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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session
(Part I)
(Eleventh Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XVII contains Nos. 1 to 4)

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...
Wednesday, November 19, 1997/Kartika 28, 1919 (Saka)
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 Singh, Shri Khelsai (Sarguja)

Singh, Shri Lakshman (Rajgarh)
 Singh, Maharani Divya (Bharatpur)
 Singh, Shri Mohan (Ferozepur)
 Singh, Shri Nakli (Saharanpur)
 Singh, Shri Prahlad (Seoni)
 Singh, Shri Radha Mohan (Motihari)
 Singh, Shri Raghuvans Prasad (Vaishali)
 Singh, Shri Rajkeshar (Jaunpur)
 Singh, Rajkumari Ratna (Pratapgarh)
 Singh, Shri Rambahadur (Maharajganj)
 Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan (Bhind)
 Singh, Col. Rao Ram (Mahendergarh)
 Singh, Shri Ramashraya Prasad (Jahanabad)
 Singh, Shri Sartaj (Hoshangabad)
 Singh, Shri Satya Deo (Balrampur)
 Singh, Shri Shatrughan Prasad (Balua) (Bihar)
 Singh, Shri Shivraj (Vidhisha)
 Singh, Shri Surender (Bhiwani)
 Singh, Shri Sohanveer (Muzaffarnagar)
 Singh, Shri Th. Chaoba (Inner Manipur)
 Singh, Shri Tilak Raj (Sidhi)
 Singh, Shri Virendra Kumar (Aurangabad)
 Singh Deo, Shri K.P. (Dhenkanal)
 Sinha, Shri Manoj Kumar (Ghaziपुर)
 Sinku, Shri Chitrasen (Singhbhum)
 Siva, Shri P.N. (Pudukkottai)
 Sivaprakasam, Shri D.S.A. (Tirunelveli)
 Sonker, Shri Vidyasagar (Saidpur)
 Soren, Shri Sibu (Dumka)
 Soumya Ranjan, Shri (Bhubaneswar)
 Subhash Chandra, Shri (Bhilwara)
 Sudheeran, Shri V.M. (Alleppey)
 Sukh Ram, Shri (Mandi)

Sultanpuri, Shri K.D. (Shimla)
 Suraj Bhan, Shri (Ambala)
 Surendra Nath, Shri K.V. (Thiruvananthapuram)
 Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil (Adoor)
 Sushil Chandra Shri (Bhopal)
 Swami, Shri I.D. (Karnal)
 Swamy, Shri C. Narayana (Bangalore North)
 Swamy, Shri G. Venkat (Peddapalli)
 Swaraj, Shrimati Sushma (South Delhi)
 Swell, Shri G.G. (Shillong)

T

T. Gopal Krishna, Shri (Kakinada)
 Tadiparthi, Shrimati Sarada (Tenali)
 Tandel, Shri Gopal (Daman & Diu)
 Taslimuddin, Shri (Kishanganj)
 Thakre, Shri Rajabhau (Yavatmal)
 Thammineni, Shri Veerabhadram (Khamam)
 Theertharaman, Shri P. (Dharmapuri)
 Thomas, Shri P.C. (Muvattupuzha)
 Thorat, Shri Sandipan (Pandharpur)
 Tiriya, Kumari Sushila (Mayurbhanj)
 Tiwari, Shri Brij Bhushan (Dumariaganj)
 Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari (East Delhi)
 Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt (Nainital)
 Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand (Hapur)
 Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran (Barrackpore)
 Topno, Kumari Frida (Sundergarh)
 Tripathi, Lt. General Prakash Mani (Deoria)

U

Uboke, Shri Major Singh (Tarantaran)
 Udayappan, Shri S.P. (Ramanathapuram)
 Uma Bharati, Kumari (Khajuraho)
 Upendra, Shri P. (Vijayawada)

V

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari (Lucknow)
 Valyal, Shri Lingaraj (Solapur)
 Varma, Shri Beni Prasad (Kaisarganj)
 Varma, Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh (Jalaun)
 Varma, Shri Chandradev Prasad (Arrah)
 Varma, Shrimati Purnima (Mohanlal Ganj)
 Vedanti, Dr. Ramvilas (Machhalisahar)
 Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra (Beedar)
 Velu, Shri A.M. (Arakkonam)
 Venkatesan, Shri P.R.S. (Cuddalore)
 Venkateswarlu, Dr. U. (Bapatla)
 Venkataraman, Shri T.G. (Tindivanam)
 Venugopal, Shri D. (Tiruppur)
 Verma, Shri Rammurti Singh (Shahjahanpur)
 Verma, Shri R.L.P. (Kodarma)
 Verma, Shri Ratilal Kalidas (Dhandhuka)
 Verma, Prof Rita (Dhanbad)
 Virendra Kumar, Shri (Sagar)
 Vyas, Dr. Girija (Udaipur)

W

Wadiyar, Shri S.D.N.R. (Mysore)
 Wanaga, Shri Chintaman (Dahanu)

Y

Yadav, Shri Anil Kumar (Khagaria)
 Yadav, Shri Chun Chun Prasad (Bhagalpur)
 Yadav, Shri D.P. (Sambhal)
 Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad (Jhanjharpur)
 Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra (Saharasa)
 Yadav, Shri Girdhari (Banka)
 Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad (Godda)
 Yadav, Shri Lal Babu Prasad (Gopalganj)
 Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh (Mainpuri)
 Yadav, Shri Ramakat (Azamgarh)
 Yadav, Shri Ram Kripal (Patna)
 Yadav, Shri Sharad (Madhepura)
 Yadav, Shri Surendra (Khalilabad)
 Yerrannaidu, Shri Kinjarappu (Srikakulam)

Z

Zahedi, Shri Mehboob. (Katwa)

OFFICERS OF THE LOK SABHA

The Speaker

Shri Purno A. Sangma

The Deputy Speaker

Shri Suraj Bhan

Panel of Chairmen

Shri Basu Deb Acharia
Shri P.C. Chacko
Shri Nitish Kumar
Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee
Shri P.M. Sayeed
Col. Rao Ram Singh
Prof. Rita Verma

Secretary-General

Shri S. Gopalan

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Members of the Cabinet

Shri I.K. Gujral	The Prime Minister and also incharge of the Ministries/Departments of Atomic Energy, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and Urban Affairs and Employment; and the other Ministries/Departments not allocated to any other Cabinet Minister or Minister of State (Independent Charge), Viz. Electronics; External Affairs; Jammu and Kashmir Affairs; Ocean Development; Power and Space
Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia	The Minister of Welfare
Shri Beni Prasad Verma	The Minister of Communications
Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya	The Minister of Steel and Minister of Mines
Shri C.M. Ibrahim	The Minister of Civil Aviation
Shri Chaturanan Mishra	The Minister of Agriculture
Shri Indrajit Gupta	The Minister of Home Affairs
Shri Janeshwar Mishra	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas
Shri M. Arunachalam	The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers
Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav	The Minister of Defence
Shri Murasoli Maran	The Minister of Industry
Shri P. Chidambaram	The Minister of Finance
Shri R.L. Jalappa	The Minister of Textiles
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	The Minister of Railways
Shri S. Jaipal Reddy	The Minister of Information and Broadcasting
Shri S.R. Bommai	The Minister of Human Resource Development
Prof. Saifuddin Soz	The Minister of Environment and Forests
Shri Srikanta Jena	The Minister of Tourism and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
Shri T.G. Venkatraman	The Minister of Surface Transport
*Shri Kinjarappu Yerrannaidu	The Minister of Rural Areas and Employment

Ministers of State (Independent Charge)

Dr. Bolla Bulli Ramaiah	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Commerce
Shri Dilip Kumar Ray	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries
Capt. Jai Narayan Prasad Nishad	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources
Shrimati Kanti Singh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Coal
Shri Raghuvans Prasad Singh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Food and Consumer Affairs
Shri Ramakant D. Khalap	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Law and Justice
Dr. U. Venkteswarlu	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment
Shri Sis Ram Ola	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Water Resources
Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour
Shri Yoginder K. Alagh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Science and Technology and Minister of State of the Ministry of Power

Ministers of State

Shrimati Jayanthi Natrajan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
Shrimati Kamla Sinha	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs
Shri Mohd. Maqbool Dar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs
Shri R. Dhanushkodi Athithan	The Minister of State in the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
Shri Muhi Ram Saikia	The Minister of State in the Department of Education in the Ministry of Human Resource Development
Shrimati Ratnamala D. Savanoor	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation
Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Shri Saleem Iqbal Shervani	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs
Shri Satpal Maharaj	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance
Shri S.R. Balasubramaniyan	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
Dr. S. Venugopalachari	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture
Shri T.R. Baalu	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

LOK SABHA DEBATES

VOL. XVIII

FIRST DAY OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF ELEVENTH LOK SABHA

No. 1

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, November 19, 1997/Kartika 28, 1919 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was played

11.02 hrs.

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, I have to inform the House about the demise of Mother Teresa and ten of our esteemed friends, Sarvashri Chitta Basu, N.V.N. Somu, Mahabir Prasad Yadav, P. Ankineedu Prasadaraao, Dharampal Singh Gupta, Satish Agarwal, Pandit Jwala Prasad Jyotishi, Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao, Peter G. Marbaniang and Hardwari Lal.

Mother Teresa was born as Agnes Gouxha Bojaxhiu to Albanian parents on 27th August, 1910 at Skopje in the then Yugoslavia. At the young age of 12, Agnes was already convinced that she had a vocation to religious life. In complete submission to what she recognised as God's will, at the age of eighteen, young Agnes sought admission to the congregation of Loreto nuns who were serving in Bengal. She began her novitiate in Darjeeling where she accepted role as a teacher at Loreto Convent School. It was here, on 24th March, 1931 she took her first vow and the name Theresa after St. Theresa of Lisious. On 24th May, 1937, she took her final vow.

Mother's life was dramatically changed on 10th September, 1946, the 'Inspiration Day' when she heard the call of god. In response to this call, she sought permission of the Roman Congregation to reside outside convent for the purpose of serving the poor and the needy. On 18th August, 1948, Mother laid aside her Loreto habit and she donned her ever familiar white sari with a blue border and a cross on the shoulder that had become her everlasting image.

In 1948, Mother became an Indian citizen. Armed only with her faith and with the power to communicate unlimited love, she began God's work among the poor of Calcutta. She started her mission with earnest zeal, with the opening of a first slum school.

She founded 'Nirmal Hriday' — 'a place of Immaculate Heart', where she and her sister missionaries looked after the dying destitutes in their last days.

With divine love and compassion, Mother established a network of schools, orphanages, leprosy centres, hospitals and relief centres. For half a century she comforted the destitute dying in gutters, sheltered infants abandoned in trash heaps, soothed the putrid ulcers of lepers and gave succour to the insane.

The world honoured her with some of the highest awards for her service to humanity. She became Nobel laureate for peace, Padmashri, Bharath Shrestha, Bharat Ratna and recipient of Jawaharlal Nehru Award, Magsaysay Award for International Understanding and Pope John XXIII Peace Prize.

Mother Teresa breathed her last at Calcutta on 5 September, 1997 at the age of 87 years. She stands canonized in the hearts of millions the world over.

Shri Chitta Basu was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing Barasat Parliamentary Constituency of West Bengal.

Earlier he was a Member of West Bengal Legislative Assembly during 1957-62. He was a Member of Rajya Sabha during 1966-72 and 1985-89. He was elected to Lok Sabha and was a Member of Sixth, Seventh, Ninth and Tenth Lok Sabhas during 1977-84 and 1989-96.

Shri Basu was an ardent follower of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Due to his simple lifestyle, sincerity, keen sense of responsibility, exemplary honesty, integrity, kind behaviour and love for the people, he was endeared to and respected by all. He was honoured with the Best Citizen Award for 1996.

An active social and political worker, Shri Basu was associated with various peasant and trade union organisations in different capacities. He took very keen interest in the debates of Parliament and by dint of his hard work, turned out to be one of the most successful parliamentarians in the country. He was a Member on

the Panel of Chairmen of Lok Sabha and conducted the proceedings of the House with grace and impartiality. He was also a member of various Parliamentary Committees.

A widely travelled person, Shri Basu was a member of the Indian Parliamentary Delegation to Bangladesh, for negotiation on sharing of water between the two countries.

Shri Chitta Basu passed away at Madhupur, Bihar on 5 October, 1997 at the age of 72 years.

The demise of Shri Chitta Basu is a great loss not only to his party or Parliament alone, but to the whole of the nation.

Shri N.V.N. Somu was a sitting Member of Lok Sabha representing Chennai-North Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu. He was Union Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence.

Earlier, he was a Member of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly during 1980-84. He was also a Member of Eighth Lok Sabha during 1984-89.

An advocate by profession, Shri Somu was a well known social and political worker. He was Councilor of the erstwhile Madras Corporation during 1968-73 and also served as Deputy Mayor of Chennai city during 1971-72.

A trade unionist, Shri Somu was the President of Employees' Union of *The Hindu* for several years.

A man of letters, he was Sub-Editor of *Dravidan* a Tamil Weekly during 1953-66.

Shri N.V.N. Somu died at the age of 60 years in tragic circumstances in a helicopter crash on 14 November, 1997 near Lungar in Arunachal Pradesh.

Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav was a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha representing Madhepura Parliamentary Constituency of Bihar during 1984-89.

Earlier he was a Member of Bihar Legislative Assembly during 1967-68. He served his State as Minister for Education and Labour during 1968.

A dedicated political and social worker, he fought against social evils like child marriage and caste system.

A well known educationist, Shri Yadav was the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Patna University during 1983-84.

Shri Mahabir Prasad Yadav passed away on 13 August, 1997 at Mahdepura, Bihar at age of 70 years.

Shri P. Ankineedu Prasadarao was a Member of the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Lok Sabhas representing Ongole and Bapatla Parliamentary Constituencies of Andhra Pradesh during 1971-84.

Earlier, he was a Member of Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1967-71. He was Minister of Commerce in the Andhra Pradesh Government during 1967-71

Shri Ankineedu Prasadarao served as Minister of State in Union Council of Ministers in the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation in 1979.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Prasadarao was an active and able Parliamentarian. He was a member of Consultative Committees for the Ministries of Commerce, External Affairs and Agriculture. He was also a member of joint Select Committees on Indian Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code.

A widely travelled person, Shri Prasadarao was a member of Government Delegation to Inter-Parliamentary Conference held in Japan in 1974.

Shri P. Prasadarao passed away on 27 August, 1997 at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh at the age of 68 years.

Shri Dharampal Singh Gupta was a Member of the Ninth Lok Sabha representing Rajnandgaon Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh during 1989-91.

Earlier, Shri Gupta was a Member of Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly during 1967-72 and 1977-80. He ably served his home State as Cabinet Minister during 1967-72.

An agriculturist by profession, Shri Gupta was a well known political worker. He participated in the freedom struggle.

An active parliamentarian, he was a member of Consultative Committee, Ministry of Steel and Mines in 1990.

Shri Gupta was a renowned social worker and worked for the promotion of education, particularly amongst girls. He was the Chairman of Dayanand Education Society, Durg.

Shri Dharmpal Singh Gupta passed away on 4 September, 1997 at Mumbai at the age of 72 years.

Shri Satish Agarwal was a Member of Sixth and Seventh Lok Sabhas representing Jaipur Parliamentary Constituency of Rajasthan during 1977-84. He was a sitting Member of Rajya Sabha.

Earlier, Shri Agarwal was a Member of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly during 1957-72.

An active social and political worker, and an eminent parliamentarian, Shri Agarwal served as Union Minister of State for Finance during 1977-79. He was a member

of Public Accounts Committee in 1980-81 and later served as its Chairman during 1981-83.

A widely travelled person, Shri Agarwal was a member of Indian Delegation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1971 and Colombo Plan Conference held in Kathmandu 1977, Washington, 1978 and London, 1979. He was a member of the Indian Delegation to Geneva in 1984 and also participated in various other International Conferences.

Shri Satish Agarwal passed away on 10 September, 1997 at Jaipur, Rajasthan at the age of 69 years.

Pandit Jwala Prasad Jyotishi was a Member of the Second and Third Lok Sabhas representing Sagar Parliamentary Constituency of Madhya Pradesh during 1957-67.

Earlier, he was a Member of Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha during 1952-57.

An able parliamentarian, Pandit Jwala Prasad Jyotishi was a member of the Public Accounts Committee, Committee on Petitions, Committee on Subordinate Legislation and other Consultative Committees.

A veteran freedom fighter, he joined the 'Civil Disobedience Movement' in 1930-31 while he was still a student. He also participated in the 'Quit India Movement' in 1942 and suffered imprisonment.

A man of letters, he wrote several articles on social, political and literary topics. His publications include '*Kalrava*', '*Panchjanya*', '*Bhagat Ram*' and '*Aleya Bharat*'. He was the Chief Editor of the Hindi Daily '*Nava Bharat*' and founded the '*Vindhyakeshir*' weekly.

An active social worker, he worked relentlessly for the upliftment of the down-trodden. He was the founder of *Sadachar Pravartak Samiti* and worked with various social organisations for the welfare of the down-trodden.

Pandit Jwala Prasad Jyotishi passed away on 10th September, 1997 at Sagar, Madhya Pradesh at the age of 88 years.

Shri Mandali Venkata Krishna Rao was Member of the Second Lok Sabha representing Machillipatnam Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh during 1957-62.

He was elected as a Member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly in 1972, 1978 and 1983. He served

his State as Minister of Social Welfare and Fisheries, Minister of Education and Cultural Affairs and Minister for Cooperation.

A veteran freedom fighter, Shri Rao actively participated in India's freedom movement and suffered imprisonment.

An active social and political worker, Shri Rao worked hard for the upliftment of the down-trodden. His continuous efforts for the upliftment of the poor resulted in the distribution of '*banjar*' lands among the landless poor.

A man of letters, he was the Editor of the Telugu fortnightly '*Naveenandhra*'.

Shri Rao passed away on 27th September, 1997 at Hyderabad at the age of 70 years.

Shri Peter G. Marbaniang was a Member of the Ninth and the Tenth Lok Sabhas representing Shillong Parliamentary Constituency of Meghalaya during 1989-96.

He was a Member of the present Meghalaya Legislative Assembly and Minister of Social Welfare in the State. Earlier also he had been a Member of the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly during 1972-83 and 1988-89. His outstanding performance as a Minister in Meghalaya during 1975-83 earned him reputation as an able administrator. He adorned the office of Speaker, Meghalaya Legislative Assembly with distinction during 1988-89, when I was the Chief Minister of the State.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Marbaniang served on the Panel of Chairmen of the Lok Sabha and demonstrated his legal acumen and knowledge of rules and regulations with significant impact. He was a member of several parliamentary committees including the Public Accounts Committee, Committee on Public Undertakings, Committee on Transport and Tourism, Business Advisory Committee and General Purposes Committee.

A widely travelled person, Shri Marbaniang went to Canberra as a member of the India Parliamentary Delegation to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held there in 1988. With his broad world view and vision, he was a nationalist to the core.

Shri Peter G. Marbaniang passed away on 29th September, 1997 at Shillong at the age of 58 years. I had the privilege of having him as my teacher and his demise has been a personal loss to me.

Shri Hardwari Lal was a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha representing Rohtak Parliamentary Constituency of Haryana during 1984-89.

Earlier, he was a Member of the Punjab and Haryana Legislative Assemblies during 1962-77. He served as Minister of Education and Planning in the State of Haryana in 1967.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Lal worked as the Chairman of the Flood Advisory Committee, Haryana during 1977-78 and as a member of the Standing Committee of the Association of Indian Universities in 1982.

An active social and political worker, Shri Hardwari Lal was a well known educationist who worked hard for the spread of education. He served as Vice-Chancellor of Kurukshetra University and Maharishi Dayanand University.

A man of letters, he was the Editor of "*Punjab Sentinel*", a weekly, during 1965-66. He published many books, some of them were "*A Chief Ministry Runs Amuck*", "*555 days in jail*" and "*Myth of Law of Parliamentary Privileges*".

A widely travelled person, Shri Lal was a member of the Council of Association of Commonwealth Universities in 1982.

Shri Hardwari Lal passed away on 21 October, 1997 at Chandigarh at the age of 87 years.

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

As the hon. Members are aware, about 30 school children met with an untimely death and about 70 were injured when a school bus carrying them fell into the Yamuna at Wazirabad in North-Delhi on 18 November, 1997. We deeply mourn this tragedy.

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

11.22 hrs.

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

I am also to inform the House that Shri Chitta Basu told me personally on a couple of occasions during his lifetime that if he ever dies during his tenure in Parliament, he would not like the House to adjourn. On the other hand, his soul would be very happy if the Parliament works more. This was confirmed to me in writing by the Forward Bloc Party under the signature of hon. Member

Shri Amar Roy Pradhan. I placed this letter before the meeting of the political parties yesterday and we discussed the matter, and the political parties deeply appreciated his desire.

But since today we are mourning the death of not only Shri Chitta Basu but also of many other hon. Members including the great personality like Mother Teresa and the way Shri N.V.N. Somu had to meet a tragic death, the political parties yesterday decided that House should adjourn as a mark of respect to all the departed souls.

So, the House stands adjourned to meet at 11 o'clock tomorrow.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

PM's visit to Foreign Countries

*1. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the foreign countries visited by the Prime Minister after the Monsoon Session of Parliament, till date;

(b) the leaders with whom Prime Minister had meetings during these foreign trips;

(c) the salient features of each of the agreements/Memoranda of Understanding signed with various countries during this period;

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to India due to these agreements/MoUs;

(e) the stand taken by the Prime Minister on the Kashmir issue during his visits; and

(f) the total expenditure incurred on these visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) :
(a) The Prime Minister visited Tanzania, New York, Italy, Uganda, South Africa, Egypt and Edinburgh after the Monsoon Session of Parliament.

(b) **Tanzania**
President of Tanzania

New York

President of Ukraine
President of the United States of America

Prime Minister of Pakistan
 Prime Minister of Morocco
 Prime Minister of Jamaica
 Secretary General of United Nations
 Prime Minister of Russia
 Vice Prime Minister of China
 Foreign Minister of France
 Foreign Minister of Iran
 UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Italy

President of Italy
 Prime Minister of Italy
 Audience with His Holiness the Pope

Uganda

President of Uganda

South Africa

President of South Africa
 Deputy President of South Africa
 Speaker of the National Assembly
 Foreign Minister
 Defence Minister
 Home Minister
 Justice Minister
 Minister for Mineral & Energy Affairs
 Minister for Finance
 Minister for Posts
 Minister for Public Works
 Prime Minister of Gauteng Province
 Prime Minister of Kwazulu-Natal Province

Egypt

President of Egypt
 Prime Minister of Egypt
 Foreign Minister
 Secretary General of the Arab League

Edinburgh

Prime Minister met over 50 leaders of Commonwealth countries and had bilateral meetings with British Prime Minister, Pakistan Prime Minister, Bangladesh Prime Minister, President of Sri Lanka and also the Prime Minister of Mauritius.

(c) Uganda

An air Services Agreement and Cultural Exchange Programme were signed.

South Africa

- (i) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources,
- (ii) Agreement on Tourism Cooperation,
- (iii) Programme of Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology (agriculture and rural development, basic sciences, energy, health, information sciences, micro-electronics etc.).
- (iv) Terms of Reference of an India-South Africa Commercial Alliance (comprising both Government and business representatives to discuss cooperation on sectoral basis).

Egypt

- (i) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Tourism,
- (ii) Agreement on Mutual Assistance and Cooperation in Customs matters,
- (iii) Executive Programme of Cultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation.

(d) The agreements signed with Uganda and South Africa are expected to increase people-to-people contact, facilitate greater trade and investment and help exploit the complementarity of skills and resources.

2. The agreements signed with Egypt on Cooperation in the Field of Tourism will, (a) simplify procedures concerning tourists travel, (b) encourage activities of travel agents, commercial tour operators, hotel chains and (c) facilitate possibility of undertaking joint ventures in tourism sector. The Agreement on mutual assistance and Cooperation in Customs Matters will help control such Activities which are prejudicial to economic and commercial interests and will assist in the accurate assessment of duties and proper enforcement of custom laws. The Executive Programme of Agricultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation will promote and strengthen people-to-people contact through holding of seminars, book fairs, film festivals and grant of scholarships.

(e) Prime Minister's stand on Kashmir issue during his visits has been the same as stated in the past on the floor of the House; that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union and there can be no compromise over India's sovereignty, territorial integrity and secular unity. PM also outlined India's approach to building friendly relations with Pakistan on the basis of the Shimla Agreement. All the leaders he

spoke to confirmed that they do not seek to mediate on the issue and regard it as a bilateral issue, to be settled by India and Pakistan through peaceful negotiation. With the Pakistan Prime Minister, the subjects of firing along the Line of Control and the on-going Foreign Secretary Level dialogue came up for discussion.

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

Dengue

*2. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the dengue virus has spread in the Capital and other parts of the country during the last six months and claimed many lives;

(b) if so, the total number of persons reported to be affected by dengue virus during the same period in each State and the number of patients who died;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate medical treatment to the patients in the hospitals;

(d) whether the Government are considering to formulate any National Scheme for its treatment and prevention;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the funds likely to be allocated to each State for the implementation of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY) : (a) Dengue virus infection is prevalent in the States of Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. So far 16 deaths due to Dengue/DHF have been reported during 1997.

(b) The State-wise reported incidences and deaths are given in the attached statement.

(c) to (e) Dengue/DHF is a viral disease and there is no specific treatment. However, symptomatic treatment and proper case management are two important approaches for tackling this disease. All Government hospitals have been instructed to admit dengue patients for treatment. Guidelines on case management have also

been provided to all Government hospitals by DGHS. An Action Plan and a contingency Plan for tackling effectively outbreaks of Dengue has been developed by Dte. of National Malaria Eradication Programme and circulated to all States for guidance and adoption. 147 State Health Officials have been trained by the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) in the management and control of dengue.

(f) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Reported Incidence and Deaths due to Dengue/Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever for the Year 1997

S. No.	State	Cases	Deaths
1.	Delhi	271	1
2.	Gujarat	5	0
3.	Haryana	32	0
4.	Karnataka	257	4
5.	Maharashtra	249*	5
6.	Punjab	21	4
7.	Rajasthan	17	1
8.	Uttar Pradesh	9	1
Total :		881	16

*Suspected Dengue Cases.

[English]

New Employment Schemes

*3. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of increasing trend of unemployment in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have launched or propose to launch any special employment scheme in view thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Centrally Sponsored Schemes for employment opportunities have not yielded expected results;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and number of educated and uneducated unemployed youth as at present, State-Wise;

(f) whether the Government propose to encourage labour oriented technology for removing unemployment;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (h) As per National Sample Survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), the unemployment situation reveals down-ward trend during the period 1987-88 to 1993-94; the unemployment rate which was 3.77 per cent in 1987-88 has come down to 2.56 per cent in 1993-94. State-wise educated unemployment rates for the years 1987-88 and 1993-94 is enclosed as Statement.

The approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

STATEMENT

*State-Wise educated unemployment rates (%)
1987-88 & 1993-94*

States/Union Territories	1987-88 Usual Principal Status (UPS)	1993-94 Usual Principal Status (UPS)
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	14.24	9.18
2. Arunachal Pradesh	0.56	5.19
3. Assam	17.64	29.02
4. Bihar	11.30	11.19
5. Goa	—	15.04

	1	2	3
6. Gujarat	5.49	4.54	
7. Haryana	13.69	7.98	
8. Himachal Pradesh	14.23	7.95	
9. Jammu & Kashmir	10.77	7.05	
10. Karnataka	10.60	9.00	
11. Kerala	34.98	25.20	
12. Madhya Pradesh	7.32	9.05	
13. Maharashtra	7.70	7.01	
14. Manipur	10.00	7.92	
15. Meghalaya	1.33	1.80	
16. Mizoram	0.59	6.26	
17. Nagaland	6.81	5.93	
18. Orissa	21.87	17.24	
19. Punjab	10.17	6.02	
20. Rajasthan	7.21	3.75	
21. Sikkim	6.39	4.34	
22. Tamilnadu	14.40	11.80	
23. Tripura	18.82	16.69	
24. Uttar Pradesh	7.20	5.12	
25. West Bengal	15.98	15.16	
26. A & N Islands	7.73	14.76	
27. Chandigarh	9.60	9.50	
28. D & N Haveli	6.36	3.08	
29. Daman & Dia	15.46	3.71	
30. Delhi	4.66	2.10	
31. Lakshadweep	27.55	22.63	
32. Pondicherry	16.54	11.98	
All India	11.86	9.56	

Source : NSSO—43rd(1987-88) & 50th Round (1993-94) Survey.
(Unemployed as percentage of labour force)

Power Finance Corporation

*4. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated an Operational and Financial Action Plan for Ninth Five Year Plan to be persued by Power Finance Corporation and State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed/reviewed the performance of schemes implemented by PFC during the last three years, State-wise, particularly the schemes for Maharashtra;

(d) the details of funds provided to Maharashtra by PFC during the current year for various schemes; and

(e) the details of projects received from Maharashtra for clearance by CEA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The OFAPs are formulated by the State Electricity Boards in consultation with PFC and after carrying out a diagnostic study with the help of the consultant. Once the draft OFAP is prepared, it is discussed and finalised in consultation with PFC. The SEBs get the OFAP approved from the concerned State Government concerned. OFAP being a continuous exercises, it is not prepared specific to a plan period.

(b) The details of the State Electricity Boards which have an accepted OFAP in place with PFC is enclosed as Statement

(c) State-wise schemes financed by Power Finance Corporation are not assessed/reviewed by the Government directly. Ministry of Power and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) review the progress of on-going projects of the States including that of Maharashtra in State-wise meetings on capacity addition programme, transmission & distribution and other issues, including projects financed by PFC and other Financial Institutions. The Projects proposed for PFC funding are sanctioned/monitored/reviewed by the Corporation itself. However, the Government reviews the performance of the Corporation including that of the projects/schemes financed by it through the instrument of monthly report on the working of the Corporation, quarterly performance review meetings and other meetings, from time to time.

(d) Power Finance Corporation has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 535.60 crores to Maharashtra State Electricity Board during 1997-98 (upto 31.10.1997), as per details given below:—

(Rs. in crores)		
Sl. No	Discipline	Amount Sanctioned
1.	R&M	11.20
2.	Capacitor	16.60
3.	Transmission	157.80
4.	Thermal	350.00
Total		535.60

(e) Only one project of Maharashtra i.e. Patalganga combined Cycle Gas-based Power Project is pending techno-economic clearance of Central Electricity Authority.

STATEMENT

Name of the SEBs who have an accepted OFAP in place with PFC.

Sl. No.	Utility's Name	OFAP in Place w.e.f.
1	2	3

STATE ELECTRICITY BOARDS

1.	APSEB*	June, 95
2.	PSEB*	June, 96
3.	MPEB	April, 91
4.	KEB*	January, 97
5.	GEB*	April, 95
6.	MSEB	January, 92
7.	HPSEB	March, 92
8.	TNEB*	October, 97
9.	RSEB*	March, 92
10.	UPSEB	July, 93
11.	HSEB**	June, 97

1	2	3
12.	KSEB	September, 95
13.	WBSEB	April, 96
<i>STATE GENERATING CORPORATIONS</i>		
14.	OPGC	August, 91
15.	WBPDC	February, 92
16.	TVNL	March, 92
17.	BSHPCL	March, 92
18.	DPL	August, 93
19.	KPCL	August, 94
20.	OHPCL	December, 95
<i>MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS</i>		
21.	BEST	March, 94
<i>DEPARTMENT OF POWER</i>		
22.	NAGALAD	September, 95
23.	MIZORAM	February, 97
<i>JOINT SECTOR</i>		
24.	DVC	April, 96

*OFAP Revised.

** Reform OFAP for States who have Agreed for Reforms.

Indo-Nepal Peace and Friendship Treaty

*5. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Nepal has expressed its keenness to abrogate Indo-Nepal peace and friendship treaty of 1950;

(b) if so, the specific articles identified by the government of Nepal for abrogation;

(c) the reaction of the Indian Government thereto; and

(d) the outcome of the two-day talks held between Foreign Secretaries of both countries on several bilateral issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) The two Foreign Secretaries, who met at Delhi, from August 19—21 in pursuance of the directives contained in the Joint Press Statement issued during PM's visit to Nepal in June, discussed issues of bilateral interest covering a diversity of fields including bilateral economic cooperation, trade and transit, water resources, management and demarcation of the Indo-Nepal border and the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950. A copy of the Joint Press Release issued at the conclusion of the talks is enclosed as Statement.

STATEMENT

The Foreign Secretary of His Majesty's Government of Nepal, His Excellency Mr. Kumar Prasad Gyawall and the Foreign Secretary of India, Shri Krishnan Raghunath met in New Delhi from 19th to 21st August, 1997. His Excellency, the Foreign Secretary of Nepal was accompanied by Mr. Murari Raj Sharma, Special Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of His Majesty's Government, and Mr. Ram Bhakta Thakur, Charge, d'Affairs at the Royal Nepal Embassy in New Delhi. The Foreign Secretary of India was assisted by Shri K.V. Rajan, Ambassador of India, Kathmandu and officials of the Ministry of External Affairs. The meeting continued the tradition of wide ranging consultations at Foreign Secretary level between the two neighbouring countries.

In pursuance of the directives contained in the Joint Press Statement issued during the visit of the Prime Minister of India, Shri I.K. Gujral to Nepal from 5th to 7th June 1997, the two Foreign Secretaries discussed issues of bilateral interest covering a diversity of fields including bilateral economic cooperation, matters relating to trade and transit, water resources, issues relating to the management and demarcation of the Indo-Nepal border and to the 1950 Treaty of Peace and Friendship between India and Nepal.

It was agreed that details of the working arrangements for the additional transit route between Nepal and Bangladesh through Phulbari would be communicated by government of India to HMGN within a week so that the route could be made operational with effect from 1st September.

It was also agreed that the second meeting of the Joint Working Group on Border management would meet in October in New Delhi, on mutually convenient dates. Both sides reiterated their determination to work closely

and fight the scourge of terrorism and their commitment not to allow their territory to be used for activities directed against or prejudicial to the security of the other.

The Joint Working Group of the Indo-Nepal Joint Technical Committee on the Border would continue its discussions on the relevant facts relating to the demarcation of the boundary alignment in the western sector including the Kalapani area, and hold its 4th Meeting at New Delhi in September.

On economic cooperation, it was agreed that Nepal's request of Indian assistance in setting up a Police Academy would be expeditiously followed up and that the details would be discussed during a meeting of the concerned officials of both sides prior to the next round of Home Secretary level talks.

In regard to the Pancheswar project, the two Foreign Secretaries noted the progress on preparation of the DPR through communications between the concerned Ministries and agreed that the concerned expert groups should meet as early as possible so that further substantial progress along with recommendations where relevant could be submitted to the High Level Task Force during its fifth meeting scheduled to be held by October 1997.

The Nepalese side raise the question of down-stream benefits from multi-purpose hydroelectric projects which may be executed in Nepal. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed between the Ministries of Water Resources of the two countries.

Regarding the question of regularisation of the services of Indian school and college teachers in Nepal which had been agreed to in 1991, the Foreign Secretary of Nepal briefed the Indian Foreign Secretary on progress in consideration of the matter by His Majesty's Government, which would continue to give its attention to the issue.

With regard to the request for establishing a Consulate General of India at Birganj, the Foreign Secretary of Nepal stated that it was under consideration of HMGN.

The two sides recalled the historic role of the 1950 Treaty as a framework for developing and strengthening of Indo-Nepal relations. They examined various aspects of the Treaty in the context of suggestions for a review with the objective of realising the full potential of the bilateral relationship, taking into account the present day needs and concerns of the two countries. It was agreed that specific proposals in this regard would be discussed.

His Excellency the Foreign Secretary of Nepal separately called on Secretary, Commerce and Secretary, Water Resources of the Government of India.

The talks were held in a friendly, frank and cordial atmosphere. Both sides agreed that the meeting had been useful and productive, and had enabled a valuable exchange of views. It was agreed that discussions would be continued at the next round of Foreign Secretary level talks later this year on mutually convenient dates.

[Translation]

Women Workers

*6. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the Government in regard to number of women workers working in the country;

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

(c) whether the government have also identified the number of women factory workers, domestic workers and beedi workers, separately;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding their literacy; and

(e) if so, the details of facilities provided to them in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) According to the 1991 census, the number of women workers in the country is 89,767,563. State-wise information regarding number of women workers is given in the enclosed statement.

The number of women factory workers in 1994 was 5.91 lakh. 1.76 lakh women were engaged in bidi making in the organised sector in 1995. No information is available regarding the number of domestic women workers.

Whereas no specific survey regarding literacy level among the women workers has been carried out, according to the 1991 census, the overall literacy rate among the women in the country was 39.29 per cent.

The details of facilities provided to women workers include, *inter alia*, the following:

- (i) total literacy campaigns are being undertaken in 442 districts in the country wherein the illiterate women workers in the age group of 15-35 can also receive functional literacy.

- (ii) under the grant-in-aid scheme, financial assistance is also given to voluntary agencies for creating awareness among the women workers.

STATEMENT

Statewise Number of Female Labourers (1991 Census)

Sl.	State/U.T.	Total female workers including marginal workers
1	2	3
	INDIA	89,767,653
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,252,643
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	149,789
3.	Assam	2,324,535
4.	Bihar	6,116,974
5.	Goa	117,977
6.	Gujarat	5,180,886
7.	Haryana	821,299
8.	Himachal Pradesh	888,985
9.	Karnataka	6,472,816
10.	Kerala	2,347,268
11.	Madhya Pradesh	10,430,890
12.	Maharashtra	12,617,454
13.	Manipur	350,134
14.	Meghalaya	302,853
15.	Mizoram	143,964
16.	Nagaland	215,722
17.	Orissa	3,241,991
18.	Punjab	414,646
19.	Rajasthan	5,744,129
20.	Sikkim	57,790

1	2	3
21.	Tamil Nadu	8,236,872
22.	Tripura	184,333
23.	Uttar Pradesh	8,019,310
24.	West Bengal	3,662,855
25.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	16,584
26.	Chandigarh	29,443
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	32,944
28.	Daman & Diu	11,584
29.	Delhi	314,076
30.	Lakshadweep	1,906
31.	Pondicherry	60,911

Note :- Census was not held in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

[English]

Indo-Pak Relations

*7. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in talks held between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan to further improve Indo-Pak relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether during the talks the issues of prisoners of wars detained in Pakistan during the last Indo-Pak war was also discussed.

(d) whether Prime Minister of India made any categorical statement on the issue of Kashmir to Prime Minister of Pakistan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) to (e) Prime Minister had bilateral meetings with the Prime Minister of Pakistan in Male on 12 May, 1997

during the SAARC Summit; in New York on 23 September, 1997 on the occasion of the UN General Assembly Session; and in Edinburgh on 25 October, 1997 when the two met for the Commonwealth Head of Governments Meeting.

These meetings renewed the process of dialogue at the highest political level between the two countries, which is significant in itself. The meetings provided an opportunity for the reiteration of our desire to establish a relationship of trust, friendship and cooperation with Pakistan, while strongly emphasising our serious concern regarding Pakistani activities which impinge adversely on our security and national interest.

Prime Minister conveyed our serious concern at Pakistan's support and promotion of infiltration and cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir, and the need to put an end to such hostile activities. He also conveyed our strong concern about the unprovoked firing by Pakistani forces along the Line of Control in Jammu & Kashmir which have resulted in loss of innocent civilian lives. Prime Minister emphasised that this must end, and better communications and arrangements must be established between the defence forces of the two countries along the Line of Control and the International Boundary in Jammu and Kashmir.

Humanitarian aspects of the relationship were also discussed and our desire to promote people-to-people interaction between the two countries was reiterated. To promote greater contacts between the peoples and to encourage interaction amongst academicians, journalists, scholars, businessmen, steps have been taken by us to liberalise the visa regime. It was also decided to release the fishermen in the custody of the two countries. The issue of missing Indian defence personnel, believed to be in Pakistan's custody, was taken up. Pakistan maintained that no Indian POWs are under detention in Pakistan.

The two countries are currently engaged, at the level of Foreign Secretaries, in addressing the modalities of bilateral dialogue. We would like these modalities to be such as to ensure comprehensive, constructive and sustained discussions between the two sides. Prime Minister conveyed to the Prime Minister of Pakistan our commitment to carry forward the bilateral dialogue.

Cataract Blindness

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

(a) the estimated number of blind persons in the country;

(b) whether cataract is the main cause of their blindness;

(c) whether the Government have taken a decision to hold mega eye-camps to perform cataract operations;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the World Bank has given financial aid for the Cataract Control project; and

(f) if so, the achievements made so far to control cataract blindness?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) On the basis of national survey of 1986-89, it is estimated that there are more than 12 million economically blind persons in the country. 2 million new cataract cases are added each year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government has taken a decision to organise mega eye camps in under-served including tribal areas of the country on fixed dates in two phases:

Phase I	—	1 to 6 Oct., 1997
Phase II	—	30 Jan. to 4 Feb. 1998

It is proposed to conduct 5 lakhs additional cataract operations during these weeks.

(e) Yes, Sir. A World Bank assisted Cataract Blindness Control Project is being implemented since April, 1994 in 7 States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh.

(f) The targets and achievements for cataract operations under World Bank Project are as follows:

(In lakhs)		
Year	Target	Achievement
1994-95	14.6	12.8 (88%)
1995-96	15.5	15.0 (97%)
1996-97	16.5	17.1 (103%)

Legislation on Agricultural Workers

*9. SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal under their consideration to enact a legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be passed;

(d) the reasons for the delay in this regard;

(e) whether the Government also propose to set up labour committees to attend to the urgent needs of the agricultural workers; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time-frame worked out therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Proposal for enacting a comprehensive law providing for regulation of employment and conditions of service of agricultural workers and for establishing of a welfare fund for financing various welfare activities has been drawn up. Final decision on the proposal has not yet been taken and the same is under Government's consideration. Efforts

are being made to finalise a Bill on the subject and introduce it in the Parliament at the earliest.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Annual Plan Funds

*10. SHRI AYYANA PATRUDU :
DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Power Undertakings are not fully utilising their annual plan funds resulting in delays and cost overruns;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action being taken against them;

(d) the funds earmarked and utilised by them during the last three years; and

(e) the target fixed for capacity addition in generation of power for 1996-97 and the target achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The year-wise plan outlay and actual expenditure of CPSUs engaged in project construction activities during the last three years is as follows:—

	1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
	Plan Outlay	Exp.	Plan Outlay	Exp.	Plan Outlay	Exp.
NTPC	2643.55	2519.54	1700.74	1572.25	1949.89	1251.89
NHPC	1277.91	833.82	1337.69	889.20	1136.02	494.54
PGCIL	1110.75	935.56	1515.84	1470.71	1500.00	1557.05
DVC	506.04	272.44	329.00	250.00	408.00	180.50
THDC	160.00	132.64	211.17	147.17	170.00	170.00
NJPC	566.33	416.04	530.00	415.01	521.17	496.13
NEEPCO	522.01	546.31	498.40	458.08	336.40	179.55

The year-wise allocation of funds for the CPSUs is decided on the basis of expected scope of work, likely sources of financing such works and future planning for new projects. The plan outlays are thus indicative. The actual expenditure depends upon the physical progress of the on-going works, approval of new schemes, ability of the CPSUs to raise the requisite funding, availability of funds in the capital market etc. The progress of fund utilisation is being monitored on a regular basis to avoid any slippages in the physical targets.

(e) The capacity addition for power was 1691.40 MW as against the target of 2868.50 MW during the year 1996-97 out of this, the target for the Central Sector was 817.50 MW and the achievement thereof was 703.50 MW.

Satellite Programme

*11. SHRI ANANTH GANGARAM GEETE :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the chronological sequence of various INSAT Satellites launched by the Indian Space and Research Organisation (ISRO) as on October 31, 1997;

(b) the success rate in respect of each of these satellites;

(c) operational failures, if any, in those INSAT satellites and the reasons therefor;

(d) the total financial outlay involved;

(e) whether the technological and other benefits from these INSAT launched have been quantified;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the details of new generation satellite programmes presently in process with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) :

(a) INSAT-1A	—	launched on 10.04.1982
INSAT-1B	—	launched on 30.08.1983
INSAT-1C	—	launched on 22.07.1988

INSAT-1D	—	launched on 12.06.1990
INSAT-2A	—	launched on 10.07.1992
INSAT-2B	—	launched on 23.07.1993
INSAT-2C	—	launched on 07.12.1995
INSAT-2D	—	launched on 04.06.1997
(b) INSAT-1A	—	Failed in September, 1982.
INSAT-1B	—	Worked successfully for more than 7 years exceeding its design life.
INSAT-1C	—	Suffered a loss of about 50 per cent of its capacity with 10 days of its launch. It worked for about 16 months with the remaining capacity and was declared a Total Loss after that period.
INSAT-1D	—	Currently operational and exceeded its design life.
INSAT-2A	—	Operated successfully for more than 5.5 years and is now in an inclined orbit mode of operations.
INSAT-2B	—	Presently providing services since its launch.
INSAT-2C	—	Presently providing services since its launch.
INSAT-2D	—	Failed in orbit on October 5, 1997.

(c) INSAT-1A failed due to a complex interplay of minor anomalies leading to a loss of the propellants. INSAT-1C developed a short in one of the power bus in its sequential shunt unit and operated with half the power for about 1.5 years. Due to the loss of redundancies in the bus system and also due to the difficulties in the management of the thermal regime, the satellite lost its attitude and could not be recovered. INSAT-2D developed a massive short-circuit in one of the power bus which led to the jamming of the solar array, complex thermal problems and depletion of the propellant.

(d) The total financial outlay involved is as follows:

	(Rs. in Crores)	
	Spacecraft cost	Launch Cost & insurance (Actuals)
INSAT-1A & 1B	55.29	30.41
INSAT-1C	80.28	46.29
INSAT-1D	79.58	61.55
INSAT-2A,2B	329.94	198.30
INSAT-2C,2D & 2E	480.70	785.10

(e) and (f) INSAT has established itself as one of the basic communication and meteorological infrastructure of the country. INSAT system consists of more than 280 ground earth stations, 800 TV transmitters, and over 190 AIR transmitters all of which are networked through the INSAT space craft. INSAT has helped in now providing connectivity to remote and inaccessible areas and offshore areas. There are also more than 5000 private V-SATs including the National Stock Exchange which operate through INSAT. INSAT satellites provide daily Very High Resolution Radio Meter (VHRR) imagery and meteorological data from remote platforms for weather forecasting, disaster warning and disaster management. The Disaster Warning System which is a unique service through INSAT has become very useful and has saved several thousands of lives over the years. The data networks such as National Informatics Network (NICNET) provides invaluable benefits to all levels of administration including the judiciary. Rapid expansion of the TV network apart from providing the entertainment, definitely has brought informational revolution to every nook and corner of the country. The educational value of the INSAT system has been amply proven by the use of INSAT by University Grants Commission (UGC), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the Training and Developmental Communications Network, Jhabua Developmental Communications Project etc. The present accounting system followed for the INSAT programme does not permit an accurate estimate of the financial returns from the system as there are no funds transfer from the User agencies. however, it can be confidently stated that the system has started paying for itself. Based on a conservative estimate, the annual revenue of the INSAT system is around Rs. 350.00 Crores presently.

