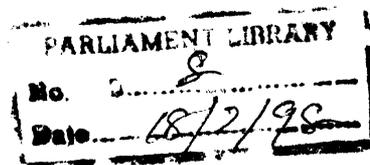


LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Fourth Session (Part-I)
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. IX contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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(English Version)

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Wednesday, March 5, 1997/Phalguna 14, 1918 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 5, 1997/Phalgun 14, 1918 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at One Minute Past
Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Hon'ble Mr. Speaker Sir, please give a chance to the back-benches today.

MR. SPEAKER : All right.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am on a point of order. It is the Prime Minister's Question day today and the Prime Minister is not present in the House. The first six questions are to be replied by the Prime Minister. It has been the convention of the House that the Prime Minister attends the House compulsarily on the question day pertaining to him.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There is no point of order during Question Hour.

AN HON. MEMBER : There is no senior Minister here.

MR. SPEAKER : Do not worry; there are senior members here.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Shortage of Kerosene Oil

+

*161. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether several States are facing acute shortage of kerosene oil;

(b) if so, the actual demand and supplies made month-wise during the last year to each State/Union Territory;

(c) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to remove the shortages; and

(d) the quantity and value of kerosene oil imported during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) to (d) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Kerosene is a deficit product in the country and more than 40% of our requirements are met by imports. Allocation of Kerosene to the States is made on the basis of historicals, i.e. past allotment and consumption plus permissible increase against additional availability. Requests are received from the State Governments for additional allocation from time to time. However, on account of constraints of product availability, foreign exchange and heavy subsidy involved, it is not possible to meet the full demand of the States. There is heavy subsidy on kerosene, which has been growing over the years and is more than Rs. 5/- per litre at present totalling presently to more than Rs. 6000 crores per annum. Nevertheless, a 3% increase has been given in the allocation during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 over the previous years for the country as a whole. The States/UTs with lower per capita availability of kerosene have been given higher increases and vice versa. LPG is also being supplied in all the States. Retail distribution of kerosene is the responsibility of the State Governments. After whole-sale allocation to the States, the concerned State Governments make allocation for different districts and have fixed their own norms of supply per ration card in urban and rural areas. However, on account of heavy subsidy on kerosene and consequent difference in prices of kerosene and diesel, there is heavy diversion of kerosene, causing scarcity for general consumers.

Full supply of kerosene as per allocation has been made to all the States. The State-wise allocation and releases of kerosene during 1995-96 are given in the Annexure.

(d) The Quantity and value of kerosene imported during the last three years are given below :-

Year	Qty. (MMT)	Value (US \$ Million)
1993-94	3.667	692.06
1994-95	3.889	699.06
1995-96 (Provisional)	4.484	889.07

Annexure

*State-wise allocation and releases of
Kerosene during 1995-96*

(Figs. in MT)

States/UTs	Allocation	Release
Haryana	159468	157730
Himachal Pradesh	42228	42662

States/UTs	Allocation	Release
Jammu & Kashmir	85536	85790
Punjab	328932	330183
Rajasthan	327344	321767
Uttar Pradesh	1087462	1083035
Chandigarh	21132	19640
Delhi	240924	242210
Assam	255232	257009
Bihar	606924	606157
Manipur	21638	22302
Meghalaya	16092	16057
Nagaland	11422	11461
Orissa	211452	210974
Sikkim	7632	7962
Tripura	23112	22969
West Bengal	757987	759585
Arunachal Pradesh	9576	9574
Mizoram	6360	6392
Andman & Nicobar	4632	4588
Gujarat	806280	808443
Maharashtra	1527648	1526733
Goa	27408	28371
Diu	1488	1178
Daman	1488	1471
· Dadar & N. Haveli	3144	3119
Madhya Pradesh	482555	487978
Andhra Pradesh	621656	614053
Karnataka	484690	482715
Kerala	287167	290620
Tamil Nadu	675276	673495
Pondicherry	15012	14424
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SHRI SANAT MEHTA : The situation regarding allocation of kerosene in Gujarat is very critical. There is a law and order problem every time, creating difficulties. There are long queues in the cities in these circumstances.

Moreover, Gujarat has a very sizeable population of tribals. There is a long coastline where even the fishermen require kerosene. The requirement of Gujarat is 1,02,111 kg as against which only 87,000 kg of kerosene is being given. Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to give an assurance to give an additional increase in the quota of Gujarat ? The Chief Minister has also requested the Prime Minister twice. In spite of that no result has come.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : As far as Gujarat is concerned, the per capita allocation made during 1996-97 is 19.71 and for 1997-98 it is 19.91 kgs. per annum. The allocation to be made during 1997-98 will be 8,22,339 tonnes. The monthly allocation will be 68,528 tonnes. The national average is 4.41 kg. per capita per annum and Gujarat is getting 19.91 kg per annum. It is already more than the national average.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is fact that on the one hand the Government of India is giving Rs. 5 as subsidy for kerosene and on the other hand, the private parties which are importing kerosene at the Kandla Port, are taking advantage of the less allocation made through the Government ? The price which was prevailing for the private importers in June was Rs. 7500 and they raised it to Rs. 9500, an increase of Rs. 2,000. Why is the Government giving the benefit to such profit-making private people ? Either we have to import more kerosene or we have to control the prices of the private importers.

May I know from the hon. Minister as to why the Kandla prices are being allowed to be increased arbitrarily in the absence of the kerosene which is available from the Government ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, we are encouraging private marketeers and they are independent to determine their own market. prices. We are not having any control over these private marketeers.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Sir, that is not my question. My question is that when less allocation is given to the States, the benefit goes to the private importers at Kandla. From the rate of Rs. 7,500 per kilo litre in June, they raised it to Rs. 9,500 in the month of December. Why should we allow the private parties to exploit like this ? If the hon. Minister says that he has no control over private importers, then whose interests are we serving ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Actually, we are not giving less allocations to Gujarat. In fact, over and above the national average of 11 kg. per capita per annum, Gujarat is getting 19.71 kg. per capita per annum in 1996-97. So, the allocation to Gujarat State is 19.71 kg. per capita per annum.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : My question remains un-replied.

MR. SPEAKER : The fact remains that Gujarat is getting above the national average. That is what the Minister is saying.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : My question is about the private people being allowed to make profits at the cost of the people. The hon. Minister is silent on this.

SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that there is a heavy diversion of kerosene. May I know what are the types of diversion ? Is it true that a lot of kerosene is being mixed in petrol and is being sold through petrol pumps ? That is why the diversion is going on. So, what is the plan of the Government to check the diversion ?

Secondly, kerosene is being sold for the motor-cycles, three-wheelers, etc. That is why, it is causing air pollution in the cities. May I know whether the Government has any plan to check up this aspect ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The diversion of kerosene is a social evil. Actually, to stop diversion, the Ministry is taking a lot of action. In fact, we have instructed the public sector companies to mix 'furforal' in the kerosene so that through the laboratory we can detect the malpractice or adulteration in HSD as well as petrol. At the same time, we do resort to surprise inspections and, at the same time, there is also a Joint Industrial Team. We have got mobile laboratories which are put into action for surprise inspection. Periodic sensitive check is being undertaken. We also resort to blue dyeing of kerosene. We have already introduced a delivery scheme in which the kerosene will be taken from our depot to the dealers premises. But many of the States have yet to implement this particular scheme. More than 16 States have introduced this scheme and other 13 States have not introduced this scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply that under the state-wise allocation of kerosene, Madhya Pradesh has been allocated 4,82,555 MT kerosene for the year 1995-96. Whereas Andhra Pradesh has been allocated more than 6 lakh MT, Tamilnadu more than 6,75,000 MT, Maharashtra more than 15,27,000 MT and Gujarat has been given more than 8 lakh MT Kerosene for the same period. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask Hon'ble Minister as to why the States having comparatively lesser population than that of Madhya Pradesh have been allocated more quota than Madhya Pradesh ? What are the reasons for allocating comparatively lesser quota to Madhya Pradesh which is not proportionate to its population ? I would like to know from the Hon'ble

Minister about the criterion for allocating this quota whether the Union Government would consider increasing this quota in view of the demand and requirement of Madhya Pradesh ?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, the supply system is a historical one. Previously, for the past more than 50 years, there were private companies for which they were allocating supply according to their own whims and fancies. But, nowadays, we have rationalised the supply. During the rationalisation, we should adopt some sort of a system. Now, three per cent increase is there in each and every year. This year also we have adopted three per cent increase as far as the allocation to States is concerned. The increases have been higher in the case of States having lower *per capita* availability of kerosene and increases have been lower in the case of those States with higher *per capita* availability so as to reduce the disparity.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it seems as if Hon'ble Minister is not aware of the real position. He has simply read out in the House the information provided to him by the Secretary. The shortage of Kerosene is being faced throughout the country. State Governments are not allocated Kerosene as per their requirement. Where else can we raise this issue as nobody listens to us. The allocation of Kerosene made for our state is very less . . . (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to answer him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I have not yet concluded my answer . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, you must listen to the answer.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you also.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, for instance, Orissa, which as the lowest *per capita* availability, has been given 5.2 per cent increase in 1997-98. So, over a period the allocation will be equal in all the States.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister towards the Annexure attached with the reply showing the details pertaining to allocation of Kerosene made to various states. It is stated herein that Bihar has been allocated

606924 MT Kerosene whereas West Bengal has been allocated 757987 MT kerosene. Through you, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister the criterion for allocation of kerosene. Whether the criteria is based on the population or the area or poverty of the state. If poverty is the criteria for allocation of kerosene, Bihar is far poorer than West Bengal. If population is the criteria, the population of Bihar far exceeds the population of West Bengal. I would like to know the reasons for lesser supply of Kerosene to Bihar. At the same time I would also like to inform Hon'ble Minister that there is a subsidy of more than rupees five per litre on kerosene even than kerosene is easily available in black-market. If you say that there is 100% control on kerosene then how is it available in black market. Whether the government is somehow involved therein or whether the government has failed to check it or whether the State Governments are not co-operating with the Union Government in this regard? Would the Hon'ble Minister kindly provide full information to the House in this regard?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, the Deve Gowda Government is not handling it over to thieves. We are all duty-conscious. We are perfect in serving the nation. By the by, as far as the hon. Member's question is concerned, previously, in 1996-97 the *per capita* allocation was 7.5 kg. per annum. Now it has been increased to 7.86 kg. *per capita* per annum. . . .(Interruptions). In 1997-98 the allotment will be 6,79,329 MT. The monthly allocation will be . . .(Interruptions).

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Sir, the Minister concerned should give us information regarding the guidelines/criteria for sanction of kerosene supply to different States. . . .(Interruptions).

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I have already informed the House. . . .(Interruptions).

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Sir, the hon. Minister has already stated that population is the criteria. If so, the population of Bihar is higher than that of West Bengal but the kerosene supply is less. The hon. Minister may explain the position. . . .(Interruptions).

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I have already informed the House that the criteria being followed is 'population'. We are taking into account the population and allocating it. . . .(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Bhavanaji, you can put the question.

(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : There is a shortage of kerosene oil throughout the country . . .(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : I do realise that it is an important subject relating to rural areas. I am agreeable to admit it for Half-an-Hour discussion.

Foreign owned Nuclear Plant

+

*163. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has stated in an interview to a Japanese Newspaper Nihon Keizai Shimbun that India would permit full foreign owned nuclear plant;

(b) whether the Government have invited foreign investors to build up Nuclear Plants under a scheme providing 100 percent ownership of such likely foreign investors;

(c) whether Government have also worked out modalities for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether such a step of the Government is likely to affect the safety and secrecy of the existing Nuclear Power Plants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Prime Minister had stated that Government had agreed to 100% foreign equity in the power sector in general terms and not specifically in the nuclear power sector. While Government of India have not invited any offers in the nuclear power sector, it is open to specific offers and will decide its response on a case-by-case basis. Any offer of technical cooperation in the nuclear power sector would have to be considered on the basis of its technical suitability, economic attractiveness and the conditions attached thereto.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does Not arise.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Sir, this question relates to sanctity and security of our country. May I know from the hon. Minister whether our country lacks technological efficiency, to support the build-up or to manage the nuclear power plants? I would also like to know what are the on-going nuclear power plants built up so far, with or without foreign technology and assistance.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : There can be no question of compromising the security of the country in the matter of priority that is given to the nuclear power sector. Any investment by anybody will be done within the laws of the country relating to nuclear safety, environmental conditions as well as our policies on safeguards.

As far as the existing projects are concerned, we expect that the on-going projects have been provided for in the Annual Plan. This was reviewed yesterday evening by the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on Planning, Programme Implementation and Science and Technology. For Tarapur plant, the Committee has desired that we need more funds and for the fast breeder reactor, they have noted that the Annual Plan does provide for the funds this year. The Committee has also desired that in the Ninth Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission should give full support to Kaiga III and IV, to the Koodankulam plant as also to the prototype fast breeder reactor which will be based on the achievement that we have already made, and in Kamini prototype reactor that we have produced. So, priority in the Plans will be given to the nuclear power sector. But in addition, the policies that I have stated are there.

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : I want to know whether the Department of Atomic Energy has caused or made wasteful expenses in procuring costly equipment worth about Rs. 3,000 crore, of which major portion is likely to be rejected, either due to lack of timely use or due to its non-performing capacity.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, the answer to that is 'no'. But we would want that the civil construction works at the Tarapur Plant are done at the earliest possible so that the imported equipment can be put to use.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the reply the hon. Minister has stated that the Government is open to specific offers and will decide its response on a case-by-case basis. I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister specifically as to what exactly does he mean to say by the words 'on a case-by-case basis'. Is it not a total departure from the policy of the Government where the Government has said that to set up a nuclear power plant in the country, the policy of the Government is to go it alone? So, I would like to know whether the Government of India is thinking to go it alone or to have any contact with any foreign power. This has to be specifically answered by the Minister.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, I am not sure what the hon. Member means by 'going it alone' because the existing policy also provides that and since 1987 nuclear power plants are being constructed and operated by a Corporation. The existing policy also provides for a 51 per cent ownership by the Government. In fact, there have

been recommendations from State Governments to the effect that they would like to participate in the equity of nuclear power plants. We have, as is well-known, early last year, had a Forum for involving the Indian private sector in the general development of the nuclear power sector and there also a number of companies have made proposals requesting for participation on the electrical and turbines side and so on, leaving aside the generator.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Sir, I am not talking about the private parties in our country. I am talking about the foreign parties. Does the Government have any contact with foreign agencies who have agreed to set up nuclear power plants in the country and if so, who are they? Is there any Japanese concern in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER : I think he has understood the question.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, I am trying to explain to the hon. Member . . . (*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the nuclear power plants are concerned the previous Government had entered into an understanding with the Russian Government in respect of Koodankulam Nuclear Power Plant. The capacity of this plant is 2,000 MW. This plant will not only be partially funded by them, but the technical know-how and the plant are also going to be provided by them on loan basis and the repayment will start after 12 years. The previous Government had entered into this understanding with the Russian Government and they have been insisting that the old agreement should be honoured. This matter is before the Cabinet and a decision is yet to be taken. This is for the kind information of the hon. Member and the House.

As far as the other issue is concerned, we have not made any deviation with regard to the nuclear power plants and 100 per cent equity is a general term. I have made this point very clear. If any specific proposal comes, what are their terms and conditions, whether it is going to pose any problem on the nation's security, all these things will be examined on a case-by-case basis. Under the Act itself 51 per cent equity is allowed, but whether it is foreign equity or domestic equity is not the issue which is being discussed now. A company came to me and said : "You have allowed 100 per cent equity in the power sector. So, are you going to give the same concession to the nuclear power plants also?"

I said that you first of all come with your proposals then we will examine. This is all what I said. There is no questions of any commitment and no MoU or anything has been signed. It is only a general discussion. I said : You submit the proposal and then the matter will be examined by the Government of India. This is all that I said.

SHRI G.G. SWELL : The Prime Minister was good enough to refer to Russia and some kind of arrangement that was made with Russia by the last Government. But Russia does not have a good record as far as nuclear power plants are concerned. The memory of Chernobyl is still very fresh in our minds. But apart from that, has there been a good response to this ? What are the countries that have shown interest in this and when you have given them 100 per cent ownership, will there be a free repatriation of their investment from this country ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, as the Prime Minister has clarified, there are only proposals at a very preliminary stage . . . *(Interruptions)* There are suggestions . . . *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Sir, what the Prime Minister has narrated and what he is explaining, there is a difference in it.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Sir, it is a very serious matter.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, it makes the whole question now different.

MR. SPEAKER : Would the Prime Minister like to answer this question ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, as I have already made clear, there is no such proposal before me.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : But he is saying something about the preliminary suggestions. He said that there are preliminary proposals.

MR. SPEAKER : The Prime Minister has referred to one specific proposal. I think, he said that there is only one.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, I agree but the Minister says, 'there are many'.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am particular about . . . *(Interruptions)*.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I understand what you said in Japan.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Some Japanese investors come to me. They raised this question. They said that you have allowed 100 per cent equity so far as the power sector is concerned. They asked, "Are you going to extend the same benefit ?" I said that I cannot say right now. I said that you submit the proposals about what your conditions are, what your project technology is and about all other issues. Unless it is submitted to the Government of India and the concerned officers examine it, I cannot say anything right now.

MR. SPEAKER : I think it is all right. Dr. Joshi, I suppose you have already put your question.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : No, I have not. I have to put my question.

MR. SPEAKER : I know you are a nuclear scientist.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, I rarely ask questions.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir. Hon'ble Prime Minister is not listening. He is making a different point altogether.

It has been stated in this reply,

[English]

"While Government of India have not invited any offers in the nuclear power sector".

[Translation]

I can read a lot between the lines. Throughout the world and especially in Europe and U.S.A. the emphasis is on closing down rather than the installing nuclear power plants. Secondly the technology of closed down power stations and technology of those power stations which have not been installed is kept for sale in the world market at very low rates. I would like to know from the Prime Minister as to whether we made statement after his return from Daos. Whether the Prime Minister has received any such proposals that the technology of closed down power stations and that of not yet installed power stations of Europe and U.S.A. is proposed to be sold to India and whether the Prime Minister has replied to them that in case they are prepared to make cent-percent capital investment, their proposals can be considered on a case to case basis.

MR. SPEAKER : He has probably given a reply to this point.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No, Sir.

[English]

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, after I returned from Davos, there is no specific offer so far as the setting up of nuclear power plant is concerned. Nobody has come to me.

No Specific offer has come before the Union Government. There is no such deviation on the policy decision.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : What the Prime Minister said is very grave. It is definitely a deviation

from the existing policy. It is one thing to take loan from Russia and it is another thing to take technological expertise and equipment from somebody. But to allow a hundred per cent owned nuclear power plant by a foreign company is an entirely different matter. It is a policy deviation. What the Prime Minister said was that he would consider proposals for a hundred per cent owned power plants, if other terms and conditions are okay. We all know that all the Western powers would insist on India signing the NPT. I would like to know whether the Government is reconsidering that also. I mean, it is a very major policy deviation if the Prime Minister will consider a hundred per cent owned nuclear power plant in this country. Right now, 49 per cent equity is allowed.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Sir, earlier, the French had come forward to put up a nuclear power plant. After this NPT was signed, they have gone back. The Government of India has not insisted on anything, and that is where we stand today. What the Japanese investors requested me was : "As you going to consider about allowing the nuclear power plants because in hydal power you have given a hundred per cent equity ?" I said that they should submit their proposals and that I cannot talk anything at that stage. For two plants of 1,000 MW capacity each, the Russian people have come forward with proposals of loan, technology and everything.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Loan is a different thing. Are they going to own the plant ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Please hear me. That stage is not before me. Suppose, they come forward with the same terms, can I accept them ? I would like to know about your reaction to this.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Are you going to allow a hundred per cent owned nuclear power plant in India ? That is the issue now.

MR. SPEAKER : The answer has been given. He said that it has not been decided. No decision has been taken on that.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : How can he consider that ?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : How can he consider such proposals ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Without knowing what kind of proposals are going to be submitted, if at all they are interested, what can I say now ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Joshi. I have to give preference to a nuclear scientist.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Then, you should have given me the first chance. Now, according to the

present state of affairs, it is not possible to consider any hundred per cent owned plant in this country.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : We have to amend the Act.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Please bear with me.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I am only drawing you attention to the fact that unless we amend Act, we cannot do it.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Now, you are saying that. There are very serious questions involved in this.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : We have not taken any decision to allow a hundred per cent equity, so far as the nuclear power plant is concerned. If such a thing is going to be there, unless the House agrees, I cannot take any decision.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : There are two or three very important aspects of this matter to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister. When you allow any foreign technology or foreign plant in this country, what will be the situation of your own scientists in that ? You are allowing a hundred per cent owned plant here. I would like to know who will control it, who will supervise it, what will be the control of the Government of India on all those plants and whether they will be subjected only to the international agencies' supervision. These are various aspects of it on which this nation is worried about. We would also like to know whether it is a matter of subverting and bypassing our opposition to CTBT. Once you have a hundred per cent owned plant by an outsider, what is you control on it ? Nothing. They can stop and say that they would not give you this even for experimental purposes. The waste product will not be there. This is a very serious question, and I agree with Shri George Farnandes that there is now a design in the Western world to thrust all the junk technology, particularly in the nuclear field, on developing countries. This is a very serious question and we have to be careful about it for the environmental security and for the nation's atomic security. Once the foreign scientists come on this soil and they operate the plant, how do you prevent them from knowing our atomic secrets ?

So great problems are involved in this question. It is not a very simple question and I believe that the Prime Minister did not have this information when he interacted with the Japanese newspapermen that under the present law, the Government of India will not succeed.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : I agree. When you allow on loan basis, two nuclear power plants . . . *(Interruptions)* We have to consider even technology, even finance and even conception. . . . *(Interruptions)*.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : I will come to another question. Which technology India needs now in the field of nuclear power plant ?

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : All these things have to be examined from the point of view of the present situation in our country.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : We are fully conversant with the present technology in the world.

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear the Prime Minister.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Which type of technology India needs today ?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : This question should be allowed. It is a very important matter. India's security is involved.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : It is a very important question . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Are you going to allow a full-fledged discussion on this? Please allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this ?

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you not listen to the hon. Minister ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : As far as the very detailed and correct questions that Dr. Murl Manohar Joshi and Shri George Fernandes have raised are concerned, there can be no question of India going back on any one of its present legal structures, in other words, environmental conditions. . . . (Interruptions). First let me explain. He has asked a very specific question. On the whole question of nuclear safeguards, we accept only safeguards at the level of the plant. We do not accept general safeguards, fullscope safeguards. As the Prime Minister has explained, we will be having Russian help in some plants. The law does provide for 49 per cent of non-governmental investment. That does not mean that safety regulations, environmental control and our treaty obligations under CTBT at all can be compromised in any way. As the hon. Member Shri George Fernandes is saying, it is true that in those countries which have very high level of energy availability and where there is surplus energy capacity. . . . (Interruptions) Please let me finish. It is a very specific questions . . . (Interruptions) Hon. Member, Shri George Fernandes, let me explain.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You are trying to mislead the House.

There can be no question of my misleading the House.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : You have not even let me finish my sentence. Factually, in countries like China,

and in a number of newly industrialised countries, nuclear power is expanding. That is where there are large markets. There can be no question of India accepting outmoded technologies in the nuclear sector. For example, hon. Member Shri G.G. Swell asked the question of Russian Chernobyl. The technology that we are importing from Russia is a very different type of technology. It is a VVER technology which they are exporting to other countries, including China. Let there be complete clarity on this. There can be no question of importing third rate technologies. There can be no question of any of India's laws being changed. As far as the CTBT is concerned, there can be no compromise. It is the other way round. There are people in other countries who are interested in India's nuclear sector. It is in a sense their confidence in our nuclear sector. This does not compromise our position on CTBT at all. We have to be clear about what we want . . . (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : I think it is enough. Please do not complicate the matter any more.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I have given full clarification.

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Please allow Half-an-Hour discussion on this. It is a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER : You can certainly give a notice. I can see it. You can always give a notice.

Crude Oil Production

*164. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether ONGC has revised the Government approved crude oil production target of 34.5 million tonne to 30.5 million tonne for 1996-97;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve the revised target by ONGC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) ONGC revised its projections of crude oil production from the level of 32.80 MMT to 31.092 MMT for the year 1996-97 due to the following reasons :-

(i) Reduction in anticipated production from the major fields of BRBC especially Bombay High and Neelam, due to unexpected reservoir behaviour, not in conformity with earlier predictions.

- (ii) Constraints in operating conditions on account of law and order problems and insurgency in the North Eastern region.
- (iii) Frequent power shutdown in Eastern region affected artificial lift operations.
- (c) Steps to achieve the revised targets are :-
 - (i) In the case of Neelam and Gandhar fields, the plans to put up wells on temporary artificial lift through innovative techniques have been advanced.

As per the development plans, these were scheduled at a later date.

- (ii) Aggressive workover operations and water/gas shutoff jobs with the help of expert agencies using state-of-art technology.
- (iii) Drilling of additional Long drift side tracked wells in Western Offshore.
- (iv) Drainhole drilling and Extended Reach Drilling (ERD) in Western offshore.
- (v) Redistribution of water injection profile in Western offshore
- (vi) Drilling of multilateral wells in Western offshore.
- (vii) Application of innovative techniques to overcome well problems like scale removal/inhibition, Paraffin control through Magnetic Fluid Conditions (MFG).

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, the Annual Report of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas for the year 1995-96 says and I quote :

"In order to meet the rising demand of petroleum products, the Government has initiated a number of concrete steps both short term and long term to augment the production of crude oil in the country. The short term measures include early production systems, deepening of existing wells, enhanced work over efforts and adoption of improved technology. The long term measures include development of new fields and additional development of the existing fields. As a result of these measures, the declining trend in the crude oil production was arrested in the year 1993-94. The crude oil production during 1995-96 has been 35.193 million tonnes which is the highest level reached so far. ONGC has contributed 31.673 million tonnes and OIL's contribution has been 2.89 million tonnes during the year 1995-96."

On 13.11.96, it had been reported that domestic production is to be 30.8 million tonnes.

MR. SPEAKER : Dr. Asim Bala, will you ask the

question now, please ?

DR. ASIM BALA : It is also an evidence to show how the production is coming down.

MR. SPEAKER : You do not have to give any evidence. You have to ask the question only.

DR. ASIM BALA : I would like to know whether ONGC is responsible for this or not. I would also like to know why the output from Bombay High went down a year after the deliberate go-slow policy followed between 1991-94. Why has this go-slow policy been followed by the Government when our oil production is in demand and scarcity is also there ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, actually I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. Actually, decline of crude oil production is not a new phenomenon. In 1990-91, the production was in the order of 33.021 MMT. In 1991-92, it was in the order of 30.346 MMT. Suddenly, in 1992-93, the decline, had begun which was in the order of 26.95 MMT. The production has gone down from 33 MMT to 26.95 MMT. But, at the same time, from 1993-94, it is in the ascending order. In 1993-94, it was 27 MMT. In 1994-95, it was 32.23 MMT. In 1995-96, it was 35 MMT. Now, it is in the decline order. It is due to the high gas-oil ratio, several wells and due to the unexpected reservoir behaviour of Bombay High and Neelam oilfields; due to some constraints in the operating conditions on account of law and order problems in the North-East and due to frequent power shut down in the Eastern region which affected artificial lift operations.

DR. ASIM BALA : Why has a deliberate go-slow policy been followed by the Government ?

SHRI T.R. BAALU : It is not a go-slow policy. We have inducted an accelerated programme also.

DR. ASIM BALA : In the case of the West Bengal, there are some old rigs in Ichapur in Nadia District of my constituency as also in Borol and other places in the North-Eastern Region, and Slichar, in Assam. In 1993-94, that rig had been withdrawn. Again, they are going to take it for operational purpose for the same region. Why has this rig been taken ? In regard to the previous rig, had the experiment or test been wrong ? Or, was it not in the proper form ? I would like to know why the Government is going to take that rig again.

Part (b) of my question is about Silchar in Assam.

MR. SPEAKER : About Assam, I think I will give a chance to somebody else from Assam. He may be able to put the question in a much better way.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : In West Bengal off shore and on shore area, exploration has been done. Surveys have been conducted. 2-D Seismic surveys have been conducted to

on extent of 3.032 line Kms. in the off shore area by the private contractors. Five wells have also been drilled by ONGC and the total metrage of drilling is 35,191 M in the Bengal off shore.

The number of structures in Bengal off-shore drilled is six and the number of structures where the prospect of hydro-carbon found, is nil. That is why, the activities have been stopped. Mr. Kingston had given some suggestions in this regard. According to him, the existing data is to be pre-processed; new data is to be acquired, and no drilling is to be taken up in the next three years. This was the recommendation made by Mr. Kingston.

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : There has been an alarming reduction in crude oil production from 1996-97. According to a statement made by the Chairman, ONGC recently, in 1996-97 the production is estimated at 29 million metric tonnes against the revised target of 30 million metric tonnes or so. He said that in 1997-98, the production would be even lower at 27 million metric tonnes. The estimates for the Ninth Plan are estimated at 180.82 million metric tonnes. We have got a statement from an expert, Shri K. Narayana. He says that the total production that can be expected out of ONGC oil fields during the five years of the Ninth Plan will be as low as 119 million metric tonnes as against the targeted 180 million metric tonnes. This reduction, according to experts, is mainly due to reduction in the production in the production at Bombay High because the recovery rate in Bombay High is 20 per cent as against 30-32 per cent. Therefore, there is a need for us to do certain things to remedy the situation on an urgent basis. Therefore, I would like to know what is it that the Government proposes to do to improve the recovery rate from Bombay High fields.

Secondly, in the matter of new oil fields, many times, tenders have been issued but we find that not much progress has been made in the matter of awarding new oil fields, even proven oil fields to private parties to the public sector. I would like the Minister to state the position in the matter of recovery and the award of new oil-fields.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : As mentioned by the hon. Member, an Experts Committee headed by Shri Narayan has been appointed and its recommendations will be examined after the report is submitted. Six development schemes at a total cost of approximately Rs. 2,000 crore have been sanctioned during 1995-96 and the work is in progress. We have launched an accelerated exploration programme at a cost of Rs. 6,500 crore. Thirty-five exploration blocks have been already awarded to private parties and 30 discovered fields have been awarded to the private parties and the works are in progress. We expect to have the crude oil production from joint venture partners in 1996-97 at 1.5 metric million tonnes and in 1997-98, two million metric tonnes. Thrust will be given to the oil exploration from the

existing fields by adopting new technology. Less attractive and marginal fields are also being put into production mostly on a collective basis. Acquiring of foreign acreage is in progress.

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : The hon. Minister has stated in his answer about the steps to achieve the revised targets, about the drilling of additional long drift side track wells, drainhole drilling and redistribution of water injection profile in Western off-shore. I would like to know the exact specific area where these activities are being carried out and whether the Ministry or the Government propose to drill and carry out other activities in the Kutch region or not.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, we have launced six new schemes : one to develop B-119/121 Structure, one more for B-55 Structure and another for B-173 (a) Structure and yet another in the Heera Phase-III in the Western off-shore and application of insitu combustion technology at Balol and at Santhal Phase-II.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Siva, you have been trying for the last two days.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA : For the last four days.

MR. SPEAKER : Four days ? It is a very lucky day today ! For the last four days, he has been raising his hand.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA : Sir, this is a very simple question. Other than the reason stated for the fluctuation in the crude oil production, I would like to know whether the Ministry has got any specific plans to keep the target in the ascending order.

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, I have already said that it is going to be in the ascending order. We are having a lot of accelerated programmes. At the same time, as I have already answered, from 1991 to 1993 it was in the declining order; from 1993 to 1996 it was in the ascending order and now it is in the declining stage. We are having a cautions approach in our exploration and development. Definitely, it will be in the ascending order hereafter.

Common Minimum National Action Plan

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*165. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRIMATI SARDA TADIPARTHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has finalised a National Action Plan based on the suggestions received during the Chief Ministers Conference on Power, held recently;

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

(c) the time by which it is likely to be declared and

the extent to which the power shortage in the country is likely to be reduced;

(d) whether the drafted plan has been forwarded to the State Governments for implementation in a time bound manner; and

(e) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Based on the intensive discussions with the State Governments and Chief Minister's Conference held in October, 1996 and December, 1996, a Common Minimum National Action Plan on Power had been finalised and adopted for implementation.

(b) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the house.

Statement

(b) to (e) The action Plan, inter-alia, seeks to finalise National Energy Policy, set up State Electricity Regulatory Commissions, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission, rationalise retail tariffs, facilitate autonomy of the State Electricity Boards and improve the management practices of these Boards, encourage improvement in physical parameters, encourage setting up of cogeneration/captive power plants, give high priority for hydro projects and lay emphasis on investments in the North Eastern Region, finalise allocation of liquid fuels, develop mega power projects at pitheads and set up washeries.

The implementation of the Common Minimum National Action Plan would make investments in the power sector attractive and improve performance of public sector utilities and enable them to generate internal resources for investments. The investments in capacity addition, systems improvement through improved productivity of existing assets etc., would help in reducing the power shortages in the country

The Common Minimum National Action Plan has been forwarded to all the State Governments/Union Territories on 31.12.1996 for its implementation in a time bound manner. The response from the State Governments has been encouraging and many of them have initiated action towards its implementation.

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the total installed capacity in Andhra Pradesh and also the projects that are pending execution and when they are going to clear the Simhadri Project.

MR. SPEAKER : A question should be like this – very straight.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : Yes, it is straight.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, we do not have the latest figure for the installed capacity in Andhra Pradesh. For the period up to 31.3.1996, it was 2655.94 MW for hydro and 2551.50 for thermal and NIL for nuclear power. The total comes to 5207.44 MW.

The hon. Member has asked about the power supply position in Andhra Pradesh. I think, the availability of power is 29,367 MW against a requirement of 36790 MW in Andhra Pradesh. There is a shortage of 20.2 per cent against the shortage of 9.2 per cent for the whole of India.

Regarding the Simhadri Project, I would like to say that the PIB has cleared the project. Shortly, we are going to send it to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs Regarding the remaining projects, . . . (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Regarding the remaining projects, I think, you can give the details to him separately.

SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : I would like to know the status of the Energy Policy and also the steps taken by the Ministry to meet the power crisis, especially in Andhra Pradesh. As the Minister says that there is a shortage of more than 20 per cent, how are they going to meet it during this year ?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, the Energy Policy is one of the points under our Common Minimum National Action Plan. We are considering a national policy. Already, for this purpose, we have constituted a Committee with Shri Ranganatham, Member-Secretary, Planning Commission as the Chairman. There are nearly nine members from various Departments in this Committee because energy not only means power, but it also includes petroleum, coal railways, transport and other things as well. That is why we have constituted a Committee.

In order to meet the shortages, we are maintaining short-term strategies and long-term strategies. We are promoting a number of initiatives. Recently, the Prime Minister two also convened meetings with all the Chief Ministers. There are short-term measures like inter-State and inter-regional exchange of power whereby if there is one region with surplus power and one region lacking in power, we link those lines so that power is transferred from one region to the other. Also, we are adopting the method of renovation and modernisation. We have taken up a massive research and development programme.

In the Ninth Plan we are giving more thrust for this. We are implementing the short gestation projects. Further, we are promoting more Naphtha-based projects. Already some Naphtha-based projects have been finalised. The

Government has taken a decision on this. We have sent a draft to all the States. We are asking for supply of adequate quantity of coal. We are taking up this matter with the Coordination Committee of the Ministers of Coal and Railways.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, you do not have to go on explaining everything.

MR. SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, power is the most important infrastructure. My question is on the Common Minimum National Action Plan for producing power. There are two elements on which I would like to put my question. One is whether the Government's Common Plan includes the production of energy by using nuclear technology and non-renewable sources of energy. Even in nuclear technology, are they going to make use of the fast breeder technology and the fusion technology?

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : Sir, as regards the nuclear technology, it is dealt by my colleague, Shri Alagh. I think Shri Alagh has categorically answered the earlier Question which was addressed to the Prime Minister. We are meeting the requirement through non-conventional energy sources also for which also there is a separate Ministry. Through wind energy we have achieved one-third megawatts of power. This is also included in the Common Minimum Action Plan.

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Sir, the former Minister of Finance, Dr. Manmohan. Singh, recently stated that due to lack of public investment in the generation of electricity, a gap has been created between demand and supply and this has posed a lot of problems. May I ask the hon. Minister whether the Government is withdrawing from the field of generation of electricity in coming years? It is my simple question.

DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI : No. The Government is not withdrawing from the generation of electricity.

Disposal of Nuclear Waste

*166. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any long-term plans for the disposal of nuclear low-level radio-active waste generated in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether arrangements have been made with any foreign country for disposal of nuclear waste; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Processes, technologies and equipment have been indigenously developed for treatment, conditioning, handling, packaging and disposal of low level radioactive wastes generated in India. Plants have been set up and are operated successfully for this purpose as per the guidelines and approvals given by the regulatory authority namely the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the reply given by Hon'ble Minister is correct, I would like to say that on one hand, fish have been wiped out in the sea area adjoining Tarapur power station and Secondly, a large number of people of that area are falling ill. Similarly several complaints have been received in these last few years from Kota, Rajasthan where another nuclear power station is functioning. The Government all this while has maintained such a stern attitude that anyone trying to photograph these places was driven away. I would like to know that when so many arrangements have been made, why are these complaints being received from Tarapur and Kota?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the standards set by Atomic Energy Safety Regulatory Board, the samples of air, water and the effluents are regularly checked in each plant. In addition to this, there is no report of any problem being faced. (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Such complaints have been made many a times. (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have not asked whether he has got any report in this regard or not?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : This matter has been discussed in the House earlier also and I have given clarifications in this regard in the House but still if anyone has got any specific complaints regarding a particular incident. (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Let us go to Tarapur tomorrow.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : All right Let us go. (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You may give a reply in the house after reviewing the situation yourself. (Interruptions).

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : I have been to Tarapur . . . (Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

I have actually toured Tarapur.

[English]

I have already travelled to Tarapur. That is not the point and this is no way of arguing . . . (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : How can you say that you have not received any complaints. Lakhs of complaints have been made.

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : If one or two complaints have been received, I have given a reply in that regard in the House also. Still if you are insisting that you have got a complaint, you may forward it to me and I'll look into it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : What do you mean by saying that you'll look into it ? The complaints all already with you. Why are you sitting over the files ?

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Shri Jaswant Singh is seated there with you. He has raised all these points in detail in the Committee on Energy. Hon'ble Member may go through that report and if he is not satisfied even after that, he may raise the matter in the House.

[English]

I think, a lot of irresponsible statement are made on nuclear safety . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I think, the Minister is irresponsible. You are irresponsible. How dare you make such a charge here ? . . . (Interruptions) How dare you make such a charge of irresponsibility ? It is the Executive that is irresponsible and not this House . . . (Interruptions).

SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH : Sir, I am making the statement with a full sense of responsibility. In each nuclear plant there is detailed surveys of all effluents—air, water and so on.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon'ble Minister wants to mislead the House. Tarapur falls under my constituency. I would like to tell him that I am ready to take him along to that particular place in Tarapur. I have raised this matter time and again and my question No. 176 pertains to this very subject. If Hon'ble Minister is prepared to visit Tarapur on this Saturday or Sunday, I am ready to go with him to Tarapur.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is a very good offer.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, safety measures are not being adopted in Tarapur and the same is the case in Kota also.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

LPG Consumers

*162. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Indian Oil Corporation has recently set-up emergency service cells in some States to provide safety to its L.P.G. consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether complaints regarding leakages in LPG gas cylinders are attended to promptly;

(d) if so, the maximum time taken in this regard;

(e) if not, the reasons therefore;

(f) whether the Government propose to issue directives to other oil companies also to provide these facilities to its L.P.G. consumers;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the number of consumers likely to be benefited as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The first emergency service cell to attend to the leakage complaints of LPG customers during Holidays and Sundays and outside the normal working hours of the distributors was commissioned in Delhi by IOC on 22nd July, 1983. As on 1.1.1997 Indian Oil Corporation is operating 419 emergency service cells in different states.

(c) and (d) LPG leakage complaints are attended to promptly by the distributors as well as emergency service cell operator. Normally the complaint is attended within 2 hours of receipt of such complaint.

(e) Does not arise, in view of (c) and (d) above.

(f) Public Sector Oil Companies, namely IOC, HPC and BPC are operating emergency service cells on Industry basis wherever all the 3 oil companies or 2 oil companies are having distributorship network. Emergency service cells in such cases are established for various LPG markets on Industry basis and the activity is coordinated by one of the oil companies for each state. Emergency service cell facilities thus operated on Industry basis are available to all the customers in the market irrespective of the LPG marketing company to which the distributorship is attached.

(g) and (h) BPCL and HPCL are operating 46 and 145 emergency service cells respectively all over the country and the number of customers expected to be benefited by these emergency service cell is about 87 lakhs. Otherwise, from total number of Industry emergency service cells, making 610, 192 lakhs customers are being serviced.

Enhancement of Monetary Limit

*167. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :
SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether various delegations have requested the Government to enhance the monetary limit for identification of persons below poverty line;

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

(c) present monetary limit for identification of persons below poverty line;

(d) the details of the new formula under which the number of persons living below the poverty line in the country were estimated during 1995-96;

(e) the State-wise number of persons living below the poverty line at present; and

(f) the steps being taken to reduce the disparity among rich and poor during Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The poverty line is continuously updated for change in the price rise.

(c) The poverty line is expressed in terms of monthly per capita consumer expenditure of Rs.49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas in 1993-94. These are updated to Rs. 229.14 in rural areas and Rs. 264.38 in urban areas for the year 1993-94.

(d) and (e) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty at national and state level based on the recommendations of the Task Force on Projections on Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand. It defined the poverty line as monthly per capita consumer expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. The percentage of people below the poverty line is calculated from the expenditure class-wise distribution of persons obtained from the NSS data on consumer expenditure, after pro-rata adjusting it to CSO level of consumption, in conjunction with the poverty line.

The Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor constituted by the Planning Commission outlines an alternative methodology to estimate poverty at national and state level. It accepted the Task Force poverty line and derived State-specific poverty lines using state-specific price indices. From the State-specific poverty lines and the NSS consumer expenditure distribution without any adjustment, the Expert Group provided estimates of poverty at national and state level from the quinquennial consumer expenditure survey of the NSS.

The estimates of state-wise poverty for the year 1987-88 are given in Statement-I and II for official method and Expert Group Method respectively. The Planning Commission has also present to the Consultative Committee of Parliament State-wise estimates of poverty by the two methods for 1993-94, which are given in Statement III and IV. Certain technical details are under examination and a final view is to be taken on these estimates shortly.

(f) The anti-poverty asset generation programme such as the Integrated Rural Development Programme and wage employment generation programmes such as Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, Nehru Rozgar Yojana etc. are expected to reduce the disparity between rich and poor by raising the income of the poor over and above the effects arising out of the general growth process.

Statement-I*Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States 1987-88 (Revised)*

S. No	States	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. Lakhs	% age	No. Lakhs	% age	No. Lakhs	% age
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	129.81	28.18	35.35	22.14	165.16	26.62
2.	Assam	35.88	19.20	1.56	6.99	37.44	17.89
3.	Bihar	252.26	35.86	25.86	24.85	278.12	34.44
4.	Gujarat	42.68	16.51	13.44	10.38	56.12	14.46
5.	Haryana	10.79	9.28	3.46	9.56	14.24	9.34
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3.44	7.71	0.05	1.21	3.49	7.17
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	6.78	12.35	1.02	6.29	7.81	10.96
8.	Karnataka	91.73	31.10	25.32	19.83	117.05	27.70
9.	Kerala	27.83	13.14	10.80	16.23	38.63	13.88
10.	Madhya Pradesh	171.95	36.04	23.75	17.40	195.71	31.89
11.	Maharashtra	143.94	31.41	39.73	14.45	183.67	25.05
12.	Orissa	111.60	42.89	8.00	20.89	119.61	40.07
13.	Punjab	6.77	4.99	2.82	5.13	9.59	5.03
14.	Rajasthan	69.63	22.03	14.68	16.22	84.31	20.74
15.	Tamil Nadu	121.44	34.38	30.78	17.17	152.23	28.58
16.	Uttar Pradesh	332.41	31.79	56.94	22.90	389.35	30.08
17.	West Bengal	114.37	24.73	28.24	16.44	142.60	22.48
18.	All India	1682.98	28.37	331.08	16.82	2014.06	25.49

NB : (1) The above estimates are derived by using the poverty line of Rs. 132.0 per capita per month for rural areas and the poverty line of Rs. 152.3 per capita per month for urban areas at 1987-88 prices, corresponding to the poverty lines of Rs. 49.1 and Rs. 56.6 respectively for 1973-74.

(2) The number of persons below poverty line relates to the population as on 1st October, 1987.

(3) The results are based on National Sample Survey on consumer expenditure relating to 43rd round (July 1987-June 1988).

(4) The difference between the aggregate all India private consumption expenditure estimated by the Central Statistical Organisation in their National Accounts Statistics and that derived from the NSSO data has been adjusted prorata among the different States and Union Territories.

Statement-II*Percentage and Number of Poor 1987-88 : Expert Group Estimates*

S. No	States/U.T.'s	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
States							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	94.89	20.92	72.85	44.63	167.77	27.20
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.73	39.35	0.11	17.34	2.84	37.47
3.	Assam	80.86	39.35	4.58	17.34	85.44	36.84
4.	Bihar	370.36	52.63	69.48	57.71	439.84	53.17
5.	Goa	1.32	17.64	1.42	33.71	2.74	23.42
6.	Gujarat	75.95	28.67	52.63	39.63	128.58	32.33
7.	Haryana	18.75	16.22	7.15	17.79	25.90	16.63
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7.37	16.28	0.25	6.18	7.62	15.46
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	13.96	25.70	2.40	14.82	16.36	23.20
10.	Karnataka	93.96	32.82	68.39	49.06	162.35	38.14
11.	Kerala	66.20	29.10	26.02	43.36	92.22	32.08
12.	Madhya Pradesh	195.85	41.92	70.04	48.17	265.89	43.40
13.	Maharashtra	185.59	40.78	108.59	38.99	294.18	40.10
14.	Manipur	4.68	39.35	0.85	17.34	5.53	32.93
15.	Meghalaya	4.89	39.35	0.59	17.34	5.48	34.60
16.	Mizoram	1.68	39.35	0.33	17.34	2.01	32.52
17.	Nagaland	3.05	39.35	0.35	17.34	3.40	34.85
18.	Orissa	148.02	57.64	19.94	44.11	167.96	55.61
19.	Punjab	16.78	12.60	7.77	12.91	24.56	12.70
20.	Rajasthan	103.02	33.21	38.17	38.99	141.19	34.60
21.	Sikkim	1.25	39.35	0.15	17.34	1.40	34.67
22.	Tamil Nadu	160.67	45.80	82.54	43.88	243.20	45.13
23.	Tripura	8.49	39.35	0.48	17.34	8.97	36.84
24.	Uttar Pradesh	412.03	41.10	125.02	45.22	537.05	41.99
25.	West Bengal	219.09	48.30	57.63	32.84	276.72	43.99

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
U.T.'s							
26.	Delhi	0.06	1.29	12.74	16.91	12.80	16.04
27.	A & N Island	0.80	45.80	0.32	43.88	1.12	45.24
28.	Chandigarh	0.04	12.91	0.76	12.91	0.80	12.91
29.	D & N Haveli	0.21	17.64	0.03	33.71	0.24	18.71
30.	Lakshadweep	0.06	29.10	0.12	43.36	0.18	37.26
31.	Pondicherry	1.35	45.80	1.80	43.88	3.15	44.68
All India		2293.96	39.06	833.52	40.12	3127.48	39.34

Note :

1. The all-India poverty line of 1973-74 in rural and urban areas which correspond to per capita daily calorie intake or 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas are adjusted for the inter-state price differentials in order to obtain state-specific poverty lines. These state-specific poverty lines in rural areas are adjusted using consumer price index of Agricultural labourers of the middle rural population and the poverty line in urban area are adjusted by the combined index of Consumer Price Indices of Industrial worker and urban Non-Manual worker of the middle group of population.
2. The estimates of poverty ratio are based on the state-specific poverty lines as obtained in (1) above coupled with the MSS data on household consumer expenditure distribution 43rd round (July 1987 to June 1988).
3. The number of people below poverty line relates to the population as on 1st March, 1988.

Source : Report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor, July, 1993, Table 4.5, Page-40.

Statement-III

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States-1993-94 (Official Methodology)

S. No.	States	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	83.12	16.64	22.98	11.83	106.10	15.29
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.14	14.12	0.07	4.56	1.20	12.67
3.	Assam	18.95	9.04	0.76	2.91	19.71	8.36
4.	Bihar	241.33	31.16	21.03	17.07	262.35	29.22
5.	Goa	0.17	2.31	0.05	0.95	0.22	1.71
6.	Gujarat	26.43	9.43	7.85	5.09	34.28	7.89
7.	Haryana	9.03	6.92	2.04	4.56	11.07	6.32
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.41	6.72	0.06	1.15	3.47	6.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.39	3.81	0.39	1.92	2.78	3.35
10.	Karnataka	62.77	19.54	17.08	11.34	79.86	16.92
11.	Kerala	13.71	6.32	5.24	6.29	18.96	6.31
12.	Madhya Pradesh	138.02	25.95	20.31	11.94	158.34	22.55
13.	Maharashtra	124.08	24.34	30.80	9.67	154.87	18.70
14.	Manipur	0.20	1.41	0.09	1.43	0.28	1.41
15.	Meghalaya	0.27	1.72	0.02	0.42	0.29	1.47
16.	Mizoram	0.01	0.41	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.20
17.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
18.	Orissa	95.08	33.55	6.12	12.94	101.20	30.60
19.	Punjab	3.28	2.21	1.46	2.25	4.74	2.22
20.	Rajasthan	33.38	9.33	8.35	7.53	41.73	8.90
21.	Sikkim	0.25	6.12	0.00	0.02	0.25	5.53
22.	Tamil Nadu	69.48	18.54	20.48	10.13	89.95	15.59
23.	Tripura	1.86	7.32	0.21	4.24	2.06	6.83
24.	Uttar Pradesh	255.11	21.74	48.77	15.94	303.88	20.54
25.	West Bengal	68.64	13.34	16.57	8.32	85.21	11.94
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.09
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.22	0.01	0.20
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.42	30.67	0.02	17.51	0.45	29.46
29.	Daman & Diu	0.02	2.70	0.00	0.00	0.02	1.40
30.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	3.57	3.74	3.57	3.38
31.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.54	0.01	2.11
32.	Pondicherry	0.16	5.43	0.52	8.64	0.67	7.60
All India		1259.66	19.24	238.60	10.11	1498.26	16.82

Statement-IV

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line by States-1993-94 (Expert Group Method)

S. No.	States	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79.49	15.92	80.64	41.51	160.13	23.08
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.62	45.01	0.19	13.15	3.81	40.18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	94.33	45.01	3.35	13.15	97.78	41.46
4.	Bihar	450.86	58.21	55.83	45.34	506.69	56.44
5.	Goa	0.38	5.34	1.47	26.04	1.85	14.48
6.	Gujarat	62.16	22.18	41.77	27.07	103.93	23.92
7.	Haryana	36.56	28.02	5.85	13.09	42.41	24.21
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.40	30.34	0.43	8.58	15.83	28.39
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	19.05	30.34	1.74	8.58	20.79	25.03
10.	Karnataka	95.99	29.88	60.58	40.21	156.57	33.18
11.	Kerala	55.95	25.76	24.65	29.57	80.59	26.82
12.	Madhya Pradesh	216.19	40.64	82.88	48.70	299.07	42.60
13.	Maharashtra	193.33	37.93	108.33	34.03	301.65	36.43
14.	Manipur	6.33	45.01	0.80	13.15	7.13	35.41
15.	Meghalaya	7.09	45.01	0.49	13.15	7.58	38.95
16.	Mizoram	1.64	45.01	0.52	13.15	2.16	28.47
17.	Nagaland	4.85	45.01	0.33	13.15	5.18	38.95
18.	Orissa	140.90	49.72	19.21	40.59	160.11	48.41
19.	Punjab	17.76	11.95	5.87	9.08	23.63	11.08
20.	Rajasthan	94.68	26.46	35.08	31.63	129.76	27.68
21.	Sikkim	1.81	45.01	0.06	13.15	1.87	41.96
22.	Tamil Nadu	121.70	32.48	89.65	44.34	211.35	36.63
23.	Tripura	11.41	45.01	0.64	13.15	12.05	39.89
24.	Uttar Pradesh	496.17	42.28	110.34	36.06	606.51	44.99
25.	West Bengal	209.90	40.80	44.86	22.51	254.76	35.69
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.73	32.48	0.37	44.34	1.10	35.71
27.	Chandigarh	0.06	9.08	0.58	9.08	0.64	9.08
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.72	51.95	0.05	39.00	0.77	50.76
29.	Daman & Diu	0.03	5.34	0.14	26.04	0.17	15.32
30.	Delhi	0.19	1.90	14.64	15.31	14.83	14.04
31.	Lakshadweep	0.06	25.76	0.10	29.57	0.16	28.03
32.	Pondicherry	0.93	32.48	2.65	44.34	3.58	40.49
	All India	2440.29	37.27	794.17	33.66	3234.46	36.31

Note :

- Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur Nagaland and Tripura.
- Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A & N Islands.
- Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.

4. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
7. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
8. Poverty ratio of Himachal Pradesh is used for Jammu & Kashmir.

Generation of Rural Employment

*168. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes for the generation of rural employment in execution throughout the country;

(b) scheme-wise and State-wise account of the employment generation during 1996; and

(c) the reasons for the failure of the scheme, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Major schemes for generation of rural employment being implemented in country are Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) which are Wage Employment programmes and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) which is a self-employment programme.

While JRY and IRDP are implemented throughout the country, EAS covers 4329 blocks at present.

(b) Details of employment generated through these schemes State-wise during the financial year 1996-97 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) So far, about 6874 million mandays of wage employment have been generated under JRY and EAS and about 49 million families have been assisted under IRDP. However, it has been our endeavour to review these programmes and to take necessary steps to improve their effectiveness and reach. In view of this, it can not be said that the schemes have failed.

Statement

Employment Generated Under JRY & EAS and families benefited under IRDP during 1996-97 (Upto Dec.,96)

Sl. No.	State/UT's	JRY (In Lakh Mandays)	EAS	IRDP Families benefitted
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	184.85	164.08	96817
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.15	16.17	2870

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	54.58	48.18	14883
4.	Bihar	310.60	170.57	124052
5.	Goa	4.85	N.R.	664
6.	Gujarat	57.25	90.33	33315
7.	Haryana	10.32	15.91	12284
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7.38	6.35	4872
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	12.28	49.57	6130
10.	Karnataka	144.63	173.83	70188
11.	Kerala	26.81	15.53	31899
12.	Madhya Pradesh	197.51	163.71	64642
13.	Maharashtra	251.20	149.53	80305
14.	Manipur	3.00	9.96	3354
15.	Meghalaya	5.06	2.63	2323
16.	Mizoram	1.48	17.18	1304
17.	Nagaland	4.46	0.16	702
18.	Orissa	224.89	235.86	4308
19.	Punjab	N.R.	N.R.	4777
20.	Rajasthan	61.95	120.59	28437
21.	Sikkim	1.95	2.33	1075
22.	Tamil Nadu	217.76	119.72	43240
23.	Tripura	14.85	41.31	1568
24.	Uttar Pradesh	458.81	176.85	245249
25.	West Bengal	125.83	100.12	70468
26.	A & N Island	0.42	0.22	135
27.	D & N Haveli	0.51	0.19	9
28.	Daman & Diu	0.27	0.00	178
29.	Lakshadweep	0.57	1.20	22
30.	Pondicherry	2.05	N.R.	788
Total		2387.27	1892.03	989631

N.R. No Report Received.

Price Hike of Petrol

*169. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Petroleum Ministry has suggested the Government for a price hike in petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether they have suggested a number of proposals to meet the burgeoning oil pool deficit which is now estimated to touch 14,700 crores in March this year;

(d) if so, whether the Government have not accepted the proposals for increasing price hike in petroleum products and have decided to borrow the money instead;

(e) whether any final decision has been taken in this regard; and

(f) if not, the time by which it is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (f) The prices of petroleum products are administered by the Government through the Oil Pool Account mechanism. The oil pool accounts are supposed to be self balancing. It was estimated that the cumulative outstandings of the oil companies would be Rs. 5700 crores by 31.3.96. However, the pool account got adversely affected in Oct. 96 due to steep increase in the prices of the crude oil & petroleum products in the international market, Rupee-Dollar exchange rate variation, increase in the Rail freight and changes in the Customs & Excise duty announced in the Finance Bill for 1996-97. The cumulative outstandings of the oil companies from pool account are estimated to be Rs. 15,500 crores as on 31.3.97.

The mounting outstanding have resulted in oil companies experiencing severe cash crunch necessitating them to resort to huge borrowings which are estimated to rise to a level of Rs. 23,000 crores by 31.3.97.

The imports of crude oil & petroleum products have to be organised to maintain uninterrupted supply of petroleum products within the country. As a short term measure, the ceiling of short term foreign currency borrowings of IOC the canalising agency was enhanced from USD 1.53 billion to USD 2 billion in February 96, to USD 2.5 billion in Nov. 96 and USD 2.9 billion in February 97.

The position of the oil pool account is monitored on a continuous basis and Government is exploring various options to contain the deficit in the oil pool account.

Nuclear Power Generation

*170. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the environmental costs involved in hydel power generation and the multifarious problems faced in establishing and running thermal power plants away from coal-mines, Government propose to give a major thrust to nuclear power generation, inviting private participation in the process;

(b) if so, whether any concrete policy in this regard is being worked out;

(c) if so, the details of the proposed scheme by which nuclear power will be given high priority; and

(d) the Ninth Five Year Plan target fixed in respect of Nuclear Power generation in the public and private sectors and the estimated cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) : The Government propose to continue with its nuclear programme and are open to specific offers of private participation. Such offers when received will be considered on the basis of technical suitability, economic attractiveness and conditions attached thereto. Amendments to the Atomic Energy Act 1962 as may be necessary will be considered at the appropriate time when private participation is likely to become a reality.

(d) IX Five Year Plan proposals are yet to be finalised.

Development of Backward/Tribal Areas

*171. SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have sanctioned any scheme for the development of backward/tribal areas during the last three years;

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

(c) the year-wise allocation of fund made during the said period, State-wise;

(d) the details of other schemes submitted by the States in particular by the Government of Gujarat for seeking financial assistance as on date;

(e) the number of projects out of them related to tribal dominated areas; and

(f) the action taken by the Government so far in this regard and the time by which the allocation of fund will be made after sanctioning these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (f) : The planning and development of an area and allocation of funds for that purpose is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Planning Commission allocates Central assistance for State's Plan as a whole and spatial and sectoral allocations are made by the State Governments. No approval of Planning Commission to individual schemes/projects of State Governments is required, except of power and irrigation sectors, provided these schemes can be financed without affecting the on-going ones and no separate funds are made available for their implementation.

However, Central Government is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments including Gujarat in overcoming the problems of development of backward/tribal areas through area programmes viz Tribal Sub-Plan, Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, Hill Areas Development Programme, Border Areas Development Programme, etc.

Amount sanctioned in the States Plans for welfare and development of tribal people in the various States during the years 1993-94 to 1995-96 is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Amount sanctioned in states plans for welfare and development of Tribal/Backward people in various states from 1993-94 to 1995-96

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1993-94 Actuals	1994-95 Actuals	1995-96 Outlay
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	78.47	91.67	144.81
2.	Assam	7.65	8.79	12.75
3.	Bihar	24.80	26.00	40.52
4.	Goa	0.59	0.65	0.65
5.	Gujarat	88.62	85.66	124.82
6.	Haryana	7.88	8.50	10.21
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2.54	3.48	3.83
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.52	2.82	3.06

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Karnataka	111.36	144.63	107.68
10.	Kerala	12.10	15.00	19.10
11.	Madhya Pradesh	75.55	68.04	168.34
12.	Maharashtra	42.52	43.65	120.76
13.	Manipur	1.62	1.83	2.70
14.	Meghalaya	0.01	0.14	0.07
15.	Orissa	27.91	42.21	49.90
16.	Punjab	32.67	39.86	38.79
17.	Rajasthan	7.24	11.93	16.60
18.	Sikkim	0.53	0.54	1.12
19.	Tamil Nadu	68.69	70.52	112.64
20.	Tripura	10.01	16.72	16.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	21.23	37.67	119.19
22.	West Bengal	21.00	23.10	26.00
23.	A & N Island	0.46	0.17	0.19
24.	Chandigarh	0.40	0.41	1.49
25.	D & N Haveli	0.15	1.00	0.20
26.	Daman & Diu	0.15	0.29	0.26
27.	Delhi	5.18	16.00	16.00
28.	Pondicherry	2.00	2.40	4.35

[Translation]

T and D Losses

*172. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of electricity losses in transmission and distribution during the last three years till date by each State Electricity Board, year-wise and state-wise;

(b) the percentage of electricity losses in T&D by each Board; and

(c) the concrete steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to check these T&D losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGAPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The quantum of electricity losses in transmission and distribution for the three year period 1992-93 to 1994-95 for each SEB/Electricity Department, Statewise is given in the enclosed statement. The transmission and distribution

losses figures for the subsequent years have not yet been compiled.

(c) The responsibility for distribution of electricity vests with the State Electricity Boards/ Electricity Departments. In order to reduce the transmission and distribution losses, the Central Electricity Authority had issued guidelines which, inter-alia, provide for the following :

- Upgradation of operating voltages;
- reduction of length of LT lines;
- location of transformers near load centres;
- adoption of low capacity transformers at consumers premises;
- improvement in construction and operation techniques; and
- systematic and methodological approach for planning and design of distribution system on the long term basis.

