

**LOKSABHA DEBATES**  
**ELEVENTH SERIES (VOL.VI No.11)**  
**DECEMBER 5, 1996**

**THIRD SESSION**  
**ELEVENTH LOK SABHA**

**Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates**  
**(English Version)**

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**Thursday, December 5, 1996/Agrahayana 14, 1918(Saka)**

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<u>Col/Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
39/15	Shri C.M. BANATWALLA	Shri G.M. Banatwalla
152/20 (from below)	Shrimati Chhabia Arvind Netam	Shrimati Chhabila Arvind Netam
247/6	Re Terrorist Attack of Kulgam Town...	Re: Terrorist Attack At Kulgam Town...
266/15	...You have discussed the issued for six hours	...You have discussed the issue for six hours
300	Foot note	'Delete'
301/5 (from below)	Delhi Development (Amendment) Bill, 1996	Delhi Development (Amendment) Bill*, 1996
301	Insert Foot note	* Published in the Gazette of India. Extraordinary P-II Section-2 dated 5.12.1996

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

### LOK SABHA

Thursday, December 5, 1996. Agrahayana 14.  
1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, yesterday there was a serious incident in Kashmir during a public meeting organised by my party, the Communist Party of India (Marxist). There was an attack by terrorists and extremists with grenades and other lethal weapons. Six persons were killed and our Secretary in the State, Shri Yusuf, who is also an MLA, has escaped narrowly. It is a serious incident that has taken place in Kashmir. I demand a statement from the Minister of Home Affairs... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will take it up during zero hour.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Please allow it during zero hour.

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Export of Granite

\*201. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to declare granite as a major mineral and bring it under its control;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the excavation sites of granite in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the details of the countries to whom it was exported during the last three years alongwith foreign exchange earned as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Granite being minor mineral, mineral concessions are granted by the State Govts. under their

respective Minor Mineral Concession Rules which vary from State to State. Granite quarries in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh are mainly located in the districts as under :-

Rajasthan : Ajmer, Alwar, Banswara, Barmer, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Dungarpur, Jaipur, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Sawai-Madhopur, Sikar, Sirohi and Udaipur districts.

Madhya Pradesh : Balaghat, Bastar, Betul, Bilaspur, Chhatarpur, Datia, Dewas, Gwalior, Jhabua, Jabalpur, Mandla, Panna, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Sagar, Shivpuri, Sidhi and Tikamgarh districts.

(d) Granite is being exported from India to more than 100 countries of which some of the major countries are Italy, Japan, United States of America, Germany, Belgium, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, United Arab Emirates, Netherlands, United Kingdom, etc.

The value of exports of granite during the last three years are as follows :

Years	Value Rs. in Crores
1993-94	772
1994-95	993
1995-96	1100*

\*provisional

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in my reply to part (a) and (b) of my question, the Hon'ble Minister has said that question does not arise and as regards to part (d) of my question, a detailed reply has not been given. I had asked about the total amount of foreign exchange earned through exporting granite but the hon'ble Minister has not made any mention about it. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to how much foreign exchange has been earned through exporting granite during the last three years and the target fixed for the year 1996-97 and whether the target fixed for this year has been achieved or not as only four months of this financial year are left? My second question is that to how many companies licences and permits have been issued and whether these licences have also been given to the NRIs or not and the extent of concession given in the licences and permits issued to them?

[English]

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, regarding export earnings of granite, I have already submitted the detailed facts and figures in terms of rupees in crores. I have laid on the Table of the House a statement about it. In 1993-94, the value was Rs. 772 crore, in 1994-95 it was Rs. 993 crore and in 1995-96, it comes to Rs. 1100 crore.

Regarding the second question raised by the hon. Member...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR** : What you are stating is already given in the written reply. But the nature of her question is entirely different...*(Interruptions)*

**SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA** : I have given a clear picture based on facts and figures.

Regarding the second question under Section 3(e) of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957, granite is a minor mineral...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM** : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, he has given incomplete answer to my question. He should have given complete answer to my question stating the total number of licences issued and the number of licences issued to Non-Resident Indians out of those. My second supplementary question is that here are so many small mineral reserves in India and many people belonging to Scheduled Caste work there for the maintenance of these reserves. I would like to know as to whether any scheme has been formulated to provide loans to them from the co-operative banks? Loans are given to big industries but these small industries are not provided loans. In fact, large pieces of granite are found there but there are no equipments available in our country for cutting and polishing these pieces. Whereas in foreign countries people earn more money after cutting and polishing these pieces of granites. Whether the Government is considering to establish them?

*[English]*

**SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA** : Sir, the granite is a minor mineral. The policy regarding prospecting licence, mining lease etc. is provided by the State Government. The Central Government cannot interfere with it. But granite is a very important product of our country. It plays a vital role in the Indian economy. It earns a huge amount of foreign exchange.

To look after this, Government of India constituted the Granite Development Council in the year 1995. The first meeting of the Council took place in February, 1995. The Council constituted a sub-group with the Joint Secretary of Mines as its Chairman. The representatives of the State Government and the granite industry are there. The representatives from the Geological Survey of India and the Controller General of Indian Bureau of Mines are there. They are formulating certain policy to develop granite.

I would like to repeat it that granite is a minor mineral. According to the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development Act), 1957, a minor mineral has been treated as a State subject...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI** : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this Mining Industry, which earns 53 per cent of foreign exchange is on the verge of extinction. You have put the entire responsibility on the states. My submission is that these companies are not provided with 'Hamer furnace oil' due to which many companies in Rajasthan are on the verge of closure. Part (a) of my supplementary question is whether these arrangements are being made by the Government in this regard. Part (b) of my question is that the Central Government is continuing to invite foreign companies as a result of which the workers working in that sector are facing the problem of earning their livelihood. Please make it clear as to what extent foreign companies will be allowed to take over the area in the name of globalisation and the area which would be kept reserved for our local workers. Please give reply to my these two questions properly.

*[English]*

**SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA** : I would like to give an answer to the first supplementary. The granite industry is surely facing various problems. Many granite mining industries are going to close down. Out of 449 100% EOU in our country, only 119 are functioning.

Sir, I agree with the points that have been raised by the hon. Members. The main problem facing the granite industry today is the inter-state movement of granite. Then the royalty also differs from State to State and the Mining and leasing policies are also different in different states. It is because granite is a minor mineral. Though it is a very important subject, yet according to the Mines and Mineral (Regulation) and Development Act, 1957, granite is a State subject. Government of India has taken several steps for its development.

The Ministry of Mines and the Ministry of Commerce have also taken several steps to address this problem. For example, in 1994 a Cabinet memorandum was submitted regarding the amendment of the Mines and Mineral (Regulation) and Development Act, 1957. The Cabinet approved other amendments excepting the one which dealt with granite. The Cabinet directed the Ministry of Mines to convene a meeting of either the Chief Ministers of the States or the Ministers of Mines of the States. Accordingly, two meetings were held: one with the representatives of the Mining Industry and another with the State Mining Ministers. The observation of the representatives of the Mining industry was that the problems facing the mining industry today are due to the different policies adopted by the different Governments...*(Interruptions)* I have given an appropriate reply...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI** : This subject falls under the jurisdiction of the Central Government. Do not evade your responsibility by passing it on to the State

Government. The Central Government does not provide furnace oil to them due to which 300 units are lying closed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him reply.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, it is a state subject and the Centre cannot enter into that arena...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : The Central Government gives permit for furnace oil but infact, it does not issue it so easily...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Central Government does not issue permits for furnace oil.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Who gives the permit for furnace oil?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, granite is a State subject of Petroleum Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So far as the licence for granite is concerned, it is given by the State Government but what he is asking is: 'Who gives the permit for the furnace oil'?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, it is given by the Petroleum Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is it for furnace oil also?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Yes, Sir.

*[Translation]*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Even the quota of furnace oil is not released. You... 'speaking...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, it is a minor mineral.

*[Translation]*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Please speak about oil...*(Interruptions)* It is not made available. Its full quota is not released...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is not asking about the mineral. He is asking about furnace oil connected with that industry.

*[English]*

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, Granite is a State subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is supplied by the Central Government?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : No, Sir...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Wherefrom do they get the furnace oil?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : They get it from the State Government...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Let me get a clarification. Wherefrom does the State Government get the furnace oil?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, granite is a product of the State Government. It is not given by the Central Government.

*[Translation]*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : State Governments are even not issued their quota. You are misguiding the House...*(Interruptions)* what is the reason, 350 factories are lying closed there and people are facing starvation.

*[English]*

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : No

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, it seems that there is some confusion. Shri Joshi says that the furnace oil is supplied by the Centre whereas the hon. Minister says that it is being supplied by the State Government.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, both the situations are clear. The fact is this that the Central Government gives furnace oil to the states but the quota of states is so less that it does not fulfil the requirement of the factories.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister does not agree with that.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : The Centre should increase the quota of Rajasthan state according to their need. You should at least...*(Interruptions)* the Minister of Petroleum.

*[English]*

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Sir, granite is a State subject.

*[Translation]*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : The quota as demanded by the Rajasthan Government...*(Interruptions)* That quota is also not given for general use to Rajasthan.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dau Dayal ji, please sit down for a minute....*(Interruptions)*

## [English]

Mr. Minister, your Ministry may not be dealing with furnace oil...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

## [Translation]

SHRI RAM SAGAR : The hon'ble Member has used unparliamentary term, it should be expunged.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It shall be expunged from the record.

## [English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please maintain decorum. Your Ministry may not be dealing with furnace oil. It may have been supplied by the Ministry of Petroleum. Either you say that you are not aware of it or ...

(Interruptions)

## [Translation]

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the unparliamentary term should be expunged from the proceeding of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It has already been expunged.

## [English]

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Furnace oil is looked after by the Ministry of Petroleum and not by the Ministry of Mines. Regarding granite, my conception is hundred per cent correct.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Since furnace oil is dealt with by another Ministry and not by your Ministry, let the question go to that Ministry.

SHRI S. BANGRAPPA : The question relates to quarrying of granite. It has got two aspects. The first aspect relates to the general policy framework and the other is regarding quarrying of granite in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. It is a common scene in our country, even in the State of Karnataka. Quarrying of granite is going on. Different varieties of coloured granite are being quarried even in the mines of Karnataka. The environmentalists and ecologists have put forward their case saying that illegal or even legal quarrying of granite throughout the country, particularly in the State of Karnataka, has resulted in an ecological imbalance. Has the Government taken note of this matter seriously and is it taking steps to stop illegal quarrying? Though it is a State subject, will the Minister take proper steps to check illegal quarrying and also to have a control over legal quarrying so as to see that the environmental matter is not touched as it has resulted in an ecological imbalance?

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : I agree with the hon. Member that the granite industry in our country has adopted the traditional method of quarrying.

Whenever we follow the traditional method, there is always scope for environmental or ecological problems to come up. Although it is a State subject, the Ministry of Mines has taken some steps in this regard and some guideline are being prepared in consultation with the State Government.

## [Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDFY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is huge reserve of granite in Madhya Pradesh. Granite is found in abundance in many districts of Madhya Pradesh. You have set up a Granite Development Council which has held only one sitting in 1995. I want to know whether you would call its meeting to frame a timebound policy and to remove difficulties in the process of its export in order to have maximum production of granite so that more foreign exchange can be earned. Whether you are considering to call a meeting of the Granite Development Council or to take any other measures for this purpose?

## [English]

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : I am extremely happy to inform the House that the Ministry of Mines is going to convene a Minister level State Mining Conference which is going to be held in Delhi on 26th and 27th December.

## Villages without Post Offices

\*202. \*SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages without post offices in Orissa during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, till now;

(b) the number of villages in the State having post offices, district-wise, category-wise; and

(c) the number of post offices proposed to be opened during 1996-97 in the State, district-wise, category-wise?

## [Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : (a) The number of villages without Post Offices in Orissa during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 till now is given below :

Year	No. of Villages Without Post Offices
1994-95	39418
1995-96	39418
1996-97	39412

(b) The number of villages in the State having Post Offices is given district-wise and category-wise in attached Statement-I.

(c) There is a target to open 4 Departmental Sub Post Offices and 4 Extra Departmental Branch Post

Offices in Orissa during 1996-97. The district wise and category-wise details of Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices sanctioned so far are given in attached Statement-II. No Departmental Sub Post Office has been sanctioned so far.

#### STATEMENT - I

##### Number of Villages in Orissa Circle having Post Offices District-wise and Category-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the District	Total Number of villages with Post Offices	Number of villages having Depttl. Sub-Post Office	Number of villages having Extra Depttl. Sub- Post Office	Number of villages having extra Depttl. Branch Post Office
1.	Angul	223	17	07	199
2.	Balasore	469	41	06	422
3.	Bargarh	206	20	02	184
4.	Boudh	113	10	-	103
5.	Bhadrak	306	33	06	267
6.	Balangir	257	21	05	231
7.	Cuttack	304	39	21	244
8.	Deogarh	37	02	-	35
9.	Dhenkanal	221	18	09	194
10.	Gajapati	139	12	-	127
11.	Ganjam	602	46	17	539
12.	Jagatsinghpur	230	24	05	201
13.	Jaipur	287	29	18	240
14.	Jharsuguda	80	09	02	69
15.	Kalahandi	285	20	06	259
16.	Kendrapara	261	31	20	210
17.	Keonjhar	415	27	09	379
18.	Malkangiri	82	08	01	73
19.	Khurda	213	17	05	191
20.	Korapur	221	17	-	204
21.	Mayurbhanj	678	60	04	614
22.	Nowrangpur	174	14	-	160
23.	Nayagarh	201	22	01	178
24.	Nuapara	105	05	05	95
25.	Phulbani	259	20	03	236
26.	Puri	270	24	06	240
27.	Rayagada	190	14	-	176
28.	Sambalpur	212	12	04	196
29.	Subarnpur	89	05	03	81
30.	Sundargarh	347	35	08	304
Total		7476	652	173	6651

## STATEMENT - II

*The District-wise & Category-wise Details of Post Offices sanctioned in Orissa during 1996-97, so far*

Sl. No.	Name of District	Dept'l. Sub-Post Offices	Extra Departmental Branch Post Office
1.	Cuttack	-	Fakirpura
2.	Keonjhar	-	Baiganipal
3.	Kalahandi	-	Malagurda
4.	Jagatsinghpur	-	Khalgaon
5.	Sundargarh	-	Tulsokoni
6.	Ganjam	-	Morabai

*[English]*

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given a list, and I am not satisfied with his reply. In Bolangir District of Orissa, there are 274 gram Panchayats. We have been raising this issue from time to time but till today Post Offices have not been opened in all the backward areas in Bolangir District. The hon. Minister is very efficient and his attitude is good for development. I would like to know from him whether the Government is going to open the maximum possible number of Post Offices in Bolangir District of Orissa.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Some norms have been fixed for opening post offices. Population and distance are taken into consideration. However, we do not have the required number of post offices in the whole country as per these norms. In Orissa, only 8072 post offices are operating out of which 7476 post-offices are in the rural areas. In Orissa each post office is serving 3922 people covering the area of 19.28 sq. km. Thus the postal service in Orissa is somewhat better in comparison to all India level. However, if the hon'ble Member wants to give any suggestion in regards to a particular post office, he can give it to me. We shall try to do the best within our financial and statutory limits

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Thank you very much. As the hon. Minister has already told that he would like to give sanction for opening post offices in our Boangir District Parliamentary Constituency, under the existing provision, but there is not any post office in and around big villages of the district. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that if a proposal for opening post offices in Bolangir and Navapara districts is made, he will consider that or not?

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have already told that the post office is opened at the distance of three kilometers and the population of that area should be 3000 and the loss on the expenditure incurred on opening of the post office should not be

more than 33.5%. Again I would like to say that there are not the required number of post offices in the country as per the norms of the Department, yet you may give your suggestion in this regard and accordingly action will be taken within those limits.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is always some kind of problem on the part of the Department of communications that the site is not available for opening of post-offices. The department says that it is prepared to open a post office if the site is made available. I would like to mention that there budget is so less that they are unable to obtain any land. I would like to ask whether the hon. Minister will consider to increase the amount of budget for purchase of land in view of the price rise and increase of cost of land and will the department bear the responsibility instead of passing it on other. I can understand these kinds of problems are there in my constituency where the existing post offices have been closed on the ground that there is no space available for those post offices and whenever we talk of opening new post offices we are told to provide space for that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This question is relating to Orissa but hon. Member has asked a general question.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : There is a problem of non-availability of space.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes, I agree

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I personally respect of hon. Member. She herself has pointed out our problem. In this regard I would like to say that this department is always facing problems and that this is a department which occurs losses. During the Eighth Five Year Plan, a target was fixed for opening 3000 branch post offices and 100 additional departmental post offices which was revised to 3600 additional departmental post offices and 650 departmental sub-post offices by the Planning Commission. Perhaps, later on the Ministry of Finance reduced this target and restricted this limit to 1440 additional departmental post offices and an amount of

Rs. 23.654 crores was allocated for this purpose. During the Eighth Five Year Plan 1481 additional departmental branch post offices and 372 departmental post offices have been opened till now. Out of these 90 additional departmental post-offices and 12 departmental sub-post offices have been opened in Orissa alone.

The hon. Member has rightly said that this department is facing financial problem and funds allocated by the Planning Commission, was further, curtailed by the Ministry of Finance. This plan period is now going to an end. We will try to consider your suggestions seriously in the next financial year.

*[English]*

SHRI ANNASHIB M.K. PATIL : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, from the figures that the hon. Minister has given relating to the State of Orissa, it can be seen that there is no progress in increasing the number of post offices. Similar is the case with other states, particularly, the State of Maharashtra.

On the one hand the Government is taking up communication in a big way and on the other hand no progress is made.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question relates to Orissa.

SHRI ANNASHIB M.K. PATIL : Sir, I am talking about Orissa only. So, I would like to know if the Government has stopped all planning to open post offices in every village with 1000 population. If so, what is the modus operandi for establishing such Post Offices?

*[Translation]*

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : Sir, the largest network of post offices in the world is in India. Although China has more population than India. As per information given to me there are only 52,000 post offices whereas in our country there are about 1,53,000 post offices. However modernisation is yet to be done and the required services are to be provided. Therefore some improvement is needed. Hon. Member has asked about the norms. These norms include population of 3000, distance of three kilometer and loss not more than 33.5 per cent. In remote areas further reduction of 550 in the population can be made.