(g) INSAT-2E the next satellite in the INSAT series, is scheduled for launch in June/July of 1998. The third generation satellites (INSAT-3 series) has been approved by the Government. The INSAT-3 series will consist of five satellites to be launched between 1999 and

2002 AD. INSAT-3 satellites will replace the statellites of INSAT-2 series which are near the end of their life and also will augment the overall communications capacity. There will be qualitative improvement in the meteorological imaging services also.

[Translation]

Development of Hindi Computer

*12. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop computer in Hindi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have a scheme to spread computer literacy in the villages;

(d) whether difficulty is being experienced due to Hindi letters in the alphabets not being arranged sequentially on the key board;

(e) if so, the steps being taken to remedy the situation;

(f) whether the Government propose to make computer education compulsory in all the schools and colleges; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Department of Electronics has been promoting the development of technology for enabling work on computers in Hindi and other Indian languages, both in Government and private sector. The following are the main achievements:—

Indigenous development of Graphics Based Intelligence Script Technology (GIST) by the Centre for Development of advance Computing (C-DAC), Pune, an autonomous Society under the Department of Electronics. In addition, a number of organisations in public/private sector are also engaged in development and marketing of Hindi application softwares. These efforts have made it possible to enable use of Hindi and other Indian Languages on Personal Computers. Efforts have also been made by a number of other organisations to localise system and application softwares to promote use of computers in Hindi and other Indian languages.

(c) While there is no such specific scheme, project proposals involving demonstration of computer

applications at village level are considered as part of the programme for promotion of application of electronics for social and rural development.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. INSCRIPT (Indian Script) Keyboard overlay adopted as per the Indian Standard (IS 13194 : 1991) is being popularly used as input mechanism to the computer which allows convenient use of both Roman as well as Indian alphabets.

(f) and (g) While there is no such proposal at present to make computer education compulsory, there are a number of schemes which promote computer education in schools and colleges.

[English]

Nuclear Weapon

*13 SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Prime Minister in his address to UN General Assembly stated that Pakistan has the capability to develop nuclear weapons of its own;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Government propose to review its stand on development of nuclear weapons; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In his speech to the 52nd Session of the UN General Assembly on 22nd September, 1997, the Pakistan Prime Minister said that "We have demonstrated that we can master the most advanced technologies. We can now deter external aggression".

(c) and (d) Government closely monitors all developments relating to Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons programme. Government of India remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its assessment of developments relating to India's security environment.

Fight Against Corruption

*14. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Anti-Corruption Cell has been set up in the Prime Minister's Office;

(b) if so, the role and functions of the Cell;

(c) whether the Cell is recording corruption charges from the general public against public servants;

(d) whether there is any institutional mechanism to probe their charges and allegations; and

(e) the total number of complaints received by this Cell, till date?

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) No, Sir. No Anti-Corruption Cell has been set up in the Prime Minister's Office. However, a small unit for monitoring anti-corruption cases has been raised in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) by reorganising the available staff. The Unit monitors and pursues the complaints on corruption with Ministries/Departments etc. whose Head of the Department is responsible for maintaining purity and integrity in accordance with the existing instructions.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Unit is recording all complaints received from the general public on the subject of corruption against public servants.

(d) All complaints of corruption against public servants are sent by the PMO to designated nodal officers of the rank of Joint Secretary in each Ministry/Department who are already having an institutional mechanism consisting of vigilance set-up headed by Chief Vigilance Officers and their supporting staff to enquire into complaints of corruption. The CVC and CBI are other agencies who provide necessary assistance, wherever required, to the Ministries/Departments.

(e) The Anti-Corruption Unit in the PMO has received 2402 complaints till the 12th November, 1997.

Population Control

*15. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether population control programme has not achieved its target during the last two years;

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

(c) the details of increase in population during each of the last three years in comparison to the earlier decades; and

(d) the effective steps taken to check the increase in population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) No method-specific target for population control has been fixed in the country since 1st April, 1996. The system of setting targets from the Centre is replaced by a system of decentralised participatory planning approach at the grass root level to give more emphasis on quality of care and client's satisfaction. In respect of performance of family welfare programme though performance in the first year of target free approach (1996-97) compared with that of previous years was slightly lower; in the current year, it is showing an increasing trend.

(c) The annual exponential rate of growth of population during the decades 1971-81 and 1981-91 was 2.22 per cent and 2.14 per cent. However, as per Sample Registration System (SRS) estimates, the natural growth rate of population has since declined to 1.94 per cent., 1.93 per cent and 1.85 per cent during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 respectively.

(d) The programmes of Department of Family Welfare are aimed at stabilising the population of the country at a level consistent with the requirement of national development. The use of contraceptives and terminal methods is being conversed with citizens in the reproductive age group for avoiding unwanted pregnancies and facilities for reproductive and child health through the State Health Systems are being provided for improving the reproductive and child health status of mothers/children which would keep the families small in the long run. The Reproductive and Child Health Services are proposed to be substantially improved and strengthened during the 9th Plan and availability of contraceptives will be improved by strengthening arrangements for social marketing of contraceptives. Panchayat Raj Institutions are proposed to be closely associated with the Programme.

[Translation]

Shortage of Blood

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

(a) whether there is considerable shortage of blood in various Government hospitals in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of programmes started by the Government for encouraging the people to donate blood voluntarily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is an overall shortage of blood particularly contributed by voluntary donations. As per WHO norms of 6-16 units (average 10 units of blood per hospital bed per annum), the requirement for about 6 lakh hospital beds in the country comes to about 60 lakh units per annum. At present, the total estimated collection of blood is about 30 lakh units per annum. There is, therefore, an overall shortage of blood to the extent of 50 per cent at the existing level.

In a recent Supreme Court Judgement in the public interest litigation between "Common Cause versus Union of India and others", the Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued a number of important directions with a view to co-ordinate all the blood banking activities addressed to handling of blood and ensuring its maximum safety. One of the important directives of the judgement is to put a stop to professional donor system within two years. To achieve this objective, we have to mobilise voluntary blood donation programme so as to make sufficient blood available as per requirement from voluntary donors. Central and State Blood Transfusion Councils have been set up as autonomous bodies to oversee the management of blood transfusion services in the country and promotion of the voluntary blood donation programme.

For generating much needed blood from the voluntary donors, our strategy is to motivate the people to come forward to donate blood voluntarily and at regular intervals. The Government of India have taken up a number of steps in this direction as per details annexed.

While it is important to raise the collection of blood, it is also essential to ensure proper and appropriate use of scarce blood. In today's medical programme, one unit of blood collected can be given to 7-8 patients by separating into components. The Government have set up 40 blood component laboratories all over the country which would make components available. A Plasma Fractionation Centre has also been set up at Bombay.

Promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation

For generating blood through voluntary blood donation programme, Government of India have taken a number of steps as follows:

1. A campaign has been launched for motivating people for donating blood voluntarily through specially developed TV spots telecast through Doordarshan at suitable intervals during prime time.
2. Messages are broadcast on voluntary blood donation through Times FM channel in one of their music programmes.
3. National AIDS Control Organisation with the help of Central Health Education Bureau have developed proto-type Information Education and Communication material for one to one communication on Voluntary Blood Donation Programme in the form of folders, posters and stickers and the same have been given to various States and UTs for use and reproduction in local languages.
4. National Council for Science and Technology Communication (Department of Science and Technology, Government of India) have initiated a pilot project for generating voluntary blood donation in 50 selected cities, with a view to fill up the gap between demand and availability of blood through voluntary donations.

The specific objectives of the project being:

- (a) To address existing myths, misinformation and inhibitions regarding blood donation from the minds of people through awareness campaigns;
- (b) To train communicators to motivate healthy people to become voluntary donors.
- (c) To develop computerised system for networking information about voluntary donors and operating blood banks.

Department of Science and Technology have intimated that studies have been initiated in 10 cities for determining the status of blood collection etc. The assessment of the software available for motivation the voluntary blood donors has been completed and proposals for developing new software have been taken up. Apart from this, training modules for motivators are also being developed. Proposals for computerised system for blood banks and networking have also been received from various organisations and are being examined.

Some of the activities included in this programme pertain to development of software (films, slides, posters etc.) for propagation of voluntary blood donation messages, training of communicators, creating database for networking of information etc.

5. Every year, 1st of October, is celebrated as the National Voluntary Blood donation Day. Special campaigns to educate the masses on the need for voluntary donation of blood is undertaken through mass media and special camps for blood collection are organised.
6. A number of steps have been proposed for undertaking an extensive programme for Voluntary Blood Donation. A Committee of Experts have been set up to prepare a Comprehensive National Blood Policy and to work out a mechanism for the promotion of voluntary blood donation programme on an all India basis. A scheme is being framed under the National Blood Transfusion Council for undertaking extensive training programmes for community leaders including school/college teachers, trade union leaders, prominent citizens etc. to train them as motivators for encouraging voluntary blood donation.

[English]

Relations with Myanmar

*17. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from the Myanmar authorities about incidents on the border between India and Myanmar at Moeh in Manipur;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction there to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) to (c) The Myanmar authorities have conveyed to Government their deep concern over the incident on 12th Oct., 1997 in which 365 shops at Namphalong market at Tamu on the Myanmar side of the Indo-Myanmar border, opposite to Moreh in India, were reported to have been burnt down, and three persons including one Myanmar immigration official were injured. The Government of Myanmar have complained that Kuki insurgents were involved in the incident and that they entered Myanmar from Moreh and later returned to the Indian territory. Government have also seen reports that the so-called Kuki National Army has claimed responsibility for the incident.

2. The Myanmar authorities had sought a flag meeting between high authorities of the two countries. Government responded promptly as soon as the incident was reported and in pursuance of the Myanmar Government's request a meeting was held on 15th Oct., between senior Government officials of the two countries. The State Government of Manipur have instructed the District Administration to investigate the case so as to bring the culprits to book if they are on Indian soil and to ensure maintenance of peace and tranquility in the area.

3. Government are committed to ensuring that there is peace and normalcy and that border trade between India and Myanmar is allowed to continue uninterrupted.

Foreign Militants

*18. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign militants operating in the Kashmir Valley have now established their new bases in the outskirts of Srinagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of clashes which took place between the security forces and the foreign militants since their concentration in the outskirts of Srinagar?

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) As per available reports, no new bases of foreign militants, have been established in the outskirts of Srinagar. The security forces are however vigilant and are taking all necessary steps to contain the activities of militants/foreign militants in J&K including Srinagar and its outskirts. It is not possible to indicate the precise number of clashes between the Security Forces and the foreign militants exclusively, yet the number of foreign militants arrested or killed from January, 1990 to Sept., 1997 is 136 and 645 respectively.

[Translation]

MPLADS

19. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that works under the MPLAD Scheme are being got done by District Magistrates without the approval of concerned Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the details of such cases which have been brought to the notice of the Union Government during the last two years along with the name of the constituencies where these works have been got done; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against those who are responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) and (b) Three cases of work reportedly got done by the District Heads of Jalandhar, Morena and Mirzapur without the recommendation of the concerned Member of Parliament have been brought to the notice of the Govt.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the State Governments and collectors concerned for appropriate action.

Population Control

*20. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many States such as Uttar Pradesh have failed to control population inspite of spending million of rupees on Family Planning Programmes;

(b) whether ambitious schemes have been started with the assistance from the Union Government and foreign agencies during the last two years but these proved flop in controlling population; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the remedial steps being taken by the Union government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The National Family Welfare Programme has been able to achieve significant reduction in Birth Rate in the country as a whole. The Birth Rate in the country declined from 41.7 per thousand in 1951-61 to 27.4 in 1996. The progress has, however, been uneven, with States like Uttar Pradesh (Birth Rate 34.0 in 1996), Bihar (32.1), Rajasthan (32.3) and Madhya Pradesh (32.4) still having a high Birth Rate.

(b) and (c) In 1996-97 and 1997-98, the following externally assisted projects/programmes were started:—

Sl. No.	Name of Project or Programme	Date of commencement or approval	Location (State)
1.	Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme.	15.10.97	All India
2.	DANIDA assisted Phase-III Project.	23.08.97	Tamil Nadu
3.	ODA (UK) assisted Phase-III Project (Stage I).	05.09.97	Orissa
4.	UNFPA assisted Pilot Projects at district level for Reproductive Health.	16.06.97	Bihar, H.P., Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan.
5.	ODA (UK) assisted Reproductive Health Project.	04.11.96	West Bengal.
6.	German assisted Basic Health Project	20.05.96	Maharashtra
7.	Pulse Polio Immunisation	December '95	All India

Population is controlled in the short run by use of contraceptives and terminal methods to avoid unwanted pregnancies, and in the medium and long-term by improving the reproductive and child health status of families. Accordingly the Programme for controlling population aims at regular and reliable supply of contraceptives and efficient arrangements for sterilisation in the former category and making available obstetric and maternal care as well as measures for children's health, in the latter category.

The VIII Plan had envisaged the growth rate of population to come down to 1.78 percent per annum. It has actually come down to 1.85 percent in 1996. The data from the Sample Registration System (SRS) shows that the drop in birth rate has been higher in 1996 than in previous years. The limiting factors are:—

- (i) Limited availability of resources for the Family Welfare Programme;
- (ii) Only modest publicity stated support for the programme by the opinion leaders and by the public;

(iii) Varying level of efficiency of State health set ups in various States in regard to implementation;

(iv) Literacy/education status of families and women's status in the community.

The Government is striving to remove these handicaps and improve the positive influence of these factors.

[English]

Privatisation of Power Projects in Andhra Pradesh

1. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA:
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have identified some Power projects of the State for immediate private investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the total expenditure involved in each project;
- (d) the quantum of power to be generated by each project after privatisation;
- (e) the details of investors who have shown interest to invest in power sector; and
- (f) the time by which the projects are likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

CGHS Facility to Retired Pensioners

2. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:
CHOUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the retired Central Government servants living in Sansad Vihar, Parijat Apartments, Vidya Vihar, Triveni, Jaisheeva and other near by colonies are facing difficulties in getting CGHS facilities as the GCGS dispensary in Rani Bagh is too far and is more than 4-5 kilometers from these areas;

(b) if so whether the Government propose to make arrangements for mobile dispensary for 3 days in a week or to open a CGHS wing in Jaipur Golden Hospital to provide medical facilities to these old aged persons;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are aware that these people are not provided medicine in Jaipur Golden Hospital on the pretext that they should be referred to by the concerned CGHS dispensary; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the medical measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Sansad Vihar, Parijat Apartments, Vidya Vihar, Triveni, Jaisheeva and other near by colonies are covered by CGHS dispensary at Shakurbasti which is fairly centrally located. It is possible that beneficiaries

staying in the outskirts of the demarcated areas covered under the dispensary may have to travel some distance to reach the dispensary as there are scattered private colonies under the said dispensary where a mixed population of employees (retired and serving) and others are staying.

(b) and (c) There is not provision for a mobile dispensary under CGHS. It may, therefore, not be possible to make such an arrangement. Further, Jaipur Golden Hospital is a private hospital which has been recognised under CGHS. It would not be possible to open a CGHS wing in this private hospital.

(d) and (e) As per present policy, the OPD medicines prescribed by the specialist of a Government hospital only are provided by the CGHS dispensary. Jaipur Golden Hospital is a recognised hospital under CGHS, Delhi and as per the procedure laid down, the pensioner beneficiaries of CGHS, Delhi, can take treatment in this hospital only after getting referred by the Chief Medical Officer Incharge of the concerned CGHS dispensary after getting the initial advice of a CGHS/Govt. specialist. In the case of a medical emergency, the CMO Incharge may directly (i.e. even before the specialist's advice has been obtained) refer the CGHS beneficiaries (both pensioners and serving employees) for further management/treatment after recording the details thereof.

[English]

Invert Sugar

3. SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether national Research Development Corporation has invented a sweetener i.e. 'Invert Sugar' which is prepared by biological method rather than chemically;

(b) if so, whether this method converts 95 percent of sucrose into glucose and fructose while conventional method converts only 65 per cent of sucrose into glucose and fructose; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to propagate this technology and to provide it to all the sugar mills in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) is licensing the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Bombay developed

process for making 'Invert Sugar' by enzymatic process. The process has a conversion efficiency of over 95 per cent.

(c) NRDC has widely publicised the advantages of the technology and about its licensing. So far it has licensed the technology to six companies in India. It is making further efforts to disseminate and license the technology through participation in exhibitions and trade fairs, advertisements, personal contracts, etc.

[Translation]

Sea Pollution

4. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to check the level of pollution in Indian Coast;

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

(c) whether the Industrial waste from foreign countries is being dumped into the Indian coastal Seas;

(d) if so, the names of foreign countries from which industrial waste is being dumped into India during the last three years and quantity thereof; and

(e) the preventive measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGENDRA K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir Department of Ocean Development has launched a programme called, "Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System (COMAPS) and is carrying out measurement of environmental parameters in the coastal waters of India, since 1991.

(b) Under Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System programme essential data on 25 parameters to assess the pollution level are collected from 77 locations with the help of 11 National and State Research and Development institutions. Based on the results status of marine pollution in the coastal waters of the country are as follows:

1. Areas of clean sea water quality

The sea cost beyond 2 Km along the coastline of India except Off Mumbai is clean and conform to quality of clean waters. This is primarily due to the fact that the levels of dissolved Oxygen and other parameters are fulfilling the requirements of clean sea water. In Mumbai, sea off 5 Km is clean.

2. Coastal locations of No concern

The following areas indicate good to fair water quality: Kandla, Vadinar, Dwarka, Hazira in Gujarat; Murund, Thal, Ratnagiri and Reddy in Maharashtra; Mandivi and Zauri in Goa; Honnavar in Karnataka; Kassargo, Cannanore, Calicut, Ponnani, Alleppy, Kayamkulam and Paravur in Kerala; Danyakumari, Kudandkulam Vaiparu estuary, Gundaru estuary, Mandapam (Palk Strait), Mandapam (Gulf of Mannar), Uchipulli and Thondi in Tamil Nadu; Karaikal, Yanam (Gautami-Godavari Point) in Pondicherry; Krishnapatnam Nizampatnam, Machilipatnam, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh; Dhamra, Konark, Chandipur in Orissa; Saptamukhi, Digha Diamond Harbour, Holiday Island, Dalhousie Point, Sunderbans in West Bengal; Port Blair in Andaman & Nicobar and Kavaratti in Lakshadweep.

3. Potential areas of pollution and need for continued intensive monitoring

Due to existence of definite source of pollution and observance of low levels of pollution the following areas may need intensive monitoring: Hazira (Tapi estuary), Okha (Mitapur) and Porbandar in Gujarat; Trombay and Bassein in Maharashtra; Murmagao in Goa; Karwar, Mangalore in Karnataka; Cochin, Quilon in Kerala; Tuticorin, Arumuganeri, Nagapatnam, Cuddalore, sea off Coovum, Ennuore, Chennai harbour in Tamil Nadu; Pandicherry; Gopalpur, Paradeep in Orissa; Sandheads, Indo-Bangladesh Boarder in West Bengal.

4. Areas of concern and need for continued intensive monitoring

The levels of dissolved Oxygen was very low at Kakinada Bay and Visakhapatnam harbour in Andhra and Puri in Orissa. In the samples collected at Veraval Port in Gujarat; Versova, Mahim, Ulhas and Thane Creek in Maharashtra; dissolved Oxygen reached "nil" values during low tides and showed abnormal values of human pathogens. These are mainly due to disposal of untreated sewage directly into the marine environment. Due to discharge of industrial effluents at Veli in Kerala, very low pH values with low primary and secondary productivity was observed.

(c) No incident has been reported to or noticed by the Surveillance agencies.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Regarding dumping of wastes in our seas, regular patrolling is being carried out by the Surveillance agencies like Indian Coast Guards to check the dumping activity. Preventive actions for control of pollution from land based activities is being taken under the provisions of Water Act (1974) and the Environment Protection Act (1986).

*[English]***OECF**

5. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan is finalising negotiations to fund the 990 MW Srisailem left bank hydro power project in Andhra Pradesh and power transmission projects at Simhadri and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total amount to be provided by OECF to these projects separately;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Negotiations with Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan were held on 4-10 November, 1997 at Tokyo for Simhadri and Vizag Transmission System Project & Srisailem Left Bank Power Station Project-III.

(b) The loan amounts negotiated for these Projects are as under:

1. Simhadri and vizag Transmission—Yen 10,629 million (First Tranche)
2. Srisailem Power—Yen 14,499 million (Third Tranche)

(c) and (d) The loan agreements for these projects have not been signed as yet.

Pending Projects

6. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects submitted by Andhra Pradesh government to the Union government which are pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) if so, since how long these projects are pending with the Union Government; and

(c) the time by which a final decision on these projects are likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (c)

Planning Commission have no projects pending for clearance.

*[Translation]***Family Welfare Centres**

7. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family welfare centres functioning in Uttar Pradesh particularly in rural areas as on date location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more family welfare centres in Uttar Pradesh particularly in backward and rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount allocated by the Union Government to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for the maintenance of the family welfare centres during the last three years, year-wise and whether this amount is adequate for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The number of Rural Family Welfare Centres functioning in Uttar Pradesh are 907. The location-wise list of these centres is in Statement I.

(b) There is no plan to expand Rural Family Welfare Centres as the Rural Family Welfare Centres have been integrated into Block Primary Health Centres/Community Health Centres.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) The amount allocated to the State for Rural Family Welfare Centres are in Statement II. These centres are fully funded by the Central Government and expenditure incurred in accordance with the norms of the scheme, is reimbursed by the Government of India.

STATEMENT I

*District wise list of Block Level CHCs/PHCs/
Rural Family Welfare Centers*

District/Division	No. of Block Level CHCs/PHCs/RFWCs
1	2
1. Agra	16
2. Aligarh	18
3. Etah	15

1	2	1	2
4. Firozabad	8	28. Pauri Garhwal	15
5. Mainpuri	12	29. Tehri Garhwal	10
6. Mathura Agra Division	9 78	30. Uttar Kashi Gharwal Division	4 42
7. Allahabad	29	31. Azamgarh	22
8. Pratapgarh	16	32. Mou	9
9. Fatehpur Allahabad Division	13 58	33. Ballia	17
10. Bareilly	15	34. Jaunpur Azamgarh Division	21 69
11. Badaun	18	35. Basti	20
12. Pilibhit	8	36. Deoria	15
13. Shahjhanpur Rohelkhand Division	15 56	37. Padorna	15
14. Bada	14	38. Gorakhpur	19
15. Hamirpur	7	39. Maharajganj	12
16. Mahoba	4	40. Sidharth Nagar Gorakhpur Division	13 94
17. Jalaun	9	41. Etawah	15
18. Jhansi	8	42. Farrukhabad	15
19. Lalitpur Bundelkhand Division	6 48	43. Kanpur (Nagar)	3
20. Bahraich	19	44. Kanpur (Dehat) Kanpur Division	18 51
21. Barabanki	17	45. Almora	14
22. Faizabad]	19	46. Nainital]	12
23. Ambedkar Nagar]		47. Udham Singh Nagar]	
24. Gonda	26	48. Pitoragarh Kamaun Division	11 37
25. Sultanpur Faizabad Division	20 101	49. Hardoi	19
26. Chamoli	9	50. Kheri	16
27. Dehradun	4	51. Lucknow	10
		52. Rae Bareli	17

1	2	
53. Sitapur	20	
54. Unnao Lucknow Division	16	98
55. Bulandshahar	17	
56. Ghaziabad	10	
57. Hardwar	5	
58. Meerut	19	
59. Muzaffarnagar	15	
60. Sharanpur Meerut Division	12	78
61. Bijnor	12	
62. Moradabad	19	
63. Rampur Moradabad Division	7	38
64. Ghazipur	17	
65. Mirazpur	12	
66. Sonbhadra	8	
67. Bhadohi	7	
68. Varanasi Varanasi Division	15	59
Total: Uttar Pradesh	907	

STATEMENT II

*Year-Wise Allocation of Funds to RFWCs
in Uttar Pradesh*

Year	Amount Allocated (Figures in lakhs)
1995-96	Rs. 2655.00
1996-97	Rs. 2655.00
1997-98	Rs. 3327.00

[English]

Pending Cases in Labour Courts

8. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Union Government Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals as on March, 1997 State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the number of cases filed in the Union Government Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals from 1st January, 1990 to 1st March, 1997, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the number of cases decided by the Presiding Officer on merits during the above period; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to expedite the disposal of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shramik Vidyalaya

9. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Shramik Vidyalayas operating in Kerala State along with location thereof;

(b) the number of students benefitted by these Vidyalayas during the last three years; and

(c) the number of Vidyalayas proposed to be opened in Kerala during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The scheme relating to Workers' Education is being implemented through Education Centres of Central Board for Workers' Education, an autonomous body set up by the Government of India. In Kerala, two Workers' Education Centres of the Board are functioning—one each at Cochin and Kozhikode. Number of workers trained by these Centres during the last three years are as under:—

Year	No. of workers trained
1994-95	10861
1995-96	10322
1996-97	8045

(c) There is no proposal to set up any new centre in Kerala during the current year.

[Translation]

Shortage of Power in Rajasthan

10. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted some new power projects for approval of Central Electricity Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of projects cleared till date and the time by which the rest of the projects are likely to be cleared;

(c) whether Narsinghpur, Palana and Suratgarh power projects have not put to functioning so far;

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

(e) the quantum of Naphtha being supplied to the State at present?

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

(b) The details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) Narsinghpur, Palana and Suratgarh power projects have not yet been commissioned.

(e) Provisional linkage of Naphtha to 9 Nos. of projects totalling to 126 MW and LSHS/FD to 2 Nos. of projects totalling to 150 MW in Private Sector in Rajasthan have been issued by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas.

STATEMENT

Name of Project/ Implementing Agency	Capacity (MW)	Remarks
UNDER EXAMINATION IN CEA		
Barsingsar Lignite Mining cum-Power Generation project (M/s Hindustan Vidyut Corpn. Ltd.)	500	The scheme was considered by CEA on 11.11.1997 but was deferred due to various reasons.
SCHEMES NOT BEING PURSUED IN CEA FOR WANT OF INPUTS		
Mandalgarh TPP	630	Returned on 24.7.1985
Renughat St. III HEP	160	Returned in 2/88
Gas Based G.T plant at Banswara and Swaimadhopur.	800	Not being pursued.
Chittorgarh TPP	500	Returned on 1.8.1995
Suratgarh TPP St. II	500	Returned on 8.2.1996
Kota TPP St. IV	210	Returned on 26.2.1996
Dholpur CCGT M/s RPG Dholpur Power Co. Ltd.	702.7	Returned on 19.9.1997

*[English]***Child Labour Welfare Projects**

11. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of voluntary organisations operating in different parts of Karnataka and being funded by the Union Government to launch Child Labour Welfare Projects grant-in-aid Scheme during the last 3 years as on date; and

(b) the details of achievements made by such organisations during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects for rehabilitation of Child Labour working in hazardous occupations, Ministry of Labour is releasing funds to the child Labour Projects Societies registered at the district level for implementation of child Labour Projects. In Karnataka, Child Labour Projects have been sanctioned for 3 districts viz Bijapur, Dharwad and Gulbarga with a coverage of 5000 children. The Position regarding release of funds to these districts is as follow:—

Year	Funds Released
1995-96	Rs. 63,10,500/-
1996-97	Rs. 25,84,000/-
1997-98	Rs. 27,00,000/-

In addition, one voluntary organisation viz. Karnataka State Council for Child Welfare, Bangalore received financial assistance for taking up an action programme for the benefit of child labour, under the Scheme of grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisation. The Organisation ran 3 centres for the benefit of 50 child labourers each. The Funds released to this Organisation from 1994-95 onwards are as follows:—

Year	Funds Released
1995-96	Rs. 50,000/-
1996-97	Rs. 50,000/-
1997-98	Rs. 1,16,910/-

Unused Equipments

12. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether crores of precious money has been spent by the hospitals of the Central and the State Governments in the purchase of costly equipments and obsolete computers

and the same equipments have not been put to use for the benefit of the common man;

(b) if so, the details thereof; hospital-wise alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for purchasing such costly equipments when they are not to be put in use; and

(d) the action the Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Illegal Indian Immigrants

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

(a) whether Ministry is aware that a batch of 1,262 illegal Indian immigrants deported from Saudi Arabia arrived in Mumbai on September 30, 1997 by the ship "Al Madina";

(b) the owners of the ship "Al Madina";

(c) whether the Ministry propose to inquire in the conditions in which the Indians were deported; and

(d) whether even minimum facilities were not provided to the deportees during the travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes Sir, Ministry is aware that a batch of 1232 illegal Indian immigrants were deported from Saudi Arabia by the ship "Al Madina".

(b) "Al Madina" flies the Egyptian flag.

(c) and (d) We understand that the normal practice followed by Saudi Arabia is that immigrants who overstay there beyond the period of their valid visas, or those who take up employment in contravention of the visa conditions, are liable to deportation. Deportees are free to choose their own mode of travel. In case they do not have adequate funds, the practice of the Saudi authorities is to arrange for their deportation. In the recent period, the Saudi government has been resorting to deportation by ship. In this particular case, as the immigrants were deported at the cost of Saudi Arabia, the ship was contracted to carry the passengers directly under the instruction of the Saudi authorities. Based on the experience of the passengers on "Al Madina" and on the intervention of the Consul General of India, Jeddah, the Saudi authorities have subsequently ensured that there would be a limit on the number of passengers carried on

board each ship and that they would be accompanied by medical doctors. Besides, an adequate supply of drinking water and food would be provided.

Shortage of Power in Orissa

14. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of power in Orissa causing serious effects on the industrial activities in the State;

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

(c) whether the State Government has made a request to the Union government to increase the power allocation from the Central pool; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The details of power supply position in Orissa during the month of October, 1997 and April to October, 1997 is as under:—

Energy (MU net)	Oct., 1997	April-Oct., 1997
Requirement	960	6425
Availability	902	6159
Shortage	58	266
%	6.0	4.1

In Orissa during the current financial year, there was no notified power cut on industries.

(c) and (d) The Government of Orissa has not requested the Union Government to raise the power allocation from the Central Pool.

Refusal of Treatment of Patients

15. SHRI KESHABH MAHANTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Premier Hospitals Reject AIDS Patients" appearing in the 'Pioneer' dated 26 September, 1997;

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

(c) the concrete steps being taken to assure that AIDS patients do get proper treatment in the Government Hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One patient Shri Prakash aged 35 years (male) was referred from AIIMS to Dr. R.M.L. Hospital as a case of deep Vein Thrombosis with history of OPIODS addiction. He was examined by a ACOMO on duty in the casualty on 24.9.97 vide emergency No. 21478/97. Patient was referred to surgical emergency because he had pain-full swelling on right lower-limb. There is no record available about the patient in the surgical emergency and admission counter.

(c) Director General of Health Services took a meeting on 3-10-1997 with Senior Officials of the Directorate General of Health Services/Ministry of Health & F.W. and Medical Superintendents of hospitals in Delhi. It was confirmed from all the hospitals that no patient suffering from AIDS has been refused treatment.

World Bank Loan to APSEB

16. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has indicated its willingness to provide loan of \$700 million to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for restructuring State Electricity Board;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed with the World Bank in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the restructuring of APSEB is likely to be taken up?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The restructuring of APSEB is likely to be taken up in 1998.

Implementation of Family Planning

17. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the States which are lagging behind in implementation of family planning programme;

(b) the rate of success in implementing the family planning in different States, State-wise; and

(c) the effective steps being taken by the Government for proper implementation of the scheme to achieve the goal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Family Welfare Programme being a centrally sponsored one, is voluntary and its acceptance level depends on factors like effectiveness of State Government set up and of NGOs in the area, Socio-Economic conditions, Literacy and status of women in the Community. The performance is comparatively weak in the

States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir and in North-Eastern States. A Statement giving Statewise Sample Registration System (SRS) estimates of Birth Rate for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 is attached.

(b) The programmes of Department of Family Welfare are aimed at controlling the population of the country at a level consistent with the requirements of national development. The use of contraceptives and terminal methods is being conversed with citizens in the reproductive age group for avoiding unwanted pregnancies and facilities for reproductive and child health through the States Health System are being provided for improving the reproductive and Child health status of mothers/children which would keep the families small in the long run. The reproductive and child health Services are proposed to be substantially improved and strengthened during the 9th Plan and availability of contraceptives will be improved by strengthening arrangements for social marketing of contraceptives. Panchayat Raj institutions are proposed to be closely associated with the programme.

STATEMENT

*Statewise SRS Estimates of Birth Rate (Per 1000 population)
for the years 1994, 1995 and 1996*

State/UT	Birth Rate		
	1994	1995	1996 Prov.
1	2	3	4
India	28.7	28.3	27.4
I. Major States			
1. Andhra Pr.	23.8	24.2	22.7
2. Assam	30.8	29.3	27.7
3. Bihar	32.5	32.1	32.1
4. Gujarat	27.1	26.7	25.5
5. Haryana	30.8	29.9	28.8
6. Karnataka	25.0	24.1	23.0
7. Kerala	17.4	18.0	17.8
8. Madhya Pr.	33.0	33.2	32.4

	1	2	3	4
9.	Maharashtra	25.1	24.5	23.2
10.	Oissa	28.0	27.8	26.8
11.	Punjab	25.0	24.6	23.5
12.	Rajasthan	33.7	33.3	32.3
13.	Tamil Nadu	19.2	20.3	19.2
14.	Uttar Pr.	35.4	34.8	34.0
15.	West Bengal	25.2	23.6	22.8
II. Smaller States				
1.	Arunachal Pr	28.5	23.8	21.9
2.	Delhi	24.8	23.3	21.2
3.	Goa	14.3	14.7	14.1
4.	Himachal Pr.	26.3	25.2	23.0
5.	J&K	NA	NA	NA
6	Manipur	21.7	20.6	19.4
7.	Meghalaya	29.5	29.0	30.4
8.	Mizoram	NA	NA	NA
9.	Nagaland	20.1	NA	NA
10.	Sikkim	24.6	22.5	20.0
11.	Tripura	21.9	18.9	18.3
III. Union Territories				
1.	A&N Islands	18.0	18.7	17.3
2.	Chandigarh	19.0	19.5	16.9
3.	D&N Haveli	34.4	29.7	28.9
4.	Daman & Diu	24.8	21.8	21.0
5.	Lakshadweep	26.3	25.5	23.8
6.	Pondicherry	18.0	20.1	18.0

Anti-T.B. Drugs

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

(a) the quantity of Anti-T.B. drugs supplied to state Governments during the Seventh and Eighth Plan period, State-wise; and

(b) the death toll of people due to Tuberculosis in each State during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The amount of Anti-TB drugs supplied to the States/UTs during the Eighth Plan period in terms of their value is given in the attached Statement. The information for the Seventh Plan period is being collected.

(b) No reliable information is available regarding death toll of people due to Tuberculosis. However, the mortality rate due to TB is estimated to be 53 per lakh population each year throughout the country.

STATEMENT

National Tuberculosis control Programme Expenditure during VIIIth Five Year Plan Period

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Expenditure
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1006.85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	55.33
3.	Assam	284.76
4.	Bihar	728.92
5.	Goa	37.64
6.	Gujarat	911.16
7.	Haryana	218.53
8.	Himachal Pradesh	156.31
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	166.33
10.	Karnataka	560.48
11.	Kerala	368.81

1	2	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	783.50
13.	Maharashtra	2163.48
14.	Manipur	31.72
15.	Meghalaya	36.55
16.	Mizoram	40.81
17.	Nagaland	29.53
18.	Orissa	380.59
19.	Punjab	203.75
20.	Rajasthan	630.06
21.	Sikkim	20.15
22.	Tamil Nadu	660.31
23.	Tripura	39.74
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1633.27
25.	West Bengal	995.25
26.	Pondicherry	17.91
27.	A & N Island	22.15
28.	Chandigarh	8.04
29.	D & N Haveli	4.58
30.	Delhi	340.22
31.	Daman & Diu	2.42
32.	Lakshadweep	1.11

[Translation]

Honorarium to Health Workers

19. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly amount of honorarium being paid to the public health worker and the total number of public health workers engaged all over the country, state-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government are contemplating to increase the monthly honorarium of these health workers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) There is a Scheme for paying honorarium to Village Health Guides at Rs. 50/- per month. The amount is paid through the State Government.

As per available information as on 31st Dec., 1996, there are 320862 Village Health Guides in the country. The State-wise list is given in the Statement attached.

(b) to (d) An Expert Committee has been set up to review the scheme.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Village Health Guides reported working
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	34334
2.	Arunachal Pradesh**	N.A.
3.	Assam	11001
4.	Bihar	10431
5.	Goa\$	—
6.	Gujarat	3004
7.	Haryana	270
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3450
9.	Jammu & Kashmir*	N.A.
10.	Karnataka	15128
11.	Kerala**	N.A.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30619
13.	Maharashtra	36506
14.	Manipur	1695
15.	Meghalaya	1296

1	2	3
16.	Mizoram	510
17.	Nagaland	548
18.	Orissa	21017
19.	Punjab	9624
20.	Rajasthan	8982
21.	Sikkim	205
22.	Tamil Nadu*	N.A.
23.	Tripura	1837
24.	Uttar Pradesh	90111
25.	West Bengal	39965
26.	A & N Island	150
27.	Chandigarh	N.A.
28.	D & N Haveli	1
29.	Delhi	—
30.	Daman & Diu\$	—
31.	Lakshadweep	11
32.	Pondicherry	167
TOTAL :		320862

N.A. — Not Available

* — Alternative Health Guide (AHG) Scheme functioning in the State.

** — Alternative Health Guide Scheme not being implemented.

\$ — VHG Scheme terminated since 01.08.1985

Housing Assistance to Poor People

20. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether providing housing assistance to the poor people is a part of basic minimum services;

(b) if so, whether the Government have formulated any action plan to implement this provision;

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

(d) whether any allocation has been made for this purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (f) Yes Sir. Provision of public housing assistance to all shelterless poor families forms a part of the Basic Minimum Services (BMS). The BMS Programme has been launched in the country since 1996-97 with the objective of ensuring access of all the people to the seven identified basic services including housing in a time bound manner. The BMS guidelines inter alia stipulate that time bound action plans should be formulated by the States for this purpose.

In addition to the on-going Centrally Sponsored Scheme of the Indira Awas Yojana, several State Govts./UTs also have their own State schemes to provide housing assistance into the shelterless poor.

In order to complement the efforts of the State Govts., the Centre has allocated Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for the BMS. While for the year 1996-97, Rs. 2244 crores of ACA for BMS was provided to all States/UTs, it has been enhanced to Rs. 2970 crores for 1997-98. However, States have been given flexibility to make their own inter se allocation of ACA for BMS among the seven BMS components depending upon their plan priorities.

[English]

Power Projects in M.P.

21. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Power Stations/Sub-Stations installed in the State of Madhya Pradesh as on date and the power generation capacity of each Station/sub-Station during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the power generation capacity of these power stations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) There are 7 thermal power stations including 2 of NTPC and 6 hydel power stations (excluding mini and micro plants) located in Madhya Pradesh. As on March, 1997 there were 1661 Sub-stations (EHV and HV) and 1,64,877 distribution transformer sub-stations in Madhya Pradesh.

The details of increase in the power generation capacity during the last three years are given below:

As on	Installed Capacity (MW)			Capacity increase during the year
	Central Sector	State Sector	Total	
1993-94 (31.3.94)	3360	3783	7143	—
1994-95 (31.3.95)	3360	3863	7223	80 MW increase on account of commissioning of 2×40 MW Hydel Units at Hasdeo Bango on 21.11.1994 and 11.1.1995 respectively.
1995-96 (31.3.96)	3360	3863	7223	—
1996-97 (31.3.97)	3360	3863	7223	—
1997-98 (31.10.97)	3360	3863	7223	—

(b) and (c) The following steps are being taken by Government of Madhya Pradesh to increase the power generation capacity in the State:

- (1) Two new units (no. 3&4) of 210 MW each are under construction at Sanjay Gandhi Thermal Power Station;
- (2) Refurbishment work is being carried out at two units of Korba East and one unit of Amarkantak thermal Power Stations to restore their original generation capacity;
- (3) Construction work is in progress on Bansagar Hydel Project 2×15 MW Phase-II, 3×20 MW Phase-III and 2×10 MW Phase-IV and Rajghat Hydel Project 3×15 MW; and
- (4) Renovation and Modernisation is also being done at Sami, Korba West, Korba East and Amarkantak Thermal Power Stations to improve the performance of these units.

[Translation]

Health Programme for Rural Women and Child

22. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR RAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any plan to create awareness amongst rural women about health;

(b) if so, the details of the plan of Government to provide child nutrition in future;

(c) whether the government have any plan to set up maternity centres at panchayat level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the ICDS Scheme will continue during 9th Plan with supplementary nutrition component aimed at reducing malnutrition among needy children through supply of supplementary nutritious meals at the anganwadi centres spread all over the country and educating family about proper health care and nutritional practices.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

[English]

Meeting of SEBs

23. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had held any meeting with the heads of the State Electricity Boards of Northern India during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of participants and suggestions made by them and the action taken thereon;

(c) whether the heads of the State Electricity Boards have complied with the directions issued by the Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Budget for ISM and Homoeopathy

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

(a) the total budget allocated for various system of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy in CGHS for purchase of medicines during the last three years;

(b) the total OPD attendance in various systems of ISM & H in CGHS Dispensaries/Units during the above period, year-wise; and

(c) the average cost of medicines being spent on per patient in CGHS, system-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No separate budget is allocated for purchase of medicines for ISM&H system outside Delhi. However, the allocation for purchase of medicines is made for both allopathic and ISM&H systems, which includes that for ISM&H, Delhi, during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 was Rs. 85.91, Rs. 85.21 and Rs. 142.40 crores respectively.

(b) The OPD attendance in various systems of ISM&H in CGHS dispensaries/Units during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 has been to the extent of 2050826, 1967885 and 2238375 respectively.

(c) The average cost of medicine in 1996-97, under the Aurvedic, Homoeopathy, Unani and Sidha systems of medicine was approximately Rs. 24.00, Rs. 14.00, Rs. 103.00 and Rs. 173.00 per patient respectively.

Polio Cases

25. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

[illegible]

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Punjab	2	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	3	0	2	2	14
Rajasthan	1	1	3	3	1	2	2	8	6	2	1	0	30
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	4	7	8	9	14	12	11	10	6	3	7	4	95
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Uttar Pradesh	3	12	3	4	3	5	17	26	36	4	12	10	135
West Bengal	15	11	21	4	18	9	10	6	0	3	0	0	97
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	8	10	10	3	1	7	17	34	31	8	15	13	157
Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	104	65	70	36	66	68	102	171	169	43	48	63	1005

Upto Sept '96 = 851

STATEMENT-II

Polio Cases Reported by States—1997

States	Polio Cases									
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Cum
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Andhra Pradesh	0	0	10	4	1	0	0	0	0	15
Assam	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Bihar	0	0	3	0	1	4	2	0	0	10
Gujarat	3	0	5	5	5	26	40	1	5	90
Haryana	1	0	0	1	3	2	1	0	2	10
Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Karnataka	9	3	2	2	1	2	7	7	6	39
Kerala	1	0	3	0	0	2	2	0	2	10
Madhya Pradesh	0	0	6	2	0	1	0	0	0	9
Maharashtra	3	2	5	1	9	6	34	20	1	81
Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Punjab	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	6

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Rajasthan	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	5	0	10
Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tamil Nadu	5	4	7	6	5	12	9	0	0	48
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	8	2	3	1	5	7	119	84	57	286
West Bengal	0	0	5	8	0	3	1	6	3	26
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delhi	11	4	6	1	3	3	2	0	15	45
Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Daman & Diu	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	43	22	55	36	34	70	217	126	91	694

External Assistance to Uttar Pradesh

26. LT. GEN. PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted proposals to the Union Government for financial assistance from Indo-French Assistance Protocol and Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Kuwait Fund for supply of hospital equipments and expansion of hospitals respectively; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Since 1996, Government of Uttar Pradesh has forwarded three proposals for financial assistance from the Indo-French Assistance Protocol & OPEC Fund. The status of these proposals is indicated below:—

1. Import of equipment worth FF 3.56 million for the treatment of cancer at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow under Indo-French Financial Protocol. This proposal, which was posed to the French authorities through Department of Economic Affairs, has since been approved.
2. Supply of equipment worth FF 72 million to Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow under the Indo French Protocol Assistance programme. This proposal has been posed to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on 16th September, 1997, who in turn, have further posed it to the Embassy of France.
3. Construction and Establishment of a 300 bedded modern hospital at an estimated cost of Rs. 3270.05 lakh in Badaumi from OPEC Fund. The proposal has been posed to Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs on 27.3.1997 for posing to the donor agency.

Chandrapur Thermal Power Station

27. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the existing norms for enlistment of contract in Chandrapur Thermal Power Station under Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) whether a Committee was set up some time back for the purpose and later on wound up;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to constitute a fresh Committee for the purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) is not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) DVC follows a uniform set of norms for enlistment of contractors for various categories of works. These norms are also applicable for enlistment of contractors for Chandrapur TPS.

(b) to (f) It is common practice to review classification of contractors into different categories from time to time. A Committee to undertake such a review had been constituted in March, 1993 by the management of DVC, which was wound up after it had reviewed the classification of existing contractors. A fresh Committee has been constituted in May, 1997 for a similar review.

Haj Pilgrimage

28. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times, the Chairman and staff of the Haj Committee, Mumbai, visited Saudi Arabia in the year 1996-97;

(b) if so, the purpose of the visit and the expenditure on ticket, accommodation, transportation, TA and DA;

(c) whether such expenditure are audited; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to curtail such expenses which are deposit from the poor Haj Pilgrims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) During 1996-97, Chairmen, Haj Committee visited Saudi Arabia seven times. Executive Officer twice and 11 employees once each.

(b) The visits were undertaken as part of Haj Committee's efforts to ensure best possible arrangements for Indian Haj pilgrims in Makkah and Madinah and to meet concerned Saudi authorities in this connection.

The expenditure on the visits as furnished by Central Haj Committee is as follows.

Item	Expenditure (In Rs.)
Air tickets	Rs. 1,03,330
DA	Rs. 75,600
Accommodation	Rs. 45,000
Transport	Rs. 80,000
Foreign exchange paid to staff members @Rs. 55,000 per person	Rs. 6,52,080

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Yes Sir. The proposals for the visits of Central Haj Committee to Saudi Arabia are cleared by Government after careful consideration, keeping in view the need for best possible arrangement for the Haj by Indian pilgrims and the imperatives of economy in incurring expenditure out of the Haj Fund

Issue of Blood

29. SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the AIIMS blood bank has been issuing blood to private hospitals and individuals which is essentially meant for the indoor patients of the Institute;

(b) if so, the monthly average quantity of blood issued to private hospitals and individuals during the last one year;

(c) whether any norms/conditions have been laid down for issuing of blood by the AIIMS blood bank to private hospitals and individuals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the overall effect of such supply of various groups of blood on the indoor patients in the AIIMS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The AIIMS Blood Bank issues blood to the patients who hold voluntary cards wherever they may be admitted. The blood is issued to a card holder. Exceptions are made in emergency situations or when blood is required by a voluntary blood donor who himself or his relative happens to be admitted in private hospitals.