The Central Electricity Authority has also issued guidelines for conducting energy audit, which lays down procedure for conducting energy audit studies. These also provide for action plan for formulation and implementation of audit schemes and analysis of results to segregate technical and commercial losses.

Necessary amendments have also been enacted to The Indian Electricity Act., 1910 to make the theft of electricity a cognizable offence.

In the Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power issued in December, 1996, after consultation with the State Governments, the following measures have been suggested for reduction of transmission and distribution losses :

- (i) Compulsory metering at substations on all major feeders.
- (ii) Compulsory metering of all new electricity connections. Also connections to agricultural sector exceeding 10 HP should be completed within a period of two years.
- (iii) All electric supplies to be metered by 2002 A.D.
- (iv) Compulsory annual energy audit of large consumers i.e., 100 KVA would be ensured.
- (v) Time of the day metering would be introduced for big power consumers for better load management.

A legal framework has now been established and transmission has been recognised as a distinct activity. This will facilitate greater investment in transmission projects by public, private and joint sectors. This will help in reducing T&D losses.

Statement

Percentage Transformation, Transmission & Distribution losses (Including Commercial Losses such as Pilferage Etc.) in SEBs/EDs

Region	State Elec. Board/ Elec. Deptt.	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
		(Quantum) (MU)	(%)	(Quantum) (MU)	(%)	(Quantum) (MU)	(%)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Northern Region	Haryana	2965.99	26.78	2640.50	25.00	3420.13	30.80
	Himachal Pradesh	403.44	19.51	373.60	18.31	474.00	18.21
	Jammu & Kashmir	1383.54	48.28	1345.67	45.69	1593.17	48.74
	Punjab	3403.31	19.24	3652.94	19.37	3287.04	16.70
	Rajasthan	3220.36	22.74	3775.55	25.00	3960.75	24.78
	Uttar Pradesh	7230.81	24.43	7564.08	24.08	7169.24	21.69
	Chandigarh	165.12	26.21	169.16	27.27	201.70	28.44
	D.E.S.U.	2404.61	23.56	3492.33	31.79	4161.50	34.56
Western Region	Gujarat	5219.59	22.03	5266.28	20.34	5389.54	20.02
	Madhya Pradesh	4522.40	21.35	4734.89	20.26	5062.25	19.61
	Maharashtra	6719.32	17.83	6733.51	16.22	7360.93	16.33
	D & N Haveli	36.05	17.98	30.21	12.64	30.23	11.35
	Goa	178.75	21.85	251.27	24.50	277.08	26.87
	Daman & Diu	18.85	15.67	37.40	22.34	33.15	16.30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Southern Region	Andhra Pradesh	4784.21	19.88	5291.63	19.91	5120.81	17.95
	Karnataka	3149.39	19.55	3413.72	19.55	3830.60	19.41
	Kerala	1624.40	21.95	1578.95	20.00	1784.45	20.05
	Tamil Nadu	4056.88	17.50	4209.04	17.18	4766.19	17.11
	Lakshadweep Islands	2.11	18.72	2.12	16.99	2.41	17.84
	Pondicherry	125.86	15.31	132.01	15.80	146.42	15.00
Eastern Region	Bihar	1612.54	22.00	1608.95	20.35	1623.45	19.76
	Orissa	1819.37	25.25	1807.84	22.43	2028.22	23.03
	Sikkim	14.26	22.55	15.74	22.60	17.73	21.22
	West Bengal	2141.54	24.87	1949.51	20.82	2204.05	21.51
	A & N Island	14.27	23.62	15.87	23.71	16.17	22.38
North-Eastern Region	Assam	431.95	21.41	475.55	22.44	546.54	24.18
	Manipur	57.10	22.35	68.08	23.92	72.39	25.30
	Meghalaya	56.95	11.79	114.73	18.03	85.90	18.47
	Nagaland	33.77	27.26	43.72	33.45	43.73	36.12
	Tripura	73.96	30.64	78.88	30.53	93.07	31.96
	Arunachal Pradesh	23.27	32.32	44.39	42.04	51.18	45.30
	Mizoram	26.77	29.04	35.57	31.89	36.46	29.76
All India	(Utilities)	61564.76	21.80	65010.45	21.41	69568.56	21.13

[English]

Legislation on Energy Conservation

*173. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a legislation on energy conservation during the current Budget Session;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the draft bill was circulated to the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the response of the State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The Ministry of Power is preparing the draft of a legislation on Energy Conservation for being considered for introduction in Parliament during the current session.

(b) The proposed legislation is essentially enabling in nature and inter-alia seeks to vest the Central & State Governments with powers to facilitate and enforce efficient use of energy in the country through setting up of standards and norms for energy conservation.

(c) and (d) The draft framework of the proposed legislation was circulated to all the State Governments and

Union Territories Administration for their comments. The States/UTs which have responded have generally endorsed the need for such a legislation.

Fast Track Power Projects

*174. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of fast track power projects approved by the Government so far;

(b) the details of approval of each project and location thereof;

(c) the estimated cost, capacity and actual power generated by each project during the last three years; and

(d) the time by which all such pending projects are likely to be cleared and make them functional ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded techno-economic clearance to all the eight fast track power projects. Details are given in the enclosed statement. As per information available, of the projects listed in the Annexure, those which have commenced partial generation are given below :

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Total Capacity (MW)	Capacity Commissioned (MW)
1.	Jegurupadu Combined Gas Turbine	216	3x45.8
2.	Godavari Combined Gas Turbine	216	45.8

(d) All the projects have obtained the techno-economic clearance of CEA. After their Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) and other conditions are finalised, the projects will then have to attain financial closure prior to their construction and commissioning.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Estimated cost including Interest during Construction (as cleared by CEA).
1.	Visakhapatnam TPS, Andhra Pradesh Capacity : 1040 MW	US\$ 943.75 Million+ Rs. 1324.993 Crs.
2.	Neyveli (Zero Unit), Tamil Nadu Capacity : 250 MW	Rs. 1325.11 Crs.
3.	Mangalore TPS, Karnataka Capacity : 1000 MW	US\$ 751.574 Million+ Rs. 1580.89 Crs.
4.	Bhadravati TPS, Maharashtra Capacity : 1072 MW	Rs. 5187.00 Crs.
5.	Ib Valley TPS, Units 3 & 4. Orissa Capacity : 420 MW	Rs. 1993.63 Crs.
6.	Jegurupadu CCGT, Andhra Pradesh Capacity : 216 MW	Rs. 827.00 Crs.
7.	Godavari CCGT, Andhra Pradesh Capacity : 208 MW	Rs. 748.43 Crs.
8.	Dabhol CCGT, Phase-I, Maharashtra Capacity : 740 MW	Rs. 2634.00 Crs.

Approach Paper

*175. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Development Council has approved and adopted the Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the brief features thereof;

(c) whether the Prime Minister favours sharper plan focus on poverty;

(d) the details of the projects that will be implemented for agricultural development and for removing poverty in the country;

(e) whether several States demanded larger share of funds during the meeting of NDC;

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

(g) the decision of NDC thereon; and

(h) the time by which the process of implementing the Ninth Plan will be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan (1997-2002) approved unanimously by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 16-01-1997 projected a GDP growth rate of 7 per cent per annum during the Ninth Plan period including a growth rate of 4.5 per cent per annum in the agricultural sector. The objectives of the Ninth Plan arising from the Common Minimum Programme of the Government, the Chief Ministers Conference on Basic Minimum Services and the suggestings that have been put forward by the Chief Ministers of various States during extensive consultations are as follows;

(i) Priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty;

(ii) Accelerating the growth rate of the economy with stable prices;

(iii) Ensuring food and nutritional security for all, particularly the vulnerable sections of society;

(iv) Providing the Basic Minimum Services of safe drinking water, primary health care facilities, universal primary education, shelter, and connectivity to all in a time bound manner;

(v) Containing the growth rate of population;

(vi) Ensuring environmental sustainability of the development process through social mobilisation and participation of people at all levels;

- (vii) Empowerment of women and socially disadvantaged groups such as Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes and Minorities as agents of socio-economic change and development;
- (viii) Promoting and developing people's participatory institutions like Panchayati Raj institutions, cooperatives and self-help groups;
- (ix) Strengthening efforts to build self-reliance.

Although the macro-economy performed reasonably well in the Eighth Five Year Plan, some major weaknesses have also emerged. In particular, the growth pattern has not benefitted the poor and the under-privileged. The Ninth Plan needs to be designed to remedy the weaknesses in such a manner as to ensure that the benefits of growth reach the poor. The country has been blessed with good agricultural seasons during the Eighth Plan, but its agricultural potential has not been nurtured. Investments in the agricultural sector, particularly towards creation of irrigation potential, has fallen short of targets.

The Ninth Five Year Plan has to make a serious effort to redress this situation with a set of concrete measures to raise the level of agricultural and rural incomes, to target these with programmes which aim at small, medium and marginal farmers and landless labourers. Provision of irrigation water, provision of inputs on a widespread basis in different agroclimatic regions of India, backed up by suitable policy measures for creating infrastructure, will be the most important components of the entire development programme.

Radical economic reforms will be designed and effectively implemented, including achievement of efficiency-oriented tariff levels. Capital account convertibility will be sought to be achieved by ensuring that the prerequisites for such convertibility are attained. In addition, removal of domestic hindrance to competition and productivity will have to be steadfastly pursued in order to improve the return from the investments made. These policies will lower the incremental capital-output ratio. The Ninth Plan will target at breaking the structural backwardness of the economy, raising the income levels of its agricultural workers, small and marginal farmers and artisans and all the historically disadvantaged groups in a decisive manner.

The investment rate required to attain a growth rate of 7 per cent would be 28.6 per cent of GDP as compared to 26.9 per cent of GDP in the base-line. This is despite a drop in the ICOR from 4.34 in the base-line scenario to 4.08, which is significantly lower than the Eighth Plan average. This drop in ICOR occurs from two influences. First, it would be assumed that the process of economic

reforms would continue. This would lead to phased elimination of outdated technologies and therefore, higher energy and material efficiency in the industrial sectors. Second, the efficiency and productivity of five infrastructural sectors, namely Irrigation, Mining, Power, Railways and Communications, are assumed to go up significantly.

The Ninth Plan will contain a carefully worked out perspective vision. This will consist of economic/demographic scenarios and long-term plans for demographic, human resource development, infrastructure, environment and science and technology sectors. Sustainability considerations will be important. Preliminary work shows that to meet the requirements of food security, diversifying domestic food demand and agricultural exports, since the entire expansion of output has to be derived from productivity expansion, cropping intensity will have to rise in a manner not seen earlier. Land and water management practices required for this are of the kind developed through historical time in East Asia, will have to be internalised quickly in our country. A High-level Commission on Perspective Planning for Water Resources will need to get into operational details. Similarly, exercises of the Vision 2020 kind will need to be detailed. A vision of India as a part of wider regions, both to its East and to its Western borders with increasing trade flows and cooperation on scarce non-renewable resources like water and energy, as also communication infrastructure would need to be developed as a part of the emerging multipolar world.

(c) and (d) One of the Ninth Plan objectives is to give priority to agriculture and rural development with a view of generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. The Approach Paper suggests that the on-going self-employment and wage-employment programmes be redesigned in order to make them more effective as instruments of poverty alleviation and would also be integrated with the various sectoral programmes as well as the area development programmes within the umbrella of the Panchayati Raj Institutions.

A sustained and long lasting solution to the problem of poverty depends on the creation of adequate employment opportunities through a broad based programme of development and economic growth. This is of particular importance since the labour time unemployment rate for male workers has gone up in a significant manner. The very poor are heavily dependent on the slender work opportunities available to them in terms of labour days, and if this comes down, the consequences are very severe.

At a conference of Chief Ministers held in July, 1996, it was decided to implement a programme for the achievement of total coverage of seven Basic Minimum Services in a time bound manner. It was agreed to raise the outlays of these programmes by 15% in spite of

stringent fiscal situation. The Ninth Five Year Plan will continue this commitment in real terms through each of the five years. While the objectives of this programme have been decided through the process of mutual consultation, the States have been given full opportunity to decide on the phasing of the target for each specific sector. The achievement of these targets will be jointly monitored by the State and the Central Governments. This approach is an ideal blend of national commitments with local initiatives.

The method of planning for agriculture related infrastructure, irrigation and water planning, other infrastructure like power, railways, communication and information technology and science & technology will be a variant of the methods developed for the Basic Minimum Services Programme. Plans will be set up with well defined target set at the national level in detailed consultation with States. Policies will be explored in each sector to provide for more investments from the private sector, from cooperatives and voluntary organisations and international private investments. However the slack in these selected sectors will be taken by public investment. The objectives will be defined nationally but the States and local Governments will be given much larger freedom for choice of programme, phasing of schemes and choosing appropriate instruments of finance.

(e) to (h) Chief Ministers/Governors of different States during the NDC meeting held on 16.01.1997 held the view that the States should be given more financial autonomy for effective execution of Plan and to accelerate the development process for which more resources need to be placed at the disposal of the States. The Ninth Plan, the preparation of which is presently underway in Planning Commission, based on the framework provided in the Approach Paper, takes into account the views of the Chief Ministers/Governors of the States and will include the details of schemes and the time frame for implementation of programmes.

Land for Tarapur Atomic Power Projects

*176. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have adopted a policy to allot land for the Tarapur Atomic Power Projects and also to employ one person from the family whose land was acquired;

(b) the number of applications panding with the Tarapur Power Project authority, for service from the project affected persons;

(c) the reasons for not granting them employment so far;

(d) the time-bound programme to clear all such pending applications; and

(e) the criteria fixed by the Government to offer employment to project affected persons with reference to their land acouired for the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Rehabilitation package for the persons likely to be affected due to acquisition of land for the TAPP 3 & 4 project is under formulation in consultation with the Maharashtra Government. There is no commitment for providing land for land to the affected persons. Preference in the matter of employment will be given to eligible members of the displaced families to the extent of available vacancies subject to their suitability/qualifications.

(b) to (d) Eleven applications from members of seven families from whom 1.588 hectares of land has been taken possession of by the NPCIL for the plant site have been received. Of these three have been employed. In addition, 39 persons whose lands are under acouisation have been provided employment. Though the project financial sanction was issued in 1991, plant construction could not be commenced due to financial constraints. Possession of balance land has also not been given. Further employment to the persons who may be affected by the land acquisition will be taken up after the project work commences.

(e) Project affected persons are given preference in recruitment in Group C & D categories, subject to their meeting the eligibility requirements.

Multi National Companies in F.P.I.

*177. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

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

(a) whether the Government have formulated any policy to grant permission to the Multi National Companies for opening a fast food shops chain in the various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the shops of fast food under the ownership of the Multi National Companies are using such additives which are considered harmful from the health point of view to make their food items delicious;

(d) if so, the details of such cases reported so far to the Government; and

(e) the details of safety measures adopted to check such malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (e) The Industrial Policy Statement of 1991 permits foreign equity investments in various sectors of the industry which inter alia includes processed food products. Under this Policy, while automatic approval for foreign equity investments upto 51% is granted for industries listed in Annexure-III of the Industrial Policy Statement of 1991, proposals for foreign investments which do not qualify for the automatic approval are also examined by a High Powered Committee known as the Foreign Investment Promotion Board and are approved at an appropriate level of the government. Foreign investments by the International Companies for establishment of fast food, restaurants have been permitted by the Government under the above Policy. These chains of restaurants are to operate within the laws in force. Sales of food articles containing harmful ingredients are punishable under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. Food (Health) authorities of the States and Union Territories have been advised to keep vigil on the quality of food articles sold and take legal action in the event of contravention.

Corruption Cases

*178. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether cases of corruption and assets disproportionate to the known income of civil servants have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the number of Central Government servants involved;

(c) the number of Officers of All India Services involved in corruption and dishonesty;

(d) the number of cases reported and investigated separately by the vigilance organisations in 1995 and 1996 and number of cases sent for trial and departmental action;

(e) whether the Government have made any review of the functioning and powers of vigilance sections attached to the Government Officers;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (g) Civil servants of the Government of India belonging to various Services are

controlled by the respective administrative Ministries, who are the competent authorities for according sanction for prosecution as also for initiating disciplinary action. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions is concerned with two services, namely the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) (Grade I and above). In respect of officers of IAS, the State Government concerned is also competent to conduct investigation into an allegation of corruption etc. and a reference to this Ministry in respect of such IAS officers will be made by the State Government when the case reaches the stage of trial and sanction is required under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. As on date 18 IAS Officers and three officers of the CSS (Grade I and above) are being prosecuted under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 on the basis of sanction under the said Act accorded by this Department. Regular Departmental Action against 8 IAS Officers and 4 CSS Officers (Grade I and above) has been initiated.

In the present scheme of vigilance, the responsibility for maintaining purity and integrity in the department/organisation rests with the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry and the vigilance units assist the Secretary in this task. Review of these Units is also done by the Secretary/Head of the organisation as and when considered necessary by him.

Merger of Ministries

*179. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI RAMSAGAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to reduce the number of Ministries and Departments of the Union Government by merger of the Departments;

(b) if so, the details of the list of realignment;

(c) whether some Departments are proposed to be transferred to the State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the main objectives behind this proposal; and

(f) the details of the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (f) There are no proposals pending on reorganisation/merger of Ministries. However, the Fifth Central Pay commission has proposed, inter alia, in its report that the Central Government needs to be re-structured by closing down some departments or

amalgamating them, or by transferring some functions to the State Governments. The Commission has made certain proposals for the merger of Departments with the objective of achieving efficiency and optimal size of the Central Government.

Annual Plans

*180. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the annual plan sanctioned during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, State-wise;

(b) the position of implementation of the above annual plans, State-wise, year-wise;

(c) the names of States where the sanctioned annual plan has not been implemented as planned; and

(d) the corrective measures being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The Statewise details of Annual Plans Outlays approved during 1994-95 to 1996-97 and the position of implementation as per available information is given in the enclosed statement. The main reason of revised outlay/ expenditure figures being lower than the originally approved outlay in most of the cases is the inability of the concerned State Governments to mobilise their own resources as projected. It has been emphasised on the States to make realistic projection of resource availability and to make all out efforts to raise resources as planned. It is also proposed in the Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan that States would be free to decide their plan size keeping in view the level of Central Assistance and there would be no need to take approval of the Planning Commission regarding the plan size. It is hoped that this system will encourage better accountability and commitment of the State Government to achieve the plan size as decided by them.

Statement

Annual Plans – 1994-95 to 1996-97 Originally Approved/Revised Outlay and Actual Expenditure – State-wise

Sl. No.	States/UTs	(Rs. Crore)						
		Annual Plan – 1994-95			Annual Plan – 1995-96			Annual Plan (1996-97) Originally Approved Outlay
		Originally Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Actual Expenditure	Originally Approved Outlay	Revised Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2130.00	2170.00	2453.47	3159.00	2510.64	2719.78	2989.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	335.00	333.00	353.36	471.00	439.30	433.26	520.11
3.	Assam	1051.00	997.20	1042.83	1418.32	1202.00	1200.15	1436.22
4.	Bihar	2400.00	900.00	916.18	2500.00	972.00	1024.27	2143.91
5.	Goa	182.00	163.38	157.15	210.00	194.49	197.25	250.44
6.	Gujarat	2240.00	2240.83	2240.83 *	2610.00	2610.00	2610.00 **	3392.27
7.	Haryana	1025.00	1019.05	979.36	1250.00	1225.00	1120.06	1433.65
8.	Himachal Pradesh	650.00	666.32	666.75	750.00	835.00	750.00	900.50
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	950.00	868.00	868.00 *	1050.00	1053.25	1023.72	1250.00
10.	Karnataka	3275.00	2800.00	3004.15	3575.00	3100.00	3100.01	4360.00
11.	Kerala	1260.00	1260.60	1260.60 *	1550.00	1563.00	1563.00 **	2207.27
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2750.00	2253.29	2670.09	2900.00	2572.32	2560.23	3144.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13.	Maharashtra	4400.00	4758.00	5123.19	5907.00	6408.85	6708.40	8319.67
14.	Manipur	240.00	214.50	220.68	300.00	290.42	254.44	350.45
15.	Meghalaya	281.00	232.12	179.33	306.52	255.67	231.55	370.40
16.	Mizoram	207.66	202.53	202.15	227.00	234.00	234.00	281.34
17.	Nagaland	220.00	84.39	85.85	240.00	195.00	195.00	290.24
18.	Orissa	1951.00	1464.18	1474.47	1650.00	1520.00	1382.27	2205.50
19.	Punjab	1450.00	1374.46	1419.47	1675.00	1501.83	1501.83	1857.05
20.	Rajasthan	2450.00	2450.00	2450.00 *	3200.00	3200.00	3162.42	3310.49
21.	Sikkim	135.00	135.00	135.86	192.00	180.82	180.82 **	192.03
22.	Tamil Nadu	2750.00	2750.75	2845.70	3200.00	3200.00	3281.00	3719.05
23.	Tripura	310.00	244.57	244.57 *	350.00	298.39	298.39 **	370.39
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4562.00	3639.84	3639.84 *	5477.50	4027.40	4027.40 **	6549.03
25.	West Bengal	1706.00	1483.31	1483.31 *	2065.00	2082.00	2082.00 **	3158.63

* Actual Expenditure figures are not available, Revised Approved Outlay figures have been taken.

** Anticipated Expenditure figures are not available, Revised Approved Outlay figures have been taken.

Note. Actual Expenditure figures for 1995-96 and 1996-97 are not yet available.

Violation of Master Plan

1750. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government was collecting information with regard to the New Delhi Municipal Council giving permission to the temporary shops on Janpath, New Delhi, to raise second storeys in violation of the Master Plan of Delhi-2000 and without getting the project cleared from Delhi Urban Arts Commission (DUAC);

(b) if so, whether the information has since been collected;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Non-conventional Energy Sources – Bihar

1751. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether electricity is being generated from Non-conventional Energy Sources in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of power generated therefrom, source-wise;

(c) if not, whether the Government have explored the possibilities of generating power from Non-conventional Energy Sources in the State; and

(d) project-wise details thereof, source-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) & (b) Nearly 14,000 stand alone solar photovoltaic systems aggregating to about 228 KW and a 10 KW biomass gasifiers have been installed so far in Bihar. These systems have mainly been deployed for lighting, water pumping and other decentralised applications.

(b) and (d) The Ministry provides technical and

financial support for various non-conventional energy programmes to States, including Bihar. Four small hydro power projects aggregating to 2.45 MW capacity are under construction in Bihar State. Five portable micro-hydel sets of 10 KW unit capacity each are also under installation. In addition, detailed surveys and feasibility studies are in progress in regard to 56 small hydro power projects having a potential of 74 MW. Bihar State is also participating in the ongoing Hilly Hydro Project of the Ministry which is being partially supported by UNDP/GEF.

[English]

Diversification into Power Sector

1752. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether Indian Oil Corporation is considering for diversification into power sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any plan has chalked out for setting up power plants;
- (d) whether any location have been selected by the IOC for this purpose in Eastern Region;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation is intending to develop some power projects based on refinery residue and bottom products as a part of its diversification plan. It is planned that the projects would be developed in joint venture with suitable partners who are having expertise and experience of development of bigger projects based on heavy residue and would be able to provide equity in foreign exchange also. Some Projects are under study, but not finalised.

Removal of Slum Clusters

1753. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "HC pulls up DDA, orders removal of two slum clusters", appearing in the "Times of India" dated December 2, 1996;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that the cases referred to in the News Item relates to CWP. No. 632/96 and CWP. No. 1365/96 filed by East of Kailash Residents Welfare Association and others Vs. Municipal Corporation of Delhi and others.

According to Delhi Development Authority, the issue regarding jurisdiction over the area in question has been sorted out. In CWP No. 632/96 pursuant to the direction of the Hon'ble High Court a demolition programme was carried out by the Delhi Development Authority on 14.12.1996 and the encroachments were removed. The reclaimed land has been fenced and board indicating that the land belong to Delhi Development Authority has been erected on the site. As regards, CWP. No. 1365/96, Delhi Development Authority has reported that the Hon'ble High Court passed an order on 26.11.1996 to tag this case with another similar Writ Petition which was pending before the Hon'ble High Court. The matter is still subjudice.

[Translation]

Training Centres for Food Processing

1754. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of food processing training centres in the country particularly in Bihar; and
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to set up such centres in each State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a developmental plan scheme during the eighth plan period, which seeks to provide assistance for setting up of Food Processing & Training Centres in rural areas. The scheme is not state-specific. In the first 4 years of the eighth plan, assistance has been provided for setting up of 204 such Centres in the country including 19 in Bihar. In the country as a whole, 58 Food Processing & Training Centres including 10 in Bihar have already become functional. It may be stated that this Ministry does not set up such Centres directly and, instead, extend assistance to various organisations including voluntary organisations and non-governmental organisation for setting up of such Centres.

[English]

Oil Refinery

1755. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the construction of Numaligarh Refinery has been started;

(b) if so, by which time it is likely to be completed;

(c) the equity participation of BPCL, IBP and Government of Assam;

(d) whether any environmental impact assessment study has been made to avoid disturbance to flora and fauna of Kaziranga National park; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The mechanical completion of the refinery is scheduled in December 1998.

(c) The equity participation in NRL is as under :

BPCL	32%
IBP	19%
Govt. of Assam	10%
Private Shares/	
Private Placement	39%

(d) and (g) The environmental impact study for the Refinery was carried out by M/s National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI). A special study was also conducted by NEERI with regard to impact of the Refinery on Kaziranga National Park.

The studies conducted by NEERI observed that there will be no adverse impact on Kaziranga National Park due to setting up of the Refinery at Numaligarh.

Tenancy Rights

1756. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the government's latest thinking on the transfer of tenancy rights on a permanent basis to the owners of shops in the various rehabilitation markets in the Capital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : Ownership of most of the shops in Rehabilitation markets have been conferred on the eligible shopkeepers. For the remaining shops where ownership rights could not be given, it has since been decided to give ownership rights to the eligible shopkeepers on the following terms and conditions :-

- (a) Cost of land calculated as on actual date of transfer, be paid by the applicant;
- (b) Only land underneath the shop be taken for recovery of cost; and

(c) Cost of structure be calculated on the present day cost less depreciation as per CPWD formula.

Reduction of population pressure

1757. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken by the Government to reduce the population pressure on Delhi and to develop and National Capital Region; and

(b) the results achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The NCR Planning Board was constituted under the NCR Planning Board Act, 1985 for

- (i) preparation of plan for regional development and coordinating and monitoring its implementation and
- (ii) evolving harmonised policy for control of land uses and development of infrastructure in the NCR so as to avoid haphazard development thereof.

Keeping in view the problems caused in Delhi by the unprecedented growth of population and overburdening of the civic services, NCR Planning Board formulated Regional Plan-2001 in 1989 which aims at.

- (i) reducing the pressure of population on Delhi.
- (ii) attaining of balanced and harmonised development of NCR through an inter-State region consisting of Delhi, six districts of Haryana, 3 districts of U.P. and part of Alwar district of Rajasthan.

In order to implement this Plan, three policy zones have been identified as under :

- (i) National Capital Territory of Delhi for restricted growth,
- (ii) Delhi Metropolitan Area for moderate growth,
- (iii) Rest of the NCR for the induced growth.

Besides the Regional Plan, sub-regional plans for U.P. and Rajasthan sub-regions of NCR have been prepared and the work on finalisation of sub-regional plans for Delhi and Haryana is in progress.

With a view to implementing the policies of Regional Plan, the NCR Planning Board has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 274 crores against 74 schemes upto January, 1997.

(b) The implementation of the Plan being a multisectoral long range programme, it will be too early to gauge the achievement at this stage. However, during 1981-91, the rate of growth of population of NCT of Delhi i.e. 51.45%, has been slightly lower as compared to the 1971-81, i.e. 53%.

Demolition of White House

1758. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of demolition on the white house (as on 31-3-97) on Bhagwandas Road, New Delhi;

(b) whether any other high rise buildings in Delhi has been declared illegal and have been ordered to be demolished; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) NDMC has reported that upto 10th floor from top of the building has been demolished leaving lift-core and stair-hall, the roof of the 9th floor crushed upto 80% and 4 Nos. of beams and 4 Nos. of columns of the 9th floor also demolished.

(b) and (c) As per report furnished by the NDMC no other high rise building in NDMC area has been declared illegal.

According to DDA, in respect of the unauthorised construction noticed/reported, necessary action is taken under the provision of Delhi Development Act. However, no violation of building bye-laws of the magnitude of White House has been observed in the area under the jurisdiction of DDA.

Information from the MCD is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allotment of Land

1759. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether land in Delhi was allotted to the service personnel who participated in Indo-Pak War in 1965 and 1971;

(b) the purpose for which the land was allotted to the service personnel in Delhi and the areas in which it was located;

(c) whether there was any provision in the allotment order of the land that the same could be sold out or transferred in the name of others;

(d) if not, the number of service personnel who was allotted land and the number out of them who sold the same;

(e) whether buildings have come up on the land which was given without any land use change; and

(f) if so, the action the Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) There is no policy for allotment of land to the service personnel who participated in Indo-Pak war in 1965 and 1971.

(b) to (f) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Allocation to Gas-Based power stations

1760. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for more allocation of gas for its gas based power stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has acceded to the request of the State Government;

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

(e) whether short supply of gas to gas based power plants has created acute shortage of power in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests have been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for increase in the allocation of the power plants at Kakinada and Jegurupadu and for additional allocations to APSEB.

(c) and (d) Additional allocations have not been considered feasible as gas projected to be available is fully allocated.

(e) and (f) The current supplies of gas to gas based power plants are in accordance with their allocations.

Illegal Construction

1761. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of massive illegal construction in villages adjoining posh localities viz. Greater Kailash, Masjid Moth, etc.;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected, village-wise;

(c) the number of slums actually demolished; and

(d) the number of cases where action is pending alongwith reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that there is one village namely Jamarudpur adjoining Greater Kailash-I. As and when illegal construction is detected/ reported action is taken by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi in the area.

In addition, three cases of unauthorised constructions have also been detected and booked for action under the provisions of DMC Act. It is reported that there is no village adjoining the locality of Masjid Moth.

National Social Assistance Programme

1762. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have sanctioned full amount under National Social Assistance Programme in Kerala;

(b) the amount sanctioned and yet to be released under this scheme in Kerala; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The amount sanctioned and yet to be released for three schemes of National Social Assistance Programme namely, the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and the National Mater-nity Benefit Scheme (NMBS) is given below :

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Amount released 1995-96	1996-97	Total	Amount yet to be released
(i)	NOAPS	354.55	561.55	916.10	790.97
(ii)	NFBS	90.57	88.71	179.28	240.77
(iii)	NMBS	64.88	9.59	74.47	224.73

(c) The release of funds is dependent on the State furnishing information on substantial utilisation/expenditure (atleast 50%) of total available funds released earlier. Full amount could not be released to all the districts of the State due to non fulfilment of the aforesaid condition.

INDO-Gulf Power Project

1763. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Indo-Gulf Power Project runs into rough weather" appearing in the Business Standard dated. January 21,1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to resolve the issue; and

(e) the present status of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGAPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The financing issue is to be resolved between the project promoters, M/s Indo Gulf Fertilisers Corporation, who are implementing the Rosa Thermal Power Project (567 MW) in Uttar Pradesh, and their financiers.

Central Electricity Authority (CEA) considered the proposal of the promoters for accord of techno-economic clearance on 11.12.1996 & 24.2.1997. Techno-economic clearance to the project was deferred for want of certain inputs from the promoters and the State Government.

Price of Petroleum projects

1764. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the manner in which International price of Crude Oil and the present prices of petroleum oil products specially petrol, diesel, kerosene and A.T.F. (Aviation Turbine Fuel) were linked;

(b) the price mechanism followed in determining cost of finished products at landed price and at indigenous price in relation to cost of Crude oil at International rate during the last one year;

(c) whether the dual pricing system for Crude Oil & finished products based on landed price at port and cost price at Refinery point being equated at par, giving benefit of extra profit for indigenous products in relation to high-cost of imported products and vice-a-versa; and

(d) whether the benefit under system as mentioned above are passed over to Pool Account during the last

two years product-wise for petrol, Diesel, Kerosene and A.T.F. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BALLU) : (a) to (d) The pricing of petroleum products is based on the recommendations of Oil Prices Committee, 1976 as modified by Oil Cost Review Committee, 1984. The pooled FOB price of indigenous and imported crude forms the basis for price estimation of different products. The elements of freight, Customs duty, refining margin etc. are added to the pooled FOB price and the retention price of products are derived on the basis of prefixed relative indices. The weighted average of retention prices gives the ex-refinery price of the finished products. Marketing margin, surcharges towards Cost & Freight and product price adjustments are added to arrive at the ex-storage point price which is uniform at all primary pricing points.

The prices of petroleum products are administered by the Government through the pool account mechanism. The difference between the pooled FOB price of crude in the price build-up and the actual cost of imported and indigenous crude is adjusted in the pool account. Similarly, the difference between the landed cost of imported products and the ex-refinery price for the respective petroleum is adjusted in the pool account.

Restrictions on Constructions

1765. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have imposed restrictions for carrying out any new construction in Lutyens Bungalow Zone;

(b) if so, whether a committee was constituted by the Ministry to review these restrictions and to suggest modifications/changes in these restrictions;

(c) whether this committee was to give its recommendations about five years back and has still not finalized its recommendations till date; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to allow construction in Lutyens Bungalow Zone within the buildings envelope and as per the existing bye-laws which are applicable to Lutyens Bungalow Zone and areas adjoining to Lutyens Bungalow Zone ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government issued a set of guidelines in 1988 in respect of Lutyens Bungalow Zone in-order to maintain its unique character which is still dominated by green areas and bungalows.

(b) The Government had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Planner, Town & Country Planning Organisation in September, 1992 to finalise the issue of boundary delineation and development in respect of Lutyens Bungalow Zone.

(c) The Committee submitted its recommendations in February, 1993 which were considered by the Government and it was decided in October, 1995 that the guidelines issued in February, 1988 are to be strictly enforced.

(d) Instructions have been issued to N.D.M.C., D.D.A. and M.C.D. to allow construction in Lutyens Bungalow Zone within the building envelope as there is no restriction about the plinth in the guidelines, provided all other conditions stipulated in the guidelines, Master Plan and Building Bye-laws are satisfied.

[Translation]

Conversion of Dry Toilet into wet Toilet

1766. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ascertained the reasons for not achieving considerable success in the conversion of dry toilets into wet toilet;

(b) the reasons for not achieving any success despite the facility of loans and subsidy;

(c) whether only 5 lakh dry toilets out of 12 lakh have been converted into modern one;

(d) whether the subsidy provided earlier in the rural areas for the construction of modern toilets, have been limited to only people below poverty line; and

(e) whether the Government propose to revive the old scheme of subsidy so that all families in rural areas may avail the facility of modern toilets under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) The status and progress of conversion of dry latrines into sanitary latrines was discussed with all the States/UTs in a meeting held on 5th August, 1996. Most of the status/UTs have reported that there are no latrines in rural areas or their number is extremely less. Conversion of dry latrines into wet latrines is an integral part of the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Cadre Review

1767. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government will carry out immediate review of Sikkim Cadre of IAS, IPS and IFS;

(b) the date on which the last cadre review conducted in respect of the State of Sikkim;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the people of Sikkim for want of immediate cadre review; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The last cadre review of the Sikkim cadre IAS, IPS and IFS were notified on 26.4.1993, 6.6.1991 and 28.10.87 respectively. Under the Cadre Rules, cadre reviews are held ordinarily at the intervals of every 5 years.

Accordingly, the cadre review of the IAS is due only in April 1998. The IPS cadre review was due in June 1996, but the State Government have declined to make any changes in the existing cadre strength for the next five years and therefore, no cadre review is required. IFS cadre review became due in October, 1992 and the cadre review proposals are being processed by MOEF in consultation with the State Government.

(c) and (d) References from the State Government as well as representations from individuals and Associations are received from time to time and are considered by the Government.

Allotment of Shops

1768. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of each shop lying vacant for SCs/ STs in CSC Block A & B and others at shopping centres of Paschim Puri including fixed price of each shop;

(b) whether the Government propose to allot these shops, lying vacant for the SCs/STs to those SCs/STs candidates on fixed price who have taken a loan under PMRY on the priority basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the procedure to be followed in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The DDA has reported that the following shops meant for being allotted at fixed price to the SC/ST candidates are lying vacant in the CSC of Block A and B of Paschim Puri.

Block No.	No. of vacant shops to be allotted to SCs/STs
Block A Janta Houses	2 (5 and 10)
Block B	6 (7, 8, 11, 14, 15 & 17)

The pre-determined price of each shop is fixed at the time of allotment.

(b) to (d) According to the existing policy of DDA, shops are allotted to the applicant of SC/ST category at the predetermined fixed price.

Encroachment

1769. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Government colonies developed by D.D.A. and C.P.W.D. in which religious places were constructed after purchase of land from D.D.A., C.P.W.D. and Land & Development Office;

(b) the names of such colonies in which religious places and shops had been unauthorisedly constructed on Government land; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against those found responsible for encroachments on Government land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Land & Development Office has allotted land to religious places in the following Government colonies :- DIZ Area, Aram Bagh, Minto Road, Timarpur, R.K. Puram, Netaji Nagar, Sarojni Nagar, Laxmi Bai Nagar, Kidwai Nagar (East), Aliganj, Lodhi Road, Tyag Raj Nagar, Sri Niwas Puri and M.B. Road.

(b) Details of Government colonies in which religious places and shops have been unauthorisedly constructed on Government land are given in the attached Statement.

(c) Removal of encroachments is a continuous process. Action is being taken under the provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.

Statement

Name of Colonies in which religious place and shops had been constructed unauthorisedly

1. Vasant Vihar
2. Mohammed Pur
3. R.K. Puram
4. Nanak Pura
5. Moti Bagh
6. Chanakya Puri
7. Netaji Nagar
8. Kidwai Nagar
9. East Laxmi Bai Nagar
10. Aliganj
11. Nauroji Nagar
12. Sarojini Nagar
13. Pushp Vihar
14. Andrews Ganj
15. Sadiq Nagar
16. Kasturba Nagar
17. Thyagraj Nagar
18. Bharti Nagar
19. M.S. Apartment, K.G. Marg
20. Gole Market/DIZ Area
21. Timarpur
22. Dev Nagar
23. Minto Road Area
24. Pitampura
25. Mayapuri
26. Sector 4 DIZ Area
27. Aram bagh
28. Lodhi Road CGO Complex
29. I.N.A. Colony
30. Nehru Nagar
31. M.B. Road
32. Sri Niwas Puri

[Translation]**Crisis of Power in Hilly Districts of U.P.**

1770. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether regular cut is being exercised in power supply in the hilly region of U.P.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the crisis of drinking water in the region due to closure of Lift Pumping stations; and

(d) the remedial measures taken for smooth supply of power in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) Power supply to the hilly region is the responsibility of the Government of U.P. and Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board. To improve the availability of power in the State various measures are being taken which include maximising the generation from existing capacity, implementation of Renovation & Modernisation programme, reduction in T&D losses and effective load management.

[English]**Atomic Energy Act**

1771. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Atomic Energy Act to permit installation of nuclear power reactors by private firms as well as foreign firms;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the rate of installation of nuclear power reactors has gone down in the development world;

(c) whether the production cost of nuclear power is likely to be comparable to thermal or hydroelectric power; and

(d) if not, the reasons for facilitating foreign investment in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Government of India are open to specific offers for participation by private firms, Indian or foreign, in the nuclear power sector. Such offers, when received, have to be considered on the basis of technical suitability, economic attractiveness and conditions attached thereto.

Amendments to the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 will have to be considered at the appropriate time.

(b) Developed countries like Japan and South Korea are pursuing a large nuclear power programme. In USA and Western Europe, however, its growth has slowed down mainly due to saturation in demand for energy and energy conservation measures. Nuclear power capacity in the world is growing particularly in the countries of the Asian Region.

(c) The cost of generation of electricity from nuclear power plants in India is comparable to the cost of generation from coal-thermal stations located at about 1000-1200 Km. from coal pit-heads. The cost of generation from nuclear plants is expected to be increasingly competitive with that from thermal plants over the plant life time due to substantially lower fuelling costs. The cost of hydel generation is lower than nuclear and thermal generation.

(d) Foreign investment in nuclear power sector may facilitate introduction of new technologies other than PHWR technology and allow the possibility of overseas funding in this area.

Expandable Housing Scheme

1772.DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDA has invited applications for allotment of houses under "Expandable Housing Scheme, 1996; and

(b) if so, when the draw for allotment of these houses are likely to take place ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that draw of lots for allotment of houses under Expandable Housing Scheme, 1996, is expected to take place in March, 1997.

[Translation]

Nuclear Power Programme

1773.SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any new nuclear power programme to increase the established capacity of nuclear power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which its implementation is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The proposals for Ninth Five Year Plan 1997-2002, envisage commencement of construction of two units of 500 MWe of Tarapur-3 & 4, two units of 220 MWe of Kaiga-3&4 besides the Kudankulam (2 X 1000 MWe) project in technical cooperation with Russian Federation. Towards the end of the Ninth Plan period preliminary work on one 500 MWe Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) is also proposed to be commenced. 300 MWe capacity of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS-1&2) presently under capital maintenance is expected to be brought back into operation during 1997-98. 880 MWe of new generating capacity consisting of two units each of 220 MWe at Kaiga in Karnataka and Rewatbhata in Rajasthan, are expected to be commissioned during 1998-99.

[English]

Price of Cooking Gas

1774.SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of cooking gas for commercial use has been fixed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations from the commercial users all over the country for review of its decision; and

(d) if so, whether the Government are considering to lower the prices following resentment for the commercial users of cooking gas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The price of cooking gas (LPG) for commercial use is fixed on import parity basis. The recent increase in the price of LPG for commercial use is due to hardening of the prices of LPG in the international market.

(d) There is no proposal under consideration.

Power Plant

1775.SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for setting up a 500 MW Power Plant by the Cochin Refineries has been pending

with the Government for Approval;

- (b) whether any clearance has been granted;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reason for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Government has on 28.2.97 accorded 1st Stage clearance to Cochin Refineries Limited, for preparation of a Detailed Feasibility Report, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.50 crores, including FE component of Rs. 1.75 crores. for setting up of a 500 MW Power Generation Plant at Ambalamugal, Ernakulam District, Kerala.

Pilferage in Oil Refinery

1776. SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDRA PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware about pilferage of huge quantity of oil from Barauni Oil Refinery at various stages;

(b) if so, the amount of loss Government is incurring; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take immediate steps to check the pilferage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) According to I.O.C. there is no pilferage of oil from Barauni Refinery. IOC have an effective system of checks and balances coupled with close monitoring of loading and despatch of all petroleum products from the refinery premises.

Besides, a full compliment of CISF personnel are deployed in the refinery premises for security including prevention of pilferage.

Exploration of Deposits of Uranium

1777. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the States in which scientists had recently explored the deposits of Uranium;

(b) the locations where work of exploration of Uranium has since been started;

(c) the total quantity of Uranium extracted therefrom so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to explore the deposits of Uranium by using more modernised equipment; and

- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Preliminary survey for locating uranium reserves has been carried out throughout the country. The States and the locations where promising indications of uranium reserves have been noticed recently are :

1. Meghalaya – Near Domiasiat in the West Khasi Hills District.
2. Andhra Pradesh – Some areas in Nalgonda, Guntur, Cuddapah & Chittoor Districts.
3. Uttar Pradesh – Naktu-Kudar in Sonbhadra District.
4. Gujarat – Garumal in Panchmahals District.
5. Rajasthan – Putholi in Chittorgarh District
6. Karnataka – Gopi in Gulbarga District.

(c) Uranium has not yet been extracted from any of these areas.

(d) and (e) The Atomic Minerals Division (AMD) of the Department of Atomic Energy already employs modern multidisciplinary techniques like remote sensing using satellite data, study of aerial photographs, airborne gamma-ray and magnetic surveys etc. for uranium exploration. The Ninth Five Year Plan of AMD envisages modernisation through better equipment such as cesium vapour magnetometer for collection of airborne magnetic data, transient electro-magnetometer for ground surveys, global positioning system etc. for improving efficiency.

Display of Portrait

1778. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria laid down for selecting the portraits of patriots to be displayed in the Courts throughout the country as well as in the buildings of National importance;

(b) whether it comes under the jurisdiction of Chief Justice, States or Centre, to take final decision in this regard; and

- (c) if so, the procedure followed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The

Ministry of Home Affairs, who deal with this subject, have intimated that they have not issued any instructions/guidelines regarding the display of portraits/photographs of national leaders including the President and the Prime Minister of India. The matter has been left to the Heads of Departments to decide whether they should at all exhibit any portraits/photographs in the office premises/rooms and, if so, of which particular leader so as to ensure that no controversy arises out of the display of any of these portraits.

[Translation]

National Policy on Food Processing

1779. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :
SHRI G.R. SARODE :
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

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

- (a) whether the national policy on food processing has not yet been finalised;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to review the policy on deep sea fishing; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Food Processing Industry is being developed within the broad parameters of the Industrial Policy of the Government. A framework for developing the new policy measures to address various issues for accelerated development of Food Processing Industries has been prepared which was discussed with the State Government representatives. Action has been initiated for pursuing it further.

(c) and (d) On the recommendations of the Review Committee, the New Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1991 has been rescinded whereas charter policies are already being phased out. Action has also been initiated to formulate a new deep sea fishing policy.

[English]

Freight Equalisation System

1780. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that freight equalisation system in the Railways has been introduced all over the country;

- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railway freight per tonne of steel is Rs. 1900/- of any steel factory in the Eastern region states and only Rs. 900 per tonne in Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

- (d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to remove these discrepancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected.

Supply of High Range Computers

1781. SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Foreign Investment Promotion Board has approved M/s Cray Research of USA for supply of high range computers for weather forecast;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for not approving an indigenous company; and
- (c) the policy of the Government to promote indigenous industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) has only approved the proposal of M/s. Cray Research Inc., U.S.A. for setting up a 100% subsidiary in India with an investment of Rs. 35 lakhs for, inter-alia, providing hardware and software support to its customers and for promoting its products and services.

(c) Policy measures taken by the Government to boost electronics industry in the country are given in the enclosed Statement. Apart from these, with the support of Government, High Performance Computers have been developed indigenously at a number of Governmental organisations which are being used. These developments are intended to be encouraged through appropriate policy measures.

Statement

Policy measures taken to boost the growth of Electronics Industry in the country

- (i) Policy initiatives like exemption from locational limitations, abolition of licensing, abolition of phased manufacturing programme and amendment to the MRTP Act to facilitate investments.

- (ii) Liberalisation of Export-Import Policy by allowing free access to imported capital goods, value based advanced licensing scheme etc.
- (iii) Rationalisation of fiscal policy especially in the areas of duty structure, corporate taxation etc.
- (iv) Introduction of the Software Technology Park Scheme which seeks to provide infrastructural facilities for small software houses mean to enter the export market. The scheme also gives the flexibility to set up private STPs which can be done by bigger companies taking advantage of the duty free facilities offered for import of CG etc.
- (v) Introduction of the Electronics Hardware Technology Park Scheme (EHTP) designed to meet the specific requirements of a globally oriented electronics sector. This would provide a flexible policy environment that would greatly enhance the ease of doing business and making professional access to the vast Indian domestic market as an incentive for export production in the country.
- (vi) Encouraging foreign collaboration for investment and technology. This includes automatic approval for foreign direct investment upto 51% foreign equity in high priority industries and automatic permission for foreign technology agreements in such industries with certain ceiling on payments.
- (vii) Encouragements to to NRIs and Overseas Corporate Bodies predominantly owned by NRIs to invest in India. This includes automatic approval upto 100% equity in priority industries.
- (viii) Implementation of a quality infrastructure programme called the Standardization, Testing & Quality Certification (STQC) Programme to promote the quality of Indian electronic goods.
- (ix) Participation in and sponsoring of seminars, exhibitions, business delegation etc. abroad and in India.
- (x) Establishment of a Software Services Support and Education Centre to improve the quality of Indian Software.

Allotment of Coal to State Electricity Boards

1782. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
 SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDA PATEL :
 SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria followed by the Central Electricity Authority for allotment of coal to various State Electricity Boards; and

(b) the other functions of the Central Electricity Authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The coal linkage to power plants is determined based on the generation target. With the introduction of cash and carry Scheme, the actual supply of coal to a power plant depends on the advance payments made to the concerned collieries and the railways for the supply and transportation of coal.

(b) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) assists the Ministry of Power in all technical, financial and economic matters. The functions entrusted to the CEA and the details to be performed are indicated below :

1. To develop a sound, adequate and uniform national power policy, formulate short-term and perspective plans for power development and coordinate the activities of planning agencies in relation to the control and utilisation of national power resources;
2. To act as arbitrators in matters arising between the State Government or the Board and a licensee or other person as provided in the Act;
3. To collect and record the data concerning generation, distribution and utilisation of power and carry out studies relating to cost, efficiency, losses, benefits and such like matters;
4. To make public from time to time information secured under the Act and to provide for the publication of reports and investigation;
5. To advise any State Government Board; Generating Company or another agency engaged in generation and/or supply of electricity on such matters as will enable such Government Board, Generating Company or agency to operate and maintain the power system under its ownership or control in an improved manner and where necessary in coordination with any other agency owing or having the control of another power system;
6. To promote and assist in the timely completion of schemes sanctioned under Chapter V of the Act;
7. To make arrangement for advancing the skill of persons engaged in the generation and supply of electricity;

8. To carry out or make arrangement for any investigation for the purpose of generating or transmitting electricity;
9. To promote research in matters affecting the generation, transmission and supply of electricity;
10. To advise the Central Government on any matter on which its advice is sought or make recommendations to that Government on any matter if, in the opinion of the Authority the recommendation would help in improving the generation, distribution and utilisation of electricity; and
11. To discharge such other functions as may be entrusted to it or under any other law.
12. Under the provision of Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the Government has further added few more functions to the Central Electricity Authority. These are :
 - (i) Co-ordination of research and development in the power generation field;
 - (ii) Evaluation of financial performance of the SEBs constituted under Section 5 and undertaking of studies concerning the economic and commercial aspects of the power industry as well as analysis of the tariff structure in the power industry;
 - Techno-economic appraisal of power projects;
 - Promotion of inter-State and joint sector power projects.

Apart from the above functions provided under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the CEA also undertakes design and engineering of power projects with a view to developing in-house technical know-how and also assists State Electricity Boards, Generating Companies & State Authorities requiring such assistance.

Safe Drinking Water

1783.COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether even after spending crores of rupees on construction of overhead tanks, ground level tanks, laying of pipelines and other infrastructure, safe drinking water is still not available to large numbers of villages and bastis;

(b) whether some old water sources have become unviable because of decrease of water/drying of water source;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to augment additional water sources with the help of Central Ground Water Board and Ground Water Board of State;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any proposal to bring water to Jaisalmer district from Indira Gandhi Nahar Proyojna is under consideration of the Government is so, details thereof; and

(f) the number of villages are yet to be provided sufficient safe drinking water and likely date by which all the villages and Bastis will be covered state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) 53409 number of 'Not Covered' (NC) habitations out of a total number of 13.20 lakh habitations in the country are yet to be provided safe drinking water facilities.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central Ground Water Board has agreed to provide assistance to all the States/UTs for scientific source finding for NC habitations. In the meeting held with the States/UTs on 13.2.1997 the States have been requested to avail of the assistance of OGWI. The States will also use the services of their ground water department for its purpose.

(e) The State Government of Rajasthan has reported that for providing drinking water to 147 and 411 villages of Jaisalmer and Barmer district respectively along with Barmer city too, a lift project named Farmer Lift was prepared costing Rs. 590 crore approximately. The project is, however, being revised due to certain new developments of likely availability of water in Gadra Road Minor and the Narvada Project.

(f) The State-wise details of NC and Partially covered habitations are given in the enclosed Statement. These are likely to be covered with safe drinking water facility by 2000 AD.

Statement

Statement showing the number of NC & PC habitations

Sl. No.	State/UT	NC Habitations**	PC Habitations***
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	15757
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	790	1431
3.	Assam	10918	23701

1	2	3	4
4.	Bihar	6816	19904
5.	Goa	40	2
6.	Gujarat	436	7467
7.	Haryana	0	1299
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4295	12311
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	727	3988
10.	Karnataka	4174	18139
11.	Kerala	495	7052
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2047	17464
13.	Maharashtra	22	10566
14.	Manipur	268	846
15.	Meghalaya	738	1874
16.	Mizoram	10	148
17.	Nagaland	354	732
18.	Orissa	4500	7291
19.	Punjab	5230	336
20.	Rajasthan	8334	16100
21.	Sikkim	0	1022
22.	Tamil Nadu	130	32368
23.	Tripura	0	2500
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2946	91265
25.	West Bengal	0	24701
26.	A & N Islands	11	38
27.	D & N Haveli	128	298
28.	Daman & Diu	0	7
29.	Delhi	0	62
30.	Lakshadweep	0	5
31.	Pondicherry	0	30
32.	Chandigarh	0	0
Total		53409*	317701

* Provisional submitted to confirmation by States/UTs

** Not Covered (NG)

*** PC – Partial Covered

Construction of Link Roads

1784. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government had drawn any plan for the development of infrastructure in the State with assistance from the World Bank;

(b) if so, whether the link roads would be constructed in all villages within three years in Karnataka under the proposed plan; and

(c) the latest position on the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Programme of Weaker Section

1785. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of programmes initiated for weaker sections in the country during Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amounts spent under this scheme during the above plan period in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) whether this amount was adequate; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to allocate more funds in the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The major programmes being implemented for the benefit of the weaker sections in the country during eighth five year plan are (i) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), (ii) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), (iii) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), (iv) Training for Rural Youth for self Employment (TRYSEM), (v) National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). The amounts spent under these schemes during eighth Five Year Plan 1992-93 to 1996-97 in U.P. are as follow :-

Details of Amounts Utilised in U.P.

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 up to Dec. 96
(i) JRY	52257.00	71511.16*	74606.88*	83562.16*	25356.02*
(ii) EAS	-	647.68	8909.28	16731.98	9503.30
(iii) IRDP	14395.38	20197.02	19335.12	19266.98	13613.41
(iv) TRYSEM	862.21	1030.54	1183.19	1970.77	790.00
(v) NSAP		Not Started		13356.53	3719.51
					Up to Jan. 97

*includes IJRY also.

(c) and (d) Proposals for increase in the allocation of funds for the year 1997-98 have been submitted to Planning Commission Ninth Plan proposal have not yet been finalised.

SCAMS in Uttar Pradesh

1786. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain requests from the Central Bureau of Investigation (C.B.I.) for permission to prosecute public officers involved in various scams are pending with the Uttar Pradesh Administration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not taking an early decision on these requests of the C.B.I.; and

(d) the time by which the decision in this regard is likely to be taken and conveyed to the C.B.I. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) This is a matter, which is primarily the concern of the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh. However, as per the information received from the CBI, SP's report in case RC. 32(A)/96-LKO pertaining to the Ayurvedic Scam cases was forwarded by the CBI to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh on 1.1.1997 seeking sanction for prosecution against six public servants.

As per the information given by the CBI, the State Government vide its letter dated 26.2.1997 has declined to accord sanction for prosecution against two public servants on the ground that material available on record

relied upon by the CBI does not make out a prima-facie case against them.

(c) and (d) In view of the reply to (a) and (b), above do not arise.

[Translation]

Infiltration in Jammu and Kashmir

1787. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of terrorists staying at different camps across the Pakistan border particularly in the area adjoining the Jammu and Kashmir border are infiltration in small groups;

(b) if so, the number of the infiltrators caught during the last three years till date, year-wise; and

(c) the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such infiltration from across the border ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that camps have been operating in various areas in Pakistan and POK for indoctrination and training of elements who are being infiltrated into the State of J&K to indulge in terrorist and secessionist activities. It is, however, not possible to indicate the precise number of persons so infiltrated or given the year-wise details thereof. Apart from the killing and apprehension of a large number of terrorists in various other parts of the State, the number of militants apprehended or killed along the LOC during the period 1990 onwards is given below :

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
No. of Militants apprehended	1303	362	57	237	139	171	45
No. of Militants killed	420	374	122	242	156	91	110

(c) Close vigil is being kept by the Security Forces along the border/LOC and in the interior areas. Various arrangements have been made for this purpose, including intensive patrolling, provision and use of surveillance equipments, including night vision devices, etc., deployment of forces in the vulnerable areas both on the LOC/Border and in the hinterland, setting up of Village Deference Committees in some of the sensitive regions near the border, and close and continuous coordination between all concerned security and intelligence agencies, etc. The arrangements are being continuously reviewed and strengthened/streamlined as found necessary.

[English]

Accommodation to Widow of Former President

1788. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the widow of former President, Shrimati Nagaratnamma has been compelled to vacate Sankey Road bungalow in Bangalore on account of eviction notice;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide an alternate accommodation to her;

(d) if so, whether she has received any reply in this regard from Government; and

(e) the time by which the accommodation is likely to be provided to her ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Late Shri Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, Ex-president was allotted bungalow No. 29, Sankey Road, Bangalore by the Karnataka Govt. and a type-V accommodation was placed at the disposal of State Government from general pool. The said accommodation has been got vacated by the State Government on the death of late Shri Reddy.

(c) Smt. Reddy has requested for allotment of alternate accommodation at Bangalore.

(d) As per the existing guidelines, in the event of death of the President after demitting his/her office, the surviving spouse is eligible for allotment of an un-furnished type-III accommodation only in Delhi from General Pool during his/her lifetime. Since the existing guidelines do not provide for allotment of accommodation to the widow of the ex-President outside Delhi, Smt. Reddy has been informed accordingly.

(e) No request has been received for allotment of general pool accommodation at Delhi from Smt. Reddy.

[Translation]

Drought in Madhya Pradesh

1789. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to drought in Madhya Pradesh Rabi and Kharif crops have been affected and most of the crops have been destroyed;

(b) if so, whether farmers have migrated from there in search of livelihood; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to tackle this situation and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) According to the information received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh, 25 tehsils in 7 districts are affected by drought conditions in varying degrees. The area of Kharif crop damaged is 8.48 lakh hectares.

(b) The State Government have not reported any migration of farmers due to the drought conditions.

(c) The State Government is undertaking various measures to tackle the situation including gearing up labour intensive works, distribution of seeds for sowing Rabi crops, suspension of recovery of Government Cooperative dues and land revenue. Government of India has released an amount of Rs. 38.31 crores during the current year as Central share of Calamity Relief Fund to Government of Madhya Pradesh for relief and rehabilitation measures in wake of natural calamities including drought during 1996-97.

[English]

Landless Indians

1790. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "37 PC rural Indians landless" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated December 5, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) which claims to have conducted studies in 33,000 rural households in 16 States and released its report on 30th November 1996 in Bhopal at the UNDP Workshop, got wide coverage by media including the Hindustan Times. The said NCAER report-1994 is yet to be published and hence the Government did not have any access to that report. It is not clear how the aforesaid studies reported that 37% of the rural population to be landless. According to census report of 1991, the total rural population was 62,28,12,376 out of which landless agricultural labour was 7,47,97,744 which constitute only 11.98%. As per the 48th Round of All India Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation and the data compiled in the beginning of 1996 shows the estimated number of rural households in India is 116,405,800 of which number of landless households is only 13,088,900 which is 11.3% of the rural households. In the aforesaid report the landless households means and includes "households owning no land or landless than 0.002 Hectares".

(c) The Government is however fully aware and deeply concerned about the growing landlessness in the country and hence the Union Government has been emphasising for taking up and implementing time bound programmes for distribution of ceiling land, Bhoodan land, Govt. Wasteland in the last Conference of the Revenue Secretaries held on 26th November, 1996 and Revenue Minister's Conference on 27th December, 1996. In addition the performance of the States/UTs in the aforesaid matters are being regularly monitored.

[Translation]

Agreement between Government and Fishermen

1791. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fishermen along the sea-coast had signed any agreement with the Government during

the last years;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof.

(c) whether the Government are unable to implement the said agreement;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government so far and proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) The Minister of state for Food Processing Industries had only reassured the group of fishermen on 13.8.96 for speedy decision on and implementation of the recommendations of the Review Committee on deep sea fishing policy.

(c) to (e) The Government has since taken a decision to accept all the recommendations of the Review Committee in principle. However, in respect of recommendation regarding cancellation of all permits issued for fishing by joint venture, charter, lease and test fishing vessels, subject to legal processes as may be required, it has been decided that these permits can be cancelled only for violation of the provisions of the MZI Act 1981 or any rule or order made thereunder and/or the conditions stipulated in the approvals granted. Such action for cancellation or otherwise of approvals has to be decided in individual cases in consultation with the Ministry of Law. As per the recommendations, the New Deep Sea Fishing Policy of 1991 has been rescinded. Action has also been initiated to implement other recommendations of the Review Committee.

[English]

Allotments of Flats

1792. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of flats allotted under various categories by Delhi Development Authority upto 31st December, 1996;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been chalked out to allot flats to all the remaining applicants; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) 2,44,392 flats.

(b) and (c) The DDA has reported that keeping in view the constraints of availability of land and infrastructural facilities from the concerned agencies, no time schedule can be indicated at this Stage.