KUMARI SELJA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, though this question relates to Orissa, but I also want to ask a general question for opening additional post offices in my constituency. I have also tried many times but every time the department showed its helplessness. Just now while replying the question of Shrimati Sushma Swaraj the Minister has told that there is shortage of funds. We know it and would like to help them. I am sure that the whole House will agree to my point that when so many schemes are run through post offices, there are so many schemes for women and funds are allocated for those schemes. I request the Government to pay attention to it and consider this issue in priority area so

that more post offices can be opened. We have seen that even after fulfilment of the required criteria these post offices are not being opened. I, therefore, urge that hon. Minister should take firm initiative in this direction and we are ready to give him our support. My question is that whether more and more post offices will be opened?

SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA : We will certainly do that. We are here to make efforts.

*[English]*

### Top Priority to Air Safety

203. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV .  
DR T.SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have given top priority to air safety.
- (b) if so, the steps taken being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) the allocation made for this purpose during 1995-96, 1996-97, and
- (d) the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha

### STATEMENT

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Air Marshal J.K. Seth (Retd) to review the existing set up of Directorate General of Civil Aviation(DGCA), Aircraft Act, 1934, Aircraft Rules, 1937 and various Safety Regulations to ensure air safety. In addition, steps such as safety audit of operators, implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents etc. are continuously taken to enhance the level of air safety.

(c) During the financial year 1995-96, Rs.1.61 crores were spent under Plan Schemes by Directorate General of Civil Aviation to enhance the level of air safety and during the current financial year i.e. 1996-97, a total of Rs. 2.90 crores have been allocated for the purpose.

(d) There has been an improvement in aviation safety. The number of aircraft accidents have progressively decreased during the last 4 years.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in recent times, there was an accident which occurred near Delhi costing more than 351 lives. Such accidents had occurred in the past also. In the last two or three

years, about eight accidents had occurred in the Indian Airlines and other airlines.

After the Bangalore air crash, the then Chairman of the Indian Airlines, Shri Pratap had resigned. Shri Scindia also had resigned after another air crash. After what had happened near Delhi, I do not want the Minister to resign. It was not his fault. But I would like to draw his attention to the fact that when our air space was opened to the private sector and to the international sector, here, in this House, many Members of Parliament had objected, not on the policy but they raised a question whether our navigation system in the various Airports was up-to-date to meet the demands of the air navigation and to make them safe. That was the basic question. The then Minister, Shri Arif Mohammad Khan, I remember, in this Parliament had raised the question of purchase of Airbus 320 and he himself has said that our civil aviation system was not up-to-date. Now, we are surprised to see that an organisation of international fame, that is the International Air Transport Association, the apex body of the world civil aviation industry, has delivered a major blow to the Indian Airlines in regard to safety by rating it as a high risk airline...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please put your question.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: The IATA Committee had a closed door meeting at Singapore on the 16th and 17th April, analysed the accidents between 1985 and 1994 and ultimately came to the decision of having a distinctly higher accident rate than the world average rate...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He is not used to asking questions...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Our friends from CPM, while supporting the Government, are over enthusiastic to support the Ministers also. He may also be a cause of an accident one day. He should not forget that.

My question is very specific. I do not want to blame the Minister. I do not want to blame the Indian Airlines or Air India. My question is whether the Minister himself is satisfied about the air safety measures or not. He is a good Minister. He goes deep into it. I do not know how much time he gets. He is going all over the country interpreting speeches.

Mr. Minister, whatever time you have got in the Ministry, are you yourself satisfied about the safety measures and if not, what steps are you going to take in regard to the propaganda which is being made by the world bodies? You are now growing and you are competing in the world market. I was in America the other day. All the telecast people were projecting Indian Airlines as a high risk airline. This not good...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, there may be an accident between you and me.

I want to know what steps the Minister is taking to bring up-to-date the safety measures in the civil aviation system: what is the present position: and whether the airports in all the Metropolitan cities, where international flights land and take off, have a good navigation system...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, an apprehension has been raised by the Hon. Member, I think, just two days back while making a statement in this august House. I have said that when I took charge of this Ministry, immediately after seeing this, I appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Air Marshal J.K. Seth. I have appointed this Committee two months back. This Committee will go into the whole aspect and will give a complete report on our air safety and on whether our airports are well-equipped according to international standards or not.

As on today, I am very much confident and satisfied with whatever arrangements we are having: they are according to international standards. Sir, for your information, in the year 1993, the number of accidents was 13 in India. In 1994, it came down to nine. In 1995, it was six and in 1996 it has come down to five. When compared to the other international arena, Indian skies are less accident-prone. This aspect has not only been accepted by me but by the international community. When I saw the news, whatever statement that has appeared in the IATA, immediately I asked my Civil Aviation Secretary to contact them. For your information, the IATA has denied it and to that effect they have faxed a letter stating that they have not raised such questions as far as Indian Airlines is concerned.

Sir, I would like to submit for your information that the premium of insurance which Indian Airlines is giving has come down because our accident rate is less and our safety measures are good.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, it is a pity, whether it is the Railway Minister or the Minister of Civil Aviation that they try to show their efficiency by bringing down the rate of accidents. It is not the case of rate of accidents coming down. It is not desirable to have any accident. I am going to Calcutta today. I may be a victim of that less percentage. So do not say like that. I am trying to point out certain things.

The other thing is, The Hindustan Times editorial of 14th November, 1996 - but it is going all over the world- says

"The International Federation of Airline Pilots' Association publishes periodically a black list of the world airports. It awards a black star to those airports which its members consider to be critically deficient by international standards. Other airports considered unsafe, but less dangerously so, are classified with red, and then, orange stars. The Delhi airport has been

black-starred for long for its notoriously bad navigational aids and its imperfect instrument landing system has been the cause for several air accidents in the past."

This is the perception of the various international associations. Mr. Minister, as I say, I am not telling against anybody because it is the system which is going on. What I am trying to impress is that it is high time that you formed that Committee. According to that Committee's recommendation, you must see that all our airports-whether small or big - are equipped with better civil navigation system so that recurrence of these accidents does not happen. Can you give us a time-bound programme as to when you are expecting your Report and by what time you are going to take corrective steps? Please let me know which are the aircraft in North-East which are in a safe condition so that I can buy my ticket accordingly.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, for his information, I am also travelling in the same flight in which he is travelling!

*[Translation]*

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is not as if separate arrangement has been made for me. As for the Committee constituted recently, the aim behind its constitution was to find out the soundness of the existing system and the department I am heading at present and through which I get information because foreign papers report something else and my department presents an entirely different picture regarding the same issue. That is why I decided to form a Committee and gave instructions that it should submit its report regarding the air safety, as to whether it is according to the international standard or not and if it is according to the international standard, how can it be improved further and if not, what are the shortcomings?

Secondly, regarding the foreign sources and the report that appeared in a newspaper and which was being referred to by the hon'ble member, I would like to say that because of competition, our goods are always declared useless vis-a-vis the foreign goods. If their goods are brought here, they are considered okay but the ones already available with us are dismissed as useless. What they want is that if foreign technology is brought in our country, this particular facility would be available. In this way, a deliberate effort is being made to find fault with our technology. The foreigners have always been making such attempts. Even now they are trying to lead us to believe that our technology and information system is useless and not upto the mark.

After the Air Safety Report is submitted by the Air Chief Marshall Seth, it would prove to the whole world that all the equipments available with the Civil Aviation Department are upto date and of international standard.

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : By when the report is expected to be presented.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : He has given an undertaking to submit report regarding Delhi incident by March, 1997 and regarding Mumbai incident by June, 1997.

*[English]*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this question is very important. It involves all our lives. Let us not be in a hurry. Let us ask the questions very carefully as it is in the interest of everybody.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But you should not take more than two minutes to frame a question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I will do it in one minute and forty-five seconds.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Your present accident has nothing to do with the air safety, we hope.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : It was a car accident.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please come to the point.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I am very happy. I want to say one thing. We have got a very dynamic Minister who has got a phenomenal self confidence.

*[Translation]*

His reply and style of functioning reflects his self confidence.

*[English]*

He is having very active portfolios of Ministries of Information and Broadcasting and Civil Aviation besides touring all over India with the hon'ble Prime Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please come to the question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : We are very happy that he is doing good work in the Ministry of Civil Aviation. We are also very happy that he is safeguarding our interests...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please let him speak.

*(Interruptions)*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I am talking on everyone's behalf. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : He is also in the film line!..*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Reddy, please be brief

*(Interruptions)*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Recently on 27th of November, in my constituency, Visakhapatnam, we had a miraculous escape from a possible disaster when an aircraft carrying 119 passengers including hon'ble Member, Shri Ayyanna Patrudu, who is sitting here, who was travelling from Visakhapatnam to Hyderabad, was about to crash in ten minutes of take off, but God had saved us and we all were safe...*(Interruptions)* Therefore, even

though the number of accidents has come down, it does not mean that we must have accidents. Human life is very valuable. We must remember that the existing old radars in our country require replacement with modern sophisticated radars of international standards.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have only half-a-minute more.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I must tell you one point. Before asking the question, I must tell about it ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : The Hindustan Times in a report says and I quote :

"A study by the Washington based consultant concluded that Indian Airlines industry was hampered by pilot skills and air traffic instructions below even minimum standards.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please come to the question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, according to experts, the congested New Delhi Airport like many in Africa, China and the CIS countries, is sorely lacking in modern navigational aids and traffic management systems that could have prevented the recent disaster.

Now, I must bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the most important point.

I came to know that ATC automation system is very important. In 1988, it was felt that we must introduce this system which at that time was costing Rs.200 crore. But unfortunately, at that time it was not implemented and now, I believe, the price has gone upto Rs.423 crore. So, the Minister should bear in mind that if the automatic system is introduced...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Reddy, what is the question? Please ask the question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : I am asking the question. Sir, I would like to know whether the Minister is going to fight with the Finance Ministry to provide Rs.423 crore and introduce this automatic system which will enhance their prestige and also safeguard our lives. Also, the Minister must assure us that in future, like in Visakhapatnam when we had a miraculous escape, accidents do not take place. I would like to know what precautions he is going to take in this regard.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, as far as the automatic system is concerned, in Mumbai and Delhi, we are already introducing the new technology. I would like to inform the House that within three years, I want to see that the secondary radar system should be there in the entire country, right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, and we will do it. Today when I was having a discussion with my officials, I directed them that instead of buying new planes, let us first have the secondary radar system in

the country with that secondary radar system. Within three years we are going to instal that.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, the Minister has not replied about the Visakhapatnam accident. He must tell about the Visakhapatnam accident.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All right, you have made your point.

*[English]*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, he must give the reply about the Visakhapatnam accident, in which Shri Ayyanna Patrudu, who is sitting here, had a miraculous escape.

AN HON. MEMBER : How did it have a miraculous escape?

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Because he was not there!

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, in the last few years, our skies are getting crowded and they are likely to get more crowded in the next few years. So, naturally, we need a strict control. This statistical statement of the number of accidents is not satisfactory. Sometimes one accident can claim the lives of a few hundred people. Numerically it may be one accident but it will kill hundreds of people and will result in a loss of several hundred crores of rupees. So, though the Government's reply is affirmative to the query whether it is giving top priority, the remaining part is totally contradictory.

The DGCA's budget is increased by only Rs.1.3 crore in a year and the DGCA - not the Minister and his confidants - is expected to do something with air safety. So, the DGCA must be made competent and powerful. It must have full personnel. It must have the budgetary allocation to fight with the crowded Indian sky. In this regard, I would like to say that the Standing Committee on Civil Aviation, in the last couple of years, has made a suggestion to the Government to make our DGCA a strong, independent regulatory and supervisory authority. I would like to know what the Government is doing in this regard to make our DGCA a totally independent, regulatory, and supervisory authority, like FAA, to control the Indian skies.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, this is a very good suggestion. I will definitely have it in mind. Sir, the hon. member will appreciate one thing. We are trying our level best to reach the goal within a span of six months. Once the Air Marshal Seth Committee's report comes, we will definitely give utmost thinking on it...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (MUMBAI - NORTH EAST) : This Committee does not prohibit you to work. Will you wait till the Committee report comes?

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : I agree...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : What is this? Do you appoint a Committee and sleep over it?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, to make it independent tomorrow the report is required. If I say that it cannot be done, I have to observe certain formalities if I want to make it independent. Then comes the questions like who is the appointing authority or who are the Members or who will select them or whether I will select them or it goes to the Boards and then come the P.E.S.B., A.C.C., D.G.C.A. etc.

[Translation]

By the time the process is completed, I may not be in the office but the Report would not have come.

[English]

The system is such that even if I want a Chairman, I have to write about it and it goes with all the formalities and it will come after six months. Now, what I am trying to do is that instead of going to cut short this once, if we get the Committee report then we can immediately think of what my hon. friend Shri Mahajan has suggested to make it independent. If it is independent then the question of risking of Minister will not come.

So, I am suggesting it because railway safety comes to me. Railway safety reports, their auditing and appointments come under the Civil Aviation Ministry. These will definitely be taken into consideration and I will say that after getting the report I will take some decision on that.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Sir, we do appreciate the steps taken by the hon. Minister to improve the safety measures. But, at the very same time, I would like to ask the hon. Minister one important question. Is it a fact that the ageing aircraft like the Boeing 737 which was involved in the incident at Visakhapatnam and other places and the Airbus AB-300 are also the reason for the threat to safety of air journey? I want to know whether the Government will take into consideration the phasing out of these ageing, 20 or 23 years' old AB-300 aircraft which is really a threat to the safety of air journey and also the old and dilapidated Boeing 737 aircraft which no country will put into operation. But, unfortunately, the Indian Airlines is still having these aircraft.

There is another thing. The hon. Minister must be knowing as to what happened with regard to the accident of a private airline in Bangalore some time back. The engineering wing of some private airline is not functioning well. They are not giving the safety aspect the paramount consideration like the Indian Airlines or the Air India.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps he would like to take in this matter and also about the suggestion given by my friend Shri Mahajan to make the D.G.C.A. independent and competent and also well-equipped like the F.A.A. in America.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, as far as the Boeing 737 aircraft is concerned, it is 15 years' old according to international standards. I have already issued a direction what whichever aircraft is overaged.

[Translation]

So long as clearance is not given by D.G.C.A. and the engineering section, no airlines can operate its flights.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Such incidents have occurred thereafter also.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : A machine is after all a machine. At times new machines also malfunction. While this was very old one. We are interested in replacing the old aircrafts with new ones as soon as possible.

[English]

I have already given the instructions. I have told the D.G.C.A. to have periodical inspections and even random inspection as to whether all aircraft, whether they belong to the Indian Airlines or the Air India or the private airlines are in good condition. He must have it and give a monthly or even weekly report which should be submitted to my Ministry as to how many aircraft they have inspected and what are the random inspections they have done strictly. They are taking all measures for this. As far as making the D.G.C.A. independent, I have already taken up this matter into consideration.

After getting the Air Marshall Seth Committee Rept, we will definitely look into it and then, we will take a further decision on it... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There have already been five supplementaries.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is a decision of the House not to have more than five supplementaries on any question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA : You are not encouraging the youngsters... (Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : In such a case, you should allow an half-an-hour discussion. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am sorry.

#### Regularisation of Casual Labourers

\*204. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to regularise the services of a large number of casual labourers in his Ministry during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details and financial implications thereof;

(c) whether casual labourers rendered jobless due to closure of Steam Loco Sheds in the country are also proposed to be rehabilitated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

*[Translation]*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAI MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### STATEMENT

(a) and (b). It has been decided to regularise the services of all of about 56000 casual labour on roll as on 30.4.96 on the Railways by 1997-98 and necessary instructions have been issued to all the Railways/Units to do the needful accordingly. As these casual labour are already on roll and are mostly on regular scales of pay, there will not be any immediate additional financial implications.

(c) and (d). Any casual labour engaged by the Railway rendered jobless due to closure of Steam Loco Sheds as are borne on the live registers of supplementary live registers are eligible for re-engagement on availability of further work.

*...(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seats.

*[Translation]*

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been reported that there are 56000 casual labourers. I want to know whether there was any other rule, apart from the one you have mentioned which was applicable as on 30.4.96 and on the basis of which you might have arrived at the above mentioned figure. Because there is another rule in the Railways that in regularising the services of such employees who have put in 120 days of work. So this is one rule and another rule is there about those enrolled on registers. As the work relating to handling and loading of coal and removing ash is undertaken by the co-operative labourers and contract labourers, they would also have been rendered jobless. Have you prepared any list of such labourers and how many labourers out of 56,000 labourers would be re-engaged by 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as on 30.4.96, 56,000 casual labourers have been identified and we have decided to regularise all of them by 1997-98. The first stage of scrutinising is in progress. Not even a single labourer would be left out. So far as the progress of work is concerned, we can regularise all the labourers within three months but we faced the constitutional problem regarding the number of SC & ST labourers out of these 56,000 labourers. If their number is found to be as per the required quota, there should not be any problem, however if their number falls short of the required quota, we will have to make fresh appointment.

If does not mean that these 56,000 employees would not be regularised. The scrutiny is being undertaken to find out the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes employees who are to be made permanent. Scrutiny of approximately four and a half thousand or five thousand cases has already been completed. Our target is to take up the cases of 30,000 employees by March and the rest of the cases will also be disposed of by 1997 and after meeting our target, we will take up the cases of those on live registers. As you have also mentioned that steam engines are no longer being used, only the Diesel engines and electric locomotives are being used now. Hence there is a large number of labourers rendered jobless. Although they were not Railway labourers, they were only contract labourers, still we are going to consider their cases sympathetically.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : My question is that there is a provision for those having put in 120 days of work and you have determined the number of labourers as on 30.4.1996. Whether such labourers, who have put in 120 days of work would be taken into account or not? You have not informed as to how many labourers have been rendered jobless because of closure of steam loco shed. Besides not a single appointment has been made so far.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I stated earlier, approximately five thousand labourers have been made permanent and 30,000 labourers are going to be made permanent by March. As for the provision regarding 120 days' work, those who complete 120 days of work start getting certain facilities. They are then considered temporary casual labourers and after 360 days of work, they start getting other facilities as well.

### 12.00 hrs.

Right now, the casual labourers are getting those facilities. After being absorbed on permanent basis, they would get the same facilities as are extended to Fourth Grade employees. Secondly, you have enquired about the employees rendered jobless due to phasing out of steam engines. Shri Basu Deb Acharia and some other hon'ble members have also raised this issue and we are considering it separately. But those who have the foremost right in this regard, are being given the benefits first. As for the number of such labourers, according to the report put up before the Committee, their number was 6000 in 1993 or 1994 which has come down.