(b) Average issue of blood to voluntary card holders admitted in private hospitals is 100-150 units per month.

(c) and (d) In accordance with the directions laid down by the State Council on blood transfusion services for National Capital Territory of Delhi, all hospitals have to honour voluntary caros.

(e) There is no impact whatsoever on the Indoor Patients as the Institute maintains large stocks of blood.

Use of Recycled Disposable Syringes

30. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that more and more people are getting infected by the HIV virus in India due to the use of recycled disposable syringes that make their way back to the hospitals from surgical wastebins;

(b) whether any estimate has been made of the extent of use of recycled syringes;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the disposable syringes are not re-used?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) There has been media reports that disposable syringes are recycled in some places. While no official estimation of the extent of this practice has been made, the guidelines on Hospital Acquired Infection Control circulated to the hospitals and State Governments detailed instructions have been given for proper disposal of blood and blood contaminated material including disposable syringes and needles incineration/shredding. This aspect has also been covered in the training programmes organised for medical and para medical personnel and is a major part of the information, education and communication campaign launched to educate the general public.

Child Health Programme

31. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched the Reproductive Child Health Programme (RCHP);

(b) if so, the main objective of the programme;

(c) the States where the programme is being launched;

(d) the funds earmarked for the programme;

(e) whether the programme is being funded by World Bank; and

(f) if so, by when the World Bank assistance is likely to be received for implementing RCHP?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Reproductive & Child Health (RCH) Programme aims to meet the unmet needs of Family Welfare Programme by improving health status of women & children and reducing infant, child and maternal mortality and morbidity.

(c) The RCH Programme is a part of 100% centrally sponsored Family Welfare Scheme and had been launched by the Government of India on 15.10.97. The Programme will be implemented by all States/UTs.

(d) The approved outlay for RCH Programme during 9th Plan period is Rs. 5112.53 crores.

(e) Yes Sir. While World Bank is the major donor, many other International Agencies are also supporting the programme financially.

(f) The World Bank assistance for RCH Programme will be received from the current year 1997-98 itself on reimbursement basis.

Beedi Workers

32. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have planned 20-Point welfare package for the beedi workers in the country;

(b) if so, the number of beedi workers proposed to be covered under the various welfare schemes, State-wise;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on various welfare schemes including Health Care during 1997-98, State-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to expedite implementation of various welfare schemes for beedi workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Government does not have any specific programme by the name of 20-Point Welfare package for beedi workers. However various welfare measures in the fields of health, housing, education and recreation are being implemented

under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976. There are estimated 43.64 lakhs beedi workers and all beedi workers are eligible for various benefits being extended under these schemes.

(c) and (d) Under the welfare fund scheme, the allocation of funds is not made State-wise. However, sanctions for implementation of the schemes are issued Region-wise to the nine Regions spread throughout the country.

The region-wise allocation of funds is given in the Statement attached.

The implementation of welfare schemes under the welfare fund is reviewed periodically both at Centre as well as Region-level and remedial action where necessary is taken.

STATEMENT

The region-wise allocation of fund for 1997-98

S.No.	Region*	Amount (Rs. in thousand)
1.	Allahabad	1,74,51
2.	Bangalore	4,99,87
3.	Bhilwara	1,42,35
4.	Bhubaneshwar	1,42,25
5.	Calcutta	3,28,40
6.	Hyderabad	7,06,35
7.	Jabalpur	4,50,40
8.	Karma	1,52,25
9.	Nagpur	2,43,90
Total :		28,40,28

*1. Allahabad region covers Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab & N.C.T. Delhi and U.T. of Chandigarh.

2. Bangalore region covers Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshdweep Islands.

3. Bhilwara region covers Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana.

4. Bhubaneshwar region covers Orissa.

5. Calcutta region covers Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, West Bengal and Sikkim.

6. Hyderabad region covers Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

7. Jabalpur region covers Madhya Pradesh.

8. Karma region covers Bihar.

9. Nagpur region covers Maharashtra, Goa, Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

[Translation]

Uranium Oxide

33. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Scientists have developed any new indigenous technology for achieving self dependence in the production of Uranium Oxide fuel which is considered important for nuclear reactors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantity of Uranium Oxide likely to be produced per month as a result of new technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The technology for production of uranium oxide fuel for our nuclear power reactors was indigenously developed quite some time back. Based on this technology, the requirement of nuclear fuel of all our power reactors is being met by the Nuclear Fuel Complex, set up at Hyderabad in the early seventies. However, development of new technologies, which is an ongoing process, is pursued continuously.

(b) The "sol-gel" technology of making uranium oxide micro-spheres of uniform size and excellent flowability has been developed. Consolidation of these microspheres in the form of uranium oxide pellets, used as nuclear reactor fuel, has also been optimized. The feasibility of sintering this material at relatively low temperatures has been demonstrated. Fuel bundles using such pellets are currently under testing in power reactors for their performance evaluation.

As an alternative to the enriched uranium oxide fuel, used only for the two boiling water reactors at Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS), a new mixed oxide (MOX) fuel has been produced. This fuel is a mixture of plutonium and uranium oxides. A small number of fuel assemblies of MOX has been loaded in the reactors at TAPS.

(c) It is too early to quantify the production rates of nuclear fuel based on the new technology, in view of the status mentioned in reply to part (b) of the question.

[English]

Indian System of Medicine

34. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Indian system of medicine and health care needs the revival;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of several illnesses to which allopathy could not cure or prevent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Government have already set up a separate Department of Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy in March, 1995 for development and promotion of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani & Homoeopathy system of medicine and drugless therapies of Yoga & Naturopathy in the country.

(c) According to Indian Council of Medical Research, there are no drugs available for majority of viral diseases. Further in certain diseases, such as hypertension, rheumatoid arthritis, bronchial asthma etc. complete cure is not available for some of the patients in allopathy system of medicine, but the treatment can arrest the symptom and further progress of the diseases.

Honorarium to Part Time Midwives

35. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh had requested the Union government to increase the honorarium payable to part time midwives from Rs. 50/- to Rs. 300/- per month; and

(b) if so, when was the said request received by the Union Government and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The last request is dated 28 July, 1997. There is no Centrally approved scheme for engaging part time midwives.

In the existing Sub-centre scheme there is a provision for engaging voluntary worker for maintenance of the Sub-centre on honorarium of Rs. 50/- per month. The U.P. Government has requested for increasing the remuneration of "short-time mid-wives" which are not being funded by Govt. of India.

[Translation]

Pending Schemes of Maharashtra

36. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes of Government of Maharashtra lying pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) the action taken by the Union Government thereon so far; and

(c) the time by which the decision on these schemes is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (c) No scheme pertaining to the State of Maharashtra is pending at present with the Planning Commission for its clearance.

Child Labour

37. DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI :
SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Authority for abolition of Child Labour has identified the areas in Uttar Pradesh having highest number of cases of Child Labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union government for abolition and rehabilitation of Child Labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Clearance to Power Projects

38. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several private and public sector power projects from Kerala are pending for clearance of the Central Electricity Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with capacity and estimated cost of each project;

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has sought fuel linkage for setting up of Barge Mounted Power Projects;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the pending power projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) The Government of Kerala had sought fuel linkage for setting up of Barge Mounted Power Projects to the extent of 500 MW. over and above, their regular allocation. The request had not been accepted.

[Translation]

Infectious Diseases

39. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of infectious diseases and the number of patients suffering therefrom as on December 31, 1996, as compared to previous year in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any special drive is being launched by the Government for prevention of infectious diseases and treatment of patients suffering therefrom;

(c) whether any research work is being undertaken for eradication of infectious diseases and for providing medicines of good quality to patients suffering from infectious diseases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the types of diseases for which research is being undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No reliable information is available on the infectious diseases. The State-wise details on the basis of report received by the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence about the number of cases of communicable diseases during the year 1996 and 1995 is given in the Statement attached.

(b) to (d) There are several National Programmes for the control of communicable diseases which included AIDS, Malaria, TB, Leprosy, Guinea worm, Vaccine preventable diseases, diarrhoea, etc. where provision for treatment of patients suffering from these diseases has been made including supply of drugs. At present there are only 3 diseases which are being targetted for eradicate/elimination viz. Leprosy, Polio and Guinea worm. ICMR is conducting research in Polio and Leprosy through their own institutions and other research bodies.

STATEMENT

*The cases of communicable diseases
during 1995-1996*

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Cases	
		1995	1996
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15170781	15990002
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	371697	301707
3.	Assam	—	*
4.	Bihar	—	97
5.	Goa	45957	93768
6.	Gujarat	3477553	4676016
7.	Haryana	5856243	6593225
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5290009	5642898
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5669644	6842604
10.	Karnataka	9533051	10116729
11.	Kerala	11261974	15541946
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7542814	5467613
13.	Maharashtra	12782007	11941459
14.	Manipur	336146	352837
15.	Meghalaya	620288	563809
16.	Mizoram	284630	228884
17.	Nagaland	35549	69645
18.	Orissa	6869842	9231719
19.	Punjab	2861231	3033725
20.	Rajasthan	2547472	2552513
21.	Sikkim	—	6742

1	2	3	4
22.	Tamil Nadu	3518257	1489421
23.	Tripura	588206	662776
24.	Uttar Pradesh	24546016	27816295
25.	West Bengal	2762754	622
26.	A&N Islands	594610	455510
27.	Chandigarh	—	260
28.	D & N Haveli	273882	305284
29.	Daman & Diu	34451	87678
30.	Delhi	3741361	2763751
31.	Lakshdweep	169962	169339
32.	Pondicherry	4094101	3958394

*Not reported.

[English]

Projects Abandoned

40. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss suffered by the Union Government on projects which were abandoned during the years 1994, 1995 and 1996 on which a sum of Rs. one crore or more had already been spent;

(b) the details of such projects on which further work has been stopped during the above period;

(c) whether these projects were sanctioned after proper study regarding their feasibility;

(d) if so, the particulars of those against whom action has been taken/initiated in this regard; and

(e) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to check such wastage of the scarce resources of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) and (b) As per the information available with the Department of Programme Implementation which monitors central projects costing Rs. 20 crores and more, 8 central projects on which expenditure incurred was Rs. one crore or more were abandoned during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97. The total expenditure incurred on these abandoned projects was Rs. 87.57 crores. The details of these 8 projects are given in Statement attached.

(c) and (d) The 8 projects had been sanctioned after proper study but were abandoned on account of post sanction constraints such as resource constraints, geological surprises, non-availability of land, law and order problem, etc. Some of the projects were abandoned in the public sector for implementation in the private sector.

(e) To check wastage large projects falling within the purview of the Public Investment Board are subjected to two stage clearance. The techno-economic parameters are required to be firmed up and essential pre-project activities are required to be completed after first stage clearance and before final sanction.

STATEMENT

*List of projects abandoned during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97
and where Rs. 1 crore and above had been spent*

(Rs. in crores)			
Sl. No.	Sector	Name of the Project	Expenditure
1994-95			
1	Coal	Karma OC	1.64
2	Coal	Bakulia UG	2.57
3	Power	Dulhasti Tr. Line	41.08
4	Heavy Industry	Bagasse Base News Print	6.91
1995-96			
5	Coal	Barsingar Lignite mine	24.48
6	Coal	Barsingar Lignite TPS	5.06
1996-97			
7	Coal	Goleti-Longwall	3.90
8	Petroleum	Haldia-Budge-Budge Pipeline	1.93
Total			87.57

Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project

41. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
 SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
 SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the proposed Kayamkulam Thermal Power project is likely to be commissioned fully;

(b) the stage at which the project stands at present;

(c) the estimated cost and power generation capacity of the project;

(d) whether there is any technical reasons for not expending the project; and

(e) if so, the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The estimated cost of the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project is Rs. 1310.58 crores. The capacity of the project is 350 MW. The commissioning schedule of the project is as under:

Gas turbine I	March, 1999
Gas turbine II	May, 1999
Steam turbine	March, 2000

Infrastructure activities at site like construction of offices, and boundary wall etc., are in an advanced stage of completion. Approach roads and the construction power supply have been made available. Dredging, leveling and compaction work in main power block including offside area and fuel handling system have been completed as per schedule. The piling work for the entire plant has also been completed. The foundation work of main plant has commenced. The balance activities of the project are progressing as per schedule. NTPC closely monitoring the work. The project will be completed on time.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

[Translation]

New Power Plants

42. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
 SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
 SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether guidelines have been drawn for setting up of new atomic power plant during Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on existing and proposed new nuclear power plants separately?

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

(b) The basic guidelines proposed to be followed in the context of setting up new Atomic Power Plants during the Ninth Five Year Plan are :

1. Strengthening the infrastructure for the nuclear power sector which are directly linked to nuclear power capacity in the country, in the area of heavy water production and nuclear fuel fabrication.
2. Establishing a viable capital structure for nuclear power projects including mobilisation of resources from the capital markets.

(c) The Expenditure likely to be incurred on ongoing and existing proposals for new nuclear projects in the 9th Plan period (1997-98 to 2001-02) is given as below:

Schemes	Ongoing Projects (Rs. in crore (1996 price level)	New Proposals (Rs. in crore)
Estimated cost	1536.54	3941.23
Ancillary Schemes for NPC	567.75	498.66
Total	2104.29	4439.89

Setting up of Private Power Houses in Delhi

43. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some private sector power houses in the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) As on date, four projects have been proposed in private sector in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The details of these projects and their brief status is as follows;

1. *CCGT Project Bawana Ph. I (421 MW)*

M/s Reliance Industries have been selected as developer for the project. The PPA has to be finalised between GNCTD and the promoter.

2. *Bawana Ph. II (600-650 MW)*

Developer is being selected through two-part bidding process. Evaluation of 1st part has been completed and 6 parties have been qualified to submit detailed bids to whom Request For Proposal (RFP) documents have been furnished.

3. *Multi fuel based small power plants (50-100 MW)*

10 sites in Delhi have been identified for setting up small power plants of capacity 50-100 MW.

4. *Apollo energy Power Station 300 MW (coal based)*

Apollo Hospital Group signed an MOU with Ministry of Power for setting up a 200 MW power plant on CFB technology. Later, the capacity of the plant was increased to 300 MW. A letter of comfort has already been issued by DVB to the company. Further action is in hand by Apollo Hospital authorities of firming up all inputs and clearances as well as for drafting of PPA. However, in the meantime, a public interest litigation (PIL) has been filed in Hon'ble Delhi High Court by Dr. B.L. Vadhwa requesting for quashing of the MOU. During the last hearing on 23.9.1997 the Hon'ble High Court has ruled that pendency of the case in the court would not prejudice the right of the authorities to proceed further with the project.

[English]

Clearance to Power Projects

44. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided that the power projects upto Rs. 1000 crores need not require clearance of Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the decision implies environmental clearance also; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) All the power projects of private generating companies costing more than Rs. 100 crores (in case of projects awarded through Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Letter of Intent (LOI), etc., route) and costing more than Rs. 1000 crores (in case of projects awarded through competitive bidding) have to obtain techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) and (c) All the power projects have to obtain the environmental clearance as per the guidelines notified by the Ministry of Environment and Forests from time to time.

[Translation]

Indian System of Medicine

45. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR RAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to encourage the Indian system of medicines in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the number of people likely to be benefited under the said scheme; and

(d) the percentage of amount spent by the Government on the promotion of the Indian system of medicines out of the amount being earmarked for the Health care?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) Beneficiary of these schemes are Governmental and Semi Governmental and other institutions, who in turn benefit individuals, therefore it is difficult to grantify the exact number of beneficiary.

(d) Out of total funds of Rs. 1997.80 crores earmarked for health care, Rs. 56.80 crores earmarked for the promotion and development of Indian System of medicines i.e. 2.84 per cent during the year 1997-98.

STATEMENT

The Government has set up a new Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy in March 1995 for the development and promotion of these system including Yoga & Naturopathy in the country. Details are as follows:—

- (i) Strengthening of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy Education Institutions, Financial Assistance is given for upgradation of facilities in educational institutions of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
- (ii) Standardisation of Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy drugs, setting up of Laboratory facilities for the testing of Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy Drugs.
- (iii) Re-orientation training to in-service Teachers, Physicians and Researchers.
- (iv) (a) Development and cultivation of Medicinal Plants used in Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy medicines.
(b) Scheme for Development of Agro-Techniques & Cultivation of medicinal plants.
- (v) Strengthening and establishment of premier Institutes in these systems of Medicine such as National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, Institutes of Post-Graduate Training & Research in Ayurveda-Jamnagar, Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidhyapeeth, Delhi, National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore and National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune.
- (vi) Research in Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy is supported through various Central Councils of Research in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy.
- (vii) Central scheme for functioning of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani Pharmacopoeia Committees to develop Pharmacopoeial standards for ISM Drugs, and standardization of drugs and testing of drugs through the Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy pharmacopoeia laboratory of Gaziabad.

[English]

ISRO Flooded

46. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the headquarters of the Indian Space Research Organisation were inundated with rain water recently;

(b) if so, the extent of damage done to scientific equipments or other things; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such events?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The basement of Antariksh Bhavan which houses the Department of Space and the Headquarters of the Indian Space Research Organisation in Bangalore was inundated by unprecedented rain on the night of September 30, 1997 and morning of October 1, 1997. This caused flooding and sudden gushing of water into the building. The flooding occurred mainly due to the fact that Bangalore City received as much as 17.98 cms of rain during the period of around 24 hours and also because of the inadequacy of area drainage system in the locality.

The basement area where the Library, Conference Room, Seminar Hall, Record and Stationery Rooms and Telephone Exchange are located, was affected. However, timely action taken by the Department to drain out the stagnated water early minimised the loss. No scientific equipments are located in the basement. Hence, there was no damage to them. The total loss is approximately Rs. 16.75 lakhs.

Since flooding of Antriksh Bhavan was mainly due to gushing of water from the adjoining areas, the local Municipal Authorities have been approached to improve area drainage system and also to ensure clearance and desilting of the drainage network at regular intervals for their functional efficacy.

Satellite Launching

47. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the News item captioned, "US Okays firing laser to disable satellite" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 4th October, 1997;

- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government there to?

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

(b) According to Pentagon sources which is reported in the newspaper, the test involved disabling an old satellite which had been launched in may 1996 (now not in service) by aiming a high-power laser beam at it. The laser beam is transmitted from a remote army base in New Mexico.

The objective of the test, according to Pentagon, is not to destroy the satellite or result in any orbital debris, nor to pose any risk to other satellites but only to collect data to study how to protect US satellites against lasers.

(c) The test proposed cannot be considered as a violation of any international treaty to which India is a party. However, development in this area are monitored by the Government.

Clearance to Power Project

48. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of power plants received from Rajasthan are pending for clearance of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA);

(b) the estimated cost and capacity of each project; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to provide clearance to those projects at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted by M/s Hindustan Vidyut Corporation Limited to Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for implementing the Barsingsar Lignite Mining-cum-Power Generation Project (on the competitive bidding route) in Rajasthan has been considered for techno-economic appraisal by CEA.

(b) The Barsingsar Lignite Mining-cum-Power Generation Project has a proposed capacity of 500 MW and an estimated cost of Rs. 2468.23 crores.

(c) The project will be cleared as soon as the promoters are able to tie up pending inputs and requisite clearances from Central and State Government agencies.

[Translation]

Queen's Visit to India

49. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :
SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Queen Elizabeth visited India recently; and

(b) if so the details of talks held between her and Indian leaders?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Queen Elizabeth II paid a State Visit to India from October 12-18, 1997. This was goodwill visit and the talks covered in a general manner, bilateral relations with the U.K., as well as other subjects of mutual concern.

[English]

Non-Aligned Movement

50. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives for identifying the specific areas for revitalising the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith response of the other member countries of NAM to the initiatives taken by India; and

(c) the details of action plan finalised/proposed for 1997-98 for vitalisation of NAM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) India has been actively constructively participating in different NAM forums with a view to strengthen and revitalise the Movement. India has taken a number of initiatives to identify specific areas for action in this regard. India hosted the 12th NAM Ministerial Conference in April, 1997 in New Delhi. At this conference, Ministers of Non-Aligned countries concluded that the Movement should enhance its unity and cohesion and co-ordinate positions of member countries towards major international issues with the a view to strengthening their negotiating power. They reiterated that it was essential to widen the scope of agreement, expand the area of action, set clearer criteria and procedures, and develop the principles of solidarity among the members of the Movement. The Ministers directed the Movement to promote jointly its collective positions on international peace and security, UN reforms,

disarmament, development, human right, racial discrimination, terrorism, the environment and other political issues in the UN and international arena.

It was India's endeavour during this Conference to give NAM a modern and forward looking orientation in procedure as well as substance. Our attempt was to make the results action oriented and move away from rhetoric. Apart from the traditional areas of NAM interaction, the Conference also focussed on social areas where South-South interaction has been minimal.

Following another initiative at the conference to further enhance South-South Co-operation in the area of international trade and economic issues, NAM has recently set up a group of eminent economists to study the challenges facing developing countries and make recommendations thereon.

The Delhi Conference decided to hold the next NAM Summit in South Africa in 1998. This is expected to further enhance the strength and prestige of the Movement. India would participate actively in preparations for the summit.

B.D.S. Degrees

51. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether BDS degrees of Kolhapur, Pune and Amaravati are being treated as unrecognised for two years or so by many State Governments and Dental Council of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the said degrees have, of late, been recognised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) As per Section 10 (2) of the Dentists Act 1948 any authority or institution in India which grants a dental qualification not included in Part I of the Schedule may apply to the Central Government to have such qualification recognised and included in that Part, and the central Government after consulting the Dental Council of India, and after such inquiry, if any, as it may think fit for the purpose, may, by notification in the Official Gazette, amend Part I of the Schedule so as to include such qualification therein, and any such notification may also direct that an entry shall be made in Part I of the Schedule

against such dental qualification declaring that it shall be a recognised dental qualification only when granted after a specified date. The matters relating to recognition of BDS degrees of Shivaji University Kolhapur, Pune University and Amaravati University are under active consideration.

Cogentrix

52. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given clearance to the Mangalore Power Company (Cogentrix) to set up a 1000 M.W. Power Plant at Nandikur, Udupi District;

(b) whether some conditions have been imposed by the Karnataka High Court for setting up of the Power Plant;

(c) if so, whether all conditions are to be fulfilled before granting final clearance;

(d) whether environmental safety measures have been taken into consideration to prevent pollution of air, water and space;

(e) whether the Finance Ministry is having reservation in granting investment clearance to the company; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The 1000 MW Mangalore Power Project proposed to be set up by M/s Mangalore Power Company has been accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) to (d) The project has obtained the no-objection from the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board and environmental clearance from the Ministry of Environment & Forests (Government of India), both subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. Writ Petitions Nos. 790 of 1997 and 28651 of 1996 were filed in the High Court of Karnataka, which, inter-alia, questioned the environmental clearance given to the project. The Hon'ble Court, in its judgment delivered on 29th August, 1997 has not imposed any conditions for setting up of the Mangalore Power Project. However, the Court has directed the Central Government to take into consideration the reports/views of certain agencies/persons and also to take note of criticism of absence of the carrying capacity study and its impact to ascertain whether such information is such that the action taken by the Mangalore Power Company will affect the quality of human life and environment in a significant manner or extent which has not already been considered by them and decide the issues arising therein.

(e) The project has been accorded clearance from foreign investment angle by the Government of India.

(f) This does not arise.

Passport Offices

53. DR. G.R. SARODE :

SHRI SOHAN VEER SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Passport Offices with their locations in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to open more passport offices in various States;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) There are 28 Passport Offices in the country as on date. A statement showing their locations is given in the attached Statement.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal at present to open more Passport Offices. A proposal for automation of the Passport Offices at a cost of Rs. 28 crores has been approved by the Committee on Non-Plan expenditure. Addition of any new office would alter the parameters of the proposal and delay the tendering process.

STATEMENT

The location of Passport Offices in the Country

1. Regional Passport Office, Ahmedabad.
2. Passport Office, Bangalore.
3. Passport Office, Bareilly
4. Passport Office, Bhopal.
5. Regional Passport Office, Bhubneshwar.
6. Regional Passport Office, Mumbai.
7. Regional Passport Office, Calcutta.
8. Regional Passport Office, Chandigarh.
9. Regional Passport Office, Chennai.
10. Regional Passport Office, Cochin.
11. Regional Passport Office, Delhi.

12. Regional Passport Office, Guwahati.

13. Passport Office, Hyderabad.

14. Passport Office, Jaipur.

15. Passport Office, Jalandhar.

16. Passport Office, Kozhikode.

17. Passport Office, Lucknow.

18. Passport Office, Nagpur.

19. Passport Office, Panaji.

20. Passport Office, Patna.

21. Passport Office, Tiruchirapalli.

22. Passport Office, Trivandrum.

23. Passport Office, Jammu.

24. Passport Office, Ghaziabad.

25. Passport Office, Vishakhapatnam.

26. Passport Office, Thane.

27. Passport Office, Srinagar.

28. Passport Office, Pune, (Being set up).

Purchase of Blood

54. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the reports regarding buying of contaminated blood sets by the city's Safdarjung Hospital's Blood Bank appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated August 19, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have made any inquiry into the buying of blood which is unfit for use; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the finding thereof and the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The hospitals does not buy blood as only donors are accepted. Regarding the news item of contaminated blood sets, the matter was investigated by

the hospital authorities. It was found that these blood sets are not being used presently for blood collecting purposes due to better technology now available. These reported sets were used in the hospital for purposes other than blood transfusion.

Per Capita Income

55. CHOUDHARY RAMACHANDRA BENDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rural-urban per capita Income ratio before the implementation of First Five Year Plan and at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether the proportional rural income has come down during the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the impact thereof on poor persons, specially in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) and (b) The estimates of income by rural and urban areas are not available on a regular basis. According to the Central Statistical organisation (CSO) estimates, at currently prices, the ratio of per capita net Domestic Product in urban areas and rural areas were 2.45 in 1970-71 and 2.23 in 1980-81. However, the information on per capita consumption expenditure in rural and urban areas is available on a fairly regular basis from the data generated by the Survey on Consumer Expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). According to this, the ratio of per capita consumption in urban and rural areas in 1955-56 was 1.43. The latest estimates are available for the year 1993-94, according to which the ratio of per capita consumption in urban to rural areas is worked out as 1.63.

(c) The estimates of poverty depends mainly on the per capita real consumption and its distribution among different expenditure groups of the population. The Planning Commission estimates poverty on the basis of quinquennial Survey on Consumer Expenditure conducted by NSSO. Comparable estimates show a decline in the incidence of poverty from 56.44 per cent in 1973-74 to 37.27 per cent in 1993-94 in rural areas, 49.01 per cent to 32.36 per cent in urban areas and 54.88 to 35.97 per cent for the country as a whole, during the corresponding period.

Arrest of Indian Fishermen

56. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian Fishermen were arrested by Iranian Government from Saudi Arabian Ship while they crossed the Exclusive Economic Zone of Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to get them released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Comprehensive Power Policy

57. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee constituted by the Planning Commission for a Comprehensive Power Policy has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (c) Planning Commission has not constituted such a committee for evolving a comprehensive power policy. However, National Development Council (NDC) constituted a Committee on Power which has submitted its report to the Prime Minister. Since the Committee was constituted by NDC, the Report is to be first placed before them.

Disposal of Medical Waste

58. SHRI RAMBHADUR SINGH :
SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in pursuance of the directives issued by the Supreme Court certain rules for the safe disposal of medical waste in the hospital were notified by the Government;

(b) if so, the details of directives issued by the Supreme Court;

(c) whether the Government have made any study to know how far these rules are being implemented by the hospitals for the disposal of medical waste;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government against those hospitals which have not followed the directives of Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (e) The Supreme Court in its judgement delivered on 1.3.1996 had given directions to the concerned authorities in Delhi to install incinerators or to adopt other alternatives for the safe disposal of hospital waste in all Nursing homes/hospital having 50 or more beds. The Ministry of Environment and Forests had before the Supreme Court order, notified draft Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 1995 on 4.4.1995 for eliciting opinion/objections of the public concerned agencies likely to be affected. The Ministry of Environment and Forests have notified the draft Rules again on 16.10.1997. In order to implement the directives of the Supreme Court, orders for installation of an incinerator for Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital have been issued. Action has also been initiated to provide additional incinerator for Safdarjung Hospital, Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals and All India Instituted of Medical Sciences, New Delhi to supplement the incinerators already installed. Government of NCT of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Council are also taking action to implement the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

[Translation]

Transmission and Distribution of Power

59. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for handing over the work of transmission and distribution of power to private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some foreign consultants have made this suggestion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. AGLAGH) : (a) and (b) The provisions of Electricity Supply Act, 1948 and Indian Electricity Act, 1910 allow private participation in distribution. The Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power (CMNPP) adopted in the Chief Ministers' conferences held in October and December, 1996 also inter-alia suggests privatisation of distribution. However,

it is for the State Governments to take a decision in this direction. The CMNPP also provides for necessary amendments in the relevant Acts/Rules to allow private participation in transmission. An amendment to the Electricity Supply Act, 1948 to enable private participation in transmission has been introduced in Parliament and is being considered by the Standing Committee.

(c) and (d) No foreign consultant has been appointed to give advice in this regard. The Government of India have appointed a single Member Committee under Dr. S.J. Coelho, Ex-Chairman, Gujarat Electricity Board to examine the feasibility of privatisation of distribution and to suggest guidelines/legal framework for making distribution of electricity financially viable and attractive.

Selling of Syringes

60. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "MNCs Selling Syringes flaunting labelling laws" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated September 5, 1997;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether any action has been taken against any multi-national company in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The report, inter alia, alleges that misbranded mislabelled sterile single use syringes and needles are being imported into the Country in contravention of various laws including the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. On examination of the matter by the Drugs Controller General (India) it has been found that while each of strip pack of the needles and syringes does give Batch No., Date of expiry, Name and Address of the manufacturer, the M.R.P. and import licence No. are not given on each strip but given on the outer carton box which generally contains cutiple packs. As a result, all the Port Officers have been alerted to examine the imported consignment with greater vigil so as to ensure that the necessary labelling requirements are printed or affixed on each strip before clearing the consignment.

[English]

Intellectual Stockpile

61. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have charted out radical, market oriented plans to create wealth for the country out of an "intellectual stockpile" through a Network of its Laboratories;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the strategies worked out in terms of set priorities during the current year;

(c) the significant achievements of CSIR during the past five years; and

(d) the details of task assigned to the CSIR to expand and strengthen science and technology base and to catch up to the challenges thrown by the process of globalisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, CSIR has chartered out its plans by aligning its programmes and activities more closely to the socio-economic needs of the country through the network of its laboratories. CSIR has set out its priority based on optimisation of the returns to the CSIR and the country. Accordingly, CSIR's strategy is to relate its market-oriented plans to:

- * identifying niche opportunity areas, partners, customers, competitors and markets;
- * evolving a balanced portfolio of projects;
- * exploring and establishing synergistic alliances, consortia and networks that minimise costs and risks of R&D and optimise on value addition and return on outputs.

(c) Details on the significant achievements of CSIR are given in Statement attached.

(d) CSIR has enunciated its strategy through a White Paper released in January 1996 viz. CSIR 2001 : Vision & Strategy wherein self-assigned tasks and goals have been set as follows:

- * to move towards the path of self-financing by generating over Rs. 700 crore from external sources of which at least 50 per cent will be from industrial customers;
- * to develop at least 10 exclusive and globally competitive technologies;

- * to hold a patent bank of 500 foreign patents;
- * to realise 10 per cent of operational expenditure from Intellectual Property licensing; and
- * to derive annual earnings of US \$ 40 million from overseas R&D work and services.

CSIR's vision is thus to become:

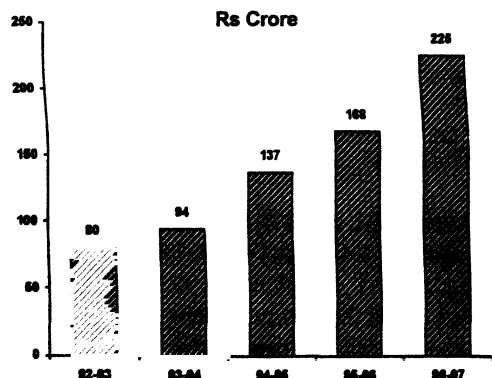
- * a model organization for scientific and industrial research;
- * a global R&D platform providing competitive R&D and high quality science based services; and
- * a vital source of S&T for national societal missions which combine technology with a human base.

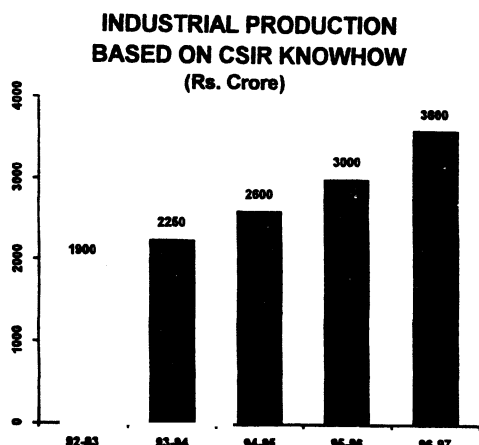
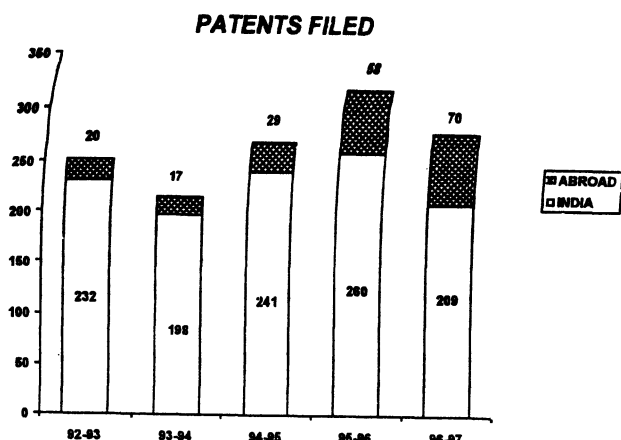
STATEMENT

CSIR's Achievements During the Eighth Plan (1992-97)

The impact and imprint of CSIR is manifested in diverse ways namely: industrial production worth Rs. 10,000 crore, productivity savings worth Rs. 800 crore and rural employment generation of 80 lakh mandays were realized during Plan period besides 800 technology licence agreements executed; 250 new technologies made available for licensing; 920 patents filed in India and 120 abroad; 10,000 papers contributed of which more than 65 per cent are in SCI journals; technical assistance rendered to about 4000 entrepreneurs, external cashflow generated through contract R&D work and consultancy only of Rs. 700 crore. This is synoptically depicted in the charts given here.

EXTERNAL CASH INFLOW (FROM CONTRACT R&D & CONSULTANCY)





Some of the significant scientific & technological achievements that have had tangible impact on the socio-economic sectors are indicated in the following paragraphs.

(A) AEROSPACE

NAL designed, developed and fabricated the country's first all composite aircraft HANSA, a two-seater trainer and its re-engine version HANSA-2RE. Both these aircrafts have been successfully test flown. The design of HANSA-3 was completed. NAL is actively pursuing the design, development and fabrication of 9-14 seater Light Transport Aircraft (LTA) in collaboration with MDB, Russia. The design of LTA has been frozen, wind tunnel models have been built and tests carried out.

NAL has been a valuable contributor in the Light Combat Air Craft (LCA) programme. It played a crucial role in the design & fabrication of the composite wing of LCA. The carbon fibre composite LCA wings were successfully designed and fabricated to the desired specifications and supplied to ADA/HAL. NAL also designed and fabricated a computer controlled state-of-the-art autoclave for fabricating full sized aircraft composite parts specially those for the LCA.

The National Trisonic and Aerodynamic Facilities (NTAF) and Acoustic Test Facilities (ATF) of NAL continued to provide vital support to the national aerospace programmes like Launch Vehicle, LCA, etc.

(B) BIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

CSIR's achievements in biology and biotechnology were:

- a non-pathogenic genetically engineered potential live oral vaccine strain for Cholera which is stable, nonreactogenic and provides excellent protection in RITARD model;
- cloning of an alpha-amylase gene from a thermophilic strain and expressed in *B. subtilis*;
- Bkm multi-locus DNA probe for DNA fingerprinting;
- a highly sensitive and specific kala azar diagnostic and a microtitre plate based ELISA test for human alpha fetoprotein (AFP);
- an oncofetal antigen and a marker for detection and control of malignancy;
- high menthol oil yielding (25 per cent higher oil) cultivars of mint;
- Rosa damascena (Bulgarian rose) strains suitable for the cultivation in upper hilly regions as well as sub-tropical area;
- germplasm bank of commercially important flowers and a gene bank of medicinal and aromatic plants.

(C) CHEMICALS

Catalysts: CSIR's contributions include a range of new catalysts for refineries, petrochemical and chemical industry for example an exclusive new series of zeolite catalysts (designated Encilites) developed by NCL for Liner Alkyl Benzene (LAB replacing the hazardous and corrosive HF), ethyl alcohol & benzene to ethyl benzene in a single step, conversion of methanol to middle distillates, fluid catalytic cracking, ethyl benzene to p-diethyl benzene and pyridine

to picolines. Other catalysts developed were for single step production of adipic acid from cyclohexane, mixed metal catalysts for cyanopyridine from picolines, biphasic catalyst system for hydroformylation of olefins, pillared clay catalysts for hydrogenation of benzene to cyclohexane.

Improvements in the existing catalysts leading to increased process efficiency, yield and quality of products have been: iron-molybdate catalyst for conversion of methanol to formaldehyde, iron-oxide based catalyst for dehydrogenation of ethyl benzene to styrene, nickel-alumina catalyst with improved strength for conversion of benzene to cyclohexane, catalyst for conversion of 2-methyl pyrazine from ethylenediamine and propylene glycol, Raney nickel catalyst for the hydrogenation of dextrose to sorbitol, catalysts for oxidation of C olefins to MEK, catalysts for resorcinol from benzene, anthraquinone from anthracene, and dehydration of alcohols to olefins.

Petrochemicals: IIP-EIL technology for aromatics extraction was operationalised by Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) and Cochin Refinery Ltd. (CRL); IIP technology for food grade hexane by Madras Refinery (MRL) & BPCL and petrochemical grade hexane by OCL Ltd. Thus India today is in a position to offer among others internationally competitive technologies for aromatic extraction, food grade hexane pyrolysis, gasoline hydrogenation.

Organic Chemicals: Development of cost effective novel process for NMP (a solvent used in refinery processes); high temperature anti-oxidants, sulpholane, glyoxal, 10-undecenoic acid, citrazine dihydrochloride, alprazolan, trimethyl phosphite, intermediates such as, D-phenyl glycine and L-phenyl alanine etc.

Polymers: Development of TFC polyamid—polysulfone membrane for RO of seawater; a two component membrane for oxygen enrichment; a two component polyurethane based water proofing compound; polyurethane plasticiser, polypropylene composite based auto parts; polymeric drag reducers; jute based polymer composites; polymer matrix for immobilizing enzymes and around 35 industrial adhesive formulations.

(D) DRUGS & PHARMACEUTICALS

New Drug Development

Antifertility: A new molecule centchroman discovered earlier was developed by CDRI in the first instance as a new non-steroidal once a week female oral contraceptive which has been introduced in the National Family Welfare Programme. Centchroman has been found effective as a therapeutic for other ailments and diseases as well and a strategic alliance has been forged with a Danish Firm to develop it as a therapeutic agent for osteoporosis and other related ailments.

Bioenhancer: Piperine isolated from an indigenous plant, has been developed by RRL (Jammu) as a novel bioenhancer that enables the dosages of the common anti-TB drugs, particular Rifampicin, to be reduced by at least 50 per cent resulting not only in the reduction of cost of medication but more importantly in the reduced side effects such as hepatotoxicity and neurotoxicity. The Know-how has been transferred to industry. Its use with other modern drugs is being pursued.

Brahmi: 'Bacopa monnieri' extract has been standardised & validated as a learning and memory enhancer by CDRI and licensed to a firm which has commenced its manufacture and marketing.

Known/Generic Drugs

CSIR has developed novel and cost-effective processes for over 30 drugs as well as four drug intermediates which have been licensed and most of them have also been commercialised viz; **Anti-AIDS** : AZT (Azidothymidine); **Anti-viral**: Acyclovir; **Anti-cancer** : Etoposide, Ondansetron and Leuprolide (LHRH agonist); **Anti-bacterials** : Norfloxacin, Ciprofloxacin, Azithromycin, Sulbactam, Sultamicillin tosylate; **Anti-malarial** : Mefloquine; **Cardio-Vascular** : Enalapril, Nadolol, Metoprolol and Felodipine; **Analgesics & anti-inflammatory** : Ketorolac; **Anti-allergic** : Astemizole and Citrizine; **Anti-ulcer** : Omeprazole and Lansoprazole; **Anti-glaucoma** : Betaxolol and 'S' Timolol and **Anti-inflammatory** : Sibuprofen and S-flurbiprofen; **Antihypertensive** : SS-enalapril.

(E1) EARTH RESOURCES & NATURAL HAZARDS MITIGATION

CSIR carried out integrated geophysical surveys comprising seismic, magnetotelluric, gravity and deep electrical investigations leading to detection and delineation of subtrapean Mesozoic, possibly petroliferous sediments in Saurashtra thereby enhancing the hydrocarbon prospects in the country. Preliminary studies were carried out for identification of gas hydrates bearing horizons as reservoir of methane, on the continental margins. Such potential horizons have been traced in the off shore regions of Mangalore on the west coast also.

Seismicity work undertaken was for monitoring of the earthquake prone NE region and in the Shield area to generate more reliable data; upgradation of the seismic instrumentation and observatories in around Koyna-Warna region; integrated geophysical studies in Latur and Uttarkashi earthquake regions including participation in pilot projects on damage assessment, strengthening, earthquake resistant structure; regular analysis of the data for earthquake characterization and the preparation of a few general purpose seismic hazard maps in the form of acceleration

levels; and seismic monitoring in Kudanulam for locating a nuclear power plant.

(E2) ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT

CSIR's achievements have been in several directions, namely Environmental Monitoring, Environmental Biotechnology, Toxic Waste Management, Environmental System Design Modelling and Optimization.

Environmental Monitoring : Development of DNA probes for detection of *Entamoeba histolytica* in drinking water and molecular probes for risk assessment; development of various instruments like dust sampler, two stage size fractionator, microprocessor controlled sequential air sampler, potable water analysis kits, millimeter wave radiometer and laser heterodyne system for study of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Environmental Biotechnology: Novel process for microbial desulphurization of coal, oil and sour gases; utilising industrial wastes for production of biosurfactants, microbial de-emulsifier and biodegradable plastics; biological treatment of coke over effluents in steel plants; solar energy based industrial waste water treatment system using anoxygenic phototrophic bacteria; and efficient biomethanation of municipal and industrial waste waters.

Toxic Waste Management : Treatment/disposal of hazardous waste from smelters and secured landfills using clay liners.

Environmental Systems Design Modelling Optimization: Development of air pollution mitigation systems for small scale industries; Iron and fluoride removal from drinking water and removal of pathogens and other risk factors in drinking water; and Non-cellulosic membranes for ultrafiltration of water and waste water.

(E3) ELECTRONICS AND INSTRUMENTATION

Devices and Instruments developed were:

Microwave Tubes: Travelling Wave Tubes (TWT) 30W (CW) TWTs, 75 KW C-Band pulsed coupled cavity TWTs, gain and phase matched mini Helix TWT, software packages for design and analysis of TWT and prototyp fabrication of mini TWT; prototype fabrication of S-Band 2 MW Magnetron, S-band 2MW tunable pulse magnetron; and Klystron and 5 MW klystron.

Semiconductor Devices and Microelectronics: Multilayer hybrid microcircuits (HMC's) meeting the military grade specifications supplied to ISRO for INSAT-IIA and INSAT-II B Satellites; modified W-Band quartz ring MESFETs; GaAs high power C-Band and CMOS-Ics Gate Complexity Array

for C-DoT. Equipment for fabrication of micro electronic device viz. Molecular beam epitaxy and electron beam controlled evaporation system for single wafer processing, reactive ion etching system, 48 pin LSI/VLSI tester.

Instrumentation: Medical Linac, 4MeV Ophthalmoscope/otoscope diagnostic set, pulse oximeter, driver's reflexes testing system, scanning tunneling (Operation in air & vacuum) & scanning electron microscopes, UV-VIS atomic absorption spectrophotometers, industrial gas analyser analog and digital seismographs and land based seismic data telemetry system.

Standards and Calibration: Development and setting of a 3.39 μm methane stabilised laser based on dual frequency modulation technique; hydrogen maser; 1 volt Josephson Dc standard; primary coaxial power standards in 10 MHz to 18 MHz range; spectro-radiometric calibration from 0.25 μm to 2.5 μm ; standard for aqueous flow measurement and leak standards for 10^{-8} mol/s to 10^{-12} mol/s.

(E4) ENERGY

Coal mining sector: Significant achievements include development of: new blasting techniques to improve fragmentation and reduce flyrock emission; appropriate technique under Indian conditions of longwall mining; wide scale method of mining to maximise recovery of coal from thick seams developed on pillars without disturbing ecosystem; extraction of difficult thick coal seams by cable bolting; coal recovery through the design of under ground pillars; effective and economic method of liquidation of standing pillars in old coal mines; backfilling of mines with flyash and mill tailings as substitute of river sand; technology for dense flyash filling; pressure balancing technique for control of underground mine fire; multizonal ventilation system using large diameter boreholes; an improved steel arch useful for withstanding the effect of rock burst occurring in underground mines/tunnels; and an improved equipment for shortwall mining useful for extraction of pillars in underground coal mines.

Coal utilisation sector: Achievement have been on development of efficient, economic and environmentally acceptable technologies namely: beneficiation methods for reduction of ash content in coking and non-coking coal, coal carbonisation, solvent refining, extraction of coal (SRC) and conversion of synthesis gas/coal to middle distillates.

Petroleum Sector: Improved catalysts for conversion of different crude oil fractions into useful products, including catalytic reforming, fluidised catalytic cracking, simulation studies on hydrocracking pilot plant to generate process data for maximisation of middle distillates, and development of novel processes for separation of hydrocarbons based on absorbants and membranes. More specifically the achievements were: Y-zeolite catalyst modified to achieve controlled acidity, acid strength and pores to make the

surface accessible to bulky molecules for desired reactions in FCC process; a high purity alumina spheres support developed for CCR catalytic reforming in collaboration with a foreign catalyst supplier; conversion of Light Naphtha to High Octane Gasoline/LPG by modifying ZSM-5 zeolite catalyst.

(F) FOOD & FOOD PROCESSING

CSIR was designated as the nodal agency for the Mini Mission on Post Harvest Technology of the Technology Mission on Oil Seeds and Pulses. CSIR is participating in the Mission through its laboratories CFTRI, IICT and RRLs (Thiruvananthapuram & Jammu). Some achievements were for: Oil palm processing technologies (2–2.5 Tonnes Fresh Fruit Bunches of oil Palm/hr) including a screw press of 5 tonnes FFB/hr capacity; Improved expeller of 1 TPD, 10 TPD and 50TPD capacities; a 10 TPD solar-cum-agro-waste energy drier for mustard/toria/rape seed; designs of chemical stabilizer for rice bran oil of 15 kg/batch and 25 kg/batch capacities; single roll decorticator of 1 T/hr capacity for dehulling of groundnut; twin roll decorticator of 6 T/hr and 1 T/hr capacities for dehulling of sunflower seed; improved process for dehulling of black sesame seed (240 kg/hr capacity); designs of Mechanised pulse Mill of 100 kg/hr capacity and Hand Operated Daal Mill of 40-50 kg/hr capacity.