Employment

1793. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the extent to which the urban employment schemes have been implemented and the number of people employed, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : Two Centrally sponsored urban employment schemes, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) are being implemented in the country. Under NRY, the objective is to provide employment, opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed urban poor living below the poverty line. The employment contemplated is of two types: self-employment through setting up of micro-enterprises and wage-employment through creation of useful public assets in the low income neighbourhoods. The State-wise details of number of persons assisted to set up micro-enterprises as on 31.1.97 is given in the enclosed statement.

As far as PMIUPEP is concerned, one of the several components of the programme is self-employment, under which unemployed and under-employed urban poor are encouraged to set up small enterprises/ventures relating to servicing, petty business and manufacturing, to enhance their economic position. Most of the States are still largely in the preparatory and primary stages of the implementation of the programme, such as house to house survey, spatial mapping, preparation of project, report, building of community structures etc. Five million urban poor are targetted to be benefitted under this scheme during the five year programme period ending 1999-2000.

Statement

Nehru Rozgar Yojana

Number of persons assisted to set up Micro Enterprises as on 31.1.1997

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of persons
1.	Andhra Pradesh	97715

S.No.	Name of State/UT	No. of persons
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	853
3.	Assam	17568
4.	Bihar	22192
5.	Goa	450
6.	Gujarat	15583
7.	Haryana	16943
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2718
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5661
10.	Karnataka	48588
11.	Kerala	22727
12.	Madhya Pradesh	114189
13.	Maharashtra	68467
14.	Manipur	5186
15.	Meghalaya	1961
16.	Mizoram	650
17.	Nagaland	-
18.	Orissa	21796
19.	Punjab	22357
20.	Rajasthan	49051
21.	Sikkim	842
22.	Tamil Nadu	109500
23.	Tripura	575
24.	Uttar Pradesh	185846
25.	West Bengal	38934
26.	A & N Island	608
27.	Chandigarh	398
28.	D & N Haveli	376
29.	Daman & Diu	174
30.	Delhi	1930
30.	Pondicherry	2323
Total		876161

Supply of LPG

1794. SHRI P.J. KURIEN :
 SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
 SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
 SHRI K. PRADHANI :
 SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN :
 SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :
 SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :
 SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
 SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :
 SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the status of demand and supply position of LPG, Statewise with back-log of waiting list of consumers;

(b) the demand perception for the current year and next three years; State-wise in general and for Maharashtra and Kerala in particular;

(c) the total number of Gas dealers company-wise and district-wise in Maharashtra and LPG supply made to them during each of the last three years;

(d) whether special quota of LPG was released to some dealers during the above period in Maharashtra;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith justification therefor dealer-wise,

(f) whether dealers in tribal districts are neglected in preference to other areas; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor and steps proposed to, encourage use of gas in predominantly tribal districts for conservation of forest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
 (a) to (c) The LPG customers population enrolled with the distributors of PSU Oil Companies in the country as on 1.1.1997 was about 270.45 lakhs including about 43.15 lakhs in the state of Maharashtra and 9.96 lakhs in the state of Kerala. The LPG waiting list in the country as on 1.1.1997 was about 142.03 lakhs including about 19.05 lakhs in the State of Maharashtra and 6.79 lakhs in the state of Kerala.

The annual demand of LPG for the customers of Govt. Oil Companies, is estimated on the basis of :

1. The requirement of existing LPG customers enrolled with Govt. oil companies; and

2. Requirement of new customers planned to be enrolled during the next year.

The demand projections of LPG for the current year and the next three years are as under :-

Year	All India LPG Demand (TMT)
1996-97	4290
1997-98	4517
1998-99	5774
1999-2000	6605

The No. of LPG distributors of IOC, BPC & HPC operating in Maharashtra as on 1.1.97, are 94, 285 and 321 respectively.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Under Special Quota, 10700 connections were released to 16 distributors in the State of Maharashtra.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise in view of (f) above. There is no special scheme or policy to encourage use of gas in predominantly tribal districts, but efforts are made to release LPG connections to all wait-listed persons in hilly areas and Taj trapezium area.

Nehru Rojgar Yojana

1795. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
 SHRI SHANTILAL PERSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given to Gujarat for Nehru Rojgar Yojana during each of the last three years; and

(b) the number of persons benefited during this period in each category, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The funds given to Gujarat for Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) during the last three years are as under :-

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1993-94	212.52
1994-95	194.45
1995-96	215.90

(b) Information is given below :-

Nehru Rozgar Yojana

Year	Number of beneficiaries assisted for setting up micro-enterprises					No. of mandays of work generated (in lakhs)	Number of dwelling units upgrades/being upgraded				
	Gen.	SC	ST	Women	Tot.		Gen.	SC	ST	Women	Tot.
1993-94	1766	262	100	502	2630	1.31	149	79	-	43	271
1994-95	1022	133	25	483	1663	0.45	57	-	-	-	57
1995-96	1033	53	20	243	1349	0.63	-	-	-	-	-

[Translation]

Approval of Projects

1796. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of projects of Bihar are lying pending with the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, since when and the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not according approval to these projects and the time by which these are likely to be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) No project of Bihar is pending for action in Planning Commission for investment clearance.

Allotment of Plots

1797. DR. G.R. SARODE :
SHRI S.P. JAISWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether alternative plots have been allotted by the Delhi Development Authority to all these displaced persons whose premises were demolished in Motia Khan Complex during 1976;

(b) if so, the number of such allottees to whom plots have been allotted and the criteria adopted for allotting small/big size plots;

(c) whether this criteria has been violated in some cases; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Delhi Development Authority has reported that all the displaced persons who are eligible for allotment have been allotted alternative plots.

(b) The number of such allottees is 1583 and the following yard sticks were adopted for determining the size of the alternative plots :

Area assessed for damages	Area proposed for allotment
Upto 50 sq. yds.	100 sq.yds.
51 to 100 sq.yds.	133 sq.yds.
101 to 150 sq.yds.	167 sq.yds.
151 to 200 sq.yds.	200 sq.yds.
201 to 250 sq.yds.	250 sq.yds.
251 to 300 sq.yds.	300 sq.yds.
301 to 400 sq.yds.	400 sq.yds.
above 400 sq.yds.	450 sq.yds.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of (c), the Question does not arise.

Installation of Hand Pump

1798. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any provision has been made in the Budget during the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 for installing hand pumps in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount provided under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for implementation of various rural water supply schemes including installation of handpumps is as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Budget Provision		
	MNP	ARWSP	Total
1995-96	123.46	111.82	235.28
1996-97	128.00	122.78	250.78

Voluntary Organisation of CAPART

1799. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of voluntary organisations of Council for People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) in the country alongwith the amount allocated to them for the implementation of project during the last three years and the current year 1997 and State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of voluntary organisations working under "CAPART" in the country;

(c) the number of voluntary organisations black listed earlier and recently and action taken against them so far;

(d) whether Government has reviewed the development work under "CAPART"; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The number of voluntary organisations assisted by CAPART and the amount sanctioned to these organisations during the last three years and during the current year 1996-97 (upto December, 1997) are as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	No. of VOs assisted	Amount sanctioned
1993-94	1689	58.29
1994-95	1373	55.08
1995-96	704	98.12
1996-97	600	50.20

The State-wise details for the years 1993-94 and 1994-95 are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) CAPART has so far assisted approximately 5466 voluntary agencies.

(c) As on 31.12.1996, CAPART has blacklisted 247 voluntary organisations. In addition, CAPART has also blacklisted 150 voluntary organisations which were blacklisted by other Government agencies. During the period from 1.7.1996 to 31.12.1996, CAPART has blacklisted 13 voluntary organisations.

In addition to stopping release of other grants to the blacklisted organisations by CAPART, the other action taken/proposed to be taken by CAPART include recovery of funds from the delinquent organisation, initiations of legal proceedings, referring the cases to the police etc. CAPART has also referred the case of 61 organisations to CBI for further investigations.

(d) and (e) The functioning of CAPART is reviewed from time to time in the meetings of the Executive Committee and General Body of CAPART, and wherever considered necessary, suitable steps are taken to streamline its functioning. This is a continuous process. Recently, with a view of bringing CAPART nearer to the people and to ensure closer interaction between it and the voluntary organisations at the grass-root level, the functioning of CAPART has been decentralised by setting up six Regional Committees. The Regional Committees consider project proposals upto and outlay of Rs. 5 lakhs. It is expected that the decentralisation of CAPART would not only result in improving its efficiency and efficacy but would also be successful in promoting voluntarism in rural development.

Statement

State-wise details of Voluntary Organisations assisted as per amount sanctioned by CAPART during 1993-94 & 1994-95

Name of State	1993-94		1994-95	
	No. of NGO's	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in crore)	No. of NGO's	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	195	5.93	162	6.16
Arunachal Pradesh	1	0.01	1	0.04
Andaman Nicobar	1	0.18	1	0.05
Assam	11	0.33	9	0.22

1	2	3	4	5
Bihar	294	7.84	190	7.61
Chandigarh	—	—	—	—
Delhi	40	1.59	37	1.48
Goa	2	0.05	—	—
Gujarat	26	3.16	22	2.83
Haryana	26	1.35	30	1.13
Himachal Pradesh	14	0.64	11	0.36
Jammu & Kashmir	3	0.29	5	0.26
Karnataka	48	1.78	29	1.37
Kerala	40	1.12	14	0.52
Madhya Pradesh	39	1.30	34	1.28
Maharashtra	45	2.25	34	1.80
Manipur	74	3.69	54	1.78
Meghalaya	1	0.02	—	—
Mizoram	6	0.64	2	0.10
Nagaland	9	0.36	12	0.41
Orissa	80	2.79	100	3.41
Punjab	1	0.01	2	0.04
Rajasthan	47	1.58	34	1.52
Tamil Nadu	119	4.04	88	2.87
Tripura	2	0.08	1	0.03
Pondicherry	7	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	344	8.85	299	10.05
West Bengal	222	8.41	200	9.76
Total	1689	58.29	1373	55.08

Projects for Employment

1800. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the projects being implemented currently in order to provide employment in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the rural areas of Sambhal Parliamentary Constituency of Uttar Pradesh are being neglected;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount proposed to be allocated for the

projects for the year 1997-98 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) are major employment programmes being implemented in the rural areas by the Centre throughout the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c) No information is being maintained Parliamentary Constituency-wise at the Centre.

(d) Allocation of funds for the year 1997-98 is yet to be finalised.

[English]

Substitute for LPG

1801. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to use molasses as substitute fuel for LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the daily production of molasses in the country; and

(d) the cost efficiency of molasses vis-a-vis LPG ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a), (b) and (d) No, Sir,. Government have no proposal to use molasses as substitute for LPG. However, a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Food) has been set up to examine the possibility of mixing of ethanol produced by sugar manufacturing/Distilleries with petrol/diesel.

(c) Average daily production of molasses during the sugarcane season of 1993-94 and 1994-95 was 38018 tonnes and 40,348 tonnes respectively.

[Translation]

Import of Natural Gas

1802. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra have submitted a proposal to import natural gas to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of Sub-Stations

1803. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not starting the construction work on power sub-stations at Satraon and Vankata in Uttar Pradesh despite approval to the aforesaid sub-stations and the funds have also been released :

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be started thereon and is expected to be completed; and

(c) the time by which the power sub-station at madhubani as expected to be sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) UPSEB has informed that the work on Power sub-stations at Satraon and Vankata in Uttar Pradesh could not be taken up so far due to paucity of funds. The requisite funds for Satraon sub-station have been released only on 26.2.1997 and the work is likely to start immediately and is expected to be completed by December, 1997. However, funds for Vankata sub-station have been released and hence the expected date of completion cannot be indicated.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

[English]

Assam Oil Fields

1804. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA :
DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :
SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated reserves of associated and free gas in the proven wells and deposits in the oil fields of Assam separately under ONGC and OIL;

(b) the manner in which these reserves are committed to existing and future projects;

(c) the projects where ONGC and OIL are unable to meet the increased demand from existing projects;

(d) whether the Government plans to divert and utilise the associated gas presently being flared to meet at least a part of the said additional demand;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the ONGC and OIL propose to produce free gas from Assam oil fields during the Ninth Plan to

meet requirements of existing and proposed future projects; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Proved associated and free gas reserves estimated in the ONGC fields in Assam are 12370.8 MMm³ and 1203.9 MMm³ respectively. The estimated balance recoverable reserves of associated gas and free gas in OIL's fields in Assam are 53,512 MMm³ and 30,021 MMm³ respectively.

(b) 10 MMSCMD of gas has been allocated to various projects in Assam.

(c) The current availability of gas in Assam is 3.33 MMSCMD as against the allocation of 5.76 MMSCMD to existing projects. Requests for additional supply have been received from HFC, Namrup and ASEB, Lakwa.

(d) and (e) 0.64 MMSCMD is currently being flared in Assam. The flaring is being reduced to the technically minimum level through installation of pipelines and compressors.

(f) and (g) ONGC and OIL plan to produce around 2.91 MMSCMD of free gas in the IXth Plan.

[Translation]

Non-Implementation of Jawahar Rojgar Yojana

1805. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the States in which Jawahar Rojgar Yojana has not been yet implemented in the country;

(b) the efforts made by Union Government for conducting training programmes and adequate monitoring to make the said programme successful; and

(c) the amount of funds utilised each year out of the total funds allocated during Eight Five year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is being implemented in the Rural areas of all States/Union Territories of India except Chandigarh and Delhi.

(b) Orientation/training to the officers handling JRY works at various levels i.e. at State/DRDA/Panchayat Samiti & village Panchayat levels are organized to equip the implementing staff/agency with the latest developments in implementation of JRY. The programme is continuously

monitored through monthly, quarterly and annual progress reports and by the officials of the districts, State and Central Government through their periodical visits. Instructions have also been issued to the State Governments to constitute vigilance and monitoring committees at the State, district and village levels to make the implementation of the programme more effective.

(c) The amount of funds utilised each year under JRY out of the total funds allocated during Eighth Five Year Plan are given below:-

Year	(Rs. in crores)	
	Allocation (Centre + State)	Expenditure
1992-93*	3169.05	2709.59
1993-94*	4059.42	3878.71
1994-95*	4376.92	4268.33
1995-96*	4848.70	4466.91
1996-97	2236.79	1235.86

(Upto December, 1996)

* Including Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) & Million Wells Scheme (MWS).

[English]

Monitoring and Vigilance Committee

1806. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued instructions to the State Government to set up a Monitoring and Vigilance Committee at the block, district and at the state levels to monitor and exercise vigilance over the implementation of various rural employment schemes;

(b) if so, the details of States which have followed the instructions so far and which have not followed the instructions as yet;

(c) whether the Members of Parliament of the area and MLAs etc. have also been included in such Committees by the State Governments; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to issue fresh instructions to the State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments of Mizoram, Assam,

Kerala, Union Territory of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli have informed that they have constituted the Monitoring and Vigilance Committees. Other States/Union Territories are in the process of constituting these committees.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Water Scarcity in Gujarat

1807. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDRA PATEL :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Give us water, or we will die' appeared in the "Times of India" dated 7th January, 1997 and state whether the Union Government have sent any expert team to assess the gravity of the water scarcity in the affected areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details of the reports submitted by the team;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to send any such team to assess the situation; and

(d) the assistance provided for making availability of water in the scarcity areas of Gujarat so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. However no expert team has been sent to Gujarat.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Under the normal Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, the Central assistance of Rs. 40,395 crore has been provided to the State Government of Gujarat during 1996-97 for safe drinking water supply in the scarcity and other rural areas. The State Government has also sanctioned Rs. 98.00 crore Scarcity Master Plan 1996-97 to cope UP with water Supply scarcity in the State.

[Translation]

MP LADS – Guidelines

1808. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement the guidelines laid down for MPs in MP's Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, whether works recommended by the Members of Tenth Lok Sabha mentioned in clause 3.10 of the guidelines, which could not be implemented due to imposition of model code of conduct are likely to be implemented;

(c) the details of pending schemes, constituency-wise;

(d) the time by which these are likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The revised guidelines on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) issued on 15.2.1997 to all the District Collectors, cover implementation of works under MPLADS and are meant to be observed.

(b) The works recommended by the Members of the Tenth Lok Sabha which could not be implemented due to the Model Code of Conduct, can be taken up in terms of the provision contained in para 3.9 of the revised guidelines.

(c) to (e) Exact phazing details of such schemes are not maintained by the Department of Programme Implementation.

Power Purchase Agreement

1809. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any power purchase agreement has been signed in regard to the Rouza Thermal Power Station in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the installation work is likely to be started ?

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

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

(c) The promoters have intimated that the work on the project will be taken up by them after achieving financial closure expected by end 1997.

[English]

Examination of Interview Centres

1810. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the different Departments of Government of India do not generally conduct open examination or interview centres in the capitals of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government propose to open such centres in the capital of each North-Eastern States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Union Public Service Commission and Staff Selection Commission, are having centres of examination at the capitals of all the North-Eastern States, Interviews are also held at various places including capitals of North-Eastern states depending upon the number of candidates etc. The existing arrangements are considered adequate.

[Translation]

Allotment of Residential Accommodation to Political Parties

1811. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the directives with regard to allotment of residential accommodation from general pool to the employees working in the parliamentary offices of the recognised political parties have been received from the Hon'ble Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the names of the political parties whose applications for allotment of residential accommodation are lying pending with the Government for the last three years inspite of the fact that the same has been sanctioned but the accommodations have not been allotted to them due to the stay order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court;

(c) the time by which the residential accommodation is likely to be allotted to the employees of the above parties as per their quota;

(d) whether the Government propose to increased the existing quota of residential accommodation for different political parties from one third to 100 percent;

(e) if so, the proposal of the Government in this regard; and

(f) the number of political parties whom accommodation facility has been denied and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 23.12.96 has directed that the political parties which are recognised as national parties by the Election Commission may be provided government accommodation and the Government should abide, regarding the number, by the advice to be given by the Speaker of Lok Sabha and Vice-Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

(b) Sanctions were issued for allotment of 1 type-III and 2 Type-II quarters in favour of Bharatiya Janta Party for its employees on 19.7.95. The sanctions have not been operated due to interim order dated 17.7.95 of the Supreme Court of India.

(c) to (f) In terms of the directions of the Supreme Court of India, revised guidelines for allotment of residential accommodation to the political parties are being framed. The number of residential units to be allotted to the political parties will be decided in consultation with the Speaker of Lok Sabha and Vice-Chairman of Rajya Sabha.

Demand of Petroleum

1812. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the measures to check the ever increasing demand of petroleum and petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified the areas in the country where the demand of petroleum and petroleum products can be reduced; and

(d) if so, the names of such areas and the percentage of demand of these products in these areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Fuels including petroleum fuels are a source of energy which is absolutely essential for the growth and sustained economic development. The growth in the GDP implies growth in consumption of energy. The share of petroleum products, i.e., liquid fuels, in the total energy-mix in India is lower than that in the advanced countries. As the country has adopted a higher growth rate of GDP of 7% during the IX Plan, a proportionate growth in the consumption of petroleum products is inevitable.

The demand management of petroleum products will adversely affect the economic growth of the country. However, as the country is not self-sufficient in the

production of oil and is heavily dependent on imports, it is necessary to promote efficient and optimum utilisation of petroleum products. This is sought to be achieved by promoting fuel substitution, regulated supply of products like kerosene, LPG and naphtha influencing demand by pricing mechanism and conservation measures.

[English]

Exploration of Hydrocarbon

1813. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has a plan for conducting any surveys for resuming drilling operations for exploration of hydrocarbon in foothills of Jammu & Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has offered any bids for exploration under the Joint Venture Exploration Programme (1995); and

(d) if so, the bids received by the Government and the names of bidders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As a part of exploration, seismic data acquisition is undertaken in Poonch-Kalakot-Rajauri and Najot-Ramnagar areas and 75 GLK in Poonch-Kalakot-Rajauri area and 46 SLK in Najot-Ramnagar have already been acquired so far. Interpretation of seismic data, under acquisition now will be carried out in conjunction with all geological data obtained so far. Any techno-economically viable prospect, if brought out, would be considered for exploratory drilling.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Under the joint venture exploration programme (1995), two blocks, one completely and other partly falling in the state of J&K in Himalayan foothills were offered for exploration but no bids were received.

[Translation]

Shortage of Power

1814. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Power shortage may accrue Rs. 4,50,000 crore GDP loss" appearing in The Observer dated December 17, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) the details of loss projected by the Government due to shortage of power; and

(e) the remedial measures being contemplated by the Government to check the shortage of power ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e) The rate of growth of GDP depends on a number of factors. Power shortage is one of the several factors which affect the rate of growth of GDP. Shortages are increasing at about 1.5 per cent per annum. Presently, there is an energy shortage of 13 per cent and peaking shortage of 17 per cent. Government is well aware of the need for bridging the gap between demand and supply of power and efforts are being made to maximise generation with the help of better plant utilisation by increasing Plant Load Factor, accelerated Renovation & Modernisation of the existing units and capacity addition programme. Central or the State Governments have not projected the losses due to shortage of power.

Subsidy on Petroleum Products

1815. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHR INAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is providing subsidy on petroleum and petroleum products;

(b) if so, the amount of subsidy given during each of the last three years on these products;

(c) whether the Government propose to reduce the subsidy during 1996-97; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The estimated subsidy provided on petroleum products during the last three years and for 1996-97 are as under :

(Rs./Crores)	
Year	Amount
1993-94	6596
1994-95	6560
1995-96	9360
1996-97 (Estimated)	18440

(c) and (d) Subsidy on petroleum products is met through Oil Pool Account mechanism which presently is

having a deficit estimated to be Rs. 15,500 crores by 31.3.97 and its position is being monitored on a continuous basis for remedial measures.

Houses to Homless

1816. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Housing Minister's Conference was held in 1975 and had recommended a number of measures for low cost housing;

(b) if so, the number of conferences which have taken place after 1975;

(c) whether all the recommendations of the Housing Conferences have been implemented;

(d) if not, the number out of them which still remain to be implemented;

(e) the total houses built for the low income group people during the last three years, State-wise;

(f) the number of people of this category still without housing facilities; and

(g) the concrete proposals that the Government propose to undertake to private houses to the low income groups in the country during the Ninth Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Conference of State Ministers of Housing and Urban Development held in Bhopal in October, 1975 had interalia made recommendations on the following issues bearing on low cost housing :-

(i) Economy in use of scarce building materials like cement, steel-adoption of Minimum technical specification.

(ii) Investigation for production of cheaper and improved building materials from agriculture and forest wastes for rural construction, and

(iii) Putting up clusters of demonstration of rural houses along with environmental improvements and also model villages.

(b) to (d) After the 1975 Conference, several conferences on State Housing and Urban Development Ministers have been organised. The last such conference

was held in October, 1990. The recommendations of these conference have helped in the formulation of policies of the Union and the State Governments and culminated in the finalisation of the National Housing Policy which was approved by Parliament in 1994.

(e) The various social housing schemes are implemented by the State Governments as per their priorities and resources. So far as urban housing is concerned, the Central Government monitors the progress of EWS and LIG housing schemes in States under the 20 Point Programme. The number of houses built for low income group people during the last three years is indicated in the statement I and II attached.

(f) The 9th Five Year Plan Working Group on Urban Housing has estimated that the housing requirement for EWS/LIG categories during the five year period from 1997-98 to 2001-2002 would be about 15.02 million units.

(g) Following steps have been initiated by the Central Government to facilitate provision of housing facilities for the low income people in the country :-

- HUDCO provides loan assistance on concessional rate of interest to the various State Government agencies viz. Housing Boards, Rural Housing Board, Development Authorities, Improvement Trusts, Local bodies, etc. Upto 55% of the annual housing loan allocations are earmarked for housing schemes for EWS and LIG households.
- The Centrally Sponsored Schemes viz. Night Shelter and Sanitation Facilities for Pavement Dwellers and Shelter upgradation projects under NRY and PMIUPEP are in operation.
- The State Governments have been addressed for effecting saving in construction costs of houses being put up by State housing agencies by incorporating cost effective alternate building materials and technologies.
- To promote cost-effective building materials and technologies on a decentralised basis, a National Network of Building Centres has been established as a Centrally sponsored plan scheme.
- The Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) has been set up and this body and Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have jointly formulated specifications on cost-effective building materials and techniques which have been incorporated in the schedules of CPWD. The State Governments have been advised to

incorporate these specifications in their PWD schedules.

To bring down the cost of new construction materials including those manufactured from industrial wastes like flyash, phosphogypsum, etc., custom and excise duty concessions have been provided by the Government.

Statement-I

Number of Houses Constructed during the last three years for EWS in the urban Areas under 14 (D) of the 20 point programme

S. No.	State/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55424	48082	55033
2.	Assam	294	1412	771
3.	Bihar	42	-	192
4.	Goa	20	-	-
5.	Gujarat	2445	4383	2471
6.	Haryana	641	56	31
7.	Himachal Pradesh	30	15	30
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	2	11
9.	Karnataka	7521	7846	4572
10.	Kerala	22051	19526	30373
11.	Madhya Pradesh	6013	5559	4254
12.	Maharashtra	4410	4987	1500
13.	Meghalaya	547	-	-
14.	Mizoram	100	-	-
15.	Orissa	2723	5539	477
16.	Rajasthan	1994	2911	1382
17.	Sikkim	40	-	150
18.	Punjab	421	-	388
19.	Tamil Nadu	9948	7676	7366
20.	Tripura	387	507	-
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5122	4553	3810
22.	West Bengal	25	2000	-
23.	Delhi	2686	1763	831
24.	A & N Island	-	-	-
25.	Daman & Diu	10	-	-

Statement-II

Number of Houses Constructed during the last three years for LIG in the Urban Areas under 14 (E) of the 20 point programme

S. No.	State/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1262	1240	1240
2.	Assam	—	16	5
3.	Bihar	166	—	100
4.	Goa	74	125	150
5.	Gujarat	2368	2100	2003
6.	Haryana	1086	1215	2500
7.	Himachal Pradesh	175	213	112
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	35
9.	Karnataka	1349	1158	1038
10.	Kerala	3948	1444	2590
11.	Madhya Pradesh	3866	3441	3058
12.	Maharashtra	18052	8190	4312
13.	Manipur	—	—	—
14.	Meghalaya	61	—	—
15.	Mizoram	305	300	130
16.	Orissa	6058	6171	1942
17.	Punjab	500	796	764
18.	Rajasthan	2162	2059	2160
19.	Sikkim	—	—	—
20.	Tamil Nadu	9509	8575	7374
21.	Tripura	202	270	—
22.	Uttar Pradesh	1962	1595	1522
23.	West Bengal	32	580	—
UNION TERRITORIES				
24.	A & N Island	3	—	—
25.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
26.	Delhi	6520	610	2977
27.	D. & N. Haveli	5	—	—

ENRON

1817. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the American multi-national company Enron Corporation for setting up of several power plants in the country for generation of power upto 10,000 MW;

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

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

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

(b) and (c) The proposal is preliminary and does not given sufficient details. The proposed gas fired power plants are to be set up in different locations, which have not been indicated. The Government generally welcomes proposals for investment in the power sector.

[English]

Power Generation

1818. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has recently announced its decision to allocate liquid fuel for a power generation capacity of about 12,000 MW as an emergency one time measure;

(b) if so, the details regarding the guidelines laid down in this regard;

(c) whether some directions have also been issued to State Governments regarding the fuel projects already proposed by the States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Domestic Oil Production

1819. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the strategy devised to increase domestic production from existing oilfields;

(b) whether the Government propose to delink service sector from oil exploration companies to enable them to concentrate more on production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The production from the existing fields is sought to be increased through :-

- Implementation of new projects/schemes and additional development of existing fields.
- Implementation of EOR Schemes and extending some of EOR Schemes from pilot scale to full scale field application.
- Implementation of specialised technologies such as ERD, side track, horizontal and drain hole drilling.
- Obtaining services of international experts wherever considered necessary.
- 3-D seismic survey of the oil fields.
- Rectification measures such as aggressive workovers, use of specialised technologies like long/short drift side track and drain hole have been planned for revival of sick wells which still have potential.

(b) and (c) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

Permission for Re-employment

1820. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHURY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some senior level technical, administrative and other experts equivalent to the Secretary in various ministries, allied and subordinate offices as well as public sector undertakings have joined the Reliance group on their superannuation or by tendering resignation or taking retirement before their superannuation; and

(b) if so, the basis on which the Government granted them the required permission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Under Rule 10 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972, a retired Group 'A' officer is required to obtain the previous sanction of the Government if he proposes to undertake any commercial employment before the expiry of two years from the date of retirement. All such requests are considered with reference to the criteria incorporated in sub-rule (3) of Rule 10 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972. No previous sanction of Government is required in the case of persons who have resigned from service.

As per information available with the Department of Personnel, one retired Group 'A' officer was granted permission in 1994 to undertake post-retirement commercial employment with M/s Reliance Industries Limited.

LPG Cylinders

1821. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the places where Indian Oil Corporation, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum's LPG bottling plants are existing;

(b) the production at present, plant-wise;

(c) whether there is any plan to set up new bottling plants by these companies;

(d) if so, the places where such plants are to be set up;

(e) whether capacity of the existing plants are to be increased in view of the demand; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) There are 87 LPG bottling plants operating in the country with a capacity of 3235 TMTPA.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Statement-I is enclosed.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Statement-II is enclosed.

Statement-I

New bottling plants as per the VIII Plan proposals

State	No. of Bottling Plants	Capacity in TMTPA
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	2	70
Arunachal Pradesh	1	5
Assam	2	44
Bihar	2	32
Goa	2	22
Gujarat	4	178
Jammu & Kashmir	2	25
Karnataka	1	22
Kerala	1	22
Madhya Pradesh	3	42

1	2	3
Maharashtra	3	84
Meghalaya	1	5
Mizoram	1	5
Manipur	1	10
Nagaland	1	5
Punjab	1	34
Rajasthan	1	22
Tripura	1	5
Tamil Nadu	9	186
Uttar Pradesh	6	82
West Bengal	4	86
Andaman & Nicobar Island	1	5

Statement-II

Details of Augmentation in Bottling Capacity

State	Existing Bottling capacity in TMTPA	Augmenteed Bottling capacity in TMTPA
Bihar	44	88
Haryana	76	152
Kerala	18	22
Madhya Pradesh	44	88
Rajasthan	20	44
Delhi	25	88
U.P.	61	116
Maharashtra	44	88
Jammu & Kashmir	20	26
Punjab	13	26

HBJ Pipeline

1822. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had decided to cut 20 percent gas allocation to several fertilizer plants getting supplies from HBJ pipeline;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the cut in allocation of gas to fertilizer plants is going to affect fertilizer industry;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to reconsider their decision; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The availability of gas along the HBJ pipeline is less than the total demand. Supplies are accordingly regulated through Action Plans drawn up from time to time.

(c) to (e) The feedstock requirements of fertilizer plants along the HBJ pipeline are being met. Action has also been taken to further increase the supplies.

Removal of Unauthorised Construction

1823. DR. BALIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1829 regarding encroachment of land by petrol pump owners on December 4, 1996 and state :

(a) whether land from these petrol pump owners who had resorted to unauthorised constructions has been taken back or the unauthorised construction demolished;

(b) the names of petrol pumps where unauthorised construction has been demolished;

(c) the names of petrol pumps where unauthorised construction is to be removed;

(d) the reasons for not demolishing the unauthorised construction, so far; and

(e) the time by which unauthorised construction will be removed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) The sealing-cum-demolition order in respect of two petrol pumps has been passed by the DDA for demolition operation. The final show-cause notices have been issued in respect of 53 petrol pumps by the Land & Development Office. Re-entry orders have been issued in 17 cases and now eviction proceedings under the Public Premises Eviction Act are pending in the Court of Estate Officer.

Foreign Assistance

1824. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a project report for foreign assistance to

undertake water supply and underground drainage system in various towns including the Rajahmundry;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the details of negotiations in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received as yet from the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

- (c) Does not arise.

Illegal Constructions

1825. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the illegal constructions work going on next to Qutab;
(b) if so, whether the Government have made any inquiry into it; and
(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The D.D.A. has reported that during the last two months it has booked 18 cases of unauthorised construction in Development Area No. 174 for action under the Delhi Development Act. In 17 cases the competent authority has already passed demolition orders after following the due process of law.

Employment Opportunities

1826. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the schemes launched by the Ministry for generating employment opportunities;
(b) the details thereof, State-wise; and
(c) the total amount spent during the past two years for implementing the above schemes and the results achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment is implementing two Centrally sponsored urban employment schemes,

namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty eradication Programme (PMI UPEP)

NEHRU ROZGAR YOJANA (NRY) : was launched in October, 1989 with the objective of providing employment opportunities to the unemployed and underemployed urban poor living below the poverty line. The employment contemplated is of two types; self employment through setting up of micro enterprises, and wage employment through creation of useful public assets in low income neighbourhoods. N.R.Y. scheme is being implemented in all urban settlements (except Cantonment Boards) in all the States of the country.

PMI UPEP : was launched in November, 1995. It seeks to address the economic, social and physical conditions of the urban poor in small towns with a multi-pronged, whole-town integrated approach. The programme is applicable in 342 UAs and 72 Hill District towns in 27 States/UTs. The objective of the programme include employment generation and skill upgradation, shelter upgradation and environmental improvement, achievement of social sector goals, community empowerment and convergence through sustainable support system etc.

- (c) NRY : The total amount spent during the last two years under N.R.Y. and results achieved are as under :-

Scheme	Amount Spent during 1994-95 to 1995-96 (Rs. in lakhs)	Result Achieved	
		No. of beneficiaries assisted to set up micro-enterprises (in lakhs)	No. of man days of work generated (in lakhs)
SUME	6134.70	2.50	N.A.
SUWE	7844.90	N.A.	105.49

PMIUPEP : Rs. 105.80 crores has been released to the States/UTs for the year 1995-96. Most of the States are in the preliminary stages of implementation of the programme. As per the preliminary reports received from States, physical progress as under has been achieved :-

- (i) House to house survey has been completed in 213 towns.
(ii) Towns-wise project reports have been prepared in 217 towns.
(iii) 20775 applications under the self-employment component have been forwarded to Banks, out of which 3080 cases have been approved.

- (iv) 10386 applications under the shelter upgradation component have been forwarded to banks/HUDCO, out of which about 281 cases have been approved.
- (v) 8382 Neighbourhood Group (NHGs), 1200 Neighbourhood Committees (NICs) and 444 Thrift & Credit Societies have been formed.

Rakesh Mohan Committee Report

1827. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the main recommendations of the Rakesh Mohan Committee report on urban infrastructure; and
- (b) the steps taken to implement the report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The main recommendations of the Rakesh Mohan Committee on Urban Infrastructure are enclosed as statement.

(b) The steps taken so far to implement the recommendations of the Committee are : (i) a Drafting Committee has been constituted to develop guidelines for property tax reforms including delinking property tax base from Rent Control Act; and (ii) State Governments have been addressed to constitute Urban Development Funds/ Urban Infrastructure Finance Corporation to channelise funds available from various sources for undertaking projects in municipalities.

Statement

Recommendations of Rakesh Mohan Committee Report on Urban Infrastructure

- Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) be adopted for the present. In water supply projects, it is possible to privatise sourcing, treatment and bulk supply. The retail distribution and pricing may remain with the public sector. Solid waste disposal can be privatised fully. Low Cost sanitation may be privatised fully on the model of Sulabh Shauchalaya. Maintenance of roads can be entrusted to the private sector subject to quality control.
- Differential treatment of water for different uses. Micro-level systems need to be designed to recycle water at the household level. The supply should be metered to plug leakages.
- The cost of collection, treatment and disposal of the solid waste be reduced. Greater attention to segregation of different kinds of waste at the

collection point itself will reduce cost of disposal. Wherever environmentally acceptable, disposal can be decentralised to save on transportation cost.

- Proper packaging – for instance, clubbing water supply and drainage projects together – be used to reduced project cost and improve viability.
- In solid waste management, the “polluter pays” principle be applied.
- In the roads sector, apart from taxation/user charges and impact fees, costs may be recovered by giving advertisement rights (like running kiosks), long lease for trees and the right to use their product.
- The property tax base be freed from the Rent Control Act.
- The ULB be responsible for providing all urban infrastructure in the city area. The multiple agencies in charges of providing various services should be merged under the ULB.
- A state level Nodal Infrastructure Financing Corporation set up to channelise available from various sources and under various programmes to smaller municipalities.

Outstanding Loan

1828. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the outstanding arrears due from Jammu and Kashmir Government to the Union Government;
- (b) whether the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has represented that this loan must be written off;
- (c) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and
- (d) the quantum of interest paid by State Government yearly on this loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The outstanding Government loan from Govt. of J & K to Ministry of Finance as on 31.12.1996 was Rs. 2788.51 crores.

(b) The Govt. of J & K sent a Memorandum to the Prime Minister requesting for waiver of outstanding Central loans of Rs. 1275 crores to enable it to improve the management of the deficit on the current account and for the balance, a rescheduling so that the outgo on account of servicing of loans is within manageable limits.

(c) The Prime Minister has announced, during his visit to J&K on 13-14th February, 1997 that the demand of the State Govt. for waiver of Central Debt amounting to Rs. 1275 crores would be looked into sympathetically and decision taken soon. A Central Team will be deputed for discussions in this regard.

(d) The interest payable by the State Government on account of outstanding loans to the Ministry of Finance during the year 1996-97 is Rs. 258.97 crores

Plan Objectives

1829. SHRI S.K. KARVENDHAN :
SHRI SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission in its Approach Paper has suggested greater freedom for States in determining their annual plan size and outlays;

(b) if so, whether the States would therefore, be free to check their plan size, taking in to account the Central assistance;

(c) the other suggestions made by the Planning Commission the present status thereof and the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken thereon; and

(d) whether States Governments will have the Plan outlays get financed, without diverting the funds earmarked for each sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Among the other suggestions made in the Approach Paper for allowing greater autonomy to the State Governments are :

- (i) In principle, Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be confined to certain areas, and the rest should be transferred to the States along with corresponding funds in a phased manner in consultations with Central as well as State Governments;
- (ii) The approach adopted in respect of Basic Minimum Services should be applied in some other important areas in which funds would be earmarked for achievement of pre-specified goals. States would, however, be given sufficient

flexibility for designing the programmes and in implementing them in these areas;

(iii) Annual Plan documents of the States should be examined to ensure their broad adherence to the Five Year Plans and the States should be free to decide the annual phasing of sectoral/subsectoral allocations keeping in view the approved five year plan outlays, national priorities and their own needs;

(iv) Earmarking of outlays should be restricted to the minimum extent necessary consistent with national priorities. But the States would not have the freedom to divert funds from earmarked sectors/schemes without approval of Planning Commission.

The above suggestions of the Approach Paper will be incorporated, as appropriate, in the Ninth Five Year Plan document and implemented during the Plan period in consultation with Central and State Governments.

[Translation]

Self-Employment in Uttar Pradesh

1830. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the self-employment programme has been implemented in Uttar Pradesh for the urban youths; and

(b) if so, the number of persons benefited under the said programme during the last three years till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Two Centrally-sponsored urban employment schemes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) are being implemented in the country, including Uttar Pradesh. The Scheme of Urban Micro-Enterprises (SUME) under Nehru Rozgar Yojana helps urban poor beneficiaries in setting up self-employment ventures through grant of subsidy and loan. PMIUPEP was launched in November, 1995 to address the problem of urban poor in small town with a multi-pronged, integrated approach to the economic, social and physical conditions of the urban poor. One of the several components of this scheme is to provide self-employment to the urban poor who are below the poverty line and having education upto 9th class or less.

(b) The beneficiaries assisted for self-employment during last three years under NRY in Uttar Pradesh are detailed below :-

Year	No. of beneficiaries assisted
1993-94	24813
1994-95	35852
1995-96	24893
1996-97 (as on 31.1.97)	15840

PMIUPEP is still largely in the primary stage.

[English]

Unauthorised Construction

1831. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer give to Unstarred Question No. 4234 dated September 4, 1996 regarding unauthorised construction in Sansad Vihar and state :

(a) the progress made by the DDA with regard to demolition of unauthorised and illegal developments in Sansad Vihar;

(b) whether this sorry state of affairs is prevalent in adjoining Group Housing Societies also;

(c) if so, whether the DDA also propose to take action against such Co-operative Group Housing Societies; and

(d) the names of the societies which have not obtained completion certificates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) D.D.A. carried out demolitions at Sansad Vihar on 16.9.1996.

(b) and (c) As and when any unauthorised construction is detected/reported, action is taken by DDA under the provisions of the Delhi Development Act, 1957.

(d) D.D.A. has reported that except for the following colonies, No other Co-operative Group Housing Society has obtained completion certificate :

1. Lakeview CGHS Ltd., Paschim Puri.
2. Cabinet Sectt. CGHS Ltd. Pankha Road.
3. Poorti CGHS Ltd., Bodella.
4. Swyam Sidha CGHS Ltd., Madipur.
5. Raja Enclave CGHS.
6. Air Force Naval Housing Board, CGHS Pitampura.

7. Kangra Adarsh CGHS Ltd., Bodella.

8. Hamdard CGHS Ltd., Okhla.

9. AIYMS CGHS Ltd., Chilla.

10. Vidisha CGHS Ltd. Patparganj

Task Force

1832. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Task Force on Urban Perspective and Policy constituted to provide input for the National Urbanisation Policy has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the National Urban Policy is proposed to be formulated and the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Urban Development is a State subject and policies and programmes in the context of urbanisation are conditioned by State-specific factors such as the level of urbanisation, stage economic development, industrialisation, nature of rural-urban spatial and functional linkages, historical and geographical factors, etc. In the absence of finalisation of urban strategies/policies and programmes at the State level, it is not possible to indicate the time by which the National Urban Policy will be formulated. The delay in such formulation is primarily due to the lack of adequate State specific information on the approaches of State Governments towards urban development.

Anti-Insurgency Operations

1833. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether differences have cropped up among the Army, other security agencies and the State Police on their role in anti-insurgency operations in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether this has led to the increase in the militancy since the democratic Government took place; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (c) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Does not arise.

Committee on CSIR

1834. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up any Committee to examine the working of all research institution under CSIR in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Reserved posts for SC/ST/OBC

1835. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the category-wise percentage of scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and backward class employees out of Government employees working in different departments of the country;

(b) the details of vacancies in these categories in different departments as on 31st December, 1996 State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up these vacancies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Information regarding number of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes including those of State Governments etc. is not centrally maintained. However, information in

respect of SC/ST employees in the Central Government as on 1.1.94 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Vacancies reserved for different categories in the Central Government are filled up as per existing instructions. The Government has also been launching Special Recruitment Drives since 1989 for filling up backlog of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Statement

Representation of SC/ST in Central Government services as on 1.1.1994

Group	SC%	ST%
A	10.24	2.92
B	12.06	2.81
C	15.73	5.38
D (Excl. Sweepers)	20.46	6.15
Sweepers	49.06	6.90
Total (Excl. Sweepers)	16.90	5.48

[English]

IDSMT Scheme

1836. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the cities/towns in Karnataka selected/developed under the IDSMT Scheme together with the total amount spend on each of them;

(b) whether some foreign countries have also provided assistance for the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) From 1979-80 till 28.2.97, 73 towns in Karnataka State have been covered under the IDSMT Scheme and Central Assistance amounting to Rs. 2065.86 lakhs released to the State Government. The State Government have reported an expenditure of Rs. 1933.39 lakhs. Detail are enclosed as Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Towns in Karnataka State covered under the IDSMT scheme, Central Assistance Released and Expenditure Reported (from 1979-80 to 28-2-1997)

Sl. No.	Name of Town	Central Assistance Released	Expenditure Reported
		(Rupees in Lakhs)	
1	2	3	4
1.	Hassan	40.000	83.030
2.	Chitradurga	51.055	115.480
3.	Tumkur	54.917	111.830
4.	Raichur	36.280	58.330
5.	Hospet	24.800	29.870
6.	Channapatna	44.939	77.760
7.	Kanakpura	35.980	55.320
8.	Magadi	32.480	81.030
9.	Humnabad	38.290	57.460
10.	Holenarsipur	36.500	66.480
11.	Sagar	42.950	87.115
12.	Sahapur	53.550	148.826
13.	Jamkhandi	36.410	58.680
14.	Khushal Nagar	25.860	49.380
15.	Ranibennur	38.850	51.820
16.	Karkala	23.500	33.480
17.	Chikkaballapur	33.000	55.220
18.	Ramanagaram	46.000	51.110
19.	Sirsi	30.000	33.750
20.	Harihar	36.000	21.180
21.	Sindhaur	37.000	49.950
22.	Kollegal	34.000	39.540
23.	Gokak	22.000	36.030
24.	Basayakalyan	15.000	10.470
25.	Kolar	18.000	25.520
26.	Udupi	17.500	32.570
27.	Shikaripur	18.000	28.520
28.	Malavalli	10.000	18.080
29.	Rabakavi Banahatti	10.000	11.790

1	2	3	4
30.	Dandeli	20.000	36.000
31.	Chintamani	46.000	82.640
32.	Chikmagalur	20.000	20.610
33.	Tiptur	20.000	4.980
34.	Gowribidanur	20.000	26.650
35.	Badami	28.000	38.530
36.	Gurumitkal	16.000	18.980
37.	Soundatti	20.000	2.100
38.	Byadgi	12.000	15.450
39.	Karwar	20.000	10.460
40.	Bidar	17.000	3.350
41.	Haveri	14.000	5.100
42.	Bellary	85.000	57.140
43.	Madhugiri	12.000	-
44.	K.R. Nagar	11.000	-
45.	Ilkal	22.000	-
46.	Nippani	30.000	12.42
47.	Doddaballapur	25.000	-
48.	Bailhongal	25.000	-
49.	Mudalgi	25.000	10.00
50.	Mulbagal	22.000	-
51.	Lingasugur	22.000	-
52.	Mandyya	57.000	-
53.	Bijapur	41.000	-
54.	Laxmeshwar	20.000	-
55.	Shiggaon	10.000	-
56.	Savanur	19.000	-
57.	Gadag-Betgeri	55.000	-
58.	Kottur	12.000	9.00
59.	Malur	24.000	-
60.	Shorapur	19.000	-
61.	Kundapur	23.000	-
62.	Sidlaghatta	10.000	-
63.	Arasikere	27.000	-
64.	Hunsur	28.000	-

1	2	3	4
65.	Gajendragad	30.000	-
66.	Sira	30.000	-
67.	Bangarpet	22.000	-
68.	Koppal	30.000	-
69.	Kadur	28.000	-
70.	Holenarasipura	30.000	-
71.	Chincholi	16.000	-
72.	Muddebahal	30.000	-
73.	Harapanahally	30.000	-
Total		2065.86	1933.39

Development of N.C.R.

1837. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to make faster development of the National Capital Region (NCR);

(b) if so, the provision made for NCR in Ninth Plan;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement any other plan for development of NCR; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Madam. In order to reduce the population pressure on National Capital Territory of Delhi and to achieve a balanced harmonised development of the entire NCR through dispersal of population and economic activities, a Regional Plan has been drawn up by the NCR planning Board. This plan is being implemented by the participating States of NCR through a set of policies and programmes aimed at the development of selected towns and complexes in the region to facilitate the proposed decongestion of Delhi.

(b) For achieving these objectives, the investments needed during the 9th Plan period have been estimated to be about Rs. 26000 crores. These estimates prepared by a sub-group set up by the Planning Commission are a prelude to the overall economic, planning exercise for various sectors of the economy, to be finally concluded by the Planning Commission for the 9th Plan and therefore no final allocations have been firmed up yet for the NCR.

(c) and (d) No other plans are under consideration of Government for the development of NCR.

[Translation]

NTPC

1838. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consultancy Wing of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has secured any International turnkey contracts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which those projects are expected to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of International Turnkey Contracts secured by the Consultancy Wing of National Thermal Power Corporation are given below :

Name of the Contract	Date of Order	Contract Value
1. 400/132 KV Transmission System at Dubai of M/s. Dubai Electricity & Water Authority.	January, 1991	US\$ 17.756 Million
2. 2 Nos. 132 KV GIS Sub-stations at Dubai of M/s. Dubai Electricity & Water Authority.	January, 1994	UAE Dh. 44.47 Million
3. 21 Nos. 132/66/33 KV Sub-stations in Nepal of M/s. Nepal Electricity Authority	October, 1993	US\$ 5.317 Million + Nepales Rs. 60.30 Million

(c) The first two projects have been commissioned. As regards the third contract, 18 out of 21 sub-stations have already been commissioned. The remaining there are likely to be commissioned by June, 1997.

Pipeline Project

1839. SHRI ANANT GUDH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Essar, Reliance Petro join hands for pipeline project' appearing in the 'Economic times' on February 5, 1997;

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

(c) the time by which the Government propose to clear this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Regarding the news item for laying a product

pipelines between Vadinar and Kandla a proposal of IOC is under process for first stage clearance.

Oil Exploration in Cochin High

1840. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken steps for exploration of oil drilling in Cochin High; and

(b) the progress of oil drilling in Cochin High ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exploration activity has been continuing in Cochin High. It has been test drilled by an exploratory well (CH-1-1). However, the results have not been encouraging. Another exploratory, location (CH-2-1), is available. The data of the area is being analysed along with the data of adjoining structures to firm up the exploration priorities.

Policy on Subsidies

1841. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government regarding subsidies to agriculture, fertilizers, diesel, electricity, water and pesticides etc. and estimates thereof, projections thereof for the next five years, Ministry-wise;

(b) whether according to the Indian Protocols filed with the WTO, Indian farmers had a negative product - Specific subsidy in respect of commodity prices of the order of Rs. 24,442 crore during 1986-87 to 1988-89 and because of restrictions on exports trade farm incomes were reduced by Rs. 24,442 crore;

(c) if so, number of crops covered for calculating negative subsidy and estimate of the negative subsidy of aggregate agricultural production; and

(d) the perspective agricultural pricing policy of the Government to safeguard the interest of farmers in liberalisation are particularly in regard to abolition of agricultural subsidies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Publication of Government Reports

1842. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the private publishers have been publishing the report of

various Government Committees and Commissions and sell them in market at exorbitant price thus making huge profits at the cost of Government works;

(b) if so, the measures being taken in this regard as the Government spends crores of rupees for the establishment of such Committees/Commissions;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard in the recent past;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No complaint has been received by the Department of Publication of this Ministry which is the publisher of the Government publications regarding publishing of the reports of various Government Committees and Commissions, in violation of the Copyright Act, 1957.

(b) to (e) Reproduction or publication of the report of any Committees and Commissions appointed by the Government does not constitute an infringement of copyright, if such report has been laid on the Table of the Legislature, unless the reproduction or publication of such report is prohibited by Government.

Allotment of D.D.A. Flats

1843. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HARDOI) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is proposal to enquire into the arbitrary and discriminatory allotment of DDA flats on 'priority basis' in the five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The provisions relating to out of turn allotment of DDA flats have been made with a view to helping genuine and hard cases such as those of physically handicapped persons, war widows, victims of terrorist activities etc. The quota for out of turn allotment is only 2.5% of the flats constructed under each scheme of DDA. These allotments are approved by an Empowered Committee comprising of Minister for Urban Affairs & Employment and Lt. Governor of Delhi. The question of arbitrary or discriminatory allotment of DDA flats, therefore, does not arise.

[Translation]

District Rural Development Agencies

1844. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of composition and functioning of district rural development agencies;

(b) whether Government propose to dissolve the district rural development agencies by establishing district panchayats whose main aim to develop the villages under the district;

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

(d) the total amount spent on district rural development agencies by the Union Government during the last three years, year-wise, State-wise and the details of their achievements till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) were created in the year 1980 when the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was extended to all the blocks in the country. In the districts where Small Farmers Development Agencies (SFDA) and Drought Prone Area Development (DPAP) Agencies were existing, these were merged and renamed as District Rural Development Agency (DRDA). In other districts where such agencies were not existing, DRDAs were created afresh. The DRDAs were in due course made responsible for implementation of all the Rural Development programmes, of this Ministry.

The District Rural Development Agencies are registered societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, having their own by-laws for administration of the Agency. The composition of the DRDAs is enclosed as Statement.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to dissolve the District Rural Development Agencies. However, in the wake of the Constitution 73rd Amendment the States have been advised that District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) should function under the overall supervision, control and guidance of Zilla Parishads. Chairman of Zilla Parishad would be ex-officio Chairman of the Governing Body of DRDA and would preside over its Meetings.

The executive and financial powers should, however, vest in the District Collector/DM/Deputy Commissioner who may be designated as the Chief Executive Officer or Executive Director. With a view to bringing about greater integrated between the two institutions, the CEO of Zilla Parishad, where the posts are not held by DMs/Collectors/DCs in an ex-officio capacity, shall be a Member-Secretary of the Governing Body of the DRDA. However, the CEO

of Zilla Parishad should not be an officer below the rank of DM.

(d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Statement

Constitution of Governing Body DRDA (Illustrative)

CHAIRMAN

1. Chairman, Zilla Parishad

MEMBERS

2. All MPs, MLAs and MLCs of the District
3. Two ex-MPs by rotation in alphabetical order, for one year each.
4. Two ex-MLAs by rotation in Alphabetical order for one year each.
5. 1/3rd of Panchayat; Samiti Chairperson to be nominated by rotation in alphabetical order for a tenure of one year, one of whom must belong to SC/ST and another a woman.
6. Chairman of Standing Committees of the Zilla Parishad.
7. Collector/DM/DC – Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director.
8. Head of the Central Cooperative Bank of the District.
9. Chairman, Regional Rural Bank
10. District Lead Bank Officer.
11. NABARD representative at district level.
12. General Manager, DIC.
13. Representative of KVIB
14. District Officer in charge of Family Welfare Programme.
15. District Agriculture Officer
16. District Veterinary Officer
17. District Fisheries Officer
18. District Employment Officer
19. Project Officer, ITDP
20. District Forest Officer
21. Regional/District Officer, Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Finance Corporation
22. District Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Officer.
23. APO (Women's Development)
24. One Women Worker/Organizer with actual experience

of organizing rural poor (To be nominated by Chairman DRDA)

25. District level Chairman of the Land Mortgage Bank.
26. Representative of District Milk Union (To be nominated by Chairman DRDA).
27. Two representative of the weaker sections, one of whom may be drawn from SCs and STs. These representatives may be the beneficiaries of the programme (To be nominated by Chairman DRDA).
28. One representative of rural women, preferably a beneficiary (To be nominated by Chairman DRDA).
29. A member belonging to minority community (To be nominated by Chairman DRDA).
30. Chief Executive Officer – Zilla Parishad Member Secretary.
31. Project Director, DRDA
32. One Nominee of Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment.

[English]

Private Power Projects

1845. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries/foreign agencies which are developing/executive power projects in the Country exclusively with their own financial resources without involvement of Indian Finances; and

(b) The terms and conditions laid down by the Government for execution and running of such projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) No proposals have been received from foreign investors for setting up power projects in the private sector exclusively with their own financial without involvement of Indian finances.

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

Wastage of Petrol

1846. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the latest calculations 3.2 lakh litres of petrol and one lakh ton litres of diesel is wasted every day by vehicles waiting at signals at the various crossings in Delhi.

(b) whether the Government have drawn up any plan to reduce such waste; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Loss of diesel and petrol on account of idling of vehicles at various crossings in Delhi has been estimated to be of the order of 3.22 lakh litres of petrol and 1.01 lakh litres of diesel per day, in the study conducted by the Central Road Research Institute (CRRRI) at the instance of Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA).

(b) and (c) Government of Delhi has planned several steps to reduce the traffic congestion, minimise pollution and accidents and to provide safe and smooth flow of traffic in Delhi roads. These include synchronisation of traffic signals on important corridors of Delhi, planning for the introduction of Computerised area traffic control system and installation of vehicles actuated traffic signals, etc.

Fruits/Vegetables used in Food Processing Industries

1847. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of fruits vegetables produced in India that are being used by Food Processing units; and

(b) the annual quantity of each such fruits/vegetables is being used ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) and (b) India produces all types of fruits & vegetables which grow in temperate, subtropical and tropical climate. At present Mango, Papaya, Gauva, Pineapple, Orange and apple are the main fruits and Tomato, peas and onion are the main vegetables which are processed. The data regarding processing of individual fruits & vegetables is not maintained. However, it is estimated that in all 19.20 lakh tons of fruits & vegetables were processed during the year 1996.

Clearance to Power Projects

1848. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Tripartite pact alternative rejected" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated October 14, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance has rejected the tripartite agreement between promoters of private power sector projects;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof;

(e) whether any alternative is being suggested in this regard; and

(f) if so, the time by which the final decision for counter guarantee for private power projects is likely to be decided ?

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

(b) to (f) Government of India has already advised the State Government to adopt the following alternatives to Government of India Counter-guarantee to the State Guarantee for the concerned State Electricity Board's payment obligations to the Independent Power Producers (IPPs) :

- (i) Direct supply of power by IPPs to high tension consumers.
- (ii) Opening of an 'escrow' account, in which payments by identified consumers are credited and the liability of payment of the IPP is a first charge on this account.
- (iii) Linking power generation with distribution.

Government of India is also examining certain other alternatives.

Confiscation of Property

1849. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to confiscate the property(ies) of those colonisers/land mafia who sold off the Government and Gram Sabha land to innocent people in Delhi whose houses have now been demolished or are in the process of being demolished;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(c) Action against encroachment of public land and unauthorised construction thereon is taken by the land owning agencies and the local bodies/Delhi Development Authority under the relevant Acts.

NTPC

1850. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "NTPC wants RBI Guarantee for new agreements" appearing in the Business Standard dated January 30, 1997;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government as well as RBI thereto; and

(c) the present status of the proposal and policy evolved to safeguard the interest of NTPC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) In order to secure payment for power supplied to State Electricity Boards, NTPC proposed a tripartite agreement with the State Government and Reserve Bank of India so that in the event of default by State Electricity Board, dues of NTPC could be recovered from the State's RBI account. The Central Government has, however, not supported such an arrangement. NTPC has been entering into Power Purchase Agreements with the concerned State Governments/SEBs on the basis of their opening of Letters of Credit in its favour backed by State Government guarantee for meeting their payment obligations.

[Translation]

Mobilisation of Funds by HUDCO

1851. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the funds mobilised by the HUDCO from the market by issuing bonds during the last three years; and
- (b) the percentage of recovery of the funds provided by the HUDCO to the State Governments and other institutions and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The funds mobilised through bonds/debentures issued by HUDCO during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Taxable Bonds	Taxfree Bonds (Rs. in Crores)	Debentures
1993-94	204.50	195.50	30.00
1994-95	174.00	-	40.00
1995-96	273.50	-	20.00

(b) As on 31.12.96, HUDCO is reported to have received back 93.63% of the loan amount which was due for recovery. Details are as follows :-

	(Rs. in crore)
Cumulative loan release	9126
Cumulative repayment due	9158
Cumulative repayment received	8483

[English]

Employment Assurance Schemes

1852. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering the request of Government of Kerala to extent the Employment Assurance Schemes (EAS) Programme to 16 more blocks situated in the remote Western Ghat areas where Scheduled Tribe population is higher; and

(b) if so, the details, thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the remaining non-EAS blocks of Kerala will be covered under EAS during 1997-98.

Allotment of Plots

1853. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the residential plots have been allotted to the members of the Panchasheel Co-operative House Building Society Limited at Mohali (Chandigarh), Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the allottees are likely to be given possession of plots; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) It has been reported by the Government of Punjab that the Panchsheel Co-operative House Building Society Limited has approached State Government for allotment of plots. The Society however, applied for setting up of a Colony but the land proposed for the same falls in the "Controlled Area" under the Punjab Government Property Regulation Act.

Before a licence is granted to the Society for setting up of the Colony, it is required to be registered as Promoter, which action has not been done by it so far.

[Translation]

Discontinuation of Supplementary JRY

1854. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for discontinuing the supplementary Jawahar Rojgar Yojana in Almora and Pithoragarh district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the measures being taken to tackle the problem of unemployment in the rural areas due to discontinuation of this scheme; and

(c) whether the Government propose to reintroduce the supplementary Jawahar Rojgar Yojana to provide rural employment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) No scheme named Supplementary Jawahar Rozgar Yojana was in operation. However, Intensified Jawahar Rozgar Yojana implemented in 120 backward districts of the country was merged with the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) w.e.f. 1.1.1996. EAS is a demand driven scheme under which districts can come up for release of next instalment after utilization of 50% or more of the available funds. This can take care of unemployment in the district.

[English]

Bureaucracy a Fiasco

1856. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bureaucracy a fiasco: Chief Secys call for the revamp" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated November 21, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The news item 'Bureaucracy a fiasco: Chief Secys call for its revamp' appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 21.11.96 relates to the press note issued by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances on the conclusions of the Conference of Chief Secretaries held on 20.11.96.

The import recommendations of the Conference of Chief Secretaries are as follows :-

- (i) There is a need for steps of reorganise work procedures, for delegation down the line and an effective management information system accessible to all. Simultaneous steps to address the right sizing of public services are necessary.

- (ii) The approach to the elimination of corruption in the public service needs to address prevention, surveillance and deterrent prosecution, and deal ruthlessly with the nexus between criminals and unscrupulous elements.
- (iii) The Government of India and State Governments should draw up a Charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code for the civil service.
- (iv) The State Governments will be requested to devise suitable mechanisms including a high powered Civil Service Board, and amend relevant rules, for transparent decisions on postings, promotions and transfers of officials at all levels.
- (v) It is necessary to introduce greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies. This would cover, for example, movement towards a Right to Information Act.
- (vi) Accountability should be interpreted in a larger sense in order to ensure public satisfaction and responsive delivery of services. For this purpose, a phased introduction of Citizens' Charter for as many service institutions as possible could be considered.

The recommendations of the Conference have been given wide publicity and are being followed up within the Central Government and with the State Governments for urgent processing. It is proposed to place an Action Plan soon before a Conference of Chief Ministers, after consolidating the views of different citizen group as well as State Governments.