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : I want to enquire about those who are engaged in loading of coal in loco shed.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Those who are engaged by Railways would be counted as casual labourers. Besides, some labourers are engaged through private contractors and Hon'ble Members have raised

their issue quite vehemently. This list of contract labourers is not usually available with the Railways but the Railways have got hold of the list of such labourers and after taking charge of this Ministry, I have decided to have them re-instated and to consider their cases.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*[Translation]*

### Air Services for U.P. Cities

\*205. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the major cities of Uttar Pradesh have been linked with air-services;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether requests have been made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, several political organisations and representatives of people to construct some airports in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any steps have been taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) :

(a) Indian Airlines is operating scheduled services to Agra, Varanasi and Lucknow. Sahara India Airlines operates to Lucknow and Varanasi. Private airlines used to operate to Allahabad and Kanpur, but have suspended operations recently.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Requests have been received for construction of airports/operation of flights from Bareilly, Chitrakoot, Faizabad, Jaunpur and Kashipur.

(e) and (f). Bareilly is a defence airfield and there is no civil enclave. Construction of new airports at Chitrakoot, Jaunpur and Kashipur, which are located within a short distance from existing airports is not economically viable. Faizabad has an airport which belongs to the State Government. No airline has shown interest in operating scheduled services to either Bareilly or Faizabad.

### Patriotic Films

\*206. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the production of patriotic films;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of patriotic films produced and telecast during the last two years;

(d) whether the Government propose to promote the production of such films in future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) the production of feature films is mainly in the private sector and the producers themselves decide the themes of their films. However, a person desiring to exhibit a film has to obtain a certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification. The Board does not classify the theme of a film under the category 'patriotic'. Therefore, it is not possible to say whether there is any increase or decline in the production of 'patriotic' feature films. In the recent past, there were some films which had elements of patriotism in them such as "1942 A LOVE STORY", "HINDUSTANI", "SAZA-E-KALAPANI", "THE MAKING OF THE MAHATMA", etc.

In so far as documentary films produced by the Films Division are concerned, the Division has, since its inception, produced and continues to produce films on freedom struggle, freedom fighters and patriots. These include films on Mahatma Gandhi, Lokpriya Gopinath Bardoloi, Sheikh Abdullah, Asaf Ali, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai, Chaudhary Charan Singh Morarji Desai, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, etc. There is no decline in production of such films by the Films Division.

(c) The information is not available in respect of feature films in view of parts (a) and (d) above. However, the number of documentary films/newsmagazines on freedom struggle, freedom fighters and patriots produced by the Films Division during 1994-95 and 1995-96 is 20. These films are also meant for telecast by Doordarshan.

(d) and (e). As mentioned above, the production of feature films is mainly in the private sector and it is for the producers to choose the themes. It is not the policy of Government to intervene in this regard.

The following documentary films are on the production programme of the Films Division:-

1. M.N. Roy (Parts I and II)
2. Babu Jagjivan Ram
3. Sardar Patel
4. Andhra Kesari T. Prakasam
5. Amar Shahid Bhagat Singh
6. Manapursh Shankar Deva
7. Jyoti Prasad Agarwal
8. Dr. Radhanath Rath
9. Baba Prithivsingh Azad
10. Gandhiji Through the Eyes of Cartoonists
11. Gandhiji as an Universal Man

12. Contribution of Maharashtra in Freedom Struggle
13. Contribution of Assam in Freedom Struggle
14. Karmaveer Gauri Shankar Roy (S.V.)
15. Contribution of Kerala in Freedom Movement
16. Nehru through the eyes of Cartoonist.

*[English]*

#### STD/ISD/PCO in Delhi

\*207. DR BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private/Government STD/ISD/PCO booths in Delhi;

(b) the waiting list for allotment of these booths as on November, 1996;

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

(d) whether the allotment is made strictly on eligibility;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Number of STD/ISD/PCO booths working in Delhi as on 31st October, 1996 is 5976.

(b) 773 applications for allotment of STD/ISD/PCO booths are pending.

(c) By March, 1997.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) STD/PCOs are allotted to educated unemployed persons. Minimum educational qualifications is Matric/ High School Pass for urban areas (8th Pass for rural areas). Preference is given to the following categories of persons:

1. Handicapped including blind persons.
2. SC/ST applicants.
3. Ex-Servicemen/War Widows.
4. Retired DOT employees or their dependants of Freedom Fighters.
6. Charitable Institutions/Hospitals.

(f) Does Not arise.

#### Railway Line from Port Blair to Diglipur

\*208. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has recently conducted a survey for the proposed railway line from Port Blair in South Andaman Islands to Diglipur in North Andamans Islands;

(b) If so, the length of the proposed railway line, its traffic potential and the estimated cost involved in its construction;

(c) whether the proposed Rail link will pose a serious threat to Andamans ecology and cause incalculable damage to Andamans environment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) A survey has been taken up.

(b) Will be known after the survey is completed.

(c) and (d). The ecological and environmental aspects would be duly considered before taking up any rail link in the area.

*[Translation]*

#### Mini Satellite Connection for Bihar

\*209 SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme was formulated for connecting four important places of tourist importance in Bihar with Mini-Satellite for providing better telephone service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether tenders have been invited to set up Tower in Netarhat;

(d) if so, the reasons for not setting up Tower so far; and

(e) whether Government propose to provide separate STD code for Netarhat?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A scheme has been formulated using Multiple Channel Per Carrier-Very Small Aperture Satellite Termin (MCPC-VSAT) for providing long distance media to remote places for better telephone service.

(b) The following are four important places of tourist importance in Bihar where MCPC-VSAT has been planned :

1. Netarhat
2. Valmikinagar
3. Madhuban (Parasnath)
4. Raneshwar

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In the light of provision of Multi Channel Per Carrier-Very Small Aperture Satellite Termine (MCPC-VSAT) at Netarhat, Tower is not required.

(e) The allotted STD code for Netarhat is 06523.

[English]

### **Licence to Modiluft for Delhi-Jammu-Leh**

\*210 SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given licence to Modiluft for their air service operation on Delhi-Jammu-Leh and Delhi-Jammu-Srinagar routes;

(b) if so, the details and terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether the Modiluft has flouted the agreement and suspended their operation in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in the Laddakh sector; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Permit to operate scheduled air transport services was issued to M/s Modiluft Ltd. on 20th November 1994. The terms and conditions of the said permit are annexed in the statement attached. Accordingly, approval was granted to the said Airline to operate inter-alia, flights in Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) and (d). Since October 1996, Modiluft has suspended all its flights due to non-availability of aircraft.

### **STATEMENT**

#### **Conditions to be complied with by the Holder of Scheduled Air Transport**

1. The permit-holder shall operate services on routes and in different regions of the country in accordance with the Order No. AV.11012/2/94-A dated the 1st March, 1994 issued by the Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism and shall continue to meet the minimum requirements laid down in Civil Aviation requirements (CAR) Section 3 Air Transport Series 'C' Part II Issue I dated the 1st March, 1994, at all times.
2. The permit-holder shall get the Schedule of Flights approved by the Director General thirty (30) days in advance and operate services in accordance with the schedule approved from time to time and the terms and conditions of the approval. A copy of current schedule duly approved is attached as Annexure II hereto.
3. No change in the schedule shall be made without prior approval of the Director General.
4. Aircraft shall strictly follow the schedules filed and approved. In case of delayed departure in excess of 15 minutes, the decision of Air Traffic Control Unit regarding revised ETD shall prevail and any instructions of the airport authorities to shift the aircraft to another bay shall be carried out by the permit-holder immediately.

4. The permit-holder shall operate the flights in conformity with the requirements of the Operations Manual, a copy of which shall be carried on board.
5. The permit-holder shall at all times follow the laid down security programme duly approved by Bureau of Civil Aviation Security.
6. All aircraft owned/leased and operated by the permit-holder shall be adequately insured at all times against the following risks :
  - i) Hull risk including war risk.
  - ii) Liability for bodily injury or death of a passenger and loss or damage to baggage and/or cargo upto the limits prescribed under the carriage by Air Act, 1972.
  - iii) Comprehensive third party liability.
7. The permit-holder shall submit to the Director General the maximum and minimum fares and freight rates to be charged for transportation of passengers and goods. A tariff showing the current fares and rates which can be charged by the Operator is given in Annexure III hereto.
8. Except with the prior permission of DGCA, no aircraft other than those entered on the Permit shall be used to operate the flights under this Permit.
9. A copy of this Permit shall be kept on board each aircraft.
10. The permit-holder shall submit regularly the statistics regarding financial and operational performance as stipulated by the Government or the DGCA in the form prescribed for the purpose within the stipulated time.
11. The permit-holder shall ensure that the provisions of the Aircraft Act, 1934, the Aircraft Rules, 1937, Aeronautical Information Publication-India, any Order, Direction or Requirement issued by the Government or the Director General under the said Act or Rules and any other statutory provisions are strictly complied with.
12. This scheduled Air Transport Operator's Permit shall not be transferrable.
13. The aircraft shall not be parked during night on a scheduled basis at any aerodrome other than that shown in Annexure-I, except with prior approval of the Director General.
14. For operations to Defence aerodromes, prior approval of the concerned Defence authorities shall be obtained.

### Train Describer System

\*211. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Train Describer System was imported and installed at New Delhi Railway Station through Global Tender for improvement in train control and to increase productivity in terms of number of trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the cost of the system, and the year of installation;

(c) whether the system has been performing well and improving the train control; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The system consists of train control & train information system and has indication panel in Control Centre, display boards at New Delhi, Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin & Visual Display Units in Central Enquiry & Enquiry Offices at New Delhi, Delhi and Hazrat Nizamuddin. The system was commissioned in March, 94 at a cost of approx. Rs. 32 crores out of which 4.35 million ponds was given as grant by Overseas Development Administration - United Kingdom.

(c) and (d). The system has been useful in train control and dissemination of information to passengers. After contract implementation, layout changes have taken place. The necessary modification required for the same is under consideration.

*[Translation]*

### Sub-Committee on Minerals

\*212. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sub-committee on minerals has decided to increase the land ceiling of minerals with a view to encourage foreign companies in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has also decided to increase the limit of capital investment for giving the ownership right to foreign companies; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). No such Sub-Committee has been appointed. However, Ministry of Mines has recently issued guidelines for grant of areas of more than 25 sq. kms for prospecting licences, where aerial survey is contemplated

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Requirement of Railway Wagons

\*213. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated annual requirement of railway wagons of the core sector industries like coal, fertilizer, steel, cement and foodgrains for transportation of their goods during each of the last three years and current year; and

(b) the number of railway wagons given to each of the above industries during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The estimates of freight traffic to be carried by Railways are worked out in million tonnes for every financial year and fixed in consultation with the concerned Ministry and Planning Commission. This estimate is not made in terms of number of wagons. The targets for the commodities of the core sector industries like coal, fertilizer, steel, cement and foodgrains during 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 were as under :-

(Million Tonnes)

Year	Coal	Fertilizer	Steel	Cement	Foodgrains
1993-94	168.00	18.25	12.25	32.50	27.50
1994-95	173.00	22.00	12.00	33.00	22.00
1995-96	181.00	23.00	12.00	31.00	26.00
1996-97 (Full Year)	194.00	23.50	13.50	35.00	27.00
1996-97 (Apr-Sept.)	91.00	10.95	6.30	16.20	12.10

(b) The statistics of actual loading are maintained both in million tonnes and in wagons. Actual loading in

million tonnes for above commodities for the above period was as under : -

Year	Coal	Fertilizer	Steel	Cement	(Million Tonnes)
					Foodgrains
1993-94	167.00	19.50	12.08	32.54	<b>26.68</b>
1994-95	172.38	21.47	12.02	31.45	<b>20.72</b>
1995-96	184.30	23.24	12.06	31.80	<b>25.81</b>
1996-97 (April to Sept.'96)	93.37	9.11	5.82	16.48	<b>14.04</b>

The number of wagons actually loaded with each of the above commodities during the above period was as under : -

(Daily average number of wagons in terms of 4 wheelers)

Year	Coal	Fertilizer	Steel	Cement	Foodgrains
<b>BROAD GAUGE</b>					
1993-94	19192	1974	1493	3052	2500
1994-95	19717	2282	1526	3181	2190
1995-96	20709	2475	1509	3167	2785
1996-97 (April to Sept.'96)	21252	1992	1480	3360	2974
<b>METRE GAUGE</b>					
1993-94	153	306	1	687	572
1994-95	157	267	-	689	332
1995-96	156	299	-	646	380
1996-97 (April to Sept.'96)	132	256	-	574	402

*(English)*

#### New Gold Ores and Diamond Tracts

\*214 SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :  
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has recently identified new gold ores and diamonds bearing tracts in various States particularly in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the impact on nation's economy;

(d) the quantum of gold and diamonds reserves located during each of the last three years; and

(e) the estimated quantum of gold likely to be explored from various gold mines in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and

(b). Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has recently identified Gold Ores Reserves (Gold deposits) in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh & Maharashtra which is as follows :

State	Reserve (m.t. Ore)	Grade (g/t Au)
1	2	3
<b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>		
i) Dona Temple block, Kurnool district	0.4	6.0
ii) Kothapalle block, Anantapur district	0.115	2.65
iii) Kudithanapalle block Chittor District (Karnataka Reass- essment of Zone-II)	0.48	1.2

1	2	3
<b>KARNATAKA</b>		
i) Hira-Buddini block Raichur district	0.47	11.99
ii) Chinmulgund, Dharwar District	1.5	3.0
iii) Ajjanahalli West Block Tumkur district	0.38	1.3
iv) Ajjanahalli Main Block Tumkur District	0.77	2.09
v) G.R. Halli South Block Chitradurga District	0.6	4.0
<b>KERALA</b>		
i) Kappil Sector Malappuram District	0.065	1.75
<b>RAJASTHAN</b>		
i) Anandpuri Bhukia Banswara district (oxidised ore) (upto 10 m depth)	0.015	1.7
(primary ore upto 100 m depth)	0.98	1.49-2.5
<b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>		
i) Gurhar Pahar West Block Sidhi District	2.1	1.28
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>		
i) Parsori West Block Nagpur District	0.137	5.23

**DIAMOND****Andhra Pradesh**

GSI has identified a number of Kimberlite Bodies - the source rock for diamond - in the Maddur - Narayanpet belt. Mahaboobnagar dist. and in Wajrakapur belt, Anandapur dist.

**Madhya Pradesh**

Five Kimberlite bodies were located in the Bahradih-Payalikhad belt of Raipur District during 1992-94.

**Karnataka**

Five Kingerlite bodies have been located in Gulbarg District. Incidence of Diamond in these Kimberlite bodies are yet to be tested.

(c) At the present stage it is premature to make any guess about the impact on nation's economy till commercial exploitation takes place.

(d) The yearwise break up of gold reserves located during the last three years is as follows :-

1993-94 : 1.877 M.T. of ore with grade varying from 1.2 G/T to 5.23 G/T Au.

1994-95 : 1.535 M.T. of ore with grade varying from 1.75 G/T to 11.99 G/T Au.

1995-96 : 4.395 M.T. of ore with grade varying from 1.28 G/T to 3.0 G/T Au.

No quantification of diamond reserve has been established during the last three years.

(e) The estimated reserves of gold are of provisional nature. Further detailed exploration through exploratory mining will be required to assess the proved resources.

**ISD Call Racket**

\*215. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEV RAJ  
BHAI CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rackets involving ISD and STD calls has been unearthed in the capital during 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against those found guilty; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for elimination of these rackets?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Necessary information has been furnished in the enclosed statement.

**STATEMENT**

The following cases of illegal diversion of ISD and STD calls have been unearthed in the capital since 1st January, 1996 :-

i) Diversion of STD/ISD telephone number to a private Hotel-cum-Commission Centre in Basti Nizamuddin. The Department suffered a loss of Rs. 1.5 crores.

ii) A private person got installed two telephones in fake names at his residence in Rehgarpura, Karol Bagh and used the same for making ISD/STD calls. The Department suffered a loss of Rs. 25 lakhs.

iii) A private person in Idgah Exchange got shifted telephone of another private person illegally with the help of a departmental employee and misused the same along with his own telephone for making ISD/STD calls. The Department suffered a loss of 35 lakhs.

The action taken in respect of the three cases mentioned above is as under :-

- i) CBI had arrested for Non Gazetted employees and also owner of the restaurant. The Departmental officials have been placed under suspension. Further investigations are being conducted by the CBI.
- ii) The person concerned was arrested and has been released on bail. The case is being further investigated by the CBI.
- iii) The CBI had arrested one Departmental employee. He has been placed under suspension. The private person who was running the racket is yet to be traced.

A full fledged vigilance cell headed by an SAG level officer with necessary supporting staff has been provided in MTNL to eliminate such rackets. A special cell of CBI consisting of one DSP and 3 Inspectors and other supporting staff has been formed for MTNL, Delhi exclusively to detect cases of diversion of lines and leakage of revenue.

#### Promotion of Heritage Tourism in States

\*216. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from various State Governments regarding the promotion of Heritage Tourism in their States;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). Promotion and development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments. However, financial assistance is extended in respect of specific proposals which are prioritised by the Department of Tourism, Government of India in consultation with the State Governments officials on their merits, inter-se priority and availability of funds.

2. The proposals for which such financial assistance is provided include strengthening/ improvement of infrastructural facilities at tourist centres/ heritage areas, organisation of fairs and festivals, promotional visits by the State Government officials for their participation in international travel fairs/exhibitions, etc.

[Translation]

#### Panel of Producers of Doordarshan

\*217. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doordarshan has formed any panel of producers;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any of them has been assigned any work;
- (d) if not, the reasons for formation of the said panel;
- (e) whether it is also a fact that no information regarding the assignment of works is to be circulated among the empanelled producers; and
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Doordarshan maintains a panel of eminent directors/producers which is updated from time to time keeping in view the programme requirement of Doordarshan, track records of the directors, producers, writers, crew, etc. At present 816 producers/directors are on the panel.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). The proposals for production of programmes are being submitted by the empanelled producers for consideration of Doordarshan from time to time.

#### Revenue Earned by Doordarshan Through Advertisements

\*218. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sources from which Doordarshan/AIR has been earning revenues;

(b) the revenue earned through commercial advertisements during the last three years and upto October, 1996 separately;

(c) the national/regional break up thereof, year-wise; and

(d) the programmes of AIR/Doordarshan which earned the highest revenue during the said period, separately?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CH.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Doordarshan and All India Radio earn their revenues by selling commercial time. In addition, All India Radio also earns revenue from RDS Paging and licence fee from allotment of time slots on FM channels.

(b) and (c). Information is given in the statement attached.

(d) Programme-wise record for annual revenue earning is not maintained. However, feature films and film based programmes on Doordarshan generally give the highest revenue. In case of All India Radio, the maximum revenue comes from programmes on film music.