Besides the above, inhouse activities have resulted in development and transferring of several process to the industry and for their commercial utilisation. Some of these are:

Food processing & Post Harvest Technology:

Optimisation of process for clean and sterilised chilli, pepper and turmeric; spice flavour concentrate and spice paste; dry green pepper and white pepper without using chemicals; food packages for export of fresh mango, sapota, pineapple and pomegranate; modified atmosphere packaging of vegetables for export.

Food Additives: Stabilisation of alpha amylase; optimised conditions for maximum extraction of enzyme from mouldy bran; development of processes for microbial production of phytase, catalase and enzymes for degradation of aflatoxin and pesticides; protein hydrolysate preparation from selected oilseeds proteins for high functionality and use in specialty food.

(H) HOUSING & CONSTRUCTION

CSIR activities have contributed to the development of newer housing designs, construction techniques, building material to substitute wood and utilise wastes, and dwelling units for disaster hit populace etc.

Wood Substitutes: Arising from the decision of the CPWD not to allow wood in its new construction projects with effect from April, 1993, a co-ordinated inter-laboratory programme of eight CSIR laboratories was drawn up and resulted in two products being developed and approved by CPWD: EPS (Expanded Polystyrene) Door Shutters (CBRI) and Red Mud Polymer (RMP) Doors (RRL, Bhopal). Both these technologies have since gone into production.

Housing: Some other major contributions include design of townships for Mathura Oil Refineries, CJSF, Bahadurgarh and BHEL, Hardware; housing complex for the National Institute for visually Handicapped, Dehradun; construction of 300 Navodaya Vidyalays in different geo-climatic areas using CBRI designs and technologies. Also CBRI developed designs for expeditions and cost effective structures for rehabilitation of the populace affected by the earthquake in Uttarkashi, namely, Kedar Kuti of steel frame and Gauri Kuti of timber frame.

Development of a pyramidal roofing system without reinforcement using bricks and cement covering 25 sqm area; foundation technologies suited for deep layers of soft deposits in creeks and wasteland and soft saturated clays (CBRI).

Building Components: Building components developed using flyash, red mud and other industrial sludges e.g hollow blocks (singlehole, fourhole and ninehole) using 40 per cent flyash and gangetic silt by extrusion process; hydraulically bonded flyash phosphogypsum-lime building blocks; burnt bricks using 60 per cent of flyash and local field clay of Hirakud; burnt bricks using 60-70 per cent flyash and 40% redmud; tiles using 80 per cent flyash and plastic clay; iron rich cement from red mud; clay-flyash bricks; women jute fibre polymer hard board; sisal fibre cement corrugated roofing sheet, tiles, slabs, a precast ferro-cement modular system, mainly for wall, roof and other elements, for low cost houses and small community buildings.

Software: User friendly computer softwares were developed for analysis, designs and drafting of transmission line towers, analysis and design of highway bridge super structures and computing design loads on free standing chimneys and cooling towers and random data analysis of field measurements under wind and expert system for RC and PC-T girder bridges and another for truss girder bridges.

(L) LEATHER

CSIR/CLRI was made the nodal agency for the implementation of the Leather Technology Mission for Sustainable Development of the Indian Leather Sector. The Mission, initiated in Jan. 1995, is designed to bridge the technological gap between the decentralised and organised sectors of the Indian leather industry keeping the environment in the forefront. The other partners in the Mission are Department of Biotechnology, Science &

Technology, KVIC and several NGOs. The Leather Technology Mission complements the National Leather Development Programme (NLDP) and focuses attention on leather processing while the NLDP stresses on the leather products sector. The Mission inter-alia seeks to help industry achieve the targets set of annual growth rate of 25 per cent and to raise India's share in the global leather trade to 10 per cent (up from 2 per cent). Of the 120 projects planned for development and implementation more than 70 programmes have been initiated covering eleven States of the country with the objectives to:

- a. augment the availability of quality hides and skins;
- b. evolve a technology grid for a balanced development of the sector;
- c. provide extension services of rural and small-scale units for adoption of cleaner technology and for upgradation of the processing techniques;
- d. initiate a campaign for quality and standardisation;
- e. enable harmonious blending of traditional and new skills through innovative training and HRD programmes;
- f. evolve and implement appropriate technology delivery systems;
- g. study and identify the most suitable organisational structures to integrate the development of rural, semi-urban and urban sector.

Significant achievement under leather processing, and products include: establishment of a model carcass recovery centre at Bakshi-Ka-Talab in U.P. for training and demonstration techniques of better collection and recovery of products from fallen carcasses; modernisation of two tanneries through improvement of in-plant ecology, partial automation and process control for product consistency, cleaner leather processing technology packages comprising curing methods such as enzyme dehairing, ammonia free deliming, chrome exhaust tanning. A modern footwear design, development, fabrication and testing centre was set-up, with a pilot facility for stuck-on and stitch-down type Computer Aided Design and laser cutting of pattern for footwear and conveyor fabrication facility with SATRA accreditation.

(R) RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The achievements during the period have been employment generation of over 80 lakh mandays, energy savings of nearly 1.25 lakh tonnes of coal equivalent and productivity improvement gains of about Rs. 100 crore and provision of drinking water to nearly 1200 villages.

National Power Grid

62. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a plan to interconnect all regional electricity grids in to a National Power Grid.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Government have formulated plans to inter connect various regional electricity grids of the country. Some of these links are already under operation and other are under construction or under consideration. The details are as under:

I. Existing (Under Operation)

- (i) Between Western & Northern Region—500 MW Vindhyachal HVDC Back to Back Station.
- (ii) Between North-Eastern & Eastern Region—220 KV Birpara-Bongaigaon.
- (iii) Ramagundan-Chandrapur—400 KV line between Southern Region & Western Region.
- (iv) Between Western & Southern region—1st 500 MW Pole of 1000 MW HVDC back to back at Chandrapur.

II. Under construction

- (i) Between Western & Southern region—2nd 500 MW Pole of 1000 MW HVDC back to back at Chandrapur.
- (ii) Between Eastern & Southern Regions—500MW HVDC back to back at Gazuwaka.
- (iii) Between North Eastern & Eastern Region—400 KV between Bongaigaon and Malda.

III. Under consideration

- (i) Between Eastern & Northern Region—500 MW at Sasaram between Biharsharif to Rihand.
- (ii) 400 KV AC Raipur (WR) to Rourkela (ER).
- (iii) 3000 MW HVDC Bipole link between Talcher in ER to Bangalore in SR as a part of Talcher-II transmission system.
- (iv) 3000 MW HVDC Bipole link between Ib Valley in ER and Jaipur in NR and 400 KV AC system from Ib Valley (ER) to Raipur (WR). These transmission links are part of the transmission system associated with CEPA.

(c) The expected commissioning dates of the on-going project(s) are as follows:

	Project	Commissioning Date
i.	Chandrapur B/B HVDC	11/97
ii.	Gazuwaka B/B Project HVDC	2/99
iii.	Sasaram B/B HVDC	3/2000
iv.	400 KV Bongaigaon—Malda	3/98
v.	Talcher—Bangalore HVDC	2001-02
vi.	(a) Ib Valley—Jaipur HVDC (b) Ib Valley—Raipur AC system	12/2001 6/2001
vii.	400 KV Raipur—Rourkela	2001/02
viii.	Chandrapur B/B HVDC	11/97

[Translation]

Shortage of Power in Bihar

63. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is surplus power in eastern region;
(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether despite surplus power in the region, there is acute shortage of power in the Eastern States particularly in Bihar which caused closure of small scale industries of the region; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Eastern Region is having surplus power during off-peak period. However, there is peak deficit in varying degree in all the States in the Region.

(c) and (d) The energy and peaking shortage in the Eastern Region including Bihar during April-October, 1997 and in Oct., 1997 is given below:—

State/System	Energy shortage (%)		Peaking Shortage (%)	
	April-Oct. 97	Oct., 97	April-Oct. 97	Oct., 97
Bihar	22.9	22.6	43.7	43.7
D.V.C.	5.1	5.4	25.4	20.1
Orissa	4.1	6.0	13.4	13.4
West Bengal	1.5	1.6	7.0	7.0
Eastern Region	7.2	7.9	20.0	20.0

In Bihar, there is no statutory power cut on industries. However, the main reasons for power shortage in Bihar is State's inadequate sub-transmission & distribution network, poor performance of thermal power stations of Bihar State Electricity Board and inability of the State Government to pay for the power from Central Generating Stations.

[English]

Common Minimum Programme

64. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the concrete steps taken by the Government to implement their Common Minimum programme (CMP); and

(b) the specific achievement made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

CGHS Facilities to Retired Persons

65. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether after recent acceptance of recommendations of Fifth Central Pay Commission in a modified form, pensioners not covered under CGHS are entitled to reimbursement of cost of treatment as in-patients as applicable in the cases of serving employees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Fifth Central Pay Commission have recommended that:—

"CS(MA) Rules, 1944 should be extended to pensioners, in a restricted manner so as to facilitate reimbursement of hospital recognised under CGHS or under CS(MA) Rules for the purpose. Such reimbursement claims should be settled in full by the respective Ministry/Deptt. of the pensioner under the provisions of CS(MA) Rules."

This proposal is under examination of the Government.

[Translation]

Sanitations in Hospitals

66. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2385 on August 6, 1997 and state:

(a) the number of surprise checks of patients' toilets in Central Government Hospitals conducted during the last three years, hospital-wise;

(b) the status of officer who conducted surprise checking and the shortcoming found therein; and

(c) the action taken against the persons found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The Medical Superintendents and Officers authorised by him go on rounds routinely to the OPDs and Wards to ensure proper cleanliness of toilets. In addition, Officers from Dte. G.H.S. have visited these Central Govt. Hospitals from time to time for surprise checks. The shortcomings noticed are rectified at the shortest possible time.

[English]

Earthquakes in Narmada Valley

67. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether earthquakes have occurred and measured on Richter scale in some areas of Narmada Valley of Madhya Pradesh on May 2, 1997 and thereafter;

(b) if so, the names of places where the earthquakes had occurred and the number thereof;

(c) the names of earthquake observatories where these earthquakes were measured and whether there was any difference in the measurement, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any possibility of devastating earthquakes and whether there is a need to set up a permanent observatory so as to save loss by its forecast, if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to set up such observatory and if so, the place where this observatory is proposed to be set up and the capacity and cost thereof; and

(f) the area and depth in kilometres upto which the intensity of the earthquake could be measured at this observatory?

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

(b) A moderate earthquake of magnitude 6.0 on Richter scale occurred on 22nd May, 1997 in Jabalpur area followed by 23 aftershocks till 19.9.1997.

(c) The main shock of 22nd May, 1997 was recorded by most of the stations of India Meteorological Department's National Seismological Network.

Broad band Global Seismological Network (GSN) type of equipments recently set up at Ajmer, Bhopal, Bhuj, Bilaspur, Bokaro, Karad, Madras, Pune, Thruvanathapuram and Visakhapatnam recorded the main shock providing a unique data set. There is no difference in measurements in these observatories.

(d) to (f) Prediction of earthquakes with reasonable degree of accuracy on a scientific basis with regard to space, time and magnitude is not possible presently. Seismological network in the peninsular shield area is being upgraded under a programme supported by World Bank. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has upgraded the observatory at Bhopal by setting up a Global Seismological Network (GSN) type of equipment under this programme. Also, it is proposed to set up a new observatory at Jabalpur. A multi-element telemetry system is proposed to be installed in Khandwal area. These instruments are state-of-art and can record both local and distant earthquakes.

Delayed Projects

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

(a) the number of projects approved by the Government which are still pending to be implemented and their details, Statewise;

(b) whether there is huge cost escalation of these projects due to delay in the implementation;

(c) the total extra burden on the Government due to delay in the implementation of the projects; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement the projects in a scheduled time periods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) As on 31.03.1997, there were 228 central sector projects on the monitor of the Department of the Programme Implementation which have been delayed. The details of such projects is given in the "Project Implementation Status Report" on central sector projects for the quarter ending March, 1997. A copy of the report is available in the Parliament library.

(b) and (c) Out of 228 delayed projects, 170 projects had cost overrun amounting to Rs. 29,992 crores on account of various factors including delay in implementation.

(d) The steps being taken to implement the projects within scheduled time and cost are given in Statement attached.

STATEMENT

Steps taken by the government to streamline for preparing the original estimates and implementation of projects for reducing overruns

- (i) Two-stage project approval for facilitating adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.
- (ii) Proper monitoring of projects at regular intervals, at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures.
- (iii) In-depth review of the progress by the project authorities and Administrative Ministries.
- (iv) Setting up of Task force/Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.
- (v) Close follow up by the concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.
- (vi) Inter-ministerial coordination.

[Translation]

Transmission and Distribution of Power in Bihar

69. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state;

(a) whether any request has been made by Bihar State Electricity Board to Power Grid Corporation for an ambitious project of Transmission and Distribution of Power from Hathideh to Begusarai zero mile and Purnia to Begusarai and Begusarai to Gorakhpur; and

(b) is so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) : Bihar State Electricity Board have offered Hathideh Crossing (Hathideh to Begusarai zero mile) a State project for execution to POWERGRID.

POWERGRID has proposed establishment of 400/220 KV substation at Purnia where Bongaigaon-Malda transmission line will be looped in the looped out. The same work will be executed in next 3-4 years. POWERGRID has also proposed a 400 KV D/C line for interconnecting Purnia substation to Muzafarpur/Samastipur.

[English]

Funds for Health Care Facilities to Orissa

70. SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any scheme to the Union government during the last three years seeking Central or external assistance to provide adequate health care facilities in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to approve those schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) A revised project proposal estimated to cost about Rs. 400 crores received from the State Govt. of Orissa in Feb., 1997 was posed to the World Bank for assistance under the State Health System Development Project. A preparation Mission from the World Bank visited Orissa from November, 9-14, 1997 and has interacted with the State Health Department on various aspects including preparation of the final Project Implementation Plan (PIP), on the basis of which the project will be appraised.

Two proposals for JICA assistance have also been received (i) for providing equipment for Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel Shishu Bhawan, Cuttack and (ii) for upgradation of medical equipments for District Headquarters Hospitals in Orissa. These have been sent to the Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Economic Affairs for posing to the Japanese authorities. While the latter proposal was posed to the Japanese authorities by the Deptt. of Economic Affairs on 19.3.97, in regard to the former proposal, the Deptt. of Economic Affairs have advised the State Govt. on 10.3.97 to send the proposal in the prescribed proforma.

New Communication Satellite

71. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a new communication satellite in place of IRS-1D;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The next second generation INSAT satellite (INSAT-2E) is expected to be launched in the second quarter of 1998. However, even after INSAT-2E is launched, further augmentation of the INSAT space segment would be necessary to fill up the loss of capacity due to INSAT-2D failure.

The possibility of in-orbit acquisition/lease of transponder capacity for use in the INSAT system is being actively pursued.

Ban on Recruitment

72. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given any instructions to the Departments to stop the special recruitment for SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to re-consider the decision;

(d) whether any representations have been received by the Government in protest of the issue;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the decision taken by the Government 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 (b) The Government had been conducting special Recruitment Drives periodically to fill up the backlog of reservation for SCs/STs in direct recruitment. The Special Recruitment Drives were based on an instruction issued in 1989 which required "backlog"

vacancies to be treated as a separate category to which the 50 per cent limit on reservation was considered inapplicable. The issue was examined in the context of a reference and it was found that the separate treatment of "backlog" vacancies was no longer legally permissible in view of the judgement of the 9-judge bench of the Supreme Court in the Indira Sawhney's case and the Special Recruitment Drives no longer legally feasible, as the total reservation including reservation for the OBCs cannot exceed 50 per cent. Accordingly, instruction had been issued to modify the 1989 orders.

(c) to (f) Representations have been received for withdrawal of the revised instructions. It has, however, not been found possible to accede to such requests in view of the law laid down by the Supreme Court as mentioned above.

Import of Liquid Fuel

73. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :
SHRI V.K. RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased the state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import liquefied natural gas for power generation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of the recent hike in prices of natural gas on generation of power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. In order to meet the growing demand for natural gas in the power and other sectors, the Government has decided to make efforts to import LNG.

(b) The Government has approved the formation of a Joint Venture Company (JVC) with GAIL, ONGC, IOC and BPCL having a total equity of 50% and the balance to be given to financial institution and others. This JVC is exploring the possibilities of setting up LNG terminals of about 2.5 million tonnes per annum capacity each at Enore (T.N), Cochin (Kerala). Hazira/Dahej (Gujarat) and Mangalore (Karnataka).

(c) The recent increase in prices of natural gas is expected to increase the cost of generation of power.

Commonwealth Countries Meet

74. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Heads of Governments of Commonwealth Countries at their recent conference has agreed to launch a fund for South Asia;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the source of funds thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A South Asia Regional Fund, the third in the series of regional investment funds established under the umbrella of the Commonwealth Private Investment Initiative, was launched at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting at Edinburgh on October 25, 1997. The Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC) will manage the Fund. The Fund has been launched with an initial capital of US \$ 110 million. Funding shareholders comprise the CDC and investors from South Asia and South East Asia and the India Ocean Region; further amounts will be raised from institutional investors with a second closing in March 1998.

The Fund will make long term equity investments in companies across a broad range of economic and industrial sectors. This is expected to bring additional capital to private sector businesses and contribute to economic growth.

Deaths Reported During Delivery

75. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to State:

- (a) the number of deaths of mothers-children reported during the time of delivery during each of the last three years, year-wise in the each State; and
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government or proposed to be taken to provide proper medical facilities to such mother and children in the rural areas especially in the remote tribal villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) There is no annual estimation of maternal and perinatal mortality in India. A latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS) conducted in 1992-93 provides the estimate of (i) Maternal Mortality Rates (MMR) as 437 per one lakh live births, confidence interval for this estimate is 334 to 540, and (ii) The Neonatal Mortality (neonatal mortality is death of new born from birth to first month of life) as 48.6 per thousand live births in the country.

Child Survival and Safe Motherhood (CSSM) Programme was started in August, 1992 with the objective of improving the health status of women and children and reducing maternal infant and child mortality rates. The package of service under the programme for children included-essential newborn care, immunisation for prevention

of morbidity and mortality due to six vaccine preventable diseases, management of diarrhoeal diseases and acute respiratory infections and Vitamin A prophylaxis to prevent night blindness. For safe mother-hood, CSSM Programme envisaged ante-natal, natal and post natal care alongwith T T immunisation for prevention of tetanus in mothers and newborn, prevention and management of anemia, early identification of maternal complications, delivery by trained personnel, promotion of institutional deliveries, management of obstetric emergencies and birth spacing. The CSSM Programme ended with the Eighth Five Year Plan in 1996-97.

During the 9th Five Year Plan commencing in 1997-98, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has launched a nation wide Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme on 15th October, 1997 to further improve the health care services and delivery system aiming towards adolescents, mothers and children, by strengthening and expanding the infrastructure, inducting more skilled manpower providing essential drugs and equipments and referral services for the entire rural population. This programme has also made provision to give focussed attention to the tribal population through tribal projects.

Relation of Asian Countries

76. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to improve relations with the Asian Countries; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) :

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) Government have taken steps to improve relations with all the neighbouring countries on the basis of five principles : *First*, with neighbours, India does not ask for reciprocity, but gives and accommodates in good faith and trust. *Second*, no South Asian country should allow its territory to be used against other countries of the region. *Third*, none will interfere in the internal affairs of another. *Fourth*, all South Asian countries must respect each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty; and *finally*, they will settle all their disputes through peaceful bilateral negotiations.

The Government have also given priority to working through the regional framework of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Prime Minister has met all his counterparts from neighbouring countries during the SAARC Summit at Male and has also had exchange of bilateral visits with some of them. Special mention can be

made of the resumption of Foreign Secretary level dialogue with Pakistan, signing of Treaty for sharing of Ganga waters with Bangladesh, and progress on several bilateral issues with the neighbouring countries. People to people level contracts are being promoted. The result has been a definite improvement in the overall atmosphere of mutual trust and urge for progress among all.

Likewise, Government have been actively pursuing a "Look East" policy as part of development of all round relations with the ASEAN countries. In the bilateral framework, as full dialogue partner of the ASEAN, as participant in the ASEAN, Regional Forum (ARF), and through institutional linkages, the Government has sought to further improve and consolidate relations with member countries of ASEAN.

With the Central Asian Republic, the Government has paid due attention to forging close relations with them. Resident Missions were established in each of them and bilateral visits at the highest political level have been exchanged with all. Trade and economic bonds are expanding, so are people to people contacts.

With countries of the West Asian region, the Government have maintained regular dialogue at all levels, including through exchange of delegations and seeking to promote cooperation in all fields, including trade, commerce, science and technology, industrial cooperation, environment and culture.

With China, relations are acquiring maturity and substance. Exchange of visits at the highest political level continues and both sides are agreed to work towards a constructive and cooperative relationship. With Japan, relations continue to strengthen and grow. Economic interaction has been expanding rapidly since economic liberalisation in India from 1991. Japan is India's largest bilateral donor for the last 8 years. Both countries have constituted Parliamentary Friendship Associations which is another step in the direction of forging closer relations. Relations with the two Koreas are traditional and friendly.

Land for CGHS Dispensary

77. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3509 dated August 13, 1997 and state:

(a) whether the plot for CGHS dispensary earmarked in CGHS Complex, Vasant Vihar by Land and Development Office has not yet been taken over by CGHS till date;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in taking over the same;

(c) the time by which it is likely to be taken over by CGHS; and

(d) the time by which the dispensary building is likely to be constructed and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The plot has not been handed over to the CGHS by the Land and Development Office, as yet.

(d) The construction of a CGHS Dispensary at Vasant Vihar depends on the availability of resources and fulfilment of CGHS norms.

[*Translation*]

Bonded Labourers

78. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI A.G.S. RAMBABU :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that bonded labourers are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government issued any directive to the State governments/non-Governmental Organisations to identify the same;

(c) whether any complaints regarding violation of Contract Labour Abolition and Regulation Act have been received;

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

(e) the number of persons identified as working under bondages in all the States/Union Territories; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the workers from bondage and the action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a), (b) and (e) to (f) The Bonded Labour System stands abolished under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance w.e.f. 25.10.1975. The Ordinance was replaced by the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. The State Governments have been advised from time to time to enforce provisions of the Act vigorously. Upto March, 1993, the number of bonded labourers identified was 2,51,424. No further cases of bonded labourers have been reported by any State Government/Union Territory since then. However, in October,

1996, the Various State/Union Territory Governments were advised to conduct survey to identify bonded labourers in their respective States latest by 31.12.1996. The outcome of the survey as reported is given below:—

1. Arunachal Pradesh	2460
2. Bihar	106
3. Karnataka	19
4. Madhya Pradesh	18
5. Maharashtra	2
6. Uttar Pradesh	237
7. Tamil Nadu	24918*
Total	27760

* The bonded labourers have been identified by NGOs appointed by State Government. This is being verified by concerned Distt. Collector.

The findings of the above mentioned survey are still being verified in some cases.

(c) and (d) As per available provisional data, 3970 inspections were carried out during 1996 in which 60142 irregularities were detected and 3158 cases of prosecution launched in terms of the provisions contained in the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

Atomic Minerals

79. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where the Union Government have conducted survey through Geological Survey of India to explore the possibilities of atomic minerals in 1996-97; and

(b) the names and quantity of atomic minerals explored thereby;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No survey has conducted by Government through Geological Survey of India to explore for atomic minerals in 1996-97

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Tuberculosis

80. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the study titled "Anti Tuberculosis Drug Resistance in the World" conducted jointly by World Health Organisation (WHO) and other leading international health agencies to identify tuberculosis "hot zones" in India particularly in Delhi, which alone leads with a 13 per cent of T.B. patients who are multi-drug resistant;

(b) if so, the outcome of the study; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to evolve new drug therapy for this multi-drug resistant T.B.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Multi Drug Resistant Tuberculosis is primarily caused due to irregular and/or incomplete treatment. As per the recommendations and outcome of this study the remedy lies in prevention of MDR-TB by implementing a more effective TB control Programme treating sputum positive pulmonary TB cases using the strategy of Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) which has already been implemented in population of over 20 million and is to be extended to 271 million in a phased manner.

Filling up of Posts in AIIMS

81. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court had given a ruling that the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), N. Delhi should fill up all senior administrative posts and faculty positions through open selection by the Standing Selection Committee and approved by the governing body;

(b) if so, the details of posts vacant and the steps taken to fill up these posts;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint about making appointments by passing the ruling given by the Supreme Court; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The institute have reported that they are not aware of such a ruling given by the Supreme Court.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Developed Contraceptive Cream

82. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's scientists have developed a new contraceptive cream by making use of 'neem' tree;

(b) if so, whether this contraceptive cream has been tested on human beings;

(c) if so, whether this cream has been found useful as a contraceptive; and

(d) if so, the time by which this cream is likely to be made available to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) Scientists of the Defence Institute of Physiology and Applied Sciences, under the Ministry of Defence have developed a neem-based contraceptive. According to information given by the Defence Institute of Physiology and Applied Sciences, the contraceptive has not so far been tested on human beings, but it has been found useful as a pre-coital vaginal contraceptive in animal experiments. The availability of the contraceptive to the customers will depend upon the successful completion of trials on human beings.

[English]

Power Projects

83. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVEENCHANDRA MEHTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asian Development Bank has decided to finance some power projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether ADB has sought the counter guarantee from the States/Union Government for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) ADB has identified loan and technical

assistance for 1998-2000 for the following projects/schemes in the power sector:—

Lending

1.	Gujarat Power Sector Restructuring (SDP)	\$ 300 m.
2.	PFC	\$ 500 m.
3.	State Power Sector Restructuring II (SDP)	\$ 300 m.
4.	Southern Region Power Station	\$ 250 m.
5.	State Power Sector Restructuring III (SDP)	\$ 300 m.

Technical Assistance

1.	Southern Region Combined Cycle Power Station	\$ 0.600 m.
2.	State Power Sector Restructuring II	\$ 1.000 m.
3.	State Power Sector Restructuring III	\$ 1.000 m.
4.	Support for PFC	\$ 1.000 m.

The actual commitment would be subject to further negotiations with concerned states/executing agencies.

(c) and (d) Where Government of India is the borrower the question of guarantee/counter guarantee does not arise. In cases where the ADB assistance is routed directly to the Implementing Agency with the approval of the Government of India, the debt serving charges of the ADB are guaranteed by Government of India.

Mejia Thermal Power Project

84. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the time likely to be taken to synchronise the third unit of Mejia Thermal Power Project;

(b) the bottlenecks faced by the Government in executing the project; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Third unit of Mejia Thermal Power Project of

Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) is likely to be synchronised by March, 1998.

(b) *The bottleneck faced by DVC in executing the project include delays in land acquisition, slow progress by suppliers of equipment and the contractors responsible for various work packages, industrial relations problems and financial constraints.*

(c) The steps taken by the Union Government to help DVC overcome the bottlenecks included:—

- intervention to settle the unresolved contractual/extra contractual matters between DVC and B.H.E.L. which is responsible for supply and erection of Boiler and TG set for the unit.
- requesting the State government to maintain law & order and assist DVC in maintaining a good industrial relations climate at work sites.
- asking DVC to improve its process of contract management in future.
- increased budgetary support for the project during 1997-98.

Unemployed Youths

85. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of unemployed youths in Kashmir have joined militancy because of their being unemployed; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to bring them back to the mainstream and the success achieved so far?

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 is aware of the unemployment problem in the State of J & K. Recruitment drives have been launched by the Central and State Government for the same and also by providing avenues of self employment.

A scheme has been formulated for surrender and rehabilitation of the surrendered militants with the main objectives of offering inducement and incentives to militants to leave the path of violence and join the main stream and to ensure that the surrendered militants do not revert to militancy. The impact of the surrender policy has been encouraging so far. 1317 militants have surrendered from

August 15, 1995 to September 30, 1997 i.e. after announcement of the policy.

Revised Interim Relief

86. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to State:

(a) whether the Government propose to pay revised interim relief to the journalists and non-journalists of newspaper and news agencies, keeping in view the recommendations of the Fifth Pay Commission;

(b) whether there is any proposal to review and revise the pay scales of journalists and non-journalists; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the date from which interim relief is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Matter concerning revision of pay scales etc. of journalists and non-journalists is with the Wage Boards set up under the Chairmanship of Justice R.K. Manisana Singh and the Boards have yet to submit their final recommendations.

(c) Does not arise

Contaminated I.V. Fluid

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

(a) whether contaminated I.V. fluid is still being used in the Government hospitals in Delhi unabatedly;

(b) if so, the number of cases that have come to light during the last one year, hospital-wise;

(c) the firm from which the contaminated I.V. fluid purchased along with the rate at which fluid was purchased and how does that tally with the rate of reputed manufacturers; and

(d) the steps taken to weed out corruption in the matter of purchase of drugs and other items by the Government hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir, as far as Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are concerned.

(b) Three cases of contaminated I.V. Fluid were reported in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. The I.V. Fluid of these batch numbers were immediately withdrawn.

(c) The I.V. Fluids were purchased through Medical Stores Depot @ Rs. 8/- per bottle of Dextrose 5 per cent and from Kendriya Bhandar @ Rs. 14.70/- per bottle for Electrolyte M. Electrolyte P. The I.V. Fluids were manufactured by Core Health Care.

(d) The Central Government hospitals are required to follow the prescribed procedure for procurement of stores.

Homoeopathy System of Medicine

88. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4630 dated May 5, 1997 and state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The complete information has not yet been received from the concerned authorities who have been reminded. As soon as the information is available it will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Minimum Wages

89. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 118 dated July 23, 1997 and state:

(a) whether a majority of industries in Orissa are not paying minimum wages to their workers and the labour courts have failed in implementing various labour laws; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that labour laws are strictly implemented by the Industrialists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) In Orissa most of the industries enscheduled under Minimum Wages Act are paying notified minimum wages to their workers. Whenever any case of non-payment is detected by the field officers necessary legal action is taken against such defaulting employers.

(b) Does not arise.

Tailpool Dam

90. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to restart the work at Tailpool Dam Power Project of Damodar Valley Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work on this project is likely to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) A final decision has not been taken by the Government so far to ask the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) to restart the work at the Tailpool Dam Project at Panchet in Bihar. The position will be reviewed on receiving the views of the Bihar Government, which is one of the participating Governments of DVC.

DGMS-Eastern Coalfields

91. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director General of Mines Safety has received any representation seeking information about granting of prior permission to Eastern Coalfields for construction of schools, colleges, hospitals, quarters, stadiums etc. in coal bearing areas;

(b) if so, he details thereof;

(c) whether the desired information have been furnished;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the information is likely to be furnished?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Import of Medical Equipments

92. VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various hospitals in country for whom medical equipments and instruments have been imported during the last ten years alongwith the cost of each equipment/instrument and the total amount of duty levied on these items by the Government;

(b) whether any exemption of duty on these equipments has been granted; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) The directorate General of Health Services has been issuing Customs Duty Exemption Certificates for import of equipment in terms Department of Revenue Notification No. 63/88-Cus dated 1.3.1988 and 64/88-Cus also dated 1.3.1988.

The notification No. 63/88-Cus dated 1.3.1988 has been rescinded and replaced by notification No. 11/97 dated 1.3.97. This notification covers Government hospitals/institutions and also importers who have been importing life saving drugs/medicines/equipments. The notification No. 64/88-Cus dated 1.3.1988 has been rescinded on 1.3.94. This notification covered import of medical equipment by various private hospitals/institutions.

Demand and Supply of Power

93. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the demand and supply of power in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the name of region where generation of power is less than the local demand;

(c) whether the Government have formulated a scheme to transmit the surplus power from such areas where the generation of power is higher than local demand to the power deficit areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The State-wise/Region-wise details of actual power supply position are given in the statement attached. It may be seen that all the regions of the country experienced overall energy shortage, the quantum of shortage being highest in the Southern Region.

(c) and (d) The Eastern Region is having surplus capacity as compared to the connected load. In order to optimally utilise the existing capacity following allocation have been made for Central Sector stations in Eastern Region to the neighbouring regions.

(i) From all NTPC stations of Eastern Region. 150 MW each to AP (Southern Region) and M.P. (Western Region)

(ii) 100 MW to Northern Region.

(iii) 30 MW during evening peak hours from Kahalgaon STPS to Manipur (North-Eastern Region)

(iv) 100 MW to Assam (North Eastern Region) from Farakka and Talcher STPS.

STATEMENT

Demand and Supply of Power

(All figures in MU net)

Region/ State/ System	April '97-Oct '97			
	Requirement	Availability	Shortage	%
1	2	3	4	5
NORTHERN REGION				
Chandigarh	575	575	0	0.0
Delhi	9097	8940	157	1.7
Haryana	7866	7698	168	2.1

1	2	3	4	5
Himachal Pradesh	1704	1704	0	0.0
Jammu & Kashmir	2794	2721	73	2.6
Punjab	14255	14147	108	0.8
Rajasthan	10830	10686	144	1.3
Uttar Pradesh	23807	20933	2874	12.1
NORTHERN REGION	70928	67404	3524	5.0
WESTERN REGION				
Gujarat	22475	21037	1438	6.4
Madhya Pradesh	17525	15011	1514	8.6
Maharashtra	35915	34394	1521	4.2
Goa	767	767	0	0.0
WESTERN REGION	76682	72209	4473	5.8
SOUTHERN REGION				
Andhra Pradesh	23880	20205	3675	15.4
Karnataka	15229	11714	3515	23.1
Kerala	6636	5036	1600	24.1
Tamilnadu	22365	19271	3094	13.8
SOUTHERN REGION	68110	56226	11884	17.4
EASTERN REGION				
Bihar	5455	4207	1248	22.9
D.V.C.	5090	4830	260	5.1

1	2	3	4	5
Orissa	6425	6159	266	4.1
West Bengal	9585	9439	146	1.5
EASTERN REGION	26555	24635	1920	7.2
NORTH-EASTERN REGION				
Arunachal Pradesh	86.4	62.6	23.8	27.5
Assam	1720.8	1643.1	77.7	4.5
Manipur	298.1	230.5	67.6	22.7
Meghalaya	227.4	229.9	– 2.5	– 1.1
Mizoram	122.9	87.1	35.8	29.1
Nagaland	127.3	94.3	33.0	25.9
Tripura	301.4	246.5	54.9	18.2
NORTH EASTERN REGION	2884.3	2594.0	290.3	10.1
ALL INDIA	245159	223068	22091	9.0

Cyber Laws

94 SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have set up a special Inter-departmental Committee to examine the need for 'Cyber Laws';

(b) if so, the role played by the Department of Electronics in the matter;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K.

ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Electronics has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Electronics for formulation of Cyber Laws to meet the needs of applications of Information Technology as a part of building up of National Information Infrastructure.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Private Power Stations in Madhya Pradesh

95. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Private power producers who have been allowed to set up power stations in Madhya Pradesh till date;

- (b) the number and location of such power stations;
- (c) the total cost involved in each power station; and
- (d) the time by which the stations are likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has approved 9 private power projects in Madhya Pradesh. Details of these projects are given in the Statement attached.

(d) The date of commissioning of these projects would depend on the date by which these projects achieve financial closure.

STATEMENT

Private Sector Power Projects in the State of Madhya Pradesh given techno-economic clearance (T.E.C.) by Central Electricity Authority

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Location (District)	Executing Agency	Estimated cost (Rs. Crores)
A. THERMAL POWER PROJECTS				
1.	Korba West (ITPL) TPP	Bilaspur	India Thermal Power Ltd.	1812.00
2.	Pench TPP (Chousara)	Chindwara	Pench Power Ltd.	2183.50
3.	Raigarh TPP	Raigarh	Jindal Power Ltd.	2424.90 Ph-I
4.	Korba East (Daewoo) TPP	Bilaspur	Daewoo Power India Ltd.	4690.00
5.	Bina TPP	Sagar	Bina Power Supply Company Ltd.	2443.00 Ph-I
6.	Bhilai TPP	Durg	Bhilai Power Supply Company	2489.71
B. DUEL FUEL GAS/NAPHTHA BASED POWER PROJECTS				
7.	Guna Gas PP	Guna	S.T.I Power India Limited	1079.40
8.	Narsinghpur CCPP	Narsinghpur	GBL Power Ltd.	531.24
C. HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECTS				
9.	Maheshwar HEP	Khargone	Shri Maheshwar Hydel Power Corporation Ltd.	1569.27

Health Melas

96. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :
SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of 'Swasthya' Melas, organised by the Union Government this year upto October 1997, State-wise;

(b) the number of people benefitted therefrom;

(c) the number of such melas organised by the Government and non-Governmental organisations, separately in Gujarat;

(d) the details of the expenditure incurred for organising these melas;

(e) the norms followed by the Non-Governmental organisations for organising these melas;

(f) the venues selected for organising such melas during the year 1998; and

(g) the time-frame worked out therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Union Government do not organise any Swasthya Mela. However, the Central Government Provide financial assistance to the Non-governmental organisations and State Governments for organising such melas. A large number of local people are benefited.

(c) Indian Medical Association (IMA) has organised six Swasthya Melas at various places in Gujarat.

(d) Indian Medical Association has been provided financial assistance of Rs. 41,120/- for organising each mela.

(e) The Swasthya melas are to be organised at a distance not less than 25 Kms. from the District head quarters. Ideal site for Mela are adjoining Primary Health Centre or Community Health Centre campus where surgical, diagnostic, pathological facilities are easily available.

(f) and (g) Venues and timing of such melas are decided based on various viable proposals received from time to time from various authorised agencies.

[English]

Visit of British Delegation

97. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state;

(a) whether a high powered British delegation headed by the Chairman of power sector working group of UK visited India recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the places where the delegation visited and assessed the power sector of India;

(d) whether any concrete steps have been suggested by the delegation to improve the position of State Electricity Boards; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Accident Deaths

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

(a) whether a two day Conference on "Update on Polytrauma and Delivery Critical Care" was held recently in Delhi to consider ways and means to prevent accident deaths;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference suggested that an expert committee be appointed to devise emergency medical system linking all hospitals in the city, train paramedics, students, to use mass media for held bulletins, to manufacture indigenous ambulances, to upgrade and systematise existing emergency departments in the hospitals, to establish protocol in dealing with emergencies and disaster in the hospitals, to indigenise production of critical care equipments, to motivate health workers.

(c) The Government is already considering improvement in the emergency and causality services in Central Government hospitals in Delhi.

A Centralised accident Trauma Services is functioning under the Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi which provides ambulance cover to accident victims.

[Translation]

Nuclear Policy

99. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to import Light Water Reactors to increase power production in the country;

(b) whether the Government are facing some difficulties in import of the said reactors due to non-proliferation treaty (NPT); and

(c) if so, whether the government propose to reconsider the present nuclear policy in view of its peaceful atomic energy programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) There is no formal scheme to import Light Water Reactors. However, negotiations are currently underway with the Russian Federation for import of two VVER-1000 MWe Light Water Reactors as well as assistance in construction and installation of the above reactors and associated equipment for the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project in Tamil Nadu. The Government is prepared to consider concrete proposals for enhancing investments in the nuclear power sector.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Family Planning Programme

100. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total grant-in-aid provided for family planning programme during the year 1996-97 to Karnataka;

(b) whether the State Government has utilised the given grant-in-aid in full;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) An amount of Rs. 9384.68 Lakhs was released to Karnataka in cash and kind.

(b) to (d) The grant-in-aid to States is both in cash and kind. The assistance in kind includes drug kits, dispensary kits, contraceptives etc. It is given on the basis of utilisation/requirements and so there is no surplus. The assistance in cash is initially given on the basis of assessed requirement for salaries etc. and is thereafter finally settled on the basis of audited accounts.

E.P.F. Scheme

101. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of payment of provident fund under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme 1952 pending at present, zone-wise;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay and the steps being taken to expedite the payment of dues; and

(c) the action being initiated against the concerned authorities for delay in making payments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The information about pending cases of payment of provident fund, region-wise is as under:—

(As on 30.09.97)

Name of Region	Number of pending PF cases
Andhra Pradesh	3012
Bihar	1778
Delhi	3745
Gujarat	19045
Haryana	1189
Karnataka	9891
Kerala	3884
Maharashtra	24900
Madhya Pradesh	2541
N.E. Region	1112
Orissa	531
Punjab	3561
Rajasthan	4380
Tamil Nadu	14867
Uttar Pradesh	3940
West Bengal	19436

(b) and (c) The Provident Fund (PF) claims complete in all respects are required to be settled within 30 days. However, sometime settlement of the PF claims is delayed for various reasons including defects in application forms, differences in signatures, non-submission of returns by the employers etc. In order to provide prompt service to the subscribers a massive computerisation programme has been launched in the EPF Organisation. The Public Grievances Redressal Machinery has been strengthened and work norms/procedures are being reviewed/simplified so as to decentralise the process of decision making for facilitating expeditious disposal of claims. The vigilance machinery has also been strengthened for elimination of delay in settlement

of claims. As per the prescribed procedure, the PF authorities are liable for disciplinary action for delay in settlement of PF Claims. Recently, through an amendment in the Scheme, Commissioners have been made personally accountable for delay, beyond the prescribed limit, in the disposal of the claims.

Nuclear Power Projects

102. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the delay on the part of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) in giving clearance to two nuclear power projects has resulted in heavy cost escalation of about Rs. 3,000 crore;

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

(c) the steps being taken to expedite the matter by the AERB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) There has been no delay on the part of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) in giving clearance to the nuclear power projects. All safety related matters involve many detailed calculations and analyses which have to be inevitably gone through. All such matters are given priority by those concerned, including the Nuclear Power Corporation and the AERB.

Standards for Soft Drinks

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "soft drink norms lack

punch-study" appearing in 'The Times of India,' dated August 27, 1997;

(b) whether the statutory standards for soft drinks in India as laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Prevention of Food and Adulteration Act (PFA) are very lenient as compared to those in developed countries;

(c) if so, the comparison between our norms and norms prescribed by the developed countries; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to make our norms more stringent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir.

The press report refers to the study carried out by Consumer Education & Research Centre (CERC), Ahmedabad on ten different brands of carbonated water available in Indian market.

A comparative chart on limits of metallic contaminants prescribed under prevention of Food Adulteration Rules and specified by the Bureau of Indian Standards and the Limits specified by Newzealand, Australia, U.K. & Canada for carbonated water as brought out by the CERC, Ahmadabad is given in the Statement attached. The report has also quoted findings of caffeine content in two brands of carbonated water as marketed in India, Australia, U.K. & USA. Caffeine content in beverages marketed in India has been found to be well within the max. limit prescribed under PFA Rules, 1955.

According to the report, the limit for copper is more stringent in India while it is the same as in other countries for Zinc. However, in the case of lead & arsenic, the limit is lower in India.

STATEMENT

Comparative Statement of Metallic Contaminants in Carbonated Water as reported by C.E.R.C.

	P.F.A.	B.I.S.	U.K.	Canada	Australia	New Zealand
Lead (max. in ppm*)	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.2	1.2	0.2
Zinc (max. in ppm)	5.0	—	5.0	5.0	—	5.0
Copper (max. in ppm)	1.5	1.5	2.0	2.0	—	2.0
Arsenic (max. in ppm)	0.25	0.25	0.2	0.1	0.15	0.2

*ppm = Parts per million (mg/kg)

Voluntary Retirement Scheme

104. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of workers and employees availed of Voluntary Retirement Scheme from public sector or sick public undertakings till March 31, 1997;

(b) the total number of workers retrenched in public/private sector till March 31, 1997; and

(c) the total number of workers in the textiles mills under National Textile Corporation deprived of their provident fund dues, gratuities and other benefits till March 31, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Power Projects on Coastal Line

105. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up coal based Thermal Power Stations on the coastal lines of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost involved and power generations capacity of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) At present there is no firm proposal under the consideration of any PSU of the Central Government to set up a thermal power station along the coast of Tamilnadu or Karnataka though suggestions have been made by the Tamilnadu Electricity Board to NTPC for considering up certain power stations in Tamilnadu.

Budget for Unani System

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

(a) the budget allocated by the Government for purchase of Unani Medicines for CGHS Unani Dispensaries/Units in New Delhi/Delhi during the year 1996-97;

(b) the amount utilised till February 28, 1997 out of the allocated budget;

(c) whether due to the purchase of medicines of more than forty lakhs during March, 1997 only, the Unani Store

could not check the quality and quantity supplied by the suppliers;

(d) if so, the reason for placing such heavy order during March, 1997; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) A budget of Rs. 86 lakhs was allocated for purchase of Unani medicines for CGHS dispensaries/units under CGHS Delhi during the year 1996-97. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 36,66,551/- was utilised till October 1996.

(c) to (e) As per procedure, buffer stock of medicines for three months in addition to the supply for March, 1997 was required to be made. Therefore, the necessary orders were placed for procuring the medicine after checking of the quality of the medicines by a Committee set up for the purpose. The quantity was also checked as per laid down procedure.

[Translation]

Demand and Supply of Power in U.P.

107. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total demand and supply of power in U.P. at present;

(b) the total number of power stations functions in Uttar Pradesh at present and the total quantum of power generated by each of them during the last two years;

(c) whether the Government are proposed to increase the capacity of power generation in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The details of the power supply position in Uttar Pradesh during Oct. 1997 are as under:—

October, 1997			
	Energy (MU)		Peak (MW)
Requirement	3460	Peak Demand	6350
Availability	3085	Peak met	5243
Shortage	375	Deficit	1107
%	10.8	%	17.4

(b) Station-wise energy generation in Uttar Pradesh during 1995-96 and 1996-97 is given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d) The details of on going projects which will increase the capacity in Uttar Pradesh are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Project/ Location	Sector	Capacity (MW)	Likely Commissioning Schedule
1.	Tanda TPS. Unit-4 District Ambedkar Nagar	State (UPSEB)	110	12/97
2.	Feroze Gandhi Unchahar TPP. St. II, Unit 1&2 Distt. Rae Baraily	Central (NHPC)	2×210	1/2000 7/2000
3.	Dhauli Ganga	Central (NHPC)	280	2000-05
4.	Tehri Stage-I	Central (THDC)	1000	2001-02
5.	Lakhawar Vyasi	State (UPSEB)	420	Beyond Ninth Plan
6.	Sobla	-do-	6	1997-98
7.	Manari Bhali-II	-do-	304	2001-02

STATEMENT

		Energy Generation (MU)	
Name of the Station		1995-96	1996-97
1		2	3
Thermal			
Uttar Pradesh	Obra	4677	3634
	Panki	564	846
	Harduaganj	604	607
	Puricha	492	543
	Anpara	10450	11696
	Tanda	1016	1088
Hydro			
	Bihand	758	928
	Obra	283	363

	1	2	3
	Matatila	107	120
	Ganga Canal	146	176
	Khatima	210	210
	Ramganga	326	338
	Yamuna 1&4	543	546
	Yamuna 1&4	952	899
	Chila	661	612
	Khodari	443	432
	Maneribhaji	197	253
	Khara	373	376
NTPC	Singrauji	14985	15381
	Rihand	7622	6634
	NCR Dadri	4439	6054
	Unchahar	3108	2949
	Auraiya G.T	3510	3841
	Dadri G.T.	3795	3981
NPC	Narora	2751	2823
NHPC	Tanakpur	445	384

[English]

Loans Payable by Electricity Boards

108. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased:

(a) the details of loan payable by each State Electricity Board to Power Finance Corporation as on date; and

(b) the details of fresh steps taken by the Corporation for early recovery of outstanding loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The details of the loans payable as on 31.10.1997 by State Electricity Boards and Power Utilities to Power Finance Corporation are given in the attached Statement

(b) PFC is recovering the loans payable in the normal course from its borrowers as per the schedule of repayment. However, in the case of default, PFC suspends disbursement by giving due notice, and inter alia, takes steps like invocation of Escrow Account/State Government Guarantees/Bank Guarantees; by taking up the matter at the highest level of the State Governments/State Electricity Boards;

rescheduling/restructuring of loans and deduction of outstanding dues through Central Plan Assistance payable to the States.