Payment of Sales Tax

1857. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the foreign airlines have not been making payment of Sales tax and other State taxes on Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to various Oil Companies;

(b) if so, the names of such foreign airlines;

(c) the amount outstanding against each airlines of the oil companies;

(d) whether Air India has also requested for exempting it from paying the sales tax vis-a-vis the foreign airlines;

(e) whether a inter-Ministry meeting has taken place to sort out this issue; and

(f) if so, the outcome of meeting ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) to (c) The details of the Airlines and the estimated outstanding on account of Sales-tax as on 31.1.97 are given in the enclosed statement.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) The Government has considered the matter for remedial measures.

Statement

Outstanding from Foreign Airlines on Account of Sales Tax

	Rs./LACS			
	As on 31/1/97 (Provisional)			
	IOC	BPCL	HPCL	Total
Air France	1031.99			1031.99
Lufthansa	2362.33			2362.33
Kuwait Airways	165.68			165.68
Saudia	361.82			361.82
EL AL Israel	452.49			452.49
Royal Jordan	290.54			290.54
Syrian Air	7.04			7.04
Thai Airways	220.23			220.23
SAS	101.11			101.11
United Air	230.79			230.79
Aeroflot	15.27		6.60	21.87
KLM	131.66	1054.18		1185.84
British Airways		2230.05		2230.05
Swiss Air		1485.72		1485.72
Alitalia		544.96		544.96
Koren Air		661.83		661.83
Uzbekistan Airways		92.68		92.68
Air Mauritius		102.89		102.89
Kenya Airways		100.57		100.57
Delta Airlines		48.33	528.00	576.33
Egypt Air		49.43		49.43
All Nippon Airlines		40.23		40.23
Air Canada		67.84		67.84
Emirates		20.89		20.89
Martin Air		.62		.62
Gulf Air		9.47		9.47
Total	5370.95	6509.69	534.60	12415.24

Doppler Radar

1858. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee has been formed in the India Meteorological Department at Delhi to consider purchase of Doppler radar;

(b) if so, whether the Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and other coastal States could have avoided cyclones had they been equipped with Doppler radars;

(c) the main functions of this Committee;

(d) if so, whether the Government are considering to replace the present technique with Doppler radars in all cyclones prone coastal States; and

(e) if so, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (c) The purchase of the Doppler Radars is being done through the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals. ISRO is also developing an indigenous weather doppler radar.

(b) Radar is one of the many tools used for locating the position of the cyclones and tracking it. It cannot avoid or change the course or intensity of a cyclonic storm.

(d) and (e) The Government has taken a decision to replace two radars in the cyclone detection network of India Meteorological Department by Doppler Radars. It is intended to introduce more doppler radars in the Ninth Plan.

[Translations]

Windmills

1859. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
 PROF. OM PAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :
 SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
 SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to promote this establishment of windmills in the country;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in the State in this regard, particularly in U.P.;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the public as well as private entrepreneurs have been encouraged to set up windmills;

(e) if so, the achievements made in this regard

during the current plan period;

(f) the proposal mooted in this regard in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(g) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The steps being taken to promote the establishment of windmills for power generation include a Comprehensive Wind Resource Assessment Programme; demonstration projects; development of local industry; and, fiscal and promotional incentives by Central and State Governments and State Electricity Boards to encourage commercial development.

(b) and (c) A Wind Resource Assessment Programme is being carried out in 25 States/UTs including Uttar Pradesh. 98 sites have so far been identified in 9 States which are suitable for establishment of wind power projects. No potential sites have been identified in Uttar Pradesh.

(d) and (e) A total wind power capacity of 833 MW has been installed in the country so far, of which 793 MW has been added so far during the Eighth Plan period. This includes demonstration projects of 16 MW and commercial projects of 777 MW.

(f) and (g) The Working Group on Non-Conventional Sources of Energy for the 9th Plan has recommended a wind power capacity addition of 2000 MW during the Ninth Five Year Plan period.

[English]

Encroachment

1860. SHRI I.D. SWAMI :
 SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total acreage of land which comes under the 'ridge area' in Delhi;

(b) the details thereof;

(c) the percentage out of it under different kinds of encroachment;

(d) the steps taken to get the encroachments removed and the success achieved in this regard;

(e) whether some land falling under Southern Ridge Area has been given on lease basis;

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

(g) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi has deliberately kept the lease out land in Southern Ridge Area out of the notification issued by him sometime in the past; and

(h) the justification therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) 7777 Hec.

(b) The details are as under:-

Northern Ridge	—	87 hec.
Central Ridge	—	864 hec.
South-Central Ridge	—	626 hec.
Southern Ridge	—	6200 hec.

Total : 7777 hec.

(c) The Delhi Development Authority, conservator of Forests, Delhi and Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported that 3.5%, 9.5% and 7.42% respectively of the land under their control is under encroachment in the Ridge Areas.

(d) The position as reported by conservator of Forests, Deputy Commissioner, South-West District, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi Development Authority and Land & Development Office is as under:-

Conservator of Forests :

In Wildlife sanctuary Asola, encroachments in Devli over an area of 1.0 acre and Tughlakabad (near Babbar Khalsa) over an area of 1.5 acre have been removed by demolishing the unauthorised structures during the year 1996-97. For removal of the rest of the encroachments, the Conservator of Forests is already seized of the matter.

Deputy Commissioner, South-West District :

Demolition of unauthorised structures has been done in Devli, Khanpur, Saidulazab, Asola, Rajokari, Bhatti to reclaim the gaon sabha land in the last one year.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi :

Out of 12 Acres, land measuring approximately 7 Acres has been reclaimed after demolition/removal of the encroachment.

Delhi Development Authority :

The identified encroachments from the Ridge Area have been removed.

Land and Development Office :

The encroachments were removed by the CPWD. L&DO also attended the demolition programme.

(e) and (f) Deputy Commissioner, South-West District, Delhi has reported that lease granted for mining to D.S.I.D.C. in Southern Ridge was not renewed after issue of the notification on 24.5.94 under Section 4 of the Indian Forest

Act declaring the ridge area as a reserved forest. Some residents of Balbir Nagar, Sanjay Nagar and Indira Nagar were granted lease by the erstwhile Gaon Sabha. Some leases were also granted on the Gaon Sabha land to M.C.D. DESU and other Government and Semi-government Academic and Charitable Institutions for maintaining essential services.

Power Grid Corporation

1861. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details and composition of present Board of Directors of the Power Grid Corporation of India;

(b) whether some of the members of the Board have been facing severe charges of irregularities;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have allowed such members to continue in the Board; and

(e) if so, the details and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As on date, the Board of Directors of POWERGRID comprise of three full-time functional Directors and two part-time Directors. The full-time Directors are Shri R.P. Singh, Director (Personnel), Shri A.L. Jaggi, Director (Operations) and Shri R.K. Madan, Director (Projects). The part-time Directors are Shri J. Vasudevan and Shri S.R. Shivrain, Joint Secretaries in the Ministry of Power.

(b) to (e) Shri A.L. Jaggi, one of the Directors in the Board of POWERGRID, has been served with a chargesheet in January, 1997 for initiating major penalty proceedings. The decision on the continuance of the Director on the Board of POWERGRID would depend upon the final outcome of the departmental proceedings.

Small and Medium Hydro Power Projects

1862. DR. ASIM BALA :

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set-up some small/medium hydro power projects in the country;

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

(c) the locations identified for this purpose; and

(d) the details about the resources and technology of such projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Small Hydro Power Projects aggregating to 141 MW capacity have

already been installed in 23 States, and a capacity of 242 MW is under construction in 25 States. The State-wise break-up of these projects, which are upto 3 MW station capacity, is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Nearly 2700 sites in 26 State/UTs, having a total potential of about 2000 MW, have so far been identified.

(d) The projects taken up so far have mainly been in the State sector. For new projects, private sector participation is also being encouraged by different States to bring about additionality of resources. Indigenous technology is available for these projects. Equipment is generally being supplied by domestic manufacturers.

Statement

State-Wise List of Installed/On-going small Hydel Power Project upto 3 MW Capacity**

S.No.	State	Projects Installed		Projects Under Construction	
		No.	Capacity (MW)	No.	Capacity (MW)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	7.01	36	42.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	30	20.15	12	20.60
3.	Assam	2	2.20	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	4	2.45
5.	Goa	—	—	2	2.90
6.	Gujarat	1	2.00	2	2.60
7.	Haryana	1	0.20	1	0.10
8.	Himachal Pradesh	14	9.47	4	11.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	4.35	9	11.19
10.	Karnataka	6	7.50	22	30.64
11.	Kerala	4	3.52	6	14.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5	3.25	8	14.40
13.	Maharashtra	4	4.32	5	8.70
14.	Manipur	6	4.10	4	3.50
15.	Meghalaya	1	1.51	2	0.20
16.	Mizoram	9	5.36	9	8.80
17.	Nagaland	5	3.17	4	5.50
18.	Orissa	3	1.26	7	9.92
19.	Punjab	4	3.90	8	9.50
20.	Rajasthan	5	4.30	2	1.04
21.	Sikkim	8	9.25	2	3.20
22.	Tamil Nadu	3	4.75	4	6.40
23.	Tripura	2	1.01	1	0.10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	51	30.72	24	21.40
25.	West Bengal	6	7.96	4	9.20
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	1	2.25
Total		188	141.26	183	241.69

** As per available reports from different SEBs State Agencies.

Overseas Development Administration Assistance

1863. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether difference between the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) have delayed poverty alleviation Programme in State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of slums/towns proposed to be covered under the programme and the amount proposed to be spent, component-wise; and

(d) the time by which the programme is likely to start and end ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has forwarded a project proposal covering 23 district headquarters, towns and fast growing urban centres extending the benefit to 1016 slums for assisting 2,80,786 slum families and covering about 14,55,000 slums population at an estimated cost of Rs. 225 crores for assistance from Overseas Development Administration (UK). The project proposal was subsequently revised by the State Government to cover 32 Class-I towns of the State. ODA has suggested for taking up a pilot project in half-a-dozen towns, whereas Government of India wants to cover 32 Class-I towns simultaneously.

(d) The Programme schedule to commencement and completion are yet to be finalised.

Pilferage of Petrol

1864. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have information of the extend of pilferage of petrol from the oil storage depots and while being transported from the depots to the petrol pumps during last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such pilferages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Some cases of thefts from oil storage depots and shortages of petrol at petrol pumps have been reported during the last three years. In cases where shortages are noticed on receipt of petrol at petrol pumps, equivalent amounts are recovered from the concerned transporters.

(c) In order to prevent pilferages at oil storage depots and while being transported to petrol pumps, steps such as proper accounting of products at storage points, filling of tank lorries through PD meters, use of tamper-proof seals in tank lorries, surprise checks of tank lorries, etc. are taken.

Action is taken against the erring transporters under the Industry Guidelines on Transport Discipline.

Food Processing Courses

1865. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) total number of seats for Food Processing and other courses in C.F.T.R.I., Mysore;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the intake of Food Processing and other courses to help more persons to get the training;

(c) whether the University of Mysore is awarding degrees to the courses conducted by C.F.T.R.I.;

(d) whether the Government propose to declare it as a Deemed University and allow the above Institute to confer degrees; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI. YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) There are a total 50 seats in two courses having 25 seats each for M.Sc. (Food Technology) and Certificate Course in Flour Milling Technology at CFTRI, Mysore.

(b) There is, at present, no such proposal.

(c) The degree for M.Sc. (Food Technology) is awarded by the Mysore University.

(d) The present arrangement with University of Mysore is working well.

(e) Does not arise.

Water Shortage

1866. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI VIJAY HARISHCANDRA PATEL :
SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Acute water shortage in Saurashtra District" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated December 25, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Government have approached the State Government to have the first hand information report in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to mitigate the long term problem of the area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government of Gujarat has reported that due to typical geological and geohydrological situations, problems of quality of drinking water like excess fluoride, salinity, periodic insufficient rainfall, minimal ground water recharge and non-sustainability of the ground water sources in Saurashtra and Kachchh, the region has been facing drinking water problem for a long time.

(d) The State Government has formulated a plan to supply water from the Narmada Canal network to 8215 villages and 135 urban centres of Saurashtra and Kochchh. The State Government has also formulated and sent schemes for seeking external assistance and for Central assistance under the Sub-Mission programme of Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission. The schemes are at various stages of technical scrutiny.

Non-Governmental Organisations Run by Officers

1867. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose ban on officers of All-India Services from floating any non-Governmental Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of non-Governmental Organisations run by officers of All-India Services, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government have decided to amend the conduct of rules of the All-India Services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a), (b), (d) and (e) It is proposed to amend AIS (Conduct) Rules so that members of All India Services would not be allowed to involve themselves in the registration, promotion, management and other activities of Non-Governmental organisation. In respect of their family members it is further proposed that they would need prior approval of the Government before involving

themselves with such organisation. At present the matter is under consultation final the State Governments. After receipt of their comments a final decision would be taken.

(c) As State Governments are competent to give such permissions at present, the details are not centrally monitored.

Allocation of Power to Kerala

1868. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the share of power due to Kerala has been curtailed by the Central Electricity Authority;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the reduced power from the Kerala's share has been diverted to Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka;

(d) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Union Government propose to reconsider to restore the pre-position in supplying the power to Kerala;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Union Government propose to set up more power projects in the State and supply adequate Naptha for its power projects; and

(h) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) The shares of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu from the 15% unallocated power of the Central Power Stations in the Southern Region from 1.10.1996 are indicated below. The allocation in the constituent states is made having regard to prevailing power supply position :

State	Share from (%)		
	1.10.1996	1.10.1997	10.2.1997
Andhra Pradesh	30	25	30
Karnataka	30	40	40
Kerala	30	25	27
Tamil Nadu	10	10	3

(e) and (f) The Share of Kerala from unallocated share has been increased from 25% to 27% with effect from 10.2.1997.

(g) and (h) Central Government has approved Kayamkulam combined cycle power project (350 MW) based on Naptha in Kerala in September, 1996. The project is presently under execution and the implementation scheduled of the project is as follows :

1st Gas Turbine Unit	:	March, 1999
2nd Gas Turbine Unit	:	May, 1999
Steam Turbine Unit	:	March, 2000.

Detailed guidelines were issued to the concerned States including Government of Kerala for recommending projects for naphtha/liquid fuel linkage within the capacity (in MW) allocated to respective States. The capacity allocated to Kerala is 660 MW. The recommendations in respect of Kerala has not been received.

Funds for Implementation of Accelerated Water Supply Programme

1869. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds released by the Union Government to the Government of Maharashtra during the past three years for providing drinking water in rural areas and for implementing accelerated water supply programme.

(b) the details of achievements made for implementation of these projects in separately during the above period;

(c) the details of funds sought for the current year and funds approved; and

(d) fresh proposals sent by the State Government and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). The information is given below :

Year	Funds released under ARWSP. (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Vill./ Hab. Covered	Population benefitted (Rs.in lakh)
1993-94	5488.00	1373	15.640
1994-95	6182.00	6828	33.377
1995-96	7474.88	6273	34.096

(c) and (d) The State Government of Maharashtra had sought for Rs. 112.81 crore for the current year 1996-97 against which Rs. 88.10 crore has released. The State Government has delegated powers to prepare and implement Rural Water supply projects.

Allocation for Drinking Water

1870. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation sanctioned by the Central Government for drinking water during 1996-97 and the details regarding the release of amounts so far, state-wise;

(b) whether any demand has been made by the State of Gujarat to help the State to meet drinking water needs in view of drought; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Allocation & release under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) during 1996-97

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Allocation	Releases
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6618.00	6572.18
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1200.00	1200.00
3.	Assam	2026.00	2353.57
4.	Bihar	7795.00	3113.00
5.	Goa	189.00	550.35
6.	Gujarat	4197.00	4039.50
7.	Haryana	2441.00	2550.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1331.00	1823.13
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3688.00	3705.00
10.	Karnataka	6087.00	6470.74
11.	Kerala	3095.00	3263.70
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7327.00	7313.61
13.	Maharashtra	8810.00	8810.00
14.	Manipur	440.00	478.56
15.	Meghalaya	472.00	572.00
16.	Mizoram	337.00	428.91
17.	Nagaland	422.00	211.00
18.	Orissa	3468.00	3993.83
19.	Punjab	1105.00	1289.00
20.	Rajasthan	10387.00	11587.00
21.	Sikkim	372.00	472.00
22.	Tamilnadu	5247.00	5333.00

1	2	3	4
23. Tripura		418.00	850.00
24. Uttar Pradesh		12278.00	11728.19
25. West Bengal		4740.00	3781.25
26. A&N Islands		25.00	0.00
27. D&N Haveli		15.00	3.00
28. Daman & Diu		10.00	0.00
29. Delhi		30.00	0.00
30. Lakshadweep		0.00	0.00
31. Pondicherry		20.00	10.00
Total		94590.00	92502.52

Million Wells Scheme

1871. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the year of the inception of the Million Wells Scheme (MWS);

(b) the States where the scheme have been launched; and

(c) the number of irrigation wells provided to the farmers under the scheme so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VERMA) : (a) to (c) The Million Wells Scheme (MWS) was lunched as a sub-scheme of National Rural Employment Programme (NREP)/Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during 1988-89. It continued as a sub-scheme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) which was launched on 1.4.1989. With effect from 1.1.1996, the MWS has been delinked from JRY and made an independent scheme and is being implemented in all the States. Since the inception of MWS, 10,65,274 open dug-wells have been constructed upto December, 1996.

Shortage of Power

1872. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "A mid-summer nightmare" appearing in the Pioneer dated January 8, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons for failure in evolving a workable formula to meet the power crisis, despite umpteen studies made by several committees for Rajadhyakasha Committee to Power Committee between 1980 to 1993; and

(c) the steps so far taken to put the State Electricity Boards as one even keel and to rejuvenate them ?

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

(b) The main reason behind performance of the State Electricity Boards not being upto expectation has, inter-alia, been unremunerative tariff fixation due to extraneous reasons, low utilisation of existing capacity, high T&D losses etc.

(c) The periodic monitoring of SEB performance has, resulted in increase in the PLF of State sector increasing from 51.3% in 1990-91 to 58.0% in 1995-96, and reductions in T&D losses from 22.89% in 1990-91 to 20.85% in 1994-95. Recently Government, with the consensus of the States, have drawn up a Common Minimum Action Plan for Power, which, inter-alia deals to create Independent Central and State Regulatory Commissions, provide autonomy to SEB's rationalise tariff structures, improve management practices of SEB's and further improve the physical parameters in a time bound manner.

[Translation]

Supply of LPG

1873. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the private companies functioning at present in country for supplying LPG;

(b) whether the Government have evaluated the performance of public LPG companies vis-a-vis private companies;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to maintain the monopoly of public sector companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) 96 parties have obtained rating for undertaking activities under the parallel marketing of LPG. However, as on 31.1.1997, only 17 private have imported LPG in bulk and two parties have imported package LPG.

(b) to (d) During February 1993, Government had permitted, under the parallel marketing scheme, private entrepreneurs to import and market LPG at market determined prices, under their own terms. Private parties are not required to obtain any licence from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for undertaking activities under the scheme. They are, however, required to obtain approvals/clearances under the relevant Acts and Rules regarding safety, pollution control etc., as applicable. The private parties are also now required to get themselves

rated from one of the approved rating agencies and submit the rating certificate to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and other concerned. Cumulatively upto 31.1.1997, 17 private parties have imported about 190 TMT of LPG in bulk and 2 parties have imported about 0.19 TMT in packed.

Consequent to introduction of parallel marketing scheme of LPG, there is no monopoly in LPG marketing. It is expected that by end of monopoly and on account of competition, there will be improvement in customer service.

[English]

Barrier Free Environment

1874. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a project has been undertaken to provide a barrier free environment to the disabled and the elderly people, as sponsored by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP);

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

(c) the details of beneficiaries of the project and the steps taken to set up such projects on a country-wide basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Pilot Project namely, the 'New Delhi Pilot Project' has been started recently with the assistance of the UN-Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (ESCAP) for the promotion of barrier-free built environment for the disabled and elderly persons. This Project envisages the creation of facilities to provide barrier-free access to disabled and elderly persons in five selected buildings located in the Indraprastha Estate area in New Delhi and also in Nirman Bhavan and Shastri Bhavan, housing the Ministries of Urban Affairs & Employment and Welfare respectively. This Project, which is expected to have demonstration value, aims at developing a model with appropriate designs for the replication of the same in other cities in India.

(c) The beneficiaries of the Project will include various categories of disabled persons such as the orthopaedically handicapped, visually handicapped etc. and elderly persons. With a view to promoting similar projects on a country-wide basis, draft Model Building Bye-laws, incorporating provisions for barrier-free access to the disabled and elderly persons in buildings, have been formulated and circulated by the Government of India to the State Governments.

[Translation]

Specific Employment Schemes

1875. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAJ : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 for specific Employment Schemes in Deoria and Balia district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether these funds are being spent on some other heads; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The details of amount of funds allocated during 1995-96 and 1996-97 for Employment schemes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training for Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM) in Balia and Deoria District of Uttar Pradesh are as follow :

	1995-96		1996-97	
	Balia	Deoria	Balia	Deoria
JRY	883.09	340.89	842.25	353.79
EAS*	340.00	300.00	520.00	150.00
IRDP	345.99	329.94	345.99	329.94
TRYSEM	29.32	29.88	29.32	29.88

* The figures show the funds released.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

LPG Agencies

1876. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any policy of Government to encourage Cooperative Societies;

(b) If so, the places where LPG distributorship has been given to Cooperative Societies;

(c) whether the number of LPG distributorship to Cooperative Societies is much less than the number of individual LPG Agencies; and

(d) The steps Government propose to take to encourage the Cooperative Societies in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) As per existing policy cooperative societies are eligible

to apply under open category for setting up LPG distributorships. Within this open category, other things being equal, consumer cooperative societies are given preference over other applicants.

(b) Based on the above policy, Oil Marketing Companies have awarded 100 LPG distributorship to cooperative societies.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In addition to the above, Oil Companies can allot direct distributorships to cooperative societies of the project, which cater to the LPG requirement of the employees of the project only in their respective colonies.

National Social Assistance Programme

1877. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the date since when the National Social Assistance Programme is being implemented in Orissa;

(b) the main objectives of the programme;

(c) the criteria followed for providing assistance under the programme;

(d) the category-wise details of persons benefited there from so far in the State of Orissa particularly in Kalahandi and Nuapada districts separately; and

(e) the amount of financial assistance provided to the State so far particularly for these two districts under the programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO VARMA) : (a) The National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) is being implemented in Orissa since 15.8.1995.

(b) The main objectives of the programme are as under:-

(i) to provide social assistance benefits to poor households in case of old age, death of the breadwinner and maternity.

(ii) To ensure minimum national standards of Central assistance in addition to the benefits that States are currently providing or might provide in future.

(iii) To provide opportunities for linking the social assistance package to schemes for poverty alleviation and the provision of basic needs.

(c) The NSAP has three components; these are :-

(i) National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS);

(ii) National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) and

(iii) National Maternity Benefit Scheme (NMBS)

The specific criteria for each component are as follows:

(i) NOAPS : Central Assistance under the National Old Age Pension is available subject to the following criteria.

(a) The age of the applicant (male/female) shall be 65 age of above.

(b) The applicant must be a destitute in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. If the criteria adopted by State/UT Government to determine destitution prior to the introduction of NOAPS are more liberal than those prescribed by the Central Government, the State/UT Government are free to adopt them.

(c) The amount of Old Age Pension shall be Rs.75/- per month.

(d) The total number old age pensions should not exceed the numerical ceiling prescribed for State/UTs.

(ii) NFBS – Central Assistance under the National Family Benefit Scheme is available to households below the povertyline in the event of the death of the primary breadwinner in the bereaved family subject to the satisfaction of the following criteria.

(a) The Primary breadwinner is the member of the household-male or female-whose earnings contribute the largest proportion to the total household income.

(b) The death of such a primary breadwinner should have occurred whilst he or she was in the age group 18 to 64 years i.e. more than 18 years of age and less than 65 years of age.

(c) The bereaved household is below the poverty line according to the criteria prescribed by the Government of India.

(d) Rs. 5000/- per person in the case of death due to natural causes and Rs. 10,000 per person in the case of death due to accidental causes will be the ceilings for the purpose of claiming Central assistance

(e) The number of such cases should be within the numerical ceiling prescribed.

(iii) NMBS – The Maternity Benefit is available as lumpsum case assistance to women of households below the poverty line subject to the following conditions :

- (a) The benefit is restricted to pregnant women upto the first two live births provided they are 19 years of age and above.
- (b) The beneficiaries should belong to households below the poverty line according to the criteria prescribed by the Government of India.
- (c) The ceiling on the amount of benefit is Rs.300/-
- (d) The number of such cases should be within the numerical ceiling prescribed for the State/UT.

(d) The requisite information is given below :-

Name of the scheme	Number of beneficiaries in.		
	State as a whole	Kalahandi	Nuapada
1. NOAPS	251982	10123	4202
2. NFBS	2632	90	50
3. NMBS	46422	1765	586

(e) The funds released to the State as well as two districts of Kalahandi and Nuapada are as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	Funds release during		
	1995-96	1996-97	Total
<i>State-Orissa</i>			
1. NOAPS	784.08	2290.13	3074.21
2. NFBS	510.69	146.50	657.19
3. NMBS	240.08	395.30	635.38
<i>Distt. Kalahandi</i>			
1. NOAPS	28.00	91.06	119.06
2. NFBS	18.23	22.69	40.92
3. NMBS	8.58	14.12	22.70
<i>Distt. Nuapada</i>			
1. NOAPS	11.63	37.74	49.37
2. NFBS	7.57	–	7.57
3. NMBS	3.56	5.87	9.43

Special Grants to States

1878. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought a special grant of Rs. 1000 crores from the Planning Commission to cope with mass influx of population from outside the State;

(b) whether the Government have agreed to provide the above grant; and

(c) whether the Government are considering such special grants of other States similarly affected by large scale influx of outsiders and infiltration of foreigners ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No specific proposal has been received as yet from the Government of Maharashtra on this issue. However, in the meeting held on 29th January, 1997 between Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, the question of providing of Special Central Assistance of Rs. 1000 crore to improve the basic amenities of Mumbai was raised by Chief Minister, Maharashtra.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Rural Electrification

1879. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of electrification done during each of the last three years in the country till date year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the target fixed for the current financial year;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) the proportion of electrification in rural and urban areas;

(e) whether Union Government propose of privatise the electrification system in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The

details of State-wise electrification of villages during the last 3 years i.e. 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 and upto December 1996 is given in Annexure. The State-wise targets and achievements during the current financial year is also enclosed in Statement.

(c) Financial assistance provided by the Rural Electrification Corporation for Rural Electrification Programmes, including village electrification, pumpset energisation, system improvement etc., to the State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments/Rural Electric

Cooperative from 1993-94 to January, 1997 is Rs. 2801.88 crores.

(d) All the 4029 towns in the country have been electrified. Whereas out of 5,79,132 villages in the country. 5,02,771 villages have been electrified by the end of December, 1996.

(e) and (f) As per the existing Government of India policy, private sector participation is permitted in the areas of generation, transmission and distribution of power.

Statement

Progress of Village Electrification.

S.No.	States/UTs	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97 Upto Dec. 96	
		Tar Revised	Ach	Tar Revised	Ach	Tar Revised	Ach	Tar Revised	Ach
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	150	80	140	310	120	121	95	10
3.	Assam	110	14	100	170	900	222	280	-
4.	Bihar	250	205	200	59	400	43	325	17
5.	Goa	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
6.	Gujarat	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
7.	Haryana	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	6	5	50	65	43	30	5
10.	Karnataka	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
11.	Kerala	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
12.	Madhya Pradesh	250	751	250	1019	350	503	470	154
13.	Maharashtra	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
14.	Manipur	115	85	100	71	75	163	75	22
15.	Meghalaya	70	23	100	Nil	60	Nil	40	60
16.	Mizoram	50	50	50	65	45	45	15	-
17.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	@
18.	Orissa	235	226	220	223	220	740	250	416
19.	Punjab	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
20.	Rajasthan	650	711	750	699	750	750	550	188
21.	Sikkim	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@
22.	Tamil Nadu	-	@	-	@	-	@	-	@

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
23. Tripura		320	200	220	150	20	15	20	3
24. Uttar Pradesh		650	650	300	428	800	1305	480	26
25. West Bengal		350	351	462	310	520	89	370	39
Total		3210	3352	2897	3554	4325	4039	3000	940
Total (UTs)		—	@	—	—	—	@	—	@
Total (All-India)		3210	3352	2897	3554	4325	4039	3000	940

(C) Cumulative.

(@) Cent per cent villages electrified.

*** Under RC Finance Programme.

N.R.Y. Funds

1880. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM :
SHRI ASHOK ARGAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated under Nehru Rozgar Yojana during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the year-wise details of utilisation of allocated funds by various States; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The details of amount allocated Statewise during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(c) and (d) The details of utilisation of funds yearwise and Statewise are given in the enclosed Statement-II

Statement-I

Allocation of Central Funds to States/UTs under Nehru Rozgar Yojana from 1993-94 to 1995-96.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	679.53	506.90	463.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.75	45.09	57.20
3.	Assam	89.49	184.72	147.20
4.	Bihar	359.40	429.95	471.45
5.	Goa	17.85	18.25	18.30

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Gujarat	212.52	194.45	215.90
7.	Haryana	123.29	122.72	111.99
8.	Himachal Pradesh	56.19	64.75	66.15
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	87.48	73.68	77.88
10.	Karnataka	440.17	398.25	252.06
11.	Kerala	234.82	241.58	154.60
12.	Madhya Pradesh	684.48	595.03	508.25
13.	Maharashtra	669.60	494.85	521.33
14.	Manipur	43.33	66.42	62.91
15.	Meghalaya	24.10	22.27	31.80
16.	Mizoram	21.74	29.06	27.58
17.	Nagaland	15.70	21.95	3.50
18.	Orissa	219.30	168.50	156.60
19.	Punjab	216.47	196.12	105.60
20.	Rajasthan	379.60	361.55	330.37
21.	Sikkim	29.68	29.15	28.46
22.	Tamil Nadu	765.58	631.76	563.49
23.	Tripura	25.60	28.81	26.41
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1711.54	1549.54	1138.89
25.	West Bengal	259.00	392.18	441.00
26.	A & N Islands	13.53	21.21	16.70
27.	Chandigarh	13.86	15.79	12.03
28.	D & N Haveli	11.05	10.35	9.65
29.	Daman & Diu	18.25	13.82	22.60
30.	Delhi	22.00	22.00	22.00
31.	Pondicherry	11.70	27.30	18.60
Total		7477.00	6980.00	6084.00

Statement-II

*Unutilization of Central Funds by States/UTs Under
Nehru Rozgar Yojana From 1993-94 to 1995-96.*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1026.83	977.37	728.50
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6.88	34.59	49.70
3.	Assam	0.56	328.24	324.18
4.	Bihar	311.75	2.00	772.20
5.	Goa	32.15	30.50	41.45
6.	Gujarat	346.23	144.37	149.33
7.	Haryana	231.32	159.28	176.98
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7.39	—	55.69
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	90.83	—	106.74
10.	Karnataka	398.41	191.99	322.93
11.	Kerala	735.03	338.04	123.90
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1797.04	485.94	1866.28
13.	Maharashtra	103.78	405.12	708.90
14.	Manipur	153.54	39.13	156.84
15.	Meghalaya	1.61	—	111.68
16.	Mizoram	27.49	155.17	57.13
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	227.29	—	273.85
19.	Punjab	317.66	315.30	213.38
20.	Rajasthan	843.12	520.37	545.72
21.	Sikkim	42.03	—	93.63
22.	Tamil Nadu	759.99	602.70	301.27
23.	Tripura	18.87	42.68	47.18
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3115.75	1838.09	1820.04
25.	West Bengal	223.82	979.69	1283.02
26.	A & N Islands	18.71	4.02	9.42
27.	Chandigarh	7.58	33.84	(-) 12.33
28.	D & N Haveli	6.18	3.72	3.06
29.	Daman & Diu	1.89	—	39.28
30.	Delhi	65.58	7.70	—
31.	Pondicherry	6.66	14.55	16.52
Total		10925.97	7476.40	10486.47

Note : Expenditure includes element of State share also.

[English]

Private Proposals in Nuclear Power Generation

1881. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- whether several proposals for private entry into nuclear power generation are pending with the Government;
- if so, the detail thereof; and
- the Government reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Liquidity Crunch

1882. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an attempt to bail out the Indian Oil Corporation has landed the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation into a severe cash crunch;

(b) if so, whether ONGC will be forced to borrow Rs. 1600 crore plus at market rate to service its matured loans and pay royalty to State Governments and the centre extracting crude oil;

(c) whether the ONGC has sought the Finance Ministry's permission to tap the short-term external commercial borrowings; and

(d) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) IOC and ONGC have entered into a commercial arrangement whereby ONGC agreed to provide extended term of six months for the supply of crude oil and LPG.

(b) ONGC is planning to finance its funding requirements estimated at about Rs. 900 to 1000 crores through short -term borrowing upto March, 1997.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

**Fund for JRY and EAS in
North Eastern States**

1883. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the sanctioned fund for EAS and JRY schemes in each of North Eastern States for the financial year 1995-96, scheme-wise;

(b) the amount released upto 31st January, 1997 for these two projects in the States of this region;

(c) the total amount required for giving work to the labour card holders for 100 days (State-wise); and

(d) the steps taken by the Central Government to meet up the requirements of the North-Eastern States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The State-wise details of Central funds released under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) to each of North Eastern States during 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto 31st January, 1997) are given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) Under EAS guidelines, all those persons who need and seek employment have to get themselves registered with the village panchayat and are issued family cards. Employment is provided to the family card holders whenever they need and seek work. For seeking employment under EAS the needy persons are required to apply in writing to the local panchayat and whenever atleast 20 persons demand work during the lean season, they are to be provided un-skilled manual employment on any on going department/EAS work or by opening up new works in the area. The total amount required for giving work to the family card holders can not be worked out as employment is provided to only those persons who seek work under the EAS. However, all the blocks in the North Eastern States have been covered under EAS from 1996-97, which is a demand driven scheme. A district can request for the next subsequent instalments of the funds for those blocks which have utilised 50% or more of the available funds.

Compressed Natural Gas

1884. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a very poor response from vehicle owners on the usage Compressed Natural Gas in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to promote usage of CNG ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The response from private vehicle owners on usage of CNG in Delhi has been poor, partly on account of high cost of CNG conversion kit and partly because of certain technical and operational problems. However, about 800 Govt. cars have been converted for

CNG use and response in certain areas is good.

(c) Govt. have taken steps to reduce custom duty on CNG kits and planned to set up more on-line CNG dispensing facilities along the gas pipeline in Delhi.

[Translation]

Petroleum Projects

1885. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to recent survey conducted by the Government 80 percent of petroleum and its by-products are consumed public sector units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these products are supplied at cheaper rates than supplied to the public; and

(d) if so, the reasons and rationale thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government have not conducted any such survey.

(c) and (d) The ex-storage point prices (exclusive of excise duty) of administered petroleum products are uniform at all pricing points in the country, for all consumers.

[English]

Generation of Power

1886. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI :

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the cumulative losses incurred by the State Electricity Boards during the last three years, SEBs-wise and Year-wise;

(b) the target of generation of power at the end of Seventh and Eighth Year Plan respectively together with actual achievement;

(c) the actual flow of private investment in the power sector in the last three years;

(d) the steps taken to meet the current and anticipated demand of power upto 2000 A.D..

(e) whether the Government have advised SEBs to privatise its various functions of production and distribution of power; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Due to non finalisation of the accounts of some of the SEBs, the surplus/deficit of all the SEBs for the year 1995-96 is not available. However, the surplus/deficit of the SEBs with and without taking into rural electrification subsidy, as provided in the accounts for the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are enclosed at Statement-I, and II respectively.

(b) The target of generation of power at the end of Seventh and Eighth Five Year Plans (upto January, 1997) together with the actual achievement was as under :-

Period	Target	Achievement
At the end of Seventh Plan	251.3 BU	245.4 BU
Eighth Plan (Upto Jan., 1997)	330.7 BU	326.4 BU

(c) the extent of capital investment involved in respect of the projects for the private sector could be assessed only after these projects are completed.

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to meet the current and anticipated demand of power upto 2000 AD. inter alia, include creation of additional capacity, encouraging private sector participation in power generation, better demand side management, energy conservation measures, renovation and modernisation of existing plants, reduction of T&D losses and effective utilisation of generation by transfer of power from surplus regions through inter-regional links etc.

(e) and (f) The Chief Ministers of States met on 16th October and 3rd December, 1996 and noted that the requirements of the future expansion and improvement of power sector cannot be fully achieved through public resources alone and it is essential to encourage private sector participation in generation, transmission and distribution.

Statement-I

Statement showing the surplus/deficit of the SEBs (taking into account RE Subsidy as provided in the accounts) during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(Rs. in crores)				
Sl. No.	Name of the SEBs	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79.45	86.99	87.25
2.	Bihar	191.19	442.65	-80.32
3.	Gujarat	89.79	92.96	105.94

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Haryana	-335.66	-410.90	16.18
5.	Himachal Pradesh	11.82	14.61	18.56
6.	Karnataka	32.21	33.87	43.06
7.	Kerala	18.42	24.12	21.88
8.	Madhya Pradesh	101.01	118.24	132.40
9.	Maharashtra	272.16	288.90	320.78
10.	Orissa	25.94	29.98	24.90
11.	Punjab	-117.53	-117.91	-5.53
12.	Rajasthan	68.04	70.12	77.07
13.	Tamil Nadu	225.10	225.54	347.75
14.	Uttar Pradesh	213.86	61.23	258.44
15.	West Bengal	-28.35	17.81	18.47
16.	Assam	-70.68	144.73	-269.81
17.	Meghalaya	-8.27	-4.79	-20.18
Total		765.50	1117.45	1096.82

Statement-II

Statement showing the surplus/deficit of the SEBs (without taking into account RE Subsidy as provided in the accounts) during the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95.

(Rs. in crores)				
Sl. No.	Name of the SEBs	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	79.37	86.86	-828.96
2.	Bihar	-242.41	280.65	-300.11
3.	Gujarat	-537.93	-492.35	-550.28
4.	Haryana	-370.90	-482.68	-98.92
5.	Himachal Pradesh	11.82	14.61	17.67
6.	Karnataka	-19.49	-1.89	-164.18
7.	Kerala	18.40	24.12	18.32
8.	Madhya Pradesh	-279.04	-297.01	-382.40
9.	Maharashtra	272.00	288.89	320.75
10.	Orissa	23.49	-196.05	-136.08
11.	Punjab	-460.73	-499.35	-427.48
12.	Rajasthan	-221.43	-354.82	-411.05

1	2	3	4	5
13. Tamil Nadu		-231.96	-301.56	-2.31
14. Uttar Pradesh		691.46	-1090.20	-978.25
15. West Bengal		-96.42	-55.38	-78.66
16. Assam		-134.75	-329.60	-269.85
17. Meghalaya		-12.46	-12.97	-17.58
Total		-2893.90	-3418.74	-4294.37

[Translation]

Outstanding Funds for Development Schemes

1887. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some funds of various Development Schemes of Delhi are outstanding with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise and the amount outstanding against each scheme;

(c) the concrete steps being taken by the Union Government for immediately providing funds for the sanctioned schemes to the Government of Delhi;

(d) the reasons for delay in this regard;

(e) whether the funds of various schemes of some other States are also outstanding with the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (f) The Central assistance for the NCT of Delhi for the Annual Plan 1996-97 was Rs. 263.69 crore which included Rs. 9 crore for the Basic Minimum Services (BMS) and Rs. 12.94 crore for Slums Development. In addition to it, Rs. 28.25 crore has been provided in the Ministry of Home Affairs' Plan for Delhi Police. The Planning Commission is not withholding any amount allocated under the Central Assistance to the NCT of Delhi or any other State.

[English]

Housing Problem

1888. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :
SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute housing problem faced by the Central Government employees in the country particularly in Delhi;

(b) the number of flats lying vacant in different categories, placewise and the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated shortage of houses in the metropolitan cities for Central Government employees;

(d) the steps taken to ease the housing problem;

(e) the present position of accommodation in Delhi and other metropolitan cities in respect of each category of employee as on date and the details thereof; and

(f) the number of residential units the Government propose of construct in Delhi and elsewhere in the country during the next three years and the amount earmarked for that purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement-I is enclosed.

(c) and (e) Statement-II is enclosed.

(d) and (f) In the 9th Plan proposals starting from 1997-98, it has been proposed to earmark an amount of Rs.500 crores for the General Pool Residential Accommodation Scheme and it is proposed to construct about 10,000 houses during this period in different cities in India, out of which approximately 2000 will be in Delhi. Construction in the first three years will be based on the plan out-lay for these years.

Statement-I

Number of Flats lying vacant

Station	Type	Vacant Flats	Reasons
Bombay	II	185	Applications are required to be called for after Supreme Court has permitted calling of new applications.
Chandigarh	I	70	
	III	55	
	IV	36	
Faridabad	I	1	
	IV	3	
Ghaziabad	III	5	
Rajkot	I	8	
Delhi	IV	94	
	IV (Spl)	90	
	VB (D-I)	3	

Statement-II

Station	Type	Demand	Availability	Shortage
Bombay	I	10380	3271	7109
	II	18370	3642	14728
	III	9000	1293	7705
	IV	3000	553	2446
	V	800	214	583
	VI	230	90	139
Calcutta	I	2434	1688	764
	II	3755	2441	1311
	III	1897	1344	545
	IV	401	185	215
	V	360	117	243
	VI	117	101	16
Madras	I	805	450	355
	II	1900	880	1020
	III	1550	435	1114
	IV	385	326	55
	V	150	85	64
	VI	23	16	7
	I	22293	16613	5680
	II	34925	23614	11311
	III	26711	14965	11746
	IV	9116	5019	4097
	IV (SPL)	1130	482	648
	V-A	2352	1241	1111
	V-B	845	409	436
	VI	1360	591	769
VII	317	102	215	
VIII	299	114	185	

Off-Shores Operation

1889. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

Project	Capacity	Name of Promoter
Cheemeni TPP	500 MW	BPL Group
Kanjikode DGPP	100 MW	WI Services & Estates Ltd.
Kannur CCGT	500 MW	KPP Nambiar & Associates.
Kasargod	500 MW	Finolex Energy Corporation Ltd.
Kasargod	60 MW	Kasargod Power Corpn. Ltd.
Kasargod TPC	500 MW	Kasargod Power Corpn. Ltd.
Kottikal	348 MW	Kumars Energy Corpn.
Palakkad	344 MW	Palakkad Power Generating Co.
Vypeen	650 MW	Siasin Energy Pvt. Ltd., USA.

(a) the number of divers engaged by ONGC in connection with its off-shores operation;

(b) the nature of duties that these divers perform;

(c) whether many foreign divers have been hired recently by ONGC at much higher wages than paid to the Indian divers; and

(d) if so, the reasons for hiring foreign divers and paying higher wages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) ONGC Ltd. has not directly engaged any divers for its off-shore operations. The Corporation engages the services of reputed and experienced Diving Agencies on contract, strictly based on need.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Kerala Electricity Board

1890. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Kerala State Electricity Board has signed Nine Power Purchase Agreements with private entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal to set up a hydro-electric power project in Kerala is pending with Union Government for clearance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the project is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) As per information received from Kerala State Electricity Board, they have signed Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) with Independent Power Producers (IPP) for setting up of the following 9 major thermal power plants in Kerala:

(c) Ministry of Power monitors only those private sector power projects that require the techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Of the projects of Kerala being monitored, there is no hydro-electric project.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Projects of Uttar Pradesh

1891.DR. BALIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of projects pending sanction with the Central Government for hygiene, supply of drinking water and development of slum settlements in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) the amount provided for the implementation of such projects during the last three years and the names of these projects and the names of cities for which this fund was provided;

(c) where sanction has been given to any project of Uttar Pradesh during the year 1995-96 and 1996-97; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No projects are pending sanction with the Central Government for hygiene and development of slum settlements in Uttar Pradesh.

In so far as supply of drinking water is concerned, under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, 2 schemes have not been approved as 69 schemes at a total projects cost of Rs. 5858.67 lakhs have already been sanctioned against the notional share of Rs. 1756.19 lakhs for the State of Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Plan.

(b) to (d) Under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, eligible for towns having population less than 20,000 as per 1991 census, 69 schemes have been sanctioned during the last three years at a total projects cost of Rs. 5858.67 lakhs and the Central share of Rs. 1978.92 lakhs has been released. Out of these, 27 schemes were sanctioned in 1995-96. The details are enclosed as Statement-I and II.

Under the Low Cost Sanitation programme for Liberation of scavengers 6 schemes at a total project cost of Rs. 9836.16 lakhs have been sanctioned during the last three years. Rs. 504.35 lakhs as subsidy has also been released to the State Government. All the 6 schemes were sanctioned during 1996-97.

Apart from the above, during 1996-97 proposal for

augmenting water supply facilities in respect of U.P. hill towns at the project cost of Rs. 4533 lakhs was also received for grant of assistance by the 10th Finance Commission. The same have been technically examined and recommended by this Ministry for financial assistance to the Ministry of Finance as per the recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission which have since been approved.

Statement-I

Schemes under Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Town	Sanction Dt. Mon./Year	Project cost
1	2	3	4
1.	Karhal	March, 94	106.90
2.	Hastinapur	-do-	116.35
3.	Jalali	-do-	77.25
4.	Jattari	-do-	100.60
5.	Harduaganj	-do-	57.30
6.	Kheragarh	-do-	75.20
7.	Haldaur	-do-	91.00
8.	Umarikalan	-do-	66.70
9.	Nadhawlikalam	-do-	36.00
10.	Raya	-do-	78.00
11.	Marehra	-do-	34.90
12.	Achnera	-do-	67.90
13.	Sasni	-do-	75.55
14.	Ghibore	-do-	57.65
15.	Tulsipur	-do-	97.50
16.	Golabazar	-do-	54.40
17.	Mehnagar	-do-	78.50
18.	Jiyanapur	-do-	56.10
19.	Ajmatgarh	-do-	48.00
20.	Ghughuli	-do-	79.20
21.	Reoti	-do-	77.50
22.	Sikanderpur	-do-	86.70
23.	Karari	-do-	83.34
24.	Bansdih	-do-	83.00
25.	Chandauli	-do-	85.00

1	2	3	4
26.	Bakewar	March, 94	63.60
27.	Lakhna	-do-	43.80
28.	Kulpahar	-do-	81.80
29.	Jhinhak	-do-	81.20
30.	Bithoor	-do-	46.20
31.	Naraini	-do-	54.50
32.	Tirwaganj	-do-	71.20
33.	Talgram	-do-	53.30
34.	Nawabganj	-do-	8.50
35.	Neotini	-do-	5.70
36.	Mohan	-do-	49.20
37.	Sandi	-do-	65.00
38.	Pali	-do-	59.20
39.	Islamnagar	-do-	68.40
40.	Singhyai Bharora	-do-	86.50
41.	Katra	-do-	103.00
42.	Bazpur	-do-	86.20
43.	Bilariaganj	Jan. 96	64.70
44.	Ramnagar	-do-	75.70
45.	Sankargarh	-do-	157.80
46.	Ghorawal	-do-	87.60
47.	Sidhaur	-do-	58.80
48.	Chopan	March, 96	133.50
49.	B.B. Nagar	-do-	68.30
50.	Daurala	-do-	74.60
51.	Faridpur	-do-	59.50
52.	Usawan	-do-	72.50
53.	Saurik	-do-	81.00
54.	Harriya	-do-	62.40
55.	Hariharpur	-do-	63.00
56.	Bansgaon	-do-	81.20
57.	Bikapur	-do-	101.50
58.	Sarai Akil	-do-	98.98
59.	Dudhi	-do-	156.70
60.	Pali	-do-	63.80
61.	Oran	-do-	59.00

1	2	3	4
62.	Risia Bazar	March, 96	86.15
63.	Narendernagar	-do-	240.50
64.	Chamba	-do-	537.80
65.	Jhalu	-do-	80.50
66.	Adri	-do-	60.30
67.	Kaladungi	-do-	121.90
68.	Atsu	-do-	79.80
69.	Hargaon	-do-	83.30
Total			5858.67

Statement-II

Schemes under Low Cost Sanitation Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Town	Sanction Date	Project cost
1.	Banda	17.7.96	565.20
2.	Badaur	17.7.96	382.97
3.	Moradabad	30.6.96	1298.43
4.	Mathura	30.6.96	1386.11
5.	Agra	30.6.96	5293.18
6.	Muzaffarnagar	30.6.96	910.27
Total			9836.16

[English

Incentives to Mega Projects

1892.DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide special incentives to States to all mega projects as pointed out in National Development Council meeting.

(b) if so, the criteria laid down for identifying the mega projects; and

(c) the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) In the National Development Council meeting held on 16.1.1997, some of the Chief Ministers in their speeches referred to special incentives being provided by different

States. All the central sector projects, costing Rs. 1000 crores and more are categorised as mega projects. No decision has been taken for providing special incentives to states for mega projects.

[Translation]

Additional Fund for Rural Development Projects

1893. SHRI SOHAN BEER :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have sent any proposal to the Centre for demanding additional funds for completion of its rural development projects;

(b) if so, the amount of additional funds allocated to the Government of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh by the Centre during the year 1996; and

(c) the details of the achievements of the projects during the said period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Integrated Rural Development Programmes (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are major rural development and employment programmes being implemented by the Centre throughout the country including the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. During the year 1995-96, an additional amount of Rs. 2414 lakhs and Rs. 1446.22 lakhs was allocated to the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh respectively as against their respective demand for additional funds for Rs. 3119 lakhs and Rs. 2372.71 lakhs under IRDP, Similarly, under ARWSP, an additional assistance of Rs. 1200.00 lakhs were provided to Uttar Pradesh during 1996. There was, however, no proposal for an additional assistance under ARWSP from Madhya Pradesh during 1996. Similarly there was no demand for additional funds under JRY either from Uttar Pradesh or from Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Physical achievements of these programmes during 1995-96 are as under:-

Programme	Uttar Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh
IRDP (No. of families assisted)	355916	210692
JRY(Lakh mandays generated)	1408.13	618.65
ARWSP (Population covered in lakhs)	55.55	22.25

[English]

Indira Awas Yojna

1894. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for allotment of Houses under Indira Awas Yojana to different States during last year;

(b) the Houses allotted during the current year;

(c) the total fund sanctioned/utilised during the above period by State Governments; and

(d) the details thereof statewide ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The targets for construction of houses fixed for different States under Indira Awas Yojana during 1995-96 is as per enclosed Statement-I.

(b) The targets of houses for construction by the States under Indira Awas Yojana for 1996-97 is as per enclosed Statement-II.

(c) and (d) The total funds sanctioned and utilised under Indira Awas Yojana for 1995-96 and 1996-97 is as per Statement-III and IV

Statement-I

Target for Construction of Houses under Indira Awas Yojana during 1995-96

Name of the State	Target
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	87642
Arunachal Pradesh	797
Assam	25560
Bihar	217292
Goa	861
Gujarat	34501
Haryana	10846
Himachal Pradesh	2736
Jammu & Kashmir	10561
Karnataka	52133
Kerala	24624
Madhya Pradesh	113384
Maharashtra	89776
Manipur	1022
Meghalaya	1195

1	2
Mizoram	504
Nagaland	1281
Orissa	62986
Punjab	7047
Rajasthan	50875
Sikkim	1491
Tamil Nadu	74205
Tripura	1327
Uttar Pradesh	204003
West Bengal	69579
A & N Islands	377
D & N Haveli	205
Daman & Diu	121
Lakshadweep	189
Pondicherry	369
Total	1147489

Statement-II

Target of Houses to be constructed under IAY during 1996-97

State/UT	Target
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	84640
Arunachal Pradesh	631
Assam	29197
Bihar	151453
Goa	1736

1	2
Gujarat	33633
Haryana	6983
Himachal Pradesh	2165
Jammu & Kashmir	5347
Karnataka	53181
Kerala	18554
Madhya Pradesh	147902
Maharashtra	81120
Manipur	808
Meghalaya	946
Mizoram	398
Nagaland	1014
Orissa	62248
Punjab	4966
Rajasthan	50325
Sikkim	369
Tamil Nadu	71598
Tripura	1051
Uttar Pradesh	241251
West Bengal	70979
A & N Islands	337
D & N Haveli	278
Daman & Diu	120
Lakshadweep	0
Pondicherry	330
Total	1123560

Statement-III

Name of the State	Allocation (1995-96)			Funds utilised (1995-96) (Rs. lakhs)
	Central	State (Rs. lakhs)	Total	
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	8764.21	2191.05	10955.26	6317.95
Arunachal Pradesh	79.71	19.93	99.64	56.00
Assam	2555.95	638.99	3194.94	3381.71
Bihar	17079.21	4269.80	21349.01	19168.71

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	86.12	21.53	107.65	31.51
Gujarat	3450.09	862.52	4312.61	3669.28
Haryana	1084.63	271.16	1355.79	1233.81
Himachal Pradesh	273.65	68.41	342.06	244.55
Jammu & Kashmir	1056.07	264.02	1320.09	543.04
Karnataka	5213.33	1303.33	6516.66	5812.80
Kerala	1896.68	474.17	2370.85	4864.14
Madhya Pradesh	11338.39	2834.60	14172.99	11807.75
Maharashtra	9064.06	2266.02	11330.08	10606.35
Manipur	102.16	25.54	127.70	141.18
Meghalaya	119.54	29.89	149.43	30.01
Mizoram	50.36	12.59	62.95	87.68
Nagaland	128.13	32.03	160.16	74.26
Orissa	6298.60	1574.65	7873.25	7494.88
Punjab	486.85	121.71	608.56	96.50
Rajasthan	5087.49	1271.87	6359.36	4701.44
Sikkim	166.65	41.66	208.31	163.76
Tamil Nadu	7468.73	1867.18	9335.91	14398.41
Tripura	132.69	33.17	165.86	144.77
Uttar Pradesh	20400.14	5100.04	25500.18	17039.77
West Bengal	6957.87	1739.47	8697.34	4468.87
A & N Islands	47.17	0.00	47.17	15.98
D & N Haveli	25.61	0.00	25.61	1.19
Daman & Diu	15.08	0.00	15.08	9.25
Lakshadweep	23.65	0.00	23.65	5.18
Pondicherry	46.18	0.00	46.18	25.74
Total	109499.00	27335.33	136834.33	116636.44

Statement-IV

Name of the State	Central Allocation	State's Share	Total (2+3)	Funds utilised as per available information upto Jan. 97
	(Rs. lakhs)	(Rs. lakhs)	(Rs. lakhs)	(Rs. lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	8870.30	2217.58	11087.88	2175.36
Arunachal Pradesh	79.71	19.93	99.64	8.36
Assam	2919.68	729.92	3649.60	567.75

1	2	3	4	5
Bihar	17398.92	4349.73	21748.65	9884.04
Goa	86.12	21.52	107.65	49.04
Gujarat	3255.70	813.93	4069.63	2318.63
Haryana	782.14	195.54	977.68	757.65
Himachal Pradesh	273.65	68.41	342.06	245.30
Jammu & Kashmir	556.07	139.02	695.09	851.34
Karnataka	5956.29	1489.07	7445.36	3328.50
Kerala	2167.06	541.77	2708.83	1476.19
Madhya Pradesh	11240.56	2810.14	14050.70	3193.99
Maharashtra	9669.47	2417.37	12086.84	4125.85
Manipur	102.16	25.54	127.70	47.09
Meghalaya	119.54	29.89	149.43	34.58
Mizoram	50.36	12.59	62.95	45.61
Nagaland	128.13	32.03	160.16	0.00
Orissa	7195.91	1798.98	8994.89	4728.20
Punjab	556.24	139.06	695.30	213.98
Rajasthan	4670.13	1167.53	5837.66	2150.73
Sikkim	46.65	11.66	58.31	100.70
Tamil Nadu	8018.92	2004.73	10023.65	4961.49
Tripura	132.82	33.21	166.03	2228.00
Uttar Pradesh	21616.12	5404.03	27020.15	11831.65
West Bengal	7949.67	1987.42	9937.09	2264.62
A & N Islands	47.17	0.00	47.17	2.38
D & N Haveli	25.61	0.00	25.61	7.45
Daman & Diu	15.10	0.00	15.10	0.58
Lakshadweep	23.65	0.00	23.65	2.42
Pondicherry	46.15	0.00	46.15	14.39
Total	114000.00	28460.58	142460.58	57615.87

Shortage of Power in Kanpur

1895. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that power supply in Kanpur city is irregular, inadequate and not available for hours since last many years due to break-downs, workers strikes, and non-availability of requisite components;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for smooth supply of power in Kanpur ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The supply of Power to Kanpur city is within the exclusive preview of Uttar Pradesh State Government/Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Boards (UPSEB).

(c) Various measures to improve the availability of power in Uttar Pradesh include maximising the generation

from the existing capacity, implementation of R&M programme, reduction in T&D losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures and obtaining assistance from neighbouring States/Systems.

Price of Petrol

1896. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the price fixed for petrol and diesel per litre in Karnataka and particularly in Bangalore city;

(b) the price of petrol and diesel per litre in Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi;

(c) the reason for fixing higher rate for petrol and diesel in Karnataka and particularly in Bangalore; and

(d) whether the Government propose to take steps to fix uniform rate for these petroleum products throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The retail selling prices of Petrol (MS-87) and Diesel (HSD) in Bangalore, Chennai, Mumbai and Delhi as on 1.1.97 are as under :

	Rs./Ltr.	
	MS-87	HSD
Bangalore	24.97	9.33
Chennai	24.93	8.87
Mumbai	24.03	9.00
Delhi	21.13	8.02

(c) and (d) The ex-storage point price of petrol & diesel at all the refineries is fixed at uniform level. The transportation cost, local levies like State Sales-tax, Octroi imposed by various States/Local authorities vary which affect the final selling price of Petrol & diesel in different States.

[Translation]

Drinking Water Projects in Uttar Pradesh

1897. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects given clearance for supply for potable water in urban areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last two years; and

(b) the amount sanctioned to implement each project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Under

the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme, 27 water supply schemes have been sanctioned for various towns in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last 2 years. The details regarding names of towns and their project cost is enclosed as Statement. A total of Rs. 1978.92 lakhs has been released as Central share under the programme which includes funds for 32 other schemes sanctioned during previous years.

Apart from the above, proposal for augmenting water supply facilities in respect of U.P. hill towns at the project cost of Rs.4533 lakhs was also received for grant of assistance by the 10th Finance Commission. The same have been technically examined and recommended by this Ministry for financial assistance to the Ministry of Finance as per the recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission which have since been approved.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Town	Sanctioned Date Mon./Year	Project Cost
1	2	3	4
1.	Bilariaganj	January, 96	64.70
2.	Ramnagar	-do-	75.70
3.	Sankargarh	-do-	157.80
4.	Ghorawal	-do-	87.60
5.	Sidhaur	-do-	58.80
6.	Chopan	March, 96	133.50
7.	B.B. Nagar	-do-	68.30
8.	Daurala	-do-	74.60
9.	Faridpur	-do-	59.50
10.	Usawan	-do-	72.50
11.	Saurik	-do-	81.00
12.	Harriya	-do-	62.40
13.	Hariharpur	-do-	63.00
14.	Bansgaon	-do-	81.20
15.	Bikapur	-do-	101.50
16.	Sarai Akil	-do-	98.98
17.	Dudhi	-do-	156.70
18.	Pali	-do-	63.80
19.	Oran	-do-	59.00
20.	Risia Bazar	-do-	86.15
21.	Narendemagar	-do-	240.50
22.	Chamba	-do-	537.80

1	2	3	4
23. Jhalu		March, 96	80.50
24. Adri		-do-	60.30
25. Kaladungi		-do-	121.90
26. Atsu		-do-	79.80
27. Hargaon		-do-	83.80
Total			1896.83

[English]

Performance of Nuclear Power Plants

1898. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of the country's nuclear power plants has not been according to their designed load factor and that the atomic power generation system has not been found reliable;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The normative Plant Load Factor (PLF) assumed for fixation of tariff for nuclear power plants is 62.8%. The operating stations of NPCIL achieved an annual overall PLF of 60% during the year 1995-96. In the current financial year upto the end of January 1997, the stations which are operating have achieved an overall PLF of 64%. It is expected to reach 66% for the whole year in spite of the fact that the old stations such as Tarapur Unit-1 and Madras Unit-1 had to undergo long shut down for mandatory in-service inspection (ISI). The new generating units, namely, Kakrapar and Narora Atomic Power Stations have achieved a PLF of 84% and 68% respectively during the current year. Unit-1 of RAPS of 100 MWe capacity is under shut down since February 1994 for fixing the Over Pressure Relief Device (OPRD) leak. This leak was fixed recently and the unit is expected to be re-started early 1997 after approval of AFRB. Unit-2 of RAPS of 200 MWe capacity is also under shut down since August 1994 for enmasse coolant channel replacement and upgradation of systems which are progressing satisfactorily. RAPS-2 is expected to be re-started by end of 1997-98.

(c) Efforts to improve the plant load factor and availability factor of the operating power plants include strengthening of condition monitoring and preventive & predictive - maintenance, improving outage management,

intensive training for maintenance and operating staff particularly in the use of simulators, modifications carried out on the turbo generators supplied by BHEL, effective co-ordination with Regional Electricity Boards to improve frequency control of the grid, decentralisation of decision making to enable prompt action at the operating stations and exchange of technical information and experience through International bodies.