### STATEMENT

*The gross revenue along with National/Regional break up earned by Doordarshan and All India Radio are as follows:-*

DOORDARSHAN			ALL INDIA RADIO		
Year	National + Metro	Regional	Total Network	National	Regional Total (Rupees in Crores)
1993-94	189.88	183.10	372.98	9.25	55.10 64.35
1994-95	225.52	172.50	398.02	9.10	55.29 64.39
1995-96	270.46	159.67	430.13	12.85	68.12 80.97
1996-97	186.64	82.30	268.94	6.63	40.47 47.10

(upto October, 1996)

The above figures of All India Radio exclude earnings from RDS Paging and allotment of time slots on FM Channels.

### Foreign Aircrafts

\*219. SHRI C.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been several near-misses of foreign aircrafts in the Indian sky;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) had called any meeting of foreign airline operators in this respect;

(d) If so, the details and outcome thereof;

(e) whether the foreign pilots feel it inconvenient to understand the instructions given in English by the Air traffic control;

(f) If so, the details thereof; and

(g) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) :

(a) and (b). During the year 1996, 8 airmiss incidents to foreign aircraft in the Indian skies have been reported. The details are in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). No specific meeting of foreign airline operators for airmiss incidents was called by Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). However, a meeting was held in October, 1995 with Uzbek Airline representatives regarding navigation and usage of English language in Air/Ground communication.

(e) to (g). There is no such report received from foreign pilots.

### STATEMENT

DATE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	CAUSE OF INCIDENT
1. 21.3.96	Airmiss incident between Cathay Pacific 288 and Alitalia 9033 over Delhi.	Human factor
2. 15.3.96	Airmiss between British Airways 12 and British Airways 11 over Nagpur.	Human factor
3. 29.3.96	Airmiss between Singapore 322 and Lauda 1 over Nagpur.	Human factor
4. 11.5.96	Airmiss between Emirates 800 and OMAN 1413 over Trivandrum.	Human factor
5. 1.6.96	Airmiss between Air Lanka 422 and Swiss Air 186 in Yangon FIR.	Human factor
6. 21.7.96	Airmiss between Pakistan 768 and Cathay Pacific 271 in Delhi FIR. Cathay Pacific 271 had to descend to FL-330 to avoid collision.	Human factor
7. 14.9.96	Airmiss between Malaysian and Indian Airlines 979 over PPB.	Human factor
8. 16.11.96	Airmiss between Emirates 082 and KLM 807 over RUNAP in the Bay of Bengal.	Under Investigation

**Agreement between Indian Railways and R.T.D.C.**

[English]

\*220. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement have been signed between Indian Railways and Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation regarding the train palace on wheels running on broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the share of R.T.D.C. in the agreement;

(d) the amount of profit earned/loss suffered by this train during the first year of its operation;

(e) whether any change is proposed to be made in the existing route of train; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) The gross earnings are Rs.788.88 lakhs. The figures of profit/loss are under compilation.

(e) No, Sir,

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Gauge Conversion**

1881. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the gauge conversion works in Mathura- Achhnera and Bandikui-Agra rail lines are likely to be started;

(b) the time by which the gauge conversion works on above lines are likely to be completed;

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard;

(d) whether the Government are considering any scheme to remove the difficulties being faced by the passengers and daily commuters due to the delay in conversion of the said rail lines;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The works will be started and completed during the 9th Five Year Plan.

(c) These works were planned under BOLT. There has been delay owing to unsatisfactory response to the BOLT offer.

(d) and (e). Normal MG services are operating on these sections.

(f) Does not arise.

**Use of Railway Wagons**

1882. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "CAG indicts railways for wagon use" appearing in the Times of India dated July 30, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Comptroller and Auditor General of India in their report for the year 1995 has commented upon the wagon utilisation on Indian Railways for the period 1990-91 to 1993-94. During this period the wagon utilisation had shown less improvement due to poor offering of traffic. However, with effect from 1994-95 and during 1995-96, with upsurge in the economy, most of the wagon utilisation figures have shown marked improvement as will be evident from the table below:

Year	NTKM/ Wagon Day	% Wagon Day	Wagon/Km. Variation	%
1990-91	1407		110.5	
1991-92	1439	2.3	113.2	3.5
1992-93	1457	1.2	116.4	2.4
1993-94	1506	3.3	125.0	7.4
1994-95	1590	5.6	138.5	10.8
1995-96	1754	10.3	148.1	6.9

  

Year	Wagon Turnaround	% Variation
1990-91	11.50	
1991-92	11.10	3.5
1992-93	10.83	2.4
1993-94	10.59	2.2
1994-95	9.89	6.6
1995-96	9.07	8.3

The comparative details for the years 1991-92 vis a vis 1995-96 in respect of wagon utilisation indices, viz., NTKM/per wagon day wagon kilometre per wagon day and wagon turn around for Central, North Eastern, Northeast Frontier, Southern, South Central & South

Eastern Railways is as under :

NTKMs per wagon per day

Railway	1991-92	1995-96
Central	1473	1621
North Eastern	2109	1787
Northeast Frontier	1388	1611
Southern	1245	1372
South Central	1516	1737
South Eastern	1384	1877

Wagon Kilometres per wagon per day

Railway	1991-92	1995-96
Central	112.0	127.0
North Eastern	146.0	157.0
Northeast Frontier	89.0	93.0
Southern	102.1	107.6
South Central	129.9	172.1
South Eastern	87.6	131.1

Comparative Wagon turn round -  
1991-92 & 1995-96

Railway	1991-92	1995-96
Central	6.6	5.1
North Eastern	6.1	6.2
Northeast Frontier	6.4	6.4
Southern	6.2	5.4
South Central	6.2	5.6
South Eastern	6.6	5.1

**Late Running of South Bound Superfast Trains**

1883. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the south bound superfast trains have been found to be habitually running late;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). However, the running of trains get affected at times due to reasons such as accidents, agitations, equipment failures, alarm-chain-pulling, miscreant activities and bad weather etc.

(c) All efforts including intensive chasing and daily monitoring at different levels are being undertaken regularly. In addition, punctuality drives both at Inspectorial and Officers' level are also being launched.

**National Airports in the Country**

1884. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of national airports in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to link new places with air service in the coming years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any steps are proposed to be taken to make air service more efficient and convenient and to remove the difficulties of the passengers going abroad; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) There are 120 civil airports in the country, including 5 international airports, 28 civil enclaves in airports controlled by the Ministry of Defence and 87 airports under the control of the Airports Authority of India.

(b) and (c). Airlinking of new places is decided by the airline operators keeping in view the commercial viability.

(d) and (e). In the domestic sector, private airlines have been providing air services, between various cities, in addition to Indian Airlines. Foreign airlines operate schedule services from the international airports to destinations outside India. However, visa, currency, and other restrictions imposed by foreign Governments have to be followed by Indian nationals for visiting foreign countries.

**Railway Link with Gangtok**

1885. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to connect Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim with Railway net-work;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Since Gangtok is located in difficult mountainous terrain, it would be difficult to construct a Railway line. However, a survey for a new line from Sivok to Gelingola has been taken up.

**Rake in Trivandrum Bound Howrah Express**

1886. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Trivandrum bound Howrah Express has its own rake;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are aware that old bogies are being used in the Trivandrum bound Howrah Express at present;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for providing new bogies to the said Train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No. Sir. 6323/6324 Trivandrum-Howrah Express is having combined link with 6321/6322 Trivandrum-Guwhati Express.

(c) to (e). Vacum brake coaches have been deployed on 6323/6324 Trivandrum-Howrah Express. Railways are now manufacturing only air brake coaches which are being deployed on trains in a phased manner.

#### **Conversion of Theatres into Commercial Complexes**

1887. SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that approx. 500 cinema theatres throughout the country either have been closed or have been converted into commercial complexes creating a threat to film industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a)and (b) According to information available in the films Division, a total of 466 cinema houses remained closed in the entire country during the last 8 years. Establishment and closure of cinema houses is in the private sector and is governed by market forces. Licensing of theatres fall within the purview of State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

*[Translation]*

#### **Ban on Advertisements of Cigarette, Tobacco and Liquor**

1888. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some advertisements on cigarette, tobacco and liquor had been telecast/are being telecast on varios Doordarshan Kendras during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received representations/suggestions to stop or put a legal ban on these advertisements; and

- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

*[English]*

#### **Announcements regarding Arrival and Departure of Trains in Hindi**

1889. SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that annoncements about arrival and departure of trains made in Northern Railway through the public addressing system are in Hindi only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have instructed the Northern Railway to announce in English also in order to mitigate hardships to non-Hindi speaking passengers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). As per existing practice annoncements over public address system are bieng made in Hindi followed by English in Hindi speaking States and also in Regional language or languages concerned in other than Hindi speaking States.

#### **Tourism Development Scheme for Konkan Region**

1890. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have drawn up a tourism development scheme for the Konkan region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the agreements between Konkan Railway Corporation and tour operators from Hyderabad in this regard; and

(d) the role played by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a)and (b). The State Govt. of Maharashtra has identified Sindhu Durg Distt. in Konkan region as special

Tourism area for the development of Tourism in the State and have prepared an integrated infrastructure development plan.

(c) and (d). According to Minstry of Railways, under the agreement between the Konkan Railways Corporation and Patil Tours and Travels Pvt. Ltd., Secunderabad, the tour operator will provide coaches for the luxury tourist train, arrange for facilities like seats, catering facilities, reservation, onboard services and ticketing. The Konkan Railway Corporation will provide all necessary\* facilities for operation of the train, such as, track signalling, station premises, locomotives, tele-communication, train crew, access to and from platform etc.

The operators will pay haulage charges for each trip and also pay 12% of gross monthly turnover as share of profit to Konkan Railway Corporation.

*[Translation]*

#### Extension in Route of Trains

1891. DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new trains, Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Sadbhavna, Varuna etc. started from Delhi via Sultanpur can also run via Faizabad-Ayodhya;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make such arrangement in view of the historical importance of Ayodhya;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir. However there is no Shatabdi Express from Delhi via Sultanpur and Varuna Express is not from Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Due to operational difficulties.

#### North-Eastern Coach Repair Factory

1892. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons working in North-Eastern Coach repairs factory at Bareilly during the last three years;

(b) whether the number of workers in this factory are continuously declining; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The number of staff working in North Eastern Coach repair workshop at Izzatnagar Bareilly during the last three years is given below :-

1.1.1994	:	2691
1.1.1995	:	2598
1.1.1996	:	2483

(b) and (c). The reduction in the number of staff is to the extent of normal retirements in Izzatnagar workshop and lower arising of M.G. Stock POH workload due to gauge conversion. However, to compensate this, manufacture of M.G. D.M.Us and Rail Buses are being undertaken.

*[English]*

#### Increase in Production of R.S.P.

1893. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the production of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel of Rourkela Steel Plant during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount spent on its modernisation;

(c) whether it has come up to the expected target of production;

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

(e) whether the entire plant has been modernised; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) to (d). The target and production of hot metal, crude steel and saleable steel of Rourkela Steel Plant during last three years are as follows :

Unit '000 T

	1993-94		1994-95		1995-96	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Hot Metal	1350	1205	1350	1233	1500	1302
Crude Steel	1320	1148	1340	1178	1500	1205
Saleable Steel	1130	1130	1160	1201	1190	1148

Main reasons for production shortfall are non-completion of modernisation scheme, system disturbances in OSEB grid, poor, and fluctuating quality of indigenous coking coal etc.

The cumulative expenditure on modernisation scheme till September, 1996 is Rs. 3127 crore.

(e) and (f). Modernisation and Improvement of Plant and Equipment are continuous process as per requirement, subject to availability of funds etc. Upgradation/Improvement of Plant and Machinery at Rourkela Steel Plant is being done both as a part of ongoing Modernisation Scheme and also as a part of ongoing Addition/Modification/Replacement (AMR) schemes.

Under AMR schemes, several upgradation/improvement schemes like upgradation of Blast Furnaces, Thyristorisation of Cold Rolling Mills etc. have been undertaken.

The modernisation scheme has been implemented in two phases i.e. Phase-I and Phase-II. In Phase-I the priority schemes for improving the quality and raw materials inputs to different plants-units have been taken up for implementation. Phase-II of Modernisation involves installation of new shops such as Sinter Plant, Basic Oxygen Furnaces, Continuous Casting Shops etc. and upgradation of facilities in Hot Strip Mill area.

#### Air Cargo Traffic

1894. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the target and actual growth of air cargo at main airports during each of the last three years and reasons for shortfalls and growth projections for the next five years;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to handle growing air cargo traffic particularly in regard to strengthening, expansion and modernisation of infrastructure facilities and introduction of automation etc.; and

(c) the estimates of investment required for strengthening/expanding infrastructure network to harness growth potential in Air Cargo for the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) does not fix any targets for air cargo growth. It only provides for efficient uplift of export cargo at the airports. A statement showing growth of air cargo during the last five years and the projections for the next ten years is attached.

(b) and (c). During the next ten years, AAI has plans to expand the cargo terminal buildings, develop perishable cargo terminals at Delhi and Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai and provide modern modern storage/cargo transfer systems. Investments for this

purpose, during the 9th Plan period is estimated at Rs. 385 crores.

#### STATEMENT

Growth of air cargo at main International Airports during the last five years (1991-92 to 1995-96)

(figures in '000 tonnes)

Year	Bombay	Calcutta	Delhi	Madras
1991-92	132.3	11.1	83.8	28.8
1992-93	135.2	13.3	101.9	37.7
1993-94	143.4	15.9	115.4	46.1
1994-95	159.1	16.5	133.2	49.0
1995-96	184.0	19.2	154.6	54.6

Projection of air cargo at main International Airports during next 10 years (1996-97 to 2005-06)

(figures in '000 tonnes)

Year	Bombay	Calcutta	Delhi	Madras
1996-97	206.1	21.5	173	61.2
1997-98	230.8	24.1	194	68.5
1998-99	258.5	27.0	217	76.7
1999-2000	289.05	30.2	243	85.9
2000-01	324.3	33.8	273	96.2
2001-02	358.4	37.3	301	106
2002-03	396.0	41.3	333	118
2003-04	437.6	45.6	368	130
2004-05	483.5	50.4	406	143
2005-06	534.3	55.7	449	159

#### Tourist Projects of Kerala

1895. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of tourist projects in Kerala sanctioned by the Government in the current plan;

(b) the details of the projects completed so far;

(c) the details of the projects under implementation;

(d) whether the Union Government are aware of the tourist potential of the snake boat race in Aranmula, Pathanamthitta district, Kerala; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to encourage this boat race and develop this place as a tourist place?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned financial assistance for 28 projects for the development of tourism in Kerala state during the current plan period.

These projects included construction of Yatri Niwases, tourist lodges, wayside amenities, purchase of boats etc. Out of these projects 5 have been completed by the State Government and remaining are under implementation.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Govt. of India has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 22.40 lakhs to State of Kerala in the year 1994-95 for the construction of a tourist lodge at Aranmula, to provide accommodation facilities to tourists.

#### Quota at Asansol Railway Station

1896. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no quota at Asansol Railway Station for Jodhpur Express, Howrah-Gorakhpur Express, Ganga Sagar Express, Danapur Express, Lal Quila Express and Janata Express.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the people of Asansol are demanding for allotting quota in these trains; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). At present reservation quotas are available at Asansol station by 5047 Howrah-Gorakhpur Poorvanchal Express, 3231 Danapur Express and 5205 Ganga Sagar Express Trains. The details are given as under :

Train No.	Quota	AC-2 Tier	SL
5047 Poorvanchal Express	4	52	
3231 Danapur Express	-	3	
5205 Gangasagar Express	-	47	

As the computerised reservation facility has been provided at Asansol Station linked with the computerised passenger reservation system at Calcutta, the passengers intending to travel in other trains can seek as many reservations as required on first cum first served basis.

[Translation]

#### Exemption in Taxes/Tariff on Steel

1897. SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has requested the Ministry of Finance for more exemption in taxes and tariffs for the steel sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Ministry of Finance thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (c). Ministry of Steel makes recommendations to Ministry of Finance on duty matters before formulation of the budget proposals every year. The recommendations for the year 1997-98 are yet to be finalised by Ministry of Steel.

[English]

#### Reservation of Seats in Separate Coaches

1898. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that thousands of passengers feel inconvenience and great hardship due to seats/berths belonging to a family are allotted in separate coaches and not adjacent to each other under the prevalent computerised reservation system; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for providing accommodation in the same coach?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The computerised system ensures that a group of passengers booked on one ticket is normally provided berths in the same cabin. However, this is not possible in those cases where most of the accommodation has already been booked and other intending passengers have exercised their right of choice for lower berths etc. The reservation clerks have instructions that under such circumstances they should inform the intending passengers that accommodation asked for is available in a scattered manner only.

#### Expenditure incurred on Railway Projects in Mumbai

1899. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimates of total expenditure, the provision and the actual expenditure during 1995-96 and 1996-97 on Borivali-Virar quadruplicating of railway lines (Western Railway), Diva Vasai Project and Diva-Panvel Project (Central Railway), project-wise;

(b) the reasons for less expenditure;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to expedite these projects during this year; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The

details of the projects are as under :

(Figures in crores of Rupees)

Name	Anticipated cost	Outlay	Actual Expenditure	95-96	96-97
1. Vasai Road-Vaitarna Third and Fourth Lines along with flyover with DC traction. (16.64 Kms.)	46.16	7.18	-	7.18	
2. Borivali-Vasai Road- Quadrupling of lines (17.65 kms).	131.34	4.00	1.00	4.00	
3. Diva-Panvel Doubling	47.00	5.00	23.79	1.00	
4. Diva-Vasai Road Doubling	90.00	5.00	5.00	**	

As per decision taken during 1996-97 the quadrupling of Borivali-Virar will be undertaken in lieu of item 1 and 2 above under BOLT Scheme. So, only nominal outlay has been given for the combined scheme in 1996-97.

\*\* Diva-Vasai Road project was cleared in July'96 by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. So, no expenditure was incurred during 1995-96. Work has just commenced in 20 Kms out of 42 Kms.

Actual expenditure at the end of 1996-97 is likely to be the same as per outlay provided for the project.

(c) The projects are being progressed with in the overall constraint of available resources.

(d) The projects are likely to be completed as under

1.	Borivali-Virar quadrupling	2000
2.	Diva-Panvel doubling	1997-98
3.	Diva-Vasai Road Doubling	1998-99

#### Status of Attendant of First Class Pass-holder

1900. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attendant to the first class passholder is still termed as paid-servant even after a lapse of fifty years of independence;

(b) if so, whether term of attendant is proposed to be changed as companion;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are considering to allow companion of the pass-holder to travel with the pass-holder in the same class as no purpose is served by the attendant in course of travel in the other class; and

(e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). Serving/Retired railway employees who are eligible for First Class Privilege Passes are permitted to take an attendant in Second Class who is exclusively employed on salary in the personal service of such such railway

employees. There is no proposal to liberalise the existing facilities due to wide repercussions and financial implications.