STATEMENT

Details of the loans payable by State Electricity Boards as on 31.10.1997 to Power Finance Corporations

Sl. No.	Borrower	Loan Amount (Rs. in crs.)
1	2	3
1.	Govt. of Haryana (BBMB)	15.91
2.	HSEB	62.41
3.	Govt. of HP (BBMB)	1.01
4.	HPSEB	59.67
5.	PSEB	329.92

1	2	3
6.	Govt. of Rajasthan (BBMB)	7.00
7.	RSEB	561.35
8.	UPSEB	104.20
9.	GEB	262.34
10.	GPCL	0.68
11.	MPEB	360.71
12.	MSEB	628.65
13.	APSEB	854.18
14.	KEB	451.51
15.	KPCL	151.29
16.	KSEB	85.34
17.	TNEB	348.34
18.	BSHPCL	7.07
19.	TVNL	122.62
20.	OPGCL	220.17
21.	OHPCL	171.37
22.	GRIDCO	208.95
23.	Sikkim	2.80
24.	WBSEB	19.97
25.	WDHOCL	161.38
26.	DPL	6.06
27.	Govt. of Manipur	1.75
28.	Meghalaya SEB	0.03
29.	Govt. of Mizoram	6.87
30.	Govt. of Nagaland	41.72
TOTAL		5255.27

Typhoid

109. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether about one crore people in India fall sick to typhoid every year and the fever occur throughout the year but sporadic epidemics occur in summer when drinking water is in short supply;

(b) if so, whether there is high mortality on this account inspite of treatment; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government have taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) A statement showing State/ UT-wise reported No. of deaths (provisional) due to Enteric Fever (a Broad term which includes Typhoid) during the last 3 years is attached. The fever is observed all through out the year and the peak incidence is reported during July to September, co-inciding with the rainy season and increase in fly population. Typhoid fever has shown increasing trend of drug resistance in the last two years and has been found to be one of the causes of morbidity and mortality.

(c) The current Government efforts concentrate on:

(i) Improvement of water supply and sanitation both in Urban and Rural areas;

(ii) An IEC Plan to educate the general public in regard to:

(a) Purification of water at home.

(b) Improvement in and maintenance of a high level of personal hygiene.

STATEMENT

Reported Cases and deaths due to Enteric fever in India during 1995, 1996 & 1997 (Provisional)

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	1995		1996		1997		Cases/Deaths
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	35943	51	43742	39	13589	129	upto May, 97
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2856	23	1472	2	26	0	„ Jan, 97
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	50	0	97	0	244	0	upto July '97
6.	Gujarat	2636	11	4012	2	2172	2	„ July 97
7.	Haryana	917	1	1141	3	240	0	„ May, 97
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10000	3	13927	7	6831	1	„ July, 97
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	15863	0	18914	0	3937	0	„ July, 97
10.	Karnataka	19119	14	23534	12	10037	12	„ June, 97
11.	Kerala	5859	2	5162	2	2998	0	„ July, 97
12.	Madhya Pradesh	49083	53	33489	150	22061	12	„ June, 97
13.	Maharashtra	10650	42	8875	10	6442	12	„ Aug, 97
14.	Manipur	3594	0	1889	0	NR	NR	NR
15.	Meghalaya	4293	0	2360	0	2808	0	„ July 97
16.	Mizoram	333	2	495	0	152	0	„ July 97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
17.	Nagaland	1116	7	1470	0	605	0	„ July, 97	
18.	Orissa	26569	21	35094	85	8606	7	„ April, 97	
19.	Punjab	2506	4	1871	0	NR	NR	NR	
20.	Rajasthan	6267	11	2840	3	1218	0	„ Aug, 197	
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	
22.	Tamil Nadu	19481	94	6742	6	3499	0	„ April 97	
23.	Tripura	103	0	464	0	24	0	„ July, 97	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	70541	182	34885	100	NR	NR	NR	
25.	West Bengal	17993	100	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	
26.	A & N Island	118	1	629	0	113	3	„ Aug, 97	
27.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	
28.	D & N Haveli	262	1	260	2	167	0	„ July, 97	
29.	Daman & Diu	16	2	0	0	4	0	„ July, 97	
30.	Delhi	6012	30	6391	133	1576	9	„ July, 97	
31.	Lakshdweep	462	0	173	0	32	0	„ Aug, 97	
32.	Pondicherry	1936	4	1533	1	651	0	„ May, 97	
Total		314583	659	251454	557	88033	87		

Note : NR = Data not received from States/U.Ts

Source = Monthly Health Condition Reports—State/UTs (DHS)

Medicine in CGHS Ayurvedic Dispensaries

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

(a) whether Kar Nim capsules, a medicine for treatment of diabetes, are not available in the CGHS Ayurvedic dispensaries located in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reasons for not supplying this medicine to the CGHS diabetic patients taking treatment through CGHS Ayurvedic dispensaries in Delhi; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure regular supply of the medicine to all the Ayurvedic dispensaries in the interest of CGHS beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) By and large, most of the listed medicines in the CGHS formulary are presently available in the CGHS dispensaries. Kar Nim capsule being a patent proprietary medicine is supplied to CGHS beneficiaries through local purchase by the concerned Chief Medical Officer incharge by placing indents with the CGHS approved chemists. Other equal therapeutic value of medicines namely "Amry Cord Powder" for diabetic patients is also supplied to the CGHS beneficiaries.

Setting up of Power Projects in U.P.

111. LT. GENERAL PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted any proposal to the Union Government for setting up of Power Houses in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any power purchase agreement has been signed between the Union and State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Kamini

112. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the experimental Thorium based nuclear research reactor 'Kamini' is now fully operational;

(b) if so, whether its performance is satisfactory; and

(c) the details of future plans regarding nuclear power production consequent on the success of 'Kamini'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. KAMINI attained criticality in October, 1996 and is now operating satisfactorily at its full (rated) power of 30 Kilo Watt (KW-Thermal).

(c) KAMINI is a small 30 KW (thermal) research reactor, using Uranium-233 as fuel. Uranium-233 is a man-made reactor fuel obtained from Thorium. Thus, the significance of KAMINI lies in the fact that it represents a small but important step in the context of eventual utilisation of India's large Thorium reserves. As regards production of nuclear power, India's programme consists of three stages, viz, development and operation of:

(i) Uranium-235 fuelled thermal reactors [mostly Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs)] for generation of power and production of Plutonium;

(ii) Plutonium fuelled Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) for power generation and production of U-233 in Thorium blankets;

(iii) Uranium-233/Thorium fuelled reactors.

The first stage of the programme is successfully in operation, while the second stage is under development. The third stage can be reached only after sufficient stock of Uranium-233 is built-up from Thorium-232 used in the blankets of Fast Breeder Reactors.

National Population Policy

113. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :
SHRI MADHUKAR SIRPOTDAR :
SHRI SURESH PRABHU :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2353 dated August 6, 1997 and state:

(a) whether the draft 'National Population Policy' has been discussed with the State Governments;

(b) whether the State Governments have been taken into confidence about the need to evolve a universal 'Population Policy' with specific targets and its implementation in a non-partisan manner;

(c) whether the Union Government have made any reassessment/readjustment in the 'Population Policy' in the context of the relevant mandate as per the Resolution regarding 'Agenda for India' adopted by the Lok Sabha on September 1, 1997; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) The States and Union Territories have been consulted before preparation of the draft National Population Policy. The draft has also taken note of the Resolution titled 'Agenda for India' adopted by Lok Sabha on 1st September 1997.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Power Projects in Bihar

114. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the power projects in the country about which a decision has been taken to hand them over to private sector;

(b) whether any power project is being handed over to private sector in Bihar also;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Since the inception of the private sector policy of the Government of India in 1991 and to date, 127 proposals have been received for setting up a generation capacity of 68243.11 MW. These include 95 proposals on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)/Letter of Intent (LoI), etc. route (costing above Rs. 100 crores) and 32 proposals on the competitive bidding route (costing more than Rs. 1000 crores).

(b) So far, no power project of Bihar have been handed over to the private sector.

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

(d) The time by which these projects are likely to become functional can be determined only after they achieve financial closure.

Indians in Pak Jails

115. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians in Pakistani Jails at present for over a year, for alleged illegal immigration, infiltration and on other charges, separately; and

(b) the number of Indian citizens freed by Pakistan during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) According to available information, at present there are about 1150 Indians in the custody of Pakistan for over a year.

In addition, 54 Indian Defence personnel missing from the 1965 and 1971 wars are believed to be in the custody of Pakistan.

It is not possible to separately indicate the number of Indians held for illegal immigration, infiltration and on other charges since the Pakistan Government does not provide information in this regard.

(b) The number of Indian citizens freed by Pakistan during each of the last 3 years is as under:—

1994	84
1995	27
1996	—
1997 (up to November)	235

INSAT-2D

116. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efforts of the Scientists of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have failed to revive the INSAT-2D and finally abandoned:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the efforts made by ISRO to launch another satellite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. All efforts were made to revive the satellite after the unexpected occurrence of the massive short-circuit on October 1, 1997. The steep drop in available power created problems in the thermal management of the spacecraft which in turn resulted in the malfunctioning of the propellant system. The spacecraft was declared inoperable on October 5, 1997.

(b) After the short-circuit on Bus-2 on October 1, 1997 the satellite was observed to generate only 25 to 30 per cent of the rated power. The south solar array which is required to track the sun was found to be stuck in one position. The non-availability of sufficient on-board power created consequential difficulties in the thermal management of the spacecraft which in turn led to the malfunctioning of the propellant system of the spacecraft. This in turn resulted in depletion of fuel and the satellite was declared inoperable on October 5, 1997.

(c) Efforts are underway to augment the INSAT space segment capacity on an urgent basis through lease or purchase of in-orbit capacity.

Representation in U.N. Organisations

117. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present representation of Indians in the UN Organisations are negligible;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to initiate steps to increase the representation of Indians; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Recruitment to U.N. Organisations is based on equitable geographical representation calculated on the basis of population, membership and financial contributions, thus determining the "desirable range" for each country. India is considered to be an "over-represented" country since Indian nationals recruited by the U.N. exceed the "desirable range" for India. The Government is constantly keeping the matter under review.

Haj Pilgrimage

118. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be please to state:

(a) whether official deputationists are sent to Saudi Arabia every year for Haj;

(b) if so, the official tenure of the stay;

(c) if so, the number of deputations sent to Saudi Arabia and their tenure of stay in 1996-97;

(d) whether despite the work required after the Mina Fire episode several deputationists were recalled; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The period of deputation varies between one to three months.

(c) A total of 290 officials (97 administrative staff, 94 doctors and 99 paramedical staff) were sent to Saudi Arabia for Haj '97 with the period of their deputation varying between four to eight weeks.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

PHC in Maharashtra

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

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres and Family Planning Centres in Maharashtra as on September 30, 1997, and

(b) the amount provided by the Union Government to these centres during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) As per the available information as on 31.12.96 there are 1695 Primary Health Centres functioning in Maharashtra. Family Welfare Services are also provided through a network of Rural Family Welfare Centres, Post Partum Centres, Urban Family Welfare Centres, and Urban Health Posts. There are 428 Rural Family Welfare Centres, 121 Post Partum Centres, 74 Urban Family Welfare Centres and 278 Urban Health Posts functioning in Maharashtra.

(b) The Primary Health Centres are established and maintained by the State Government under State Sector Minimum Needs Programme. 100 per cent Central Assistance is provided to the States for Rural Family Welfare Centres, Post Partum Centres, Urban Family Welfare Centres and Urban Health Posts. Details of the amount allocated to these Centres during 1995-96 and 1996-97 is given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

Amount allocated to the State of Maharashtra during 1995-96 and 1996-97

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1995-96	1996-97
Minimum Needs Programme	7034.00	9488.00
Rural Family Welfare Centres	1260.00	1270.00
Post Partum Centres	375.00	376.00
Urban Family Welfare Centres	100.00	95.00
Urban Health Posts	540.00	556.00

* Allocation under MNP/BMS

Stay Facility to Patients

120. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether patients and their relatives who come from other States have to run around the hospitals of Delhi and have to stay on pavements;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide sufficient stay facilities for them;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up any special cell for them so that they may not face any difficulty in getting treatment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Adequate facilities for night stay to the waiting patients/their attendants are available at Safdarjung Hospital, All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Such facilities are not available in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital. At

Kalavati Saran Children Hospital, there is a sarai and shed for nightshelter. At Smt. S.K. Hospital there are no residential facilities for relatives of patients but the relatives stay at a nearby Dharmasala situated a little away from the Hospital.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to set up any special cell. However, the various facilities provided by Central Government hospitals are upgraded depending upon the availability of resources.

[English]

CHOGM Meet

121. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) the details of important matters discussed at the recently held (CHOGM) Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Edinburgh;

(b) the matters which were raised by the Indian Prime Minister;

(c) to what extent the meeting is likely to help India on the diplomatic and international relations level; and

(d) the extent of success achieved by India in CHOGM Meet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) A copy each of the Edinburgh Communique and the Edinburgh Commonwealth Economic Declaration issued by the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at Edinburgh on 27 October, 1997 are given in the Statement I and II attached.

(b) A copy of the address by the Prime Minister of India, on behalf of all participating Heads of Government, at the Opening Ceremony, is given in the Statement III attached.

(c) and (d) The Meeting provided both an opportunity and a forum for our Prime Minister to exchange views on important issues with other Commonwealth Heads of Government. These interalia included trade, investment, development, the environment, terrorism in all its manifestations, illegal trafficking in drugs and arms and money laundering. These and other issues of interest to India were prominently reflected in the Communique and the Economic declaration.

STATEMENT I

Bulletin

*Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting,
Edinburgh, October 1997: the Edinburgh Communiqué*

Related Links

1. Commonwealth Heads of Government met in Edinburgh from 24-27 October 1997. Of the 51 countries which attended the Meeting, 43 were represented by Heads of State or Prime Ministers. The Meeting was chaired by the British Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Tony Blair.

2. The Opening Session of the Meeting was addressed by her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth.

3. Heads of Government expressed satisfaction at the return of Fiji on 1 October 1997 to the Commonwealth, as its 54 member state.

4. Heads of Government congratulated the Governments and peoples of India and Pakistan who have recently celebrated their 50th anniversaries of independence.

5. Heads of Government conveyed their appreciation for the excellent arrangements made for their Meeting and the warm hospitality extended by the British Government and people, as well as for the Chairman's admirable conduct of the Meeting.

6. Heads of Government adopted the Edinburgh Commonwealth Economic Declaration on Promoting Shared Prosperity, which they saw as a fitting complement to the Harare Commonwealth Declaration of 1991.

7. Heads of Government expressed concern about the special problems of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). To enable them to share the benefits of globalisation, they invited donors to work for the target of 0.15 per cent of GNP for LDCs. They also resolved to promote the role of micro credit in poverty reduction.

8. Heads of Government received with satisfaction the attached Report of the Chairman of the Ministerial Group on Small States. They also welcomed the Report of an Advisory Group, A Future for Small States: Overcoming Vulnerability, as an important Commonwealth contribution towards addressing the particular concerns of small states, and agreed on a package of measures to alleviate these concerns.

9. Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to the fundamental values of the Commonwealth, as set out in the Harare Commonwealth Declaration of 1991 and emphasised that democracy, good governance, sustainable development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms were interdependent and mutually reinforcing.

They commended the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association for its work in strengthening the democratic culture and effective parliamentary practices, and its efforts to enhance the participation of women in public life.

10. Heads of Government reaffirmed their support for the valuable role played by the Secretary-General's good offices, at the request of the concerned member governments, to help resolve potential or actual conflicts.

11. Heads of Government received the Report from the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group on the Harare Declaration (CMAG) covering three countries, viz. The Gambia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone, and accepted its recommendations.

12. They welcomed the completion of the electoral phase of the transition to civilian, democratic and constitutional rule in the Gambia and received the assurances of the Gambian authorities that they would further demonstrate their stated commitment to the Harare principles.

13. Heads of Government observed that the continued existence of a military government in Nigeria was a prime source of Commonwealth concern. They expressed concern about the failure to observe fundamental human rights, in particular the continued detention and imprisonment of many Nigerians, including Chief Moshood Abiola and General Olusegun Obasanjo. Accordingly, they decided that Nigeria should remain suspended from the Commonwealth.

14. They noted the positive contribution which Nigeria has been making to efforts through Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in support of democratic government within the West African region, and expressed the hope that this reflected a determination to comply within the Harare principles in its domestic policies.

15. Heads of Government also empowered CMAG to invoke, in the period before 1 October 1998, Commonwealth-wide implementation of any or all of the measures recommended by CMAG if, in CMAG's view, these would serve to encourage greater integrity of the process of transition and respect for human rights in Nigeria. These included:

- visa restrictions on members of the Nigerian regime and their families;
- the withdrawal of military attachés;
- the cessation of military training;
- an embargo on the export of arms;
- the denial of educational facilities to members of the Nigerian regime and their families;

- a visa-based ban on all sporting contacts;
- a downgrading of cultural links; and
- the downgrading of diplomatic missions.

16. Heads of Government agreed that, following 1 October 1998, CMAG should assess whether Nigeria had satisfactorily completed a credible programme for the restoration of democracy and civilian government. They further agreed that if, in that assessment, Nigeria had completed a credible transition to democratic government and to observance of the Harare principles, then the suspension will be lifted; and if not and it remained in serious violation of the Harare principles, Heads of Government would consider Nigeria's expulsion from the association and the introduction of further measures in consultation with other members of the international community as recommended by CMAG. Such measures would include a mandatory oil embargo, a ban on air-links with Nigeria and the freezing of the financial assets and bank accounts in foreign countries of members of the regime and their families.

17. Heads of Government strongly condemned the military coup in Sierra Leone in May 1997, which resulted in the unconstitutional overthrow of its democratically-elected government, and called for the immediate reinstatement of President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, whom they welcomed to their Meeting. They endorsed the decision taken by CMAG, in accordance with the provisions of the Millbrook Commonwealth Action Programme, that pending the restoration of the legitimate government, the participation of the illegal regime of Sierra Leone in the councils of the Commonwealth should remain suspended.

18. Heads of Government welcomed UN Security Council Resolution 1132(1997) imposing petroleum, weapons and travel sanctions on the military junta in Sierra Leone and authorising ECOWAS to impose economic measures against the regime. They urged member governments to co-operate in the implementation of these sanctions, and in ensuring the continued isolation of the regime in Freetown within the Commonwealth and the wider international community. They agreed to assist the victims of the situation in Sierra Leone in their own countries, as well as in other countries of the commonwealth which may request such assistance. They pledged the support of the Commonwealth for the efforts of ECOWAS to resolve the Sierra Leone crisis, including the provision of technical and logistical support to enable ECOWAS to carry out its responsibilities. They also pledged Commonwealth support for the reconstruction of Sierra Leone upon the resolution of the crisis. In the meantime, they looked forward to further clarification of the reported agreement between the ECOWAS Ministerial delegation and the military junta that the latter would demit office and allow the reinstatement of President Tejan Kabbah in six months' time.

19. Heads of Government reviewed the composition, terms of reference and operation of CMAG. They decided that CMAG should continue its work as a standing ministerial mechanism to address serious and persistent violations of the principles of the Harare Commonwealth Declaration. They agreed that CMAG should, in the two-year period after the Edinburgh CHOGM, consist of the following countries: Barbados, Botswana, Britain, Canada, Ghana, Malaysia, New Zealand and Zimbabwe. They further agreed that in future CMAG's remit should extend to member countries deemed to be in serious or persistent violation of the Harare principles, on the basis of established guidelines. They decided that the Commonwealth Secretary-General, acting on his/her own or at the request of a member government, should bring the situation in question to the attention of the CMAG membership, which would then include it or otherwise in its work programme in the light of its guiding principles.

20. Heads of Government received and endorsed a report from the Intergovernmental Group on Criteria for Commonwealth Membership. They agreed that in order to become a member of the Commonwealth, an applicant country should, as a rule, have had a constitutional association with an existing Commonwealth member; that it should comply with Commonwealth values, principles and priorities as set out in the Harare Declaration; and that it should accept Commonwealth norms and conventions.

21. Recalling Palestine's historic association with the Commonwealth, Heads of Government welcomed the interest expressed by the Palestinian Authority in Commonwealth membership. They recognised that, under the Oslo Accords, Palestine may attain state sovereignty in 1999. Once this was so, the case for membership would be duly determined in accordance with the agreed criteria for Commonwealth membership. Heads of Government also considered applications for membership of the Commonwealth from Rwanda and Yemen and agreed that these should be kept under review in the context of the criteria endorsed by them.

22. Heads of Government reaffirmed their support for the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of the Republic of Cyprus. They called for the implementation of United Nations resolutions on Cyprus, in particular Security Council Resolutions 365 (1974), 550 (1984) and 939 (1994). They regretted that negotiations on a solution have been at an impasse for too long and strongly supported the process of direct intercommunal talks under the UN Secretary-General's mission of good offices. They expressed concern about recent threats of use of force and integration of the occupied territory by Turkey and reiterated support for President Clerides's demilitarisation proposal. They called

for the withdrawal of all Turkish forces and settlers, the return of the refugees to their homes, the restoration of and respect for human rights of all Cypriots and the accounting of all missing persons. They expressed concern and disappointment that progress had been impeded by the efforts of the Turkish Cypriot side to introduce pre-conditions to the talks and called for a co-operative attitude from all sides for the achievement of a comprehensive, just and workable settlement on the basis of a bi-communal and bi-zonal federation. While noting the existence of the Commonwealth Action Group on Cyprus, they welcomed the initiative of the Commonwealth Secretary-General to nominate an observer at the UN-sponsored negotiations. They recognised the Britain as a permanent member of the Security Council and as a guarantor Power has a special position in this matter.

23. Heads of Government reaffirmed their strong support for the territorial integrity, security and sovereignty of Belize. They welcomed the consultations and co-operation between Guatemala and Belize on the implementation of confidence-building measures and called for continued dialogue at the highest levels. They encouraged Guatemala to recognise the constitutional borders of Belize to allow for an early settlement of their outstanding claim. They reiterated their request to the Secretary-General to convene the Commonwealth Ministerial Committee on Belize whenever necessary.

24. Heads of Government reaffirmed their strongest condemnation of acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, which destabilise the political, economic and social order of sovereign states. They reiterated their determination to combat terrorism, whether perpetrated by individuals, groups or states, by every means possible consistent with human rights and the rule of law. They also recognised the linkages between terrorism, illegal trafficking in drugs and arms, and money laundering. They welcomed the growing international consensus in fighting terrorism, and in particular the steps taken towards a UN Convention on Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, and hope that this would contribute to the development of a comprehensive legal framework. They also called on all states to enact laws to make punishable acts of conspiracy within their jurisdictions to commit terrorist offences.

25. Heads of Government addressed the serious humanitarian crisis caused by anti-personnel mines and noted the negotiation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, adopted in Oslo on 18 September 1997. They invited Commonwealth and other countries in a position to do so to consider joining the original signatories of this convention when it first opens for signature in Ottawa on 3 December 1997. They stressed that an effective solution to the global problem of anti-

personnel mines would only be possible through effective international co-operation in all relevant fora including, inter alia, the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament, regional organisations and groupings and enhanced international assistance for mine clearance and for the care and rehabilitation and economic integration, of mine victims.

26. In acknowledging the multi-faceted problems affecting the Mediterranean, Heads of Government welcomed the Euro-Mediterranean Conference in 1995 and its follow-up conference in Malta in 1997, and affirmed their support to the international and regional institutions committed to the promotion of peace and security in Mediterranean region.

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27. Heads of Government expressed their belief that an International Criminal Court (ICC) would be an important development in the international promotion of the rule of law. They expressed support for the efforts of the UN Preparatory Committee to negotiate a Statute for an ICC and encouraged participation in those negotiations and in the Plenipotentiary Conference next year by as many Commonwealth countries as possible.

28. Heads of Government considered various aspects of Commonwealth functional co-operation, which they reaffirmed as essential for translating the benefits of membership to member states. They endorsed the attached Report of the Committee of the Whole and requested the Secretariat to intensify its efforts to establish priorities in these areas, based on the Commonwealth's comparative advantage.

29. Heads of Government accepted with great pleasure the offer of the Government of South Africa to host their next Meeting in 1999, and the offer of Australia to host their Meeting in 2001.

STATEMENT II

Bulletin

Promoting Shared Prosperity: Edinburgh Commonwealth Economic Declaration

Related Links

1. Today's globalised world poses both opportunities and challenges. Expanding trade and investment flows, driven by new technologies and the spread of market forces, have emerged as engines of growth. At the same time, not all countries have benefited equally from the globalisation of the world economy, and a significant number are threatened with marginalisation. Globalisation therefore needs to be carefully managed to meet the risks inherent in the process.

2. We believe that world peace, security and social stability cannot be achieved in conditions of deep poverty and growing inequality. special measures are needed to correct this, and in particular to help the integration of countries, especially small states and the Least Developed Countries, in the global economy and address the uneven development that threatens many countries. To redress these problems, we believe the following broad principled approaches should be pursued:

- the world economy should be geared towards promoting universal growth and prosperity for all;
- there must be effective participation by all countries in economic decision-making in key international fora;
- the removal of obstacles that prevent developing countries playing their full part in shaping the evolution of the global economy; and
- international regimes affecting economic relations among nations should provide symmetrical benefits for all.

3. We also believe that commitment to market principles, openness to international trade and investment, the development of human and physical resources, gender equality, and good governance and political stability remain major components of economic and social progress; and that wealth creation requires partnerships between governments and the private sector. The Commonwealth, with its shared traditions and global reach, is uniquely placed to play a key role in promoting shared prosperity amongst its members.

Trade

4. We welcome the progress made in recent years in dismantling trade barriers and establishing a rule-based international trading system. However, significant barriers to trade in goods and services remain, and the benefits of the expansion of world trade are still unevenly shared. We have therefore resolved to:

- support expansion of duty-free market access with flexible rules of origin for the exports of the Least Developed Countries; work for a successor arrangement to the Lomé Convention which, without prejudice to the outcome, gives the ACP countries, particularly small states, adequate transitional arrangements; and in particular, encourage the EU and WTO members to accommodate the legitimate interests of the ACP banana producers and facilitate the diversification of their economies;

- strengthen the multilateral trading system within the framework of the WTO, in order to prevent regional arrangements from becoming exclusive trading blocs and provide for the greatest flow of international trade on the basis of agreed rules which are fair and equitable; and support the full implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements;
- oppose the introduction of new no-tariff barriers and the use of unilateral actions and bilateral pressures which run counter to the spirit of the WTO;
- maintain the momentum towards freer trade through multilateral negotiations, as outlined in the built-in agenda and other issues under discussion in the WTO, including progress on agriculture and financial and other services, taking into account the interests of all countries at different stages of development; and
- continue to support regional arrangements, consistent with multilateral liberalisation under the WTO, which promote the economic growth of their members.

Specifically we have decided to:

- establish a Trade and Investment Access Facility under the Commonwealth umbrella to assist developing countries with the process of adjusting to, and taking advantage of, the opportunities of globalisation. The new Facility will provide technical assistance to help countries identify and manage the potential economic and social impacts of trade in goods and services and investment liberalisation; identify new sources of revenue and market opportunities; and help countries fulfil WTO requirements. The Facility will be co-ordinated with the proposed WTO/UNCTAD/ITC integrated framework for trade-related technical assistance;
- explore the scope for deepening trade relationships among Commonwealth members, and therefore request the Secretariat to report to us, before the 1999 CHOGM, on the scope and possible systems and mechanisms for improving trade among members of the Commonwealth, in ways which are consistent with the provisions of the WTO and regional trading arrangements;
- launch a Commonwealth action programme to remove administrative obstacles to trade by simplifying and harmonising customs procedures, disseminating information, and eliminating bureaucratic and technical hurdles;

- examine the growing importance of 'electronic commerce' in trade and the developmental implications of the use of cyberspace for commercial and financial transactions; and
- promote Commonwealth Export Training Centres for management training in exporting and other trade-related skills.

5. We welcome the recommendations of the first ever Commonwealth Business Forum held in London on 22-23 October 1997. We believe that the Forum can be an important link between the private and public sectors and foster vibrant private sector business links. It should continue to meet every two years. We are also arranging to set up a Business Council, under Lord Cairns and Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, made up of small group of major private sector leaders from different regions of the Commonwealth, as well as other mechanisms, in consultation with the Commonwealth Secretary-General, to encourage greater private sector involvement in the promotion of trade and investment. In this context, we also agree to support and strengthen the work of the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management.

Investment

6. We believe that investment flows can bring substantial benefits, and that sound macro-economic policies and financial systems, strong regulatory and supervisory frameworks and political stability are essential in encouraging inward flows. At the same time, we recognise that volatility in such flows can greatly complicate economic management. They also remain concentrated in a few regions and countries. We agree to:

- encourage investment flows by establishing an open and transparent investment regimes for business activity, and by simplifying bureaucratic procedures and regulations;
- encourage capital exporting countries, where it is prudent, to consider relaxing restrictions on institutional investors to enable them to take advantage of portfolio diversification opportunities in emerging and new markets;
- support the development of regional and multilateral arrangements and infrastructure that take into account the realities of developing countries, and that can help to facilitate private capital flows;
- study the lessons to be learned from recent developments in currency markets and in particular

on how countries can be protected from the destabilising effects of market volatility, including those resulting from speculative activities, and how the effectiveness of existing early warning systems can be improved; and

- support strengthening of global and regional mechanisms to help countries handle capital market volatility.

Specifically we have decided to:

- endorse the recommendations of the Commonwealth working group on the role of national and international policies in promoting private capital flows, and call for the rapid finalisation of a Commonwealth Code of Good Practice for national policies that attract and sustain private capital flows;
- welcome the launch of the Africa Fund, the Kula Fund for the Pacific, and the South Asia Regional Fund under the aegis of the Commonwealth Private Investment Initiative (CPII); and call for the extension of CPII to embrace additional regions and sectors;
- launch a Commonwealth investment promotion programme which will: help establish enabling environments for attracting private investment flows; encourage the creation of new mechanisms for risk insurance and guarantees; provide assistance for strengthening supervisory and regulatory frameworks; and improve the flow of information on investment opportunities; and
- encourage 'smart partnerships' involving the private and public sectors.

Development

7. We welcome the improving growth prospects in many parts of the developing world, including evidence of recovery in Sub-Saharan Africa. At the same time, we remain concerned at the persistence of extreme poverty in many countries and the lack of capacity to reduce it. We have therefore agreed to:

- work to halve the proportion of people living in extreme poverty by the year 2015;
- seek to reverse the decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows recognising the role of ODA as an essential instrument of partnership for development and poverty reduction in developing countries, particularly the Least Developed

Countries and small states, and for helping to create the conditions for increased trade and investment, including skills and infrastructure development;

- work towards a comprehensive solution of the debt problem, and pursue vigorously the rapid implementation of the Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative, in line with the Mauritius Mandate, which has the aim of enabling HIPC countries to have embarked by the year 2000 on securing a sustainable exit from their debt burden; as well as consider extending such relief to other developing countries, including small states, in similar circumstances; and
- promote the role of micro-credit schemes in reducing poverty through increased assistance from the international community.

8. We welcome the Report of the Chairman of the Commonwealth Ministerial Group on Small States and its recommendations for action based on the Commonwealth Report, *A Future for Small States: Overcoming Vulnerability*. In particular, we encourage international financial institutions to review their graduation policies, consider broader criteria covering the special vulnerabilities of their smaller members, and establish a task force to address the concerns of small states. We endorse the recommendation to set up a small ministerial group to discuss small states' concerns with major multilateral agencies and to report to governments on the outcome as soon as possible.

9. We underscore the importance of good governance including increased openness in economic decision-making and the elimination of corruption through greater transparency, accountability and the application of the rule of law in economic, financial and other spheres of activity. We endorse the request by our Finance Ministers to the Commonwealth Secretary-General to establish an expert group to work on these issues.

Environment

10. We have a shared interest in protecting our environment, a global resource in which all countries have a stake. The costs of protecting it should be borne in accordance with shared and differentiated responsibilities. It is therefore incumbent on the global community to strengthen co-operation to achieve sustainable development, so that we can protect our planet for future generations. In particular, we look to a successful outcome at the Kyoto Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Climate Change, involving realistic and achievable goals, significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and recognition that we all need to play a role.

We have therefore agreed to:

- endorse the Programme for the Future Implementation of Agenda 21 as agreed by this year's UN General Assembly Special Session, particularly in respect of freshwater, forest resources and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries. We recognise that new and additional resources will be needed to implement the programmes and will use our best endeavours to provide these;
- underline the importance of a successful outcome at Kyoto, with all countries playing their part within the Berlin Mandate, with developed countries pursuing vigorously an outcome that would produce significant reductions in their greenhouse gas emissions through the adoption of a protocol or other legal instrument;
- call on the Kyoto Conference to recognise that, after Kyoto, all countries will need to play their part by pursuing policies that would result in significant reductions of greenhouse gas emissions if we are to solve a global problem that affects us all;
- call for agreement at Kyoto to arrangements to monitor the reduction of emissions regularly;
- initiate action in the international community to strengthen disaster relief response and mechanisms for the provision of urgent and adequate assistance to small states that suffer the effects of natural disasters which are increasing in frequency and magnitude; and
- welcome the contribution of the Iwokrama International Rain Forest Programme in Guyana to the implementation of the Rio agreements on forests, biodiversity and climate change, and agree to use our best endeavours to increase resources to sustain the Programme and catalyse further international funding.

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Conclusion

11. In pursuance of these commitments, we agree to enhance the Commonwealth's role in building consensus on global economic issues and on an equitable structuring of international economic relations.

12. We also agree to sustain and where possible increase bilateral assistance among our members; and to ensure the flow of resources to the Secretariat and its various

Funds, especially the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC); and to the Commonwealth Foundation, Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM).

13. We believe the Commonwealth can play a dynamic role in promoting trade and investment so as to enhance prosperity, accelerate economic growth and development and advance the eradication of poverty in the 21st Century. We plan to pursue this with vigour.

*Edinburgh International Conference Centre
25 October 1997*

STATEMENT III

[Please Check against delivery]

Embargoed for release at
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ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA
SHRI I.K. GUJRAL
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT
MEETING (CHOGM)
EDINBURGH 24TH OCTOBER, 1997

Your Majesty,
Your Royal Highnesses,
Prime Minister Blair,
Mr. Secretary General,
Heads of Government,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I consider it a privilege to be invited to speak on behalf of the participating Heads of Government.

Your Majesty, it so happens that this Commonwealth Summit coincides with the Golden Jubilee of Independence of India and Pakistan. We in South Asia, belong to civilisations dating back to the dawn of history. Our milestones are shared. Our joys are common. For India, it is a matter of pride that it has, in these last fifty years, emerged as a self-confident society: united, democratic, secular, and firmly set on the path of modernisation and sustained economic growth.

Our independence in 1947 acted as the spur to the independence of over a hundred countries in the post-war era. We acknowledge that the principles on which we gained our own freedom *constituted a turning point in history*: a decisive step towards the end of subjugation and colonisation, and the beginning of a new world order based on equality, equity and respect for sovereignty.

The Indian Republic chose to remain in the Commonwealth. We did not wish to make the promise of

the future a hostage to the rancour of the past. This was our approach, because the principles underlying our freedom struggle were universal: the dignity and equality of man. Our fight was against imperialism, not against a people or a country.

Your Majesty,
Excellencies,

The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of sovereign and independent States, bringing together peoples of many races, religions and continents. Among its members are the non-aligned and the aligned, the poor and the rich, the North and the South, and the big and the small. Within itself, it represents the widest range of global aspirations. It accommodates differences even as it values consensus.

The Commonwealth has also evolved over the years. What began as the British Commonwealth was transformed in 1949, when India joined, into a free association of independent member nations. At that time, Your Majesty, the end to colonialism was in sight, but the process was not yet complete. The years that followed saw the light of freedom illuminating almost every corner of the globe. The process of decolonisation was truly complete with the emergence of a multi-racial and democratic South Africa in 1994.

Now, at the close of one of the most remarkable centuries mankind has witnessed, the Commonwealth is, I believe, entering a third phase, with a clear-cut task before it: *to forge a shared vision for the new millennium* that is upon us and the challenges and opportunities that it will bring.

The 20th century has seen tensions, divisions and wars more brutal than ever before. Yet it has also been a beneficial age. Some 200 nations are today free, aspiring to be equal partners with an equal voice in shaping mankind's destiny. The boundaries of human possibility have expanded manifold, and men and women around the world live longer and fuller lives today than ever in the past.

Even so, can we forget that human history has, for too long, been one of war and oppression, punctuated with only a few intervals of peace and freedom? This really is the challenge of the times, of strengthening the peace, the freedoms, the spirit and essence of a global brotherhood that post-War institutions such as the Commonwealth represent.

How does one ensure a just ordering of relations amongst nations, so that the interests of the one are seen in harmony with the interests of the world community? Can we make global democracy credible? How do we overcome narrow nationalism's and learn that, ultimately, it is in giving

that we gain, in sharing that we grow, and only in serving a larger good that we really serve ourselves? These are issues statesmanship today must address.

Shortly after assuming responsibility as India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru observed, and I quote: "I have become more and more convinced that so long as we do not recognise the supremacy of moral law in our national and international relations, we shall have no enduring peace. So long as we do not adhere to the right means, the end will not be right and fresh evils will flow from it. That was the essence of Gandhiji's message, and mankind will have to appreciate it in order to see and act clearly."

Can we in the Commonwealth take a lead in defining an international ethic, a morality such as we seek to practice in our personal lives, of treating others as we would wish ourselves to be treated; a world where honour is respected, where truth and natural justice prevail?

Such an aspiration is especially relevant, given the theme of our present Summit: "Trade, Investment and Development: The Road to Commonwealth Prosperity". Trade, finance and technology have brought people closer to each other than ever before even when their objective conditions are vastly different. Many developing countries are being asked to adjust to this process of globalisation at a pace and in conditions that are not of their choosing. Equal opportunity, and democracy, ideals which we all share, are often absent in the restricted chambers of the international economic system. And yet, I have little doubt that, in the long run, *globalisation will succeed only if it is equitable and just*, and is so seen by the vast majority of mankind.

The institutional systems that oversee the globalised economy must reflect an enlightened balance of interests. India and many developing countries are in the process of economic reform and restructuring. Their commitment to social and redistributive justice needs understanding and appreciation. The developing countries of today will become the high growth economic frontiers of tomorrow. If today they are not provided *better terms of trade and market access, and greater resources for their critical developmental needs*, the consequences will adversely affect global prosperity tomorrow.

It is my conviction that the Commonwealth *can and must* be made an instrument of cooperation that has *direct relevance for vital issues of economic growth of developing member countries*. The Commonwealth *can and must* become an *effective interlocutor between the North and the South*. The Commonwealth *can and must* strive for *greater democracy and equity in global economic decision making*. The Commonwealth *can and must* ensure that *all its members share the benefits of technology*.

As we look ahead, there are some other issues that will need our special attention. I have in mind, in particular,

the *menace of terrorism* and the scourge of international trade in drugs.

Terrorism and drug trafficking are often tied together, and both have a link with yet another global menace, money-laundering. Together, these evils threaten international peace, stability and security. Terrorism is indiscriminate in its impact, affecting entire communities, especially open democracies, that are particularly vulnerable to it. We need an effective global strategy to deal with these evils. It is with this end in view that I had recently mooted the idea of a Universal Extradition Treaty that will enable the international community to pursue the perpetrators of these crimes across national frontiers, and ensure that they do not seek or obtain refuge in any part of the world.

The problems of the present, if left unresolved, will become the crises of the future. We stand on the watershed of history. There is a special responsibility on all of us to see that, in our meetings, *dialogue leads to action* and *goodwill leads to results*. The onus is on us to ensure that this unique forum, to which we have the honour and privilege to belong, distinguishes itself in the next millennium as a real bridge between the needs and opportunities of all its members.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Before concluding, may I join in welcoming Fiji's re-admission into the Commonwealth, and its commitment to the principles of democracy, non-discrimination, equality and fairness.

I must also join in the tribute paid to the Queen for the exemplary manner in which she has discharged her role as the Head of the Commonwealth. We congratulate the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in the golden jubilee year of their marriage. We recall with great warmth and affection their recent visit to India.

May I also take this occasion to thank, on behalf of all the visiting Heads of Governments present here, the City of Edinburgh, and the Commonwealth Secretariat for the excellent arrangements made for this visit.

Your Majesty, in India, our ancient sages believed in the motto:

"Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam"
The World is one family.

The Commonwealth is both a symbol of this belief and the hope that it will be fulfilled.

I pledge India's co-operation in making this Summit a memorable success and in carrying the Commonwealth to new levels of achievement.

Thank you.

Mystery Disease in Calcutta

122. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press news-item captioned "Mystery disease claims 5 children in Calcutta" as reported in the 'Statesman' dated October 15, 1997.

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have asked a detailed report from the State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of Central assistance propose to be given to State Government to face the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Health Care

123. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to develop infrastructure during Ninth Five Year Plan to provide adequate health care in the country;

(b) if so, the details of problems identified and programmes proposed to be undertaken to provide adequate health care in that plan period; and

(c) the details of the estimated funds proposed to be made available to meet the health care requirement in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The consolidation and upgradation of the secondary health infrastructure has been taken up in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal and Punjab under the State Health Systems Projects. A few other States have been given the opportunity to seek assistance for similar upgradation of the infrastructure particularly where the health indices are low. The projects seek to fill critical gaps in infrastructure, manpower, equipment, consumables and drugs. Thrust has also been given inter-alia to contain communicable diseases particularly where prevalence is high, improvement of Surveillance and epidemic response systems, reproductive and child health,

renovation and modernisation of institutions and organisations in the Central health sector as well as health promotion and education.

(c) Ninth Plan outlay is under finalisation in the Planning Commission.

AIDS

124. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :

SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

SHRI ANANT GUDHE :

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating a comprehensive National policy with a view to involve the entire country in the Anti-AIDS campaign;

(b) if so, the salient features of the policy being formulated and its likely impact and present status;

(c) the funds made available to the State Governments during the current year and actual utilisation thereof for the purpose;

(d) the details of availability of foreign funds and their actual utilisation for AIDS projects so far;

(e) whether there is any special cell functioning in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to give counsel to the AIDS patients/general people; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) An overall policy which inter-alia addresses social and ethical issues connected with HIV/AIDS is at the preliminary stage of formulation.

(c) and (d) During 1997-98 funds to the extent of Rs. 26.90 crores have been released to various States/ Union Territories under the National AIDS Control Programme. As against IDA credit of US \$84 million, Government of India has received disbursement of US \$60.59 million.

(e) and (f) Yes Sir. AIDS patients and general public are being provided counselling on HIV/AIDS/STDs in a model counselling centre at Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, in collaboration with STD Department of Safdarjung Hospital, UNAIDS and NGOs. Apart from this, a telephonic counselling facility at Delhi has also been started. Counsellors at grassroot level are being trained to meet the growing need for HIV/AIDS information at the Government level.

Cogentrix

125. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cogentrix Energy Inc. has approached the Central Electricity Authority for a revised Power Purchase Agreement;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Electricity Authority has received revised tariff hike recommendation from the Karnataka Government;

(d) if so, whether it was acceptable to the Cogentrix; and

(e) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by CEA to settle the issue between Cogentrix and the Karnataka Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The draft Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the 1000 MW Mangalore Power Project of Mangalore Power Company promoted by Cogentrix Energy Inc., has been sent to the Government of Karnataka for finalisation along with the decisions taken by the Government of India (GOI) on the draft PPA. The PPA is required to be approved by GOI for the issue of a counter guarantee for this project.

(c) Nor, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Renovation of Power Plants by Enron

126. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether American Multinational Company 'Enron' has sent any proposal regarding renovation of old power plants in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Indian Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) No proposal has been received by the Government from the American Multinational Company 'Enron' for renovation and modernisation of old power plants in India.

[English]

Spray of DDT

127. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that mosquitoes responsible for spreading dengue and malaria, is increasing;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to re-start spraying of DDT under National Malaria Eradication Programme keeping in view the ineffectiveness of other measures taken by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The reports received from various entomological zones in the country indicate variable trends in the density of malaria vector. However, the density of Dengue vector was kept under control.

The reasons for spread of the vectors of malaria and dengue can be attributed to:—

- Major demographic changes like uncontrolled urbanisation coupled with excessive population growth;
- Substandard housing and inadequate water and waste disposal system;
- Rapid movement of infected humans and also migration of labour.
- Creation of mosquitogenic conditions through stagnation of water in water containers, coolers, cisterns, unused tyres, flower vases, pots etc.
- Existence of a large number of vacancies & frequent transfer of trained persons;
- Non adherence to the spray schedule for vector control by various States;
- Poor surveillance activities;
- Lack of timely development and implementation of the Action plan for prevention and control of diseases by the State Govts; and
- Resistance of vectors to conventional insecticides and on the parasites to commonly available drugs.

(b) and (c) DDT continues to be used in selective manner for indoor spray operations for vector control under National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) in the rural areas.

For prevention and control of Malaria, a mix of interventions like use of newer insecticides namely Synthetic Pyrethroid, Biolarvicides and Medicated Mosquito Nets have been contemplated under the National Malaria Eradication Programme.

National Family Welfare Programme

128. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Family Welfare Programme is a cent-per cent Centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) whether the Union Government is yet to reimburse a sum of Rs. 64.63 crore to the Government of Uttar Pradesh released by the State Government from its own resources for the implementation of the said scheme in the State; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay to reimburse the said amount to the State Government and the action taken by the Union Government to reimburse the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per records of this Department an amount of Rs. 150.93 crores is reimbursable to Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The amount budgeted for liquidation of arrears during 1997-98 has already been released. The Ministry of Finance has since been approached for additional funds for the purpose.