Petrol Pumps

1899. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications of war widows and disabled soldiers received by his ministry for allotting them agencies of petrol pumps and gas agencies during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the allotments have been in all the above cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) to (d) As per existing policy 7½% dealerships distributorships allotted through Oil Selection Boards are reserved for Defence Category. Widows and dependents of posthumous gallantry award winners and war disabled are accorded priority under Defence Category. Accordingly, during the last three years i.e. 1993-94 to 1995-96, Oil Selection Boards had made selection for 99 retail outlets and 71 LPG distributorships under 'Defence' category. In case of 73 retail outlet dealerships and 95 LPG distributorships, selection has not been made by the Oil Selection Boards as the OSBs are not in operation from April, 1996.

Central Electrical Authority

1900. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority is likely to be divested of its powers; and

(b) if so the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) A study on the role and structure of Central Electricity Authority has been entrusted to Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad. The Government would take a view only after the recommendations of ASCI are finally available.

Space Research

1901. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to collaborate with the USA on space research programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the broad areas of cooperation with USA and likely benefits to be accrued therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Our country has had a long standing cooperative and commercial association with the USA in the area of space. Data from the US Landsat and National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellites are being received and utilised in the country. The SI-EOSAT of the USA is responsible for marketing the Indian IRS satellite data globally.

The Department of Space and the Department of Science & Technology of the Government of India and the National Aeronautics & Space Administration (NASA) and the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the United States of America have discussed potential scientific cooperation in the field of earth sciences and associated exchange of data. Based on these discussions, it is intended to formulate cooperative agreements, for specific scientific and related data exchange, for consideration by the respective Governments.

Allocation of Power to Karnataka

1902. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :
SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute power shortage in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the measures taken to ensure adequate supply of power keeping in view the agricultural needs;

(c) the names of on-going power projects in the state and the quantum of power generated from each of them;

(d) the quantum of power being supplied to the State from Southern Grid and joint hydro power projects separately;

(e) the names of the projects approved so far in private sector and the number of proposals are under consideration; and

(f) the quantum of power is expected to be generated in CEA Karnataka on the completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) During the

period April, 1996 – January, 1997, the energy requirement in Karnataka was 20230 MU against which the availability was 19944 MU which represents a shortage of 26.1%

(b) Various measures taken to improve the availability of power in Karnataka include improving performance of existing power stations, capacity addition, reduction in transmission & distribution losses, implementation of better demand management, energy conservation measures and arranging assistance from neighbouring system etc. At present, agriculture consumers are getting a minimum of 8 Hrs./day supply. Karnataka has been allocated 40% share from 15% unallocated quote of Central Power generation in the Southern Region.

(c) Station-wise energy generation in Karnataka during 1996-97 (upto January, 1997) is given below :

Name of Agency	Station	Energy Generation (MU) 1996-97 (upto Jan., 1997)
Karnataka Power Corporation Ltd.	Raichur	4170
	Shravathy	2915
	Kalinadi	1567
	Supa Dam	199
	Bhandra	11
	Linganamk	120
	Varahi	674
	Ghatprabha	77
	Mallapur	1
	Mani DPH	9
	Total	9743
Karnataka Electricity Board	Jeg	102
	Shivasamud	83
	Shimshapur	76
	Munirabad	58
	Total	319
Bhoruka Power Corporation Ltd.	Shivpur	45
Total Karnataka	Thermal	4170
	Hydro	5937
	Total	10107

(d) During the period April, 1996 to January, 1997, as against the entitlement of 3784.5 MU from the Southern Grid, actual drawal by Karnataka was 4756.2 MU. Karnataka received an assistance of 618.6 MU during April, 1996 to January, 1997 from Maharashtra.

(e) and (f) Two private power proposals in Karnataka has been approved by the Central Electricity Authority. The details of which are given below :

- (i) Mangalore TPS 1000 MW
- (ii) Torangallu TPS 260 MW

There is only one project i.e. Yelahanka DGPP Extension by M/s. Karnataka Electricity Board having capacity of 2x23.4=46.8 MW which is under examination in Central Electricity Authority.

Increase in Price of Petrol

1903. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative figures of petrol prices both national and international market for the last three years as on date and the reasons for it being higher in the national market;

(b) whether the off-shore drilling has gone down drastically during the last three years;

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

(d) the corrective measures being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of metreage and wells drilled during the last three years in offshore are as under:-

1993-94	359702	162
1994-95	204116	89
1995-96	163086	79

(d) The quantum of drilling activity depends on implementation of approved field development projects, new prospect generation by basin analysis and evaluation process, results of exploratory and delineation drilling and availability of exploration. acreages.

Amendment to Urban Land Act

1904. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to bring about amendments to the Urban Land Act, 1976;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed amendments; and

(c) by when these amendments are likely to be put before Parliament ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Government of India is considering proposals to amend the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 in order to make it more workable and effective. The State Governments have been requested to give their suggestions regarding amendments to the Act. A Committee has also been set up for making recommendations to amend the Act.

(c) It would be difficult to give a definite time frame because as per the Constitutional requirement, after the approval by the Government, the Legislatures of at least two States where the Urban Land (Ceiling & Regulation) Act, 1976 is applicable have to concur and pass resolution under Article 252(2) of the Constitution to enable the introduction of the Bill in the Parliament.

Industry Status to Housing Sector

1905. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been persistent demands for according the status of Industry to the Housing Construction Sector; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The demand for declaring housing as an industry has been raised in the past in the context of requirement of increased institutional funding for the housing sector. It was noted that only service sector part of housing was not getting institutional funding support, as the manufacture of building materials was already within the purview of industry.

With the establishment of National Housing Bank and a chain of housing finance institutions in different parts of the country, the requirement of institutional funding for the housing sector has been significantly met. Moreover, refinancing from industrial finance institutions, namely, IDBI and ICICI, is also now available for housing projects costing more than Rs. 5 crores on a case-to-case basis without housing being declared an industry.

In the light of the above, the institutional flow of funds to the housing sector has gradually increased and the demand for declaring housing as an industry has abated.

Local Purchase

1906. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued instructions of its offices located in Delhi and outside to make local purchase of stationery and other articles from Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and National Consumer Cooperative Federation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for issuing such orders;

(c) the number of cases of irregularities in the purchase from the said institutions that have come to light in the last five years;

(d) the action taken thereon;

(e) whether it has been stipulated in the order issued in 1981 that a Committee consisting of a representative from each of Department of Supply, Urban Development and Kendriya Bhandar will fix the price of articles and the same shall be circulated to all the departments in the Government; and

(f) if so, whether any such committee has been constituted to fix the prices and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) Government have issued instructions that Central Government offices and other organisations financed and/or controlled by the Government located in Delhi/New Delhi may make all local purchase of stationery and other items required by them either from Kendriya Bhandar or Super Bazar or National Co-operative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) or Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) (for file covers only) and, offices located outside Delhi shall make such local purchases from local Central/Wholesale consumer cooperative societies and branches of Kendriya Bhandar/NCCF located therein. Only if they are not able to supply a particular item, such purchases should be made from other sources as per rules after obtaining no objection certificate from them. Consumer cooperatives are considered suitable agencies for supply of goods at fair and reasonable prices. Kendriya Bhandar, Super Bazar and NCCF are Government sponsored cooperative institutions and the above instructions have been issued in pursuance of the above policy.

(c) and (d) While no case of irregularity as such in the purchases made by Kendriya Bhandar and NCCF has been reported, customers' complaints and suggestions including defects in any particular lot, are attended to promptly and remedial action taken by the above institutions. Super Bazar has also been taking remedial action on various complaints/irregularities; however, in one

case regarding supply of inferior quality steel trunks to Chief Electoral Officer, Government of Delhi, the Super Bazar has referred the matter to the C.B.I.

(e) and (f) The matter is under examination.

Unemployment

1907. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have identified the rural areas in the backward States that there is unemployment and under employed; and

(b) whether the Government propose to implement any special programme for creation of employment opportunities for the unemployed people in these backward States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The major programmes for the creation of employment opportunities for the unemployed people in rural areas are Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), which are being implemented in all the States including in the backward States where there is unemployment and under-employment. Under JRY & IRDP more funds are allocated to the States which have larger number of rural poor i.e. on the basis of proportion of rural poor in the States to the total rural poor in the country. EAS moreover, is a demand driven scheme and States can come for subsequent instalments of funds as and when the district has utilised 50% or more of the available funds. The allocation/release principle under JRY, IRDP & EAS ensures that more funds are given to backward States.

[Translation]

Herbs

1908. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are forest hills in lacs of acres of land in the Vananchal region of South Bihar;

(b) if so, whether any research has been conducted regarding availability of herbs in area;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and efforts made by the "Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants" for meeting the increasing demand of herbs in Global Market and earning foreign exchanges;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up a

branch of the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow for creating awareness among farmers of Giridih and Kodarma district, providing them training and educating them about the farming of herbs; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI. YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scientists of Botanical Survey of India are actively engaged in research on plants of Vananchal region of South Bihar.

(c) CIMAP, a constituent establishment of CSIR is playing pivotal role in overall development and gainful exploitation of medicinal and aromatic plants. The Institute has development agro and processing technologies for a number of aromatic and medicinal plants. Also CIMAP has developed a number of varieties of these plants. These efforts have resulted in increasing production of the medicinal and aromatic plants material not only for the internal consumption but also for export.

(d) and (e) At present there is no proposal of setting up a branch of CIMAP in Giridih and Kodarma. CIMAP will be in a position to organise training courses for the farmers, on request from local agencies.

[English]

Royalty on Government Reports

1909. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to impose ban on reprint and reproduction of Government reports and publications by private publishers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government charge any royalty or fee for publishing the material contained in the reports of the various Commissions and Committees appointed by the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to bring the same within the purview of Copyright Act; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER

OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Government reports and publications can be reproduced or reprinted only with the permission of the copyright owner

(c) and (d) The Department of Publication under this Ministry which publishes Government publications does not charge any royalty.

(e) and (f) Reproduction or publication of the report of any Committee, Commission, Council, Board or other like body appointed by the Government does not constitute an infringement of copyright. If such report has been laid on the Table of the Legislature unless the reproduction or publication of such report is prohibited by the Government

Vacant D.D.A. Flats

1910. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "DDA ke 10,000 flat chaar varshon se khali pare" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagaran' dated December 11, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of DDA flats lying vacant for want of water and electricity connections and the number out of such flats which have been offered for allotment to registrants of New Pattern Scheme, 1979 alongwith the reasons allotting such flats which are not fit for habitant.

(d) the time by which the electricity and water connections will be provided to the vacant flats; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to float a scheme of priority allotment of flats to the retired/retiring employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The DDA has reported that 17,276 flats are lying vacant for want of availability of electricity. Out of these 10,639 flats have been allotted to the registrants of all the schemes including NPRS, 1979. These allotments were made in anticipation of availability of electricity as per target dates given by DESU.

The details of all these flats alongwith the tentative programme of electrification, as given by DESU, are given in the enclosed Statement.

(e) No, Sir.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Scheme	No. of Flats	Detail of Services not available	Target Dates as given by DESU for making Power available
1	2	3	4	5
1.	976 SFS in Kondli Gharoli	784	power not available	3/97
2.	216 LIG/576 Janta DUs at Kondli Gharoli	792	-do-	4/97
3.	MIG at Kondli Gharoli	1124	-do-	7/97
4.	189 SFS at Ghazipur	189	-do-	8/97
5.	MIG/LIG Houses at Mayur Vihar Pkt. IV Phase-I	248	-do-	6/97
6.	East of Loni Road (i)	136	-do-	3/97
	(ii)	256	-do-	6/97
7.	Sector A-9 Narela	616	-do-	4/97
8.	Sector A-10, Narela Gr.II	672	work of external electrification completed in 60 flats at A-10 Narela. Power not available in remaining flats.	3/97
9.	Sector A-10, Narela	1040	-do-	3/97
10.	Sector B-4, Narela	666	Power not available	3/97
11.	Sector B-4, Narela	666	-do-	3/97
12.	Motia Khan	42	-do-	3/97
13.	201 MIG Sector 'D' Pkt. 7&8 Vasant Kunj	201	-do-	No target has been given by DESU for electrification of these flats
14.	Near Peerah Garhi	148	-do-	-do-
15.	Rohini Ph.III Sector 21	608	-do-	6/97
16.	Rohini Ph.III Sector 21	16	-do-	6/97
17.	Rohini Sector 22	598	-do-	4/97
18.	Rohini Sector 22	160	-do-	4/97
19.	Rohini Sector 23	864	-do-	4/97
20.	Rohini Sector 24	1455	-do-	4/97
21.	Rohini Sector 24	324	Power not available	4/97
22.	Rohini Sector 25	534	-do-	4/97
23.	Rohini Ph.III Sec. 21 Pkt. 7	270	-do-	4/97
24.	Rohini Ph.III Sec. 24 Pkt. 4	45	-do-	4/97

1	2	3	4	5
25.	Rohini Sector 23 Pkt. 6	288	Power not available	No target has been given by DESU for electrification of these flats.
26.	Rohini Sector 23 Pkt. 7	128	-do-	-do-
27.	Dwarka Ph.I Sector 7	292	-do-	7/97
28.	Dwarka Ph.I Nasirpur Pocket 9	242	-do-	No target has been given by DESU for electrification of these flats.
29.	Dwarka Ph.I Sec.I Pkt. 3	56	-do-	-do-
30.	Dwarka Nasirpur Pkt. 6	328	-do-	-do-
31.	Dwarka	2268	-do-	-do-
32.	Sector 13 Dwarka	628	-do-	-do-
33.	Sector 14 Dwarka	360	-do-	-do-
34.	Sector 17 Dwarka	292	-do-	-do-
	Total	17336		
	Less (-) at Sl. No. 8 and 9	60		
	G. Total	17276		

Growth in Power Generation

1911. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Power generation grows 51%" appearing in the Economic times dated September 16, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The power generation during April to July, 1996 was 127.979 Billion Units against the target of 128.420 Billion Units. The generation for the same period during 1995 was 124.896 Billion Units. The actual All India Plant Load Factor (PLF) during the period April to July, 1996 was 64.1% against the PLF of 63.6% during the Corresponding period of previous year. The target of 84.449 Billion Units appearing in the news-item of Economic Times dated September 16, 1996 did not include generation targets of NTPC, NLC, BBMB and NHPC.

Ban on Commercial Activity

1912. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are no takers for DDA's commercial properties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether the Supreme Court in a recent order has sought banning commercial activity in residential colonies in Haryana to be made applicable to Delhi as well; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The judgement of the Supreme Court relates only to the industrial activity in residential areas. However, whenever any misuse is noticed in residential properties, appropriate action under Section 14 of DD Act is initiated against the allottee/misuser.

Manufacturing of Computers

1913. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are keeping a watch on the manufacture of computers in the country with a view to ensure the people here get the computers of certain minimum quality and specifications;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of imported components in the computers being sold in the country;

(d) the efforts being made to produce indigenously all the computer components in the country; and

(e) the quantity of silicon chips being produced in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Standardisation, Testing & Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate under the Department of Electronics has formulated specifications for personal computers and peripherals with participations from Industry Associations, Bureau of Indian Standards, Computer Society of India etc. STQC Directorate has set up various test laboratories for Electronic Industries including IT products to get their products tested to a particular specifications.

(c) The percentage of imported components in the computer being sold in the country varies from one configuration to the other. On an average, the value of import contents in personal computers is about 45% of the ex-factory price.

(d) Encouragement for indigenisation of the computer industry is mainly provided through appropriate fiscal policy measures.

(e) Based on the information available with the Department of Electronics, during 1995, the number of silicon integrated circuits produced in India had been approximately 35.68 million numbers (including 13.46 million Hybrid ICs) and growth rate of 57% is estimated during 1996.

[Translation]

LPG Cylinder

1914. SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the supply of refilled LPG cylinder is made to the L.P.G. consumers by the various Oil Companies after 21 days of booking of the same;

(b) whether various Oil Companies have decided to release L.P.G. connection immediately on receiving a deposit of Rs. four thousand;

(c) if so, whether it is likely to affect the existing L.P.G. consumers to whom refilled cylinders are supplied after 21 days of the booking;

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

(e) whether Government propose to supply the refilled L.P.G. cylinders within a week after the booking for the same; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir. LPG refills are supplied to the customers not before 21 days from the date of previous delivery by the Oil Companies.

(b) Yes, Sir. With effect from 20th February, 1997 LPG connection under Tatkal scheme are being released to any person intending to use LPG within 7 days after collecting a lumpsum non-refundable non-time payment of Rs. 4,000/- in addition to normal security deposit payable for loaned equipments.

(c) No, Sir. The release of LPG connection under Tatkal scheme will not affect refill supplies to existing LPG consumers. Supply of refills to existing and new customers will be on same terms.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

(e) and (f) Normally, refill is supplied within 24 hours after booking, if it is not before 21 days of previous supply. Normally, LPG cylinder lasts more than 21 days.

[English]

Import of Crude Oil

1915. DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to import crude oil from Iraq;

(b) if so, the quantity and the price thereof;

(c) whether this price is favourable for our country; and

(d) if so, the price difference between the existing price and when Iraq was allowed to export oil by the UN?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., the canalising agency for import of crude oil, have concluded a contract with SOMO of Iraq on 17.2.97 for import of about 0.5 MMT of Basrah Light Crude Oil during the period 10th March'97

to 7th June'97. The price application for crude oil imports from Iraq is based on the UN approved pricing basis for Far East customers. The price is market related and linked to the daily price quotations of Dubai and Oman crude oils published by platts crude oil marketwire.

All imports of crude oil are made at market related prices.

Indian Market Demographics – The Consumer Class

1916. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have studied the report of the National Council of Applied Economic Research titled "Indian Market Demographics – The Consumer Class" and are in agreement with its findings; and

(b) if not, the areas in which the Government have reservations regarding the findings of this report particularly in respect of income distribution in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The study on "Indian Market Demographics – The Consumer Class", conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), is based on market information survey of the households. It provides demographic information about households classified by income, and ownership and purchases of selected consumer durables.

The Planning Commission utilises the quinquennial household consumer expenditure survey data of the National Sample Survey Organisation, to estimate the incidence of poverty. Although the two sets of data are not comparable, (since the NCAER) data pertains to income and the National Sample Survey data pertains to consumption), the following points of discrepancy are noted;

- (i) The NCAER study uses an estimate of population of 916 million in 1993-94, whereas the Planning Commission estimate of population which based on the Expert Group on Population Projection is 891 million.
- (ii) The size of households in the two studies are also different. The NCAER study uses an average household size of 6 for the lower income category, whereas in the National Sample Survey, the size of the household in the lowest income category is between 5.43 and 5.67 in rural areas and between 5.64 and 5.82 in urban areas.
- (iii) The study divides the entire population in five

broad income groups with annual household income as :

- (a) Low : upto Rs. 20,000
- (b) Lower Middle : Rs. 20,001 to Rs. 40,000
- (c) Middle : Rs. 40,001 to Rs. 62,000
- (d) Upper Middle : Rs. 62,001 to Rs. 86,000
- (e) High : Above Rs. 86,000

The study does not spell out the basis on which these income ranges are constructed. However, the income limit of the Low income group does not correspond to the definition of the poverty line as accepted by the Task Force and Expert Group, which are specified in terms of per capita consumption expenditure necessary to meet the average calorie intake of 2400 per capita per day in rural areas and 2100 per capita per day in urban areas. These poverty lines are annual per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 2788 in rural areas and Rs. 3217 in urban areas. Annual household income of Rs. 20,000 in the NCAER study is equivalent to annual per capita income of Rs. 3333. Therefore, not all the households in the Low income category are poor, as per the generally accepted definition of poverty. Besides, nothing is contained in the study which shows that the low income limit corresponds to any defined poverty line.

Officers of A.I. Services

1917. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the IAS personnel are given more weightage in promotion etc. as compared to the other All India Services;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the officials belonging to non-IAS services have protested against this practice; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir. The I.A.S. personnel do not get any weightage in promotions as compared to the other all India Services. Their promotion in various grades is governed by statutory rules and well laid-out executive instructions.

(b) to (d) Do not arise, in view of the answer to (a) above.

Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme in Maharashtra

1918. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total released by the Central Government to Maharashtra during the past three years for implementing accelerated urban water supply programme.

(b) the details of achievements made during the above period;

(c) the details the funds sought for the current year and funds approved; and

(d) the fresh proposals sent by the State Government and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) A total of Rs. 214.16 lakhs has been released to the Govt. of Maharashtra during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 for implementing 10 water supply schemes sanctioned under the Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme.

(b) As per the information available as on 31.3.96, the State Government is reported to have incurred an expenditure of Rs. 23.38 lakhs.

(c) In the current financial year no specific request has been made by the State of Maharashtra. The State Government of Maharashtra, as against its matching share of Rs. 214.16 lakhs has so far released only Rs. 100 lakhs under the programme. However, during the current year under the programme, an additional amount of Rs. 85 lakhs has already been released to the State Government by the Central.

(d) The Detailed Project Reports for Water Supply schemes for 18 towns have been received from the State of Maharashtra, one of which has been examined and comments conveyed to the State Government. Approval of other schemes is subject to the release of matching share by the State Government, expenditure incurred on already sanctioned scheme and availability of funds.

Master Plan

1919. SHRI K. PRADHANI :

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee of Delhi Legislature has observed that the Delhi Master Plan is out of date and is more theoretical than practical;

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to review and revise the Master Plan in the light of the said Committees's observation;

(c) whether building bye-laws of Delhi are also being revised;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the DDA has suggested some changes in the Master Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof including the proposal of the Government to include or exclude them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Constant monitoring and review of the plan is made to ensure effective implementation of Master Plan. MPD-2001 is also under review. A Steering Committee was constituted in August, 1994 headed by Chairman, Delhi Urban Art Commission for guiding the review of Master Plan and to suggest measures to enhance its effectiveness. The Steering Committee finalised its report in September, 1996. MPD-2001 is proposed to be updated in the light of the recommendations of the Steering Committee.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In pursuance to the order of Delhi High Court dated 27.5.92 directing the Central Government to reframe Building Bye-laws, 1983, a High Powered Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (UD) reviewed the Building Bye-laws and the draft of the revised Building Bye-laws was filed before the Delhi High Court. In the meantime, Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 was amended vesting the powers to frame and finalise the Bye-laws with the Central Government instead of the local bodies. Final order was passed by Delhi High Court on 10.2.95 directing the Central Government to finalise the new Building Bye-laws as early as possible. In pursuance of these orders, copies of the draft Bye-laws were forwarded to NDMC and MCD for issue of public notice inviting objections/suggestions in regard to the provisions of the proposed bye-laws in terms of the provisions contained in the DMC Act, 1957 and NDMC Act, 1994. The public notice have since been issued by NDMC and MCD. The Government of NCT of Delhi has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. V.K. Malhotra, M.P. to examine the objections/suggestions. The Committee is in the process of finalising these bye-laws.

(e) and (f) As in (b) above.

[Translation]

ISRO Espionage Case

1920. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the enquiry into the Espionage case at ISRO, Trivandrum, has been completed;

(b) the details of findings therein; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) On completion of the alleged ISRO espionage case, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have filed a final report before the Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), Erankulam, praying for discharge of all the six accused persons, as there was no espionage involved. The CJM, in his order dated 2.5.1996, agreeing with the report of the CBI, discharged all the six accused.

Subsequently, however, the Government of Kerala have issued Notifications withdrawing the consent accorded to the CBI for investigating the alleged espionage case and ordered a further investigation in the case by the Kerala Police. The decision of the Government of Kerala for further investigating the case has been upheld by the Kerala High Court.

Three of the accused persons in the case and the CBI have separately filed special leave Petitions in the Hon'ble Supreme Court challenging the judgement of the Kerala High Court. The matter is presently sub judice.

Liquified Natural Gas Base

1921. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted any proposal by Union Government for setting up a Liquified Natural Gas Base at the sea-shore of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

UPSC Examinations

1922. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Public Service Commission proposed to hold examination in regional languages;

(b) if so, whether priority will be given to those taking examination in the official language (Hindi); and

(c) whether some additional per cent would be given to candidates belonging to non-Hindi speaking States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI. S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) The Question of introduction of all the Indian languages included in the VIIIth schedule to the constitution in the examinations conducted by the UPSC was examined by Dr. Satish Chandra Committee. Its recommendations are still under examination. As the issues are important and have evoked diverse reaction. Government's effort is to arrive at a consensus.

(b) and (c) In view of (a), does not arise.

[English]

Capart

1923. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects being undertaken under the CAPART in Orissa for the last two years;

(b) the amount sanctioned and actually released for those projects during the above period; and

(c) the achievements made so far from these projects in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) During the last two years, i.e. 1994-95 and 1995-96, CAPART has sanctioned 211 projects to voluntary organisations in Orissa covering the programmes/schemes of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Development of Women & Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), Promotion of Voluntary Action in Rural Development (PC), Organisation of Beneficiaries (OB), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and Advancement of Rural Technology Scheme (ARTs). During this period, the amount sanctioned and the amount released to voluntary organisations in Orissa by CAPART was Rs. 791.80 crores and Rs. 504.00 crores respectively. The sanctioned projects are at various stages of implementation.

Joint-Venture Power Project

1924. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation is proposing to set up 500 MW thermal power plant as a joint venture project with the APSEB at Visakhapatnam;

(b) if so, the capacity and total cost of expenditure involved in setting up this power project;

(c) whether the project is to be based on residual produce from the Viskhapatnam HPCL unit as a fuel; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be commissioned ?

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

(b) The capacity of the proposed plant is 500 MW. The total cost of the project would be known after the Detailed Project Report for the project is finalised.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The time of commissioning of the project would be known after the project has obtained necessary statutory and non-statutory clearance/inputs and achieved financial closure.

Investment in Oil Sector

1925. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to give substantial autonomy for the upstream oil companies and suggested to give the boards of oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Oil India Limited complete autonomy to take investment decisions;

(b) if so, whether the Government has agreed to this proposal;

(c) the details of the same; and

(d) by what time the Government is likely to give its final decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) No decision has been taken by the Government to give complete autonomy to ONGC and OIL to make investment decision.

Generation of Power

1926. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North Eastern Electricity Power Corporation is not being able to complete the power projects entrusted upon it for execution according to the plan-budget due to paucity of fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the generation capacity and demand of power in the region at present; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to meet the shortfall of power in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The requirements of funds of North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO) for executing its power projects are being fully met. The Plan allocation of

Budgetary Support and the funds actually released to NEEPCO during the 8th Five Year Plan is indicated below:

(Rs. in crores)		
years	Allocation of Gross Budgetary Support to NEEPCO	Amount Actually Released.
1992-93	100.00	128.00
1993-94	225.00	287.60
1994-95	381.01	467.51
1995-96	350.12	366.82
1996-97	141.40	171.40 (proposed)

NEEPCO has commissioned six units (200 MW) of Assam Gas Based Power Project at Kathalguri and one unit (50 MW) of Kopili Hydroelectric Project 1st Stage Extension in Assam in the last two years.

(c) and (d) During the period April, 1996 to January, 1997 as against the requirement of 4033 million units of all North Eastern States, energy availability was 3583 million units representing 11.2% shortage. In order to reduce this gap in the North Eastern Region, measures taken, inter-alia, include maximising the generation from the existing capacity, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, effective demand management and energy conservation measures and assistance from Eastern Region to North Eastern Region. Sanctioned schemes with a capacity addition of about 1030 MW are presently under implementation in North Eastern Region and the full benefits from these schemes are likely to be available during the 9th Plan period.

Counting of Service Period

1927. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether service rendered by a Central Government employee as an employee in Public Sector Undertaking prior to joining Government service is counted as service for the purpose of calculating pension and other benefits to a Central Government employees;

(b) whether service rendered in Nationalised Bank, which is also a Public Sector Undertaking, is not counted for the purpose of calculating pension and other benefits to such a Central Government employee; and

(c) If so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) The past service rendered by a Central Government employee, in Nationalised Banks is not counted for pension purposes alongwith Central Government Service. Benefit of counting of past service rendered by Central Government employees in Government autonomous bodies is allowed under the provisions of Department of Pension & P.W's circular dated 29.8.1984 as amended from time to time. The Central autonomous body includes a Central statutory body or a Central University but does not include a public undertaking. The definition of a Central autonomous body has been further clarified as a non-profit making organisation which is financed wholly or substantially from cess or Central Government grants. Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and Nationalised Banks do not fulfill conditions laid down in above definition. Further, PSUs and Nationalised Banks may have their own set of regulations for the pensionary benefits admissible to their employees. The above position has been further clarified by the government through their circulars of 30th May, 1995 and 13th September 1996.

Petroleum Refinery

1928. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total installed capacity of petroleum refineries in the country and the capacity utilisation during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the location of these refineries under construction; and

(c) the major source of supply of petroleum of the existing and the refineries under construction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) The total installed capacity of the Refineries in the country and their overall capacity utilisation, during the last three years is as under :-

Years	Installed capacity (MMTPA)	capacity utilisation (% age)
1993-94	52.75	103
1994-95	53.40	106
1995-96	56.40	104

(b) Besides the existing refineries the details of PSUs/JVCs grass root refineries projects under implementation are as under :-

Refinery	Location
Panipat Refinery	Panipat, Haryana
Numaligarh Refinery	Numaligarh, Assam
Bharat Oman Refinery Limited	Bina, M.P.

(c) The refineries at Digboi, Guwahati, Bongaigaon process exclusively indigenous Assam crude. The refineries at Mumbai, Cochin, Visakh, Barauni, Gujarat, Mathura, Haldia, Madras and Narimanam process indigenous as well as imported crudes. Mangalore Refinery processes only imported crudes.

As regards, the refineries under construction, Numaligarh is designed to process indigenous Assam Crude and Panipat Refinery is designed to process both imported and indigenous crudes. The Bina Refinery is planned on imported crudes.

Target of Atomic Energy Generation

1929. SHRI SOHAN BEER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for atomic energy generation during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the target has been achieved;

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for atomic energy projects during the said period; and

(d) the financial provision made for atomic energy projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The cumulative, target of nuclear power generation during the Eighth Plan was 37070 MUs. With the expected generation of electricity of about 1800 MUs, during February and March 1997 the total generation of electricity from Nuclear Power Plants during the Eighth Plan i.e. 1992-97 will be nearly 35000 MUs. There will be a shortfall of about 2300 MUs during the eighth plan period.

(c) The approved outlay for the Nuclear Power Sector for the VIII Plan period was Rs. 4261 crores with budgetary support of Rs. 761 crores. The actual budgetary support received during the period is Rs. 1418 crores.

(d) Ninth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1930. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to transfer some of the Centrally sponsored schemes to the States alongwith accompanying resources;

(b) if so, furnish details of the Schemes being transferred, allocation of funds thereunder being released to the States-State-wise - for Maharashtra State in Particular;

- (c) the reasons for delay in release of funds; and
 (d) the present status of the proposal and the time by which the exercise is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) : The Approach Paper to the Ninth Plan (1997-2002), approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 16.01.1997 states that the Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be confined to schemes of an inter-State character; matters impinging on national security; selected national priorities where Central supervision is essential for effective implementation; and multi-State externally financed projects where Central coordination is necessary for operational reasons. Except for such schemes, all other schemes should be transferred to States alongwith corresponding funds. The exact details of the Schemes which can be so transferred would have to be worked out in consultation with the Central Ministries as well as State Governments.

The exercise for implementing the proposal is presently underway in Planning Commission and the same will be incorporated in the Ninth Plan.

[Translation]

Development of Towns

1931. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes launched by the Central Government and Housing and Urban Development Corporation for the development of small and medium cities in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the total amount earmarked for this purpose during 1995-96 and the amount actually spent therein ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Under the Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT), 76 towns of Uttar Pradesh have been covered from 1979-80 till date and a Central Assistance of Rs. 23.43 crores released. The schemes covered include markets and shopping complexes, roads drainage works, site and services, bus stands and other infrastructural facilities.

(b) For 1995-96, Central grant amounting to Rs. 3.10 crores under IDSMT was allocated to Uttar Pradesh and the entire allocated amount released to the State Government in March, 1996. Besides, further Central assistance (loan) of Rs. 0.43 crores was also released during 1995-96 for ongoing project approved under the old Scheme of IDSMT prior to 1995-96. Since the amounts

for 1995-96 were released towards the flag end of that year, accordingly expenditure details against the same have not been received so far. However, the total expenditure on IDSMT projects since inception till now is reported to be of the order of Rs. 28.06 crores as against (Central assistance + State Share + other sources).

[English]

Development of Slums

1932. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV :
 SHIR S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether slums are being developed with external assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise and city/town-wise;

(c) the slum improvement projects presently being executed in the country and the expenditure involved therein; and

(d) the number of projects finalised during 1996-97 upto December 31, 1996 with details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (c) As per the Statement enclosed.

(d) No projects have been finalised during 1996-97.

Statement

*Slum Improvement Projects, with Foreign Assistance
 Overseas Development Administration (ODA)
 U.K. Assisted Projects*

1. Andhra Pradesh

- (a) Hyderabad Habitat improvement Projects.
 (b) Viskhapatanam Habitat Improvement Projects.
 (c) Vijayawada Slum Improvement Projects.

2. Kerala

- (a) Cochin Urban Poverty Reduction Project.

3. Madhya Pradesh

- (a) Indore Habitat Improvement Project.

4. Orissa

- (a) Cuttack Habitat Project.

5. West Bengal

- (a) Calcutta Slum Improvement Project
Dutch (Netherlands) Assisted Project

1. Karnataka

- (a) Bangalore Urban Poverty Alleviation Project.

Status of SLUM Improvement Projects Implemented with External Assistance

S. No.	Name of Project & Implementing Agency	Duration of the Project	Total approved cost of the Projects (Rs. in Crores)	No. of Slums proposed to be covered	Expenditure incurred (Rs. in Crores)
1.	Hyderabad SIP-III Municipal Corpn. Hyderabad	1989-90 to 12.12.96	42.75	300	42.00 (Upto Dec.95)
2.	Visakhapatnam SIP Municipal Corpn. Vizag	1988-89 to 31.3.96	28.59	190	29.28 (Upto March, 96)
3.	*Chinagadali	1993-94 to 31.3.98	6.95	—	5.36 (Upto March, 96)
4.	Vijayawada SIP Municipal Corpn. Vijayawada	1990-91 to 30.6.97	49.15	136	39.01 (Upto Dec. 96)
5.	Indore HIP Indore Dev. Authority	1990-91 to 31.3.97	60.50	183	50.95 (Upto Dec. 96)
6.	Calcutta SIP CMDA	1990-91 to 31.3.98	46.19	167	33.77 (Upto July, 96)
7.	Cuttack UPRP Phase-I Cuttack Mpl. & CDA	1995	25.70	49	0.68** (Upto Oct. 96)
8.	Cochin UPRP Phase-I Corpn. of Cochin	1995	30.00	152	0.88** (upto Oct. 96)
9.	Bangalore Urban Poverty Alleviation Project, Phase-I	Nov., 93** to March, 97	1.50**	14** (3700 hose-hold)	0.78** (upto April 96)

* This is being done as an extension of Visakhapatnam SIP and is a resettlement Projects.

** For the Phase-I only.

Non-Contribution by States

1933.SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that most of the State Governments do not contribute their share in the Centrally sponsored welfare and poverty alleviation programmes consequent to which the plight of the poor people has not improved;

(b) if so, the names of the State Government that have not contributed to the Centrally sponsored schemes in the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The State Governments do, by and large, contribute their

State share towards the implementation of the Centrally sponsored poverty alleviation programmes.

(b) The names of the States which have not contributed their States share to the Centrally sponsored poverty alleviation programmes during the last three year is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The Government repeatedly reminds the State to expedite the timely release of their matching share: States which do not contribute their share are not release their subsequent instalments of Central funds. Necessary deductions are imposed while releasing the Central share to those States where the full States share is not released. Further more, funds allocated for defaulting States who do not respond positively are diverted to better performing States.

Statement*

Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)

All the States Governments are contributing the matching share against the Central share provided by th

Government of India under Integrated Rural Development Programme. (However, Nagaland has not reported the State release figure to 1994-95).

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY)

All the State Governments are contributing their matching share against the Central share provided by the Government of India under Centrally Sponsored Programme of JRY.

Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)

Jammu & Kashmir was exempted from contributing the State share for the year 1993-94 and 1994-95. The Government of Assam has not released its full State share of the second instalment of EAS of the year 1995-96.

Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) :

Nagaland has not provided its matching share under the NRY in 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

Urban Basic Services for Poor (UBSP)

Three States, namely; Arunachal Pradesh, Maharashtra and Nagaland have not provided any matching State share since 1992-93.

Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)

This scheme was launched in November 1995. No information on provision of State share has been received from Assam, Maharashtra, Mizorma, Nagaland Orissa, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Pondicherry. The States of Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Kerala, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya have only partly released their State share for 1995-96 while Manipur and Himachal Pradesh have released a major part of the State Share. The defaulting State Governments have been reminded to release the State share for 1995-96 to qualify for Central share under PMIUPEP for 1996-97.

Clearance to Power Projects

1934.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of power projects are pending with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA);

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

(c) the steps taken by CEA to clear those projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) As on 31.1.1997. 5 State and Central Sector Projects aggregating to 632.8 MW and 8 Private Sector Projects aggregating to 3486 MW are currently under various stages of examination in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The details of the projects are given in the enclosed statement.

The techno economic clearance of these projects by CEA are pending, for want of various inputs from the project authorities. Which cover statutory and other clearances from the state and central agencies, additional information on project costs and financial packages, fuel and other linkages, environment clearances and detailed project report from the promoters of the project.

Statement

List of Power Projects under examination by the Central Electricity Authority for accord of techno-economic clearance

S.No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)
State/Central Sector Schemes (as on 31.1.1997)		
Hydro		
<i>Jammu & Kashmir</i>		
1.	Gri HEP St-II (Ph.I) (PDC. J&K Govt.) (Baramula)	4x70 = 280
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>		
2.	Dhauliganga HEP (Intermediate) NHPC	3x70 = 210
<i>Mizoram</i>		
3.	Tuirial HEP (NEEPCO)	2x30 = 60
	Total	550
Thermal		
<i>Karnataka</i>		
4.	Yelhanka DGPP Extn. (KEB)	2x23.4 = 46.8
<i>Manipur</i>		
5.	Manipur Heavy fuel oil TPS (Manipur State Electricity Deptt.)	6x6 = 36.0
	Total	82.8
	Grant Total	632.8

Private Sector Schemes (for which DPR have been received) (as on 31.1.1997)

S.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
Hydro		
<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>		
1.	Malana HEP (M/s. Rajasthan Spinning and Heaving Mill) (Kullu)	2x43 = 86

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh		
2.	Vishnuprayag HEP (M/s. JIL) (Chamoli)	4x100 = 400
3.	Srinagar HEP (M/s. Duncans Industries Ltd.) (Pauri Garhwal)	5x66 = 330
	Total	816
Thermal		
Uttar Pradesh		
4.	Rosa TPP (Ph.I) (M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corpn. Ltd.) (Shahjahanpur)	2x283.5 = 567
Gujarat		
5.	Jamnagar TPP (Ph.I) (M/s. Reliance Power Ltd.)	2x250 = 500
Madhya Pradesh		
6.	Bina TPS (M/s. Bina Power Supply Co. Ltd.)	2x289 = 578
Tamil Nadu		
7.	Tuticorin TPP IV (M/s. SPIC Electric Power Corp. Ltd.)	1x525 = 525
Orissa		
8.	Duburi TPP (M/s. Kalinga Power Corpn.)	2x250 = 500
	Total	2670
	Grand Total	3486

Petroleum Projects

1935. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR :
SHRI C. NARASIMHAN :
SHRI VIJAY HARISHCHANDRA PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have further decided to privatise oil exploration and production;

(b) if so, the terms on which private companies, including foreign companies, be allowed to explore produce and sell crude oil and gas;

(c) the total known oil reserves in the country as on 1.1.1997; and

(d) the total land/sea area they cover and the area presently under production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) and (b) In order to encourage private sector participation Government of India has announced the New exploration licensing policy. The salient features of the policy are :-

– Adopting the policy of open availability of exploration acreages in addition to existing bidding rounds.

– ONGC & OIL to compete for obtaining exploration licences on competitive basis alongwith other pvt. sector companies.

– ONGC & OIL to be provided a level playing field by providing same fiscal & contract terms as available for pvt. companies.

– Special package to encourage exploration in deep water and frontier areas.

– Freedom to contractors for marketing of crude oil and gas in domestic market.

– Exemption from Payment of petroleum exploration licences fee/area rentals.

– No compulsory state participation through ONGC and OIL.

(c) Hydrocarbon reserves are estimated once in every year as on 31st March. The estimated recoverable reserves of oil and condensate as on 31.3.96 are 745.65 MMT.

(d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Renewable Energy Sources

1936. SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand renewable energy program in Five year Plan;

(b) if so, the schemes proposed to be launched therefor;

(c) whether the solar cookers are getting increasingly popular in some states;

(d) if so, the specific scheme proposed to be implemented to promote solar cookers in that plan period; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b) Proposals have been prepared for expending the renewable energy

programme significantly during the ninth five year plan. However, the goals and details of schemes for the Ninth Plan have not yet been finalised.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. In order to popularise solar cookers on a larger scale, the ministry proposes to continue providing financial assistance to states and union territories and manufacturers for organising publicity campaigns, establishing sales outlets/centers and organising training and demonstrations. It is also proposed to provide interest-free loans to users through some nationalized banks and the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA). While banks will provide loans to individuals, IREDA will provide finance to bulk buyers such as corporate and cooperative bodies. Soft loans are also proposed to be made available to manufacturers for financing capital equipment. The Ministry is also supporting the establishment of show rooms and sales centers to ensure easy availability of solar cookers.

[Translation]

Demand of LPG

1937. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated demand of LPG and petroleum products in Delhi during the last three years and the actual supply made;

(b) the demand of LPG, Kerosene, petrol and petroleum products and the details of marketing scheme prepared by public enterprises and private sector companies to meet this demand in Delhi;

(c) the marketing scheme of public enterprises for the marketing of LPG, Kerosene, petroleum and petroleum products for the current year for Delhi, public enterprise-wise; and

(d) whether Oil Selection Board has been reconstituted for Delhi to give final shape for the selection of new dealership during the current year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) to (c) The demand of LPG consumers registered with public Sector Oil Companies is met almost in full. The supplies of LPG in Delhi during the last three years are given below :

(Fig. in TMT)

1993-94	259
1994-95	277
1995-96	309

Kerosene is an allocated product and the allocation

versus release in Delhi during the last three years are given below :

(Fig. in TMT)

year	Allocation	Release
1993-94	239	240
1994-95	239	240
1995-96	241	242

Petrol & Diesel are not allocated products and the demand is met in full. The details of Petrol/diesel supplies during the last 3 years in Delhi are given below :-

(Fig. in TMT)

year	Petrol (Provisional)	Diesel (Provisional)
1993-94	375	839
1994-95	408	925
1995-96	436	1153

As on 1.10.1996 there were 280 RO, 107 SKO/LDO and 220 LPG dealerships/distributorships in Delhi catering to the current demand of the consumers. In addition to the above 21 LPG distributorships BPCL (9) and IOC (12) have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1994-96 for Delhi.

The marketing plans of private sector companies are not regulated and maintained by the Ministry.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

Violation of Master Plan

1938. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Report on Hotel Park Royale row : Master Plan violation indicated" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated January 24, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) MCD has reported that the Occupancy Certificate (Completion Certificate) of Park Royal Hotel at Nehru Place has been given after removal of objections and depositing the compounding fees.

Clearance to Power Projects

1939. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned US seeks speedy clearance for power projects appearing in the Indian Express dated October 13, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the total number of power projects at present pending for clearance with the Government from US;

(d) the total amount involved in these projects;

(e) the States where these projects are likely to be set up; and

(f) the time by which the final decision for their clearance is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Of the two projects cited in the news report, the 250 MW single unit lignite based thermal power project is proposed to be set up by M/s ST-CMS Electric Company at Nayveli in Tamil Nadu. The proposal has been accorded techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The promoters have also signed a power purchase agreement (PPA) with Tamil Nadu Electricity Board (TNEB) on 20.11.1996 and the signatories to the PPA are required to fulfil a few more conditions prior to obtaining the counter-guarantee of the Government of India. TNEB have informed that M/s Intergen of USA have withdrawn from the proposal to set up a 330.5 MW gas turbine power project at Pillai-perumalnallur.

(c) to (f) As on date Ministry of Power is monitoring 33 proposals, on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/Letter of Intent (LoI), etc. route costing more than Rs. 100 crores and on the competitive bidding route costing more than Rs. 1000 crores for setting up of power projects in the private sector involving investment from the USA at an estimated cost of Rs. 73,263.41 crores. Ten of these proposals have been accorded techno-economic clearance of CEA. twenty two proposals have been accorded 'in-principle' clearance of CEA, and one proposal has been selected through the process of competitive bidding. All the schemes which have been accorded 'in-principle' clearance are required to file their detailed project report (DPR) by 31.3.1997 for obtaining the techno-economic clearance of CEA. The States in which these projects are to be set up are Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Beer Production

1940. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

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

(a) the number of companies producing beer including nonalcoholic beer in the country and the installed capacity of each of these companies;

(b) whether these companies are producing much beyond their licenced capacity;

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) if not, the reason therefor;

(e) whether any export obligation has been imposed on the companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

PM's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme

1941. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified the Urban agglomerations proposed to be covered under the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme;

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

(c) whether any such Urban Agglomeration in Karnataka has been included under the programme; and

(d) if so, the fund allocation made to Karnataka for the same so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 345 Urban Agglomerations and 72 Hill District Towns have been included in the Scheme as per the enclosed Statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central share allocated for the year 1995-96 is Rs. 634.59 lakhs and Central share earmarked for 1996-97 is Rs. 560.52 lakhs.

Statement

State-wise List of 417 Urban Agglomerations Covered under the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP)

Andhra Pradesh

1. Srikakulam
2. Tadepalligudem
3. Narsaraopet
4. Nalgonda
5. Anakapalle
6. Adilabad
7. Chilakaluripet
8. Dharmavaram
9. Madanapalle
10. Tadipatri
11. Jagitial
12. Bellampalle
13. Mandamarri
14. Kavali
15. Miryalaguda
16. Yemmiganur
17. Bodhan
18. Kadiri
19. Tanuku
20. Bapatla
21. Srikalahasti
22. Suryapet
23. Nirmal
24. Kagaznagar
25. Palacole
26. Narsapur
27. Gudur
28. Ponnuru
29. Siddipet
30. Palwancha
31. Mancheriyal
32. Manglagiri
33. Sangareddy
34. Siricilla

Assam

1. Nagaon
2. Tinsukia
3. Dhubri
4. Tezpur

Bihar

1. Sasaram
2. Hazaribagh
3. Dehri
4. Bettiah
5. Hajipur
6. Jamalpur
7. Deoghar
8. Begusarai
9. Motihari
10. Siwan
11. Ramgarh
12. Saharsa
13. Giridih
14. Sitamarhi
15. Bagaha
16. Kishanganj
17. Barauni
18. Mokameh
19. Samastipur
20. Gumia
21. Chaibasa
22. Daltonganj
23. Buxar
24. Madhubani
25. Jhumri Tilaiya
26. Lakhisarai
27. Nawada
28. Jehenabad

Goa

1. Mormugao
2. Panaji
3. Margao

Gujarat

1. Patan
2. Dohad
3. Jetpur
4. Kalol
5. Palanpur
6. Khambhat
7. Gondal
8. Dhoraji
9. Ankleswar

Gujarat (Contd.)

10. Amreli
11. Savarkundla
12. Botad
13. Mahuva
14. Deesa
15. Visnagar
16. Dhrangadhra
17. Dholka
18. Upleta
19. Sidhpur
20. Himatnagar
21. Anjar
22. Bilimora
23. Unjha
24. Kadi
25. Viramgan
26. Dabhoi
27. Keshod

Haryana

1. Jind
2. Thanesah
3. Rewari
4. Kaithal
5. Panchkola U. Estate
6. Hansi
7. Palwal
8. Bahadurgarh
9. Narnaul

Karnataka

1. Kolar
2. Gangawati
3. Bagalkot
4. Ranibennur
5. Harihar
6. Chiemagalur
7. Rabkavi-Banhatti
8. Channapatna
9. Dod Ballapur
10. Dandeli
11. Shahabad
12. Gokak

Karnataka (Contd.)

13. Nipani
14. Arwar
15. Sirsi
16. Ramanagaram
17. Chintamani

Kerala

1. Kodungallur
2. Kayamkulam
3. Chittur-Thathamang
4. Payyannur
5. Taliparamba
6. Thiruvalla
7. Changanassery
8. Ponnani
9. Kasaragod

Madhya Pradesh

1. Chhindwara
2. Mandsaur
3. Chikhli Kalan-Parasia
4. Vidisha
5. Neemuch
6. Raigarh
7. Itarsi
8. Jagdalpur
9. Sarni
10. Mhow Cantt
11. Burhar-Dhanpuri
12. Nagda
13. Chhatarpur
14. Sehora
15. Kurasia
16. Hoshangabad
17. Dhamtari
18. Balaghat
19. Khargone
20. Seoni
21. Datia
22. Betul
23. Shandol
24. Dhar
25. Jaora

Madhya Pradesh (Contd.)

26. Dalli-Rajhara
27. Tikamgarh
28. Ambika Pur
29. Bina Itawa

Maharashtra

1. Achalpur
2. Satara
3. Ballarpur
4. Barshi
5. Vasi
6. Pandharpur
7. Shirampur
8. Hinganghat
9. Nandurbar
10. Chalisgaon
11. Amamner
12. Khamgaon
13. Parli
14. Bhandara
15. Udgir
16. Osmanabad
17. Nalasopara
18. Akot
19. Manmad
20. Panvel
21. Virar
22. Ameerjogai
23. Karad
24. Rainagri
25. Pusad
26. Hingoli
27. Buldana
28. Malkapur

Nagaland

1. Dimapur
2. Kohima

Orissa

1. Bhadrak
2. Balangir
3. Brajaranjagar
4. Baripada

Orissa (Contd.)

5. Jeypur
6. Jharsuguda
7. Sunabeda
8. Bargarh
9. Bvhanipatna
10. Jatani

Punjab

1. Malerkotla
2. Phagwara
3. Firozpur
4. S.A.S. Nagar
5. Barnala
6. Khanna
7. Rajpura
8. Muktsar
9. Kapurthala
10. Kot Kapura
11. Faridkot
12. Fazilka
13. Malout
14. Sangrur
15. Mansa
16. Gurdaspur
17. Nabha
18. Firozpur Cantt.

Rajasthan

1. Churu
2. Hanumangarh
3. Kishangarh
4. Sawal Madhour
5. JhunJhunu
6. Chiittaugarh
7. Sujangarh
8. Gangapur City
9. Barmer
10. Dhaulpur
11. Nagaur
12. Sardarshahar
13. Banswara
14. Makrana
15. Fatehpur

Rajasthan (Contd.)

16. Bundi
17. Hindaun
18. Baran
19. Ratangarh
20. Nawalgarh

Tamil Nadu

1. Nagappattinam
2. Pudukkottai
3. Bhavani
4. Viniyambadi
5. Guduvattam
6. Villupuram
7. Udhagamandalam
8. Aruppukkottai
9. Kovilpatti
10. Mayiladuthurai
11. Palani
12. Ambur
13. Tiruchendur
14. Rapamakudi
15. Arakkonam
16. Virudunagar
17. Kadaiyanallur
18. Srivilliputtur
19. Chidambaram
20. Bodinayakanur
21. Theni Allinagaram
22. Mettupalaiyam
23. Tiruchengodu
24. Tindivanam
25. Krishnagiri
26. Ambasamudram
27. Dharmapuri
28. Dumalaipettai
29. Pattukkottai
30. Devarshoia
31. Mannargudi
32. Attur
33. Tirupattur
34. Tenkasi
35. Arani

Tamil Nadu (Contd.)

36. Chengalpattu
37. Puliangudi
38. Ramanathapuram
39. Veidhachalam
40. Kambam
41. Panruti

Uttar Pradesh

1. Orai
2. Banda
3. Gonda
4. Mughalsarai
5. Roorkee
6. Hardoi
7. Basti
8. Ballia
9. Chandausi
10. Beoria
11. Khurja
12. Lakhimpur
13. Lalitpur
14. Azamgarh
15. Etah
16. Barabanki
17. Mainpuri
18. Ghazipur
19. Sultanpur
20. Kasganj
21. Bijnor
22. Rishikesh
23. Shamli
24. Tanda
25. Kashipur
26. Baraut
27. Najibabad
28. Deoband
29. Bela Pratapgarh
30. Bhadohi
31. Shikohabad
32. Mubarakpur
33. Rudrapur
34. Sikandrabad

Uttar Pradesh (Contd.)

35. Balrampur
36. Kannauj
37. Nagina
38. Mahoba
39. Kajrana
40. Chandpur
41. Shahabad
42. Mawana
43. Sahaswan
44. Auraiya
45. Ganga Ghat
46. Pilkhua

West Bengal

1. Koch Bihar
2. Puruliya
3. Birnagar
4. Rajpur
5. Bangaon
6. Chakdaha
7. Darjiling
8. Jalpaiguri
9. Chittaranjan
10. Birlapur
11. Aurangabad
12. Bishnupur
13. Jangipur
14. Katwa
15. Suri
16. Contai
17. Bolpur
18. Gobardanga

A & N Islands

1. Port Blair

Pondicherry

1. Karaikal

Grand Total : 345 Class II Towns

*72 Hills Distt Towns Covered Under PMI UPEP***Arunachal Pradesh**

1. Dodmila Town (West Kameng)
2. Itanagar (Lower Subansiri)
3. Along Town (West Siang)
4. Pasighat (East Siang)
5. Roing Town (Dibang-Valley)
6. Tezu Town (Lohit)
7. Khonsa Town (TIRAP)

Assam

1. Kokrajhar
2. Bongaigaon
3. Goalpara
4. Barpeta
5. Nalbari
6. Mangoldoi (Darrang)
7. Lakhimpur
8. Marigaon
9. Golaghat
10. Sibsagar
11. Diphu (Karbi-Anglong)
12. Hailakandi
13. Karimaganj
14. Hailakandi
15. Dhemaji

Himachal Pradesh

1. Chamba
2. Dharamsala (Kangra)
3. Hamirpur
4. UNA
5. Bilaspur
6. Mandi
7. Kullu
8. Solan
9. Nahan (Sirmaur)

Jammu & Kashmir

1. Leh
2. Kargil
3. Baramula
4. Kupwada

Jammu & Kashmir (Contd.)

5. Bargaon
6. Anantnag
7. Pulwama
8. Kathva
9. Dodra
10. Udhampur
11. Rajouri
12. Poonch

Manipur

1. Churachandpur
2. Moren (Chandel)
3. Thoubal
4. Bishnupur
5. Lilong

Meghalaya

1. Jowai
2. Nongstoin
3. William Nagar
4. Tura

Mizoram

1. Lunglei
2. Saiha (Chhimituipui)

Nagaland

1. Zunleboto
2. Wokha
3. Mokokchung
4. Tuensang
5. Mon

Sikkim

1. Mongan
2. Gangtok
3. Namachi
4. Geyzing

Tripura

1. Dharam Nagar (North Tripura)
2. Udaipur (South Tripura)

Garhwal & Kumaon Region (UP)

1. Chamoli
2. Tehri
3. Uttar Kashi
4. Tehri-Garhwal
5. Almora
6. Nainital
7. Pithoragarh

Oil Selection Board

1942. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil Selection Board of LPG agencies and petrol pumps are not functioning in various areas;

(b) the details of such regions or areas where such selection bodies are not functioning with details as to the date from which they ceased to function;

(c) whether new selection boards are appointed in these states;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there are many areas in the country where people are denied opportunity even to apply for LPG cooking gas connection; and

(f) if so, the steps taken to remove this grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Operation of all the 17 Oil Selection Boards continues to be in abeyance since the announcement of the General Election for Lok Sabha in March, 1996.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, sir. Anybody can book on LPG connection with the LPG distributor of his area.

(f) Does not arise.

North Bengal Master Plan

1943. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far for the development of North Bengal, Master Plan;

(b) the estimated cost and funds made available therefor;

(c) the target period of completion;

(d) whether the Government have received any

report into problems being faced in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Revenue Villages

1944. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of revenue villages in the country; and

(b) the state-wise number of such revenue villages where pure drinking water could not be made available so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Provision of drinking water is now monitored keeping rural habitation as a unit. The State-wise details of total number of habitations and the habitations not covered with drinking water facilities are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing total & NC habitations

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Habitations	NC Habitations **
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67684	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4178	790
3.	Assam	70669	10918
4.	Bihar	205436	6816
5.	Goa	405	40
6.	Gujarat	30269	436
7.	Haryana	6484	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	43781	4295
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7763	727
10.	Karnataka	56682	4174
11.	Kerala	9719	495
12.	Madhya Pradesh	127083	2047
13.	Maharashtra	77124	22
14.	Manipur	2815	268

1	2	3	4
15.	Meghalaya	7876	738
16.	Mizoram	919	10
17.	Nagaland	1304	354
18.	Orissa	74231	4500
19.	Punjab	12797	5230
20.	Rajasthan	81773	8334
21.	Sikkim	1679	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	66631	130
23.	Tripura	7412	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	274641	2946
25.	West Bengal	80377	0
26.	A&N Islands	504	11
27.	D&N Haveli	516	128
28.	Daman & Diu	29	0
29.	Delhi	200	0
30.	Lakshadweep	11	0
31.	Pondicherry	276	0
32.	Chandigarh	25	0
Total		1321293	53409*

* Provisional subject to confirmation by States/Uts.

** NC - Not Covered

Industrial Training Institutes Under Trysem

1945. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether DRDA has sent any proposai to the Government for opening of five ITI in Nizamabød district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the fund released by the Government of the purpose;

(c) if not, the manner in which Government propose to impart skilled training in the backward Nizamabad district; and

(d) whether the Government would supplement the efforts of the State of providing adequate funds for imparting skilled training to youths under TRYSEM programme in rural areas of Andhra Pradesh especially Nizamabad district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) No proposal for opening of

ITIs at Nizamabad district of Andhra Pradesh has been received by this Ministry. However, the State Govt. have been released central share of funds to the tune of Rs. 49.07 lakh for setting up of 19 mini ITIs in Andhra Pradesh including Rs. 5.45 lakh for Nizamabad district during 1995-96. In addition, the State Government has sent a proposal for setting up of 100 mini-ITIs in the State including 5 in Nizamabad district in a phased manner from 1996-97 to 1999-2000. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee on IRDP, this Ministry had initiated setting up of exclusive TRYSEM training institutes popularly known as mini-ITIs in those blocks where no training infrastructure exists under TRYSEM training infrastructure. The proposal of the State Government is under consideration and a decision is expected soon.

ISRO

1946. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to implement new schemes to expand ISRO, Trivandrum, Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievement made by this centre in the field of space research during last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) In Thiruvananthapuram, ISRO has three Centres/Units namely, Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) and ISRO Intertial Systems Unit (IISU). VSSC is the lead Centre for launch vehicle technology development. Currently, the ongoing programmes at VSSC are the production of Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV), Development of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSIV) and advance R&D needed for future. In addition to providing the liquid stages for the above launch vehicle programmes, LPSC is currently developing an indigenous Cryo Upper Stage (CUS) for GSLV. IISU is the nodal Unit to develop the inertial systems for launch vehicles and spacecraft.

Suitable augmentation/modernization of various facilities and restructuring of various activities needed for these programmes are done on a continuous basis. Necessary funds are provided as and when required.

(c) During the last three years the major achievements of the Centres/Units located in Thiruvananthapuram included successful completion of ASLV programme; development and flight testing 3 PSLVs, significant progress in qualification of system of GSLV and successful completion of subscale 1 tonne cryogenic engine test programme.

Accommodation to Delhi Police Personnel

1947. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Estates Office has allotted Government accommodation to personnel of the Delhi Police in capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for allotment of accommodation to Delhi Police personnel while they are entitled only for accommodation in various Police Stations and residential premises owned by the Delhi Police; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to get the accommodation vacated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only the Gazetted personnel of the Delhi Police are eligible for allotment of General Pool accommodation from the Directorate of Estates. As per available records, 21 D-II type, 4 D-I and 2 C-II type quarters have been allotted to eligible Delhi Police personnel.

(c) Question does not arise in view of above.

Rehabilitation of Militants

1948. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some militants have surrendered after the recently held elections of Jammu and Kashmir Assembly;

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

(c) whether the Government have made arrangements for their rehabilitation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 227 militants have surrendered since the elections of which 194 have surrendered before the Chief Minister and others before the security forces.

(c) and (d) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir had announced a Surrender Policy on August 15, 1995 for the surrender and rehabilitation of militants in the State. Salient features of the Policy are as follows:-

(i) The surrenderees are first kept in a Transit Camp from where those willing to stay in the

Rehabilitation Centre are transferred to it. At the Rehabilitation Centre, they are kept for four to six months which is extendable to eight months.

- (ii) The surrenderees are paid cash incentives for surrendered weapons at fixed scales. They are paid a stipend of Rs. 1500/- per month (Rs. 500/- for diet and Rs. 1000/- cash) during their stay in the Rehabilitation Centre.
- (iii) As far as possible, and depending on their qualifications, efforts are made to provide them jobs in Defence Forces, CPMFs, Police, Public Undertakings or even in private sector, subject to their fulfilling laid down qualifications.
- (iv) At the Rehabilitation Centre, they are given vocational training in various trade like fitter, electrician, welder, stenographer, cutting and tailoring. After training, efforts are made to rehabilitate them by providing either suitable jobs or self-employment under various Central and State Schemes as per their choice and aptitude.
- (v) The Policy, however, does not extend to surrenderees who are involved in cases of murder, rape, abduction and other such heinous crimes who will be subject to the due process of law and surrender would not lead to amnesty.