#### MRTPC Notice to MTNL

1901. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the MRTPC had issued a notice of enquiry to the MTNL for charging a service tax at the rate of 5 per cent on telephone bills;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the case;

(c) whether the Government propose to withhold the service tax from subscribers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Notice of enquiry was issued by MRTPC to MTNL on 17.9.96 in titled case R.S. Mann Vs. MTNL.

(b) In the aforesaid notice the commission has stated that MTNL has now started charging service tax @ 5% on the amount of bill without any quid-pro-quo. It is further stated that the trade practice of charging service tax without any quid-pro-quo has the effect of imposing unjustified costs/restrictions on the consumers and also amounts to manipulation of prices or conditions of delivery of flow of supplies in the market relating to provision of telephone services in a manner so as to impose on the consumers unjustified costs or

restrictions within the meaning of section 2(o) (ii) of the MRTP Act, 1969. The reply to notice of enquiry is to be filed by MTNL, by 20.1.97 when the matter will be heard by the Commission.

(c) to (e). The service tax is recoverable from the subscribers of telephone connection as per Finance Act, 1994 and rules made thereunder.

#### Removal of Unauthorised Hutment Dwellers

1902. SHRI MADHUKAR SIROTDAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway Administration has agreed in principle to remove the unauthorised hutment dwellers residing by the side of local railway trains tracks in Mumbai suburban section of Central and Western Railways and provide the hutment dwellers alternate railway land, and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Removal of unauthorised occupants on Railway land is a continuous process. Action against the encroachers of Railway land is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. As regards resettlement of slum-dwellers, it is not the responsibility of railway to provide alternate Railway land.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Handling of Air Buses

1903. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the Airports in North Eastern States are capable of handling Airbuses;

(b) if so, names of those airports;

(c) whether such facilities are to be extended to other airports; and

(d) if so, when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Guwahati airport in Assam is suitable for Airbus-300 class of aircraft operations. Dibrugarh in Assam, Imphal in Manipur, Agartala in Tripura and Dimapur in Nagaland are suitable for Airbus-320 class of aircraft operations.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Lilabari (North Lakhimpur) is being developed to make it suitable for Airbus-320 aircraft operations by strengthening and extending the runway. The work is likely to be completed by July, 1998.

#### Stoppage of Bokaro Shatabdi Express at Raniganj

1904. SHRI MEHBOOB ZEHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to provide stoppage of Bokaro Shatabdi Express at Raniganj and commercial stoppage at Gomoh to earn more revenue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the announcement system/music channel in this train has been stopped;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the time by which it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No., Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not found justified.

(d) and (e). Temporary announcement system was functioning for only three months, in an improvised manner for Guard's Van.

(f) There is no proposal to revive it.

#### Increase in Passengers between Howrah-New Delhi Route

1905. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that passengers have been increased between Howrah and New Delhi route many fold;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that persons buying tickets by Kalka Mail, Poorva Express and Rajdhani Express are kept under Waiting List and thereby denied accommodation in these trains;

(c) if so, the details of average daily number of persons on waiting list for Poorva Express, Kalka Mail for all classes during the last two years;

(d) whether it is also a fact that not a single superfast train has been introduced from Howrah to New Delhi for a long time;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the frequency of 2381/2382 is going to be increased to daily in lieu of thrice a week now; and

(g) if not, the alternative considered by the Government to provide accommodation to large number of persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The passenger traffic has increased between New Delhi and Howrah and there is unsatisfied demand also.

The average number of passengers left on the waiting list by 2381/2382, 2303/2304 Poorva Express and 2311/2312 Kalka Mail in different classes varies as under

*Down Direction towards Howrah*

I AC	1
II AC	4 to 8
Sleeper Class	23 to 88

*Up Direction towards Delhi*

I AC	5 to 10
II AC	20 to 40
Sleeper Class	300 to 400

(d) No. Sir. 2421/2422 weekly Rajdhani was introduced between Delhi and Bhubaneshwar via Howrah w.e.f. 1.4.94.

(e) Does not arise

(f) & (g). No. Sir. However, 3039/3040 Howrah-Delhi Janta Express has been restored w.e.f. 1.10.96 providing additional accommodation between Howrah and Delhi.

**Frequency of EMU Trains**

1906. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to augment the frequency of EMU Trains being operated as the Ring Railways Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways are operating any feeder bus service to provide a link between Ring Railway stops and the nearest DTC stops; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

**Telecommunication System in Nizamabad**

1907. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telecommunication system is not satisfactory in Nizamabad town of Andhra Pradesh since

most of the telephones provided there do not function properly; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve telephone services and to attend to the telephone complaints promptly?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The telecommunication services are generally satisfactory

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above. However, following steps are being taken by the Government for further improvement of services:

- i. Replacement of old and worn out equipment.
- ii. Computerisation of fault repair service.
- iii. Replacement of fault prone cables by jelly filled cables.
- iv. Laying of cables in ducts.
- v. Induction of modern testing aids.
- vi. Providing reliable transmission media.

*[Translation]*

**Orders by BSP to HEC, Ranchi**

1908. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of work orders given to HEC, Ranchi during each of the last three years by Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) whether the work orders given were sufficient in number;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the names of the companies to whom the work orders were given during the above period which could have been handled by HEC;

(e) the amount spent on the work orders given to these companies; and

(f) the amount spent on each work orders separately given to HEC during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[English]*

**Policy for Changing Names of Railway Station**

1909. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Home Affairs is alone competent to approve change in the names of Railway Stations; and

(b) the reasons for involvement of other Ministries for change of names of Railway Stations, when the names of Railway Stations are initially decided by his own Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals for change in the name of railway stations are examined by Ministry of Home Affairs as consultations are required with other Departments/Ministries namely Department of Science & Technology, Department of Posts, Ministry of Railways and Survey of India as per guidelines issued by them, also in order to ensure that there is no village or town with the same name in the State/neighbourhood, historical connections are not lost etc.

#### Thado Language Programmes on AIR

1910. DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum demanding broadcasting of THADO language programmes from AIR Station, Diphu, Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A representation dated 11.9.1996 from a local Thadou Organization of Diphu Town was received through Hon'ble M.P., Dr. Jayanta Rongpi requesting that time may be allocated on AIR, Diphu for programmes in different dialects including Thadou.

(c) The principal dialect of broadcast of AIR, Diphu is Karbi. It also broadcasts programmes in Bodo, Dimasa and Assamese. The station under its Access Programming System proposes to give opportunities to distinct groups in the community including the sub-tribes to present programmes in their dialects.

#### Optical Fibre at Sahibganj

1911. SHRI THOMAS HANSDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work for providing optical fibre was to be completed at Sahibganj in Bihar during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether the said work has started from Bhagalpur;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the said facility is likely to be made available in Sahibganj?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of reply to (a) above question does not arise.

(d) By September, 1998.

[Translation]

#### Extension of Train

1912. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers are demanding to extend the Memodren train upto Umargam and Sanjan railway station which runs from Bombay to Danu railway station.

(b) if so, whether the Government have contemplated on said demand so far;

(c) if so, the decision taken in this regard and the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided to the passengers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Extension of Mumbai/Bandra-Jahanu Road DMU Trains/Shuttles upto Umbargam Road and Sanjan has been examined but not found operationally feasible. However, no EMU/EMU trains are running between Mumbai/Bandra and Dahanu Road.

#### Flight between Silchar-Delhi and Calcutta-Guwahati

1913. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of flights between Silchar-Delhi and Calcutta-Guwahati;

(b) whether at present any person willing to go to Silchar from Guwahati has to go via Calcutta;

(c) whether any proposal have been received to link up Silchar-Aizwal and Agartala by air; and

(d) if so, the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Indian Airlines does not operate direct services between Delhi-Silchar. However, Silchar is airlinked with Delhi via Guwahati and Calcutta. There are six weekly flights between Calcutta and Silchar by Indian Airlines and three weekly flights between Silchar and Guwahati by NEPC. Indian Airlines operates 10 times a week flight on Calcutta-Guwahati-Calcutta sector and twice weekly flights on Calcutta-Imphal-Guwahati-Calcutta sector.

(b) NEPC Airlines is operating three flights weekly between Silchar and Guwahati and four flights weekly via Imphal between above two destinations.

(c) No, Sir.  
 (d) Does not arise.

### New Radars

1914. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government asked DGCA to submit a report on the delay in installing the new radars which was long overdue.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C M IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) The Government had asked the DGCA to give a report on the present status of the project for modernisation of air traffic system at Delhi and Mumbai airports and the reasons for delay in the commissioning of the equipment.

(c) The report is under examination.

[English]

### Delhi Doordarshan

1915. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Doordarshan has invited viewers through Electronic media for participation in New Year's Eve Recording programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof.

(c) whether some instructions exist for participation of viewers in recording of some programmes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Various Doordarshan Kendras may invite viewers for participation in special Audience/ Viewers programmes such as Kavi Sammelans, Musical Programmes etc. from time to time.

[Translation]

### Telephone Cable in Morena, M.P.

1916. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of places where telephone cable was laid in the Morena district of Madhya Pradesh from 1993 to October, 1996;

(b) whether the telephone line between Morena to Sheopur remains out of order causing great inconvenience to the subscribers;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government for its repair;

(d) whether telephone cables in Morena are laid as per the criteria fixed therefor;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) whether the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Details of places are given in the attached statement.

(b) No, Sir. whenever it goes faulty, the fault is attended to.

(c) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The cables are laid as per departmental instructions keeping in view the required depth of 1 m.

(f) Not applicable.

(g) In view of (d) above, question does not arise?

Details of places where telephone cables was laid in the Morena District of Madhya Pradesh from 1993 to October, 1996

### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Place
1	2
1.	Morena
2.	Jigni
3.	Matabasaiya
4.	Khadinhar
5.	Dimni
6.	Goth
7.	Ambah
8.	Porsa
9.	Chand ka Pura
10.	Amarpura
11.	Parrikshitpura
12.	Rachhed
13.	Rajodha
14.	Dharamgarh
15.	Mahua
16.	Rajpura
17.	Noorabad
18.	Banmore
19.	Deori
20.	Khadoli
21.	Saraychhola

1	2
22.	Bagchini
23.	Kumheri
24.	Chhera
25.	Mundrawja
26.	Joura
27.	Dhamkan
28.	Bhatpura
29.	Kailaras
30.	Sabalgarh
31.	Sujrma
32.	Pahargarh
33.	Jhundpura
34.	Kulholi
35.	Rampurkalan
36.	Barai
37.	Mangrol
38.	Khargpur
39.	Sumaoly
40.	Sheopurkalan
41.	Karahal
42.	Chandrapura
43.	Harnikheda
44.	Pandola
45.	Baroda
46.	Premsar
47.	Bamuligusail
48.	Nagda
49.	Soikalan
50.	Sothwa
51.	Datardakalan
52.	Manpura
53.	Girdharpur
54.	Dhodhar
55.	Tarrakalan
56.	Raghunathpur
57.	Shampur
58.	Occhepura
59.	Beerpara
60.	Tendra
61.	Iklod
62.	Ghota
63.	Vijaypur
64.	Sahasram

[English]

**Inconvenience to Foreign Tourists**

1917. Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the problems faced by the tourists especially from abroad

commuting to different places and also visiting to tourist centres;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to mitigate the problems faced by the tourists;

(c) the proposed action plan to promote tourism in the country specially in Tamil Nadu and also to make tourist centres an enjoyable and comfortable one;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The Government is aware of inadequate infrastructural facilities at tourist centres in the country. Steps taken by the Union Government to mitigate such problems include Open Sky Policy, introduction of super fast trains by the Railways etc. Financial assistance is also provided to the State Governments for augmenting such facilities based on the specific proposals subject to availability of funds and inter-se-priority.

(c) to (e). Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Department of Tourism extends financial assistance to the State/U.T. Governments for promotion of tourism in the country towards specific proposals.

**AIR/Doordarshan, Silchar**

1918. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has conducted an enquiry against the various allegations and corrupt practices in AIR and Doordarshan offices Silchar in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Central Bureau of Investigation have registered a criminal case against an official of All India Radio, Silchar on 15th May, 1996 for allegedly taking a bribe. Since the concerned officer was detained for a period exceeding 48 hours on criminal charge, he has been placed under deemed suspension as a result of departmental action. So far as Doordarshan Kendra, Silchar is concerned CBI has not conducted any enquiry.

[Translation]

**D.E.T. Office in Deoria**

1919. SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is proposal to open D.E.T. office in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh;

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The workload of Telecom District, Mau which includes Deoria Revenue District, is not sufficient to justify a separate DET for Deoria.

#### Telephone Connections From M.P. Quota

1920. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been delay in installation of telephone connections by the department even after the recommendation and confirmation by the hon'ble Members of Parliament, from their quota; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, generally telephone connections against the sanctions issued from the quota of the Hon'ble M.Ps are provided within specified period of 30 days from the date of issue of sanction orders. However, in some cases delay occurs in implementing such orders due to technical reasons, such as non-availability of cable pairs, exchange capacity etc.

(b) Provision of these telephone sanctions is being monitored in the Telecom Commission Headquarters and strict instructions are issued, wherever delay is noticed, to the CGMs concerned to make all around efforts to provide telephone connections at the earliest.

[English]

#### Rural Post Offices

1921. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Post Offices in the country, category wise and State wise;

(b) the average population covered by Post Offices, State wise; and

(c) the number of Post Offices opened during 1995-96, State wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The total number of Post Offices in the Country, category wise and Postal Circle-wise as on date are given in statement-I

(b) and (c): The average population covered by Post Offices, Postal Circle-wise and the number of Post Offices opened during 1995-96 Postal Circle-wise are given in the enclosed statement-II.

#### STATEMENT - I

##### Details of Post Offices, Category-wise

Name of State	Head Post Offices (HOs)	Departmental Sub Post Offices (DSOs)	Extra Dept. Sub Post Offices (EDSOS)	Extra Deptl. Branch Post Offices (EDBOs)	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh	104	2361	53	13660	16178	
2. Assam	16	581	36	3185	3818	
3. Bihar	42	1425	127	10195	11789	
4. Delhi	9	410	22	113	554	
5. Gujarat	42	1359	47	7470	8918	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	2	-	32	34	
Daman & Diu	-	6	-	11	17	
6. Haryana	15	452	14	2116	2597	
7. Himachal Pradesh	17	441	18	2272	2748	
8. Jammu & Kashmir	9	240	31	1328	1608	
9. Karnataka	69	1770	301	7659	9799	
10. Kerala	51	1445	527	3013	5036	
Lakshadweep	-	6	3	1	10	
11. Madhya Pradesh	52	1363	98	9720	11233	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Maharashtra	61	2087	129	10026	12303
	Goa	2	102	3	141	248
13.	North East					
	Arunachal Pradesh	1	44	-	238	283
	Manipur	1	48	-	622	671
	Meghalaya	2	61	2	416	481
	Mizoram	1	38	4	340	383
	Nagaland	1	38	-	260	299
	Tripura	3	79	14	605	701
14.	Orissa	35	1160	195	6682	8072
15.	Punjab	21	756	10	3057	3844
	Chandigarh	1	43	1	7	52
16.	Rajasthan	55	1390	103	8752	10300
17.	Tamil Nadu	92	2738	224	9017	12071
	Pondicherry	1	36	-	59	96
18.	Uttar Pradesh	86	2840	458	16700	20084
19.	West Bengal	44	1623	344	6470	8481
	Sikkim	1	17	7	171	196
	Andaman & Nicobar	1	25	7	64	97
TOTAL		835	24986	2778	124402	153001

## STATEMENT-II

Statement showing number of Post Offices during 1995-96 and Average Population served

S.No.	Name of Circle	Post Offices sanctioned during 1995-96		Average population served per Post Office
		Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices (EDBOs)	Departmental sub-post Offices (DSOs)	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	3	4103
2.	Assam	-	1	5887
3.	Bihar	-	2	7338
4.	Delhi	-	2	17035
5.	Gujarat	-	1	14643
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	3049
	Daman & Diu	-	-	5975
6.	Haryana	1	2	6361
7.	Himachal Pradesh	-	2	1896
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	2	3780
9.	Karnataka	-	3	9805
10.	Kerala	-	14.	5789
	Lakshadweep	-	-	5173
11.	Madhya Pradesh	-	3	9256

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Maharashtra	-	3	6417
	Goa	-	-	4693
13.	North-East			
	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	3059
	Manipur	-	-	2722
	Meghalaya	-	-	1791
	Mizoram	-	-	1791
	Nagaland	-	-	4065
	Tripura	-	-	3933
14.	Orissa	-	-	3922
15.	Punjab	1	3	5190
	Chandigarh	-		12814
16.	Rajasthan	-	6	4276
17.	Tamil Nadu	-	3	4583
	Pondicherry	-	-	7894
18.	Uttar Pradesh	-	3	6942
19.	West Bengal	-	3	8030
	Sikkim	-	-	2074
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	-	-	2866
TOTAL		4	53	5517

#### Foreign Visits sponsored by IRCON

1922. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Construction Company Limited (IRCON) has sponsored foreign visits of private individuals involving out-go of foreign exchange, including payments of their air passage;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including circumstances under which these visits were sponsored;

(c) whether the Government have also received complaints about financial and administrative irregularities in IRCON;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

#### Interest Free Loans

1923. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any scheme to provide interest free loans for self-employment to these unemployed who have not got any job even after passing of 5 years of getting themselves registered with the Employment Exchanges; and

(b) if so, the number of such unemployed youth who have been given loans till November, 1996, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Complaints against Western Railway Authorities

1924. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints against Western Railway authorities regarding charges of violation of Railway rules pertaining to the recruitment/promotion/posting and allotment of accommodation to the persons belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Western Railway administration have received representations-cum-complaints from employees including Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes(SC/STs) regarding clarification on promotional policy arising out of various judgements passed by the Central Administrative Tribunals(CAT). Based on the facts and as per extant rules the representations/complaints have been disposed of and in some cases the position have been clarified to the

concerned employees including those belonging to SC/STs. Supreme Court's orders for revision of reservation policy to provide the reservation in promotion on posts and not on vacancies will be decided by the Department of Personnel and Training.

#### Armed Escorts to Foreign Tourists

1925. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that foreign tourists visiting especially Bihar will be provided armed escorts;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether tourists were killed in Bihar recently; and
- (d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) To provide security and protection to the foreign tourists visiting important places in Bihar the State Government has directed the concerned District Authorities to provide intensive day and night patrolling.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### Internet Service

1926. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Internet Access Service facilities are available in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof region-wise;
- (c) whether the Government propose to privatise Internet Access services in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following is the list of stations where Internet Access nodes from DoT/VSNL are available:

<u>NORTH</u> -	New Delhi, Lucknow, Kanpur, Chandigarh.
<u>EAST</u> -	Calcutta
<u>WEST</u> -	Ahmedabad, Mumbai and Pune.
<u>SOUTH</u> -	Hyderabad, Bangalore, Chennai, Mysore (Software Technology Park).