Pooyamkutty Power Project

129. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposed Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Power Project in Kerala has been cleared by the Central Electricity Authority; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Pooyamkutty Hydroelectric Project in Kerala (2×120 MW) was accorded techno-economic

clearance by Central Electricity Authority in 1984 at an estimated cost of Rs. 250 crores.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Gulf Returnees

130. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

SHRI G.M. BANATWALA :

SHRI A.C. JOS :

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indian immigrants have recently been ordered by some of the gulf (Middle-East) countries to leave;

(b) if so, their number, country-wise:

(c) the reasons for which they were ordered to leave the countries ;

(d) the arrangements made to bring them back to India; and

(e) the arrangements made for rehabilitation of these Gulf returnees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERVANI) :

(a) to (c) Some of the Gulf countries recently announced amnesty enabling foreign nationals, including Indian nationals who were staying illegally in those countries to leave the concerned country without paying penalties for their illegal stay. According to the information available with the Government, approximately sixty thousand Indian nationals left the UAE under the amnesty. The number of Indians who left Saudi Arabia and Bahrain are not available. However, 42000 Indian nationals were issued travel documents (Emergency Certificates) by our mission in Riyadh and the consulate General in Jeddah. In Bahrain 2773 Emergency Certificates were issued by our Mission.

(d) The arrangements made to bring such persons back to India included issue of travel documents (Emergency Certificates), servicing of passports if already held by them, liaison with local authorities by our missions to expedite the essential formalities, coordination with airlines to create additional seating capacity in the Gulf-India sector, special counters in the missions to guide and assist the Indians availing of the amnesty, provision of water, food and medicines to the affected Indians pending completion of the required formalities, liaison with the passenger liner services with a view to ensuring that humane conditions existed for

the voyage of the amnestied and provision of air tickets for the destitutes at government expense. At the Indian end, the matter was taken up with the Customs and Immigration authorities to handle the returning immigrants with sympathy and understanding. Indian Railways were requested to facilitate the amnestied to travel to their home towns from port of disembarkation.

(e) The matter has been taken up with concerned Governments in the Gulf to allow the return of the amnestied to the concerned country in a legitimate manner for employment.

Shortage of Power in Kerala

131. SHRI N.N. KRISHANDAS :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of power in Kerala;

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

(c) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any proposal to the Union Government to increase the allocation of power to the State from the Central pool; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The energy and peaking shortage in Kerala during October 1997 was 19 per cent and 18.9 per cent respectively and for the period April-October 1997 24.1 per cent and 26.4 per cent respectively. Low hydro generation by Kerala State Electricity Board due to delayed monsoon and less availability of water in the main hydel reservoirs in the State is the main reason for power shortage in the State. Hydel generation in the State during April-October, 1997 has been only 66.2 per cent of the programme and 86.1 per cent of the generation level achieved during the corresponding period of the previous year.

(c) and (d) Kerala has been allocated 414.5 MW power from the central generating stations in the Southern region. Further, Kerala's share in unallocated quota was increased from 30 per cent to 50 per cent w.e.f. 12.6.1997 and again from 50 per cent to 65 per cent w.e.f. 1.7.1997 (during the acute shortage period). Subsequently, the allocation was

revised to 55 per cent with effect from 1.10.1997. The Minister of Electricity, Government of Kerala had detailed discussions with Minister of Power, Govt. of West Bengal. Based on the discussion it is proposed to transfer 100 MW power from NTPC stations in the Eastern Region to Kerala. The Central Electricity Authority is working out the technical and commercial arrangements for the supply of power in consultation with the two regional electricity boards (EREB and SREB) and Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd.

[Translation]

Pattern of Earthquakes

132. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted in regard to pattern of earthquakes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether any time bound programme has been formulated in this regard?

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

(b) Based on seismic data provided by a number of agencies including India Meteorological Department, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has published a Seismic Zoning Map of India. This map divides India into five (5) seismic zones as shown below:—

Zone V comprises of entire North-eastern India, parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, West Uttar Pradesh Hills, Rann of Kutch, North Bihar, North-East region and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Zone IV covers remaining parts of Jammu and Kashmir, Bihar and Himachal Pradesh, Union Territory of Delhi, Northern parts of Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, parts of West Bengal, Rajasthan and Gujarat and small portion of Maharashtra near West-Coast. Zone III comprises Kerala, Goa, remaining parts of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, parts of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Zone I and II cover the remaining parts of country.

Of these zones, Zone V is seismically most active while zone I is the least active.

(c) The Seismic zoning Map is periodically updated by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

*[English]***Impact of INSAT-2D on VSAT/NSE**

133. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether INSAT-2D has been declared non-functional due to failure of its power buses;

(b) whether the Government have enquired into sudden failure of its power buses;

(c) if so, the findings thereof;

(d) the impact of non-functioning of INSAT-2D on VSAT operators, including the National Stock Exchange; and

(e) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that working of VSAT operators is not adversely affected as a result of non-functioning of INSAT-2D?

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

(b) and (c) Several technical committees have been set up to carry out detailed analysis of the failure. A senior level Committee with technical experts drawn from several academic and R&D institutions has also been set up. The Committee is expected to complete its task by January, 1998.

(d) At the time of failure of INSAT-2D, only seven transponders (four in Normal C-band and three in Extended C-band) had been loaded. The four Normal C-band transponders were carrying Multiple Channel per Carrier (MCPC) traffic of the Department of Telecommunications (DOT). The three Extended C-band transponders were carrying V-SAT traffic including NSE traffic. Following the INSAT-1D and INSAT-2C. The Extended C-band traffic was redeployed using the spare capacity kept ready on INSAT-2C and also by readjusting the transponder utilisation on INSAT-2B and 2C. NSE traffic has been presently moved to INSAT-2A. Subsequently, NSE will be moved to INSAT-2B/2C in a phased manner.

(e) Measures have been taken to make available some spare capacity in Extended C-band as a back-up to the V-SAT services by shifting the regional TV services operating in the Extended C-band to Normal C-band. Efforts are also underway to augment the in-orbit capacity in Normal C-band and Extended C-band.

Privatisation of Power Sector

134. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to woo large investments in power sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government have announced direct negotiations and subsidy funding for projects nearing completion and for rehabilitation and modernisation of ageing power plants;

(c) the extent to which this decision is likely to encourage the investors; and

(d) the number and names of investors who have come forward to invest in power sector after this decision?

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

(b) to (d) The Government has recently set up a Standing Independent Group under the Chairmanship of Justice P.N. Bhagwati, retired Chief Justice, Supreme Court to establish parameters for negotiation of power projects proposed by foreign agencies/companies. There would be no subsidy funding for these projects which would be new power generation projects. Government has provided a net budgetary support of Rs. 200 crores for interest subsidy under the 'Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme' which covers:—

(a) Generation projects

(b) Renovation & Modernisation and life extension schemes.

(c) Supply and augmentation (capacitors/meters and transmission schemes)

(d) Grant for studies.

This interest subsidy will help in mobilisation of investment of over Rs. 1000 crores in the power sector this year.

Shortage of Power in Kerala

135. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has struck a deal with West Bengal to get more power from West Bengal to Kerala in view of the shortage of power in the State; and

(b) if so, the total power is likely to be supplied to Kerala and the rate at which the power is to be supplied by West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to transfer 100 MW power from NTPC stations in the Eastern Region to Kerala. The Central Electricity Authority is working out the technical and commercial arrangements for the supply of power in consultation with the two regional electricity boards (EREB & SREB) and Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd. The two State Governments support the transfer of power.

Increase in Child Diseases

136. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :
SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Child diseases are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether a large number of children are suffering from communicable and epidemic diseases in the country particularly in U.P. and Orissa;

(c) if so, the number of children suffering from communicable diseases and died due to epidemic diseases during the past two years, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for increase in the incidents of these diseases; and

(e) the steps taken to bring down child diseases and to provide them adequate treatment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) As per the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, the Statements I and II showing reported number of cases and deaths due to communicable diseases and Cholera during 1995 and 1996 are attached herewith. Separate information for children, in respect of communicable diseases is not available.

(e) Immunisation, control of Acute respiratory diseases and diarrhoeal diseases, Essential newborn care, prophylaxis against Vit.A deficiency and Iron deficiency anemia are being implemented to bring down morbidity and mortality among children under five years.

STATEMENT I

Reported Cases and Deaths due to Communicable Diseases in States/U.Ts in India During 1995

S.No.	State/U.T.	Acute Diarr. Dis		Diphtheria		Polio-myelitis		Tetanus-Neonatal		Tetanus Others		Whooping Cough		Measles	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1212646	572	755	21	6770	4	80	22	504	139	3762	3	1275	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	39155	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	498	0	339	10
3.	Assam														
4.	Bihar														
5.	Goa	10773	39	3	0	1	0	2	2	5	1	10	0	39	0
6.	Gujarat	190661	131	104	13	89	11	66	35	146	24	51	3	1571	28
7.	Haryana	366139	106	2	0	54	0	79	12	148	19	93	0	138	6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	412901	83	1	0	0	0	1	0	6	0	5	1	726	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	401552	31	3	0	17	0	25	0	0	0	1316	0	4377	0
10.	Karnataka	646149	277	495	0	83	1	454	68	599	84	1505	5	2175	8
11.	Kerala	493212	13	25	2	4	0	10	2	29	2	860	0	4810	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	574120	603	187	2	128	2	863	29	1323	119	7979	4	1365	7
13.	Maharashtra	486138	250	78	2	85	5	65	11	560	87	48	0	4128	13
14.	Manipur	20592	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	428	0	159	0
15.	Meghalaya	97253	15	4	0	2	0	0	0	18	0	648	0	1468	1
16.	Mizoram	11721	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	8	0	90	1
17.	Nagaland	5771	3	123	0	47	0	32	0	294	1	656	0	437	0
18.	Orissa	586755	231	45	5	142	1	176	30	676	114	2403	0	1718	0
19.	Punjab	126095	48	4	0	42	0	40	11	119	18	0	0	40	1
20.	Rajasthan	164663	30	128	12	59	2	194	23	366	39	764	1	1777	25
21.	Sikkim														
22.	Tamil Nadu	130655	62	0	0	90	3	6	3	70	9	5	0	2330	4
23.	Tripura	70470	68	3	0	0	0	2	1	8	1	273	0	476	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1750776	2047	112	20	801	26	861	228	598	147	381	0	1849	53
25.	West Bengal	304214	1790	2208	216	1056	16	349	133	1661	302	352	4	6787	34
26.	A & N Island	29914	4	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	33	0	23	0
27.	Chandigarh														
28.	D & N Haveli	44534	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	89	0	362	0
29.	Daman & Diu	8820	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0
30.	Delhi	316075	8	168	49	1061	29	126	58	115	44	215	0	1443	34
31.	Lakshadweep	5974	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0
32.	Pondicherry	84503	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		8592233	6449	4448	342	10532	101	3432	669	7257	1151	22382	21	40542	236

S.No.	State/U.T.	Acute Resp. Inf.		Pneumonia		Enteric Fever		Viral Hepatitis		Japanese Encephli		Meningococcal Men		Rabies	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1379747	309	16840	160	35943	51	27160	104	139	28	385	126	49	49
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	36152	44	588	3	2856	23	861	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
3.	Assam														
4.	Bihar														
5.	Goa	17692	0	355	1	50	0	93	1	4	0	0	0	3	0
6.	Gujarat	323020	112	2620	72	2636	11	3360	43	0	0	10	1	6	3
7.	Haryana	597355	135	5032	54	917	1	1374	8	43	2	103	5	26	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	988160	241	30249	111	10000	3	2578	10	0	0	1	0	0	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	284642	2	101776	7	15863	0	12394	4	32	0	146	0	596	1
10.	Karnataka	1227596	250	18813	106	19119	14	2935	53	424	52	238	19	2872	63
11.	Kerala	2340393	92	13911	24	5859	2	6359	8	6	0	51	2	128	17
12.	Madhya Pradesh	556903	390	29215	128	49083	53	10257	45	352	19	639	32	293	6
13.	Maharashtra	309775	74	11893	515	10656	42	4006	141	0	0	367	111	88	88
14.	Manipur	19151	2	3850	0	3594	0	1373	0	24	1	0	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	125258	4	1645	5	4293	0	714	1	0	0	27	0	332	0
16.	Mizoram	22794	12	1737	9	333	2	638	4	0	0	9	1	0	0
17.	Nagaland	2957	0	349	1	1115	7	208	2	0	0	0	0	46	1

1	2	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
18. Orissa		839101	115	17405	269	26569	21	11011	95	0	0	157	39	8	4
19. Punjab		213382	98	2865	26	2506	4	1778	20	7	0	10	2	2	1
20. Rajasthan		290540	87	40286	106	6267	11	2629	37	10	1	278	20	529	2
21. Sikkim															
22. Tamil Nadu		135172	184	27187	61	19481	94	550	1	89	42	20	0	193	5
23. Tripura		44839	56	21325	28	103	0	106	1	27	19	6	4	0	0
24. Uttar Pradesh		1235088	561	96036	514	70541	182	489	16	0	0	0	0	566	71
25. West Bengal		66431	132	4674	263	17993	100	3392	227	1265	428	1610	292	298	298
26. A N Island		51120	5	218	9	118	1	409	16	3	0	1	1	0	0
27. Chandigarh															
28. D & N Have		75025	8	430	7	262	1	180	3	16	8	5	3	82	0
29. Daman & Diu		1375	0	0	0	16	2	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30. Delhi		132523	73	27276	414	6012	30	3508	96	103	9	504	22	216	21
31. Lakshadweep		13409	0	5	1	462	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32. Pondicherry		56804	0	528	0	1936	4	531	7	0	0	0	0	2	2
Total		11386404	2986	478108	2885	314583	659	98943	943	2544	609	5073	681	6335	632

S.No.	State/UT	Syphilis		Gonococcal Inf.		Tuberculosis		Other Diseases		Total	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15874	1	44681	2	153108	719	12270563	8535	15170781	10855
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18	0	24	0	1222	3	289978	32	371697	119
3.	Assam								0	0	NR
4.	Bihar								0	0	NR
5.	Goa	13	0	16	0	1895	9	15003	2	45957	55
6.	Gujarat	97	0	328	0	14475	125	2938313	731	3477553	1344
7.	Haryana	91	0	3639	0	45832	244	4834178	3234	5856243	3826
8.	Himachal Pradesh	34	0	275	0	17917	273	3827155	1824	5290009	2546
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1093	0	1595	0	3095	1	4841122	52	5669644	98
10.	Karnataka	10190	3	8160	7	72835	925	7518409	9001	9533051	10936
11.	Kerala	410	0	713	0	29139	182	8366055	3143	11261974	3490
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2133	2	3338	2	51097	187	6252939	4789	7542814	6419
13.	Maharashtra	1595	0	753	0	70555	851	11881217	15902	12782007	18092
14.	Manipur	21	0	19	0	811	0	286124	3	336146	6
15.	Meghalaya	5	0	21	0	324	7	388276	530	620288	563
16.	Mizoram	2	0	42	0	549	8	246706	383	284630	433

1	2	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
17.	Nagaland	20	0	35	0	234	1	23225	5	35549	21
18.	Orissa	681	0	1700	1	22448	200	5358847	5340	6869842	6465
19.	Punjab	1	0	64	0	16864	95	2497412	1948	2861231	2273
20.	Rajasthan	71	0	421	1	20584	98	2017906	1069	2547472	1564
21.	Sikkim								0	0	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	602	1	1653	0	32019	304	3168135	7559	3518257	8332
23.	Tripura	42	0	11	0	26	0	450489	735	588206	913
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1170	0	2119	0	303911	513	21080716	16851	24546016	21229
25.	West Bengal	2717	0	0	0	87877	641	2259865	8572	2762754	13438
26.	A & N Island	0	0	5	0	758	20	512003	362	594610	419
27.	Chandigarh								0	0	NR
28.	D & N Haveli	34	0	7	0	384	4	152469	46	273882	89
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	389	3	23819	5	34451	10
30.	Delhi	165	0	997	0	65188	1667	3185666	12196	3741361	14750
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	67	0	149987	0	169962	1
32.	Pondicherry	112	0	170	0	30823	96	3918692	2179	4094101	2302
Total		37191	7	70786	13	1044426	7176	108755269	105028	130880488	130588

N.R. = Not received

STATEMENT II

1996

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Acute Diarr. Diseases		Diphtheria		Poliomyelitis		Tetanus-Neonatal	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1290761	476	1460	26	14199	9	88	41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	30265	0	0	0	0	0	6	1
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	9791	27	0	0	0	0	4	0
6.	Gujarat	239357	81	193	28	36	3	107	63
7.	Haryana	312492	72	3	0	12	2	89	15
8.	Himachal Pradesh	377839	40	0	0	0	0	1	1
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	491824	33	23	0	55	0	21	1
10.	Karnataka	664389	256	181	2	69	0	190	23
11.	Kerala	670563	110	6	7	3	0	3	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	336013	97	100	1	296	2	250	23
13.	Maharashtra	601811	367	51	2	47	4	21	5
14.	Manipur	26164	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Meghalaya	82996	3	8	0	0	0	3	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16.	Mizoram	10649	13	0	0	0	0	1	0
17.	Nagaland	4517	2	144	0	86	0	125	0
18.	Orissa	747410	431	440	7	68	4	389	79
19.	Punjab	134735	19	14	4	7	0	115	15
20.	Rajasthan	164592	32	99	2	26	1	380	25
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	140564	221	0	0	31	1	6	2
23.	Tripura	68236	25	8	2	6	0	2	1
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1396469	671	503	11	389	29	721	139
25.	West Bengal	NR	NR	NR	NR	0	0	NR	NR
26.	A & N Island	27274	2	0	0	133	0	34	4
27.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	0	0	0	0
28.	D & N Haveli	63983	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	Daman & Diu	2307	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	264792	39	177	65	376	13	160	60
31.	Lakshadweep	6097	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	83107	70	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		8188997	3048	3410	151	15839	68	2716	498

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Tetanus Others		Whooping Cough		Measles		Acute Resp. Inf.	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1.	Andhra Pradesh	554	151	6494	3	1274	10	1575838	245
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31	0	416	0	382	0	31634	15
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	0	0	306	0	56	0	23128	0
6.	Gujarat	227	31	29	0	1676	37	470047	80
7.	Haryana	104	12	96	1	115	2	616314	104
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	1	4	0	568	0	1122617	159
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	0	3370	0	2001	8	316663	0
10.	Karnataka	779	99	1814	3	3596	3	1264450	259
11.	Kerala	15	7	1137	0	6525	6	3408712	142
12.	Madhya Pradesh	915	32	22448	2	39237	21	393883	152
13.	Maharashtra	415	69	5	0	5248	15	298567	37
14.	Manipur	0	0	990	0	167	0	10603	0
15.	Meghalaya	1	0	1030	0	1431	0	121765	7
16.	Mizoram	0	0	3	0	67	0	21507	7

1	2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17.	Nagaland	248	0	933	0	448	0	1262	0
18.	Orissa	838	127	1902	1	1845	1	1105392	205
19.	Punjab	108	14	76	0	48	0	166577	92
20.	Rajasthan	427	31	249	3	1401	6	317273	79
21	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	22	7	0	0	662	6	75071	122
23.	Tripura	23	6	568	2	1608	0	70363	47
24.	Uttar Pradesh	392	97	484	3	2256	82	1301635	585
25.	West Bengal	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
26.	A & N Island	0	0	36	0	69	0	51250	9
27.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
28.	D & N Haveli	4	2	240	0	203	0	84673	5
29.	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	22	0	1988	0
30.	Delhi	109	44	110	0	1812	64	136772	47
31	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	25	0	13322	0
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	48564	4
Total		5220	730	43104	18	72742	255	13049870	2402

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Pneumonia		Enteric fever		Viral Hepatitis		Japanese Encephalitis	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20367	378	43742	39	27825	96	366	30
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	404	18	1472	2	737	0	0	0
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	97	0	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	75	2	4012	2	71	0	12	0
6.	Gujarat	4766	115	1147	3	5125	63	2	1
7.	Haryana	7052	72	13927	7	1942	18	162	34
8.	Himachal Pradesh	29674	98	18914	0	2382	5	50	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	128643	2	23534	12	2709	2	0	0
10.	Karnataka	59471	115	5162	2	6238	36	405	13
11.	Kerala	20616	25	33489	150	11721	12	106	32
12.	Madhya Pradesh	21180	48	8875	10	12260	31	57	5
13.	Maharashtra	15821	364	1889	0	6516	198	0	0
14.	Manipur	2694	5	2360	0	1403	1	5	0
15.	Meghalaya	1163	3	495	0	237	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	964	12	1470	0	309	1	0	0

1	2	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
17.	Nagaland	37	0	35094	85	576	0	9	0
18.	Orissa	27016	451	1871	0	26332	172	37	7
19.	Punjab	1746	27	2840	3	2132	26	0	0
20.	Rajasthan	35424	110	NR	NR	2392	24	758	2
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR	6742	6	NR	NR	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	4877	32	464	0	610	1	82	41
23.	Tripura	500	18	34885	100	382	2	111	29
24.	Uttar Pradesh	150743	466	NR	NR	258	12	0	0
25.	West Bengal	NR	NR	622	0	NR	NR	NR	NR
26.	A & N Island	51	0	NR	NR	617	4	0	0
27.	Chandigarh	0	0	260	2	NR	NR	NR	NR
28.	D & N Haveli	439	15	0	0	383	2	21	5
29.	Daman & Diu	10	0	6391	133	2	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	28741	453	173	0	3555	93	110	17
31.	Lakshadweep	51	0	1533	1	41	1	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	3241	16	—	—	1199	1	0	0
Total		565266	2845	251454	557	117954	801	2293	216

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Meningococcal Men.		Rabies/Dogbites		Syphilis		Gonococcal Inf.	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1073	139	85	85	18702	8	47929	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14	0	0	0	11	6	48	1
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	NR	0	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	0	0	12	6	1	0	57	0
6.	Gujarat	60	15	4	2	93	0	287	6
7.	Haryana	109	12	8	0	65	0	1215	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0	101	0	454	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	189	0	985	0	1125	0	176	0
10.	Karnataka	268	42	4437	44	7007	0	8685	3
11.	Kerala	78	9	130	16	559	6	338	0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	175	15	869	5	1763	2	69578	2
13.	Maharashtra	219	73	71	71	1375	0	581	0
14.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	97	0	86	0
15.	Meghalaya	2	0	279	0	6	0	0	0
16.	Mizoram	8	0	0	0	0	0	49	0

1	2	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
17.	Nagaland	4	0	56	0	47	0	71	0
18.	Orissa	469	54	101	14	837	0	1367	1
19.	Punjab	10	1	25	0	13	0	333	0
20.	Rajasthan	134	11	308	2	61	0	308	1
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	0	0
22.	Tamil Nadu	19	0	20	9	544	1	1489	9
23.	Tripura	38	4	0	0	134	0	110	0
24.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	105	0	568	0	1057	6
25.	West Bengal	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
26.	A & N Island	3	3	0	0	10	0	94	0
27.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
28.	D & N Haveli	5	1	4	0	25	0	15	0
29.	Daman & Diu	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.	Delhi	579	27	346	27	287	0	2063	21
31.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Pondicherry	0	0	7	0	51	0	19	0
Total		3460	407	7852	281	33482	17	136409	53

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Tuberculosis		Other Diseases	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1	2	35	36	37	38
1.	Andhra Pradesh	119788	1046	12819457	11994
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	960	1	235327	66
3.	Assam	NR	NR	NR	NR
4.	Bihar	NR	NR	NR	NR
5.	Goa	5671	40	50469	2
6.	Gujarat	18643	374	3934223	1241
7.	Haryana	40395	235	5600522	3056
8.	Himachal Pradesh	19054	239	4071232	1902
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	5813	0	5865470	101
10.	Karnataka	61295	733	8048690	8695
11.	Kerala	36775	239	11411170	3716
12.	Madhya Pradesh	31127	203	4528587	3542
13.	Maharastra	68663	798	10940159	10463
14.	Manipur	958	16	306410	148
15.	Meghalaya	390	0	354003	40
16.	Mizoram	732	10	193125	367

1	2	35	36	37	38
17.	Nagaland	239	0	25749	0
18.	Orissa	34652	402	7280753	9350
19.	Punjab	24068	48	2700878	1878
20.	Rajasthan	19867	121	2109114	1190
21.	Sikkim	NR	NR	NR	NR
22.	Tamil Nadu	17677	219	1468516	8095
23.	Tripura	0	0	485802	976
24.	Uttar Pradesh	313208	514	24647143	10137
25.	West Bengal	NR	NR	NR	NR
26.	A & N Island	2822	1	451663	352
27.	Chandigarh	NR	NR	NR	NR
28.	D & N Haveli	488	9	154801	64
29.	Daman & Diu	752	8	76205	33
30.	Delhi	60182	1760	2763669	10244
31.	Lakshadweep	63	0	148207	0
32.	Pondicherry	24562	82	3797644	2050
Total		908844	7107	114468988	89702

N.R. : Data not received.

Source : Monthly Health Conditions Reports States/U.Ts. (DHS). Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill defined coverage.

**Setting up of Power Project Near
Basundhara Coal Field**

137. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a power plant at Gopalpur near Vasundhara coal mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from any private power producer in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to encourage private power producers to set up a power project near the coal mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal under consideration of any PSU of the Central Government to set up a power plant at Gopalpur near Basundhara coal mines.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Location of a power project is decided taking into account availability of several inputs, besides the fuel. Nevertheless, as a general policy, coal pit-head stations are being encouraged.

[Translation]

Declaration of Pakistan as Terrorist State

138. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to request big powers of the world including USA to declare Pakistan as a 'Terrorist State' in view of continued abetment and support to terrorists by Government of Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) It is the consistent policy of Government to keep the international community regularly informed of the factual position regarding Pakistan's support and promotion of terrorist activities directed against India. There is widespread

recognition of Pakistan's support to terrorism. The recent designation by the US Government of Harkar-ul-Ansar, a Pakistan based organisation, as a terrorist organisation is a recognition of the involvement of such organisations, operating from Pakistan, in terrorism.

Government have, in discussions with Pakistan, conveyed their serious concerns about Pakistan's continued support to terrorism, and have impressed upon Pakistan to put an end to such hostile activity. Government would continue taking all measures to counter Pakistan's support to terrorism directed against India.

[English]

MOU between Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan

139. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between the State of Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh on execution and sharing of power of Kol dam and Parbati Hydro Electric Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Rajasthan has not yet received its due share from the project; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure appropriate share to Rajasthan as per the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The details regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) relating to Kol Dam Hydroelectric Project signed between Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh in 1981 and the MOU relating to Parbati Hydroelectric Project signed amongst the State Governments of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Delhi and Himachal Pradesh in 1992 are given in the statement attached.

(c) and (d) The agreement in respect of Kol Dam, according to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, fell through due to problems in firming up the funding modalities. The Kol Dam Project is now intended to be executed in the private sector by the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

The implementation of the Prabati HE Project is held up due to non-resolution of the demand made by Himachal Pradesh for enhancement of their share in equity from 5 per cent to 25 per cent with corresponding benefits in sharing of power.

Since both these projects are not Central Sector projects, the question of deciding allocation of power to beneficiary States by the Central Government does not arise.

STATEMENT

Memorandum of Understanding Between Himachal and Rajasthan

1. Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Kol Dam Hydroelectric Project.

An Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh was reached in September, 1981 for mutual benefit of hydel potential in the river basins in Himachal Pradesh. In 1984, an agreement was signed between the two State Governments for investigation and execution of Kol Dam Hydel Project, which inter-alia provided for share of investment and benefits of each State as under:

	Capital	Benefits
Rajasthan	75%	63%
Himachal Pradesh	25%	37%

According to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, the agreement fell through due to lack of response from Rajasthan with regard to firm availability of resources from their side.

II. Parbati Hydroelectric Project

An MOU dated 20.10.1992 was signed by the Governments of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Gujarat and National Capital Territory of Delhi for investigation and execution of Parbati Hydroelectric Power Project in three stages. The project is located in Parvati Valley (Kullu District) in Himachal Pradesh, the equity contribution as mutually agreed by the State Governments will be as under:—

1.	Rajasthan	40%
2.	Haryana	25%
3.	Gujarat	15%
4.	Delhi	15%
5.	Himachal Pradesh	5%

The MOU also provides that 12 per cent of energy generated from the project shall be given to Himachal Pradesh free of cost. The remaining 88 per cent of energy generated from the project shall be apportioned amongst the States, including Himachal Pradesh in the ratio of their equity participation.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has requested for enhancement of their share in equity from 5 per cent to 25 per cent by effecting the reduction in the share of other partner States.

National Policy of Hydroelectric Power Sector

140. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI SAT MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Policy for the development of hydroelectric power sector has been formulated as suggested in the report of M.K. Sambamurti Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether investment approval for Chamra State-II Power Project in Himachal Pradesh which being executed by the NHPC has been accorded;

(d) if so, the time by which the work on this project is scheduled to commence; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) the Ministry of Power had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri M.K. Sambamurti on 26th August, 1996 to suggest measures in general to speed up techno-economic clearances of hydroelectric projects in the private sector and evolve methodology to work out completed cost and mechanism to examine quantities of various items of civil works by Central Electricity Authority and Central Water Commission. In addition, the Committee was to consider any other issue which would facilitate development of hydro projects in the private sector. The Committee submitted its report on 27th March, 1997.

In order to enable the Government to formulate a national hydel policy, based on the recommendations of the Sambamurti Committee, a Group has been set up by Ministry of Power to explore ways and means of raising resources

for Hydro Electric Power Projects, The Government has also constituted a Task Force on Tariff for Hydro Electric Power Projects and a Task Force for Evolving a Model Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The cost estimates of the Chamara Hydro-electric Project Stage-II had not been agreed to by the Public Investment Board in its meeting held on 28.7.1997. The reasonableness of the cost estimates are being examined by Central Electricity Authority having regard to the turnkey nature of execution as well as the fact that 75% of the project cost will be provided by the executing consortium. The investment approval will be sought after receipt of a report from the Central Electricity Authority.

Dental Graduates

141. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made as to the number of dental graduates needed for achieving a satisfactory level of treating dental diseases in the country;

(b) if so, the State or population-wise number of dental graduates needed during the Ninth Plan period; and

(c) the collage-wise intake of entrants to BDS Courses and MDS courses in the country as on September 1, 1997?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Dental Council of India has informed that in 1991 the Dentists population ratio was about 1 : 43,000. As per projection for 2004 A.D. there will be 50,000 dental surgeons for about 100 crore population which means the dentists population ratio will be 1 : 20,000 at that time. The increasing number of dental colleges and present rate of admission is expected to bring down the ratio to 1 : 15,000 by 2010 A.D.

(c) A list of dental colleges showing the intake of BDS and MDS courses in the country is given in the Statement I and II attached.

STATEMENT-I

List of Institutions

Sl. No.	Name & address of the Institutions	Recognised/ Approved	Government/ Private	No. of Sanctioned BDS Seats
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Dr. R. Ahmed Dental College & Hospital, 114, Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Road, CALCUTTA-700014.	Recognised	Govt.	50
2.	Nair Hospital Dental College Dr. A.L. Nair Road, Byculle, BOMBAY-400008	Recognised	Govt.	60
3.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, 1, P.D. Melle Road, Fort, BOMBAY-400001	Recognised	Govt.	100
4.	Dental College & Hospital, K.G's Medical College, LUCKNOW-226003.	Recognised	Govt.	40

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Pb. Govt. Dental College & Hospital, AMRITSAR-143001	Recognised	Govt.	40
6.	Tamil Nadu Govt. Dental College, Opp. Fort Railway Station, MADRAS-600003.	Recognised	Govt.	45
7.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, PATIALA-147001.	Recognised	Govt.	40
8.	Govt. Dental College, Fort, BANGALORE-560002.	Recognised	Govt.	60
9.	Dental College, Medical Campus TRIVANDRUM-635001 (Kerala)	Recognised	Govt.	40
10.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Afzalganj, HYDERABAD-500012, (A.P.)	Recognised	Govt.	40
11.	Patna Dental College & Hospital Bunkipure PATNA-800007	Recognised	Govt.	40
12.	College of Dentistry, INDORE-452001 (M.P)	Recognised	Govt.	40
13.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, New Civil Hospital Compound, Asarwa, AHMEDABAD-380016 (Gujarat)	Recognised	Govt.	50
14.	College of Dental Surgery, Kasturba Medical College, MANIPAL-576119 (KARNATAKA)	Recognised	Private	100
15.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, NAGPUR-440003.	Recognised	Govt.	40
16.	Bapuji Dental College & Hospital, DAVANGERE-577004 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	100
17.	Rajah Muthiah Dental College & Hospital, ANNAMALAINAGAR-608002. (Tamil Nadu)	Recognised	Private	30

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Goa Dental College & Hospital, Ribander Hospital Complex, P.O. RIBANDER-403006 (Goa)	Recognised	Govt.	40
19.	Dental College, Medical Campus, ROHTAK-124001 (Haryana)	Recognised	Govt.	20
20.	Dental College, Medical Collage P.O., CALICUT-673008 (Kerala)	Recognised	Govt.	40
21.	Regional Dental College, GUWAHATI-781002, (Assam)	Recognised	Govt.	40
22.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Medical Collage, Campus, AURANGABAD-431001 (Maharashtra)	Recognised	Govt.	40
23.	Dental Wing, S.C.B. Medical College, CUTTACK-753007	Recognised	Govt.	20
24.	Dental Wing, S.M.S. Medical College, JAIPUR-302001 (Rajasthan)	Recognised	Govt.	20
25.	Dental Wing, Maulana Azad Medical College, NEW DELHI-110002.	Recognised	Govt.	20
26.	Govt. Dental Coliege, SMHS Hospital Premises, SRINAGAR (Kashmir)	Recognised	Govt.	10
27.	Buddha Institute of Dental Science, Patrakernagar, Kankarbagh, PATNA-800020	Recognised	Private	40
28.	K.L.E. Society's Dental College Jawaharlal Nehru Medical Collage, Campus, BELGAUM-590010 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	100
29.	A.B. Shetty Memorial Institute of Dental Sciences, Bunts Hostal Road, MANGALORE-575003 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	100

1	2	3	4	5
30.	Jagadguru Shri Shivarathrooswara Dental College, Bannimantap, MYSORE-570015	Recognised	Private	60
31.	Vinayaka Mission's Sankaracharayar Dental College, 44-Second Agraharam, SALEM-636001 (Tamil Nadu)	Recognised	Private	100
32.	J.K.K. Natrajan Dental College Kumarapalayam-638183 (Tamil Nadu)	Recognised	Private	40
33.	S.D.M. College of Dental Sciences Dhavalgiri, DHARWAD-580002 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	100
34.	S.J.M. Dental College & Hospital CHITRADURGA-577502 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	60
35.	H.K.E. Society's Dental College GULBARGA-585105 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	40
36.	College of Dental Surgery, K.M.C., Mangalore (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	100
37.	V.S. Dental College, K.R. Road, V.V. Puram, Bangalore-560004	Recognised	Private	60
38.	Rajes Dental College, New Raja Nagar, VADAKANGULAM-627116 (Tirunelveli)	Recognised	Private	60
39.	M.R.A. Dental College, 1/36, Cline Road, Cooke Town, BANGALORE-560004	Recognised	Private	60
40.	D.A.V. Cantenary Dental College, Model Town, YAMUNA NAGAR-135001 (Haryana)	Recognised	Private	40
41.	Ragas Dental College, 116, Dr. Radhkrishan Salai, MADRAS-600004	Recognised	Private	60
42.	Savaetha Dental College, Poonamallee, MADRAS-600056	Recognised	Private	100

1	2	3	4	5
43.	Sarjug Dental College, Hospital Road, Laheria Sarai, DARBHANGA-(Bihar)	Approved	Private	40
44.	P.M. Naosuda Dental College & Hospital, BAGALKOT-587105 (Dist. Dijapur-Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	40
45.	Bharati Vidyapeetas Dental College & Hospital, Katraj Dhankawadi Educational Complex Pune Satara Road, Pune - 411043	Recognised	Private	100
46.	Sree Ualaji Dental College & Hospital Velacheri Main Road, Balaji Nagar, Narayanpuram,	Recognised	Private	40
47.	Meenakahi Ammal Dental College, Uthiremerur, CHANGAI-ANNA Distt. (T.N)	Recognised	Private	40
48.	Dental College, Siddhartha Medical College, VIJAYAVADA (A.P.)	Approved	Govt.	40
49.	Pravara Rural Institute of Dental Education and Research, P.O. Loni, LONI-413736 (Distt. Ahmednagar-Maharashtra)	Recognised	Private	60
50.	The North Bengal Dental College, North Bengal Medical College and Hospital Campus, Sushratanagar, SILIGURI-(Distt. Darjeeling-West Bengal)	Recognised	Govt.	40
51.	Pondicherry Dental College & Hospital, Govt. Pharmacy Building, Indira Nagar Complex, Gorimedu, PONDICHERRY-605006	Recognised	Govt.	40
52.	Vidarbha Youth Welfare Society's Dental College, AMRAVATI-(Maharashtra)	Recognised	Private	50
53.	Mahatma Gandhi Vidya Mandir's Dental College and Hospital, Panchvati, NASHIK-3 (Maharashtra)	Recognised	Private	40

1	2	3	4	5
54.	Christian Dental College, LUDHIANA (Punjab)	Recognised	Private	40
55.	College of Dental Sciences, DAVANGERE-577004 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	100
56.	Padmashree Dr. D.Y. Patil Dental College & Hospital, Dr. D.Y. Patil Vidya Nagar, Sector-7, Nerul Noda, NEW BOMBAY-400706	Recognised	Private	60
57.	K.V.G. Dental College, SULLIA-574239 (Dakshina Kannada) (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	60
58.	Vasantdada Patil Dental College and Hospital, South Shiva Nagar, SANGLI-416416 (Maharashtra)	Recognised	Private	40
59.	Jamanlal Goenka Dental College & Hospital, Gorukshan Road, AKULA-444004 (Maharashtra)	Recognised	Private	40
60.	Yanapoya Dental College, Zulekha Complex, Bibi Alahi Road, MANGALORE-575001	Recognised (G.B.M. No. 22 May 97)	Private	60
61.	Smt. Radhikabai Megha Memorial, Medical Trust's Dental College, & Hospital, Swangi (Magha), Yavatmal Road, WARDHA-442004, (Maharashtra)	Recognised	Private	100
62.	Chatrapati Shahu Maharaj Shikshan Sanatha's Dental College & Hospital, Laxmi Nirman Building, Plot No. 4, CIDCO, AURANGABAD-431003.	Recognised	Private	50
63.	Govt. Dental College, JAMNAGAR-361008. (Gujarat)	Recognised	Govt.	40
64.	B.R.S. Dental College & Hospital Kotbilla, Panch-Kula-134118.	Approved	Private	60

1	2	3	4	5
65.	Bangalore Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital, 20-21, Seshadri Road, Gandhi Nagar, Bangalore.	Recognised	Private	60
66.	Dayanand Sagar College of Dental Sciences, Shavige Mallaswara Hills, Kanakpura Road. Bangalore-78	Recognised	Private	40
67.	Shri S. Nijalingappa Institute of Dental Sciences, Vidya Nagar, Hassan-573201. (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	40
68.	M.S. Ramaiaha Dental College. M.S. Ramaiah Nagar, M.S.R.I.T. Post, Bangalore-560054.	Recognised	Private	40
69.	Shri Ramachandra Dental College, Porur, Madras-600116	Approved	Private	60
70.	Shri Guru Ram Das Institute of Dental Sciences & Research, Sri Amritsar-143006.	Recognised	Private	60
71.	Himachal Dental College, Dr. Puranchand Medical Charitable Trust, SUNDER NAGAR (H.P.)	Approved	Private	60
72.	K.G.F. College of Dental Sciences, No. 36, D.K. Plantation, BEML Nagar, Kolar Gold, Kolar Gold Fields-563115.	Approved	Private	40
73.	AME's Dental College, RAICHUR-584101 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	40
74.	S.B. Patil Institute for Dental Sciences & Reasearch, Naubad P.B.No. 52. Bidar-585402.	Approved	Private	40
75.	Thai Moogambigai Dental College & Hospital, Thirumathi Kannammal, Educational Trust, 121, G.N. Chatty Road, T. Nagar, Madras-600017.	Approved	Private	40

1	2	3	4	5
76.	Al-Ameen Dental College 3, Millar Tank Bund Road, Bangalore. 560052	Recognised	Private	40
77.	Sri Rajiv Gandhi College of Dental Sciences, Cholanagar, Hebbal, BANGALORE-560032.	Approved	Private	40
78.	Oxford Dental College, I Phase, J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560078	Recognised	Private	100
79.	Santosh Dental College, Santosh Nagar, Gaziabad-201009. (U.P)	Approved	Private	40
80.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital, New Bailey Road Patna-801503	Approved	Private	40
81.	Dr. Syamala Reddy Dental College, 298, 7th Cross, Domlur Layout, Bangalore-560071.	Approved	Private	40
82.	Dr. S.M. Naqui Iman Dental College & Hospital Bahera-847201 Distt. Darbhanga (Bihar)	Approved	Private	60
83.	R.V. Dental College, 9th Main, 4th Block Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011.	Recognised	Private	40
84.	H.K.D.E.T's Dental College & Hospital, Humnabad-585330	Recognised	Private	40
85.	Al-Dodar Rural Dental College & Hospital, M.S.K. Mill Road, Gulbarga-585102 (Karnataka)	Recognised	Private	40
86.	Rama Dental College & Hospital & Research Centre, 117-K-137, Sarvoday Nagar, Kanpur-(U.P.)	Approved	Private	100
87.	Farooqia Dental College, Amar Khayyam Road, Edigha Tilak Nagar, Mysore.	Approved	Private	40

1	2	3	4	5
88.	Dasmesh Institute of Research & Dental Sciences, Feridkot-151203.	Recognised	Private	60
89.	Sardar Patel Institute of Research Dental & Medical Sciences, A/11 Floor, 33, Cantt Road, Lucknow-226001.	Approved	Private	60
90.	Sri Siddhartha Dental College, B.H. Road, Agalakote, Tumkur-572102.	Approved	Private	40
91.	Krishnadevaraya College of Dental Sciences, Hunasamaranahalli, Via Yalahanka, Bangalore-562157	Approved	Private	40
92.	Vidya Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, 5, Y.M.C.A. Complex, Sitabuldi, Nagpur-440 001.	Approved	Private	60
93.	The Principal, Subharati Dental College, Subharati Bhavan 5, Nauchandi Garh Road, Meerut-250003	Approved	Private	60
94.	The Principal, Darbhanga Dental College, Khan Chowk, Faizullah Khan, Darbhanga (Bihar)	Approved	Private	60

STATEMENT II

Table showing the Number of Admissions of the Various Post-Graduate Departments

Sr. No.	Name of Institutions	Pross.	Paric.	Oral & Max. Sur.	Conser-vative	Ortna.	Oral Patho-logy	Comm-unity Den.	Pedo & Pre-ventive	Oral Medicine & Radiology
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Dr. R. Ahmad Dental College, Calcutta	2	2	2	2	2	2	—	2	—
2.	Nair Hospital Dental College, Bombay	3	3	3	3	3	3	—	2	3
3.	Govt. Dental College & Hos., Bombay	6	4	4	2	3	3	—	—	2
4.	Dental College & Hospital, Lucknow	4	4	—	—	4	—	—	4	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5.	Pb. Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Amritsar.	3	3	3	3	—	—	—	4	—
6.	Tamil Nadu Govt. Dental College Madras	2	—	4	3	4	2	—	3	2
7.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Patiala.	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Govt. Dental College, Bangalore	—	3	3	3	3	—	—	—	3
9.	Dental Wing, Med. College,	3	3	3	4	3	3	—	2	—
10.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Hyderabad	2	2	2	2	2	—	—	2	2
11.	Patna Dental College & Hospital, Patna	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	College of Dentistry, Indore	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
13.	Govt. Dental College & Hos., Ahamdabad	2	3	3	3	4	1	—	—	4
14.	College of Dental Surgery, Manipal	4	4	2	4	3	2	2	2	2
15.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Nagpur	4	2	2	2	2	3	—	—	2
16.	Bapuji Dental College & Hospital, Davangare	6	6	6	6	6	—	—	6	4
17.	Rajah Muthiah Dental College & Hospital, Annamalai Nagar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
18.	Dental College Rohtak	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
19.	Dental College, Medical College, P.D., Calicut	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Regional-Dental College, Gauhati	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
21.	A.S. Shetty Memorial Institute of Dental Sciences, Bangalore	10	5	8	8	9	2	—	6	2
22.	SCR. College of Dental Sciences, Dhanbad	8	4	7	6	6	4	2	—	—
23.	Dental College, KMC, Bangalore	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—
24.	Mathru Shri Ranabai Arsadkar Dental College, Bangalore	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
25.	Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education, Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—
26.	Institute of Medical Sciences, B.H.V. Baranas	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
27.	A.J.M.S., New Delhi	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
28.	Armed Medical College, Pune	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
29.	Govt. Dental College & Hospital, Aurangabad	3	3	—	3	—	3	—	—	3
30.	J.S.S. Dental College, Mysore	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
31.	M.R. Agliger College, Bangalore	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
32.	Saveetha Dental College & Hospital, Madras	6	—	—	6	7	—	—	—	—
33.	Buddha Institute of Dental Sciences, Patna	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
34.	Goa Dental College & Hospital,	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
35.	KLEI Society's Institute of Dental Sciences, Belgaum	6	4	3	4	6	2	—	—	—
36.	PKPI Dental College & Hospital, Bagalkot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
37.	Ragas Dental College, Madras	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—

*[Translation]***Public Grievances**

142. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases of pensions and other grievances registered in the Department of Public Grievances and Pensions during the year 1997; and

(b) the number of cases disposed of and the number of cases pending at present?

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 position regarding receipt and disposal of pension and other grievances in the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare from 1.1.1997 until 31st October, 1997 is as under:—

No. received	No. disposed of	No. Pending
7500	7076	424

*[English]***Non-Functional Equipments**

143. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether on the recommendation of Delhi High Court the Government had set up certain Committees to inquire into the non-functional of vital equipments in the city's Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the findings of these Committees in their report, if any; and

(d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (d) Delhi High Court have constituted two committees in its order dated 5.9.1997: One Committee has been set up to look into the cases of non functional medical equipment in Government Hospitals in Delhi and Second Committee has been set up to enquire into the

purchase of IV fluids by Safdarjung Hospital during 1990-92, which were directed to start functioning with effect from 20.9.1997. The terms of reference of the first Committee, inter-alia, include identification of gaps and deficiencies in existing procedures/systems; to examine whether equipments purchased by the hospitals remain unutilised for long periods of time and identify the reasons for the same and to suggest remedial measures.

The second Committee shall, inter-alia, ascertain the authenticity of allegations of purchase during the aforesaid years about the purchase of contaminated IV fluids at exorbitant prices by Safdarjung Hospital, to fix responsibility on the persons responsible for the same and to suggest remedial measures. The Committees have been asked to submit the reports within 4 months of the commencement of their work.

Infrastructure Facilities

144. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ. D. CHAVAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of infrastructure projects on power sector cleared by the Cabinet Committee during 1997; and

(b) the arrangements made by the Government to ensure investment flow into the infrastructure sector both for Public and Private sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Simhadri Thermal Power Project (1000 MW), Faridabad Gas Based Project (400 MW) of NTPC and North Eastern Regional Load Despatch Centre of POWERGRID have been accorded Cabinet clearance during 1997.

(b) to ensure investment flow into the power sector, Government has streamlined and simplified the procedure for clearances. The power sector is a priority sector for public sector funding in the Ninth Plan. The Bill for setting up of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission and State Electricity Regulatory Commissions has been introduced in the Parliament. The enactment of the Bill would help the States to generate additional resources for the investments as well as enable higher comfort levels to the IPPs. Financial Institutions have also been requested to relax the norms of lending to the power sector.