JRY and IRDP

1949. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to entrust the JRY and IRDP schemes to the state Government; and
- (b) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration at present to entrust the JRY and IRDP schemes to the State Government.

[Translation]

Corruption in CAPART

1950. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether corruption is rampant in CAPART.
- (b) if so, the particulars of voluntary organisations black listed till March, 1997;
- (c) the particulars of these organisations referred to C.B.I. for inquiry; and

(d) the details of action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Corruption is not rampant in CAPART. As on 31.1.1997, CAPART has blacklisted 248 voluntary organisations. In addition, CAPART has also blacklisted 150 voluntary organisations which were blacklisted by other Government agencies.

(c) CAPART has reported that it has referred the cases of 61 organisations of CBI for further investigations.

(d) Further funding to these organisations has been stopped. Further action, including action against the officials involved if any, would be taken on receipt of CBI's report.

[English]

Utilization Certificates by NGOs

1951. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Fund use certificates for Rs. 3533 crore pending; NGOs outsmart Central Ministries" appearing in the Indian Express dated 2 September, 1996;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the details of voluntary organisations that availed grants during 1990 onwards but not submitted the utilisation certificates;
- (d) the action Government propose to take in this regard;
- (e) whether grant is released only after the accounts for the last year's grant utilisation has been submitted; and
- (f) if so, the reasons for release of further grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

Drought in Orissa

1952. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the drought condition still prevailing in several district of the State of Orissa particularly in Western Orissa;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to undertake some permanent measures to combat drought situation in Western Orissa; and

(c) the specific measures taken in this regard for implementing in Ninth Five Years Plan Period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) According to the reports received from the Government of Orissa, based on crop cutting experiments, 15,818 villages in 18 districts suffer from crop losses of 50% or more. The State Government propose to declare these villages as "drought affected" under the provisions of the Orissa Relief Code.

(b) and (c) To mitigate the adverse effect of drought, Drought Prone Areas Programme is under implementation in 8 districts of Orissa. The programme will continue during Ninth Five Year Plan.

Seizure of Chemical Weapons

1953. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the chemical weapons seized in the Kashmir valley during the past three years by BSF;

(b) the details thereof and the manner in which these got entry into the valley; and

(c) the action plan formulated by the Government to check such activities in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALSUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) According to available information a container/grenade suspected to be a chemical grenade had been recovered by the BSF on 12 January 1997 in village Nuran. On further examination by experts it was found to be a country made grenade and not a chemical grenade. There are no other reports pertaining to recovery/seizure of chemical weapons in J&K. Sustained efforts are being made by the security forces to contain the possibilities of smuggling and infiltration of weapons, etc. into the States from across the border.

[Translation]

Demand and Supply of Power in U.P.

1954. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total generating capacity, supply and demand of power in Uttar Pradesh during 1993-96, year-wise;

(b) the gap between demand and supply of power during the year 1995-96, till date; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fulfil the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) Installed capacity and power supply position in (Uttar Pradesh during the period 1993-94 to 1996-97 (upto January, 1997) is given below :

Year	Installed Capacity (MW)	Requirement (MU)	Availability (MU)	Shortage (MU)	%
1993-94	5579.74	33735	30476	3259	9.7
1994-95	6074.74	37195	32652	4543	12.2
1995-96	6074.74	38690	34279	4411	11.4
1996-97 (upto Jan.'97)	6074.74	34155	29605	4550	13.3

(c) Various measures to improve the availability of power in Uttar Pradesh include maximising the generation from the existing capacity, implementation of R&M programme, reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures and obtaining assistance from neighbouring States/Systems.

Unemployment in Bihar

1955. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing unemployment problem in Bihar;

(b) whether unemployed people, who are mostly scheduled castes/scheduled tribes are forced to migrate to other states, such as Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Assam and West Bengal, where they are economically exploited;

(c) whether the Government propose to check this exodus; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d) According to National Sample Surveys in 48th round (January-December, 1992) and NSS 50th round (July, 1993-June, 1994), the number of unemployed per 1000 persons by broad usual principal status was 5 and 7 respectively in rural areas of Bihar.

Tackling problems of unemployment is one of the thrust areas in the 8th Five Year Plan. Major employment and poverty alleviation programmes are accordingly being implemented in the country including Bihar for the benefit of the rural poor. These programmes include Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme which

are wage employment programmes and Integrated Rural Development Programme, Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment and Supply of Improved Toolkits to Artisans which are self-employment programmes. Special target are provided in these programmes, for the coverage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These programmes aim to provide employment opportunities to SC/ST among others, in the villages so that they do not have migrate to other districts and others States in search of employment. These programmes also aim at enabling these people to have sustainable source of income to cross the poverty line. The Government is, therefore, taking all possible measures to provide employment opportunities to SC/ST in the rural areas in various States and to see that they are not economically exploited.

New Schemes under Indira Awas Yojana

1956. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have chalked out any new schemes/programmes for construction of houses and rural development under the Indira Awas Yojana for Sambhal Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Government of India is allocating funds for the construction of dwelling units for primarily SCs/STs and freed bonded labourers under Indira Awas Yojana. No special rural housing scheme has been formulated during the current year for any particular State/UT.

[English]

Generation of Power

1957. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTAN :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to set up some more Hydro and Thermal Power Projects in the country during Ninth Five Year Plan;

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

(c) the total power generated through Hydro and thermal power projects during the each of last three years, State-wise;

(d) the total demand and supply of power at present in the country; and

(e) the steps taken to fill up the gaps between demand and supply and to streamline the T&D system in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) The proposals for setting up of new thermal and hydro power projects during the Ninth Five Year Plan are presently under examination and are yet to be finalised by the Government. The expected additional capacity would depend on various factors such as project preparedness, availability of financial resources, fuel linkages etc.

(c) The total power generated through Hydro and thermal Power projects during each of the last three years, State-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The availability of power in the country during the period April, 1996 to January, 1997 was 302907 MUs as against the requirement of 340709 MUs.

(e) To meet the projected demand, Government have initiated various steps which, inter-alia, include addition of capacity, encouraging private sector participation in power generation, better demand side management, energy conservation measures, renovation and modernisation of existing plants, reduction of transmission and distribution losses and effective utilisation of generation by transfer of power from surplus region, if any, to deficit regions through inter-regional links.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Organisation	Power Generation (MUs)		
		1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5
State Sector				
1.	Delhi	2550	2524	2485
2.	Haryana	3133	3425	3200
3.	Himachal Pradesh	957	1116	1265
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	786	870	798
5.	Punjab	11419	11505	11381
6.	Rajasthan	5664	5749	6637
7.	Uttar Pradesh	19854	21670	22802
8.	Gujarat	21238	23056	24169
9.	Madhya Pradesh	14930	17066	18200
10.	Maharashtra	33999	37988	39337

1	2	3	4	5
11. Andhra Pradesh		20216	21394	22776
12. Karnataka		14154	16341	14861
13. Kerala		5823	6572	6666
14. Tamil Nadu		17699	19887	21951
15. Bihar		2987	2699	2292
16. Orissa		5117	5561	5748
17. Sikkim		34	65	49
18. West Bengal		9972	10464	10307
19. Arunachal Pradesh		-	20	15
20. Assam		908	1255	1434
21. Manipur		617	515	480
22. Meghalaya		584	381	539
23. Tripura		145	166	195
Central Sector Including Joint Sectors				
24. NTPC		80923	83605	90482
25. NHPC		2970	5574	5673
26. DVC		6918	6915	6837
27. BBMB		10657	12232	12004
28. NEEPCO		906	860	1052
29. NLC		9397	10890	12264
30. NUCLEAR		5399	5646	7965
Private Sector		13686	15034	18122
Total All India		323531	351025	380084

[Translation]

Import of LPG

1958. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether liquified Petroleum Gas is being imported;

(b) if so, the quantity thereof and the names of the countries from which it is being imported; and

(c) the estimated foreign exchange being spent thereon every year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) : The import of liquified petroleum Gas is sourced mainly from Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait and UAE. The

import of LPG and its value from 1993-94 are as under:-

Import of LPG		
year	Quantity ('000 Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1993-94	414	241.77
1994-95	594	419.77
1995-96*	678	530.54
1996-97* (April-Dec).	624	590.11

* Provisional.

[English]

Solar Photo Voltaic Pumping System

1959. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether water supply is being made through Solar Photo Voltaic Pumping System in some of the tribal/backward areas in various state;

(b) whether places in West Bengal have also been provided pure drinking water through scientific and technological means; and

(c) if so, the names of such places where such a facility have been provided till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The names of the places where SPV Pumping systems have been installed in South 24 Parganas district of West Bengal are as under.

- Sayekhali I & II
- Rangabelia I & II
- Barkhori I, II, III & IV
- Sagar Islands

Status of Displaced Persons

1960. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any communication from the United Nations Commission for Refugees about the Kashmiri Pandits demand for being treated as internationally displaced persons;

(b) if so, the action taken in this matter;

(c) whether most of the Kashmiri Pandits are

apprehensive of their return to their native place in the Kashmir valley; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action taken thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir is in the process of preparing an action plan for return and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri migrants, which may take some time to get final shape since the issue has to be tackled on a politico-economic basis. The State Government's scheme will also take care of the security requirements and safety of the migrants.

Ganga Kalyan Yojana

1961. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ganga Kalyan Yojana has been formulated by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof with allocation state-wise for the current years;

(c) the details of the targets set and funds released to the State Government's during the current year; and

(d) the detail of progress achieved under the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely Ganga Kalyan Yojana has been formulated by the Government.

(b) and (c) The salient features of the Ganga Kalyan Yojana area as under :-

- (1) To provide irrigation through exploitation of ground water (borewells & tubewells) to individuals and groups of beneficiaries of small and marginal farmers living below the poverty line.
- (2) The individuals/groups are to be assisted through subsidy by Government and term credit by financial institutions.
- (3) Atleast 50% of the funds have been earmarked for SCs and STs.
- (4) The selection of beneficiaries will be approved,

by the Gram Sabha in an open General Body Meeting in the presence of concerned officers.

(5) Under the scheme 80% funds are to be borne by the Central Governments and 20% by the State Governments.

(6) The scheme is being implemented by the DRDA/ Zilla Parishads.

(7) Under the scheme, 75% subsidy is allowed for SCs/STs and physically disabled groups and 50% for the others. The monetary ceiling on subsidy per group is Rs. 40,000. In case of individual beneficiaries, subsidy is Rs. 5000 per acre of land under the scheme subject to a ceiling of Rs. 12500 per beneficiary.

(8) The gap between the project cost and subsidy admissible has to be bridged with term credit by financial institutions or SC/ST/BC Finance and Development Corporations.

(9) In Ganga Kalyan Yojana, for SC/ST/Physically Disabled groups, part of the operation and maintenance cost subject to a ceiling of 5% of the project cost per annum will be admissible as additional subsidy for three years. For other groups and for individual schemes, no subsidy on operation and maintenance would be admissible.

Total allocation under Ganga Kalyan Yojana is Rs. 90.00 crore during 1996-97. State-wise/UT-wise allocation of funds and the releases made by the Ministry for the current year 1996-97 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The Ganga Kalayan Yojana has since been implemented from 1st February, 1997. Thus, the progress from the States has not yet been received.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	States/UTs	Central Allocation	Amount released under G.K.Y.
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.83	6.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.51	-
3.	Assam	2.25	2.25
4.	Bihar	13.28	-
5.	Goa	0.12	-
6.	Gujarat	2.51	2.51
7.	Haryana	0.60	0.60
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.20	-

1	2	3	4
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.82	—
10.	Karnataka	4.58	4.58
11.	Kerala	1.67	1.67
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.65	8.65
13.	Maharashtra	7.44	—
14.	Manipur	0.37	0.37
15.	Meghalaya	0.39	—
16.	Mizoram	0.17	—
17.	Nagaland	0.27	0.27
18.	Orissa	5.54	—
19.	Punjab	0.43	0.43
20.	Rajasthan	3.59	—
21.	Sikkim	0.05	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	6.17	—
23.	Tripura	0.53	0.53
24.	Uttar Pradesh	16.64	16.64
25.	West Bengal	6.12	6.12
26.	A & N Islands	0.12	—
27.	D & N	0.02	—
28.	Daman & Diu	0.05	—
29.	Lakshadweep	0.01	—
30.	Pondicherry	0.09	—
Total		90.00	51.45

[Translation]

Activities of ISI

1962. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the activities of the Pakistan Intelligence Agency I.S.I. and Pro-Pakistan terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years till date;

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

(c) the reasons for the C.B.I. and security forces not being able to check the activities of Pakistan Intelligence Agency I.S.I. and Pro-Pakistan terrorists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND

PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) Government are aware that the Pakistan ISI has been continuously engaged in sponsoring, fuelling, aiding and abetting terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir. This is being done by provision of sanctuary and logistic support, as well as indoctrination and training in the use of arms to such elements in Pakistan's territory, infiltration of armed elements into the State, provision of financial assistance, strategic guidance and, continuous large scale propaganda and disinformation campaign aimed *inter-alia* at boosting the morale of elements engaged in terrorist and secessionist activities. Continuous efforts are being made by the Government and the Security Forces and agencies to contain the activities of the terrorists and a close watch continues to be maintained by all concerned agencies with a view to checking the designs and activities of ISI.

[English]

Sound Staff of C.P.W.D.

1963. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the criteria fixed by the Department of Personnel and Training from time to time is not being strictly followed in the case of some sound staff of CPWD;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such cases which have come to light;

(d) the action taken in this regard; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The criteria fixed by the Department of Personnel and Training from time to time is being strictly followed in all cases of Sound Staff of the C.P.W.D.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A few sound staff have represented to the Suprintending Engineer (Coord.) (Elect.), Central P.W.D., Delhi regarding their seniority. The Central P.W.D. is seized of the matter.

[Translation]

Setting up of Regional Offices of CAPART

1964. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up more

regional offices of "CAPART" in the country;

(b) if so, whether any of the regional office would be set up in Bihar and Chandigarh; and

(c) if so, by when these are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) CAPART has decided to set up more regional committees in the country.

(b) CAPART has a proposal to set up regional committees in Bihar and Chandigarh.

(c) CAPART is processing the matter further for the creation of posts etc. as per the prescribed procedure for the proposed new regional committees. New regional committee would be set up as soon as the formalities are completed.

[English]

Central Assistance Power IAY in Karnataka

1965. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) total number of rural households in Karnataka as per the survey conducted who have no house or site;

(b) the number of persons who have sites but need assistance to build houses;

(c) the amount of central assistance given during 1996-97 under Indira Awas Yojana to Karnataka, so far;

(d) whether the Karnataka Government had sought increase in the central assistance under the above scheme; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government on the proposal Indira Awas Yojana ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) As per Census Report 1991 the housing shortage in Karnataka is 426,915.

(b) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the table of the House on receipt.

(c) Karnataka has been released a total amount of 50.67 crores as Central assistance under Indira Awas Yojana in 1996-97 so far.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The request of Govt. of Karnataka for additional allocation of Central assistance under Indira Awas Yojana was considered. However, it could not be agreed to.

Drought Prone Areas Programmes

1966. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the States where Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) have been launched so far;

(b) the details of the areas covered under the DPAP in those States;

(c) the existing funding pattern of DPAP; and

(d) whether the Non-Government-organisation have also been involved in DPAP;

(e) if so, the work done by NGO and Government in different States during Eighth Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) Drought Prone Areas Programme is under implementation in 947 blocks of 155 districts in 13 States. The names of the States and number of districts and blocks covered under the programme in each State is given in enclosed Statement.

(d) and (e) : Area Development under DPAP is being taken up on Watershed basis under new Guidelines for Watershed Development effective from 1995-96. Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) have been selected as Project Implementation Agencies (PIAs) in some State for planning and development of watershed projects started in 1995-96 and to be completed in 1998-99.

Statement

	State	Number of Districts		Number of Blocks	
		DPAP	DDP	DPAP	DDP
	1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11	1	94	16
2.	Bihar	16	-	121	-
3.	Gujarat	10	6	52	47
4.	Haryana	-	6	-	44
5.	Himachal Pradesh	3	2	9	3
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	2	22	10
7.	Karnataka	11	3	81	22
8.	Madhya Pradesh	25	-	134	-
9.	Maharashtra	22	-	148	-
10.	Orissa	8	-	47	-

1	2	-	4	5
11. Rajasthan	10	16	32	85
12. Tamil Nadu	15	-	80	-
13. Uttar Pradesh	18	-	91	-
14. West Bengal	4	-	36	-
Total	155	36	947	227

**World Bank Aid for Drinking Water
Scheme in Andhra Pradesh**

1967. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received by the Government from Andhra Pradesh State Government for World Bank funding to the tune of Rs. 2500 crore for providing safe drinking water in areas affected by high flourine content and salinity;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard ?

(c) the districts and blocks which are covered under the scheme and the targeted period; and

(d) the efforts being made for expeditious sanction and funding by World Bank for the above scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) the project report has been received only on 25.2.1997. This has to be examined and posed to the World Bank for consideration. Its approval will depend on the Bank's appraisal of the project.

[Translation]

Relaxation to Kashmiries

1968. JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Public Service Commission has given relaxation in age upto five years to the candidates hailing from Jammu and Kashmir for appearing in the Civil Services Examination, 97;

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving such opportunity to the candidates from other States;

(c) the reasons for showing step motherly treatment towards the candidates of general category;

(d) whether the Government propose to give this opportunity to the candidates hailing from other States also

for appearing in the Civil Services Examination, 1997; and

(e) if so, by when an announcement to this effect is likely to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) Since the disturbed situation in Kashmir in the recent past had adversely affected the educational institutions and consequently the aspiring candidates for employment, a relaxation in the upper age limit of 5 years has been allowed to all persons who had ordinarily been domiciled in the State of Jammu & Kashmir during the period from 1.1.80 to 31.12.89 for recruitment to all Central Civil Services and posts made through the Union Public Service Commission or the Staff Selection Commission or otherwise by the Central Government. The situation prevailing in other States do not justify grant of similar age relaxation to the candidates hailing from other States.

[English]

Regularisation of Unauthorised Colonies

1969. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recieved any proposal from Delhi Government to regularise the unauthorised colonies in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) the details of the owners on whose land unauthorised constructions have come up;

(d) whether the Government of Delhi has also sent a proposal to the Union Government for the land use change of Gram Sabha land on which construction has been carried out before 31st March, 1993 so as to regularise such colonies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In CWP. No.4771/93, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has restrained the respondents, including Union of India, from taking any decision or action to regularise any unauthorised colony in Delhi will further orders. The matter is still sub judice.

(c) the government of NCT of Delhi had appointed a Committee for verification of status of land of un-

authorised colonies. According to Government of NCT of Delhi, the position as reported by this committee is as per enclosed statement

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

Statement

(i) No. of colonies sent to C.O.I. for regularisation	-	1071
(ii) Colonies referred to Deputy Commissioner, Delhi for verification of status of land	-	509
(iii) Colonies on original Gaon sabha land	-	80
(iv) Colonies whose land has been or is under acquisition proceedings.	-	39
(v) Colonies on agricultural land	-	143
(vi) Colonies partly on private land and partly on Government land/Gaon Sabha land	-	247
(vii) Colonies within the development area of DDA	-	495
(viii) Colonies where verification work is under consideration	-	67

[English]

Memory Pill

1970. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Durg Research Institute, Lucknow, has developed a herbal (Brahmi);

(b) if so, whether the drug has been tested for its unique quality of enhancing memory without and side-effects;

(c) if so, the steps taken for the commercial manufacturing of this drug;

(d) whether the present price of the drug is out of reach of the common-man; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to bring it within the reach of the common-man; ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir,

(c) The herbal drug, standardised Brahmi extract, has

been scientifically, and extensively tested for about 3 years and found to be effective in animal tests for enhancing learning, consolidation and recall of memory. It has also been tested for toxicity and found to be 'safe'. Such tests on herbal durgs are internationally acceptable.

(d) and (e) The production and marketing of the herbal drug has been licensed by CSIR to a Chennai based Indian Firm. The marketing and pricing of the drug is a commercial matter and not within the purview of CSIR.

Migration of People

1971. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether some people have migrated from Western Rajasthan to other parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh due to non availability of drinking water;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the action propose to take in terms of development of Water sources including drinking water from JGN Lift water supply project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Cental Ground Water Board would undertake scientific source finding for 1164 villages. The State Ground Water Department of Rajasthan Government is also conducting geophysical surveys and many sources have also been development for drinking water schemes. 1200 cusecs of water has been reserved for drinking water and other usage in I.G.N.P. At present provision for giving water to 2158 villgaes has been kept in Jodhpur water supply left canal project.

Targets Achieved for Poverty Alleviation

1972. SHRI T. GOPALA KRISHNA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the targets set for implementation of six poverty alleviation programmes in the country during the last two years have been achieved;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to monitor the implementation of the programmes in different states; and

(c) the steps being initiated for speedy achivement of targets, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The major poverty alleviation schemes being implemented in the country are the Integrated Rural Development programme (IRDP), the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), the Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), and the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP). While the first three programmes are being implemented in the rural areas of the country, the remaining three are urban poverty alleviation programmes. The targets and achievements for these six programmes during the last two years (i.e. 1994-95 and 1995-96) are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The monitoring and evaluation of the rural poverty alleviation programmes namely the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is done as per the provisions laid down in the guidelines of these programmes. The Government regularly monitors and reviews the implementation of these programmes in various States through the Central Level Coordination Committee (CLCC), State-Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) and at the District Level by the Governing Body of the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs). These programmes are also reviewed through regular progress reports from the States on key indicators and through an intensive regimen of field inspection by officers of the Centre, State

and implementing agencies. In addition, the physical progress is also monitored by the Department of Programme Implementation.

Furthermore, to assess the overall impact of various poverty alleviation programmes the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment undertakes periodic concurrent evaluations of their major schemes. Special reviews of rural development programmes are also conducted by Expert Committees.

The major urban poverty alleviation programme namely the Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) is reviewed periodically by the Government through meetings with senior State officials and through field visits. Moreover, a High Powered Committee on Institutional Credit support for the Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) and an Empowered Committee for Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation (SHASU) have also been set up to review these sub-schemes of NRY. The Planning Commission had also sponsored a study by the ORG on the 'Study on Management and organisational Aspects of NRY'.

(c) The State Governments follow different strategies for achieving targets under different poverty alleviation programmes. However, the steps taken by the Central Government to ensure speedy achievement of these targets include timely release of funds to States and constant monitoring and review of programmes with them. The States are suitably impressed upon from time to time the need for achieving the targets.

Statement

Physical Targets and Achievements for major rural poverty alleviation programmes during the last two years (i.e. 1994-95 and 1995-96)

Programme	1994-95 (Prov.)		1995-96(Prov.)	
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
IRDP (Lakh families)	21.15	22.14	\$	20.90
JRY (Lakh mandays)	7997.37	7435.59	8042.80	7955.89
Intensified JRY# (Lakh mandays)	1868.08	2063.48	437.25	1002.36
EAS (Lakh mandays)	*	2739.56	*	3435.59

Ach. = Achievement

* No target is assigned for EAS as it is a demand driven programme.

IJRY has been discontinued w.e.f. 1.1.1996 and merged with the EAS.

\$ Physical targets under IRDP have been discontinued from 1995-96.

Physical Targets and Achievements for major rural poverty alleviation programmes during the last two years (i.e. 1994-95 and 1995-96)

	1994-95		1995-96	
	Target	Ach.	Target	Ach.
A. NRY				
SUME (No. of beneficiaries assisted)	102190	124595	116807	125308
SUWE (mandays of work generated in lakhs)	41.12	50.85	36.22	54.64
SHASU (Dwelling units upgraded)	160024	62066	14970	22768
B. Urban Basic Services for Poor (UBSP) : as on 31.10.1996				
No. of towns selected				319
Total slum population ('000)				23458
No. of slum pockets selected for coverage				4690
No. of beneficiaries covered in these slum pockets ('000)				7514
C. Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP)				
PMIUPEP came into existence during November 1995. Under the programme. Statewise targets have not been fixed upto now.				

Ach. = Achievement

[Translation]

Discontinuation of Rural Development Programmes

1973. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Rural Development Programmes discontinued in Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of Rural Development Programmes under implementation in Sambhal Constituency in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the number of such programmes likely to be discontinued in the Ninth Five Year Plans during the current Financial Year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) are major rural development programmes being implemented throughout the country including the State of Uttar Pradesh during the Eight Five Year Plan, Constituency-wise information is not maintained at the centre. However, no programme was discontinued during 8th Plan period. Further, there is no proposal at present to discontinue any of these

programmes during Ninth Plan period.

[English]

Loans at Concessional Rates

1974. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the arrangements made by the Central Government to provide loans at concessional rates for construction of houses;

(b) the State-wise loans provided for this purpose during the last three years;

(c) the number of complaints received by the central Government regarding housing loans during the above period; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) The Central Government does not provide loans for construction of houses. However, loans at concessional rates for housing for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Groups (LIG) families are made available to various State level agencies by Housing and Urban Development

Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO). The net rates of interest charged by HUDCO for these categories are :-

EWS : 9% LIG : 12-13%

(b) State-wise and year-wise details of loans for housing for various income groups sanctioned by HUDCO during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Government has not received any complaint in regard to loans advanced by HUDCO.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Yearwise details of loans for Housing sanctioned by HUDCO during last three years.

State	Loan Sanctioned		
	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
	(Rs in Crores)		
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	75.56	63.73	76.63
Arunachal Pradesh	1.82	0.00	0.00
Assam	8.31	23.74	35.65
Bihar	40.70	11.75	26.32
Goa	48.40	9.00	0.42
Gujarat	21.74	57.38	46.00
Haryana	3.14	19.38	56.07
Himachal Pradesh	7.34	5.74	34.00
Jammu & Kashmir	50.26	1.30	13.67
Karnataka	53.51	82.47	92.84
Kerala	51.48	69.89	118.52
Madhya Pradesh	51.18	60.04	74.64
Maharashtra	5.72	73.92	38.17
Manipur	6.39	6.06	5.77
Mizoram	5.09	0.00	5.26
Meghalaya	5.79	13.49	0.94
Nagaland	29.53	5.77	-
Orissa	20.97	37.83	18.74
Punjab	46.80	21.96	8.21
Rajasthan	7.43	55.57	75.10
Sikkim	128.44	9.48	6.50

1	2	3	4
Tamil Nadu	1.78	121.48	159.88
Tripura	79.61	0.27	0.73
Uttar Pradesh	44.74	66.77	57.57
West Bengal	0.16	36.04	38.30
A & N Islands	4.79	0.00	1.40
Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	-
D & N Haveli	0.00	0.00	-
Delhi	0.00	0.70	-
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	-
Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	-
Daman & Diu	-	-	-
Total	800.68	859.96	994.50

[English]

DDA Flats

1975. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :
SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flats built by the DDA in Delhi upto 31st December, 1996;

(b) the number of flats under construction on 1 January, 1997;

(c) the number of flats allotted upto 31 December, 1996;

(d) the number of flats lying unallotted as on January, 1997 and the reasons for the non-allotment;

(e) the number of applicants who have not been allotted flats as on 1 January, 1997; and

(f) the number of additional flats for which the DDA has invited applications since 1 January, 1997 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) 2,51,773 flats.

(b) 16,802 flats.

(c) 2,44,392 flats as on 31st Decemuer 1996.

(d) The DDA has reported that 2,381 flats are lying unallotted as on 1st January, 1997, because of non-availability of electricity.

(e) 57,484 registrants.

(f) The DDA has not launched any new Scheme since January, 1997.

Employment Guarantee Scheme

1976. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the divisions earmarked under employment guarantee scheme in Andhra Pradesh during the past two years;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned and reimbursed/ yet to be reimbursed under the above scheme; and

(c) the criteria adopted for selection of divisions under this scheme and how Government is monitoring the utilisation of funds sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) is implemented block-wise in rural areas. EAS is being implemented in 280 blocks of 22 districts of the State.

(b) The details of funds released to Andhra Pradesh may please be seen at in the enclosed statement. More funds can be released provided State Government send proposals for more funds for those blocks who have utilised more than 50% available funds alongwith necessary certificates.

(c) The question of criteria adopted for selection of divisions under this scheme does not arise because EAS coverage is extended block-wise. Government monitor EAS through monthly progress reports, half yearly progress reports and review meetings of State Rural Development Secretaries.

Statement

Release of Central Share of Assistance to Andhra Pradesh during 1996-97 under EAS.

Name of District	No. of Blocks	Funds Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1. Adilabad	11	680.00
2. Anantpur	16	1020.00
3. Chitoor	20	720.00
4. Cuddapah	12	540.00

	1	2	3
5. East Godavari	20		1080.00
6. Guntur	6		120.00
7. Karimnagar	14		320.00
8. Khammam	13		760.00
9. Krishna	5		100.00
10. Kurnool	13		840.00
11. Medak	10		420.00
12. Mahbubnagar	16		1020.00
13. Nalgonda	15		860.00
14. Nellore	10		200.00
15. Nizamabad	5		100.00
16. Prakasam	17		960.00
17. Ranga Reddy	8		460.00
18. Srikakulam	16		660.00
19. Visakhapatna	19		600.00
20. Vizianagaram	14		440.00
21. Warangal	14		780.00
22. West Godavari	6		160.00
Total	280		12,840.00

Drinking Water Projects in Uttar Pradesh

1977. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of projects given of earance for supply of potable water in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last two years; and

(b) the amount sanctioned to Employment in each project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) the details of the projects approved for supply of safe drinking water in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh during 1994-95 are as under :

Project	Amount
1	2
Setting up of 37 District level labs.	Rs. 37.00 lakhs as released as first instalments

1	2
15 schemes under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programmes (ARWSP)	Rs. 118.36 lakhs
6 group of water supply schemes for 14 villages of Jhansi district.	Rs. 164.00 lakhs

Since January, 1995, complete powers have been delegated to the State to approve Rural Water Supply Schemes under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

(b) There is no separate earmarking for employment generation in rural water supply projects and therefore, no separate amount has been sanctioned for this purpose.

Sufficient Drinking Water

1978. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages provided with sufficient drinking Water State-wise; and

(b) the number of villages where there is provision of drinking water and the details of the plan being launched to cover these villages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The information regarding habitations covered fully or partially is given in the statement enclosed. The remaining Not Covered and Partially Covered habitations are proposed to be provided safe drinking water facilities by 2000 AD.

Statement

Statement showing the number of habitations (Fully/Partially) covered

Sl. No.	State/UT	Covered Habitations
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67684
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3388
3.	Assam	59751
4.	Bihar	198620
5.	Goa	365
6.	Gujarat	29833
7.	Haryana	6484
8.	Himachal Pradesh	39486

1	2	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7036
10.	Karnataka	52508
11.	Kerala	9224
12.	Madhya Pradesh	125036
13.	Maharashtra	77102
14.	Manipur	2547
15.	Meghalaya	7138
16.	Mizoram	909
17.	Nagaland	950
18.	Orissa	69731
19.	Punjab	7567
20.	Rajasthan	73439
21.	Sikkim	1679
22.	Tamil Nadu	66501
23.	Tripura	7412
24.	Uttar Pradesh	271695
25.	West Bengal	80377
26.	A & N Island	493
27.	D & N Haveli	388
28.	Daman & Diu	29
29.	Delhi	200
30.	Lakshadweep	11
31.	Pondicherry	276
32.	Chandigarh	25
Total		1267884

Cleanliness of Entire Kerala State

1979. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have submitted any proposal for the financial assistance for the cleaning of entire state;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the proposals and the total amount estimated amount; and

(c) the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

12.01 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report and Review on the working of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi for the year 1995-96 and statement showing the reasons for delay in laying these Papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1465/97]

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Consultancy Development Centre, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1466/97]

Annual Report and Review of the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1995-96 and statement showing the reasons for delay in laying these Papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts, under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation for the year 1995-96.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1467/97]

Notifications Under Section 3 of the All India Services Act 1951, etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A Copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951 :
 - (i) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Fifth Amendment Regulations, 1996 Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 585(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996.
 - (ii) The Indian Forest Service (Pay) Fifth Amendment Rules, 1996. Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 586(E) in Gazette of India dated the 26th December, 1996.
 - (iii) The Indian Forest Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Amendment Regulations, 1997 Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 17(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th January, 1997.
 - (iv) The Indian Forest Service (Pay) Amendment Rules, 1997 Published in Notification No. G.S.R. 18(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th January, 1997.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1468/97]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under article 323(1) of the Constitution—

- (i) Forty-Sixth Annual Report of the Union Public Service Commission for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1469/97]

- (ii) Memorandum explaining reasons for non-acceptance of the Advice of the Union Public Service Commission in respect of the case referred to in chapter VIII of the above report.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1470/97]

Memorandum of Understanding between Oil India Limited and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1996-97.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : I beg to lay on the Table—

a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Oil India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1471/97]

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will give a chance to everybody.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You will have a chance.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, I have given a privilege notice which is lying with you since 28th February...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards Sardar Sarovar Project. The Government of Gujrat...(Interruptions)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the regarding Sardar Sarovar matter has been lying pending for last three years...(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please give preference to the matter of privilege and allow me to speak...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, dacoities are being committed in train in Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you all stand up like this, nothing can be done. Why do you not sit coolly and calmly? I have got the whole list of hon. Members who have given notice. I am going to call you all one by one. Please have patience. Please sit where you are; please keep quiet; everybody will get a chance.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention...

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, dacoities are being committed in Bihar...(Interruptions)

Please listen to me just...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : How can I listen to all of you, at the same time?

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, not only the trains are being looted in Bihar but rapes are also being committed there. This matter merits serious consideration...(Interruptions) In the most abominable manner, dacoities are being committed in Bihar...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Cameras will be put off.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Such kind of incidents are taking place there...(Interruptions)...you are aware that no such action has been taken...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Cameras will be put off and nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Let the cameras be put off and nothing will go on record. Now you can say whatever you want to say.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record. You will not get any relief. All the cameras are off and nothing is going on record unless you all sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may go on speaking as long as you want to but nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Please maintain order everyone will

*Not Recorded.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

get a chance. 15-20 members stand up and start speaking. How would that help? You may go on speaking whatever you want to but that will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)**

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please take up the privilege motion just. That comes first...(Interruption)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : All right. I am telling that everybody will get a chance, if they sit in their places. I will call one by one. I have got the list with me. Why are you in a hurry? Everybody is speaking and nothing is going on record. All the cameras are off and nothing is being recorded. The cameras are being put off. Your constituency people will not see you. Cameras are off.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you please start from Bihar...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nitishji, you are a Presiding Officer. I will allow you first after a few minutes. Shri Pappu, I will give you a chance. Please keep quiet. Ranaji, I am dealing with the Privilege Motion first. I will first dispose of the Privilege Motion.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice of breach of privilege with regard to the incident that occurred on 10th January with me. I would like to draw your attention in this regard and would like to know as to what action is being taken in this regard...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will certainly answer, but there is another Privilege Motion.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will reply to you.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 28th

*Not Recorded.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

February, I brought to your notice a reported news item published in a leading newspaper of India with the enclosures of both the Hindi and English translations in which the former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, Dr. Subhash Kashyap made a very wild allegation and passed derogatory remarks on the conduct of the entire House, the Members of Parliament of Opposition, Ruling Parties, even the Chair, and Chair, and the entire Secretariat. To that extent, I would only read out three lines.

"He said that it has been his experience after having worked in Lok Sabha for many years that the Members of the Ruling as well as the Opposition Parties work in connivance. Even the uproarious scenes created in the House are pre-planned. The Ruling and the Opposition Members sit together and plan in advance as to how long the uproar would continue; who would throw papers on whom and in what manner and how they will oppose whom and how they will support whom."

He had said that all these decisions are pre-connived and that the political parties which advocate secularism themselves compromise with the so-called communal parties and they have their own arrangements also. Sir, it is very serious that he said that due to this tumult, the Hawala scam issue could not be raised and it came to light only after the judgment.

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Sir, you may now instruct them to put on the cameras.

MR. SPEAKER : The cameras can be switched on now.

MR. P.R. DASMUNSI : This was also done in connivance. He further said that the Members of this House, in most of the cases, manage the affairs on their own.

The most dangerous point he made was that to get rid of the purview of the measures relating to the public servants, the Members of Parliament do not want themselves to be treated as public servants. They all connived and planned to shield their corruption.

This is how the former Secretary-General had commented. It is a serious matter.

He said that it is a management of the greatest trade union of the world who shared their benefits among themselves.

Nothing could be more shameless than this. On the one hand, we are being assaulted every day by the judicial activism. On the other hand, if it is done like this by a former Secretary-General, where does Parliament stand?

[Shri P.R. Dasmunsi]

I think, it is a fit matter for privilege. Therefore, I request you to take a decision from your own wisdom to protect the honour of the House. It is casting an aspersion on the entire House.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The Leader of the Opposition should either confirm or deny the contents of that statement.

MR. SPEAKER : I have received the privilege notice not only from Shri P.R. Dasmunsi but also from Shri P.M. Sayeed and Shri A.C. Jos. We have asked for the comments from the former Secretary-General as well as the Editor of the *Jansatta*. I am waiting for their comments. As soon as I get the comments from the newspaper concerned, I will take a view on this.

The same case stands for the notice received from Prof. (Shrimati) Rita Verma. I have asked for a report from the Ministry of Home Affairs. That is the usual practice. As soon as I receive the report, I will take a decision in the matter.

...(interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sardar Sarovar is the life line for people of Gujarat. I would like to speak on this issue during zero hour.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not remember it. I will check up about this case.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nitish Kumar happens to be a Presiding Officer. I have to give him the chance first. Then, I will come to you.

12.14 hrs.

[Translation]

RE : TRAIN DACOITIES IN BIHAR

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, only last week we had a decision in the House regarding a train dacoity in Bihar. The Minister of Railways was present in the House at that time but he did not say anything. After that, the incidents of train dacoities are going on. A dacoity was committed during day time on the border of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. prior to this, a train dacoity had been committed on the Moqama-Barauni route about which the

Chief Minister had given a statement that some policemen involved in that train dacoity. If policeman were involved than what is going on in Bihar? Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we do not raise our voice in the House, where else can we do so...(Interruptions) I have not said anything against any particular person. Please listen to me. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I request you to give a chance to Shri Ram Kripal Yadav also to speak. The law and order situation is deteriorating there. The Chief Minister is saying all this in the Assembly and not outside. That the policemen are involved in train dacoity. How the people are living there, we can just imagine? Who will protect the innocent people? It is insecure to travel by train. The lives of people are no larger safe there. Such incidents have become the way life there. The Policemen are behind there dacoities, the Chief Minister himself has levelled this allegation. Recently M.P. from Monghyr while commenting on the dacoity committed in his area, stated that person involved in the dacoity had the patronage of a Minister. Ministers are harbouring unsocial element, the Chief Minister is levelling allegations and the dacoities are continuing unabated. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister of Railways is present here. He had given a statement outside the House about the train operating in Bihar. The position regarding law and order there and the safety of lives of the travellers. I urge upon you to hold a full fledged decision on this issue in this House.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have received a number of letters on this.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Security arrangements should be made. People are being killed in train dacoities and such a situation has arisen now that not only goods and valuables are being looted by the dacoits but women are also being insulted...(Interruptions)

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY (Buxar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, dacoits are looting the people in the trains in broad daylight...(Interruption)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. That is not the way.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have given the floor to Shri Nitish Kumar.

Shri Nitish Kumar, would you please conclude now? Please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever the Minister of Railways may have stated outside the House about the operation of trains, the situation in Bihar is still very bad in view of dacoities. Train operations are being sabotaged. Trains are derailed by removing fish-plates. I would like to ask the Minister of Railways to make a statement on the situation prevalent in Bihar.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think it is enough

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : The Minister of Home Affairs visited Patna recently. What he said about the law and order situation in Bihar makes it employ clear that there is no such thing as law and order in Bihar. Lawlessness is there. People have lost their peace of mind.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nitish Kumar, do you want to take the whole one hour time for yourself?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please have mercy on others. Please share the time with others.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Hence, I would urge upon you to hold a discussion in this House on this subject. The Minister for Railways should make a statement in the House so that Factual position may be known...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, this is about a train dacoity. Amidst gloom there is glory as well. One of the newspapers have reported that one of the police officers of Delhi who was travelling in the train had been killed following an encounter with the dacoits...(Interruptions) Though he was not a personnel of the Railway Protection Force, yet he protected the railway passengers and displayed exemplary bravery. So, I would request the hon. Railway Minister to look into the matter and reward his family...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumum) : The House should pay homage to that person.

MR. SPEAKER : I have no official information about this and so, I cannot do that now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Unless I have an official information, I cannot do it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : In the context of all these...

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Paswan please.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to him. He is answering now.

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this House is probably not fully aware what is happening in Bihar.

...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the television cameras be put off.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have allowed Shri Nitish Kumar to raise the matter regarding dacoities being committed in trains in Bihar...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The leader of the opposition is on his legs. Please listen to him.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, I agree that business of the House should be conducted in systematic manner. You allowed Shri Nitish Kumar to raise the matter regarding train dacoities in Bihar. One or two members spoke in support. Shri Chaubey spoke on this issue. The Railway Minister is present here. He is not breaking his silence.

*Not Recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, lawlessness and anarchy in Bihar... (Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have become victims, I was going to conclude... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please wind up, Shri Nitish Kumar. You cannot take one hour for this. Other Members of Parliament also want to raise their issues.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I was on my last point, Sir, please allow me. Be generous to me and allow me.

MR. SPEAKER : Allowing for half-an-hour is being too generous.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Please allow me to conclude my point.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the situation has taken such a turn in Bihar that on one hand dacoities are being committed in trains and on the other hand, the Chief Minister of Bihar has levelled allegations on the police in the Assembly. He has even gone to the extent of saying that the C.A.G. and A.G. of Bihar should be arrested. Mr. Speaker, Sir, such is the situation in Bihar. You are the custodians of the House. Constitutional machinery has broken down. Hence I would like to request you to direct the Government to make a statement in the House.

12.23 hrs.

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Please listen to me gentlemen.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I have also given a notice on this subject... (Interruptions)

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balia) (Bihar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on this matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, please sit down. I allow you... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I'll allow you. All right. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you allow me to say something.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (Surendra Nagar) : I have taken the permission of the Speaker. He had asked me to raise this very important point after the Question Hour. After Question Hour 25 minutes have already passed and I have been standing without uttering a single word.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Hon. Member, will you please listen to me?

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : I did not speak a single word because I wanted to honour the Speaker. But anybody who speaks loudly is allowed.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you. Now you may sit down.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : I am not going to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : No, I will not sit down, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please cooperate with me.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : How can I cooperate, Sir? I had taken the permission of the Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Still, I request you to sit down.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : I am not speaking... (Interruptions)... All of us, the Members of Parliament from Gujarat, had gone to the chamber of the Speaker.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is my request to you that when I am standing, all of you should take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I may let you know that 51 members have given their names for Zero Hour. Train issue has been raised. There are one or two M.Ps, who have given their notices and who will make their respective submissions. You people should listen them. After that I would request the hon'ble Railway Minister to reply their points.

SRHI SATYA PAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, yesterday the Kalka Mail starting from Kalka, Chandigarh was looted near Mughalsarai railway station. While encountering the dacoits, Mr. Abhay Kumar, an Inspector of Delhi Police was brutally killed. He is survived by his three children who are Eight years, six years and four years old respectively and whose photographs have appeared today in the newspapers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, only two or three days ago the North East Express was also looted at this very place. Mahanagar Express was also looted and a few coaches of Poorva Express where derailed...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, be brief.

[English]

SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN : I will not take more than a minute.

[Translation]

The train was stopped and the ladies were taken to the nearby jungle where they were raped. This incident was kept secret so that it does not come to the knowledge of the public.

I want to make only three submissions. My first point is as to who is responsible for the safety of the passengers travelling in the trains—the local police or Railway Police? Secondly, there was no security arrangement in such an important train. This Inspector was alone and he was killed while fighting with the robbers. He got seriously injured but he did not get either any first aid or medical treatment till Buxar railway station came. Had he got timely medical treatment, his life could have been saved.

I want a statement from the Railway Minister in this respect. The Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Laloo Prasad Yadav is saying that Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is behind every incident as he wants to defame time. The colleagues of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan are saying that such incidents are taking place at the behest of Laloo Prasad Yadav as

he wants to defame us. Politics is a different things. You may fight political battle as much as you can but, please, ensure the safety of the passengers...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down, now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : About the railways.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV (Purnia) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, let me also speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your notice is not about the railways. I will allow you later.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yours is not about the Railways. Your notice is about the atrocities on Scheduled Castes.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are three more names with me who want to speak on the railway accident.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your name in there. I will allow you later.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri N.K. Premchandran.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to express my views...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him speak now, gentlemen.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, this is a matter of great concern to the entire House because it has already been pointed out that 177 incidents of dacoities have been reported. I would also like to highlight to the House that during the last two months the Alleppey-Bokaro Express which was bound to Alleppey had been looted twice. This type of incidents are happening not only in Bihar, but they are happening in so many long

[Shri N.K. Premchandran]

running express trains, especially the Kerala Express and the Mangla Express. These trains which are bound to Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala have been looted frequently. Therefore, train passengers are facing a dangerous situation in the trains.

I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways to take immediate steps and measures to check this trend. I would also urge the hon. Minister to Railways to take urgent steps so as to ensure the safety of life and properties of the passengers in the trains.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : I would also express my great concern regarding the day-before-yesterday's incident where one Sub-Inspector of Delhi Police who was in charge of checking the looting, has been brutally killed. This type of incidents have been going on. The long running trains which are bound to the southern parts of the country are the most severely affected.

Once again, I urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways to take immediate measures to check looting and dacoity and to save the life and property of the train passengers.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the matter pertaining to Railways or train dacoities assumes significance not only in view of the fact that people travel only in the state of Bihar. People from all over the country be it Assam or North East region or any other part of the country travel in the trains. People travelling in the trains belong not only to one state, rather they belong to the entire country. In Bihar, during the last six months, more than 177 incidents of train dacoities have taken place but the Chief Minister of Bihar says that these dacoities are taking place at the behest of police force which is basically meant for the railway security. A few days ago, our hon'ble Home Minister visited the state and he also expressed the views that there is no law and order in the state.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Already it has been said. Now please don't repeat it.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : The Railway Minister is sitting over here. On the one hand he has got Railway Protection Force which says that they are responsible only for the security of the railway property. On the other hand, it is the responsibility the Railway Police to provide safety to the railway passengers. The incidents of train dacoities and murders which are taking place in Bihar...(Interruptions) Once I was travelling in Mahananda Express, where I had a very bad experience. I would say only this much that at least the matter should be investigated. In Mahananda Express alone, such incidents have taken place more than

332 times in the last one year. The State Government would have to own equal responsibility for such incidents. The police force under the State Government is equally responsible and their Boss is the Chief Minister of Bihar...(Interruptions) This is due to the personal rivalry between him and Shri Ram Vilas Paswan...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Those Bosses are sitting over here.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Due to their rivalry, the people of our state are suffering and the law and order situation is deteriorating in the entire state. I want to know that when Union Home Minister visited the state of Bihar...(Interruptions) I would like to request the Government that in such a situation, the State Government should be dismissed. (Interruptions) This Government should be dismissed. Thousands of people are being killed there, therefore, this Government should not be allowed to continue any more.

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : Most of the points have been covered...(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call you but let the railway's matter conclude.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : This is a question of Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Right now we are discussing of the railway's matter, nor matters pertaining to Bihar.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I have given my notice on the same subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, I know, Please sit down.

LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : These incidents have taken place only in a particular region during the last five-seven days. It is very easy to blame the Railway Minister for such incidents but the Railways have got such a huge protection force and apart that there is local police. What for they are there? Number of such incidents in Bihar has gone up very high during the last one or two months. I would request you not to discuss any more the mutual conflicts going on between the Railway Minister and the Chief Minister, rather you should let us know as to what action has been taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in view of the fact that such incidents in the running train are taking place only in a particular region...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you only on your subject.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : I also want to speak on the same subject. If you change the laws in the railways, the killings will stop. Unless and until the R.P.F., C.R.P.F. remains a part of the railways, such incidents will continue. So, please change it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have made your point.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I share the feelings of the hon'ble members who have expressed their concern over the increasing crimes in the railways.

Today the hon'ble members have referred to an incident in which Shri Abhay Kumar, a Delhi Police Inspector, was killed while encountering the train dacoits bravely. Today, in the morning, I went to meet his family members in R.K. Puram. His body was brought there at 9 a.m. He is survived by his three children, his wife and father. Shri Vakeel Singh. The condition of his wife was very bad. She was not in a position to utter even a single word. Whatever condolence we may express for his grief stricken family, it is not going to cover the loss they have suffered. Whatever award we may give him for the gallantry he has shown, is not going to fill-up his gap in his family. We will give all possible help to his family. We will ask the Government to confer upon him a gallantry award. I am not aware whether the occurrence of this tragic incident is concerned with the Railways or not but I, or a Railway Minister, have decided to extend them a financial help of Rs. two lakh...*(Interruptions)* why don't you people listen me, why are you interrupting me everytime? I have decided to give his family a financial help of Rs. two lakh. His wife is graduate but, as of now, she is not in a condition to say anything. Whenever she likes and comes back to her normal routine, we will do something to give her a class three job in the Railways. We have done this much.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : What are you doing for other persons killed in trains.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You may sit down. He is elaborating.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : You should listen me first. I can speak more loudly than him. I have more knowledge than you but everything has got a limit.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Earlier to this incident, four persons were killed including a railway employee but you did not speak a word, not to speak of making any statement thereon. But when a police personnel has been killed, you are making a statement here.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : If anybody is killed, I will

regret it. But as I told you Shri Abhay Kumar was going to Calcutta. Had he turned a blind eye, he would not have been killed. There were eight to ten criminals. He dared them and killed one of them with his revolver, another was seriously injured and now he is in a critical condition. The criminals were eight to ten in number which is why the Inspector was killed. It is, therefore, not justified to compare everyone with him.

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : The other persons were also killed while protecting their ladies and children.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Such incidents taking place in the railways are a matter of concern for all of us. When such incidents do take place, people do not understand the things, rather they raise their fingers at the Ministry of Railways. They hold the Ministry of Railways responsible for such incidents. I have said in my Budget speech and I am saying it again that there are two kind of forces in the Railways one is Railway Protection Force and another is Government Railway Police. It is the duty of the R.P.F. to provide security to the railway property and boggier standing in the Yards. We have got a federal structure and our railway lines cover upto 26000 km. which is guarded by the G.R.P. We share only fifty percent expenditure incurring on G.R.P., rest is borne by the State Governments.

One hon'ble member said that why don't you enact national law in such a situation, I want to let him know that we are in a State of helplessness. For the first time since Independence we held a 3 days meeting with the officials of D.G.P., R.P.F., K.D.G. and Railway Board. We sent our officials to Bihar also. There are four states where such incidents do take place. It is not for the first time that such incidents have taken place in 1996. Such incidents took place on earlier occasions also, In 1995, Bihar had witnessed 136 such incidents of dacoity and train robbery. This time these incidents total 145. Maharashtra had witnessed 35 incidents of dacoity and robbery in 1995 but this time the number has gone up to 144. In Uttar Pradesh, the number of these incidents were 67 in 1995 where ever this time it the number has gone up to 82. It was ill in West Bengal in 1995, this time it is 102. Therefore it is not that such incidents have taken place for the first time. Such incidents take place every year...*(Interruptions)* You should first listen to me. This House is the Supreme. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we have held meetings in this respect.

The Railway Police works under the State Government, even their C.R. is not written by the Railway officials. We have given certain suggestions in respect of their character roll. When a railway officer goes to some other office of Ministry on deputation, his C.R. is filled which

[Shri Ram Vilas Paswan]

reflects his performance. If he has done good job, he is given good remarks but if he has a poor record, he is given bad entry in his C.R. But even this much authority has not been given to the Railways. The officer or a police officer who is considered bad is sent to the Railways. Another thing is that the Railways have not got any effective measures to discipline such officers who join the railways. I have also come to know that other police personnel were also deputed in the same train but it is yet to be known as to what were they doing at the time when the Delhi police officer was battling the robbers in which he sacrificed his life...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ram Vilasji, just a minute, please. You may go in detail while giving replies to Rail Budget. This is Zero Hour. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I have said in my speech that the Parliament is the Supreme body and I, through this House, want to let the people of this country know that we have got a federal structure in which the Railways are helpless. Law and Order is a state subject but in case some body wants to bring in any change therein, I, as the Minister of Railways, would welcome the proposal. The Leader of opposition and all the hon'ble members are sitting in this August House. Now I have spoken on the R.P.F.

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Let the Home Minister speak on it...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Under the existing Act, we cannot consider the matter of R.P.F. as a matter of Union List...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : It is all right that you are always crying Bihar, Bihar but there are other states also where such incidents have taken place which should also be taken into consideration...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let me say a few words. Please sit down.

[Translation]

Will you allow me to say a few words?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Mandal, will you allow me to speak? Shri Mandal, please sit down. What is this? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have listened his reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, I have listened his reply. The Chief Minister of Bihar is saying that it is not his job, the police is behind it. The Minister of Railways says that he is not to be held responsible for it? The Home Minister is sitting over here. At least someone should take note of it?

[English]

The Government should take note of it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, Jenaji, please give your replies.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to the Minister. Let Shri Jena reply. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please, this is a sensitive issue. I do respect your feelings but this is a sensitive issue.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Sir, the Home Minister is sitting here. Let the Home Minister reply. He is responsible...(Interruptions)

*Not Recorded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let the hon. Minister speak. Listen to him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI : If it is the responsibility of the states then the Home Minister should give his reply. The Home Minister has said that it is the responsibility of the States then he should reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : At least listen him.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Allow me for a moment.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nitishji, please sit down. You have already taken enough time.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you say? I am not allowing him.

...(Interruptions)

12.46 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sanat Mehta and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow you, provided you allow me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, I will allow you. For these 45 minutes, the House has not been in order. You please go to your seats. Then only the proceedings can be taken up.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Who is denying it?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

12.47 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Sanat Mehta and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Jena will speak first. After that, I will allow you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Srikanta Jena will speak. Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Only Shri Srikanta Jena will speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I am fully concerned about that. The Minister of Railways has already responded to the Members and the hon. Members have made some remarks. But I do not take those remarks seriously. But the remark from the Chair is about the Chief Minister of Bihar. What the Chief Minister of Bihar has said, has not come to your notice. If you have ascertained that, then that is a different matter altogether. Therefore, on behalf of the Government...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have been told here in the House.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : No, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, give me the facts. I will go through the facts.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I only, with all responsibility, want to submit, Sir, that the Government...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai-North-East) : Just now he has said...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : No.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : He has said it.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : What did he say?
...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : Sir, at least some order should be maintained in the House. The Home Minister is sitting in the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : What did he say?
(Interruptions). Do not try to mislead the House.
...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We shall not allow that thing to happen...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let this issue be clarified. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We can also teach one or two lessons...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : What are you talking?
(Interruptions). Try to behave yourself. (Interruptions). Let the House be brought to order...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What are you talking? This Member has said something.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : One hon'ble Member has committed the contempt of the chair.

[English]

This is what he has said. I will think over it. I will think over your remarks.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : If anybody has...(Interruptions)

12.52 hrs.

At this stage, Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please go back to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

12.53 hrs.

At this stage, Prof. Prem Singh Chandumajra and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You may sit down. Sh. Chandra Shekharji wants to say something...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA (Junagarh) : He should say 'sorry to Hon'ble Deputy-Speaker...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Ballia) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, what has happened in the House is very unfortunate. I shall request the Treasury Benches that they should keep in mind that whoever is there in the Chair, the respect of the Chair has to be maintained, if this House has to remain.

The remarks made by some Member from the other side are not only very unfortunate but also most condemnable. I tell you that I have also heard the remark made by the Deputy-Speaker. I think, there was nothing like casting aspersions on the conduct of the Chief Minister. What he has said is that the Chief Minister says that it is not his responsibility and the Railway Minister says that it is not his responsibility; so, whose responsibility is it? ... (Interruptions). I do not need anybody's help at this moment at least. So, this remark should have been taken in that spirit.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, there was nothing wrong in your statement, but it smelt of something that you are—I cannot say 'casting aspersions'—not approving the conduct of the Chief Minister. So, whatever that might have been there was nothing unparliamentary or objectionable. If such an impression has been created, I think it has been created because of the friends on the other side being over-sensitive to this matter. They should not have been over-sensitive. The only thing I will say is that the statement of the Chief Minister is known only through the newspapers though the proper thing will be that it should be verified from the Chief Minister whether he had made such a statement...(Interruptions)

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : He has stated in the Bihar Assembly that his policemen...(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : If he has said so in the Bihar Assembly, then there is nothing objectionable in the remark made by the Deputy-Speaker...(Interruptions). But on this point, we should not lose our tempers and create a scene. That is what I will say. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, if you are in the knowledge that has been the statement of the Chief Minister made in the Assembly...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, it was made in the Assembly. It has appeared in the Press.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : It is very unfortunate and Members should not get sensitive about it because Deputy-Speaker has also some duty to discharge. We should not lose temper and create a scene in this House. This is my humble request...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : Should we be guided by the Press?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I request the gentleman to please withdraw his words.

[Translation]

SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV (Khagaria) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have said nothing like that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : O.K. It is all right.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I could not complete my submission. Hon. Chandra Shekharji has rightly said. This is a very sensitive matter so far as the dacoity in the train is concerned and three or four hon. Members expressed their views. The way the Minister of Railways has responded, he has said everything. He has also expressed his predicament so far as the Railway Ministry and RPF's role were concerned. He has appealed to all political party leaders also. What to do of this federal structure? We have also to take care of this. It is not the

only State, the dacoities are taking place in different parts of the country. So, we have to take care of this also. That is why, this matter should not be politicised. That is my only submission. If some Members...(Interruptions). Let me complete, Shri Nitish Kumar.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : We are not politicising the whole issue...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : You Members cannot take the entire House to ransom. This is not the way...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LALMUNI CHAUBEY : The Railway Minister has said that it is the responsibility of the state...(Interruptions). There are frictions between him and the Chief Minister of Bihar...(Interruptions) He has said that it is not their guard who is posted there (interruptions) When he says that he is not responsible for it then who is to be responsible for such incidents.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : My only submission was that if the Chief Minister has made any statement on the floor of the Assembly, in what context he has made it if at all he has said it, it should be verified before any comment comes from the Chair. That was my only submission.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I want to say something about the just concluded discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You leave that and speak on your point.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please speak on your subject.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have not got the reply to my points.

13.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Baramati) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Members of Parliament from Gujarat have met the hon. Speaker and the hon. Speaker said that one representative from the Congress Party would be allowed and one representative from the Bharatiya Janata Party would also be given a chance to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Surely I will allow him.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, just now the whole House was discussing the Bihar issue. According to the information made available by the C.B.I. to the different newspapers today, ten main criminal gangs have been snaild. The names of the people who had given them patronage have appeared in the list. Who are Suraj Bhan, Anant Singh and Shukla...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am Suraj Bhan.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Who are Hidayat Khan, Anil Sharma, Surendra Bengali, Bhutkun Shukla, Sunil Pandeya, Sanjay Singh and Tikkar Singh...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You please come to your point. You were to speak on the atrocities committed on the people of Scheduled Caste.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Who Ram Lakhan Singh of Begu Sarai. Who are Brij Bihari and Syed Shahabuddin. Everything has been given therein. 90 percent people were involved in the criminal activities. He has given a statement as to who was behind the cases of theft. The report on it has been submitted but unfortunately the crime rate is increasing day by day. They possess all sorts of weapons and thus police cannot fight back them. The report mentions about ten main gangs...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please be brief.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : A dacoity was committed in Mukama. The same situation prevails in north east also. I would like to raise the issue of Bihar...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have not spoken a single word on the notice given by you. Your notice was about the atrocities being committed on SC/STs in Bihar and you have not spoken about it.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I am speaking on that only.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So far you have not spoken on it.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I was saying that the deteriorating law and order situation in Bihar is due to...(Interruptions) Information should be provided about Ram Lakhan Singh and he should be interrogated. The officers of CRPF have made a statement that...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Ranjan, again you are elaborating it unnecessarily. The subject which you have given is 'atrocities on Dalits in Bihar, but you are not speaking a word about it.

[Translation]

You have not even mentioned the word dalit. You are not speaking anything on the subject mentioned in your notice.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Which subject?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your subject is Atrocities on dalits in Bihar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are not even aware of the subject mentioned in the notice given by you. I have received your notice on 'Atrocities on dalits in Bihar.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry. Please sit down. You are not speaking on your subject.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I have given notice on Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, It is about Atrocities on dalits in Bihar.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I am telling ablut that only.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have not touched the subject at all.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : From train dacoity to...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am not allowing you. It will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Sanat Mehta.

...(Interruptions)

*Not Recorded.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he is not allowing me to speak...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have not spoken even a word on dalits.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, it may be in the newspaper.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have mentioned that. You are not speaking on the subject given by you. What can I do? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKAR : What can I do, you are not speaking on the subject given by you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your notice is about dalits and not on Bihar.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have not used the word dalit at all.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you take up your subject after one hour.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry; I cannot allow you.

(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever you are speaking is not going on record.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is upto you. You can do as you wish.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are wasting the time of the House. I am not allowing you.