The above nodes can be accessed on dial up basis. The nodes situated in metro cities can be accessed by leasing a data communication circuit from any wherein the country.

(c) to (e). Modalities for possible introduction of private operators offering Internet access are under examination.

#### Accidents in Hindalco

1927. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) the nature and number of accidents occurred in Hindalco at Renukoot in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;
- (b) the causes of these accidents;
- (c) the number of labourers killed and injured in these accidents;
- (d) the compensation paid to the kins of those killed and injured labourers; and
- (e) the measures taken to check recurrence of such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### Performance of ESI

1928. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the shortage of doctors, specialists, medical equipments, medicines and inadequate number of lady doctors in ESI hospitals/dispensaries;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken being taken for restructuring, upgrading and modernising of ESI network and providing better services;
- (d) the expenditure incurred on ESI hospitals/dispensaries during each of the last three years; and
- (e) the number of defaulter employees availing the medical facilities during each of the last three years, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). In Delhi and NOIDA the responsibility for administration of medical care under the ESI Act, 1948 vests in the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC). Even though the expenditure on medical care is shared by the ESIC and the State Govts./U.T. Administrations in the ratio of 7:1, the responsibility for administration of medical care at other places vests in the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. The ESI Corporation has fixed norms for providing adequate equipments, doctors, specialists etc. in ESI Hospitals/Dispensaries. There have been sporadic complaints about shortage of doctors, medicines, equipments etc. in the ESI hospitals. Such complaints, as and when received, are brought to the

notice of the concerned State Government for taking suitable remedial action. The Corporation has also set up a General Purpose Sub-Committee comprising inter-alia, of Members of Parliament which visits ESI hospitals/dispensaries in two or three states each year. The deficiencies pointed out by the Sub-Committee in this regard are referred to the concerned State Government for appropriate action.

(d) The requisite information is as under :-

Year	Amount (Rs.in lakh)
1993-94	33056.87
1994-95	35079.43
1995-96	38252.73

(e) Under the ESI Act benefits are payable/receivable if the contributions are payable but not actually paid. As no discrimination is made in this regard between the employees of defaulting and non-defaulting factories/establishments, information on defaulter employees availing medical facilities under the ESI Scheme, is not maintained.

#### Development of Hampi

1929. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have asked the Government of Karnataka to prepare a project report for the development of Hampi in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Karnataka has sent a project report for the comprehensive development of Hampi, now declared as a World Heritage place;

(c) the estimated cost of the project;

(d) whether there is any proposal to secure foreign assistance to take up the above project;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought Rs.20 crores for Tourism related works in the State; and

(g) if so, the details of the tourism related work for which Central assistance has been sought by the Government of Karnataka.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). The Government of Karnataka has sent a project proposal for integrated Development of Hampi A World Heritage Centre. The estimated cost of the project is Rs.3,962.31 millions.

(d) and (e). The project proposal has been sent to Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance for their consideration for foreign assistance.

(f) and (g). The Government of Karnataka has sought Rs.20 crores for Central Financial Assistance for various projects such as upgradation of information counter, flood lighting of heritage monuments, upgradation of hotels, publicity efforts etc.

[Translation]

#### Irregularities in Employment Exchanges

1930. SHRI RAJENDERAGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn towards the irregularities taking place in employment exchanges; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The Employment Exchanges function under the administrative control of the respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The functioning of the Employment Exchanges is kept under review by them for improving their functional efficiency. Guidelines are also issued from time to time by the Central Government to the States for adopting simplified and uniform procedures in the matter of registration and placement by the employment exchanges.

#### Post Offices under Delhi Postal Circle

1931. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :

SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of post offices under the Delhi Postal Circle modernised during 1994, 1995 and 1996, till now;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the criteria fixed for the selection of contractors;

(d) whether criteria has been followed strictly while awarding contracts; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken by the Government in the regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Programme of modernisation of post offices in Delhi Circle has been implemented from the year 1994-95 under successive annual plans of the Department of Post. Year-wise break-up of the number of post offices modernised under

Delhi Circle alongwith the expenditure incurred is given below :

Year	No. of Post Offices	Expenditure incurred (Rs.)
1994-95	15	46,03,975
1995-96	33	1,41,55,291
1996-97	1	1,03,826
	49	

(c) Selection of contractors and award of work are done on the basis of competitive tenders as per guidelines laid down in the relevant CPWD Manual.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Telecast Centres of Doordarshan, Maharashtra

1932. SHRI VIJAY ANNAJI MUDE :

SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the evaluation made regarding the expenditure likely to be incurred for accomplishing the Doordarshan of AIR projects in Maharashtra;

(b) the expenditure likely to be incurred by the time of completion, of these projects;

(c) the telecast centre of Doordarshan functioning in the State, location-wise;

(d) whether requisite staff have been provided for installation and maintenance of these centres; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Statements in respect of All India Radio and Doordarshan are in Statement I and Statement II respectively.

(d) and (e). TV Transmitters and Studios presently functioning along with their staff position in the State of Maharashtra are given in Statement III.

#### STATEMENT - I

S.No.	Name of the Project	Estimated Cost original (SFC/EFC AMOUNT) (Rs. IN LAKHS)	Likely Expenditure (Rs. IN LAKHS)
1.	LRS, Osmanabad	175.00	267.70 (Revised)
2.	5 KW FM Tr., Mumbai (2nd Stereo)	310.00	310.60
3.	Parbhani Type-I Studio	139.20	180.50 (Revised)
4.	Replacement & Upgradation of 10 KW MW Tr., to 20 KW Power at Parbhani	166.25	166.25
5.	Regional Workshop, Mumbai	114.80	177.77 (Revised)
6.	LRS, Malwan	327.40	327.40
7.	Type-III Studios Borivilli (Gulf Service), Mumbai	403.84	873.16 (Revised)
8.	Refurbishing of Studios (Phase-II), Mumbai	150.10	150.10

#### STATEMENT - II

Statement indicating Doordarshan projects with cost, etc. as referred to in reply to parts (a), (b) & (c) of the Lok Sabha unstarred question No. 1932 for 5.12.1996

STATE	UNDER IMPLEMENTATION	CAPITAL COST ORIGINAL	(Rs. IN LAKHS) REVISED
1	2	3	4
<b>MAHARASHTRA PPC</b>			
	MUMBAI (Exp.)	2018.10	3935.99
	NAGPUR (Aug.)	263.60	
	PUNE	968.87	

1	2	3	4
LPT			
	SHIRPUR	100.00	
	NAVAPUR	97.00	
	MANGAON		
	KHOPOLI	97.00	
	MAHAD	97.00	
	UMARKHED	97.00	
	SATANA	97.00	
	SIRONCHA	97.00	
	CHANDUR	97.00	
	AHERI	97.00	
	CHIKOLI	97.00	
	AMBET	100.00	
VLPT			
	MALWAN	83.00	
	MALKAPUR	83.00	
	BHOKAR	83.00	
	BADLAPUR	To be sanctioned	

### STATEMENT - III

Statement as referred to in reply to Parts (d) & (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1932 for 5.12.96

*TV Transmitters (as on 30.11.96) and Studios functioning in the State along with status of staff.*

State	Existing
1	2
<b>MAHARASHTRA</b>	
PPC	
Mumbai	
Nagpur	
HPT	
Ambajogai	
Aurangabad	
Mumbai	
Mumbai (DDII)	
Mumbai (DD III)	
Nagpur	
Pune	
LPT	
Achalpur	
Acot	
Ahmednagar	
Akluj	
Akola	
Amalner	
Amravati	
Arvi	

1	2
Barshi	
Bhusawal	
Bid	
Brahmapuri	
Buldana	
Chandrapur	
Chikhli	
Chiplun	
Devrukh	
Dhule	
Digrur	
Garhchiroli	
Gondia	
Hinganghat	
Hingoli	
Ichalkaranji	
Jalgaon	
Jalna	
Kankauli	
Karad	
Karanja (Akola)	
Khamgaon	
Kinwat	
Kolhapur	
Malegaon	
Manmad	
Mehekar	
Mhasle	
Morshi	

1	2
Nanded	
Nandurbar	
Nasik	
Osmanabad	
Pandharpur	
Parbhani	
Pusad	
Rajapur	
Ratnagiri	
Rissod	
Sangamner	
Sangli	
Satara	
Shahad	
Sholapur	
Umerga •	
Wani	
Wardha	
Washim	
Yavatmal	
Nagpur (DD II)	
VLPT	
Chikaldhara	
Junnar	
Karjat	
Khed	
Transposer	
Aurangabad	
Staff to be sanctioned by competent authority	
Truncated Staff sanction available.	
Staff sanction for all other stations is available.	

*[English]*

#### National Policy for Print Media

1933. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Newspaper Society had rejected the move for proposed national policy for print media;

(b) whether the society has also opposed any change in the newsprint import policy of Government;

(c) whether the Newspaper Society has expressed disappointment at the 5% service tax on advertisement imposed in 1996-97 budget;

(d) if so, the details of the other objection made by the society; and

(e) the reaction of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M.

IBRAHIM) : (a) The Indian Newspaper Society has submitted to the Ministry that no Media Policy is required, especially in the print media. This was in the context of preparation of a Working Paper on the National Media Policy by a Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry under the chairmanship of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

(b) The Indian Newspaper Society has opposed the imposition of 10% Customs Duty on newsprint (other than glazed).

(c) and (d). The Society had represented that the service tax on advertising proposed in 1996-97 budget would have an adverse effect on economic growth and on the growth of media and further that it directly affects the freedom of commercial information.

(e) The Government has imposed service tax, inter alia, on advertising services @ 5% w.e.f. 1.11.1996.

#### Modernisation of Purulia Railway Station

1934. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise Purulia Railway Station in South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the present status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Improvement works such as provision of station building (Phase I) has been completed and works of provision of concourse area, paving of platforms and provision of train indicator board have also been taken up and are expected to be completed by 1997-98.

#### Number of Post Offices in U.P.

1935. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices, postal assistants, postmen and letter boxes in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Allahabad District, during 1994 and 1996;

(b) the time when assessment for staff in group 'C' & 'D' was carried out in U.P.;

(c) whether the increase in postal services has not been commensurate with the increase in population in U.P. and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) During 1994, there were 2003<sup>r</sup> Post Offices, 11176 Postal Assistants, 4599 Postmen and 79337 letter boxes in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Out of these, 548 Post Offices, 429 Postal Assistants, 325 Postman and 1908 letter boxes were in Allahabad District. During the year 1996, there were 20040 Post Offices, 10962 Postal Assistants, 4735 Postmen and 93529 letter boxes. Out of these 548 Post Offices, 412 Postal Assistants, 332 Postmen and 3237 letter boxes were in the District of Allahabad.

(b) Assessment for staff in Group 'C' and 'D' is being carried out regularly as per programme of review of establishment. It is a continuous process.

(c) and (d). Post Offices are opened on the norm based justification and availability of resources. 34 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 15 Departmental Sub Post Offices have been opened in the State of Uttar Pradesh so far during the current Annual Plan. Apart from these, Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Scheme has been introduced in 1995 with the objective of providing basic postal facilities in villages which do not have a Post Office but where one is justified as per norms. During 1995-96, 249 Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendras have been sanctioned in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

#### **Amendment in Employees Pension Scheme**

1936. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) after the issuance of Notification on 28.2.1996 amending the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, the number of more employees likely to be benefited; and

(b) the number of applications for exemption were received from Industries under the Scheme and the number out of these were disposed of with in the stipulated time of six months?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Through notification dated 28.2.96, the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 has been extended on optional basis to the employees drawing wages exceeding Rs.5000/- p.m. The employees drawing wages even on piece rate basis have been specifically made coverable under the Scheme. At this stage it is not possible to indicate the number of employees likely to benefit with this amendment.

(b) Under the Employees' Pension Scheme, the EPF Organisation is required to scrutinise the applications for grant of exemption and submit the same to the appropriate Govt. alongwith their recommendations for decision. So far, no such application has been received by the Central Govt. from the EPF Organisation.

#### **Derailment of Trains**

1937. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Shamli-Delhi Passenger

train D.M.U.-2 S.D. was derailed on October 6, 1996 between Kasimkhedi and Bawali of Meerut District and a goods train of Central Railway, Manmad-Ahmednagar derailed near Mahadidam on September 4, 1996:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiries have been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the precautionary measures taken/proposed to be taken to avoid the recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Details of the two accidents are as under:

(1) On 5.10.96, 9 coaches of 2SD DMU Passenger train derailed between Qasimpur Kheri and Baoli stations of Delhi Division, Northern Railway. An enquiry was conducted by a Committee of Officers and the report of the enquiry committee is awaited.

(2) On 4.9.96, 34 wagons of BPTV TM goods train derailed in Manmad station yard. Enquiry conducted by a Committee of Officers has attributed this derailment to failure of the driver to keep his train under control and entering into the sand hump.

(e) following measures have been taken to improve safety:

(i) The work of track circuiting has been accelerated on the trunk routes and important main lines.

(ii) Modification of the Signalling Circuitry is being carried out to minimise chances of human error in causing accidents

(iii) Auxiliary warning system for giving advance warning about 'Signals at Danger' to the driver of the running train has been commissioned on Bombay suburban sections.

(iv) There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance.

(v) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being progressively used.

(vi) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.

(vii) To prevent cases of cold breakage of axles, RCH Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles.

- (viii) Whistle boards/speed breakers and road signs have been provided at unmanned level crossings and visibility for drivers has been improved.
- (ix) Audio-Visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.
- (x) Steps have been taken to prevent inflammable and explosive materials from being carried in passenger trains.
- (xi) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have been modernised including use of Simulators for training of drivers.
- (xii) Refresher courses are regularly organised at specified intervals.
- (xiii) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training.
- (xiv) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff.

#### Outlay of Department of Posts

1938. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the approved outlay in respect of Deptt. of Post was far less than the outlay proposed by the Deptt. of Post during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the schemes suffered due to curtailment/reduced outlay during the period with specific reference to the schemes pertaining to Gujarat State?

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Approved outlay in respect of Department of Post for the last three years of the 8th Plan was less than outlay proposed by the Department, as seen from details below:-

Year	Proposed Outlay	Approved Outlay
	(Rs. Cr.)	(Rs. Cr.)
1993-94	84.93	67.17
1994-95	119.00	92.00
1995-96	150.96	85.00

(c) 17 Building Projects in Gujarat Circle suffered due to less allotment as per details below :-

Year	Demand	Allotment
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1993-94	5,84,20,000	4,32,35,000
1994-95	6,67,55,000	5,17,70,000
1995-96	4,02,74,000	3,45,74,000

#### Selling of Surplus Railway Land

1939. SHRI SATYAJITSINH D. GAEKWAD : SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the surplus railway land sold during the last three years and as on date;

(b) the amount earned therefrom, zone-wise;

(c) the purpose for which this money has since been spent; and

(d) the surplus railway land proposed to be sold during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Nil, Sir.

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

[Translation]

#### Construction of over Bridge at Ranchi

1940. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Members of Parliament have requested the Government for construction of over-bridge at Ranchi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The system of replacing busy level crossings by Road Over/Under bridges is that State Govts. make proposals giving priorities. Railway then consider such of them for inclusion in Works Programme for which the State Govt. have completed the pre-requisite preliminary formalities.

#### Payment of Compensation

1941. DR. VALLABH Bhai KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the amount of compensation paid to Kith and Kin of the persons killed/injured due to train accidents during the last three years?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ)** : An amount of Rs.8.91 Crores has been paid to the Kith and Kin of the persons killed/injured in train accidents during the last three years.

**Flight from Delhi to Rajkot and Ahmedabad**

1942. **SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in Saurashtra region of Gujarat, there is only one Airport, i.e: Rajkot;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to introduce flight from Delhi to Rajkot and Ahmedabad and vice-versa;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM)** : (a) No, Sir. There are four airports belonging to Airports Authority of India in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat located at Bhavnagar, Keshod, Porbandar, Rajkot and one civil enclave at Jamnagar.

(b) to (d). NEPC Airlines is operating a daily flight on sector Delhi-Rajkot via Mumbai. Delhi is airlinked with Ahmedabad with two daily flights by Indian Airlines and one daily flight by jet Airways direct between Delhi and Ahmedabad and three weekly flights by Indian Airlines via Jaipur.

*[Translation]*

**Abolition of Contract System**

1943. **SHRI N.J. RATHVA** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to abolish contract system for cleanliness at various railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details of such railway stations, location-wise in the country, particularly in Western Railway;

(c) whether the Government have made any alternative arrangement for cleanliness at these railway stations or considering any proposal to appoint scavengers at these railway stations;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the names of railway stations where permanent/temporary scavengers are appointed; and

(e) the details of progress made in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ)** : (a) and (b). A Statement is attached.

(c) to (e). Railways propose to undertake cleanliness of stations departmentally. For this, various

steps like filling up of vacancies of safaiwalas, introduction of "Pay & Use" toilets Scheme, use of modern equipments, etc. will be undertaken.

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. As on 1.12.96 at 96 stations, cleanliness work had been entrusted to private parties. Of these, 24 stations are on Western Railway, the names of which are as under:-

1.	Surat	13.	Bandra Terminus
2.	Vikramgarh Alot	14.	Ramganj Mandi
3.	Bhawani Mandi	15.	Morak
4.	Lakheri	16.	Indergarh
5.	Gangapur City	17.	Kota Jn
6.	Shri Mahavirji	18.	Hindaun City
7.	Bayana	19.	Fatehpur Sikri
8.	Anta	20.	Dahid
9.	Thalera	21.	Jalindri
10.	Upramal	22.	Shampur
11.	Mandalgarh	23.	Baraundri
12.	Parsoli	24.	Bassi-Berissal

The contracts will not be renewed after their expiry.

*[English]*

**Modernisation of Exchanges in Gujarat/Maharashtra**

1944. **SHRI HARIN PATHAK** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Electronic/electro-mechanical Exchanges set up, so far in the country, State-wise, particularly in Gujarat and Maharashtra district-wise, exchange-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up such new Exchanges during 1996-97 and 1997-98; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA)** : (a) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

*[Translation]*

**Mica Reserves in Bihar**

1945. **SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH** : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of mica reserves in Bihar, location-wise;

(b) whether the mica reserves are declining;  
 (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and  
 (d) the steps taken by the Government to set-up mica-based industries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) According to the tentative estimates of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), the mica reserves in Bihar as on 1.4.90 are given as under:-

(Unit: Kg.)