Vocational Training Institutes

145. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vocational Training Institutes for which the Government have accorded sanction during the last

three years in the country, State-wise essentially in Kerala and the assistance provided to such institutions so far;

(b) the number of Vocational Training Institutes applied for sanction and the number of pending cases with the Government; and

(c) the reasons for not according sanction to the pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The Central Government is not implementing any Scheme under which sanction or financial assistance for opening up of new Industrial Training Institutes/Centres is given to the State Governments. Such centres are approved by the respective State Governments. However, under the World Bank assisted Vocational Training Project currently under execution, financial assistance on matching basis has been provided for seating up 89 new Women ITIs or for opening additional wings in existing ITIs exclusively for training of women. Five such ITIs for women are being set up in Kerala.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Purchase System in Government Hospitals

146. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :
SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been rampant corruption prevailing in the purchase of medicines, bandages, gauze and other items in the Central Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of cases came to light during the last three years and the action taken on each case;

(c) whether the CBI has taken the samples of bandages, medicines, etc. from hospitals recently for testing;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the testing of the samples;

(e) the steps taken to streamline the purchase system of medicines and other items by the hospitals in Delhi to check cases of frauds and corruption;

(f) whether the hospitals are floating tenders for the purchase of bedsheets and towels rather than to make purchases from the reputed manufacturers or through the Kendriya Bhandar/Super Bazar; and

(g) the quantity of bedsheets and towels purchased by hospitals during the last three years, hospital-wise and item-wise indicating the brand names of the items and the rates at which purchased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No such instance has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Recently one newspaper/report draw attention to the alleged irregularities in the purchase of gauze, bandages & other items. A fact finding inquiry was conducted by S.J. Hospital, which found that the hospital has not committed

any irregularities. No case from other Central Govt. hospitals was reported.

(c) CBI teams took samples for bandages & gauzes from Safdarjung Hospital and AIIMS.

(d) The details and outcome of testing of samples are not available in these hospitals.

(e) and (f) In Central Government hospitals, purchases are done after following the prescribed purchase procedure.

(g) The details in respect of Central Government hospitals are given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Name of the Item	Name of Supplier	Quantity purchased	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5

Safdarjung Hospital

1. *Bed Sheets*

1994-95	Nil	Nil		
1995-96	N.T.C. M/s. L. Ram & co.	1000 nos. @ Rs. 155/- 3284 nos. @ Rs. 145/-	Govt. Agency (by open tender) Through open tender	
1996-97	M/s. L. Ram & Co. M/s. Kendriya Bhandar	4216 nos. @ Rs. 145/- 3000 nos. @ Rs. 168/-	-do- Govt. Agency (by open tender)	

2. *Hand Towels*

1994-95	Nil	Nil		
1995-96	M/s. Soni Surgical	2000 nos. @ 7.40 each	Through open tender	
1996-97	Nil	Nil		

3. *Bath Towels*

1994-95	Nil	Nil		
1995-96	N.T.C.	300 nos. @ Rs. 55/- each	Govt. Agency	
1996-97	N.T.C.	100 nos. @ Rs. 55/- each	Govt. Agency (by open tender)	

Dr. R.M.L. Hospital

1. *Bed Sheets*

1994-95	M/s. N.T.C. M/s. Haryana State Small industries	2739		
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1	2	3	4	5
	1995-96	M/s. Haryana State Small Industries M/s. Acash	4800	
	1996-97	M/s. Gujarat Rajya & Audoyogic Shakti Federation M/s. Kendriya Bhandar	5500	
2.	<i>Towels</i>			
	1994-95	Nil	Nil	
	1995-96	M/s. Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan	3100	
	1996-97	M/s. Soni singer M/s. Medical Agency	1599	

Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated hospitals

In Lady Hardinge Medical College, the bedsheets are stitched in the hospital by the tailores, after purchasing the white sheet cloth directly from M/s. Khadi Bhandar @ Rs. 48/- per meter. Each bed-sheet requires 2.74 meters of 1.50 width. 10700 nos. bedsheets were stitched in last three years. The towels were purchased direct from M/s. Khadi Bhandar @ Rs. 36/- each. Total 2200 towels were purchased in the last three years.

Kalawati Saran Children Hospital

1.	<i>Bed Sheets</i>		
	1994-95	M/s. Khadi Bhandar	4000 nos. @ Rs. 130/-each
	1995-96	-do-	6000 nos. @ Rs. 130/- each
	1996-97	Nil	Nil
2.	<i>Towels</i>		
	1994-95	Nil	Nil
	1995-96	Nil	Nil
	1996-97	Nil	Nil

[*Translation*]

Relations with Fiji

147. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fiji government have requested India for restoration of diplomatic ties with it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the steps taken for avoiding the position as in 1989;
and
(d) the time by which the Indian Embassy is likely to start functioning there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prime Minister S.L. Rabuka of Fiji had sent a letter to the PM in September 1997 formally inviting India to reopen its Mission in Suva. The Government of India has accepted the invitation and proposes to reopen the Indian High Commission in Suva soon.

(c) The Government of India has conveyed to the Govt. of Fiji its hope and belief that the events of the past few years were an aberration which will be permanently set aside to enable all the people of Fiji to enjoy peace, progress and stability in a democratic political, social and economic set up which gives all citizens of Fiji an equal stake, opportunity and responsibility in the building of their nation. Hope has also been expressed that the new constitution of Fiji which seeks to end all discriminatory provisions of the earlier constitution will be implemented in letter and spirit. We have supported Fiji's re-entry into the Commonwealth based on our common commitment to the democratic principles enshrined in the Harare Declaration of the Commonwealth.

(d) The Government is in the process of working out and finalising administrative and other arrangements for the reopening of its High Commission in Suva soon.

Rural Electrification

148. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 40,000 crores for electrification of 50,000 villages and energisation of 25 lakhs pump-sets during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether only 30 per cent of target of rural electrification could be achieved during the period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being contemplated by the Government to meet the unaccomplished target of rural electrification in the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Planning Commission had approved an outlay of Rs. 4,000 crores for electrification of 50,000 villages and energisation of 25 lakh pumpsets during

the 8th Five Year Plan. However, the allocation to REC during his period was as under:

Year	Rs. in Crores
1992-93	510.00
1993-94	600.00
1994-95	654.85
1995-96	799.83
1996-97	783.00
Total	3347.68

(c) No, Sir. The targets for village electrification and Pumpsets energisation for the 8th Plan have been over-exceeded. As against the target of 14872 villages for electrification, the achievement was 17114 villages. For the pumpsets energisation the achievement was 1689371 against the target of 1208178.

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

(e) Government is according priority for electrification of unelectrified villages and energisation of pumpsets. For speedier electrification of such villages, Government of India is providing Financial assistance to the State Electricity/Boards/Electricity Departments of the States through REC on concessional terms and conditions.

Production of Uranium and Thorium

149. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of uranium and thorium produced in India and the places from where these mineral resources are obtained;

(b) whether uranium and thorium has been found in Lalitpur District of Uttar Pradesh and the details of other places in the country where reserves of the above minerals have been found;

(c) the time by which the Government propose to undertake the traction work of these mineral reserves;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to install some new reactors with foreign collaboration; and

(e) if so, the names of such countries with whose collaboration new reactors would be installed during this annual plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) At present, uranium is being recovered from the uranium deposits at Jaduguda, Bhatin, Narwapahar in Singhbhum District, Bihar, and also from the copper tailings of the copper mine in Singhbhum District, Bihar. Thorium as a part of monazite, is found mainly in the beach sand deposits of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Orissa & Andhra Pradesh. It is not in the national interest to disclose information about the production of uranium and thorium in the country.

(b) and (c) Uranium mineralisation was located at Sonrai-Pisnari, Lalitpur Dist., Uttar Pradesh. However, a detailed information indicated that it is not technically feasible and economically viable for mining/exploitation.

Uranium deposits occur at the following places in the country:

Place	District
Jaduguda Bhatin Narwapahar	Singhbhum Dist., Bihar
Turamdih Mohuldih Bagjata Garadih Kanyalika	Singhbhum Dist., Bihar
Domiasiat	West Khasi Hills Dist., Mghalaya
Lambapur	Nalgonda Dist. Andhra Pradesh
Tummalapalle	Cuddapah Dist., Andhra Pradesh

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Two units of 100 MWe Light Water Reactors are proposed at Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu with technical cooperation and financial assistance from the Russian Federation. However, these would not be installed during this annual plan (1997-98).

[English]

Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Scheme

150. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission propose to transfer 179 Centrally sponsored schemes to the States for their direct implementation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the reaction of the State Governments thereto and the steps taken to ensure proper utilisation of the funds provided by the Central Government for these schemes;

(d) whether any complaints regarding diversion of the funds by the State Governments from one scheme to another have been received earlier; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken in this regard and time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (e) An exercise was done in Planning Commission on the question of transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to the States. A note on the subject was sent to concerned Central Ministries/Departments and all States/UT Governments for their comments. Based on the replies received a revised note on the subject is being prepared for the approval of the Full Planning Commission and National Development Council (NDC). In line with the Approach Paper, a process of joint plan formulation and joint monitoring would also be evolved between the Planning Commission, Centrally Ministries/Depts. and the State Governments.

[Translation]

Treatment Schemes for Various Diseases

151. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes under which assistance is being provided to the people living below poverty line for the treatment of cancer, kidney and heart ailments and other incurable serious diseases;

(b) the amounts provided to each State under these during the last three years; and

(c) the estimated number of persons benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) A Statement explaining the schemes (a) NIAF (b) Health Minister's Discretionary Grant, is enclosed.

(b) The details of the releases made by the Ministry under the various schemes are as under:

(i) Illness Assistance Fund :

This fund has been created in 1996-97 and the grants released to the State Illness Assistance Fund are as follows:

Name of States	Funds released
Karnataka	Rs. 5 crores
Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 5 crores
Tripura	Rs. 2 crores
NCT of Delhi	Rs. 50 lakhs

(ii) Under Health Minister's Discretionary Grant:

The grant is not released to the States but to the hospitals where the patients are taking treatment/propose to take treatment. The amounts sanctioned during the last 3 years are as follows:

Year	Amount Released
1994-95	Rs. 9.63 Lakhs
1995-96	Rs. 29.97 lakhs
1996-97	Rs. 44.06 lakhs

(c) The number of persons benefited from the schemes are as follows:

(i) Under Illness Assistance Fund :

State	No. of Persons benefited
(i) Karnataka	1114
(ii) NCT of Delhi	35
(iii) Madhya Pradesh	NIL
(iv) Tripura	NIL

(ii) Under Health Minister's Discretionary Grant :

Year	No. of persons benefited
1994-95	104
1995-96	257
1996-97	366

STATEMENT

(a) *National Illness Assistance Fund (NIAF)* has been set up vide Ministry of Health & F.W. Resolution dated 13.1.97 which has been published in the Gazette of India

(Extraordinary) Part I Section-I [No. 9]. It has provided in this scheme that every State/UT (with Legislature) may set up an Illness Assistance fund which shall be a registered society. The donation received by this society from State Govt./UT Admn. will be supplemented by a Grant in aid from Central Govt. to the extent of 50 per cent of the contribution made by the State Govt./UT subject to a maximum of Rs. 5 crores for States which have a large proportion of population living below poverty line and Rs. 2 crores for other States./UTs. The poverty line shall be as defined by the Planning Commission. The fund could also be subscribed by individuals, corporate bodies and other National/International philanthropic organisations. The contribution received by this fund would be exempt from payment of income tax under Section 80(G) of Income tax Act. The accounts of the society would be audited by AG of the State/UT every year.

This fund would release financial assistance to patients below poverty line in India suffering from life threatening diseases for undergoing medical treatment of any of the superspeciality Hospital/Institutes or other Govt./Private Hospitals Participating in the scheme. The assistance will be in the form of a one time grant which will be released to the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, in which the treatment has been received.

A provision of Rs. 25 crores has been made in the budget grant of Ministry of Health & F.W. during 1996-97 for release of grant in aid to State/UT. A similar amount has been provided in the 1997-98 budget also but subsequently reduced to Rs. 15 crores.

It has also been decided that National Illness Assistance Fund should be set up with an initial donation from Ministry of Health & F.W. of Rs. 5 crores. This fund would also be subscribed by individuals corporate bodies and Non-corporate bodies. The contribution made to this fund will also be exempt from payment of Income-Tax under Section 80(G) of Income Tax Act. The management Committee of NIAF will be chaired by Union Health Minister. The NIAF will be a registered society and its accounts will be subject to audit by C&AG every year.

Whereas the quantum of financial assistance to a poor patient is less than Rs. 1.5 lakhs, the release will be done by the fund at the State/UT level and if the quantum of assistance is in excess of Rs. 1.5 lakhs in an individual case, the case will be recommended to NIAF at the Centre.

NIAF will decide about budget outlay for grant of similar assistance to be released to such population living in the UTs without legislature.

(b) Health Minister's Discretionary Grant :

Assistance is provided to the poor patients to meet a part of their medical expenses on specialised treatment.

The financial assistance is limited to Rs. 20,000/- in each case.

[English]

Visit of US Delegation

152. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether US delegation visited India in the month of October, 1997 and had discussion with various leaders of India;

(b) if so, to what extent the talks were successful;

(c) whether US offered selective Membership to India in U.N.;

(d) whether Pakistan firing at Jammu and Kashmir border and Pakistan's involvement in creating and helping terrorist in the State were also discussed; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the talks held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) Yes, Sir. The US delegation led by Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Thomas Pickering visited India in October, 1997. The delegation held discussions at Official level and called on PM and Finance Minister.

(b) The talks were very successful in the context of a broadbased integrated and forward looking dialogue with the US touching upon bilateral relations as well as regional and global issues.

(c) Expansion of the UN Security Council was also discussed. The US side clarified its position of supporting Germany and Japan and three other nations from the developing countries as permanent members. We made clear our position, stressing the need for a non-discriminatory approach and the need for evolving criteria for permanent membership of UN Security Council.

(d) and (e) The attention of the US leadership was drawn to Pakistan's continuing support to terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of India and unprovoked firing by Pakistan across the Line of Control and the International Boundary in Jammu & Kashmir. The US side has conveyed that they took a serious view of terrorist activities. The US government recently declared the Pakistan based organisation Harkat-ul-Ansar as a terrorist organisation under

US law. The talks helped to create a better mutual understanding of ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation as also of each other's perceptions on important regional and international issues.

Wage Structure in Sugar Industry

153. SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the wage structure for the people employed in the sugar industry;

(b) if so, the approximate number of people employed in the sugar industry in the country, State-wise;

(c) the rate at which the wages are fixed per worker per day/per month; and

(d) the details of the proposed revision of wage structure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The Government has constituted a Tripartite Industrial Committee on Sugar Industry on 3.10.97 consisting of representatives from Central Government, State Governments employees' and employees' Organisations. The Committee, inter-alia, will look into the wage structure of employees working in Sugar Industry.

(b) The State-wise details of employment in Sugar Industry are not available. However, as per available information, the total number of employees as in the year 1994-95 were 3.805 lakhs.

(c) The workers in the Sugar Industry are generally governed by the provisions of the recommendations of the Wage Board. The details regarding rate of wages per worker per day/per month are not maintained.

(d) The Committee has not so far given any recommendations on the wage structure in Sugar Industry.

Regional Research Institute for Ayurveda

154. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to close down the Regional Research Institute for Ayurveda situated at Trivandrum, Kerala and to shift the same to other place;

(b) if so, the circumstances led the Government to take such decision and the place where it is proposed to be shifted;

(c) whether the government of Kerala has submitted any request to the Union Government to review its decision and restore the institute at Trivandrum;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government Body of the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha (CCRAS) had set up a sub-committee under the Chairmanship of the then Secretary, Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy, to review the functioning of the CCRAS and to recommend restructuring and reorganisation because the present number of field stations, i.e. 86 has become rather unwieldy to manage from the point of view of their locations, supervision, control, etc. Many units are non-functional due to inadequate infrastructural support. Many are not cost effective. Based on the recommendations of the Committee as accepted by the Governing Body and by the Government the above mentioned decision was taken.

It is proposed to shift the Regional Research Institute (Ayurveda), Trivendrum except its drug Standardisation Division to the Central Research Institute, Cheruthuruthy. It is proposed to amalgamate the Drug Standardisation Division of R.R.I., Trivendrum with the Central Research Institute (Siddha), Chennai.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, a request from the Honourable Chief Minister of Kerala was received for retaining the Regional Research Institute (Ayurveda), Trivendrum at its existing place.

(e) The implementation of the proposed reorganisation and restructuring of the Council has been stayed by the High Court at Chennai.

Additional Budgetary Support for Power Sector

155. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Ministry has sought an additional budgetary support of Rs. 12.154 crore for the Ninth Five Year Plan over and above the allocation already contemplated by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith funds already allocated by the Planning Commission for Power sector for the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) whether the Government have agreed to provide additional funds as required by the Power Ministry; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The Ninth Plan is under finalisation by the Planning Commission. The Ministry of Power has proposed a Domestic Budgetary Support (DBS) of around Rs. 13.800 crores for the Ninth Plan for the following reasons:—

- (i) To accelerate the generation programme in Central/State Sector.
- (ii) To complete on-going thermal and hydro projects in the Central Sector.
- (iii) To undertake renovation and modernisation of existing power stations.
- (iv) To construct important inter-State and inter-regional links.
- (v) To undertake advance action on thermal and hydel power projects for commissioning in the Tenth Plan and beyond.

At a review meeting taken by the Prime Minister it has been decided that very high priority will be given for funds allocation to the power sector.

[Translation]

Hydro Power Generation

156. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the hydro power generation potential in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any target has been fixed for hydro power generation in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(d) if so, the schemes proposed to be launched for this purpose, State-wise; and

(e) details of participation of the Union/State Governments and private sector therein separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Central Electricity Authority has assessed the economically exploitable hydroelectric potential available in the country as 84.044 MW at 60% load factor.

(c) and (d) The 9th Five Year Plan (1997-2002) for power sector is under finalisation in the Planning Commission.

(e) Since the inception of the private sector power policy of the Government of India in 1991, proposals have been received for setting up 11 Hydro Electric Power Projects on the Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Intent etc., route (costing more than Rs. 100 Crores) and 10 schemes (costing more than Rs. 1000 crores) on the international competitive bidding route. The aforementioned 21 schemes have an aggregate capacity of 10970 MW at an estimated cost of Rs. 37141.23 crores are shown in the statement attached.

STATEMENT

Expression of Interests by Private Sector Companies (As on 07.11.1997)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Capacity [MW]	Prov. Cost [Rs. Crs.]	Type	MOU Date	CEA Clearance	Name of Company
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Jammu & Kashmir							
1.	Sawalkot	3x200	2000.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
2.	Pakaldul HEP	1000	2000.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
3.	Burser HEP	1020	2000.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
4.	Kishenganga	3x110	1000.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
Total 4		2950	7000.000				
Himachal Pradesh							
5.	Dhamwari HEP	70	385.000	Hydel	28.08.93	IPC	M/s Dhamwari Power Co., USA
6.	Hibra HEP	231	1162.910	Hydel	28.08.93	IPC	Dhambari Power Co. Pvt. Ltd.
7.	Baspa-St-II	300	949.230	Hydel	23.11.92	TEC	Jai Prakash Industries Ltd.
8.	Uhl-III HEP	2x50	469.300	Hydel	10.02.92	IPC	Ballarpur Industries Ltd., Delhi
9.	Karcham Wangtoo	1000	4397.000	Hydel	28.08.93	IPC	Jai Prakash Industries Ltd.
10.	Allain-Duhangan	192	777.190	Hydel	28.08.93	IPC	Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.
11.	Malana HEP	86	380.000	Hydel	28.08.93	IPC	Rajasthan Sprinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.
12.	Kol Dam	800	2800.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
13.	Rampur	680	2380.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
Total 9		3459	13700.630				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Uttar Pradesh							
14.	Vishnuprayag HEP	4x100	1614.600	Hydel	14.10.92	TEC	Jai Prakash Industries Ltd.
15.	Tapovan Vishnugad HEP	360	1260.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
16.	Pala Maneri HEP	460	1610.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
17.	Srinagar HEP	5x66	1510.000	Hydel	27.08.94	IPC	M/s Duncan, Calcutta/Synergics. USA
18.	Maneri Bhali-II HEP	304	1064.000	Hvdel			Under Bidding
Total		5	1854	7058.600			
Madhya Pradesh							
19.	Maheshwar HEP	10x40	1582.000	Hydel	28.07.93	TEC	Shri Maheshwar Hydel Power Corpn. Ltd./PAC Gen., USA
Total		1	400	1582.000			
Karnataka							
20.	Almati N. Thanmakal	1107	3600.000	Hydel	15.07.92	IPC	M/s Chamundi Power Co. Ltd., USA
Total		1	1107	3600.000			
Sikkim							
21.	Teesta-III	1200	4200.000	Hydel			Under Bidding
Total		1	1200	4200.000			
G.Total		21	10970.00	37141.230			

[English]

157. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :
SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce retirement period from 20 years to 15 years of service for Government employees under voluntary retirement scheme; and

(b) 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.P. BALASUBRAMANIAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Dulhasti Power Project

158. SHRI K.S. RAYUDU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the firm to whom the contract of Dulhasti Power Project has been awarded and year in which the contract was finalised;

(b) the original and estimated revised cost and the present status of the project at present;

(c) whether any delay in the execution of the project has been noticed; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the project is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Dulhasti Project was sanctioned in 1989 for turn-key execution to a French Consortium of firms consisting of M/s Coyne Et Bellier (COB); M/s Dumez, Sogea & Borie (DSB); M/s CEGELEO; M/s COMELEX; and M/s SEITP;

(b) The original sanctioned cost of the Project was Rs. 1262.97 crores (at October 1988 price level). The revised cost of the project is Rs. 3559.77 crores (at November 1996 price level). After withdrawal of the French Civil Contractor (M/s DSB), NHPC took over the plant and machinery of the DSB and the civil works were taken up departmentally. With a view to completing the balance civil works. NHPC has awarded the contract to a new civil contractor (a Consortium of Indian and Norwegian firms). The required funds for completion of the project will be provided. In dam area 96 per cent excavation and 25 per cent converting have been completed. In the 10.6 KM long underground head race tunnel 35.8 per cent excavation has been completed. In underground power house area, excavation of power house cavern and transformer gallery is almost complete. The progress of supply of electrical, mechanical and hydro mechanical equipments is 93 per cent. Other works are also progressing satisfactorily.

(c) and (d) Yes. Sir. There has been a delay in execution of the project which was originally to be completed in July 1994. However, work on the project was suspended in August 1992 by the French consortium due to the alleged disturbed security environment. The letter of award for the execution of the balance civil work was given to the new agency in March 1997. The estimated time schedule for completion of the project is March 2001.

[*Translation*]

Artificial Heart Valve

159. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether an artificial heart valve has been developed in India;

(b) if so, whether it has been tested and found suitable,

(c) if so, the estimated cost of the artificial heart valve developed in the country; and

(d) the steps taken to develop this valve on large scale for the benefit of heart patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. An artificial heart valve has been developed by Shri Chitra Tirunal Institute of Science & Technology, Kerala and has been tested and found to be safe and comparable to other similar valve in clinical field.

(c) and (d) The cost of Chitra valve ranges between Rs. 12,500 and Rs. 14,500. One of the Pharmaceutical companies has already undertaken the development of this valve.

Birth Rate

160. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sterilisation operations are not being performed as per the target fixed, and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) All the family planning methods including sterilisation are being performed in the country under Target Free Approach W.E.F 1st April, 1996. The system of setting centrally determined targets for family planning including Sterilisation operations has been replaced by decentralised participatory planning at the grass root level in each State/U.T. with emphasis on quality of services, quality of Care and Clients satisfaction.

*[English]***Facing of Resource Gap**

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

(a) whether the Planning Commission is facing a resource gap of Rs. 75,000 crore for the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by the Commission about the available resources and also which are likely to fall short of; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) According to the latest assessment of the Planning Commission, there would be no resource gap in financing the Public Sector Plan of Rs. 875 thousand crore, indicated in the "Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002)" approved by the National Development Council.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Community Health Guide

162. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have set up any project under Village Health Guides Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Village Health Guides are being provided only Rs. 50/- per month and no medicine is given to them. and

(d) if so, the reason therefor and the remedial steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir. There is Village Health Guide Scheme.

(b) Under the Scheme a volunteer is selected to serve the community on voluntary basis and is being paid a honorarium of Rs. 50/- per month through the State Government. The criteria for selection of the volunteer are that he/she should have had basic education upto 6th class and preference is to be given to the retired defence personnel if available. He/she is not supposed to consider his/her role as a source of income or as a step towards future employment under the Govt.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) An experts committee has been set up to look into the various aspects of the Village Health Guide Scheme.

Child Labour

163. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY :
SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :
SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU :
SHRI SURESH R. JADHAV :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken to make the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act more stringent and effective; and

(b) the number of instance in which action was taken for violation of the pact during the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) In the wake of the judgement dated the 10th December, 1996 of the Supreme Court and the Common Minimum Programme of the Government envisaging elimination of child labour in all its forms, the issue regarding amendment of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 to make it more stringent and effective, was discussed in the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1997. Important suggestions made in the Conference to make the Act more stringent include (a) making the offence a cognizable one; (b) making the penalties more stringent and deterrent; and (c) the responsibility as to the proof of age of a child being made that of the employer. The proposal to amend the Act accordingly is currently under consideration.

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

*[Translation]***Scam in CGHS Dispensary**

164. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any government agency has investigated any scam in CGHS Ayurvedic dispensaries particularly at North Avenue, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of enquiries carried out since January, 1996 till date;

(c) the outcome of said enquiries; and

(d) the action taken against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) According to the information received from the CGHS Directorate, no Scam pertaining to CGHS Ayurvedic dispensary, North Avenue has come to their notice.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Advantage of Modern Medicines

165. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR RAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the action plan of the Government to ensure that the advantage of the most modern medicines reaches to the common people;

(b) whether any other institution of World level besides World Health Organisation is active to ensure that the benefits of the research in the field of medicines is received by the common man; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Health is a State Subject and concerned State Governments draw up their own plans. The Government of India has also formulated health programmes for control of major communicable and non-communicable diseases. Essential medicines are made available through these National Health Programmes. The Government of India also allow the import of such modern medicines which are not available in the country after approval by the Drug Controller General of India. In addition to the WHO, other International agencies which help in the procurement of drugs include UNICEF, SIDA, USAID, World Bank, CDA & DANIDA.

[English]

Computerisation

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

(a) the number of proposals received by National Informatic Centre (NIC) from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for net working of its various departments as a step towards total computerisation;

(b) the status of work completed and work in hand at present;

(c) whether there is an undue delay in execution of the projects;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the projects are likely to be completed in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (e) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the table of the House.

Scientists in Nuclear Field

167. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of atomic energy stations in India;

(b) the total number of Indian Scientists working in these units;

(c) whether any International Experts are working or advising in any of these units, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any of the above units are technically equipped or assisted by Russia or USA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) At present there are five operating atomic power stations in India.

(b) The total number of Scientists working in the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited which operates these stations as on date is around 2630 which includes Scientific Officers/Engineers, Doctors, Physicists, Radiologists, etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Units 1 and 2 of Tarapur Atomic Power Station and Rajasthan Atomic Power Station were technically assisted/equipped by USA and Canada respectively. All other units have been constructed indigenously.

Central Secretariat Service

168. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the cadre management of Central Secretariat Services and to send back the Non-Central Secretariat Services staff brought on deputation to the CSS posts to avoid stagnation in the cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) 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) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The officers belonging to Services other than the Central Secretariat Service have been appointed for the prescribed period of tenure under the Central Staffing Scheme. It would, therefore, not be feasible to revert them to their cadres prematurely.

Extradition of Nadeem Akhtar

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

(a) whether a report asking for the extradition of music director Nadeem Akhtar from London has been received from the Government of Maharashtra as reported in 'Times of India' Mumbai, dated October 21, 1997 under the caption 'Report Seeking Nadeem's extradition is sent to Delhi';

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

(c) the details of action taken proposed thereon and the present status of extradition process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Upon receipt of the Report, it was examined by experts in the Government of India. Based on their recommendations, the Report was amended and promptly forwarded to the British Crown Prosecution Office, London through diplomatic channels.

(c) The British Crown Prosecution Counsel's Office after examination suggested some amendments in the light of certain provisions of the UK Extradition Act, 1989 and the Indo-UK Extradition Treaty, 1992. Besides ensuring that the extradition documents, suitably amended, are presented to the British court in time for hearing, the Indian government has conveyed to the British authorities the need for the case to be presented in the best possible, legal manner.

Setting up of Super Thermal Power Plants

170. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of super thermal power plants established in the country so far;

(b) the location, capacity and total power generated in MW by each plant during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand some of those plants during 9th Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The term Super Thermal Power Plant has not been precisely defined. However, large stations of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) viz. those with an installed capacity of 1000 MW and above are often called Super Thermal Stations. NTPC has so far set up seven (7) Super Thermal Power Projects (STPP). The required details of these projects are as follows:—

Name of Project, Location & Capacity	Power generation in MUs		
	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
1. Singrauli STPP (2000 MW) U.P.	14290	14983	15362
2. Korba STPP (2100 MW) M.P.	13990	15397	15895
3. Ramagundam STPP (2100 MW) A.P.	14496	14742	15674
4. Vindhyachal STPP (1260 MW) M.P.	8646	9272	9273
5. Rihand STPP (1000 MW) U.P.	6475	7621	6685
6. Farakka STPP (1600 MW) W.B.	5402	6512	6392
7. Talcher STPP (1000 MW) Orissa	4.5	701	929

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During the Ninth Plan NTPC has proposed expansion of the following two Super Thermal Power Stations:—

Project, Location & Capacity	Capacity addition proposed in 9th Plan
Vindhyachal STPP St. II (MP) (2×500 MW)	1000
Talchar STPP St. II (Orissa) (4×500 MW)	500

Militant Activities

171. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan troops continued firing on Jammu and Kashmir border even after flag meetings of both sides;

(b) if so, whether the militants have increased their activities in Jammu and Kashmir and a number of innocent people are being killed by the militants every day; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check the firing and also militant activities in the State?

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) A number of major and minor incidents of unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops have been reported on the J&K international border and Line of Actual Control in 1997.

(b) Though reports of some militant groups supported from across the border continuing to indulge in terrorist activities are received by Government, it cannot, however, be said that militants have been able to increase their activities in the State. In statistical terms, the number of incidents and the number of killings of innocent civilians has come down and there is marked improvement in the overall situation.

(c) The steps taken by Government to check the militant activities in the State include sustained operations by the police and on the security forces, including intensive patrolling on the border/LOC, anti-terrorist operations, strengthening of the intelligence network and coordination of security arrangements among various agencies etc. Developmental needs of the State are being addressed. Efforts are being made by Government to ensure that peace and normalcy are restored at the earliest. Security forces are keeping strict vigil over the border to check the firing

incidents. The steps taken to check firing in the border include increased/intensified patrolling, sanction of additional Bns to reduce the gaps between the BOPs, erection of OP towers, provision of equipments like Binoculars, Goggles, Twin telescopes etc. to the troops and gearing up of intelligence machinery.

Tainted Officials

172. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI MADAN PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cabinet Secretary has issued instructions to all Ministries/Departments to identify officers whose integrity is doubtful;

(b) if so, the details of the instructions and guidelines issued to identify tainted officials;

(c) whether the Government have appointed any Vigilance Commission to conduct enquiry into such cases of corruption; and

(d) if so, the investigations made by this Commission since its inception?

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) As the guidelines are Confidential in nature, it is considered that making them public will not be helpful.

(c) No such vigilance Commission, as referred to in the Question to enquire such cases of corruption, has been appointed. However, the Central Vigilance Commission, set up by the Government in February, 1964, on the recommendation of the Committee on Prevention of Corruption (popularly called Santhanam Committee) under the Ministry of Home Affairs vide Resolution No. 27/4/64-AVD dated 11th February, 1964, has jurisdiction and powers to undertake or have an enquiry made into any transaction in which a public servant is suspected or alleged to have acted for an improper purpose or in a corrupt manner or into any complaint that a public servant had exercised or refrained from exercising his powers with an improper or corrupt motive or into any complaint of mis-conduct or lack of integrity or of any malpractice or misdemeanour on the part of a public servant.

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

Privatisation of Power Sector

173. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names and details of foreign investors who have already invested in the Power sector in the country;

(b) the total capacity involved in the projects in which such foreign investment has been made:

(c) whether there are procedural bottlenecks and policy uncertainties in the clearance of foreign investment proposals in power sector;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to smoothen the process of clearance of investment proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) As on date, as per information available, 61 proposals for setting up power projects in the private sector, involving foreign investment from private promoters including multinational companies 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 having a proposed generation capacity of 36142.67 MW have been received. Details are given in the Statement attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

STATEMENT

Sl.	Name of the project	Capacity(MW)	Name of the Company
1	2	3	4
Delhi			
1.	Bawana GBPP Ph-I	421	Reliance Delhi Private Power Ltd.
Himachal Pradesh			
2.	Dhamwari HEP	70	M/s Dhamwari Power Co., USA
Uttar Pradesh			
3.	Rosa TPS	2 × 283.5	Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals India & Power Gen. Plc., UK
4.	Srinagar HEP	5 × 66	M/s Duncan Calcutta/Synergics, USA
5.	Jawaharpur TPS	800	Pacific Electric Power Dev. Corpn. Canada
6.	Partabpur	2000	ISN International, USA
7.	Anpara 'C'	1000	Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. of Korea
Gujarat			
8.	Paguthan GBPP	655	Torrent Group, Gujarat Power Corp. Ltd., Siemens Ag, Germany
9.	Hazira CCPP	1 × 515	Essar Power Ltd/Prime Hazira Ltd., Mauritius

1	2	3	4
10.	Jamnagar	2 × 250	Reliance Power Ltd.
Maharashtra			
11.	Bhadravati TPS (St-1)	1072	Ispat Alloys Ltd/Gec, UK/EDF France
12.	Dabhol CCGT (LNG)	2015	Enron Dev. Corp., GE & Bechtel, USA
13.	Patalganga GBPP	447	Reliance industries Ltd.
14.	Khaperkheda Units 3 & 4	2 × 250	M/s Ballarpur Industries Ltd.
Madhya Pradesh			
15.	Raigarh TPP (Ph.I)	550	Jindal Strips Pvt. Ltd. Genting Power Holding, Malaysia
16.	Bhander Dual Fuel TPP	342	Essar Inv. Ltd. Bombay, Mauritius
17.	Korba East TPP	2 × 535	Daewoo Corporation. South Korea
18.	Bina TPP	2 × 289	Bina Power Supply Co. Ltd./Power Gen., UK
19.	Maheshwer HEP	10 × 40	Shree Maheshwar Hydel Power Corp. Ltd./Pac Gen., USA
20.	Pench TPP	2 × 250	Soros Fund Management, USA/Pench Power Holdings, Mauritius
21.	Bhilai TPP	574	Joint Venture of SAIL, L&T Community Energy Alternatives USA
22.	Gwalior II DGPP	122	Gwalior Power Co. Ltd. (Warsila Diesel Finland)
23.	Ratlam DGPP	120	GVK Power Ratlam Ltd./Wartsila Diesel Oy, Finland
24.	Jhabua DGPP	360	Kedia Distilleries Ltd./General Mediterranean Holding
25.	Guna Dual Fuel TPP	347	STI Indore USA
26.	Pithampur DGPP	119	Shapoorji Polonji Comp./Wartsila Diesel Oy, Finland
27.	Narsinghpur DGPP	166	Global Boards Ltd./Ogden Power System USA

1	2	3	4
Karnataka			
28.	Mangalore TPP	4 × 250	Cogentirix USA. China Light & Power & GE Power, Mauritius
29.	Torangallu TPP	2 × 130	Jindal Tractbel Power Comp. Ltd/ Trectbel. Belgium
30.	Almatti N. Thanmakal HEP	1107	Chamundi Power Comp. Ltd., USA
31.	Ankola Konta (Hospet) TPP	2 × 250	Deccan Power Corpn. Ltd., USA
32.	Kaniminke CCGP	100	Poonya Power Company Ltd./Coastal Power M. USA
33.	Bijapur CCGP	150	KEI Energy Ltd., Hyderabad & KLT Power Corn., Kansas City, USA
34.	Nanjangudua CCGP	110	Independent Power Services Company, USA
35.	Dharwad TPP	300	Chateis Holdings, U.K. Khoday, Bangalore, Bescorp, Malaysia
36.	Bangalore TPP	500	NRI Capital Corpn. USA Pulakeshi Power Corpn
Kerala			
37.	Palakkad CCGT	330	Palakkad Power Generating Co./ Ensearch Int. Ltd., USA
38.	Kasargod CCGT	500	Finolex Energy Corpn. Ltd./Tarmac Black, UK/TEI, USA
39.	Kasargod CCGT	468.77	Kasargod Power Corpn. Ltd.
40.	Vypeen CCGT	693	Siasin Energy Pvt. Ltd., USA
Tamil Nadu			
41.	North Madras TPP, III	500	Tri Sakthi Energy Pvt. Ltd./Pembinaan Redzai SDN, Malaysia
42.	Cuddalore TPP	2 × 660	Cuddalore Power Company Ltd.
43.	Zero Unit (NLC) TPP	250	ST-CMS Electric Comp./CMS Energy, ST Holdings Inc. USA
44.	Basin Bridge Stage-II DGPP	196	Rosy Blue Group Luxembourg/Hyundai Group, Korea
45.	Pillai Peru Malnallur CCGT	330.5	Dyna Vision of Reddy Group, Japan

1	2	3	4
46.	North Madras II TPP	2 × 525	Videocon Power Ltd./Edison Mission Energy. USA
Andhra Pradesh			
47.	Godavari GBPS	208	Spectrum Tech. USA/Jaya Foods & NTPC
48.	Jegurupadu GBPS	216	GVK Industries Ltd./IFC, ADB, ABB, USA
49.	Visakhapatnam TPP	2 × 520	HNPCL, Ashok Leyland Madras, National Power U.K.
50.	Krishnapatnam 'B' TPP	500	Besicorp Int. Power, USA
51.	Kondapally TPP	355	Lanco Industries Ltd., Third Millennium, USA
52.	Vermagiri TPP	468	Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd., Mauritius
Orissa			
53.	Ib Valley TPP-Unit A&B	420	Ib Valley Corporation/AES Trans Power, USA
54.	Duburi TPP	2 × 250	Kalinga Power Corporation (NE Power, USA)
55.	Lapanga TPP	500	Samlali Power (Lapanga) Company Ltd./Panda Energy Inc., USA
56.	Bomlai TPP	500	Glaxy Power Co., USA & Indeck of Chicago
57.	Hirma TPP St-1	6 × 660	CEPA. USA
West Bengal			
58.	Bakreshwar TPP (4&5)	420	BPGCL/CMS Generation. The Kulijan Corp., USA
59.	Sagardighi TPP	2 × 500	The Kulijan Corpn. CMS Generation, USA
60.	Balagarh TPP	2 × 250	Balagarh Power Co. Ltd. (CESC/ADB/TFC). USA
61.	Gouripore TPP	1 × 150	WBSEB, BHEL, BTS/Thermo ECO, USA

Assistance to Insurgents

174. SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bangladesh is under pressure to help N-E rebels: Mahanta" appearing in the Times of India, Mumbai dated September 2, 1997;

(b) whether the Government is aware of the foreign countries who are pressurising Bangladesh Government to give sanctuary to insurgents from North-East;

(c) if so, the names of those countries; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to persuade those countries to stop these activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) to (d) Government's attention has been drawn to the news item entitled "Bangladesh is under pressure to help N-E rebels: Mahanta" published in the Times of India, Mumbai dated September 2, 1997.

The Government is not aware of any foreign country pressurising the Bangladesh Government to help insurgents from North-East. However, the Government is aware of anti-India activities of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence inside Bangladesh. The Government is also aware of Indian insurgents from the north-Eastern States misusing Bangladesh territory for anti-India activities. Government's concerns at such activities have been taken up on a regular basis at high levels. The Government of Bangladesh has stated that it does not allow Bangladesh territory for sanctuary, transit, setting up of camps and carrying arms into India by any insurgent.

Privatisation of Hydro - Power Generation

175. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have announced a series of incentives to encourage corporates for setting up hydro electric power projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether any non-resident Indian have submitted any proposal in this regard and likely investment in foreign exchange;

(c) whether a national policy has been prepared by the Government for hydel sector; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. To mobilise additional resources to help to bridge the gap in demand and supply, the Government has encouraged greater investment by private enterprises in power sector. In this regard, the Government has formulated a policy in 1991 for greater participation of private sector in power development.

(b) The Central Electricity Authority has accorded in principle clearance to 13 hydroelectric projects. The details of these are given in statement enclosed. The following projects included in the Annexure are promoted by United States of America Companies:—

- (i) Dhamwari Sunda (2 × 35 MW) — Himachal Pradesh
- (ii) Upper Krishna (1107 MW) — Karnataka
- (iii) Hibra (3 × 77 MW) — Himachal Pradesh

(c) and (d) The Government of India is proposing to formulate a National Policy for the Hydel Sector and in this regard a Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Shri M.K. Sambamurti. The main recommendations of Sambamurti Committee are

- i. The Hydro potential which is concentrated in a few regions should be reassessed and exploited.
- ii. Public Sector should primarily undertake large and multi-purpose projects and private sector should concentrate on smaller projects.
- iii. Memorandum of Understanding route should be adopted in the case of complex hydro projects.
- iv. International Competitive bidding route should be adopted in the case of smaller and less complex projects and based on unit power/energy cost.
- v. Joint Ventures of Public Sector and Private Sector should be encouraged.
- vi. Additional incentives for hydro projects should be given so that return on hydro is made comparable to thermal projects.
- vii. Peaking power should be allowed additional returns.
- viii. Special emphasis should be given to hydro potential in North East.

- ix. A Hydro Development Fund should be created to find resources for public sector projects.

As per the recommendation made in the report of the Committee, the Government has set up a Group to explore

ways and means of raising resources for hydro-electric power projects and has also constituted a Task Force on tariff for hydro-electric power projects and a Task Force for Evolving a New Model Power Purchase Agreement (PAP).

STATEMENT

List of Hydroelectric Projects for which Detailed Project Reports/Feasibility Reports were received in CEA/IPC accorded by Central Electricity Authority

Sl. No.	Name of the project State [Capacity]	Promoter	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Maheshwar, M.P. [10×40 MW]	Shri Maheshwar Hydel Power Corpn. [Promoted by M/s. S. Kumars Limited]	Cleared by CEA on 30.12.96.
2.	Baspa St. II, H.P. [3×100 MW]	M/s Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.	Cleared by CEA on 19.4.94, however TEC withdrawn by CEA on 14.6.96 as finan- cial package remains to be tied up.
3.	Vishnuprayag, U.P. [4×100 MW]	M/s Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.	Cleared by CEA on 30.6.97.
4.	Srinagar, U.P. [5×66 MW]	M/s Duncan Ind. Ltd.	Returned to Project Authorities on 29.6.97
5.	Malana, H.P., [2×43 MW]	M/s Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Limited.	Under Examination
6.	Karbi Langpi, Assam [2×50 MW]	M/s Bharat Hydro Power Corpn. Ltd.	Returned to Project Authorities on 27.7.95. Being transferred to Central Sector.
7.	Allian Duhngan, H.P. [2×96 MW]	M/s Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Limited.	Returned to Project Authorities on 30.9.96.
8.	Karcham Wangtoo, H.P. [4×250 MW]	M/s Jaiprakash Industries Ltd.	Returned to Project Authorities on 30.9.96.
9.	Uhl St. III, H.P. [2×50 MW]	M/s Ballarpur Ind. Ltd.	Returned to Project Authorities on 30.9.96

1	2	3	4
10.	Dhamwari Sunda, H.P. [2×35 MW]	Harza Engineering Company International LP, USA [Promoter of Dhamwari Power Company]	Returned to Project Authorities on 30.9.96
11.	Upper Krishna, Karnataka [1107 MW]	Chamundi Power Corpn. Ltd. [TAPCO-USA] [DPR received for Almatti for 297 MW only]	Returned to Project Authorities in November 1996
12.	Hibra, H.P., [3×77 MW]	Harza Engineering Company International LP, USA [Promoter of Dhamwari Power Company]	Returned to Project Authorities on 6.5.97. DPR yet to be received.
13.	Tawa, M.P. [2×6 MW]	Hydro Electric Graphite Ltd.	Under Construction.

Infiltration by Militants

176. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the infiltrators armed with sophisticated weapons sneaked into the Indian territory from Keran and Uri sectors under the cover of Pakistani troops firing;

(b) if so, whether it has been revealed by some of the arrested militants that Pakistani and Kashmiri trained militants have been forced to enter into India through these borders;

(c) whether the activities of these extremists have further increased; and

(d) if so, the concrete measures being taken by the Indian side to check the entry of militants in J&K State?

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) Some reports on incidents of infiltration during the year 1997 via Uri Sector and Gurez have been received. Pakistani forces provide fire cover to facilitate infiltration.

(b) Arrested militants during their interrogation gave out that Pakistan was keen to infiltrate more and more militants to Indian side.

(c) Due to continuous pressure exerted by the Security forces and various other measures taken by the Government there is overall improvement in the situation in the State.

(d) 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 Defence 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.

Outlay for Ninth Plan

177. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether outlay fixed for Ninth Plan has been finalised;

(b) if so, the funds earmarked for rural employment, poverty alleviation and rural development in Ninth Plan; and

(c) the details of allocation made for the purpose in 1997-98, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Statement showing details of Statewise allocations made for various programmes namely Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA), Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans (TOOLKITS), Ganga Kalyan Yojana (GKY), Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP), Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) in respect of rural employment and poverty alleviation and rural development during 1997-98 by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment is attached.