[English]

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir a very important development has taken place due to the decision of the Supreme Court...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please allow him to speak. I have allowed him. Please, you also allow him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you please take your seat?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are wasting the time of the House but I am not allowing you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you sit down or not?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why do you not allow him?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : I am staging a walk-out.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have heard this from you umpteen times. You may do so.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you please sit down now ? Shri Sanat Mehta may speak.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Sir, he should allow me to speak...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you allow the House to function ? You are going beyond a limit.

[Translation]

I will request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that he should keep a check on his M.Ps.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Whatever he says not go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. You are crossing all limits. Shri Sanat Mehta.

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Sir, a very serious development has taken place for the life and death of Gujarat and Rajasthan because of the decision of the Supreme Court on Sardar Sarovar Dam An interlocutory application was filed in the on-going hearing of the case in the Supreme Court as per the agreement arrived at in the meeting of the Chief Ministers of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan which was convened by the Prime Minister on 15-7-1996 and 16-7-1996 at New Delhi to discuss the issue. For the project Rs. 5,000 crore has been spent and an agreement was arrived at in the presence of the Prime Minister. When the interlocutory application was given, the Supreme Court has said that they were not permitting to raise the height of the dam. If this kind of intervention by the Supreme Court is tolerated even after the decision of the Inter-State River Tribunal, a Pandora's box will be opened and there will be no final decision for any inter-State river dispute.

In these circumstances, I appeal to the Government of India to take cognisance of this and see that the agreement arrived at by the Chief Ministers in the presence of the Prime Minister is implemented. The barricades created by the Supreme Court are anyhow to be removed. This is my plea. Otherwise, Gujarat will have no way, except to resort to peaceful means which Mahatma Gandhi had shown.

13.09½ hrs.

RE : SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI (Amreli) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Sardar Sarovar Project which has brought green revolution in Gujarat is not only beneficial for the Gujarat State but for the whole country. This project was lying pending for years together with the tribunal and after 25 years, a decision about its height was taken which cannot be reviewed further. Even then efforts have been made time and again to make political interference in this important project. During the last August the Chief Ministers of all the concerned four States met in presence of the hon. Prime Minister and took a decision to start work on this project. An agreement was signed to start work but in the meanwhile Madhya Pradesh Government filed a case in the Supreme Court. Gujarat Government as well as the Union Government could not put up their case properly in the court. Supreme Court has no right to make interference in the decision of the tribunal but it has been done in the matter of Gujarat Project. It is not correct and beyond the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. The Union

Government should interfere in this matter because the State Government had been unsuccessful in it. Before becoming Chief Minister he had gone to Khajuraho with his Members...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not raise that point.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Vaghela Government has not done anything in this regard. Therefore, the Central Government should interfere in it to do justice with the public of Gujarat.

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA (Surat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support Shri Dileep Sanghani's viewpoint on Sardar Sarovar Project. Today Saurashtra, northern Gujarat and Kutch are facing problem of drinking water and fields are not getting water for irrigation due to non-implementation of this project. All the four concerned Chief Ministers and hon. Prime Minister took part in the Meeting convened on this proposed 455 feet high Sardar Sarovar Project. In this meeting it was decided that there was no objection to anyone to take up work on this project upto the height of 110 meters. A consensus was sought to complete the construction work upto 85 meters as monsoon was due in the coming 2 or 3 months. The construction work has come to a halt for the last three years. This work is being interfered time and again by the Narmada Bachao Andolan, Congress Government of Madhya Pradesh or the Union Government. Therefore the construction work of this project has come to a standstill. I demand that what has been decided by all the four concerned Chief Ministers in the presence of hon. Prime Minister should be executed. The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh visited Gujarat and gave an assurance that he would give his concurrence as rehabilitation work was going on. Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowda also assured the public of Gujarat for not interfering into this matter. But almost all the Governments created hinderances in implementation of this project. Therefore, I and all my colleagues request you that work related to this project should be started at earliest which has been pending for the last three years. So far Rs. 600 crore have been spend on it but the people of Gujarat who are pinning their hopes for water have not been benefited by it. The work on this project should be started as soon as possible. The Chief Ministers of all the concerned states have decided if even then hurdles are being created. This is a national problem and not related to Gujarat only. This project will facilitate several states. So I would like to say that this project should not be interfered by anyone, whether it is Madhya Pradesh Government, Narmada Bachao Andolan or any environmentalist. This project was finalised by Narmada Tribunal in 1978, therefore it should be implemented. The proposed height of this project was decided upto 455 feet and I demand that a construction

upto 110 meter should be taken up. I would like to say that Chief Ministers of the concerned States and hon. Prime Minister should consult the Supreme Court on this matter.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as just now, you have heard the viewpoint of three MPs from Gujarat and I hope that you may be apprised of the sentiments of the members now. One more member is elected from there. It is not a party matter but this issue relates to whole Gujarat and the country. A recent judgment of Supreme Court has created problem which should be solved by the Union Government. One way out to this problem is that Union Government should go to court for review of this judgment. The Prime Minister and the Chief Ministers were involved in the decision taken by the tribunal and any effort to change this decision will have serious repercussions. This fact should clearly be presented before the Supreme Court but probably it has not been done. The Union Government can make an appeal to Supreme Court for its review to solve this problem.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this matter does not pertain to Gujarat only. Such an impression should not be created that only Members from Gujarat are concerned over it. Kutch is a backward and neglected area which will be benefited most by this project. It is a border area and people of this area should not get an impression that hurdles are being created in their developmental work then it may have serious repercussions. I visited the Narmada Sagar dam twice last year. Engineers have work hard on this project. The issue regarding height of the dam can be debated. It will be beneficial for generating power and providing irrigation facilities for a large area if work on this project is taken up further. I fully support the views of the leader of opposition that the Government should request the Supreme Court to reconsider this issue because along with the economic loss it will also create a sense of alienation among people of Gujarat and the adjoining areas which are proposed to be benefited by it. I hope that the Supreme Court will also reconsider this issue in view of the sentiments of the people.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this issue should be taken up before the Supreme Court by the Government. I do not consider it as an issue pertaining to Kutch or Gujarat only. A huge amount has been invested and power was to be generated. Kutch area is facing acute shortage of water and there is no need to elaborate this point. The main question is the consequences and impact of Supreme Court's decision on other big projects if it again considers and response the inter-state issue which was earlier resolved and gives some new piece of advises to the States. There are several issues pertaining to Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh,

Karnataka, Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan where these issue have been resolved by concerned Chief Ministers and representatives of the Government of India, and these have been re-opened by the Supreme Court. It can create a big problem before the country. Therefore, I would like to say that this issue should be taken to Supreme Court for a permanent solution of the problem.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I agree with the viewpoints of hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Shri Chandra Shekhar and Shri Sharad Pawar but I would like to say that our country has huge water resources. We have high mountains and fast flowing streams. This inter-state issue should not only debated among the concerned Chief Ministers but it should be debated seriously by all the political parties. This matter does not pertain to Gujarat and Maharashtra only but other States also where such disputes exist, and as a result of which our huge wealth is being wasted for so many years. This issue should be taken up seriously. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I request you to take initiatives in this regard.

Rivers do not belong to any particular area or town but these are our national wealth. Though this subject is included in concurrent list but we get water and electricity from rivers. It is such an important national resource which is required to give a serious thought about for its proper and optimum utilization. This dispute may arise time and again so its ultimate solution should be found. We produce crude oil upto fifty percent of our requirement and coal reserves are limited. Water resource can be valuable for us in 21st century and we should enact law for its proper utilization. We may make amendments in the Constitution if it is required so.

This is not a inter-state dispute. The problem of damage of layer of ozon has emerged in America. We do not have environmental problem to that extent, even then this matter is raised here time and again. Except the big cities like Delhi, Mumbai and Madras where maximum number of vehicles ply on roads, environmental problem is not grave in India, and that can also be controlled if a ban is imposed on plying of vehicles on Saturdays and Sundays. Some of the politicians keep opposing the plans of constructing dam for getting political mileage out of it. I do agree that rapid growth of population has created the problem of pollution but there are also other more important issues that child Labour and pollution. Some people are playing politics with our natural resources and development of the country. It is essential to chalk out a plan for optimum utilization of natural resources and rehabilitation of the affected persons should be taken up accordingly. Poverty is our main problem and a large number of people are living in utter poverty. With proper

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

utilization of river water, crores of people will be benefited. There are examples that availability of water resources has brought drastic changes in those areas.

We have rivers like Ganges, Brahmaputra, Narmada etc. but for the last 50 years we have not made their proper utilization. I thank the late Pratap Singh Kaironji for building Bhakhra Nangal dam which has increased our agricultural production. Some people say that Himalaya is earthquake prone area but I would like to say that such decisions should be taken in the interests of majority of beneficiaries as we have to feed a population of 90 crore. Some strange developments are taking place in this country.

I would like to say that our country can make progress only with proper utilization of water. We have natural resources in abundance and in place of their proper utilization we are raising disputes. I request all the environmentalists to consider this matter sympathetically.

So far the issue of child labour is concerned, I would like to say that some works like weaving Dwaries can be learnt easily in childhood. I do agree the children engaged in hotels and other places can be labelled as child labour I raised this issue with Agniveshji. We already have very few opportunities of employment and some persons who are earning their livelihood in this manner why he was trying to deprive them of their jobs...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, today an important issue has been raised here. I request you to issue instructions for a comprehensive debate on it. We want to express our views on water resources which is our national wealth.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this issue should be taken up seriously and law can be amended if required. In place of appealing the States disputing on issues of river waters optimum and proper utilization of water resources should be given priority. This House can help us in doing so. I request all the political parties to maintain the dignity of this House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Alright Yadavji.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I would not take long time. As Shri Chandra Shekharji has said, we cannot run away from the courts. Therefore, the Government of India should take all expeditious steps to bring the views, not only of the Government but also of the House before the Court. Subject to correction, I have seen I believe that 31st March has been fixed for final disposal. Therefore, before that date, the Government should make its position very clear. This is one of the items, as the *Karyakari Sabhapati* of Janata Dal has rightly said, that there should be certain issues on national agenda. This is one issue which

should be in our national agenda. There are some issues which should cut across party lines. I believe this issue of water resource is one of the matters which should be properly harnessed. This is giving rise to avoidable tension between States and States and people and people in our own country. Therefore, these are matters which, we believe, should be settled as soon as possible. This very important resource should be properly harnessed and utilised. Sooner this doubt is resolved, the better it is. We hope the judiciary will also take note of the different viewpoints and will come to an early decision so that it will benefit the country as a whole.

SHRI KASHI RAM RANA : On this, we want some response from the Government.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I can only say that the Government has already taken note of this suggestion that has been given by the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Chandra Shekhar and other leaders like Shri Sharad Pawar, Shri Sharad Yadav. I will convey it to the Prime Minister today and whatever legally is possible, that will be conveyed to the appropriate courts.

And on the other proposal which has been given by Shri Sharad Yadav, there should be a debate on water resources, a national debate should be there. If we accept that, it should be discussed thoroughly at the time when we take up the Demands for Grants pertaining to the Water Resources Ministry and sufficient time should be given to it. I hope, in the Business Advisory Committee, we can consider it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Haradhan Roy to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already called him.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIN PATHAK (Ahemdabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would not like to go into details of this subject but give an information to this House. Central Government is a party in this matter and thus this judgment is against the government. Therefore I would like to say that the Government should take an initiative in this matter.

[English]

You are a party in the Supreme Court. Therefore, please follow it up...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please allow him to speak. I have already allowed him to speak. Please cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That issue is closed now. Let him speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT (Balaghat) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, these issues should be considered in the matters of Madhya Pradesh...*(Interruptions)* Sir, I am concluding in one line only. We the people of Madhya Pradesh doing anything detrimental to the interests of Gujarat. People of Madhya Pradesh do not want to give less water to Gujarat but the water capacity of river Narmada in Madhya Pradesh should be taken into consideration...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let the hon. Member speak. Please cooperate with me.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH (Vidisha) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, interests of Madhya Pradesh are not being protected. We also have a right to speak on this issue... *(Interruptions)* Sir, a number of villages will submerge due to the construction of this dam. Therefore we should also be given an opportunity to express our grievances...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have called him. I am sorry to say that this is not good. Please allow him to speak.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow everyone to speak on this issue if you cooperate with me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the very outset of the budget session, Hon'ble Minister of coal has issued a statement in the newspapers, outside the House that National coal industry is proposed to be privatised. There is resentment amongst the coal mine workers over this issue. They are prepared to take any step against this move. Secondly, earlier the coal mines were run by private owners. They carried on the work in the most illegal and unscientific manner which gave rise to the problem of subsidence of land throughout the area-in the city, the villages and the fields. Coal lying underneath the ground is aflame due to which several people have been rendered homeless and their property is being destroyed. Many have lost their lives also. The lives of all those people are in danger. In view of all such

problems, the Government nationalised this mine in 1972-73, however the lives of 15 lakh tribal people residing in the area are in danger. There is a danger to their lands. Several people have been killed there. After taking over the mine, the Government has not taken on any responsibility for the rehabilitation of those tribals, their livelihood and for ensuring the safety of their land. The Government maintains that it will not take on any responsibility for the damage caused by private mine owners. The Government is not doing anything at all. Similarly after the mine is handed over to the private party, it may also later on refuse to take on any responsibility for what has happened under the regime of the Government.

Secondly, what measures are being taken for those who have been rendered homeless, whose property has been destroyed and for the workers employed in that mine who are covered under National wage Agreement. The labourers are highly concerned about this issue. There is a resentment among them. This is a very serious matter indeed. Hence I would like to know as to what action is being taken in this regard. The case of Eastern coalfields Limited has been referred to BIFR in order to close it down by showing losses. BCCL has also been referred to BIFR. On one hand, the Government proposes to close down these mines and on the other hand, the mines which are operational are posing threat to the lives of the villagers. Their problems remain unresolved and in case this step is taken, approximately 15 lakh people will be affected.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Government's decision to open the coal mines to the private sector and also to the multinational companies is a retrograde step.

The coal industry was nationalised in 1972 and then again in 1973. We had the experience of private mining in our country prior to 1972. The coal mines were in the hands of private companies and because they undertook unscientific mining and plundered the precious wealth of our country, in 1972, the Government of India first nationalised the coking coal mines. Then, afterwards, the non-coking coal mines were nationalised in 1973.

If the private companies, including multinational companies are allowed to extract coal, then, as it happened prior to 1972-73, our assets, the coal mines will be plundered by those private mining companies and multinational companies.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government not to take such action. If any decision has been taken to open the coal industry to the private companies and the multina

[Shri Basu Deb Acharia]

tional companies, the Government should refrain from taking such a retrograde step.

The Government should take all steps to revive the Bharatiya Coking Coal Limited, which has been referred to the BIFR, to strengthen the Coal India Limited and all its subsidiaries so that unscientific mining does not take place in the coal industry.

I urge upon the Government not to take such a retrograde step of allowing private mining in the coal industry...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow all of you. I am here to take care of it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The names of the members from both sides will be called out alternately. After a member from this side has spoken, the member from the other side would be given a chance.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I appeal to the entire House, particularly the leaders, to please support the demand that I am making...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to take care of all the sides of the House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am referring to an Act that was enacted by both the Houses unanimously. The Act is related to Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities) Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act, 1995. It was the Act of 1996. It was the first Act. Under the Act, a number of promises were made by the Government. It was promised that the Central Coordination Council will be established and that various benefits will be given to the disabled men and women. Now, for one whole year, unfortunately, the Government did not act on this.

Just last Friday, as an after thought, they constituted a Central Coordination Committee. Sir, today the disabled are holding a *dharna* in the capital. They will also be seeking to court arrest. I appeal to the Government and all sections that the minimum demands of the disabled which are not objectionable, like the contents of the National Trust for Persons with Mental Retardation and Cerebral Policy Bill be made public for consultation, should be accepted.

Secondly, the notification regarding the constitution of

the Central Coordination Committee which the Government announced last Friday must be withdrawn. I do not want to go into the details of the Bill. But it is in violation of the Bill itself. The Central Coordination Committee must be reconstituted.

Thirdly, a Chief Commissioner should be appointed. The allowances and allocations to the Welfare Ministry for the disabled of the country must be increased from a paltry sum of Rs. 28 crore. Only Rs. 28 crore has been allocated for the disabled, but the Prime Minister made a promise to allocate Rs. 100 crore. At least that should be done. Some benefits could be given to them in the railways. This is really for the disabled of the country. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me a chance to speak on this issue...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I support his demand...(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : Sir, I would like to raise an important matter...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Surely, I will give you a chance.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : I have tried many times. But I was not getting a chance. I request you to give a chance to the new Members also...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I extend my support to the raised by Shri Jaswant Singh earlier in his speech and I believe that we should consider this matter sensitively.

The entire nation was stunned after reading the news published in yesterday's and today's newspapers that even after fifty years of Independence, approximately 15 lakh baby girls are killed in Bihar every year. This fact has come to light through a survey and it has been reported in the newspapers on the third consecutive day. This news reached Rajasthan, part of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh first but this news is not related to a particular party or a particular state. It is a matter of concern for the House as to why such a large number of female babies are being killed even after 50 years of Independence.

Three facts have come out in the report. Earlier the killing of female babies was restricted to a particular upper caste community. Later on, other upper caste and rich people also started killing their girl children. But now this tendency is being noticed in those scheduled caste, scheduled tribes and dalit areas which have registered

financial progress. It clearly shows the extent to which we are becoming inhuman after acquiring more and more money. The House should ponder over this issue.

Sir, besides, two more facts have come to light. Two more causes are deeply associated with this tendency. One of these is the male ego. That the men would not go to anyone else's home to press for the rights of their daughter, prompts them to kill the girl children. The second reason that emerges is that safety of girl children cannot be ensured.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to elaborate the second point. There was on unseen passage in the question paper of Delhi Board examination wherein it was asked as to why the girls do not go to school. It is because their parents are apprehensive about the possibility of their ravishment on their way to school or at the hands of their teachers or class fellows. That their daughters are not safe is the underlying message that emerges and surfaces in that passage also. This is a very serious matter. I would like to make an appeal to the House and the Government not to leave this matter to the State Government. I would like to ask Shri Jena to send a team from the centre in order to conduct a sample survey in Bihar and also in other states where a large number of such murders were committed earlier but now the killings are continuing clandestinely. This is an alarming situation for U.P., Rajasthan and other areas. The Union Government will have to take same strict steps to prevent such killings.

A report has been published in the today's newspapers wherein it has been stated that atrocities on women top the crime charts in Delhi. This report is also alarming and a special discussion should be held in the House on this report as well. I would like to request that one hour discussion should be held on the issue of atrocities on women and especially the killing of girl children in Bihar. In this fiftieth year of Independence, we should bring forth a bill with this resolution in mind that the killing of girl children is stopped...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall call out the names of all the members one by one.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am going to invite you to speak shortly. Are you still not satisfied ?

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : A grand music concert is being held in the vicinity of Taj Mahal in Agra in the third week of March with the co-operation of the Government of India. People from throughout the country and other foreign countries would arrive there. Shri Jena is present here. The National highway running through Agra-Fatehpur Sikri is in such a dilapidated

condition that accidents take place there very frequently and several tourists are either injured or even killed in such accidents. A meeting was held in this regard but the Union Government has not got the road repaired as yet. No action was taken despite the personal request made by Shri Jena. Please issue orders to get the Agra-Fatehpur Sikri National highway repaired. A concert of Musician Yanni is being held there and ten to eleven thousand foreign tourists are expected to attend the concert. The road is not being repaired. Infact even the plan has not been sanctioned as yet. The concert is being held on the shores of Yamuna and Taj is in the striking zone hence it is in danger. There are four or five colonies viz. Chandni, Kachpura etc. which are not properly lit. Hence the ISI agents could use this opportunity to cause damage to Taj Mahal and it could result in a heavy loss which would never be compensated. The people of that area are also making a demand that power should be provided in those areas. The Government is deceiving us. The poles have been installed but electricity is not being provided. In view of the Grand Taj Music concert, the Governor had also announced certain proposals in order to repair the roads of Agra which are presently in dilapidated condition but no funds are being released. 40 lakh rupees were released yesterday for the rural areas for repairing of the roads damaged by rains. This amount is very meagre. The people of Agra are deeply pained to note that the Governor makes the announcements but the bureaucrats do not act upon these announcements. They do not release the funds. Same is the case with the announcements made regarding Agra barrage and other projects. As Agra is infested by mosquitoes, the tourists and the local residents face problems on this count also. Since a concert is being held on such a large scale, I would like to urge upon the Union Government that required funds should be provided by the Central Government, Planning Commission and the State Government to meet the needs and requirements that could arise there so that the tourists do not face any problems; no accident takes place there and the Taj also remains safe.

[English]

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : Sir, the Television Centre at Gokak in Belgaum is ready for commencement. But as the staff is not sanctioned, the posting of staff has not been done for the last one and a half years. The honourable Minister for Information and Broadcasting had directed his Ministry to post or depute the staff till permanent staff was sanctioned. In spite of that, the Ministry has not posted the staff there. Hence, I request you, through you, that necessary direction be given to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to post the staff or depute the staff at the TV centre so that the TV centre may be opened immediately...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Do not be in a hurry.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am calling out the names of all the members.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The names of all the members are included in this list.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, one crore fishermen of our country are suffering losses due to the policy adopted by the Government regarding deep sea fishing and also because of issuance of licences to the foreign trawlers and that is why the National Fish Workers Forum has launched an agitation by blockading prominent ports of India such as Mumbai, Kandla and Vishakhapatnam from today itself. P. Murari Committee was set up two years ago and it had several MPs as members and all the members had unanimously made recommendations which were accepted by the Government. Despite the acceptance of those recommendations, the licences are still being issued to trawlers and their licences are not being cancelled. The Ministry of Food Processing maintains that it is going to cancel licences whereas the Law Ministry is of the opinion that the licences cannot be cancelled. In the nine states spanning from Gujarat and Maharashtra upto West Bengal, about one crore fishermen have started this agitation of blockading ports from today. I demand that the Government should clarify its stand and alongwith this, the Government should act upon its decision to cancel the licences already issued. Hon'ble Minister should give a statement as to what action the Government propose to take in this regard...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If you want to say something, I would not stop from doing so.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The agitation is going to start in Mumbai, Kandla and Vishakhapatnam ports from today. If the Government does not pay any attention towards this matter, you might recall that two years ago, Shri Thomas Kochari had also sat on a fast on this issue and at that time the House requested him to break his fast and only then he broke his fast. Hence my submission is that Hon'ble Minister should express his reaction in this regard.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, P. Murari Committee had made certain recommendation and

the Government had stated that it would accept them. I would apprise the hon. Minister in-charge and would also inform about the latest position. I feel that the Minister would have a talk with you and find a way out...(Interruptions)

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI (Siddipet) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a 100 year old temple in Sikanderabad cantonment where thousands of people offer prayers. The Sikanderabad cantonment comprises of defence area and on 26th, 150 military personnel demolished the compound wall of the temple at 3.30 in the morning. For the last twenty years, a person belonging to minority community is the member of the Cantonment Board. His name is Mohammad Khan. The residents of that mohalla say that they suspected the involvement of that member and that is why law and order problem arose there. Now the Commissioner is handling the situation. A bandh was also organised there. If the Military authority proposes to demolish any compound wall, it should first hand out a notice in this regard. But that compound wall was demolished at 3.30 in the morning. My submission is that the Defence authority should initiate action in this regard. Prior to this incident, an old church being repaired in Tilmilgiri village falling under the cantonment area was also demolished by the cantonment authority.

As for the M.P. local area fund for cantonment area in Sikanderabad, one lakh rupees...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are raising several issues.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : There are two or three issues.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are supposed to raise only one issue.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : It is noted down here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It might be, but only one subject is allowed to be raised.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : The one lakh rupees of M.P. local area fund were to be used for the construction of Community Hall and the construction was also going on, but the Executive Officer...(Interruptions)* He went there...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not take any names. It is sufficient to mention the designation of Executive Officer.

SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : The construction was stopped on the orders of Executive Officer. Just as the Military authority took the step without giving any prior notice. That is why law and order problem arose there.

*Not Recorded.

Those belonging to minority community were members of the Board and it happened at their instance. They demolished it. It could have ignited a Communal riot. I want that action should be taken against the Brigadier of Sikanderabad Defence area. With this, I conclude...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call out all the names one by one. Ten members are on their feet but only one member can speak at a time. Hence please sit down.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Sir, the Reserve Bank has imposed a ban on the businessmen throughout the country that they cannot run their business by raising money from certain sources. Strikes and agitations are being held on this issue. This amendment has been brought in force through an ordinance. The businessmen are being asked to borrow money from banks and not from any other source. Hon'ble Minister said yesterday that there has been a mistake and that the shortcoming therein would be removed by making an amendment. I would like to submit that this legislation will come in force w.e.f. first of April and if no amendment is made therein before first of April, cases would be registered against the businessmen throughout the country and trading activities will come to a grinding halt. Resentment is growing all around over this issue and strikes are being held. Hence I would like to request Shri Chidambaram that as he had assured yesterday that he would remove the ban imposed on raising deposits for a business and on the transactions under section 45(s) of the Ordinance. I request that this ban should be removed before first of April.

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH (Aurangabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have submitted a notice regarding the communication system. I request that a special campaign should be launched in the areas affected by terrorism and all the police pickets and Gram panchayats of such areas should be connected with STD services. We do not get information in time due to lack of communication facilities and terrorism is rising. Hence STD facility should be provided in all the pickets and all the Gram panchayats of the entire Aurangabad district in order to curb terrorism.

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Sir, the Cachar Paper Mill at Hailakundi has been declared a sick unit because it has incurred losses to the tune of over Rs. 300 crore during the years 1993-94 and 1994-95. Higher cost of production is the only cause for the losses that have been incurred. However, this mill was getting the bamboo chips from far off places like from the borders of Tripura, and Mizoram. As a result the *kaccha* roads that is the metal roads, in my constituency, Karimganj are

badly damaged during the monsoon, that is for a period of six months. It has been said that this mill has been incurring losses for the last several years.

So, my suggestions for its revival are : First, an arrangement should be so made that the mill do not draw the bamboo chips from far off places during the monsoon months. Second, there should be one local Governing Body with local representatives and third, an Inquiry Committee should be constituted to look into the affairs of the mill thoroughly. I would also like to request the Ministry of Industry, Government of India, to look into the matter and do the needful. At the same time, I would also like to request the Government to take immediate steps to re-vitalise this mill.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, yesterday in reply to a Unstarred Question, the Minister of Home Affairs replied that the rate of atrocities on women has doubled. I would not like to go into that. Today there is an alarming news. The World Womens' Day is going to be observed all over the world four days from now.

India stands in a unique position insofar as defending the honour of women is concerned. The Government is also committed to protecting the honour of women. Delhi is the capital of the country and look at the position obtaining here itself. A Report which has been published by the Delhi State Commission states that the capital is becoming ever more unsafe for women and girls. The crime rate is 34.1 per cent as against 9.5 per cent in the year 1993. This exposes the terrific situation. The Report says that the girls of sixteen years of age and college-going girls are at the mercy of eve-teasers and the anti-social elements. The situation in Delhi is very grave.

Keeping in view the projections made in the Report and the alarming situation that is obtaining, I would like to request, through you, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to persuade the Minister of Home Affairs to send a clear message that this Government is determined to curb the atrocities on women and protect the capital of India and the dignity and honour of women before the World Womens' Day is observed four days from now. It is necessary because this Report would get publicity in the BBC, CNN and all over the world. While the World Womens' Day would be observed on 8th March, the whole world would laugh at us by knowing as to what is happening in the capital. The Report even said that women are afraid to go to theatres and shopping centres. In Delhi, this has increased over a period of one-and-a-half years.

If the Government is not serious, I think, then the entire image of the nation would be at jeopardy. So, I would like

[Shri P.R. Dasmunsi]

to request you, before the 8th of March, to ask the hon. Home Minister to have interactions with the Chief Minister and make the Police Commissioner also accountable as to why such things are continuing and why it should not be stopped. It is because the projections made in the Report relate to Delhi.

14.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for having given me the opportunity to speak. There is a village named Maugala in my Constituency which falls in the area of Kalakot and comes under district Rajauri. A blast took place in the mine over there on Monday, the 3rd of March. Out of 22 labourers, four labourers were killed, 13 were injured and four are still trapped in the mine. I urge upon the Ministry of Coal to send an expert from Delhi to save the labourers still trapped in mine. I request that State Government should be helped in extricating the labourers from the mine.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Kota was known as an industrial capital. It is my misfortune that even last time I had to raise the issue pertaining to labourers of Instrumentation Limited quite strongly. Now the labourers employed in J.K. Industries are on the verge of starvation. The owner of the mill, Mr. Singhania wishes to close it down because of which J.K. synthetics, J.K. Acrylics, J.K. tyre cord are on the verge of closure. Thousands of labourers are out on the roads. The BMS workers are sitting on a dharna. CITU has also launched an agitation. We also want that you should take this matter seriously and intervene to help labourers recover their wages. No labourer has been given any wages for the last four months. Salaries should be provided to them.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is no law and order in Mumbai. Political assassinations are taking place there. All this is happening right in front of those in the power. Recently Municipal Corporation elections were held there. Those belonging to the Ruling party struck at the office of Samajwadi Party located at Jaageshwari. A leader of Shiv Sena, Shri Katgar had joined the Samajwadi Party. 21 councillors won the elections and that is why the murderous assault took place. Four people were injured in the incident. From January 1 to February 28, 106 cases of looting and dacoity have been registered in Police Stations whereas more than half the crimes go unreported. Miscreants broke into the house of film actress, Urmila Bhatt and opened fire there. Former Congress Minister, Baba Saheb Dhavedhar was also assaulted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not take anybody's name.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : All this is already there in the Report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : A leader of a certain party went to the Court. He is involved on contempt of Court. When a kingpin was nabbed in Mumbai, a M.P. of the Ruling party...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a state subject. Please do not discuss it here.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am constrained to discuss it here because there is no law and order there...(Interruptions) Such heinous crimes as murder, looting, corruption and rapes are being committed at the instance of those in the Ruling party...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it should not be allowed.

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : "Kaun roke, kaun toke, fursat kise hai baadsharaon mein khumaari aur pyaade so rahe hein."

The police is conniving with them. Murders are being committed under a conspiracy. Shri Datta Samant was killed. In this way, the killings are continuing one by one. The members of Samajwadi party are being threatened. Their lives are in danger. I would like to request that in view of the law and order position there, the Union Government should intervene because Mumbai is no longer under the control of the State Government. The State Government should in fact be dismissed. I thank you for having give me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I have given a notice...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him conclude first. Then I will look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would make my point in just one sentence. I would

like the Minister to listen to it. I raised this issue in the zero hour a week ago that the Chinese army had advanced into our territories. This continued from 4 February to 18 February in the six kilometre area of Himachal Pradesh. I had sought an explanation from the Government. Eight days have passed but the Government has not said anything either inside or outside this House. Previously also this kind of negligence was shown regarding territories of our country. We are facing the consequences thereof till today. 1 lakh 19 thousand square kilometre area of our country is still in possession of China. This incident took place when the President of China came to India on a visit. The Chinese have always played this strategy. Wherever they go, they try to show their concern. I had said all this the other day also. I am sorry to note that no explanation has been given in the House in this regard. I request that in the interest of the nation, you should ask the Government to express positive of negative reaction. It should not keep mum on this issue...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I request all the Hon'ble members to kindly listen to me. It was said in a meeting that zero hour continues upto two hours but today more than two hours have been taken.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : It happens at times.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : At times, something is left out also. We will discuss it tomorrow.

[English]

The House stands adjourned for Lunch till 15.05 hours.

14.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Five minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

15.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Eleven Minutes past Fifteen of the clock

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI (Salempur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the M.P. from Bihar, Shri Pappu Yadav is on fast for the issue of raising the prices of sugarcane. He is sitting at the main gate. His demand is that prices of sugarcane should be raised upto Rs. 77 per quintal and prices of jute should also be hiked. I request you that instructions

should be issued to the Government in this regard so that he breaks his fast.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we shall take up Matters Under Rule 377.

15.12 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

(i) **Need to establish a Central University in Faizabad, U.P.**

SHRI VINAY KATIYAR (Faizabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House towards setting up of a Central University in Faizabad district of eastern Uttar Pradesh. A large number of students come to Faizabad for getting education but Faizabad has neither a Medical College nor an engineering college. Besides, it also lacks in facility for vocational courses like Management, computer course and other technical education.

In the end, through this House, I urge upon the Minister to approve the long pending demand of people of Faizabad for setting up a Central University there, so that engineering, medical, computer course, management and other technical education may be imparted in the district itself.

(ii) **Need to amend the provisions relating to Land Acquisition Under U.P. Avas Evam Vikas Parishad Act, 1965.**

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh Administration is not following properly the principle of 'equality before law' in payment of compensation to farmers for their land acquired for the purpose of 'public use'.

On the one hand farmers' land acquired by U.P. Government for Uttar Pradesh Avas Evam Vikas Parishad under the U.P. Avas Evam Vikash Parishad, Act, 1965 but on the other hand farmers are denied the benefits (like interest at enhanced rates, relief money and other recompense etc.)

Secondly, when the same land is acquired by U.P. Government for other schemes or the bodies under the provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1984 then farmers are provided with the above-mentioned benefit under the amendments made in this Act. As Land Acquisition is in the concurrent List of the Constitution, therefore, the right to make amendments in the provisions of Land

[Shri Bhagwan Shankar Rawat]

Acquisition Act of above mentioned Parishad formulated by the Legislature of the concerned states are vested in the Parliament. (as per the provision of Article 254(2).

The Union Government is, therefore, urged upon to bring forth and amendment in the provisions relating to the acquisition of land under the Parishad Act, without delay in order to remove discrimination and anomalies to which thousands of farmers in the state of Uttar Pradesh are being subjected to.

(iii) Need to set up 2000 Megawatt Power Project In Central Bihar

SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL (Chatra) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the power situation in Gaya district of Central Bihar and Palamu, Chatra and other districts of South Bihar is deteriorating fastly. It seems that people of Central Bihar and South Bihar are returning to the age when man used lanterns. Except some of the urban areas, rural areas are not getting power for more than two or three hours. As a result of it thousands of small scale industries have been closed down. Due to shortage of power several big industries are also unable to function smoothly. Thousands of acres of farmers' Land are not being irrigated and lakhs of students are unable to carry on their studies due to shortage of power. The condition is so dreadful that despondency and frustration is increasing among youth.

In view of the public interest I, therefore urge upon the Union Government to set up a 2000 Megawatt power project expeditiously in any one of the Gaya, Palamu or Chatra district. This proposed project will benefit crores of people of the State and initiate development in the state.

(iv) Need to take steps to Save Indigenous Newsprint Units from Closure

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA (Shimoga) : There are four government-owned newsprint manufacturing units in India. The total production capacity of these four units is around 4.5 lakh tonnes against a total annual demand of 6.5 lakh tonnes. The shortfall is met from imports.

Till 1992 the imports were restricted to actual users who could import newsprint at a ratio of 4 : 1 (i.e.) for every one tonne of newsprint imported.

The overseas newsprint exporters formed themselves into a cartel and started dumping large quantities of

newsprint in the Indian market. The landed price cost of imported newsprint (deliberately kept low) is much lower than the cost of the indigenous newsprint.

In 1995-96 a recommendation was made by the Kelkar Committee to impose a 40 per cent duty on imported newsprint, to give some relief to the indigenous units, but strangely this was not accepted or implemented by the Government of India.

Presently, there are about 35,000 newspapers/magazines/periodicals registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India entitling them to import any quantity of newsprint without payment of customs duty irrespective of the fact that more than 80 per cent of these newspapers do not come out regularly according to the Indian Newspapers Society.

I, therefore, request the Union Government to take remedial measures by adopting a national newsprint policy and anti-dumping measures to be initiated through imposing customs duty at the rate of 40 per cent on imported newsprint as recommended by the Kelkar Committee, clamping or a counter-vailing duty on imported newsprint to provide a level-playing field to indigenous units by restricting imports ceiling to about two lakh tonnes (shortfall) annually and issuing import entitlement certificates by the Registrar of Newspapers for India based upon actual circulation of a newspaper/periodical.

(v) Re : Need to include Parivara, Besta and Talvara Communities of Karnataka in the list of Scheduled Tribes

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (Mysore) : A large number of people belonging to Talvara, Parivara and Besta communities have been living in some areas of Mysore District, Karnataka. They belong to weaker sections of the society and they have relations with people belonging to Scheduled Tribes. These tribes are synonymous to Nayakas, Naiks and Valmikis. These communities have been demanding since long for including them in the list of Scheduled Tribes. In fact, this was recommended by the State Government of Karnataka long ago. When the Ordinance was promulgated in the year 1990 to include certain synonymous equivalent to Nayakas under the category of Scheduled Tribes, the synonymous Parivara, Talvara and Besta have been left out. The matter is being highlighted by the State Government for more than a decade. While moving a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, the Minister in-charge had given a categorical assurance on the floor of the House to include some other minor communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

who have been called by different names in different States.

Since Parivara, Besta and Talvara communities are synonymous to Nayakas, Naiks and Valmikis, I request the Union Government to include these communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

(vi) Need to Provide More Funds to Government of Assam for Anti-malaria Programme

SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN (Barpeta) : Malaria has been taking a heavy toll of life not only in the rural areas but in urban areas also in Assam. Mosquitoes breed in lakhs of depressions, water accumulations even during the winter. It appears that the Government of India, the Ministry of Health asked the State Government to employ DDT Sprayers for anti-malaria programme, but the State Government allegedly due to paucity of funds to implement this Central Government programme, with whatever fund it gets, employ men for this programme for five months of the summer. Such implementation of anti-malaria work is inadequate for the eradication of this disease spreading like an epidemic even in the cold season because stagnant water is found everywhere for breeding mosquitoes. The prevailing condition throughout the year calls for implementation of Malaria Eradication Programme all throughout the year in Assam. The Defence Ministry, however, appears to have ordered its Air Force formations at Delhi to regularise the employment of anti-malaria workers, but due to lack of general practice ordered by the Union Health Ministry in the interest of the civilian population in Assam, the Indian Air Force and the Army have not undertaken any anti-malaria measures for the whole of the year threatening an outbreak of this disease in the cold season also. Assam experiences winter from the middle of December to middle of February only (approximately 65 days in the year). It is, therefore, a proverbially malaria infested region. The people of Assam demand that Malaria Eradication Programme should be an all-the-year-round measure for 23 plain districts of the State of Assam. For that purpose, the Union Health Ministry should allocate larger amount of funds to the State with the special direction that the said allocation must not be diverted to make up shortage of funds which cannot be provided by the State from its own resources.

(vii) Need to set up Central School with Boarding Facilities in Bihar and Other Backward States

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, about 84 lakh children in our country

are compelled to take to glass-picking, working in Motor garrages, carrying loads at railway platforms and serving in hotels. These children are burdened with the responsibility to feed their family since their childhood and thus live in poverty for their lives and harm the future of this country.

We are celebrating the 50th anniversary of our Independence but the Government could not get the desired result in case of development of these children who are the future of the country, even by launching literacy programme, creating equal society and by enacting several new laws and making amendments in the existing ones. The Government has provided for compulsory and free education to children upto the age of 14 years but has not attended to their basic needs (i.e. food, clothing, shelter and creation of congenial atmosphere of study for them).

Therefore, I would like to say to hon. Chairman and all the MPs that the need for setting up Central Schools with boarding facilities in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, other backward States and Union Territories is imperative so that these poor children may be given social justice, brought in the mainstream and could be saved from falling in bad company.

(viii) Need to amend Indian Penal Code to empower police to check unauthorised occupation of land

DR. BALIRAM (Lalgunj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a peculiar problem emerging in Uttar Pradesh especially in Azamgarh district. The poor farmers and Government employees living in this area are constantly oppressed by tyrants and criminals who occupy their lands and fields possessed by them since the time of their forefathers. When an oppressed person approaches the local police station with the relevant land ownership papers, his complaint is not heard. Disappointed person then moves to court, where such cases remain pending for long and the land continues to be in possession of the tyrant and criminal elements.

Sir, through you, I demand that the Government should make amendment in Indian Penal Code and Criminal Code to frame such a rule that may enable police to take preventive action immediately on the basis of the vericity of the land ownership papers so that the land of poor and government employees could not be grabbed. Courts should also deal with such cases immediately on the basis of vericity of land ownership papers and the persons guilty should be fined and punished.

15.25 hrs.

[English]

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL
OF THE INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION BANK
(TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS AND REPEAL)
ORDINANCE—Contd.

AND

INDUSTRIAL RECONSTRUCTION BANK
(TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS AND REPEAL)
BILL—Contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up further discussion on item nos. 7 and 8. Shri Shatrughan Prasad Singh to continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balua) (Bihar) : Sir, I was saying this to the Finance Minister yesterday about the purpose of this Bill mentioned here are the strategy to achieve managerial autonomy and in the field of non-performing assets also this act will help in entering the capital market for equity and debt and in creating a more level playing field across other broadly similar financial institutions.

Sir, my second submission is that in place of Industrial Reconstruction Bank, it should be called Industrial Investment Bank of India Ltd. I would like to know as to why you propose to use the word 'bank' when it is not a bank at all. It is only a financial institutions. The Government is not going to set up any new bank. It will be better and more useful if it is called as a corporation or financial institution. In its definition you have mentioned that it will be repealed and later on registered under the company Act of 1956 as Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited. I would like to make a suggestion that it will be better if you replace the word bank by financial institution.

In the same way it has been written that if an officer of employer of the Reconstruction Bank opts for not being in employment under the sub-section-I then it will be considered as his resignation from the service but there should be a provision for protection of his past service and contribution made by him in the Provident Fund. Whenever a person changes service or transferred to some other department, options of the employee are sought and at the time of seeking retirement a huge amount is paid as compensation. In the same way, the Government should bear this responsibility. Nomination of the concerned person should be made on contract papers etc. I would also like to mention that Article 117 and 274 of the Constitution of India have been violated because in Hindi

version the mention of Presidential Address has not been made in it. I have also read the English version of this Bill wherein a mention has been made about the Presidential assent sought on it under the Article 117 and 274. When the Government is introducing the Bill in both Hindi and English version, the mention of Presidential assent should come in Hindi version also, which has not been made. Sir, I raise my objection to the chair on this point. This Bill should not have been presented without obtaining the Presidential assent. In this way the Constitution of India has been violated. I seek your ruling on it. This debate will be illegal because the Government has no right to move a Bill without obtaining assent of the hon'ble President.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can continue, I have noted your point.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am taking cognizance of this matter. You can continue your speech.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : There is a mention of seeking Presidential assent in the English of this Bill circulated among Members but that has not been mentioned in its Hindi translation. It is a valid point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am reading the original copy of the Bill in Hindi. You can continue your speech.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : You have stated that in the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984 after Section 4, the following shall be inserted, namely :

"(1) the Central Government may reduce share capital of the Reconstruction Bank by—

- (a) extinguishing or reducing the liability of any of its equity shares;
- (b) either with or without extinguishing or reducing liability on any of its equity shares, cancelling any paid up share capital which is lost, or is unrepresented by available assets."

Therefore, I would like to say that the Government of India should state the reasons for failure of BIFR which was set up in 1987. Under what circumstances it is being repealed. You have stated that pressure was mounting on it. Clarify it. You should present your viewpoint before the Parliament and public. A thorough inquiry has been conducted and assessment has been made about the sick industries. So the role of Reconstruction Bank should be redefined. So far the concept of competitiveness is concerned, capability of Reconstruction Bank in present financial condition depends upon its functioning. Therefore,

I would like to say that with the purposes and objectives of this Bill, the reason for failure of this Banks should also be started.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that it should not be so that another amendment be brought for repealing it. The hon. Finance Minister has stated that 32 per cent of the loan amount could not be recovered. Can you guarantee that under some provision cent percent loan amount will be recovered in future. You have stated that by reducing paid up capital of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank by writing off the equity to the extent of Rs. 74.30 crore, by considering it non-performing assets. In the 'b' part it has been stated that an amount of Rs. 52.25 crore of equity share will be converted. The position of the capital should be clarified in the House. In what circumstances the present law is being repealed and replaced by the new one because it will be registered under the original company law and after formulating new rules and regulations it will work as Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Bill, 1997.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards my objection that this Bill has been moved here without obtaining assent of the hon'ble President.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have mentioned that Presidential assent has not been obtained. But in English version of this Bill it has been mentioned clearly. It is a mistake that this point has not been mentioned in the Hindi version. It should be translated correctly.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Sir, discriminatory attitude is being adopted in case of Hindi and it is not being accorded proper status.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not a question of discriminatory attitude but the way of working. The Bill is presented in both the Languages. In English version there is a mention of obtaining the Presidential assent but not in Hindi. It is a major mistake. It should not take place again.

[English]

Do you want to say something?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : No.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Have you taken note of it?

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : This lapse occurred during the period when he was not the incharge of this Ministry.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : After taking oath, he can improve the functioning of the Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Ordinance. The Hon'ble Members have strongly insisted that ordinances should be promulgated only when essentially necessiated. But it seems as if each party in this 13 parties coalition wants an ordinance promulgated in his name thus totalling the number of ordinances to 13-an ordinance by each party. They believe in equality. But you should not reduce the importance of ordinances I am opposing this ordinance because it has been promulgated to cover-up the failures of the Government by setting-up a company inspite of the heavy losses suffered by this Government. This Government is following the trend set by the Congress to hide its weaknesses and get rid of the crisis.

It is quite surprising that this Government with so many socialist leaders in it, is pushing lakhs of workers into darkness by converting the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India into a Company. It is all right that the Company would help revival of the sick industrial units. The people who were given loans by the bank, must have deposited some securities against loan. You should have made efforts to realise those loans by way of those securities. Now how do you propose to recover those loans? You are not taking these things seriously. You just say that we have lost the money.

The person, who is in the habit of engineering the frauds, would get money from several such banks and in case these are converted into a company, then he would again go to that company and get money from there fraudulently. Therefore, we should not convert the Bank into a company.

The Bank should make efforts to recover it's loans through securities deposited by the borrowers. Whether the company would render loan assistance or not, depends upon the company. Therefore I do oppose this move. I demand that this amendment should be withdrawn. We should take some positive steps to achieve the goals with which this Bank was set-up. The Government should evolve some measures to prevent sickening of industrial units. I, therefore, request that investigation should be made against such industry owners as have went out of the way so that the interests of the workers are safeguarded. Therefore, the Bank should be allowed to continue it's functioning. As far as this Bill is concerned, I do criticise it because it envisages to meet the financial loss through the conversion of this Bank into a company.

[Shri Girdharilal Bhargava]

I demand from the Government that this Bill should be withdrawn and the Bank should be allowed to exist and function. The realisation of the loan amount should be undertaken in a proper manner.

It seems to me as if the Government does not want the 'Bhartiya Majdoor Sangh' to set-up a Rural Bank and the Government is trying to cover-up the losses it suffered due to the defaulters which is why it is converting the Bank into a company which I strongly oppose and favour the continuance of the Bank. Even Smt. Indira Gandhi had to nationalize the banks so that the banks may render financial assistance to the people. I view that we should follow the suit. You gave me time, I thank you for that.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the intention of the Government in bringing this Bill seems to be good, but I am not in a position to support the way in which they have promulgated the Ordinance. What we find is, increasingly Ordinances are being promulgated these days. This is contrary to healthy democratic traditions and against the healthy functioning of democracy. I do not know as to what was the hurry to go to Rashtrapati Bhawan, persuade Rashtrapati, get his approval and get such an Ordinance promulgated.

Sir, as you find, this Ordinance was promulgated on the 24th January, 1997. This House was in session up to 20th December, 1996.

The Winter Session of the House came to a close and the House was adjourned *sine die* on 20th of December. Thereafter, if they had got it promulgated within seven days or so, there would have been some meaning. By January 24, I think, the Cabinet had already decided about the date when the Budget Session would commence. After the Cabinet decision about the Budget Session if Ordinances were promulgated how do they expect support from us? They have not issued one Ordinance only. But three Ordinances were issued. There was no urgency also. Look at the nature of the Bill. Heavens would not have fallen had they waited for a couple of months. They could have got listed these Bills in the List of Business on priority. Therefore, this is a very unhealthy trend which is fast developing.

As regards the intention I mentioned that hitherto the IRBI, the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India was a statutory authority and after the Ordinance it had converted itself into a company. I remember two years ago or so we had passed such a legislation in respect of Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) also. They wanted to acquire the status of a company, obviously to enjoy some more flexibility in its operations and to have the capacity

to go to the market to have access to the capital market to mop up and mobilise funds. All these things are there. The intention is good. Primarily this institution was there. This organisation was there to help sick units in their revival. In fact, this bank sanctioned cumulative term loan assistance to the tune of Rs. 2,983.71 crore to 1375 units at the end of March, 1996. Further at the end of March, 1996 the cumulative financial assistance sanctioned by this Bank under equipment hire purchase and equipment finance assets stood at Rs. 20.8 crore to 36 units and Rs. 600.82 crore to 40 units and again Rs. 169.76 crore to 62 units.

15.49 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair]

So, this way the IRBI has, no doubt, rendered assistance to a large number of sick units. Many of them have been revived and many of them have died. These are all matters of concern.

Sir, I attach more importance to public sector units. There is a difference. Some persons may not like to treat them on preferential basis.

But in respect of public sector units, we have to adopt a liberal approach. When a study was made, out of about 200 and odd Central public sector undertakings, 97 were found sick, and the reasons for these units going sick were attributed to two things. One is, over-employment. According to this study, in some cases, about one-third or 33 per cent of the people were in excess. Secondly, outdated technology was also the reason attributed to many units suffering from industrial sickness. Over and above this or more important than this was mismanagement or lack of proper management to run these units. That was not highlighted in that study. But from our experience, we found that this was the main reason. Whatever it is, it is of paramount importance to see that sickness goes and as many sick industrial units as possible could be brought back to health. Their normal health should be restored. How far have we travelled along this path? I think, the progress is not something encouraging.

Figures are there, particularly about this IRBI. Under section 15 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, popularly known as SICA, as many as 1,241 cases were referred to IRBI. BIFR, which was entrusted with the responsibility of identifying the reasons for the sickness, whether the units could be revived and whether they could be viable or not, appointed IRBI as the operating agency in 321 cases. Out of these 321 cases for which they were appointed as the operating agency, how is it that this assignment was transferred to others in respect of eight other cases? Why did they do so?

In this connection, I should like to bring to the notice of this august House that the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited (IDPL), a giant public sector undertaking in pharmaceutical sector, manufacturing life saving drugs, has also gone sick. That was the first undertaking to be cleared by BIFR for revival. At that point of time, it was not referred to IRBI but to the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), which was the operating agency. The representatives of the Ministry, IDBI and IDPL sat together and, with the help of the workforce there, it was the first sick project to be cleared by BIFR. I am connected with the workforce there; I happen to be associated with one of the unions. The employees made a lot of sacrifices in terms of salaries and wages; they also gave an undertaking not to claim the increased dearness allowance; they did not demand higher salary and all such things.

All of them, together, found that it was viable. But later, I think, on 2nd October, 1994 surprisingly, peculiarly and strangely they found it unviable. I do not understand how they came to this decision. One or two years after, again they found it unviable. What happened to the amount of Rs. 50 crore? In a delegation together with other Members of Parliament, I had met the then Prime Minister. He was also kind enough to sanction some money. The Finance Minister was kind enough to sanction about Rs. 50 crore. This was the one project which was established in 1961 by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in our endeavour to achieve self-sufficiency in the very basic area of drugs etc.

As you know, Sir, it immensely contributed to the well-being of the people. Last time, when Gujarat was visited by plague and prices of drugs soared like anything—penicillin was not available at that time—these people worked day and night. They came to the rescue of the Government and of the suffering people. Large areas are there in all the units which are there in Rishikesh, Hyderabad etc. There is a major bulk supply of drugs by these units. The IDPL is not only a prestigious unit of India but also it is a giant organisation of the whole of South-East Asia. Now, this organisation with all its units, is facing closure. There seems to be a conspiracy. Again, the IDBI appointed M/s. Ferguson and Company as the operating agency. What is this? I am told that the Government have taken some decision. What is it that they are doing?

Sir, you know that after the coming into force of the GATT we have to be very careful in certain areas and one such area is production and manufacture of essential life-saving drugs. You know about the importance of life-saving drugs. The important point is that in some cases the IDBI was the agency. I would like to know whether there is a need to change the status of that agency also into a company today because, sometimes, they do not have

money. They also say so. At the first instance, they find something viable and subsequently they say that it cannot be revived. So, that way, I would like to know whether only in respect of the IRBI these problems are there and in order to solve the problems, they are trying to convert it into a company, or even some other financial institutions are there like the IDBI which has a role to play for the revival of sick units. I would like to know about this point. I request the hon. Minister to kindly reply to this point.

Then, as I said earlier, they have to raise funds. Yesterday also, concern was rightly expressed by the hon. Members who participated in this discussion that about Rs. 74 crore is being written off. This is also the public money. Who are responsible for such irresponsible loans to be given which could not be recovered? There is an impression going round in the country now that the rich and influential people, be they traders or *zamindars* can take loans and they can do way with it; they can go scot-free. There are industrialists who take loans. What happened in the textile sector? So, naturally, this impression should be dispelled by our conduct not only by saying here but by implementing it. Coming to my point, there is a tendency growing now not to pay the loans. In different circles, we say that nobody likes to die and nobody likes to repay, particularly the Government dues. People do not like to repay the Government dues. This tendency is now growing. After 1977, after taking the decision about loan waiver etc., the situation has further worsened.

16.00 hrs.

Anyway, such impression should not be there. The genuine and needy people should be advanced loans. We want to again convert it into a company. They will have a flexible approach. They can approach the market.

One thing is very important. Unless you give loans to the public sector sick units on liberal terms, they cannot stand up as they are not on the level playing field with other organisations. If you ask them to compete with other private big organisations, which are making huge profits, can they do it? They cannot do it. That is why, I say that a preferential treatment should be shown to sick units and especially those which are in the public sector. That is why, I would like to tell Shri Chidambaram, that his intention is good, but we do not approve of the way the Ordinance has been promulgated.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member need not necessarily repeat it. Please conclude.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : It is a very good intervention.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Jswant Singhji, I value your support more than anyone else's.

Some liberal approach should be adopted by the Government towards the public sector industries which have gone sick.

Secondly, I would like to say about the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limitd (IDPL). I would like to tell you about the type of service it has rendered, how it has contributed and with what good intentions, it was established by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It acquired self-sufficiency in this primary sector of production and manufacture of basic drugs and life-saving drugs. Now we are pained to understand that they are deciding to close it down. The Standing Committee of Parliament on Petroleum and Chemicals had visited this company because this was the first project to be cleared by the BIFR for revival. That Committee visited the plant and went into its functioning. They were very critical in their report. The management was working out the revival plan in a slipshod manner. They wanted strict measures to be taken against such people. The Committee wanted competent people to be placed in charge of the organisation. But nobody paid any heed to that. We cannot afford to have this type of public sector unit closed down because of the follies and inefficient people like CMD etc. Therefore, a prestigious organisation like this cannot be ruined. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to personally look into this and see that they are given benefit of this loan assistance so that they can be revived.

[Translation]

SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) : A Member of Parliament is on hunger strike on the issue of sugarcane and Jute in Bihar.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want the House to be adjourned on that account...*(interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This issue need not be raised. We have to continue this discussion.

[English]

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to express my agreement with the principle governing this Bill. It is with great pleasure that I welcome this Bill particularly because of the site selection, i.e., the bank which is going to be set up under the provisions of the Bill, will have Calcutta as the site of the head office. I am in agreement with the principle and also I appreciate the hon. Finance Minister that he has come here as early as possible to implement the promise that he had made last time in his Budget Speech.

I remind the House what he did say last time in regard to this particular object. I quote :

"The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IDBI) was constituted to function as the principle credit reconstruction agents. I emphasise on these two aspects. Thanks to the rapid changes. The burden of reconstruction is being shared by different stakeholders including developmental financial institutions and banks. I therefore, propose to transform the IRBI into a full-fledged all-purpose developmental financial institute with headquarters at Calcutta. I will soon bring necessary changes in the Statute governing the IRBI.

Sir, there are three points on which I want to draw his pointed attention. One is about the Statute that he expressed his intention to bring about changes by bringing about statutory changes in the IRBI. There was no mention about the compansation of the IRBI. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether it is not a departure from the promise that he made last time and the action that we have this time?

Sir, again, I am quite grateful to him. He had mentioned that the object of the IRBI was to function as the principle credit lending and reconstruction agents. What was the role of the IRBI for offering reconstruction credit and reconstruction assistance? Of course, it is financial, for the sick industries in Calcutta.

Sir, particularly, coming from West Bengal, we know about the great contribution the IRBI did in regard to the revival of the sick industries. So far as this Bill is concerned, my first grouse is that that aspect has not been taken proper care of.

My second point is—I will be very brief—that the object of the Bill, as at present, is to convert the IRBI into a company to be capable to meet the competition from other developmental financial corporations, companies, agencies or whatever the case may be.

Originally, from the Press I came to learn—yesterday. I was not there and I did not have the privilege of listening to the hon. Finance Minister when he placed these Bills for consideration—that the amount of equity base of the Government was to the tune of Rs. 200 crore. But subsequently, today I heard from other Members that he had said that it would be expanded to Rs. 1,000 crore. It is a welcome move.

But even if it is Rs. 1,000 crore, Sir, it will not be able to compete with the other developmental financial companies, organisations and institutions.

I am giving some comparative figures. IDBI has got

a capital base of Rs. 7000 crore. IFCI has got a capital base of Rs. 4000 crore. ICICI has got a capital base of Rs. 6000 crore.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): After how many years?

SHRI CHITTA BASU : That is all right. You also want that this baby is to be competitive enough with these organisations. I am very considerate. Earlier your contention was Rs. 200 crore; now it is Rs. 1000 crore. You have increased it. You want this bank to be competitive with these large organisations whose capital is Rs. 7000 crore in respect of IDBI; Rs. 4000 crore in respect of IFCI and Rs. 6000 crore in respect of ICICI. You want this baby to become a giant overnight and to fight another giant which is of this nature, of this magnitude, of this muscular strength. Here in this case this giant is a financial giant. It is not proper, it is not justified, it is not commensurate with the need to really convert it into a financial giant.

Secondly, why did the Government not choose in respect of making certain statutory changes in the IRBI Act itself? Why has this new company come 'or is this compansation made? There are other ulterior motives. Some of my friends who have spoken earlier have brought it to the notice of the House. To some extent the interest of the staff is likely to be affected. If there had been a statutory means by amending the IRBI Act, this apprehension in the minds of the staff would have been averted. Why has this been done? Why is it that instead of making statutory changes in the original Act, the compansation route has been taken?

Another attempt is galore in it. The Government is serious to realise or adjust its own arrears or its own dues from the IRBI. They want to adjust the outstanding loan or outstanding arrear with the IRBI which has been given by the Government of India by the budgetary help or by some other method is now going to be adjusted and reduced from the capital base. He has given Rs. 200 crore. But I know that according to certain statements made available to me by the trade unions, Rs. 200 crore will be required only to meet the repayment schedule from 1998. You will be giving Rs. 1000 crore. But in five years that will be taken or wiped away simply by the method of meeting the residual of repayment beginning from 1998. This is another aspect about which I have a grouse. I have got objection to it. I want that having regard to this, the Government should further increase the capital base of the IRBI.

Lastly I would like to make a very important point. I think I will have the attention of the hon. Finance Minister. He has gone away from the objectives of the IRBI. The basic objective of the IRBI, according to my interpretation—

whatever might be his interpretation, we always differ—is reconstruction of the sick industries.

Here, the reconstruction, the rehabilitation of the sick industries is not the main purpose. Its main purpose is to meet the financial giants, to earn profit by any means, even to the extent of neglecting the prime need of meeting the needs of the revival requirement. This is a violation, a departure from the original Act.

Let me give you the role this Bank did play. As on 31st March, 1996, Rs. 387.69 crore was given to sick units and having non-performing assets of Rs. 208 crore. West Bengal has the largest share in this respect. Seventy sick units of West Bengal got Rs. 197 crore; in respect of UP, thirty-nine sick units got Rs. 37.57 crore; in respect of Andhra Pradesh, twenty-eight sick units got Rs. 21 crore and in respect of Gujarat, thirty-six sick units got Rs. 25 crore. What is the guarantee that under this new dispensation the revival projects will be financed and priority will be given to these sick industries?

It has been rightly pointed out by Shri Panigrahi that the main problem today in the industrial scenario is to remove sickness in the private sector and public sector companies, which have fallen ill. If that purpose is neglected, if that purpose is brushed aside, the purpose of creating another financial giant is not going to fulfil the social objective for which banks were nationalised. The perception of nationalisation of banks was wholeheartedly accepted by the nation...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Sir, I know that you have rung the bell. I am the most obedient Member in this House.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : You are very very obedient.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : That is right, sister. You are very very good.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : You are Netaji's *sishya*.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : Therefore, without further fulminating or without further making a speech, I want just to read out certain suggestions for the improvement of the Bill. Of course, he is more interested in having the Bill passed and I am also interested in that.

The compansation should be on the lines as proposed earlier for compansation of IDBI and not in line with the IFCI. He knows it. If he takes care, he can do it.

The Board of Directors of the proposed Company should constitute more representatives from the Govern-

[Shri Chitta Basu]

ment and proportionate representation from industry, chambers of commerce, the officers' association.

My next suggestion is on rehabilitation of sick units. Its number is reaching about four lakh all over the country. Do not forget that alarming figure. Four lakh companies are sick today. So, rehabilitation of sick industries as enshrined under the IRBI Act should continue as it was and the Government should provide adequate budgetary support every year for nursing the sick units since the Government cannot wash its hands in the matter of rehabilitating the sick units.