DISTRICT	RECOVERABLE RESERVES
Giridih	463,480
Hazaribagh	929,490
Nawada	12,161,070
Bihar (total)	13,554,040

(b) and (c). The production of mica from the identified reserves is a continuous process and as such the resources are declining.

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

*[English]*

#### Production of IISCO

1946. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to cut down the production at the Indian Iron and Steel Company Limited (IISCO); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) SAIL do not propose to cut down the production at IISCO.

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

#### Inconvenience to Passengers due to Dislocation or Rail Traffic

1947. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA T : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to dislocation of Rail traffic between Gudur/Nellore and Madras, passengers travelling to north from Vijayawada section have been subjected to lot of inconvenience;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce superfast trains between Vijayawada-New Delhi, Vijayawada-Lucknow etc; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, train services to the North including Delhi have since been restored.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Direct Railway Link to Chandigarh with Major Cities of Punjab

1948. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Chandigarh, the capital of Punjab, has not been linked by rail even with the major cities of Punjab;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide railway link with Chandigarh from all major cities of Punjab;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Chandigarh is linked by rail to all major cities in Punjab via Ambala Cantt.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Construction of a new line between Rajpura and Chandigarh via Sambhu-Lalru has been taken up which will provide a more direct connection between Chandigarh and other major cities of Punjab. This link will reduce distance to Chandigarh by 23 Km. from all Stations in Punjab and also save engine reversal time of 20 minutes. The work is targetted for completion in December 1998.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Jammu Keshwari Srinagar Air Services

1949. SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for Jammu-Keshwari-Srinagar and Srinagar-Rajouri-Jammu air services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is also helicopter service for Gurez (Baramulla) and Tandgader in (Kupwara); and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Pawan Hans Ltd., at present, has no proposal to introduce helicopter services for Gurez (Baramulla) and Tandgader in (Kupwara) since the fare would be very high making them commercially unviable.

#### Tourism Potentiality in West Bengal

1950. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to make a comprehensive plan of action to develop Darjeeling, Sunderbans, Shankarpur, Kalimpong and different parts of West Bengal keeping in view to generate employment scope; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to prepare comprehensive plan of action for development of Tourism in the States, however, the Department of Tourism provides financial assistance for specific project proposals to the State Governments based on their merits inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

The Government of West Bengal has prepared a project Report for the Development of Tourism in Sunderbans at an estimated cost of Rs. 600 lakhs and development of Tourism facilities at Alipurduar & adjoining areas at an estimated cost of Rs. 552.25 lakhs.

#### Coverage of AIR Network in States

1951. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of population covered by AIR stations State/UT-wise;

(b) whether a number of representations have been received by the Government to expand AIR Network in the country;

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

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to provide cent percent coverage to all the States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The details of percentage of population covered by AIR Stations in various States and Union Territories are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c). Since 01.04.94, a total of 25 representations for expansion/development of AIR network in the country have been received from different states as per details at enclosed Statement-II.

(d) and (e). Barring a few isolated pockets, radio coverage on Medium Wave/FM Transmitters is available throughout the country. In addition, radio coverage across the entire country is also available on Short Wave Band. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to reach hitherto uncovered areas subject to availability of necessary infrastructure facilities and resources.

#### STATEMENT-I

All India Radio

State-wise Coverage During Day-time

1	2	Population % covered
		3
<b>I. STATES</b>		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	99
3.	Assam	86
4.	Bihar	99
5.	Goa	99
6.	Gujarat	99
7.	Haryana	99
8.	Himachal Pradesh	88
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	97
10.	Karnataka	96
11.	Kerala	96.5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	97
13.	Maharashtra	99
14.	Manipur	99
15.	Meghalaya	96
16.	Mizoram	95
17.	Nagaland	97
18.	Orissa	98
19.	Punjab	99
20.	Rajasthan	98.5
21.	Sikkim	95
22.	Tamil Nadu	99
23.	Tripura	99
24.	Uttar Pradesh	97.5
25.	West Bengal	99

1	2	3
<b>II. UNION TERRORIES</b>		
1.	A & N Islands	85
2.	Chandigarh	*99
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	*99
4.	Delhi	*99
5.	Daman & Diu	*99
6.	L & M Islands	*99
7.	Pondicherry	*99
<b>NATIONAL COVERAGE</b>		
*Coverage in these states can normally be taken as 100% i.e. without taking into consideration the special requirement of certain situations.		
<b>STATEMENT - II</b>		
S.No.	Name of the State from which the Representations Received	No. of Representations Received
1.	Maharashtra	1
2.	Tripura	5
3.	Assam	3
4.	Nagaland	2
5.	West Bengal	1
6.	Sikkim	1
7.	Uttar Pradesh	2
8.	Gujarat	2
9.	Mizoram	2
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	3
11.	Orissa	1
12.	Karnataka	1
13.	Bihar	1
		25

**Modernisation of Kanyakumari Railway Station**

1952. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to modernise the Kanyakumari Railway Station; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Kanyakumari railway station is provided with amenities

commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic handled and there is no proposal for further modernisation at present.

[Translation]

**Passenger Amenities at the Kharagpur Junction**

1953. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the platform of Kharagpur Junction under South Eastern Railway is the longest platform in Asia and many complaints have been received from the passengers that platform Nos. 5 and 6 are very dirty, fans on this platform are not operational and there has been unauthorised occupation by people who are using these platforms as their permanent residence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the officials of South Eastern Railways have been found responsible for it;

(d) if so, whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(e) the action taken against the responsible officials, and

(f) the steps taken for providing facilities to passengers at the Kharagpur Junction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). All the six platforms at Kharagpur Junction are kept neat and clean and trains are received regularly. At times migrant banjara groups stay on the platforms while awaiting for trains to their destination.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise

(f) Amenities commensurate with the volume of passenger traffic have been provided at Kharagpur Junction.

[English]

**Locking of Reservation Quota at Jamnagar Railway Station**

1954. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of complaints have been received in regard to Locking of Reservation quota at Jamnagar Railway Station in Rajkot Division of Western Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Demands have been received from MPs/MLAs and others requesting earmarking of reservation quota exclusively for Jamnagar Station.

(c) The request has not been agreed to as computerisation provides free access to available berths in trains to all stations linked to a system.

[Translation]

#### Post Offices in M.P.

1955. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Post Offices functioning in rented buildings in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct their own buildings ;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount allocated for this purpose during the year 1996-97 ; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The number of Post Offices functioning in rented buildings in Madhya Pradesh as on 31.3.1996 is as follows :

Head Post Offices	=	6
Sub Post Offices	=	1185
<b>Total</b>		<b>1191</b>

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As on date, following 8 Department Post Office Buildings are under construction :-

- (i) Topkhana Post Office
- (ii) Korba Head Post Office
- (iii) Nowgaon Post Office
- (iv) Khurai Post Office
- (v) Pithampur Post Office
- (vi) Ambagarh Chowki Post Office
- (vii) Katangi Post Office
- (viii) Shujalpur Mandi Post Office.

The Departmental buildings for the remaining Post Offices functioning in rented buildings will be constructed subject to the availability of funds, land and other resources.

(d) A sum of Rs.24.37 lakhs has been allotted upto 31.12.96, during the year 1996-97, for construction of Departmental Post Office Buildings in Madhya Pradesh.

(e) As in (c) above.

#### Drinking Water Facility

1956. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the passengers travelling in the Shatabdi Express are earlier given two bottles of mineral waters;

(b) if so, whether this facility has now been changed; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. Only one bottle of 1000 ml. water is admissible to each passenger and additional water bottle is given only on payment.

(b) and (c) On Central Railway alone, New Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express passengers were being given one bottle with each meal. On review it has been rectified and only one bottle is given to each passenger of this train since April, 1996 as admissible.

#### Gauge Conversion

1957. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert narrow/ metre gauge lines into broad gauge lines in Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have identified such lines;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any guiding principles with a view of priorities for this work; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Gauge Conversion works are taken up to create additional capacity by developing alternative routes and on strategic/operational considerations and the routes to be converted are selected on these considerations. Some lines have also been selected to bring speedy development in areas having the potential, but which remained backward for want of a B.G. rail infrastructure.

[English]

**High Quality Air Transport Services**

1958. SHRI VIJAY PATEL :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has great potential as a tourist destination;

(b) whether lack of adequate and high quality air transport services has blunted India's potential for tourism development and growth;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to improve frequency and quality of air services in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Improvement of air transport services is a continuous process which involves huge investments for fleet acquisition, construction of airports and other infrastructure facilities.

(d) Opening of the domestic sector to private airlines has injected an element of competition in aviation industry and in-turn has improved the frequency and quality of air services in the country. Indian Airlines has increased its capacity deployment by 15% and taken steps to improve the quality of services both on ground and in the air. Air India is also taking steps to improve its product, image and on-time performance to attract more passengers and to improve revenue. New destinations have been added in the recent past to improve passenger satisfaction. Airports Authority of India is planning to spend Rs.3490 crores during 9th Plan period for upgrading various airports.

**Target of Expansion**

1959. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the target of expansion of Postal Network in the country particularly in regard to opening of Extra Departmental Branch Officers (EDBOs), upgradation of EDBOs to Departmental Sub Officers (DSOs), supply of letter boxes to Rural & Tribal areas during the Eighth Plan, State-wise separately.

(b) whether during 1994-95 the physical targets of various programmes of expansion of postal network have been drastically curtailed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target set out at the beginning of the current plan?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The target of expansion of Postal Network in the country particularly with regard to opening of Extra Departmental Branch Post offices (EDBOs) and Departmental Sub Post Offices (DSOs) Postal Circle-wise is given in Annexure-I. No separate target is fixed for upgradation of EDBOs. The target for opening of DSOs, includes upgradation from EDBOs to DSOs. The supply of letter boxes in accordance with the policy to provide letter boxes in villages having a population over 500 has been made. The information regarding supply of letter boxes to Rural Tribal areas during the Eighth Plan, statewise is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). The target of opening of Post Offices for whole of the country was lowered to reduce the extent of budgetary support.

(d) The original targets could not be restored, subsequent to the reduction referred to above.

**STATEMENT***Circle-wise Target*

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97	
		BO*	SO*	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO	BO	SO
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	5	17	5	2	5	2	5	2	5
2.	Assam	27	3	25	3	5	4	4	4	2	4
3.	Bihar	70	8	90	8	3	11	10	11	10	11
4.	Delhi	-	5	-	6	-	10	-	10	1	10
5.	Gujarat	25	5	20	8	5	12	4	12	5	12
6.	Haryana	10	3	10	5	2	12	2	10	4	10
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15	1	15	2	12	6	7	10	4	10
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	5	1	5	1	-	2	-	2	2	2
9.	Karanataka	15	5	15	6	1	11	1	10	2	10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10.	Kerala	10	3	20	3	3	12	1	9	1	9
11.	Madhya Pradesh	55	5	35	5	5	9	9	9	9	9
12.	Maharashtra	55	10	80	11	10	6	9	12	9	12
13.	North-East	35	5	40	4	1	1	4	4	2	4
14.	Orissa	40	5	35	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
15.	Punjab	10	3	10	3	3	5	2	4	2	4
16.	Rajasthan	60	6	30	5	5	12	5	10	5	10
17.	Tamil Nadu	14	7	10	4	2	5	2	4	2	4
18.	Uttar Pradesh	75	10	93	12	14	19	12	16	12	16
19.	West Bengal	60	10	50	5	3	4	2	4	2	4
	Total	600	100	600	100	80	150	80	150	80	150

BO : Branch Post Offices

SO : Sub Post Offices

#### Repetition of Serials

1960. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether TV-serials like Mahabharata and Krishna are being telecast/retelecast over and over again, some times breaking the serial mid way and re-starting it again;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the details of the other serials being replayed and telecast again?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. The serial 'Mahabharat' was earlier telecast on DD-I and is now being repeated on DD-2 after a gap of three years. The serial 'Srikrishna', before it completed its telecast on DD-2, was shifted to DD-1 and is/was re-relecast with additional footage to enable more viewers in the country to see it. Similarly, the serials 'Bible Ki Kahaniyan' and 'Sabka Malik Ek Hai' were also re-telecast with additional footage.

[Translation]

#### Setting up of AIR Station Mandla, Madhya Pradesh

1961. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of AIR stations in Madhya Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) the number of stations commissioning till date, location-wise; and

(c) the time by which the remaining stations are likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). At present, 19 radio stations located at Ambikapur, Bhopal, Chhatarpur, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Jagdalpur, Raipur, Rewa, Khandwa, Betul, Bilaspur, Shivpuri, Chhmdwara, Raigarh, Shahdol, Balaghat, Guna and Sagar are functioning in the State of Madhya Pradesh. No other station is technically ready for commissioning.

#### Telephone Connections Provided in Bihar

1962. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the telephone connections provided in Bihar during the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 till date, district-wise;

(b) the number of persons in the waiting list till October, 1996, district-wise;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be cleared, district wise;

(d) whether any special scheme has been formulated for the expansion and development of the telephone services and telephone exchanges;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the funds allocated therefor during the year 1996-97, district-wise;

(g) whether Government have received any complaints regarding the irregularities in issuing the telephone connections; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The details are given in Statement.

## STATEMENT

District-wise telephone connections provided and Waiting List in Bihar State.

Sl. No.	Name of District	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1.4.96 to 31.10.96	Waiting List as on 31.10.96
		3	4	5	6	7
1.	Bhojpur (Arrah)	491	367	733	257	947
2.	Buxur	279	144	507	156	561
3.	Bhagalpur	431	2261	1467	739	2502
4.	Banka	97	62	137	141	238
5.	Dumka	135	109	187	51	319
6.	Deoghar	293	209	643	63	601
7.	Sahibganj	109	129	181	49	239
8.	Pakur	87	56	94	31	7
9.	Godda	97	39	152	27	159
10.	Monghyr	285	579	198	93	1697
11.	Sheikhpura	79	81	61	16	61
12.	Lakhisarai	111	104	69	61	129
13.	Jamui	99	133	122	33	177
14.	Chapra	1263	578	429	293	1664
15.	Gopalganj	439	311	239	98	552
16.	Siwan	516	490	518	124	1819
17.	East Champaran	1689	993	801	368	1487
18.	West Champaran	865	582	734	229	570
19.	Darbhanga	876	1338	361	239	2219
20.	Begusarai	588	1390	185	124	1338
21.	Samastipur	569	632	201	138	1094
22.	Khagaria	438	451	76	57	317
23.	Madhubani	785	794	196	69	1469
24.	Dhanbad	568	1679	1779	1079	1939
25.	Bokaro	255	497	830	381	2582
26.	Gaya	439	1369	1136	321	1113
27.	Jehanabad	356	421	369	132	419
28.	Aurangabad	124	211	188	104	85
29.	Nawadah	319	831	507	160	532
30.	Hazaribagh	721	809	1559	439	907
31.	Koderma	213	137	435	127	176
32.	Chatra	39	32	69	39	37

1	2	3	4	5	6
33.	Giridih	414	473	783	184
34.	East Singhbhum	463	2879	797	1776
35.	West Singhbhum	286	973	534	445
36.	Katihar	1185	1697	613	461
37.	Kishanganj	369	237	308	139
38.	Purnea	428	389	387	266
39.	Araria	298	311	98	120
40.	Saharsa	479	389	285	217
41.	Supaul	293	312	209	138
42.	Madhepura	247	285	101	157
43.	Muzaffarpur	2617	2005	899	213
44.	Vaishali	571	489	532	131
45.	Sitamarhi	732	597	493	116
46.	Sheohar	273	213	95	17
47.	Patna	6492	7219	5892	1639
48.	Nalanda	1086	1384	750	309
49.	Ranchi	5721	4632	3639	731
50.	Gumla	429	369	263	187
51.	Lohardaga	371	219	129	92
52.	Palamu	425	534	423	134
53.	Garhwa	371	219	139	39
54.	Rohtas (Sasaram)	597	874	513	264
55.	Bhabhua	207	111	70	91

(c) the number of persons in the waiting list as per Annexure is likely to be cleared by 31.03.1998.

(d) No, Sir. expansion and development of telephone services and telephone exchanges is as per the plan proposals.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

(f) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Not applicable in view of (g) above.

#### STD/PCO Allotted in Maharashtra

1963. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of STD/PCO booths allotted in Maharashtra during each of the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the number of STD/PCO booths allotted to women, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes men and women and disabled persons;

(c) whether there is no provision for allotment of above booths to women.

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to allot these STD/PCO booths to women ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(b) No. of STD/PCO allotted to women during last three years is given in the statement. No separate records in respect of other categories of persons is maintained. However, preference in allotment is given to SC/ST, and handicapped among other persons.

(c) Women are equally eligible as men for allotment of STD/ISD/PCO booths.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). No special category has been created for allotment of STD/PCO booths to women applicants.

**STATEMENT**

*STD/PCO allotted to Women*

Name of SSA	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	
	1	2	3	4
Jalgaon	29	NIL	8	
Nagpur T/D	9	26	65	
Nagpur (Vidarbha Area)	28	76	88	
Nasik	54	90	39	
Kolhapur T/D	24	38	45	
Kolhapur (South Maharashtra Area)	91	162	152	
Kalyan	60	25	45	
Pune	69	274	127	
Raigarh	47	62	31	

1	2	3	4
Nanded	42	79	91
Goa	22	31	29
Mumbai (MTNL)	87	264	306

**Air Crashes**

1964. SHRI RATILAL VERMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the incidents of air crashes that have occurred in the country during the last three years and the current year, so far;

(b) the reasons for these air crashes;

(c) the loss of life and property suffered in each air crash; and

(d) the steps taken to check such crashes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). Brief details of the major incidents of air crashes during the period from 1994 to 1996 (till date) along with fatalities, losses and causes are given in statement.

**STATEMENT**

Sl. No.	Date	Place	Aircraft	Operator	Fatalities	Damage to aircraft	Details/probable cause of accident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	8.3.94	Delhi	B-737	Sahara India	9	Destroyed	The accident occurred due to application of wrong rudder by trainee pilot during engine failure exercise.
2.	9.6.94	Mumbai	Maule	Aparna Aviation	2	Substantial	The accident occurred when the pilot abandoned approach as the aircraft was lower than the level of airstrip and away from its centre line and initiated left turn to avoid high terrain.
3.	9.7.94	Near Kulu	B-200	Punjab Government	13	Destroyed	The accident was caused due to serious error on the part of the flight crew by not strictly adhering to the VFR condition for flight to Bhuntar airfield.
4.	25.8.94	Mandrali Dist. Swai Seneca	Piper	Ministry of Environment and Forest	4	Destroyed	The aircraft disintegrated in flight as a result of excessive loading possibly due to pilot's control inputs while negotiating bad weather.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	2.12.95	Delhi	B-737	Indian Airlines	Nil	Substantial	The accident was caused by the combined effect of decision of Pilot-in-Command to hastily complete the flight, his failure to decelerate the aircraft in time and to carry out a mixed approach and his omission to arm the speed brake before landing.
6.	11.7.96	Near Kulu	L-410	Archana Airways	9	Destroyed	The investigation report submitted by the Court of Inquiry is under examination by the Government.
9.	12.11.96	Charkhi Dadri	B-747 IL-76	Saudi Arabian and Kazakhstan Airlines	349	Both Aircraft Destroyed	The accident is under investigation.