STATEMENT

State-Wise Allocation of Funds Under Various Programmes of Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment for 1997-98

(Rs. In Lakhs)

S. No.	State/UTs	JRY	IAY	MWS	EAS*	IRDP	TRYSEM	DWCRA	TOOLKITS	GKY	ARWSP	CRSP	NSAP	TOTAL
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15528.39	8970.34	3473.71	8370.00	4306.11	342.46	362.25	274.00	1515.57	79964.00	642.00	6111.01	57859.84
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	159.37	80.71	35.66	480.00	322.03	25.61	22.55	37.80	113.34	1444.00	15.00	67.13	2803.20
3.	Assam	5111.22	2952.83	1143.53	0.00	1417.12	112.70	143.01	82.85	498.77	2438.00	243.00	1154.88	15297.91
4.	Bihar	30458.60	17597.09	6813.55	5680.00	8377.40	637.24	383.29	493.61	2948.50	9380.00	1129.00	8564.27	92462.55
5.	Goa	172.20	87.63	38.53	140.00	73.29	5.83	4.54	6.30	25.79	227.00	9.00	1877	808.88
6.	Gujarat	5699.44	3292.97	1275.13	1370.00	1580.22	125.67	130.16	85.75	556.17	4672.00	290.00	1111.69	20189.20
7.	Haryana	1369.22	790.96	306.30	820.00	379.83	30.20	73.84	53.55	133.69	1746.00	105.00	422.89	6231.45
8.	Himachal Pradesh	547.18	276.72	122.43	770.00	123.86	9.90	38.30	37.80	43.59	1568.00	101.00	128.14	3766.92
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1111.89	562.66	248.79	700.00	516.08	70.00	110.88	44.10	181.64	4395.00	140.00	300.91	8381.95
10.	Karnataka	10427.12	6024.43	2332.44	2890.00	2890.00	229.92	195.05	169.00	1017.16	7325.00	520.00	3424.10	37444.22*
11.	Kerala	3793.66	2191.85	848.57	2600.00	1051.75	83.64	90.72	61.43	370.17	3724.00	401.00	1494.52	167711.31

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12.	Madhya Pradesh	19677.78	11368.58	4401.69	5258.43	5457.47	433.98	352.17	318.94	1920.80	8817.00	751.00	6441.39	65199.23
13.	Maharashtra	16927.42	9779.75	3786.82	2440.00	4694.20	373.32	288.29	274.37	1652.17	10602.00	822.00	3153.82	54794.16
14.	Manipur	204.27	103.77	45.71	260.00	232.24	18.47	30.87	15.75	81.74	529.00	30.00	130.56	1682.38
15.	Meghalaya	239.02	121.07	53.48	60.00	246.68	19.62	5544	22.05	86.82	568.00	32.00	130.58	1634.76
16.	Mizoram	100.69	50.73	22.53	400.00	104.25	8.29	8.57	9.45	36.69	406.00	9.00	50.63	1206.83
17.	Nagaland	256.21	129.14	57.33	0.00	173.40	13.79	15.37	22.05	61.03	422.00	19.00	87.79	1257.11
18.	Orissa	12597.20	7277.74	2817.99	4544.58	3893.81	277.86	204.50	204.12	1229.68	4173.00	451.00	3337.43	40608.91
19.	Punjab	973.75	562.66	217.82	1740.00	269.39	21.50	83.54	53.55	94.81	1330.00	107.00	422.75	5876.77
20.	Rajasthan	8175.55	4723.84	1828.74	3020.00	2266.59	180.26	155.99	132.46	797.75	8732.00	388.00	1433.33	31834.51
21.	Sikkim	93.28	47.27	20.87	0.00	28.90	2.30	21.92	12.60	10.17	372.00	9.00	29.62	647.93
22.	Tamil Nadu	14037.96	8110.20	3140.18	9380.00	3893.25	309.62	45.83	227.40	1370.26	6314.00	680.00	5091.32	52800.02
23.	Tripura	265.32	134.90	59.37	720.00	331.32	26.34	11.34	9.45	116.61	503.00	49.00	200.86	2427.51
24.	Uttar Pradesh	37841.25	21863.19	8465.31	8092.89	10494.33	834.56	512.57	613.30	3693.57	14775.00	1595.00	11766.90	120547.87
25.	West Bengal	13916.74	8039.87	3112.95	3590.00	3859.71	308.92	227.56	225.54	1358.46	5704.00	608.00	3943.77	44893.52
26.	A & N Island	94.31	47.27	21.11	80.00	73.29	11.74	7.31	4.20	25.79	12.50	5.00	4.92	387.44
27.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.85	8.85
28.	Daman & Diu	51.18	25.37	11.46	0.00	15.49	4.62	4.03	2.28	5.45	12.50	5.00	4.60	141.98
29.	D & N Haveli	30.16	14.99	8.76	0.00	28.90	2.48	3.53	0.00	10.17	12.50	5.00	3.63	118.12
30.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	207.75	217.75
31.	Lakshadweep	47.28	4.21	10.58	0.00	7.22	1.16	4.03	3.15	2.54	12.50	5.00	2.65	120.32
32.	Pondicherry	92.34	47.27	20.68	60.00	59.87	5.00	4.03	3.15	21.10	5.00	5.00	16.64	340.06
All India		200000.00	115300.01	47740.00	63465.90	58768.00	4525.00	3791.48	3500.00	19980.00	108190.00	9175.00	59268.10	688703.49

*Since State wise allocation are not fixed, releases are given.

*[Translation]***Nuclear Reactors Inspection**

178. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted to international experts to inspect all the nuclear reactors in India;

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

(c) the details of inspection to be carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no inspection being carried out by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) or any other Agency. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL) which is a member of the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO) has voluntarily sought a peer review of the indigenously built Kakrapar Atomic Power Station by the experts of WANO as a confidence building measure. Such peer reviews have nothing to do with safeguards inspections as undertaken by the IAEA and are conducted in Nuclear Power Plants world-wide. Indian experts have also participated in the WANO peer reviews in other countries. Such peer reviews would serve to enhance India's image in the field of nuclear power and would help the process of international cooperation in nuclear safety.

*[English]***Transfer of Schemes**

179. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Flaws and contradictions in Centre's proposals—Transfer of schemes of States hits roadblock" appearing in the 'Weekend Observer (Observer of Business and Politics), New Delhi, dated September 27, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. An exercise was done in Planning Commission on the question of transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to the States. A note of the subject was sent to concerned Central Ministries/Departments and all States/UT Governments for their comments. Based on the replies received a revised note on the subject is being prepared for the approval of the Full Planning Commission and National Developmental Council (NDC).

Rooms in the Guest House of AIIMS, N. Delhi

180. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :
SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rooms in the guest house of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, N. Delhi;

(b) the guidelines laid down for the allotment of rooms in the above guest house;

(c) whether the said guidelines are being strictly followed;

(d) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure that the accommodation in the guest house is utilised in accordance with the guidelines;

(e) the names of persons staying in the guest house for the last few years in violation of the guidelines; and

(f) the action being taken against the authority involved in the violation of prescribed guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) The Guest House of AIIMS consists of 7(seven) double-bed suites.

(b) Allotment of rooms in the Guest House is governed by the guidelines laid down which are revised from time to time. The allotment of rooms is generally done on first come first serve basis. However, as decided by the Director, AIIMS in January, 1996, different levels of priority have been accorded for reservation requests. The highest priority is accorded to the requests of the Institute Body Members. In extraordinary circumstances bookings are also made at the request of Institute Body Members for their guests subject to availability of accommodation. Such guests are not treated as Institute guests and the

(c) to (f) The guidelines are generally followed for allotment of guest house accommodation. No person has stayed in the guest house for years at a stretch.

Passport Application

181. SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending with various passport offices in Kerala for the issue of passport during the period of 1st January, 1997 to October 31st, 1997;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government to clear these pending application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) A tabular statement is enclosed.

(b) Delay in issue of passports is normally due to reasons such as receipt of negative or incomplete reports from concerned police authorities, discrepancies in documents submitted by applicants particularly in respect of applications received by post, lack of response from applicants who are asked to submit additional documents.

(c) The government monitors the performance of Passport Offices on weekly basis with a view to clearing backlog of passport applications. Some of the steps taken in this direction are: (i) Close and regular coordination with concerned police authorities in those cases where the backlog has accumulated due to incomplete reports; (ii) sending periodic reminders to applicants to meet the deficiencies in their application forms and to submit additional documents wherever required with a view to clearing backlog on this account; (iii) augmentation of staff strength to reduce and clear pendencies; (iv) upgradation of office facilities including computerisation leading to faster screening and processing applications; (v) review of systems and procedures in order to avoid delays which results in the creation of backlog; (vi) increasing the size and validity period of passport; (vii) expansion of list of officers authorised to sign Verification Certificates; (viii) regular inspection of Passport Offices by officers of the CPV Division with the specific aim of ensuring clearance of backlog and necessary follow-up action; and (ix) setting up of Public Grievances Redressal Cell directly under the supervision of the Chief Passport Officer to monitor public grievances.

STATEMENT

Number of passport applications pending in Passport Offices in Kerala as on 31.10.1997

S.No.	Office	Total Pendency	Pending over a month
1.	Cochin	9948	2022
2.	Kozhikode	24337	11764
3.	Trivandrum	10644	3095

Manpower Exporting Agencies

182. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of manpower exporting agencies are working in the country illegally;

(b) if so, the measures adopted by the Government to curb/control the activities of such agencies;

(c) whether any study has been conducted by the Government to determine the number of persons stranded in various Gulf Countries due to lack of proper documents papers; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to repatriate these Indian Nationals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) It has come to the notice of the Government that some agencies are involved in illegal export of manpower. The Emigration Act, 1983 contains adequate legal and penal provisions to curb/control the activities of such agencies. All offences under this Act are cognizable. The State Governments and the police authorities are urged from time to time to take necessary action against the unscrupulous recruiting agents. It is only recently that cases against 32 such agents were registered in the State of Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) The Indian Missions abroad maintain the information regarding stranded workers in the various Gulf countries. In the event of any worker being stranded abroad, the concerned Indian Embassies and Consulates provided every possible assistance to the Indian emigrants including providing shelter to the workers and their repatriation to India.

Gas Based Power Plants in Rajasthan

183. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas based power plants in Rajasthan at present;

(b) the requirement of gas of these plants annually;

(c) whether the State Government had requested to the Union Government to ensure smooth gas supply to these plants at concessional rates and also bear the transport cost;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Ministry of Power has taken up the matter with the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL); and

(f) if so, the decision taken by GAIL in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The linkage of gas for power plants in Rajasthan is as under:

1. Anta	1.75 MCMD
2. Ramgarh	0.55 MCMD

(c) to (f) Oil India Limited (OIL) is supplying gas to Ramgarh power plant of Rajasthan State Electricity Board (RSEB) through Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL). OIL is of the view that discount should not be applicable for gas supplied by OIL to RSEB and it is billing GAIL at producer's price of Rs. 1800 per 1000 SCUM adjusted for calorific value along with levies like Royalty and Sales Tax.

IDBI

184. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) proposed to finance power projects in Karnataka State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) the total amount required and the details of the projects to be financed?

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

(b) to (d) Indian Financial Institutions including IDBI have committed financial assistance to the following power projects in Karnataka.

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Promoters M/s	Capacity (MW)
1.	Toranagallu TPP	Jindal Tractabel	260
2.	Chunchankatte HEP	Graphite India Ltd.	15
3.	Raichur TPP	Karnataka Power Corpn.	420
4.	Subash Kabini Power Company Ltd.	Subash Projects & Marketing Ltd.	20

The total assistance committed by the Indian Financial Institutions to these four projects is about Rs. 1600 crores.

NTPC

185. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation propose to change its policy to supply the power to State Electricity Boards at market rate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its justification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The tariff for the power stations of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is notified by the Government of India under Section 43(A) of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. NTPC has approached the Government of India for enhancing the rate of return of its existing power stations from 12% to 16% and also enhancement of the incentive levels.

Task Force for Power Generation

186. DR. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a high-power task force to identify more power projects for extra 10,000 MW power generation during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the task force;

(c) whether any concrete proposals has been worked out in this regard; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the power generation target for the Ninth Year Plan have been finally fixed?

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

(b) and (c) The Task Force has categorised projects sector-wise on the basis of their likelihood of completion in the Ninth Plan and identified specific steps required to ensure their speedy execution. Projects of a total of 52310.2 MW have been identified by the Task Force of which 11868.2 MW is in the State Sector, 14069 MW in the Central Sector and 26373 MW in the Private Sector. The summary of important recommendations made by the Task Force on capacity addition during the Ninth Plan are given as under:

(i) Project will be divided among specific officers in the CEA who will inter-act with the State Governments/State Electricity Boards regularly to ascertain the status of these projects. Adequate funds be made available to the CEA for this purpose.

(ii) Projects, where intervention at the Government level is required, will be brought to the notice of the Ministry of Power so that immediate corrective measures are taken.

(iii) Bi-monthly meetings will be taken by Chairman, CEA in which large projects would be reviewed in-depth in the presence of the representatives of the concerned CPSUs/State Governments.

(iv) Department of Atomic Energy (DoAE) will be requested to have an effective monitoring mechanism to ensure completion of projects during the Ninth Plan. DoAE may also be requested to identify additional projects on which advance action can be initiated so as to yield benefits during the Tenth Plan and beyond.

(v) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas may be requested to constitute a group with representatives from CEA and Ministry of Power to review all ongoing power projects of the refineries as well as wheeling of their surplus power.

(vi) Special attention needs to be given for projects in the State Sector which are lying incomplete for want of adequate resources. Consultations may be held with the State Governments to see whether such projects can be completed speedily.

(vii) CPSUs such as NTPC, NHPC, THDC, NJPC and NEEPCO need to have shelves of projects on which advance action can be initiated straightway so that benefits are available in the Tenth Plan.

(viii) The policy framework for encouraging co-generation needs to be modified to obtain maximum capacity addition from this source.

(d) The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) for power sector is under finalisation by Planning Commission.

Closing of Ongoing Projects

187. SHRI SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to close down some ongoing projects in the country under various Departments and Ministries;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total amount spent on them;

(c) if so, the extent to which they are incomplete;

(d) whether the Government propose to review these projects or implement any new projects in its place; and

(e) if so, the details of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOOR) : (a) The Government has been reviewing the progress of implementation of ongoing projects from time to time. The projects which are making slow progress are reviewed by the Central Empowered Committee constituted by the government under the chairmanship of Member Secretary, Planning Commission.

(b) to (e) The Central Empowered Committee has recommended the following projects for closure/freezing of further expenditure. The final decision is yet to be taken by the Government.

Name	Expenditure upto 31.03.1997 (Rs. in crores)
(i) Koel Karo HEP	17.87
(ii) Farakka STPP III, NTPC	0.00
(iii) Kottur—Harihar New Railway Line	0.25
(iv) Goleti Longwall projects	3.90

Herbs in Assam

188. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research has been conducted with regard to availability of herbs in forests and hill areas of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any efforts have been made by the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants for meeting the Demand of herbs in international market and earning foreign exchange therefrom; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Botanical Survey of India, Eastern Circle was established in 1956. Since then scientists of the Botanical Survey of India engaged in research work on herbs of hilly areas of north-east India which includes the whole area of Assam also. Several research papers have already been published on herbs of Assam. A comprehensive account of Plants of Assam in the form of flora is under preparation.

(c) and (d) Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), a constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has developed agro and processing technologies for diverse medicinal and aromatic plants which have been made available to farmers for commercial exploitation. Its efforts have led to increased cultivation and processing of some medicinal and aromatic plants. Which besides meeting internal requirements are also exported, for example: Menthol Mint, which is now cultivated in about one lakh hectares in Uttar Pradesh producing about 9000 tonnes of oil valued at around Rs. 500 crore.

Reservation of Beds

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

(a) whether there is no reservation of beds for CGHS beneficiaries in Central Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to provide reservation of beds in such hospitals for CGHS beneficiaries or their family members;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (e) As patients from the general

public alongwith CGHS beneficiaries take indoor treatment in Central Government hospitals, it would be difficult to reserve beds for CGHS beneficiaries in these hospitals since patients are admitted depending on the merit/urgency of their case irrespective of whether these patients are from the general public or are Central Government employees/pensioners covered under CGHS. However, the Nursing Home facility at Dr. R.M. Lohia Hospital are mainly provided to the entitled CGHS beneficiaries.

IRS-1D

190. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether PSLV-C1 rocket launched recently has successfully placed in orbit an operational remote sensing satellite IRS-1D;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon and the extent of success achieved how far it has placed India amongst the big powers with satellite launching facilities;

(c) whether the Prime Minister at a press conference following the launch declared that India would resist all attempts by any country to prevent it from transferring its achievements in key sectors like space-technology in defence; and

(d) if so, from which countries such resistance was perceived or pressures received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Significant milestone has been achieved by PSLV demonstrating capability to place a 1200 kg class IRS satellite into 817 km polar orbit on 29th September 1997. With this mission, apart from increasing the payload capability by 30 per cent from 922 kg of IRS P3 in the previous mission in March 96, several ground systems required for Geo-synchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) such as common check-out facilities and propellant servicing facilities also have been validated. Improved first two stages have also been successfully flight proven. The experience gained in the previous flights has resulted in reducing the countdown time to 52 hours from about 72 hours earlier.

With this success, India becomes the seventh country possessing launch capability of 1200 kg polar synchronous

satellites into 817 km orbit. The other nations are USA, Russia, Ukraine, Europe, China and Japan.

The cost of PSLV-C1 was about Rs. 60.00 crores and that of IRS-1D was Rs. 62.00 crores.

(c) and (d) Prime Minister had, *inter-alia*, stated that the science and technology programme of the country would remain multi-dimensional covering diverse areas such as defence, nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and research. Expressing satisfaction with the scientific community, PM also said that every barrier was an opportunity for India to extend its own indigenous capabilities and called for the removal of all embargoes.

There are several international technology-denial regimes operated mainly by developed Western countries. These aim at denying to Indian industry such equipment and technology as would enable us to develop our scientific and technological capabilities.

Apprentices Act, 1961

191. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government to cover certain vocational courses under Apprentices Act, 1961;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The State Government of Maharashtra had submitted a proposal to cover 7 (Seven) vocational courses under the Apprentices Act, 1961. On examination it was found that these courses are already available for trade apprentices under the Apprentices Act, 1961 under one or other existing description. It was therefore felt that covering them again as proposed was not required.

[Translation]

Patent of Drugs

192. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR RAI : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scheme to patent the drug formulations; and

(b) if so, the name of drugs patented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Under the Indian Patents Act 1970 drug formulations *per se* are not eligible for grant of letters of patent.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Grievances of Grade I Officers

193. DR. BALIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from different ends including Members of Parliament highlighting the grievances of Grade-I officers of Central Secretariat Service during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the decision taken thereon?

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) The grievances of Grade I officers of the Central Secretariat Service (CSS) highlighted in the representations received during the last one year relate broadly to the preparation of the Common Seniority List of Section Officers and promotions to the Grade I of the Central Secretariat Service and above.

(c) No Select List for regular promotions to Grade I of the Central Secretariat Service could be prepared after the 1986 Select List owing to protracted litigation regarding inter-se seniority of directly recruited and promotee Section Officers. As a result, promotions to the grade of Deputy Secretary of Central Secretariat Service have also been affected. A final Common Seniority List of Section Officers was issued on 15.5.1996 in compliance with the order dated 22.3.1995 of the Central Administrative Tribunal which was again quashed by the judgement dated. 9.5.1997 of the Supreme Court. Action to redo the list in accordance with the Supreme Court's order dated 9.5.97 in some SLPs has been initiated. Promotions to the Grade I and above of the CSS can be reviewed/made only after the CSL is finalised afresh.

International Competitive Bidding

194. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given exemption to certain international investors to set up power projects in the country from International Competitive bidding; and

(b) if so, the details of these projects, investors and amount of investment in each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Generation of Power

195. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
DR. ARVIND SHARMA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed by the Government for power generation during Ninth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the expected generation of power in MW from different sources during the above period;

(c) the expected investment in power sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan period at private and Government level, State-wise;

(d) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government to ensure smooth supply of power to industrial sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) for power sector is under finalisation by Planning Commission.

(b) and (c) The actual Plan outlay for the power sector for Ninth Plan would be known after the targets and the

overall plan size has been finalised by the Planning Commission.

(d) and (e) To improve the utilisation of existing capacity and to meet the projected increase in demand. Government is pursuing both short term and long term measures which, *inter-alia*, include, raising PLF of existing stations, quick completion of on-going schemes, renovation and modernisation of old plants, building of new capacities and price and institutional reforms in the power sector. Supply of power to the industrial consumers is the responsibility of concerned State/SEB.

Extradition Treaty

196. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI SHYAM LAL BANSHIWAL :
SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister has called for Global Extradition Treaty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of criminals, terrorists, drug traffickers and underworld dons of Indian origin who have taken shelter in other foreign countries during each of last three years, country-wise;

(d) the number of them extradited so far and efforts made to extradite others;

(e) the countries with whom India signed extradition treaty;

(f) whether the Government propose to sign extradition with more countries; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During his inaugural speech at the 66th General Assembly of the ICPO-Interpol at New Delhi on 15 October, 1997. PM called for the finalisation of a universal extradition treaty.

(c) and (d) The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(e) India has signed extradition treaties with Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, Hongkong, Nepal, Netherlands, Switzerland, the United States of America and United Kingdom.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Extradition treaties with Bulgaria, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Oman, Romania, Russia, Spain, Thailand, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates are at different stages of negotiation.

Tripartite Committee for Sugar Industry

197. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
CHAUDHURY RAMCHANDRA BENDA :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Tripartite Industrial Committee for the sugar industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the composition, terms of reference of the committee;

(d) whether representatives from all the sugar producing States have been included in the Committee;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the States; and

(f) the time by which this Committee is likely to submit its recommendations regarding wage structure and working conditions for those employed in the sugar industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The details of the Committee, its composition, terms of reference, representatives, etc., are given in the Statement attached.

(f) The meeting of the Committee has not taken place yet.

STATEMENT

U-14012/6/93-L.C.

3.10.1997

To

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Food, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi

2. The State Governments, Employers' & Workers' Organisations (As per list attached)

Subject: Constitution of Tripartite Industrial Committee on Sugar Industry.

Sir,

I am directed to say that it has been decided to constitute the Tripartite Industrial Committee for Sugar Industry. The Composition of the Committee will be as follows:

CHAIRMAN : Minister of State for Labour

I. GOVERNMENT

(a) CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Ministry of Labour | : | 1 Seat |
| 2. Ministry of Food | : | 1 Seat |

(b) STATE GOVERNMENTS

- Governments of Uttar Pradesh,
Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Maharashtra,
Gujarat & Karnataka (one seat each) : 6 Seats

II. EMPLOYERS

- | | | |
|--|---|---------|
| 1. Council of Indian Employers | : | 2 Seats |
| 2. All India Manufacturers' Orgns. | : | 1 Seat |
| 3. National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd. | : | 1 Seat |
| 4. Indian Sugar Mills Association | : | 1 Seat |
| Total | : | 5 Seats |

III WORKERS' GROUP

- | | | |
|---|---|--------|
| 1. Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh | : | 1 Seat |
| 2. Indian National Trade Union Congress | : | 1 Seat |
| 3. Hind Mazdoor Sabha | : | 1 Seat |
| 4. Centre of Indian Trade Unions | : | 1 Seat |
| 5. National Sugar Workers' Coordination Committee | : | 1 Seat |
| Total | : | 5 Seat |

2. The functions of the Industrial Committee are in general to study and discuss problems which are special to the industry concerned in order to bring about a better understanding of the problems among the parties, render advice in solving the problems and reach a consensus of views.

3. The Committee would meet as and when necessary.

4. This issues with the approval of Minister of State for Labour.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-

(SHINGARA SINGH)
UNDER SECRETARY
TELE. NO. 3718921/2316

Minimum Wages

198. SHRI A.C. JOS :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :
SHRI SUNIL KHAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Labour Welfare Bill including minimum wages is likely to be introduced during the ensuing session of Parliament;

(b) if so, the proposed minimum wages therein;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure payment of minimum wages to workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Agricultural workers in the country are already covered under the provision of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. However proposal for enacting a comprehensive law providing for regulation of complement and conditions of service of agricultural workers and for establishing a welfare fund for financing various welfare activities has been drawn up. Final decision on the proposal has not been taken and the same is under Government's consideration. Efforts are being made to finalise a Bill and introduce it in the Parliament at the earliest.

Shortage of Power

199. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR;
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of power in Gujarat and Karnataka and both the States have made requests to Maharashtra Government for supply of power to these States;

(b) if so, the actual demand and supply of power of each above States at present and the decision taken by the Maharashtra Government in this regard;

(c) the details of the power projects being run in these States with the assistance of World Bank and Asian Development Bank; and

(d) the time by which the supply of power is likely to improve situation in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Fast Track Power Projects

200. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of fast track power projects cleared by the Government during 1996-97 and 1997-98;

(b) whether some of the fast track projects are still limping behind the schedule time.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any fresh policy has been formulated to encourage foreign direct investment in the power sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) During the year 1996-97, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) accorded techno-economic clearance to the 1040 MW Visakhapatnam Thermal Power Project of M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Limited (HNPC) and to the 1000 MW Mangalore Thermal Power Project of M/s Mangalore Power Company Limited (MPCL). In the case of the former, the Coal Supply Agreement along with its affiliated agreements are being negotiated between Mahanandi Coalfields limited and HNPCL. In the case of the latter, Government of Karnataka and the Karnataka Electricity Board are required to send the finalised Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to the Government of India prior to issue of counter guarantee.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The major reasons for the time taken in finalisation of the counter guarantee of the Government of India to the remaining four of the initial eight fast track power projects, *inter-alia*, are time taken in furnishing of the finalised PPAs, non-finalisation of Coal Supply and Transportation Agreement, finalisation of the evacuation system and Coal pricing.

(d) and (e) The policy enunciated by the Government of India to encourage greater private sector participation in power generation is being amended from time to time, keeping in view the changing requirements. Some of the measures taken to further liberalise the policy and encourage foreign direct investment in the power sector include enhancing the limit of the capital expenditure of the schemes requiring concurrence of CEA and providing for automatic clearance for electric generation and transmission projects where the foreign equity is less than 74 per cent of the total equity.

Fast Track Policy for Power Sector

201. DR. T SUBBARAMY REDDY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement fast track policies to improve power sector; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposed measures being considered by the government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) To improve the performance of the power sector quickly, 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 capacity by transfer of power from surplus regions, if any, to deficit regions through inter-regional links. Besides this, powers have been delegated to shorten the project development/clearance period and the clearance procedure streamlined. A scheme of concessional lending to State Electricity Boards/State Government Corporations/State Power Departments has been finalised wherein 4 per cent interest subsidy will be given for programmes covering Renovation and Modernisation and life extension/rehabilitation, ongoing projects nearing completion, missing transmission links and System improvement.

Loans/Assistance to Assam

202. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) the details of the loans/financial assistance provided by the Union Government to hospital projects in Assam during each of the last three years;

(b) the terms and conditions on which these allocations have been made;

(c) whether the Government have received any further request from the Government of Assam for financial assistance for the expansion and development of medical colleges and hospitals in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) 'Health' being a State subject,

it is for the State Government to take steps for providing financial assistance to hospital projects. However, the planning Commission has released Rs. 200.00 lakhs as additional grant for the upgradation of Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati during 1996-97.

(c) to (e) The Expert Team visited Guwahati Medical College and Hospital, Guwahati to make technical assessment for its upgradation. The team recommended phased development of the College. Priority areas were to cost Rs. 10 crores. On a request of Minister of Health and Family Welfare of Assam, an Expert team was deputed to visit Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh and make technical assessment. The team recommended immediate and long term steps for the upgradation of this college at an estimated cost of Rs. 71.00 crores. There is no scheme in the Ministry under which assistance can be provided to the State Government for upgradation of Medical Colleges. However, the Report of the Expert Team is being sent to the Planning Commission for making provisions of additional funds for the purpose through State Health Sector Plan Budget of the State Government.

Physician in CGHS Dispensary

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

(a) whether as compendium of CGHS, one male and one female physician should be posted in each of the CGHS Unani Dispensary/Unit;

(b) if so, whether the dispensary of CGHS Unani system in Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi is functioning without a female physician and if so, since when; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to provide a female physician in that dispensary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A female physician has already been posted in the CGHS Unani Dispensary at Sarojini Nagar, New Delhi.

(c) Question does not arise in view of (b) above.

[Translation]

Facility at PHC

204. SHRI DEVENDRA BAHADUR RAI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to provide internet facility at primary health centres;

(b) whether efforts are being made to attract foreign experts in India to provide the above facility; and

(c) whether foreign voluntary institutions are being invited and encouraged for providing advanced medical facilities in rural areas of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Nor, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Expertise is available within the country.

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

Permanent Seat in UN Security Council

205. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD:
SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI SURESH PRABHU :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
KUMARI SUSILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister in his recent address to UN General Assembly has sought the help of other member nations for securing permanent seat in UN Security Council;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the nations who have extended their support to India in this cause; and

(d) the latest position regarding securing permanent seat in UN Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (d) Prime Minister in his recent address to the 52nd session of the UN General Assembly has reiterated India's candidature for permanent membership of the UN Security Council and conveyed India's willingness to accept the additional responsibilities that would follow. Several countries from a cross section of UN membership have supported Indian candidature either bilaterally or at the U.N. Discussions on Security Council Reforms are continuing and Government has requested Member States to support India's candidature.

Rural Electrification

206. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI NAVEEN PATNAIK :
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in the country which have not been electrified so far, State-wise;

(b) whether some States are worst sufferer than others in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to electrify the villages of these States:

(d) whether the Government have formulated an ambitious scheme to electrify all villages in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the number of villages electrified as on date, State-wise; and

(g) the target fixed for rural electrification till the end of Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) As per 1991 census, 87817 inhabited villages remained to be electrified as on 31.8.1997. The State-wise details are given in the Statement attached.

(b) to (e) About 93.7 per cent of unelectrified villages are concentrated in the States of U.P., Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. Most of the unelectrified villages are located in the States which are covered under Minimum Needs Programme. For speedier electrification of such villages, Government of India is providing financial assistance to the State Electricity Boards/ Electricity Departments of the States through REC on concessional terms and conditions.

(f) as per 1991 census, 498776 inhabited villages have been reported to be electrified as on 31.8.1997, as may be seen from the Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of the question.

(g) The target both in terms of physical and outlays for Rural Electrification Programme for the 9th Five Year Plan are yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission.

STATEMENT

Progress in Electrification of Villages up to August, 1997

						Provisional
Sl. No.	States	Total No. of villages (1991 census)	Total Achiet. to the end of 31.8.97	Unelectrified villages upto 31.8.1997	% age	REMARKS
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pr.	26586 @	26586	0	100.0	Provisional to be confirmed as per 91 census.
2.	Arunachal Pr.	3649	2061	1588	56.5	
3.	Assam	24685 (\$)	18999	5686	77.0	Progress reported to the end of 3/97
4.	Bihar	67513	47837	19676	70.9	Achievement as per 1981 census. Progress reported to the end of 6/97
5.	Goa	360 @	360	0	100.0	Provisional to be confirmed as per 91 census.
6.	Gujarat	18028 @	18028	0	100.0	
7.	Haryana	6759 @	6759	0	100.0	
8.	Himachal Pr.	16997 @	16635	362	97.9	100% electrified as per 1981 census.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6477	6301	176	97.3	Achvt. as per 71 census. 1991 census not held. Progress reported to the end of 3/97
10.	Karnataka	27066 @	26446	0	97.7	Fully electrified. Balance not feasible.
11.	Kerala	1384 @	1384	0	100.0	
12.	Madhya Pr.	71526	67516	4010	94.4	
13.	Maharashtra	40412 @	40412	0	100.0	Provisional to be confirmed as per 91 census.
14.	Manipur	2182	1892	290	86.7	
15.	Meghalaya	5484	2467	3017	45.0	Achievement as per 1971 census
					0	ERR progress reported to the end of 7/97
16.	Mizoram	698	672	26	96.3	Progress reported to the end of 3/97
17.	Nagaland	1216	1088	128	89.5	Progress reported to the end of 3/97
18.	Orissa	46989	32825	14164	69.9	Progress reported to the end of 3/97
19.	Punjab	12428 @	12428	0	100.0	
20.	Rajasthan	37889	33608	4281	88.7	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
21.	Sikkim	447 @	405	0	90.6	Provisional (to be confirmed) 42 Nos. Forest Villages not electrified.
22.	Tamil Nadu	15822 @	15822	0	100.0	
23.	Tripura	855 (#)	788	67	92.2	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	112803	87079	25724	77.2	Progress reported to the end of 3/97
25.	West Bengal	37910	29288	8622	77.3	Achievement as per 1981 census Progress reported to the end of 7/97
Total		586165	497686	87817	84.9	
UTs		1093	1090	0	99.7	Fully electrified. Balance not feasible.
G. Total		587258	498776	87817	84.9	

(@) Fully electrified, rest not feasible.

Source : CEA's report for August, 97

Incomplete Projects

207. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR
SHRI T. GOVINDAN

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Central Projects relating to Eighth Five Year Plan are yet to be completed;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to complete the incomplete projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI RATNAMALA D. SAVANOR) : (a) As on 31.3.1997, 233 central sector projects of the Eighth Five Year Plan were yet to be completed.

(b) and (c) The details of such projects are given in the Project Implementation Status Report on central sector projects for the quarter ending March, 1997. The copy of the Report is available in the Parliament library. The project face various types of problems resulting in time and cost overruns. The list of various factors resulting in time and cost overrun is given in the attached *Statement I*. The measures being taken by the Government vary from project to project and time to time. However, the nature of measures taken by the Government in general to avoid shortcomings in the implementation is given in the attached *Statement II*.

STATEMENT I

Steps Taken by the Government to streamline from preparing the Original Estimates and Implementation of Projects for Reducing Overruns

- (i) To-stage project approval for facilitating adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.
- (ii) Proper monitoring of projects at regular intervals, at various levels to identify constraints and take remedial measures.
- (iii) Indepth review of the progress by the project authorities and Administrative Ministries.
- (iv) Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for speed finalisation of contract packages, solving and land acquisition and other problems.
- (v) Close follow up by the concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.
- (vi) Inter-ministerial coordination.

STATEMENT II

The various causes for delay in the completion of projects, identified by the DPI, as a result of monitoring and analysis of the reports received from project authorities, can be summed up as follows:

- I. Delay in land acquisition.
- II. Delay in obtaining forest/environment clearance and lack of supporting infrastructure facilities.
- III. Delay in tie up of adequate funds and sources of funds (Budgetary internal resources, extra budgetary and external aid).
- IV. Delay in finalisation of detailed engineering, release of drawings and delay in availability of fronts.
- V. Changes in scope.
- VI. Delay in tendering, ordering and equipment supply.
- VII. Industrial relations and law and order problems.
- VIII. Delay and uncertainty in feed stock supply.
- IX. Pre-commissioning teething troubles.
- X. Technology problems.
- XI. Geological surprises.

The following are major causes of Cost escalation:

- I. Changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties.
- II. Higher cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures.
- III. Higher cost of land acquisition.
- IV. Change in the scope of project.
- V. Higher prices being quoted by the bidders in certain areas.
- VI. Under estimation of original cost and
- VII. General price rise.

Single Child Family

208. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to promote the concept of a single child family to be launched on the 50th year of independence; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) and (b) The Department of Family Welfare is promoting the concept of a single child family, purely on voluntary basis.

Indo-Pak Foreign Secretary Level Talks

209. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI G.L. KANAUIA :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign-Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan were held in September and October, 1997 in New Delhi and Edinburgh respectively;

(b) if so, the details of the issues raised and resolved at each of these talks;

(c) whether the issues of unprovoked firing by Pakistan Security Forces on innocent civilians in Jammu and Kashmir dominated the talks;

(d) if so, the steps taken by both the Indian Government to raise this issue at International Fora and demand compensation from Pakistan;

(e) the steps taken by both the Government to resolve all outstanding issues including the Kashmir issue; and

(f) the venue and date of next round of Foreign Secretary level talks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (f) The third round of the resumed Foreign Secretary level talks between India and Pakistan was held in New Delhi from 15-18 September, 1997. This round was adjourned, with the two sides deciding to reconvene at mutually convenient dates. The Foreign Secretaries of the two countries also met, pursuant to the directions of the two Prime Ministers in Edinburgh on 25 October, 1997 during the Commonwealth Head of Governments Meeting.

After their meeting in Islamabad in June 1997, the Foreign Secretaries had identified eight subjects, viz

(a) Peace and security, including CBMs; (b) Jammu and Kashmir; (c) Siachen; (d) Tulbul Navigation Project; (e) Sir Creek; (f) Terrorism and drug trafficking; (g) Economic and Commercial Cooperation; (h) Promotion of friendly exchanges in various fields, for discussions between the two countries. They had also decided that a mechanism would be set up to address these issues in an integrated manner and that the Foreign Secretaries would directly address the issues of Peace & Security including CBMs and Jammu & Kashmir, and coordinate and monitor discussions on other identified subjects. The discussions in the third round and in Edinburgh focused on these modalities of the dialogue.

During the discussions, our concerns about Pakistan's involvement in Kashmir and the need to stop such anti-India activity was categorically conveyed to Pakistan. Our concerns about the unprovoked firings by Pakistan in the border areas, which have resulted in the loss of innocent civilian lives and has tended to vitiate the atmosphere, were also conveyed.

During the discussions, we also proposed to Pakistan our desire to establish a relationship of trust, friendship and cooperation; and to develop a wide ranging relationship covering economic, trade, cultural, people-to-people and other functional areas.

Expulsion of Non-Diplomatic Staff

210. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA :
SHRI G.L. KANAUIA :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan expelled two Indian non-diplomatic staffers of Indian High Commission in Islamabad on September 14, 1997 just on the eve of Indo-Pak Secretary level talks in retaliation of India's earlier expulsion of two Pakistani staffers of the Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi;

(b) whether any code of conduct between India and Pakistan exists regarding expulsion diplomatic and non-diplomatic staff from each others missions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Pakistan Government has adhered to this code in each of their expulsions during last three years; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) On 21.8.1997 Government asked Pakistan to withdraw by 4.9.97 two staff members of its High Commission in New Delhi for engaging in activities incompatible with their official status. In retaliation and on baseless allegations the Government of Pakistan sought on 3.9.1997 the withdrawal by 17.9.1997 of two staff members of our High Commission in Islamabad.

(b) and (c) On 19th August, 1992, India and Pakistan concluded a code of conduct for Treatment of Diplomatic/consular Personnel, which obliges the two countries to ensure the dignity and personal inviolability of diplomatic/consular personnel and their families and also safety and security of the premises of Missions personnel. It further stipulates that intrusive and aggressive surveillance, verbal and physical harassment of Mission's personnel and their families will not be undertaken. We have strictly adhered to the provisions of the code of conduct.

(d) and (e) During the last three years (from 1994) Pakistan had sought withdrawal of eight officials of our High Commission in Islamabad and two officials of our erstwhile Consulate General in Karachi under false allegations. It is a matter of deep regret and serious concern that in two cases, Pakistan's official agencies had resorted to physical violence.

It has been conveyed to the Government of Pakistan that resort to such unacceptable, violent and intimidatory actions are in gross violation of all international conventions as also of the bilateral Code of Conduct.

Family Welfare Programme

211. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has issued a communique to the Chief Ministers of States and stressed to monitor family welfare programme personally by them in the States in view of the continuing increase in population;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of State Government's thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) to (c) Prime Minister has written to the Chief Ministers of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh on 30th September, 1997 bringing to

their notice the adverse status of family planning and reproductive and child health indicators in these States. The support of the Chief Ministers has been sought for the family welfare and literacy programmes, including monitoring and review.

PM's Visit to USA

212. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI SURESH PRABHU :
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister had met US President during his visit to USA in September, 1997;

(b) if so, the specific bilateral and other issues discussed with him;

(c) the details of agreements signed with US during his visit;

(d) the stand taken by the US President on Kashmir issue and supply of arms to Pakistan;

(e) the specific areas in which US has agreed to help India; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to further strengthen the ties with USA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) This was the first meeting between the two leaders intended to give direction and impetus to Indo-US relations. It was not intended to sign specific agreements. During the meeting the two leaders discussed many issues of bilateral interest. The President emphasised the importance he attaches to the deeper relationship with India and spoke about his forthcoming visit to India. In addition to bilateral issues particularly, the growing economic and commercial links between India and the US, and Indo-US matters in the context of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the two leaders also exchanged views regarding regional and international issues. PM outlined the recent initiatives taken by India to build friendly and cooperative relationship with all countries of the region. The President expressed appreciation of the now orientation in India's policy towards its neighbours. During the course of discussion, PM underscored the need for countries of this region to

settle issues amongst themselves through direct dialogue. The US side expressed that it was supportive of the talks between Pakistan and India and did not seek to get involved in these discussions.

(f) Growing cooperation in the economic and commercial areas was a focus area for discussions. Both sides agreed to give further impetus to this process. Interaction between the two countries has intensified since PM's meeting with President Clinton in New York. A number of high level visits have taken place and others have been scheduled. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Thomas Pickering came to Delhi in October. The US Secretary of state is visiting Delhi on 18 & 19 November, 1997. The US Commerce Secretary and the Secretary Health and Human services are also scheduled to visit before the end of this year.

NTPC/SEBs

213. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any power station has been taken over by National Thermal Power Corporation from State Electricity Boards due to non-payment of its dues;

(b) whether most of the State Electricity Boards are unable to pay their outstanding dues to NTPC;

(c) the details of outstanding dues against each State Electricity Board till date; and

(d) the steps taken by Government for realising this outstanding amount so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Feroze Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Project of Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. and Talcher Thermal Power Station of Orissa State Electricity Board have been taken over by National Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. (NTPC) against adjustment of Rs. 919 crores and 356 crores due from the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Orissa respectively.

(b) and (c) The details of outstanding due to NTPC against each State Electricity Boards as on 31st October, 1997 are given in the Statement attached.

(d) The steps taken by the Government for realising the outstanding dues include recovery of outstanding dues from the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) by appropriation from the plan assistance to the respective states and making the future supply of power against advance payment or opening of irrevocable Letters of Credit by SEBs.

STATEMENT

NTPC's Outstanding dues against State Electricity Boards and other beneficiaries as on 31.10.1997

(Rs. In Lakhs)

State Electricity Boards (SEBs)/Organi- stations	Outstanding dues	Surcharge billed	Total Outstanding
1	2	3	4
Uttar Pradesh SEB	92935	32943	125878
Rajasthan SEB	1337	5761	7098
Delhi Vidyut Board	85058	30412	115470
Punjab SEB	2017	0	2017
Haryana SEB	2741	24224	26965
Himachal Pradesh SEB	1622	1186	2808
Jammu Kashmir	13117	25233	38350
UT Chandigarh	231	0	231
POWERGRID (NR&NCR)	317	0	317
Madhya Pradesh SEB	16554	25216	41770
Maharashtra EB	12494	10721	23215
Gujarat EB	10949	9124	20073
Goa	395	84	479
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	- 2	0	- 2
Daman & Diu	257	92	349
POWERGRID (WR)	191	60	251
Andhra Pradesh SEB	16477	6522	22999
Karnataka EB	5503	3795	9298
Tamil Nadu EB	2510	5347	7857
Kerala SEB	2110	2682	4792
Goa	228	67	295
Pondicherry	- 71	2	- 69

1	2	3	4
West Bengal SEB	30108	10863	40971
Bihar SEB	66670	35063	101733
GRIDCO (Orissa)	18979	2357	21336
DVC	16498	11580	28078
Sikkim	499	154	653
Assam	41	0	41
Total	399765	243488	643253

Abbreviations :

SEBs : State Electricity Boards

GRIDCO : Grid Corporation of Orissa Ltd.

Ban on Gutka

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

(a) whether gutka industry has a turnover of nearly 1500 crore per annum;

(b) whether this item has been standardised under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955;

(c) whether some State Governments have requested the Union Government to impose a ban on consumption and production of gutka;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in responding to the request of the State Governments; and

(e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) : (a) Pan Masala and Gutka industry are reported to be growing from an estimated Rs. 200 crores in 1992 to Rs. 1000 crores in 1997.

(b) Gutka is a combination of Pan Masala with chewing tobacco. Standards of Pan Masala have been prescribed under PFA Rules, 1955. PFA Rules also provide that every package of Pan Masala as well as chewing tobacco shall bear the warning statement stating about the injurious effect of chewing of Pan Masala/tobacco.

(c) States like Maharashtra and Goa have proposed to impose a ban on consumption and production of Gutka.

(d) and (e) The entire issue has been examined by an Expert Committee under the Director General of Health Services. These recommendations of the Expert Committee are now required to be considered by the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS), a statutory advisory Committee

set up under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 in its meeting which is likely to be held by the end of November, 1997.

Power Grid Corporation

215. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation of India proposed to help the power sector of China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a Chinese delegation visited India recently and discussed the matter with Indian Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome thereof; and

(e) the details and names of countries where the Power Grid Corporation of India is helping their power sector and number of such proposals in its hand at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) A technical team from powergrid attended the CIGRE conference held in China in August 1997 and also discussed with the Chinese Authorities about the progress made by China in recent years in power Sector. However, no concrete proposal materialised.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Chinese delegation visited India from 14.10.1997 to 18.10 1997. During this period they visited some of the installations of NTPC, POWERGRID and CPRI, Bangalore, They had also discussions with POWERGRID Officers to explore the possibility of exchanging the expertise in the power sector. No specific proposal has yet been received from the government of China.

(e) The details in this regard are as under:—

- (i) it is proposed to exchange of power of about 100-120 MW from India to Bangladesh.
- (ii) Under the Mahakali Treaty between Government of India and Nepal, the latter shall have the right to receive 70 MU energy annually free of cost. 132 KV transmission line from Tanakpur to Mahendranagar (Nepal), funded by Government of India for the Indian portion is proposed to be constructed by POWERGRID.
- (iii) Govt. of India have confirmed its interest to purchase surplus power from Pakistan.

Kudankulan Atomic Power Plant

216. SHRI ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Kudankulan Atomic Power Project snag over payment mode" appearing in the Observer dtd. September 29, 1997;

(b) whether the Kudankulan Atomic Power Project (KAPP) in Tamil Nadu to be built by Russia is facing difficulties over the mode of payment;

(c) if so, the present status of this issue; and

(d) the details of funds made available during 1997-98 to procure equipment and machinery to establish atomic power projects in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the context of implementation of the 2 × 1000 MWe VVER type light water reactor nuclear power station at Koodankulam in Tamil Nadu with technical cooperation and financial assistance from the Russian Federation in terms of an Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA) of 1988 between the Government of the erstwhile USSR and India, a supplement to the IGA is being negotiated with the Russian Federation which *inter alia* would include the terms for financing the project.

(d) Approved total capital outlay for 1997-98 for atomic power projects is Rs. 860 crore, comprising Rs. 325 crore as Government budgetary support, Rs. 35 crore as internal resources generation and Rs. 500 crore as market borrowings by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL). In addition, a provision of Rs. 83 crore for the Koodankulam project for preparation of a Detailed Project Report and Rs. 64 crore for TAPP 3&4 has been made.

Non-Aggression Pact

217. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pakistan Prime Minister in his address to UN General Assembly has offered non-aggression pact to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Prime Minister of Pakistan's address to the 52nd Session of the UN General Assembly, on 22 September, 1997, contained a passing reference to the opening of negotiations on a treaty of non-aggression between India and Pakistan. A treaty of non-aggression between India and Pakistan is not a new idea and discussions have taken place between the two countries on this subject in the past. In the context of Pakistan Prime Minister's remarks on this subject in his UN General Assembly address, Government have not received any formal proposal from Pakistan.

(c) Does not arise.

Visit of American Team

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

(a) whether an American team led by the US-Assistance Secretary of State visited, New Delhi in first week of September, 1997 on the eve of PM's visit to the US in connection with UN Session;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with the team; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir. US Assistant Secretary of State, Inderfurth visited Delhi from September 2 to 4, 1997. This was his first visit to India, soon after taking office.

(b) A number of issues of bilateral interest were discussed during the visit as well as cooperation in regional and global matters. Cooperation in law enforcement, science and technology, economic and commercial links, environment, terrorism etc., figured prominently.

(c) The discussions were very useful in moving forward the ongoing, wide ranging and forward looking dialogue with the US on bilateral, regional and global issues.

11.23 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Thursday, November 20, 1997
Kartika 29, 1919 (Saka).*

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