The Government should continue to provide long-term loans to the proposed Company and the present outstanding from the Government should not be adjusted and allowed to be kept as it was.

The dues of IRBI from the Government on account of behest lending for financing nationalised units should be refunded to the proposed Company to strengthen the liquidity base of the new Company.

I hope, the hon. Minister of Finance chooses to explain the two departures from his Budget Speech. And if he further chooses, he may react to the suggestions that I have made for his consideration.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA (Serumpore) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, yesterday while the hon. Minister of Finance was speaking, he has stated perfectly two things. One is the banking fund and the other is the rehabilitation of the sick units. Possibly, the hon. Minister has a perception that if he gives more money to the sick units, the sick units can be revived. Sir, I would like to point out one very simple thing. By dumping money alone the sick units in the country cannot be revived. For the revival of sick units, sometimes financial assistance is required, sometimes modern technical know-how is required, sometimes fresh managerial techniques are required and sometimes other things are required.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister, by introducing this Bill, whether the sick units of the country, particularly those units situated in the eastern part of the country, would be benefited and whether this organisation would help in getting the technical know-how, the new managerial techniques and other things.

Sir, for your information and for the information of this august House, the earlier organisation IFCI and subsequently IRBI have helped different sick units, as mentioned by my hon. colleague. So many sick units survived by the assistance of IFCI and IRBI. I have my own apprehensions. Can that be achieved through this Bill? The hon. Minister might have good intentions to build up the

banking organisation in Calcutta in order to provide the sick units with additional financial assistance. But how can those small units which are putting up with serious problems survive? I do not know. That has not been mentioned in this Bill.

Sir, I have a submission to make. The hon. Minister has said that with this Bill he is going to have an authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crore. I welcome his good attitude. But there are two things. The principal objective with which the IRBI has been set up is the industrial rehabilitation. Could the hon. Minister assure that with this long-term loan the sick units can be revived? I know the IFCI and IRBI have given sufficient quantity of technical know-how to the sick units. I do not know what would be the future.

Another important thing is, the intention of the hon. Minister can also be fulfilled if he agrees to amend the IRBI Act on the lines of IDBI. I am sure the hon. Minister will think over this. By allowing IRBI to raise the equity from the market to the extent of 49 per cent with the major capital base of Rs. 125 crore, we cannot expect the IRBI to play its role of 'developmental financial institution'. The Government should consider giving IRBI a preferential capital of Rs. 150-200 crore at a lower rate of interest, say at six per cent, which will be repaid by the IRBI after a period of 10-15 years.

The hon. Minister of Finance can also allow the IRBI to augment its resources by raising tax-free bonds under the Government guarantee as it was done in the case of the Konkan Railway. So, that is very clear.

So, that is very clear. If the Government's intention is to have a banking organisation for survival of sick units, then they have to go according to this consideration.

I would like to point out one very important thing. There are so many sick units under IRBI. I do not know what would be the future of all these organisations. I would like to hear from the hon. Minister as to what exactly he is thinking about this.

Lastly, I have to mention another important thing. It is understood from the Ordinance that the Government of India wants to reduce the capital base of IRBI drastically by making certain adjustments in the balance sheet which would land the proposed company in a serious trouble in mobilising resources. The hon. Finance Minister has mentioned in this august House that the authorised capital of this would be Rs. 1000 crore. Can he assure this House that with this functioning organ, he would be able to distribute it properly? I ask this question because I know that the banking organisation has no technical know-how or persons who will be able to supply technical know-

how to sick units. If he does, I would be the happiest person; if he does not, then I would request him to kindly reconsider this.

Kindly send this Bill to the Standing Committee to have a thorough discussion and to come before this House very shortly thereafter so that he can get it passed.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier it was considered that the inception of B.I.F.R. would certainly help revival of the sick industries and it has been brought to the notice of the House many a times but despite that the Government failed to set-up B.I.F.R. and because of this a number of industrial units are running sick. The matter was brought to the notice of the Government way back in 1987 but since then till 1995 the Government could not set-up the BIFR. There was a unit in my town Kota also which could not survive it's sickness inspite of the efforts made by me and my colleague Shri Jaswant Singh Ji. There was a Government run industry in Kota, namely 'Instrumentation Limited'. Till Four years ago. It was earning profit but all of a sudden that industry started incurring losses due to the poor management. It was a very good industry. 90 per cent of the goods produced in that industry used to be exported to foreign countries. That company had once received an order of Rs. 65 crores from Telecommunications but due to nepotism that order was later given to a company in Himachal Pradesh which was opened by Shri Sukh Ram. Due to it, the company which was running in profit, all of sudden started incurring losses. These are the reasons because of which we are going to change a good management system, a good institute today. Why is it so? Not only this much, we are going to change even it's headquarters.

Now our hon'ble Finance Minister is going to set-up a new company by the name of the Industrial Investment Bank of India Limited with the authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crore. My submission is that unless and untill the root cause of the main evils are not removed, nothing is going to happen.

At least we must pay our attention towards the industries which are running sick and have failed to recover the crores of rupees from their borrowers. Whether we set up a company or a Bank unless we run these industrial units with good intention, we are not going to provide them any relief at all. They cannot earn profit untill and unless our intentions are good. I submit that a sum of Rs. 1,000 crore is negligible. These industries have incurred the loss of billions of rupees so they cannot be revived at all by this petty amount. The hon'ble Finance Minister cannot provide any relief to these sick industries. We should think over as to how these sick industries can

be saved? What should be our policy to save these sick industries. Whether it is necessary to float it's share in the market or whether we should sell out it's land in order to revive them? The whole industrial set-up is required to be disussed thoroughly. With the authorised capital of Rs. 1000 crore, this company is not going to deliver any goods. We had set up the IRBR in 1987 which is going to be converted into a company but this conversion is not going to give any relief to these industries.

May I ask the hon'ble Finance Minister as to what are the reasons behind shifting its headquarter to Calcutta? Sick industries are spread all over India. Most of the Public Undertakings are running sick. Earlier their officials used to come to Delhi on their official visits which was convenient for them but now they will be required to go to Calcutta which would be a costly affair. My opinion is that since you are determined to convert it into a company—whcih you can do, for you are in majority—at least allow its headquarter to remain in Delhi. Shifting its headquarters to Calcutta from Delhi will not be convenient at all from any point of view. The communists are supporting you from outside and, thus, they can mount certain pressure on you to get the things done in their favour but you should not let your efforts confined only to West Bengal rather you should adopt a wider approach and put your efforts for a nation wide revival of the sick industries. This company should provide relief to each industry in India, particularly to Instrumentation Limited which is in my town Kota so that it is given a new lease of life. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I would just like to seek a clarification. How long are we to go on this Bill?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now there are two more speakers to speak.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I want to know this because we have to plan the presence of Members. They have to initiate the discussion on the Railway Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, how much time would you take to reply?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I will take not more than a few minutes. But just to remind you, I would say that one hour was allotted.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I am asking this because we have to organise the presence of our Members.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : One more Bill is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will request the speakers to restrict themselves to five minutes strictly. So, within 15-20 minutes, we should be able to complete this Bill.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : But are we starting the discussion on Railway Budget today or not?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not know because I cannot say about the number of speakers who would be speaking on the next Bill. The whips may be forwarding the names one after another. That is the difficulty with the Presiding Officers here.

Shri Sampath, please confine yourself to five minutes only.

SHRI A. SAMPATH (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on the Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Bill, 1997.

First of all, I support the Bill and I also share the reservations expressed by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee yesterday and Shri Chitta Basu today. I am coming from Kerala. As you also know, Kerala is behind in the industrial scene. It does not have large industries and so, it does not have a large number of sick industries also. So, the share that we have got in this regard is very much limited.

I use this opportunity to invite the attention of the Government as well as the hon. Finance Minister to give more funds to Kerala for the development of industries in Kerala.

I would like to say that the case of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India is like the case of a doctor who has become sick. A person who had to attend to the sick persons became sick and he was undergoing a very serious surgery. In the Financial Memorandum, it has been mentioned that the Central Government proposes to take the following steps, namely—

- (a) reducing the paid up capital of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India by writing off the equity to the extent of Rs. 74.30 crores against past non-performing assets;...”

Who are responsible for this? Many of our public sector undertakings are running into losses not because of labour unrest but because of mismanagement, manipulation and malpractices. What happens is that the corrupt the greedy and the fraudulent people are going scot free. Is our country a country of manipulations, malpractices and mismanagements? These cannot be allowed. There must be strict accountability. This is the public money. This is the money of the poor people. There are a lot of instances where the poor people do not have enough money to have their bread twice a day. At the same time, there are quite a large number of people who do not pay taxes but waste, mismanage, manipulate and misappropriate the public money. That is happening in our country. If the things go on like this—please excuse me for using such terms—

many of our industrial concerns will be leading to anarchy, chaos and self-destruction. I would like to say this.

Before concluding, I once again appeal to the Government as well as the Finance Minister, We are happy that we have got the Minister of State for Finance also. Even then, we are appealing to you to please give us sufficient funds. I had raised this issue in the last session also.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR : So that there can be more losses!

SHRI A. SAMPATH : No, Sir. I expect that we can manage it. We want finance. Our traditional industries do not get sufficient share. Our traditional industries are there. They are very much thriving for their daily existence. They are using labour intensive technology. We feel that all the Governments which have been in existence in the past as well as the present Government have been making promises and promises. The promises are like pre-marital promises which are never fulfilled in post-marital affairs. I would like to appeal to you to consider the case of Kerala also.

I support the Bill. I also share the reservations that have been expressed by Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee and Shri Chitta Basu today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Pramothesh Mukherjee will speak. Please conclude in five minutes.

SHRI PRAMOTHESH MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : Sir, everyday, I become a victim of time constraint. Anyway, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to express my views on the important aspects of this Bill. On behalf of my party, RSP, I rise to extend my support to this Bill. The purpose of the Bill is to replace the Ordinance which had been promulgated earlier. I welcome the good intentions of the hon. Finance Minister which have been expressed in this Bill. I also welcome the opening of Calcutta.

I am not a good student of Economics. Moreover, I have heard many valuable speeches on the subject in this House. I will confine myself to one point. There are banking and financial aspects or social aspects of the industrial Reconstruction Bank of India. I am coming from the whole Indian society which is based on the market economy. There are many monopoly houses which try to exploit the people and which try to finish the purpose of this institution. So, I would appeal to the Government and to the hon. Finance Minister just to pay their special attention to the cry of these sick public sector undertakings, at least in our State. We are suffering from the sickness on the public sector undertakings.

I may not be a good student of Economics. But I am a good student of Social Sciences. On the basis of my experiences, I can say that the workers engaged in the National Textile Corporation, or in the IDPL or in tanneries or anywhere in the public sector undertakings have been suffering seriously. I know the depth of their sufferings.

I am coming from my native town, Berhampore, where there is no industry. But there is the Manindra and BT Mills, the only textile mill in my district, that is, my native town.

Sir, the total number of workers there has come down from 1400 to 365. Their lands are going to be grabbed by the big monopoly business houses. Their assets are going to be purchased. They are not getting sufficient working capital for the revival of the National Textile Mill. That mill was nationalised in the 1970s by the late Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister of India. This Government Undertaking is going to be finished; the fate of the workers is going to be sealed and they are now going to be thrown on to the streets to die of starvation. Such is the condition of the workers of this Undertaking.

Sir, such again is the condition of the workers in respect of M/s IDPL, in respect of M/s TAFCO, in respect of M/s MAMC and in respect of so many other sick Public Sector Undertakings. This is my version. The hon. Finance Minister had already announced that he would bring forth a very positive and comprehensive revival scheme for the revival of the sick Public Sector Undertakings. That scheme, however, has not yet been brought to this House. I think, it would be brought on time. I also think that he would pay his attention to the revival of the Public Sector Undertakings.

In this era of market economy system, the hon. Finance Minister is requested to pay more attention towards this so that this Industrial Reconstruction Bank is employed only for the purpose of reconstruction and revival of the sick Public Sector Undertakings in the interest of the toiling masses.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am unable to understand as to what are the objectives of this Bill. One hon'ble Member has suggested that this Bill should be referred to the Standing Committee. I also support this suggestion for doing justice to this Bill requires a serious discussion which is very much possible in the standing committee. So far as I understand, this Bank is basically meant for reviving the sick industries or the industries which are heading towards sickness. In my view these are the very objectives and reasons for setting up of the IRBI. But if we look at the over all functioning of this Bank, its balance sheet and the information placed

before the House, we will find that a total amount of Rs. 387 crore has been give as a loan to the sick industries and the big and medium scale industries and the number of companies to whom these loans have been sactioned is 309. If we have a close look of these companies, we will find that most of these companies have got, on an average, fifty to sixty lakhs of rupees from IRBI. But this is also a company, a corporation and it has also got a super structure. This is also undertaking many works. Whatever is targetted by the people who are running this Bank, but one thing is beyond my understanding and that is the revival of the sick industries by this Bank. As an hon'ble member has said, whether this Bank exists and functions with its ill health or converted into a company, it hardly makes any difference in the industrial sector which is evident from the Government's new policy in respect of the sick industries. The hon'ble Minister is repeatedly saing that he would have an authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crore. At present its capital is Rs. 200 crore. He will increase it to one thousand crore. He intends to further increase it to two thousand crore. But I fail to understand as to how does he propose to achieve the objectives of the Bank by increasing the above capital. You are already having a policy for sick industries. Only under that policy the Minister of Textiles read out a lengthy statement two days ago. He said in his statement that unless the land is sold, we are going to get nothing and for this purpose, he gave the example of Bombay. He said the Maharashtra Government is not replying to their questions. Sometime they are saying 'yes' and sometime 'no'. Such problems may arise in every state and the sick industries can be revived by selling out their land. But if the land is sold for making payment of salaries of the employees, then there may arise several problems. There may be dispute over the ownership of the land and there may arise other problems. Now, nothing more can be said when your policies are meant to allow the industries to run sick or die.

Today the whole world is passing through the period of globalisation and the sick industries have no place in today's world economy, for the supporter of the globalisations—be they in America or in World Bank or in India—believes that only fittest can survive in today's competition. Exit policy is applicable not only to the employees but also for industries. Only those who can survive in the market, should remain in the market and those who cannot should exit from the market. In such a situation, I find myself unable to understand the justification of this Bank. Another reason, why I do not understand the justification of this Bank is that out of the total number of sick industries, the number of small scale industries is not less from any point of view. Just a few day ago the Finance Minister had placed the economic survey before the

[Shri George Fernandes]

House. According to that survey, the number of sick industries in the country is 2,71,206. Out of which the number of so called small scale sick industries is 2,68,815. In spite of this, the provision made for the industries other than small scale industries i.e. medium and larger ones, is to the tune of Rs. 309 crore only whereas they number only 1,919. The amount of loan borrowed by these industries, which are sick according to your economic survey, from the Bank is 13,739 crore. The recovery of this amount seems very very difficult. This is only 3 percent of the total amount earmarked for these sick industries. In another words, out of this Rs. 13,739 crore, only a sum of Rs. 3,547 crore has been given for the small scale industries which are totalling to 2,68,815 in number. Likewise the amount of loan given to the 1,919 medium and larger industries is only Rs. 8,739 crore. Here is the requirement of thousands of crore of Rupees but you are talking of only three hundred or five hundred crores of rupees. You are having a set-up for this purpose for the last thirteen years which itself is in the state of sickness. If you want to give it a new name in order to get your purpose served and you are doing this exercise for the sake of your own people then I fail to understand the justification thereof.

In view of this I subscribe to the views expressed by my colleagues that this Bill be referred to the standing committee. It is necessary to send it to the committee where we may hold a full-fledged discussion on it. After that the House will take a decision thereon. But if you are determined to set-up a new company and want it to drive us towards destruction through your policies then it is upto you...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMSAGAR (Barabanki) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw your attention towards a matter of urgent public importance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you want to say something in this respect.

SHRI RAMSAGAR : No, Sir, it is a matter of urgent public importance which has taken place today itself...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is that?

SHRI RAMSAGAR : Sir, the sugarcane growing farmers in Uttar Pradesh are getting the lowest support price of their crop in the whole country...*(Interruptions)* The Government did not take notice thereof due to which they are sitting on *Dharana*...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I want to make only this much request to you that you should give some direction to the Government and ask it to find out some solution to their problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are a senior member of this House. You cannot give direction to the Government and you know it very well. If you want to raise this matter, you should meet the hon'ble speaker or raise this matter during Zero Hour or sometime else.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Members for the views expressed by them.

Normally, I would have responded to the suggestion made by some hon. Members that the Bill should go to a Standing Committee. But, that is not necessary in the background of this Bill. As Shri Chitta Basu said, this is a promise made in the Budget Speech of July, 1996 and everyone welcomed the conversion of the IRBI into a full-fledged developmental institution and in fact, Member after Member from West Bengal and the North-East came up to me and said, 'Please do that very soon'. I have some regret that I could not do it between July and December. When we were ready with the Bill, we could not have legislative time and therefore we had to make an Ordinance and I am coming forward before the House.

I do not see why one should read into the Bill some hidden agenda or some mysterious provisions. This Bill follows the pattern of the earlier Bills where other institutions have been converted into full-fledged developmental financial institutions.

The history of the IRBI is well-known to everybody. The IRBI was started at a time when it was necessary to have a reconstruction bank to revive sick units. But, as I said in my opening statement, most of the functions of reviving sick units are now vested in the BIFR. And BIFR uses a number of agencies including the IRBI to revive sick units. Times have, therefore, changed. The context has changed. I have also to note with some sense of regret that those who speak from that part of the country continue to labour under the impression that the units will be sick in that part of the country.

A friend from Berhampur said that there was only one mill in his district and that even that was sick. No industry is coming up there. I think the real question we should ask is : Why is no industry coming to that district? What is it in the climate in that district which prevents new industries from being located? Why has that one mill become sick? Therefore, the question to be asked is not that we will continue to live decade after decade in an atmosphere of sick industries. The questions to ask ourselves are : Why has the industry become sick? How do we get on to the path of development and growth? After all, many districts in this country have flourished. Travelling

down from Mumbai to Pune, we will find a large number of districts where industries are flourishing. Travelling down from Chennai to Bangalore, we will find that industries are flourishing.

You travel from Hyderabad to Medak, Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada areas, you will find that industries are flourishing. Therefore, it is not enough to say that we are sick and we will remain sick. We must have a company which reconstructs the sick companies. We must put all that behind us. We must get on to a stage where new companies will come, new industries will come, new employment will be created and new funds will flow.

What am I doing, Sir? All I am doing is that in the context in which IRBI was founded, I, proposed it to become a full-fledged development financial institution like the IDBI, the ICICI and the IFCI. If I had made this offer to start a new company in Bangalore or Hyderabad, they would have grabbed at that opportunity. I do not know why people from Bengal feel so reluctant in supporting this Bill.

SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Mr. Finance Minister, we are not reluctant to support this Bill. We are taking this Bill very seriously. What you have kindly mentioned is that we are busy to see how the sick units can survive. But I will tell you one thing. If you do not give an opportunity to the sick units for their revival, and by giving financial assistance only to the new companies, do you think that those companies will flourish? You know the history of my State. The industries started since the British regime. Do you want to make them scrap?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : You made your point. I am answering that. Therefore, what we need now is a full-fledged development financial institution which will perform all the functions which are being performed by the IDBI, the IFCI and the ICICI. I think there is an important role for such an institution in Calcutta. Given the importance of Calcutta, its location and its capacity to serve the entire North-East, I think, an institution of this kind should be located in that part of the country.

Now, what will this institution do in terms of what it has done in the past? So far, in 45 BIFR cases, the IRBI had been helping in the revival. In 18 cases, the IRBI was the lead operating agency, and in 27 cases, someone else was the operating agency but the IRBI was the funding agency. Now, let me make it very clear that whatever portfolio of sick units is now on the files of the IRBI, they will continue to be on the files of the new IRBI. The IRBI will continue to be either the operating agency or the funding agency in order to help the revival of those sick units. Nothing will go out of the portfolio. But that will not be the sole function of the new company. While revival of the existing units in its portfolio will be an important part

of the company, it will now take up development finance as the main role, namely, to promote new companies and new industries. That should answer your doubt.

Now, questions were raised about this Ordinance. I made it clear that one of the reasons for this is that I want to keep my promise that before 31st March this company should be inaugurated. After the Ordinance was framed, we got the Memorandum and Articles of Association ready. Our application to the Registrar of Company Affairs is ready. We have done all the preparatory work. As soon as this Bill becomes a law, I hope that this company will be inaugurated before 31st March. I invite all of you to join me in Calcutta. We are reconstructing the capital of this company in a particular manner.

SHRI KALPANATH RAI (Ghosi) : You invite all the Parties.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Everybody can come. Why are we doing it in a particular manner? I do not want to get into the details of it. But I have looked into it very carefully. The Cabinet note deals with this. This is the only way in which it can be reconstructed. What we are doing is this. There has been what is known as 'behest lending'. I am not getting into the details of the figures. The 'behest lending' amount will be set off against the outstanding Government of India loans to the IRBI so that the balance sheet will be cleaned up to that extent.

Then, there are outstanding interest and other charges in the 'behest lending' amount which I find are equal to the amount of 'behest lending'.

17.00 hrs.

That will be adjusted against the outstanding Government of India loan balance and the remaining of that will be adjusted by writing-off the IRBI equity to the extent of Rs. 74.30 crore and then converting Rs. 52.25 crore into redeemable preference shares. All this is being done under the advice of CRISIL, the management consultant which was appointed to go into it.

After doing all this, IRBI will not have any further claim against the Government in respect of the outstanding interest. The balance sheet becomes clean; the IRBI can now have access to the capital market both to raise equity capital as well as to raise debt. Without this cleaning up, nobody is going to invest in IRBI and nobody is going to lend a rupee to IRBI. Therefore, the way of cleaning up the balance sheet is the manner in which we have got this off. I am convinced that this is the correct manner in which the balance sheet should be cleaned.

There are some questions about who the NPAs are. I can read out who these NPAs are. I have nothing to hide.

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

These NPA accounts are Bengal Potteries, Containers and Closures Ltd., Dalmia-Dadri Cement, Incheck Tyres, etc. Now what is the point? This is all loan. The companies have become sick for a variety of reasons. Action is being taken. If there is any culpability, action will be taken. But how does it serve my purpose today? My purpose is to get a company going and to start new development in new companies. I have nothing to hide. The whole list is here. I am willing to place it here. The Members can look at the list. There is nothing to hide. My purpose now is to get going. Put the past behind us. The past can be taken care of, but get going and start and develop institutions.

Sir, Rs. 1,000 crore is the authorised capital. We will raise capital by going to the market. Government will, of course, provide some capital. The capital will be raised in the market. Someone mentioned Rs. 6,000 crore or Rs. 5,000 crore. IFCI, I am told, has an authorised capital of Rs. 1,000 crore. Over a period of time, this institution will be built up as IDBI, IFCI and ICICI have been built up.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : IFCI has the smallest authorised capital!

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Rs. 1,000 crore. IDBI has Rs. 6,000 crore as authorised capital.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Incidentally, that is the most efficient development agency.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The mere fact that there is a high authorised capital does not make an institution efficient.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I think, the hon. Minister should indicate that how much the Government is going to contribute to this if the authorised capital is Rs. 1,000 crore.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : First, let the Bill be passed. As I said, Rs. 1,000 crore is the authorised capital, let the Board decide how much it can raise in the market and how much it requires from the Government. All this will be decided by the Board. These are not the matters on which I should simply make ex-cathedra pronouncements.

The point I am making is, that up to Rs. 1,000 crore is the authorised capital and as this institution builds its business and portfolio, we can always go and amend the Memorandum and Articles of Association and increase the authorised capital. In fact, a company structure gives us much greater flexibility than a statutory corporation structure gives.

Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee raised a point about why I am not indicating the authorised capital in the IRBI Act. I have looked into it in greater detail. What I am doing is,

I am introducing Section 4(A) in the IRBI Act, the Act which is being repealed now. I am introducing it in that Act to enable me to reduce the capital to do all the things that I mentioned just a little while ago. That Section will die the moment this repealed Bill is passed.

Therefore, the reduction of capital will take place by amending the Act to be repealed. The authorised capital will come in the Memorandum and Articles of Association. Rs. 1,000 crore is being provided and as and when more capital is to be infused, Government will infuse more capital into the company.

My submission is that there is no mystery about this Bill, it is a simple bill intended to create a developing situation. I would urge all the hon. Members to join in passing this Bill quickly.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, when this Bill was introduced in this House, a lot of objections were raised from Members of our party, especially Members from West Bengal. They were apprehensive of certain things. Most of the points have been cleared by the hon. Minister, but from my experience what we have seen and which he has also explained is that when the BIFR recommends cases to various banking institutions including IRBI, these are not adhered to.

Several Members have tried to raise the issue of Bengal Potteries in this House time and again but it has not been done. The apprehension is that after this new designated agenda has been given to this IRBI to start new industries in Chennai, Visakhapatnam and all these places, which the hon. Minister has said, the sick industries in West Bengal would be neglected...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : They would not be neglected.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Wherever it is possible, it should be rehabilitated and it should be done. That is the assurance which he had given. I hope that he would not give an assurance like one of those Ministers and he will keep it. He should not forget it afterwards...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Please permit me to say that in 1991 it was provided that of the total advances henceforward 60 per cent would be allotted for new industries and 40 per cent would be devoted to...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, that cannot be done...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : In 1991 it had been done. The Government had permitted them to invest

60 per cent of their funds. In 1991 it had been done...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : What will they do after that?
...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : This had already been done not only for financing sick industries but also for others. This had already been done in 1991. That is what I am reminding the Finance Minister of.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am happy that he has listened to some of our suggestions and, of course, they might have been his own suggestions, I do not know; it may be his idea also. I wish to give his credit for that.

Sir, we have been facing a serious problem because of the non-availability of funds for new industries and I have been pestering him...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You are the Chairman of the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Therefore, I have come to know about it. I personally faced this problem because many units were unable to take up because of the non-availability of funds. There is a liquidity crunch in the country. He knows about it; may be his creation also.

As a matter of fact, after his last Budget Speech, on the next day I wrote to him a letter that infrastructure development companies should be located in Calcutta. I do not mind Chennai getting the priority for obvious reasons ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The IRBI got Calcutta ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is good that the IRBI got Calcutta. I said, 'Do not keep it as a sick company'. It has become itself a sick company. Therefore, to revive it, it is necessary to inject funds; make it a funding company. I am glad that it has been done but there has been several doubts and I wrote to him giving certain suggestions. I can disclose them here. The suggestions came from people who were concerned in the industry, in the Chambers of Commerce and in the Bank itself. These suggestions have been by and large accepted by him. Therefore, what we say is that—he has assured it—along with the improvement of helping the sick industries, there will be sufficient amount made available. I am requesting him to bring a new culture. I had given him numerous instances as to how IDBI, ICICI and IFCI were keeping projects from the Eastern India pending. I am not being chauvinistic about West Bengal only. Whether he agrees or not it does not matter...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Including North-Eastern areas...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I am talking about Eastern and North-Eastern India.

I have no doubt that in spite of Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev, there are some projects in the North-East India.

I heard him on the TV—he is saying that I was not here—talking about Mumbai to Pune, Chennai to Bangalore, Hyderabad to Medak, etc.

Kindly find out what has been the amount of the fund made available.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : That is why I said that we should have this. I said it in my answer.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is good. It is a little late realisation. Therefore, just do not compare and contrast. Therefore, we can assure the hon. Minister here, in the hon. House that if there is a proper funding agency, then, there will be no dearth of industrial units.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has already said it before your arrival here.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I said that, you have not listened.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What I am saying is that it has to be a functional one.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : He is reinforcing his point

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It has to be a functional one. There will be a proper dedicated approach. This is what we want. Let the Minister assure that. I know there are officers in the new IRBI who are willing to do it provided that push is there from North Block, provided there is a proper push and proper attitude is taken by the North Block. Therefore, I am requesting the hon. Minister. He is having a lot of goodwill and I am sure on the 31st March, in spite of certain noises here and there, he will be welcomed when he goes there. He says that he will invite the Chief Minister. He said that yesterday to me. I do not know whether he gives an invitation to me or not. I wish him everything and every good but let him clearly endorse that there would be no dearth of funds for proper projects in that part of the country Eastern and North-Eastern India. I want that assurance from him.

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (Calcutta North-West) : The IRBI, during these years, was helping the sick industry in West Bengal and the region near about that. It has developed certain technical personnel and technical expertise which is of very importance. But unfortunately,

[Shri Debi Prasad Pal]

the IRBI could not function properly and successfully because of dearth of funds and I would appeal to the hon. Finance Minister that if the IRBI is given sufficient funds, the technical expertise which it has developed during these years of helping the sick industry might go a long way in the revival of the sick industry in West Bengal and also in the near about neighbouring region. The only difficulty today is that the IRBI is not funded sufficiently and due to paucity of capital, there cannot be sufficient amount of encouragement to the sick industry. Otherwise, the technical expertise, the technical personnel which IRBI has developed during these years are certainly of commendable significance. I would, therefore, appeal to the Finance Minister not to destroy but to strengthen the IRBI by giving them sufficient amount of funds.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Pal, he has already stated that in his reply.

[Translation]

Please be brief.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think I am entitled to express my opinion. I have to say something for which I require your patronage. As I have said earlier, the tendency of promulgating the ordinances so frequently is not a good sign on the part of the Government. Whatever may be the purpose—good or bad—for promulgating an ordinance but, in my view, it is not proper. This ordinance was promulgated on 24th January and just after two days on the 26th January, the country was going to celebrate the Republic Day. This session was also likely to start. I would say that there are 13 constituents of this Government and 13 ordinances have been promulgated by this Government. When you people used to sit in this side, you also used to criticise this tendency of promulgating an ordinance. But now you are supporting it. Therefore, there should be at least some difference between your saying and doing.

[English]

There should be no difference between saying and doing. That is why, I am requesting them through you, Sir.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, another thing which I want to say is that just now hon'ble Shri Chidambaram ji has said something in his reply which gives me an impression as if he is turning a blind eye to the truth. Though he wants to know as to why the industries in West Bengal and North East are sick but he is not venturing to explore the bottom of the truth. My submission is that you can convert the

IRBI into a company and extend the financial assistance for revival of the sick industries but you will get nothing unless you put a check on strikes, Gheraos and stoppage of work. Demand your right, we do support it but as the 'Bhartiya Majdoor Sangh' says, 'Rashtra Hit Mein Karna Kam, Kam ke Badle Lenge Poora Dam' Sangh' says, (we will work in the interest of the nation but we will get full price in lieu thereof)...(Interruptions) I saw people in Calcutta, West Bengal shouting slogans like "Chahe Jo Majboori Ho, Hamari Mange Poori Hon," which means they will not work unless you fulfill their demands. If they do not work like this and go on getting assistance from IRBI in the name of sick industries then what will be the net result? What else will happen if these industries do not become sick? Our colleague have referred to the mismanagement prevailing in these sick industries which is, to some extent, correct. But apart from this, other people are also responsible for their sickness.

Through you, I would like to say to the constituent parties of the Government that when a decision has already been taken to set up the headquarters of this bank in Bengal, all the sick units in the country should be revived as well. It would be very good if our public undertakings start earning profits but it seems as if this Government wishes to set up the headquarters of Industrial Reconstruction Bank in Calcutta under the pressure of its supporters viz. CPI and CPM...(Interruptions). Sir, I have a right to put forth my views as it is me who moved the statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of this Bill and I seek your patronage in making my point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Be brief.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, some people are sidelining the main issue. I want all the evils to be removed from the country. Now the process of privatisation, liberalisation and globalisation has been started on our country which would invariably give rise to a state of competition in case of all the commodities but...(Interruptions). I am expressing my viewpoint and I have a right to do so...(Interruptions).

That is what I am saying. Big monopolists such as Tata and Birla, oppose it...(Interruptions). But due to hard work put in by the people working there and because of their progressive attitude, every concern starts making profits. On the other hand, there are so many officials and such a large contingent of manpower in our public undertakings, still they run in losses. I would like to state the reasons thereof because recently when I visited Gorakhpur...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please come to the point. More than two hours have been taken for undertaking discussion on this Bill.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : I would like to tell you about FCI Gorakhpur. That unit was lying closed for six months and two three years might have elapsed by now but its employees were drawing salaries regularly whereas no efforts were being made for its revival. If all this continues in the same manner, the situation in the country will remain static which will prompt me to say—

"Nikale hain kahan jaane ke liye,
pahuchenge kahan yeh maloom nahin,
In raahon mein bhatakane waalon ko
manjil ki disha maloom nahin."

Thereafter the situation will become incurable.

"marj badhta gaya jyon-jyon dawa ki."

MR. CHAIRMAN : You keep on deviating from the subject. Sometimes you mention Gorakhpur and sometimes you mention something else. Please speak on the Bill.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Charirman, Sir, you are not accepting the proposal of referring the matter to the Standing Committee. My colleagues had proposed that this Bill should be referred to the Standing Committee. They had also proposed to discuss it on some other forum. Through you, I would like to say that I oppose this move to get the sanction of the Parliament for writing off certain amount of Industrial Reconstruction Bank. I am also against the move to convert an amount of Rs. 52.25 crore of equity share capital of the bank into redeemable shares carrying dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum redeemable at par on expiry of ten year. The Government has moved this Bill in order to write of a huge amount and you wish to have the parliamentary sanction for it. Hence I oppose the Industrial Reconstruction Bank Bill presented in the House and move my Resolution in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not you wish to withdraw your Resolution?

[English]

Are you withdrawing the Resolution?

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : No.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House disapproves of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 7 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 24 , 1997."

The motion was negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the transfer and vesting of the undertakings of the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India to and in the Company to be formed and registered as a Company under the Companies Act, 1956, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto and also to repeal the Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India Act, 1984, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up Clause by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That Clauses 2 to 15 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 15 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHARIMAN : The question is :

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

17.22 hrs.

[English]

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL
OF THE DEPOSITORIES RELATED LAWS
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE

AND

DEPOSITORIES RELATED LAWS
(AMENDMENT) BILL

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House shall now take up item

Nos. 9 and 10 together. The time allotted for this is one hour.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Hon'ble Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Depositories Related laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 5 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 15, 1997."

I rise to oppose the Depositories Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997 (No. 5 of 1997) promulgated by the President. You know that what is happening here is that Ordinance favouring a particular party are issued. I have pointed out a number of times in the House that it is not proper to promulgate ordinances time and again. The ordinance promulgated now was introduced earlier also. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister and tell him that this Ordinance was introduced on September 20, 1995 and it has already been discussed in the House.

17.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

What type of lacunae have been found and what are the difficulties that came in its implementation? These things should be mentioned.

[Translation]

Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at that time also I had raised this point and even now I want to say that the statement of objects and Reasons does not mention the need to move the Depository Bill and benefits likely to accrue after its implementation. I had stated earlier also that it would not be proper to add a new section to Depositories related laws. I request you to refer it to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance. That committee should take it up for consideration section by section and I feel that it would be proper to take it up in the House only after the Committee has gone through it.

Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir it is also not stated in the statement of objects and reasons as to what would be the consequent advantages and disadvantages. That should have been mentioned. Thirdly.

[English]

This Bill provides protection to depositors and to check

wrong practices prevailing earlier as has been mentioned in various recommendations of the JPC.

[Translation]

The Government has introduced such an amendment in order to implement the various recommendations of the JPC and this is the concept behind the Depository Bill. In a way, this is rather a novel idea. Hence my submission is that.

[English]

It would be made because small investors want protection and capital market should also function smoothly. So my first point is that who will make arrangements for it?

[Translation]

Who will be the depository? This is my fourth point and fifthly, I would like to say.

[English]

How investors will be given protection and capital market be controlled? Who will be given privilege of introducing depositories?

[Translation]

Who will decide as to who is to conduct the depositories. In order to decide this issue a RBI committee should be set up comprising of competent officers who will take a decision in this regard. Further more it does not mention anything about the certifying authority. There should be a capital base of one hundred crore rupees. No provision has been made in it for audit. There should be a provision for audit. It does not mention as to who is to conduct and audit.

[English]

It is necessary because in the absence of an audit irregularities and frauds are committed in mutual funds and Nationalised Banks.

[Translation]

In the end, I would like to submit.

[English]

Who will bear the losses incurred due to the fraud or scam during the transactions of depositories? Or will the company bear the losses? What would be the charges of services rendered by it?

[Translation]

This bill does not mention anything about all these

points. That is why I am opposing the ordinance. I would like to request Hon. Minister not to get it passed in haste. First it should be referred to the select Committee of Finance. The Committee should take into consideration the recommendations. Thereafter this Bill should be introduced.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, such had been the tendency of the Government promulgating ordinances that they used to criticise such moves when they were in the opposition. Now that these 40 people have formed a Government they have forgotten their duties and responsibilities. Today they will move this ordinance, tomorrow they may move another 13 ordinances. Hence now that they have moved to the other side, all those sitting on those benches originally from opposition parties should not forget their earlier stand on the subject and they should not move this ordinance. It would be better to refer all these points to the Select Committee of Finance. Thereafter, a bill should be introduced. I feel that these were the points which I wished to raise. I thank you very much for having given me the time.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Companies Act, 1956, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 and the Depositories Act, 1996, be taken into consideration."

Sir, you may remember that the Depositories Bill was passed by this House and the National Securities Depository Limited, the first depository, came into being on the 8th of November, 1996. After the depository was commenced, we discovered that there were some operational difficulties and these are sought to be removed by this amending Bill.

In fact, one difficulty was pointed out even during the debate, on the last occasion, by an hon. Member of the Rajya Sabha. When he pointed out that as worded, Section 9(2) had a lacuna and that lacuna be corrected, I told him that it appeared to me that there was a lacuna, but asked him to allow me to pass that Bill so that the depository might come into being and I would amend it at the first opportunity. One of the amendments I am bringing is to correct a lacuna which was pointed out to me by an hon. Member of the Rajya Sabha.

Secondly, as a result of the amendments made to the Companies Act and the Depositories Act, the shares are now freely transferable. But then, it was brought to our notice that as the section stands, if a company perversely refuses to transfer or pass an order, there is no remedy to the investor. Therefore, it is necessary to provide a remedy to the investor against the company which refuses to pass an order of transfer when an application for transfer is made. Now, that is also being provided.

Then Sir, the Stamp Act does not apply to shares of companies dealt with by the depositories. The reasons are obvious. The depository deals with dematerialised shares. There is no scrip. The question of the Stamp Act does not arise as the Act only refers to shares of companies. Now UTI, SBI, subsidiaries of SBI and public sector banks want to join the depository. In their case, since the word 'company' does not include statutory corporations, it was pointed out to us that the exemption from the Stamp Act would not apply and unless an amendment is made exempting their scrips also from the Stamp Act, the Stamp Act will be attracted. So, the provisions that I am making today in the amending Bill are purely cosequential amending provision in order to remove some anomalies in the Act and to make the working of the depository more efficient and effective. There is no substantive change in the law. As a result of experience gained in the last three or four months, after the depository came into being, we think that these amendments are necessary. The Ministry of Law has looked into it and is satisfied that these amendments are necessary.

I would request the hon. Members to cooperate and pass this Bill. The Ordinance was passed because the depository had already come into being and we could not allow these anomalies to remain on the Statute Book. Therefore, the Ordinance was passed. We are coming here at the first opportunity to replace this Ordinance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motions moved :

"That this House disapproves of the Depositories Related Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1997 (No. 5 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 15, 1997."

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Companies Act, 1956, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 and the Depositories Act, 1996, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat cannot have any objection to this Bill.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to welcome this Bill. Just now Hon'ble Finance Minister had presented Depositories Related Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1997. This bill was meant to protect the interests of investors, companies and share holders but some legal loopholes were left uncapped therein. There is a proverb that "Haste makes waste". "Late but not the loose". Earlier at the time of moving the Bill and formalation of Government also I had stated that the Depositories Act...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : As haste makes waste, hence we will delay your work.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : The proverb goes like this—"look before you leap" which means that one should think before leaping forward. At that time I had requested that it should be referred to the Standing Committee first. This bill was initially introduced in 1996. When the very first depository of the country viz. National Security Depository Limited (NSDL) came into being. When this Bill was introduced earlier, I had stated that a comprehensive bill should be brought in the House after thorough study but at that time no body paid any attention to it. Consequently a need to make amendment was felt. This bill is being moved in order to further amend Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the State Bank of India Act, 1955 the Companies Act, 1956, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Act, 1970, the Banking Companies Act, 1980, the Depositories Act, 1996. It clearly shows that in the earlier bill, the interests of small investors and shareholders of the company were safeguarded but the corporate bodies were in no way benefitted therefrom. The unit Trust of India, the State Bank of India and the Industrial Development Bank of India also wanted to be benefitted by it and they were also desirous of being covered under it as they were also dealing in shares. Hence we welcome this Bill as it has been introduced for a good cause.

But I would also like to add that Gandhiji used to say that when the goal or the objective is good, the means adopted to achieve it should also be good. But now this ordinance has been promulgated by the orders of the President. If the Parliament session was going to commence from 20th February nothing untoward should

have happened during these 15-20 days. Hence, the Government should have waited for a while. But they also have the same tendency. Whoever comes into power does not remain unaffected by its evils. Hence, I denounce the tendency of promulgating ordinances in such a manner but then this Bill has been introduced in order to remove a legal lacunae, as has been stated also.

[English]

"In order to remove certain legal lacunae, it was proposed to amend the Depositories Act, 1996, the Companies Act, 1956, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964..."

[Translation]

Just now, a Bill seeking amendment pertaining to Industrial Reconstruction Bank Act has been passed and it has been registered as a company. Will hereafter, this be fool-proof and not plagued with any legal lacuna? Has its name been notified in the Ordinance. It has become a limited company an investment company, hence its nomenclature should be changed just like Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India. Whether no lacunae will be left therein? Hence there is a need to consider this issue seriously. The Government want to get this Bill passed. It is written herein that it would be known as Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India. This Bill has been passed through Ordinance and the nomenclature has been changed through the Act and this name should be included therein. I feel that attention should be paid to this legal aspect and instructions should be issued in this regard.

All the countries of the world are now well connected and process of liberalisation is going on. Trade and settlement system in changing the depositories are working successfully in the developing nations from the point of view of trading activities. Provision should be made from auditing in order to run depositories successfully in our country. There is a need to exercise extreme caution so that common men and small investors desirous of depositing their money do not suffer losses. They should not fall prey to fraudulent persons. I would like to submit that people like Harshad Mehta are still roaming freely and have not been convicted. Fluctuations are caused in prices of shares due to such elements. Hence Hon'ble Minister should give an assurance that the common man will not fall victim to frauds and that the interests of shareholders will be safeguarded. The Government has set up SEBI and has also framed rules and regulations pertaining to stock exchanges for its regulation. After taking all these steps, the share market in India should become strong. The money invested in shares should be safeguarded and more investment should be attracted. The Government should pay attention towards all these issues.

I would like to reiterate that since Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India has become a company now, hence it would be better if its name is also changed.

DR. SHAFIUR RAHMAN BARQ (Moradabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your notice that Shri Rajesh Ranjan is sitting at the main gate of the Parliament on a fast.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Alright. Please sit down. Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : Sir, yesterday, of course, I opposed the Ordinance because when Parliament is in session, Ordinances should not be issued. So, I am not going to repeat the same thing today.

This Bill was passed earlier in the year 1996 but it could not be passed in the Rajya Sabha. That is why, this Bill has been brought to the Lok Sabha. I do not think there are too many lacunae here. So, I rise to support this Bill. I think the Government's intention is to increase the share market and capital market as also to invest more money especially through depositories and through securities. They are going to register their names, their particulars, their company's name and everything through this Bill.

This is the good side of this Bill. But there are some lacunae in clause 9 of the Bill. What Shri Chidambaram said was that after section 82 of the Companies Act, a new section 83 shall be inserted, according to which, each share in a company having a share capital shall be distinguished by its appropriate number. I do not know, what is the meaning of this 'appropriate number'.

I only want to say two or three things here. Now-a-days, a parallel economy is going on in our country. Even from the Vohra Report, you will find that one section of Mafia gangsters, one section of politicians and one section of the administration are running a parallel economy in our country. In order to control and check this parallel economy, the Government has to be assertive.

There are some chit companies which are committing frauds. They should not take advantage of this Bill. Taking advantage of this Bill, they will register under different names. I have seen one man having ten or fifteen companies. They are either doing the promoting work or contracting work or they have set up some tourism industry. That way, one man is having ten or fifteen companies. This type of men may misuse the law.

When you are going to pass this law—it is a good law—you have to take some precautions so that people

should not deposit money under *benami* names. I am specially interested in the individuals because these individuals keep their money in the custody of Government agencies like the UTI, Life Insurance Corporation, State Bank and others. They should not be harassed and their money should be protected properly.

My request to the Government is that they must monitor and see whether the work is going on properly or not. The Government has to ensure that the Register is maintained properly at the central headquarters of the bank. They must see whether that Register is being maintained properly or not. The common people should not be harassed in respect of their hard-earned money.

I welcome this Bill and I support this Bill. At the same time, I request the Government to stop this parallel economy. The parallel economy may destroy the economy of the country. It may not harm any individual but it will harm the country. We want that our country should be developed through these types of laws.

SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY (Burdwan) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill with certain reservations and definite anguish. The anguish is because in the original Depositories Bill, section 8(A) of the Stamp Act was introduced, and section 8(A) of the Stamp Act provides that no stamp duty shall be leviable for certain types of transfers contained in clauses a and b. Those transfers are through the depositories. If 'beneficial owners', which is a phrase used for the first time in this Act, means nothing more than the holder of the scrip, transfer his shares to another beneficial owner, which was an ordinary transaction in the capital market, the stamp duty that has to be paid was on the basis of *ad valorem* rate of purchase price. It has now been totally abolished if the transfer takes place through the depository.

Now, in case of a transaction between the depository and the issuer, which means the company or the statutory corporation or a mutual fund, the only duty that will be assessable, and how it has not been mentioned, is on the value of the transfer the issuer makes.

It means the face value of the shares. It is well known that the transactions that take place in the secondary market, the value of the shares are sometimes 400 times more than the face value and the stamp duty that was realised which went as a revenue to the State Governments, was to the extent of the purchase price of that transaction. Now, only on the face value, the issuer will give stamp duty and we do not know what duty because it has not been mentioned how the duty will be assessed, whether it is *ad valorem* or what is the rate of the duty. The loss to the State Government of this account will be tremendous. Nowhere is it mentioned and it is possibly

[Shri Balai Chandra Ray]

unlikely to be mentioned in a Bill of this nature, how the distribution of the duty that will be realised will be made. The result is that first of all do not demand from the purchasers of valuable securities any stamp duty or any duty, while on ordinary transactions in land of small amount, duties have to be paid. Even a farmer has to pay stamp duty for transfer and in the share market in the transfer of shares, stamp duty was introduced with that view that crores of rupees transactions take place daily. If it can be taxed by way of duty or in any other form even, a fringe benefit can be bestowed to the State Governments by way of additional collection of revenue. It has been obliterated in the types of transfers in Clauses 'e' and 'd'. And in Clauses 'a' and 'b', only a small quantum of duty has been fixed.

This is understandable. If one adds to the depositories, transfer of shares is not liable to pay at all. For beneficial owner, a transfer is not liable in any way to be charged with duty, call it stamp duty or any other duty. But if one is outside the depository, a beneficial owner, at that time he will be only the owner of the share and if he transfers the share from 'a' to 'b', stamp duty has to be paid. This may be an encouragement to the depositories to come and operate in the capital market. But it is too early to assess subjectively how the depositories will ultimately be able to function. In anticipation that the depositories will function in such a way that it will encourage quick transfer of shares, the entire duty has been abolished in all types of transfer from beneficial owner to beneficial owner via the depository. This will harm the State revenue and this will only encourage the depositories and new corporates in the name of depositories will come now.

Secondly, it has to be noticed that the amendment, not only as Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat has said, is incomplete, but far less is taken care of what is expected of the Government to take note of.

Kindly consider one amendment which has not come. The registered owner of a share, passing through the depository, is the depository. But he, under Section 10, is having no voting rights. At the same time, the beneficial owner, the shareholder, is also not having a voting right.

Therefore, the companies, hereafter, will be able to eliminate a volume of shareholders, a large number of them, from voting in company meetings and the result will be disastrous. Neither the depository has a right to vote nor the beneficial owner shall have a right to vote.

Again, a host of amendments have been brought to the Companies Act, to the Banking Companies Act and so on with only one purpose. Although the amendments are many, the object is one. The object is to see that the companies maintain a register of shareholders. These are

the registers of shareholders whose names are registered with the company. That is done under the Banking Companies Act, the Companies Act and the other Acts which have been mentioned in Schedule-II after the Stamp Tax and all that... In this register, the name of the depository shall be entered under Section 6(2) saying that the depository shall be the registered shareholder. Now, the company shall maintain only that register and the depository shall maintain another register which shall be of the names of the beneficial owners. Now, a provision has been made by the amendment that this shall be deemed to be the register with the companies by amending all those provisions. It has possibly escaped the notice. By a deeming provision, the register which is really existing cannot be obliterated. Only when there was no register, by a deeming provision, a register could have been brought into existence. But what has been done? A different register is maintained but the registered owner is the depository and by the deeming provision, the beneficial owner also becomes a registered owner. It is a situation which again will only involve complications.

What I was wanting to draw the attention of the Finance Minister was that a more comprehensive amendment should have been brought in with an idea not to take out of the coffers of the State Governments substantial amounts of revenue. If it is done, compensatory amounts have to be given by the Central Government. The stamp duty is one of the major sources of income of the State Governments. If the stamp duty is taken out and compensatory amount is not given, the States would suffer. It should not be forgotten that the State Governments have very limited resources, very limited scope of unearthing revenue. Therefore, that is one aspect to which I am drawing the attention of the Finance Minister

I am also emphasising that the benefit which has been given generally that no stamp duty or no duty shall be leviable on transactions between beneficiaries and beneficiaries through the depository will only help the large manipulators in the capital market. The small investors whose investments are of thousands of rupees or even a lakh of rupees, could have been saved from the stamp duty through the depository. But why do you exclude all? Those who can pay should pay. After all, our Preamble still says that we have conceived of a socialistic pattern of economy in this country. Can we liberalise in such a way, can we provide freedom of exclusion of duty in such a way that one and all, the big manipulators will escape and the small investors who may not even dare to go to the depository may or may not get the benefit? At least, this amendment should have been carefully thought of. I think a further amendment will be necessary so that we know what is the rate of duty that will be charged. But that is nowhere mentioned. What will be the apportionment of

the duty? How far will the depositories be able to function in our country? Let them function properly. Let us hope so. Let the quick transfers of shares take place. But until and unless we find that the depository is so functioning, at least, the laxity of non-payment of duty should not have been given to them. This is a later step which you could have contemplated. But it is too early to give them the benefits that we are offering.

With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, I participated when the original Bill was there. In fact, the original Bill was referred to the Standing Committee. It came *via* the Standing Committee. Primarily, I have a slightly different perception. May be, I will be happy if he is right and I am proved wrong. I seek some clarifications.

It is an enabling amendment in the sense that if it is not provided in the State Bank of India Act that their shares can be listed in the depositories, then there is a problem. Similar is the case for IDBI. That is what has been stated here. But the difficulty we had mentioned at that time was that the foreign institutional investors were praising the Government, that the transfer of shares or share certificate in material form took too much of time. Nobody is sure about it. And there are cases of false share certificates etc. They were pressuring our Government that 'A' Form which is adopted in some of the advanced countries may be introduced in our country also. This was the background in which the Depositories Bill was originally introduced. And then one depository has been opened with the help of certain public sectors like UTI, SBI etc. Now it is an enabling one. But to whom? Who are the people? It is enabling the State Bank of India so that their shares can also be recorded in the depositories and if somebody chooses not to have a physical share certificate, then he can enlist himself in the depository itself. It also enables the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act so that their shares can also be listed in a depository. But the same story is about the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI).

Then comes the amendment to the Banking Companies Act and amendments to the Banking Companies Act, 1980. There are two sets of banks which were nationalised or taken over by these two acts. With the amendment in these two Acts, all those banks are also-enabled and their shares can be listed in a depository register. That is perfectly all right. Since we have passed and welcomed that Depositories Bill, if there is any hindrance in the shareholders' listing their names in the depository, that should be eliminated. But there is a problem. The problem is—perhaps, I have not understood it adequately and I want to be taught on that point—that there is a reference to

UTI also that along with State Bank of India and other banks which were nationalised in 1970 or 1980, this problem is affecting the UTI also. Now I do not see any amendment in the UTI Act. That also has a separate Act and that has been recognised here. But there is no amendment to that Act. I do not understand why this has happened, whether it has been a slip or I have misunderstood the whole thing. Even in his initial introductory remarks the hon. Minister referred to the UTI saying that the UTI has a separate Act.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The UTI has no shares.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : In that case, you have to withdraw a part of your statement from the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

18.00 hrs.

This statement says :

"These securities of statutory bodies like, the Industrial Development Bank of India, Unit Trust of India, State Bank of India and other banks established under the Banking Companies Act 1970..."

If what he says now is correct then this reference is irrelevant.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : What are you reading?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I could read out what you have said but it is the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Statement of Objects and Reasons for the Bill?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Yes.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is six O'Clock. I would like to know the opinion of the House with regard to extending the sitting.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Please take it up tomorrow: Where is the need to pass it in a hurry?

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will extend the sitting of the House till the discussion on this item concluded. Agreed?

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is six O'Clock. Please take it up tomorrow.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJI : Tomorrow is the Private Members' Day...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No other Member is scheduled to speak on the bill only the reply has to be given by Hon'ble Minister.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJI : There would be holiday on 7th and 8th. Tomorrow Rail Budget would be taken up. Tomorrow is also Private Members' Day. So it would be better if we finish it today.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am requesting you to please cooperate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Anyway the time is extended till the discussion is concluded.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is six p.m. Please take it up tomorrow...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Who is objecting Sir?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Members have objection...

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Why are you objecting?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Our party members are also not present. Who will listen to you reply? Please take it up tomorrow after the Question Hour.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : What are you objecting? Everybody has spoken on it. Do not do it for the sake of doing it. Both of you have spoken.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : It is six p.m. Please adjourn the House...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJI : Those who are not present here obviously do not have any interest in it.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Please cooperate...(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : When we are ready to cooperate, in spite of that you are saying like this...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : All right, I am sorry, Please sit down. Please cooperate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, till the discussion is concluded, the time is extended. Agreed.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Just now, I will finish it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, you may continue. But please be brief.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Yes, Sir, I do not want to consume much time. I will be very brief.

As I have said, this is primarily an enabling Bill so that the depositories can function, so that his target of 10 billion dollars materialises through this dematerialisation process. Therefore, I am not objecting to that.

The other point that has been raised by our comrade is about the Indian Stamp Tax. That is very important. I have already spoken to the Finance Minister about the loss to the State because of this. Now, if a share certificate in the material form changes hands, then there is a stamp duty.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Correct.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I am not making any in correction right now.

The only argument I have heard is that since this is not a material one, how and why should there be a stamp duty? The transfer is a book transfer. A register is there in the depository and a particular share certificate numbered, was in the name of somebody; and it is being transferred, on the basis of his advice, to somebody else. So, this transfer is taking place. But I do not agree with the approach of the Finance Minister that in that transfer, it is not possible to impose the stamp duty. It is perfectly possible to have a stamp duty in that transfer also, even if that takes a dematerialised form of transfer.

So, my objection is that all these things are in the form of ordinances. In this case, he has no promise to keep.

In the case of the earlier Bill we understood that he had a promise to keep. But there is no such promise to keep in this case. I do not believe that between the Ordinance and today this depository has gloriously succeeded. It has to succeed; we know that because it is a simpler form. There is absolutely no doubt that there is so much loss of paper work also in the sense that shares

will not have to be printed and transferred, etc. It is simplified. But this leads to a loss of stamp duty to the States. There is nothing else in Chapter-2 of the Amending Bill but to say that there will no stamp duty. That is a loss to the States.

I wanted that since all these questions do arise, it should be referred to the Standing Committee. It is almost in the habit of those who draft the Bill to be rushed into a draft which contains lacunae or even if the intentions are all right, it could be sent to the Standing Committee for modification or share the wisdom of the Standing Committee. However, that was not to be. You have ruled that this need not go to the Standing Committee because of an earlier decision of the Deputy-Speaker. I do not know what is the hurry even today that it cannot be referred to the Committee. Because this is a very simple one also. In any case I want an answer on this particular point. Why is it a must that there should be no stamp duty? Secondly, if it is a must by any kind of logic, then how does he propose to compensate the States?

This is all that I want to raise besides the earlier technical point that I raised about UTI not being mentioned unless it comes under the Companies Act amendment.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the hon. Members for broadly supporting this Amending Bill which is, as I said, to cure the lacunae that were noticed in the operation of the earlier Depositories Act, 1996.

To take the last point first, my friend Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee asked me as to why I am exempting securities in the Depositories Act from the liability to stamp duty. I am not doing it now. It was done by Parliament while passing the Depositories Act. Section 30 of the Act already provides that exemption from stamp duty. The question should have been raised when the main Act was passed. The main Act has been passed, I am not doing anything new now.

The reason is very simple. According to me, the securities must be transferred without any let or hindrance. It is free transferability of the security which makes it an effective instrument of the capital market. The reason for introducing a depository is that we must avoid scrip based trading and switch over to dematerialised form. Having switched over to a dematerialised form, to burden it with another charge known as a stamp duty and to ensure that stamp duty is paid and collected, would only impede the free transferability of the security. That is why Section 30 of the main Act itself exempted securities under depositories from the Stamp Act. If Nirmal Kantiji had any objection he would have raised it at that time.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : We did object to that at that time.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : There must have been a satisfactory answer at that time. Therefore, I think that question does not arise.

About the reference to UTI, the answer is very simple. There is nothing in the UTI Act which prevents UTI from entering a depository. If you will kindly look at the Ordinance, I am amending those Acts which have provisions which prevent that company from entering the depository. The State Bank of India Act, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act are in it. There is no provision in the UTI Act which prevents it from entering a depository. The reference to UTI in the Statement of Objects and Reasons is not in the context of enabling the UTI to enter the depository.

But it is in the context of exempting units of UTI also from the stamp duty. This Bill does two things. One, it helps institutions which cannot enter the depository now to enter the depository and the other is it continues to exempt those services from stamp duty which are now entering it. Units of UTI also would be liable to stamp duty if I had not applied the exemption to units of UTI. That is why the statement refers to UTI.

I would like to submit that these are purely consequential amendments which have been made in order to make the Depositories Act effective. I would request the hon. Members to kindly extend their cooperation and pass this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, what I had stated.

[English]

In that, the first point was this. Who is to make the arrangement for it? How would the investors be given protection and the capital market controlled?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

My second point was that...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please do not repeat all the points.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, who will do the auditing and what would be the capital base? All these questions have not been answered. Hence I request that if Hon'ble Minister gives

(Shri Girdhari Bhargava)

reply to all these question, it is all right. Otherwise he might have introduced this Bill with good intentions but there are people like Harshad Mehta who used to manipulate the share market through certain brokers. However, now I feel that whoever manages an entry in Depositories would get the validity. Hence I think that Hon'ble Minister seems to be in a bit of hurry. I had suggested earlier that it should be referred to the Standing Committee. Now it is up to him to refer it to the Committee. But there are some questions like who will audit the accounts, who will set up depository and who will take the responsibility for fraud. Hon'ble Minister has not replied to all these points. Hence, it would be better if he gives a satisfactory reply.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I will take just one minute. This is regarding his explanation about UTI. The sentence is this. 'The securities of statutory bodies like the Industrial Development Bank of India—in one breath—Unit Trust of India, State Bank of India and other banks established under the Banking Companies Act, etc. could not be dealt in a depository mode.' If I have understood the English, some error has entered into the statement because the reference to units is in that Chapter. It is in Chapter II, Amendment to the Indian Stamp Act where the reference to ownership of units is there. But this sentence says, 'The securities of statutory bodies' and mentions Unit Trust of India in this connection. You have to amend that part of the sentence in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. You kindly see this. Your understanding of English is far superior to mine.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I agree that it could be an error putting Unit Trust of India along with the other five. Unit Trust of India could have been put in a separate sentence because the next sentence makes it very clear that I am amending only the Companies Act, the IDBI Act, the State Bank of India Act, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act and the Banking Companies Act. I should have taken out Unit Trust of India and put it in a separate sentence but my intention is clear. It was perhaps wrong to include it in that sentence.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is there anything that you want to say regarding Shri Bhargava's remarks?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : As regards his points, all I would say is that all these are dealt with in the regulations. When the main Act was passed, I had explained in great detail the controls that will be there on the depositories. Now, regulations have been made known as the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Depositories and Participants) Regulations, 1996. Those regulations have been placed on the Table of the House. I am willing to send him a copy of the regulations. All the

matters that he was referring to are dealt with comprehensively in the regulations.

The regulations will control the function of the depository. Those questions do not arise in the amending Act. Those questions arose when we passed the main Act. I have explained it in great detail about the checks and balances and the controls which are in place in order to ensure that the depositories do not in any way effect the interests of the participants and the share holders. I am willing to send a copy of the regulations made by SEBI. Those regulations contain all the answers to all the issues that you have raised.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I seek the permission of the House to withdraw my statutory resolution.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava be withdrawn?

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Companies Act, 1956, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980 and the Depositories Act, 1996, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 23 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 23 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 1, the 6 Enacting Formula and the long Title Stand Part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

The House now stands adjourned till Eleven a.m. tomorrow.

18.17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 6, 1997/Phalguna 15, 1918 (saka)

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