive survey and the concerned Ministry should associate the specialists of this system of medicine so that they may make the Ministry aware of the merits and demerits of the system. The other system of medicines have the possibilities of side-effects whereas there is no possibility of any side-effect in this system. So in the circumstances, it is more appropriate to recognise this system which would benefit the poor people of this country.

As the hon. Minister stated that there is no mention of any institution of this system in the report of the committee constituted for this system, so I would reiterate that 62 medical colleges are being run under this system. Under this system a free hospital is being run at Janakpuri, New Delhi where poor people are availing medical facilities. This system of medicine has been registered under Society Act and in this way the expansion and publicity of the Electrotherapy is being done.

I would, therefore, request if the poor people in our country are not able to get medical facilities and if this system can benefit the poor people of our country, I think it would be appropriate to recognise this system of medicine. So far as the merits and demerits of the system are concerned, the Health Ministry of the Government of India will investigate into it whether it so infact beneficial for the people of the country or not. Any Conclusion can be drawn on the basis of

merits and demerits of the system. Therefore, Sir, I would like to say that this conclusion cannot be drawn from the report of the committee that this system of medicine is not useful. So far as the question of foreign countries are concerned, different systems of medicines are flourishing there after getting them registered but only in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan, Government protection is necessary and institutions of different systems of medicines are run accordingly and through them the provision have been made to provide health facilities to the people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think if a system of medicine with which the future of thousands of students is linked and its medicines also are useful, cheap and with no possibility of any side-effect, this system of medicine should be recognised in the interest of the people of the country.

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the hon. Member has said that no person related to the Electro-Homeopathy was included in the committee constituted for the purpose, so, for the information of the hon. Member I would like to tell that Dr. Narendra Kumar, Secretary of the Medical Council of the Indian Electro national Homeopathy, was invited to the committee and after that report of the committee was finalised. Secondly, I have to say that since the hon. Member has no authentic knowledge or authority over the subject so it was not possible to include him in the official committees. Thirdly, relating to students and colleges, I would say that as per the information received by the Ministry it is true that such colleges are being run in some States in the name of trust which are related to the State Governments and it is purely a matter related to the States. We have nothing to do with it but we would make consultation in the Ministry and we want that directions be issued to the State Governments that they would recognise the Electro-Homeopathy study and it will be the sole responsibility of the State Governments to take care of the colleges which are being opened and the Centre has nothing to do with it. Therefore, I would

[Sh. Dasai Chowdhary]

request the hon. Member to withdraw the Bill. Our Ministry would make further investigation into the report of the committee and the Government would take further steps accordingly.

SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would say that Dr. Narendra Kumar Awasthi was included in the committee constituted for the purpose but he was not invited to the meetings of the said committee held from time to time and that is why he disassociated himself from the committee. Therefore, I once again would like to say that 62 medical colleges relating to Electro-Homeopathy are running in the country and their headquarters is at Janakpuri, New Delhi. I would request the Government that when those institutions are being run properly, they should be recognised. If the Government desires, it can make investigation whether there is any Central headquarters of the organisations or not. The Government should constitute a committee to find out whether institutions based on this system of medicine are going on in the country or not. The Committee should submit its report to the Government and on the basis of such report, the Government can draw conclusion whether this system of medicine should be recognised or not. If I get such assurance from the Government I can withdraw the Bill. I want a clear cut assurance from the Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, he has given some assurance.

[Translation]

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have told it very clearly that the report of the committee which we have received...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not giving

assurance. The Hon. Member has a difference of opinion. If you can rectify thing, he is ready to withdraw. If you are giving some assurance, he is ready to withdraw. Otherwise, he says that on what basis he should do that.

DR. VENKATESH KABDE: I want to have a clarification. It is a very important item.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No clarification at this stage. Mr. Jagannath Singh, are you withdrawing this thing?

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: At least the Government do give some assurance.

SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Mr. Chairman, I have told the hon. Member very clearly that the committee which was constituted for the purpose had submitted its report. The Committee has given some suggestions about the recognition that an inquiry can be made in this regard. We shall ask the expert committee of the Ministry to make fresh enquiry into it and the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member would also be placed before the committee. After that, whatever the committee recommends, we would take further actions accordingly.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you withdrawing it or not?

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH SINGH: I would submit that a clear cut assurance should come from the hon. Minister, which is not coming. Only after that I can decide about the withdrawal of the Bill. The Government should constitute a committee to find out as to how many medical colleges based on this system of medicine are there in the country and it should be ensured that specialists and experts in the field of Electrotherapy should be included in the committee. The committee

should find out whether there is any proper central headquarters of these institutions or not and after making inquiry into it, some decision on the recognition should be taken. The committee should also consider whether it will be proper to recognise it or it is just a paper exercise only. It is a new system of medicine. At first I want an assurance from the Government.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the point now.

I shall now put the consideration motion to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the recognition of electrotherapy system of medicine and for matters connected there-

with or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The Motion was negatived

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we go to the next item 17. Shri V.N. Gadgil is not there.

Item No. 18. Shri Harish Rawat. He is also not there.

So, the House stands adjourned to reassemble on Monday, the 25th February, 1991 at 11 A.M.

20.40 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, February 25, 1991/Phalgun 6, 1912 (Saka)