[English]

#### Foreign Companies in Mining Sector

1965. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the mines under the jurisdiction of the Government have been leased out to Indian private parties during the last three years;

(b) the terms and conditions thereof;

(c) whether any study has been made by the Government regarding the financial advantage of leasing out those mines including the interests of the workers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the loss incurred by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (e). Mining rights are granted by the concerned State Governments in accordance with the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the rules made thereunder. Mining activity in the country has historically been undertaken both by public sector as well as private sector companies. At the end of year 1994-95, of the total 3083 (provisional) mines reporting production and given for non-atomic and non-fuel minerals and other than minor minerals, 316 were in the public sector. As per Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 mining rights can be given only to an Indian National or a company defined in sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Companies Act, 1956. Provided that in respect of any mineral specified in the First Schedule, no prospecting licences or mining lease shall be granted except with the previous approval of

the Central Government. Apart from the normal benefits like employment and revenue generation of any economic activity, mining activity also involves payment of royalty and related charges to the concerned State Governments.

#### Passenger Amenities in Long Distance Trains

1966. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether efforts are being made to provide better passenger amenities in the long distance trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such facilities particularly drinking water, electricity and clean toilets are mostly absent in the sleeper class in several trains; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the government to expand such facilities to sleeper class for the benefit of common passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Railway continues their endeavour to improve the condition of passenger amenities. Travelling safaiwalas have been provided on long distance trains besides providing jet cleaning apparatus for cleaning of toilets enroute. All the trains are being given a thorough check before commencement of the journey to ensure cleanliness and availability of passenger amenity items in working order.

(c) and (d). Every endeavour is made by the Railways to ensure availability of electricity and clean toilets in all the coaches including sleeper class. In the second class coaches generally, as there is continuous ingress and egress of the passengers, it is not practicable to maintain separate supply of drinking water

inside the coaches. However adequate drinking water arrangements have been made for the passengers at the platforms/stations.

Checks are conducted from time to time by senior officers of various Deptt. and remedial action including disciplinary action against defaulting staff is taken to correct the deficiencies.

### Expansion of the Kandla Port

1967. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken up programme for the expansion of the Kandla port and have sanctioned 30 jetties to be built up there;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no air link of this port at present;

(c) if so, whether the Government have any plan to air link this port with rest of the country especially Mumbai and other major cities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time schedule for the same?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Kandla Port Trust has prepared a perspective Master Plan of Kandla Port for development upto the year 2020 AD. The port has constructed 7 cargo berths and 4 oil jetties. In addition, 2 virtual jetties have been constructed by IOC and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and M/s IFFCO are constructing a captive liquid jetty. Tenders for 8th, 9th and 10th cargo berths have been issued.

(b) to (d). NEPC Airlines has included a twice weekly service between Kandla and Mumbai on Thursday and Saturday. Indian Airlines has no proposal to airlink Kandla at present.

### New Railway Zones

1968. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new railway zones created so far during the current year;

(b) whether these zones have started their function;

(c) if not, the time by which the new railway zones are likely to start functioning;

(d) the amount earmarked for the functioning of the above zonal office during 1996-97;

(e) the number of new Divisional Railway Offices proposed to be set up in the new railway zones;

(f) whether the Government propose to set up a Divisional Office in Agra under Allahabad Railway Zone; and

(g) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the work on it is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The Government has decided to set up six new zonal Railway headquarters at Bhubaneswar, Allahabad, Hajipur, Jaipur, Bangalore and Jabalpur. The inaugural functions for the zonal railways have been held for Bhubaneswar on 8.8.96, Allahabad on 28.8.96, Hajipur on 8.9.96, Jaipur on 17.10.96 and Bangalore on 1.11.96.

(d) A sum of Rs. 6.81 cr. has been provided in 1996-97 for the Zonal offices.

(e) to (g). The Government has decided to set up eight new divisions at Ahmedabad, Agra, Pune, Ranchi, Raipur, Rangiya, Guntur and Singrauli. The detailed jurisdiction of the railway zones and divisions has not yet been finalised. Setting up of zones is expected to be completed in about sixty months.

### Damage to Railway Line

1969. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to devastating floods in 1968 in Jalpaiguri district in West Bengal, the Railway Line between Domohini and Changrabandha under North-Eastern Railway got washed away causing hardship to the people there;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to reinspect the area and review the situation to restore the line; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Domohini to Changrabandha M.G. branch line of North-East Frontier Railway got breached in the floods of 1968.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Land & structures on this section were relinquished to State Government. Now there is no scheme to lay a new line on this alignment.

### International Air Services from Mangalore Airport

1970. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for operation of International Air Services from Mangalore Air-port; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and when the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Measures are being taken to set up Customs and Immigration facilities at Mangalore Airport for a direct International Service to Dubai. No

definite time frame can be indicated for commencement of actual operations at this stage.

### Construction of Over Bridges in Kerala

1971. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of requests for construction of over bridges in Kerala are pending with the Government;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

(c) whether there is need and demand for over bridge at Thripunthura, Irimpanam and Mulanthuruthy in Ernakulam district in Kerala;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to build railway over bridges in these places; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Five proposals have been made but as yet the prerequisite formalities have not been completed by State Govt.

	Maharashtra Telecom Circle Mumbai	MTNL Mumbai	Western Telecom Maintenance Mumbai	Western Telecom Project Mumbai	Remarks
(a)	144	48	25	-	Districtwise breakup is given in the statement
(b)	103	46	22	-	
(c)	41	2	3	-	

### STATEMENT

Circle	District	93-94	Total No. of Cases Registered			Total
			94-95	95-96		
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Maharashtra	Nagpur	3	5	5	13	
	Aurangabad	1	2	-	3	
	Dhule	-	1	-	1	
	Akola	-	2	1	3	
	Nanded	3	6	6	15	
	Kalyan	4	10	8	22	
	Osmanabad	-	1	-	1	
	Bhandara	-	2	2	4	
	Chandrapur	3	1	-	4	
	Ratnagiri	-	3	3	6	
	Nasik	1	2	4	7	

*[Translation]*

### Irregularities in Maharashtra

1972. DR. G.R. Sarode : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered against the employees of telecommunication in Maharashtra during the last three years, district-wise;

(b) the number of cases out of them disposed off; and

(c) the number of cases in which investigation is going on?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) The information is given below :-

1	2	3	4	5	6
Solapur	1	3	2		6
Sangli	-	2	-		2
Jalna	-	1	-		1
Latur	-	1	2		3
Amravati	-	1	2		3
Jalgaon	5	4	2		11
Yavatmal	1	1	1		3
Satara	-	2	-		2
Wardha	2	2	-		4
Gondia	-	1	-		1
Kolhapur	4	-	-		4
Panaji (Goa)	2	1	-		3
Raigarh	2	-	-		2
Veed	1	-	-		1
Pune	1	7	11		19
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>49</b>		<b>144</b>
<b>MTNL</b>	<b>Mumbai</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>48</b>
<i>Western Telecom Maintenance</i>					
Mumbai	7	4	3		14
Pune	3	-	1		4
Nagpur	2	4	1		7
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>		<b>25</b>
<i>Western Telecom Project</i>					
Mumbai	-	-	-		-

#### **Renovation of 'Jahangir Ka Talab' in Uttar Pradesh**

1973. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of representations have been received by the Union Government so far regarding the renovation of historical "Jahangir Ka Talab" at Kairana in Uttar Pradesh;

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

(c) the main reasons for not carrying out the historical work so far?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). A representation for Jahangir Ka Talab at Kairana in Uttar Pradesh was received by this Department and the same was forwarded to Government of Uttar Pradesh for appropriate action. Since the Central Department of Tourism does not have any agencies of its own to

undertake renovation activities, the proposals are invariably implemented by the State/Union Territory Governments. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has not submitted any specific proposal for the renovation of 'Jahangir Ka Talab'.

*[English]*

#### **Punctuality of Mail and Express Trains**

1974. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of punctuality of Mail and Express trains during 1995-96;

(b) whether the punctuality has been decreased as compared to the previous years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 89.2%.

(b) No, Sir. The punctuality of Mail and Express trains has improved to 89.2% in 1995-96 as compared to 87.6% in 1994-95.

(c) Does not arise.

### Domestic Traffic Passenger

1975. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a fall in domestic traffic passenger figures during the last six months from Mumbai as compared to same period in the previous year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of passenger figures from April to November, 1996 as compared to year 1995 (monthwise);

(d) the other airports where there has been a fall in passenger figures in 1996 as compared to 1995 and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to attract more tourists and other passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. There is a decline in the traffic varying between 3% to 6%. However, it is difficult to pinpoint the reasons for this decline.

(c) Details of monthwise - Domestic passengers carried from Mumbai airport during the period April, 1996 to November, 1996 and the corresponding period in 1995 is given below :-

Month	1996	1995
April	530632	526375
May	575304	597575
June	517240	550746
July	481188	511073
August	524282	512792
September	489149	509401
October	494580	526581
November	516054	562661
(Estimated)		

(d) Calcutta, Madras, Thiruvananthapuram, Ahmedabad, Bhubaneswar, Calicut, Cochin, Coimbatore, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Khajuraho, Madurai, Mangalore and Nagpur airports have also recorded a decline in traffic during the period April-August, 1996 compared to the corresponding period in 1995. Reasons for this decline needs a detailed study.

(e) Air transport services including airport are being continuously developed and expanded to cater to both domestic and international passengers. Airports Authority of India has plans to spend Rs.3490 crores for upgrading various airports during the 9th Plan period.

### Railway Link with Himachal Pradesh

1976. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there were demands from Himachal Pradesh for providing rail links from Kalka to Parwanoo, Dhenwala to Nalagarh, Bhanupur to Nangal and Nangal to Bilaspur;

(b) if so, whether any of these projects were approved and works started on them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in respect of each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Demands have been received for Kalka-Parwanoo and Bhanupali-Bilaspur line.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Survey for Kalka-Parwanoo is in progress as a deposit work on behalf of the Himachal Pradesh Government. Survey for Bhanupali-Beri via Bilaspur has been completed and modalities for funding the project are being worked out with Himachal Pradesh Government.

### Expenditure Incurred by IA

1977. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred by Indian Airlines on account of the stay of their pilots, Air Hostesses etc. in 5 Star Hotel while on duty, during the last two years;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred on the gifts/presentations to the staff during the last two years; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce such expenditure in view of heavy loss suffered by the Indian Airlines during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Indian Airlines incurred an expenditure of Rs.1478.24 lakhs and Rs.1878.32 lakhs during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively on account of stay of Pilots, Air Hostess etc. in 5 Star Hotels while on duty.

(b) Indian Airlines employees were given gifts/presentations of an amount of Rs. 15.08 lakhs and Rs.9.79 lakhs during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively.

(c) As per schedule and aircraft route pattern, night halts for the crew are unavoidable due to change of aircraft routing. Reduction in expenditure on account of gifts/presentations to staff is also not possible since these are customary in nature.

[*Translation*]

### Telephone Connection in Maharashtra

1978. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of telephone connections installed in Maharashtra during the last three years. District-wise;

(b) whether any special scheme has been formulated for the development and extension of telephone exchanges & telephone services in the State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the amount of funds allocated to the State for this purpose during 1996-97;

(e) whether Government have received complaints of irregularities in giving telephone connections; and

(f) if so, the details thereof. District-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (f). Information in respect of the question is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Hon'ble House.

### T.C.A. System

1979. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make it mandatory for all operators coming to India to have transponders on their aircraft;

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

(c) if not, the reasons for non-installation of TCA System?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Directorate General of Civil Aviation issued instructions in February, 1994 making it mandatory to install Mode 'S' Transponder on aircraft whose maximum weight is more than 5,700 kg and above and having seating capacity of 30 or more.

(c) ICAO regulations require that the mandatory carriage of Mode 'S' Transponder shall be on the basis of regional air navigation agreements and seven years notice. In view of this, Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) system could not be made mandatory with immediate effect.

### Broad Gauge Line between Kolar-Bangarpet

1980. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when was the work on broad gauging the Kolar-

Bangarpet section of the railway track started and when is it expected to be completed;

(b) the total cost of the project and the amount spent so far;

(c) whether used and rusted rails from Yelgi and Kuppam have been taken to Kolar ostensibly to be used to broad gauge the Kolar-Bangarpet sector; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The work was sanctioned in 1994-95. It is expected to be completed by 31.03.97.

(b) It is a part section of the Yelahanka-Chikballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet project on which Rs. 35.48 crs. has been spent upto 31.03.96 and an outlay of Rs. 5 crs. has been provided in this financial year.

(c) and (d). Good second hand rails with adequate residual life have been used on this sector. This is as per the normal practice of the Railways for lines having light traffic.

### Singhania Safety Committee

1981. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Singhania Safety Committee has been disbanded after the resignation of its Chairman.

(b) whether it is a fact that safety measures only included distribution of safety leaflets by the Committee; and

(c) if so, the details of the work assigned?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The functions of the Committee are to interact with the Airlines, regulatory authorities, Airports Authority and aviation support agencies with a view to creating safety awareness and educating their personnel to enhance the level of flight safety; organise safety seminars and develop safety posters for display throughout the country.

[*Translation*]

### Railway Protection Force

1982. SHRI MANHARAN LAL PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of battalions/companies in Railway Protection Force along with location of their headquarters separately;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up a new unit of Railway Protection Force at Jairam Nagar under Bilaspur division of South-Eastern Railway; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Railway Protection Force which is the reserve force in the RPF is distributed in the pattern of battalions and companies. There are 8 battalions of RPSF headquartered as given below :

- 1 Bn. - Lumding (Assam)
- 2 Bn. - Gorakhpur (U.P.)
- 3 Bn. - Lucknow (U.P.)
- 4 Bn. - New Jalpaiguri (W.B.)
- 5 Bn. - Tiruchirappalli (T.N.)
- 6 Bn. - Dayabasti, Delhi/35
- 7 Bn. - Moula Ali, Hyderabad (A.P.)
- 8 Bn. - Chittaranjan (W.B.)

Each Battalion has 5 operational companies and 1 Headquarter company. The operational companies are being deployed throughout the country wherever required as and when emergent situations arise.

The railway Protection Force is not organised in the pattern of battalions. The Force is deployed in the pattern of Posts and Outposts on need basis throughout the country wherever railway assets and installations are located.

(b) There is no proposal to set up a new unit of RPF at Jairam Nagar under Bilaspur Division of South Eastern Railway.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Stones in Devgauda Region of Madhya Pradesh**

1983. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Devgauda region in Madhya Pradesh has rich deposits of precious alllexendraid stone;

(b) whether since April, 1994 this precious stone worth crores of rupees has been sneaked out of the country via Orissa;

(c) whether the Government have enquired into this unauthorised mining ; and

(d) if so, outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Railway Projects**

1984. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Karnataka to lay new Railway lines during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 as on September 30, 1996.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the name of the railway projects to be taken up during Eighth Five Year Plan in Karnataka; and

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on each of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kottur-Harihar and Kadur-Chickmaglur-Sakleshpur lines have since been taken up. Survey report for Hubli-Ankola new line has been sent to Planning Commission and surveys have been completed for Hassan-Bangalore and Chamarajanagar-Mettupalayan new lines.

(c) and (d).

New Lines	Cost (Rs. in crs.)
1. Kottur-Harihar	66.00
2. Kadur-Chickmagalur-Shakleshpur	157.00
Gauge Conversion	
1. Bangalore-Hubli with Birur/Shimoga-Talguppa	405.00
2. Hospet-Hubli-Goa with linked fingers	571.58
3. Londa-Miraj	176.52
4. Gadag-Hospet	180.00
5. Yelahanka-Chickballapur and Kolar-Bangarpet	57.00
6. Yeshaantpur-Salem	195.18
7. Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore	185.00
8. Mysore-Hassan Doubling	116.00
1. Kuppam-Whitefield	105.00
2. Bangalore-Kangeri	24.00

#### **National Channel of AIR**

1985. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT BACHDA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fixed Point Chart of national channel of All India Radio, New Delhi has recently been revised;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the duration of time allotted to various programmes per week;

(d) whether the said durations conform to the laid norms of AIR; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is the practice of All India Radio that the fixed Point Chart is revised twice a year.

(c) The time allotted to various programmes per week are as follows:

<i>Minutes per week</i>	
Sports	134
Financial	40
Science	30 mts. per month
Hindustani Music	360
Karnatak Music	320
Film Music	350

(d) and (e). These timings broadly conform to the norms laid down by All India Radio.

#### **Railway Line between Palaghat-Pollachi and Guruvayoor**

1986. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying new railway line from Palaghat-Pollachi to Guruvayoor under Madhura division in Southern Railway;.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present stage of the proposed Guruvayoor-Kuttipuram railway line; and

(d) the time by which the work on above line is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The work is sanctioned. Final location survey/land acquisition is in progress.

(d) Within the 9th Five Year Plan.

#### **P&T Service in Bihar**

1987. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether postal and telecom services are satisfactory in Bihar, particularly in Saran (Chapra region);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The Bihar State is being served by 11789 Post Offices, out of which 378 Post Offices are in Saran Distt. The Postal services are satisfactory in Bihar and in Saran (Chapra) Region.

(b) All Post Offices in Bihar including those in Saran Region are functioning satisfactorily in respect of Counter functioning Mails and delivery services.

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

#### **TELECOMMUNICATION :**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details given in Statement.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Steps taken by the Govt. for further improvement of services:

(i) Replacement of old and worn out equipment.

(ii) Computerisation of fault repair service.

(iii) Replacement of fault prone cables by jelly field cables.

(iv) Laying of cables in ducts.

(v) Induction of modern testing aids.

(vi) Providing reliable transmission media.

#### **STATEMENT**

S.No.	Parameter	Achievements			
		As on 31.3.96 Circle/ Saran	Aug., 96 Circle/ Saran	Sept., 96 Circle/ Saran	Oct., 96 Circle/ Saran
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Fault/100stn/month.	12.9/7.0	11.7/7.9	12.0/5.3	12.1/3.0
2.	Trk. Bft.	78.2/69.2	80.7/73.0	81.1/75.3	80.8/75.7
3.	C.C.R.				
	(i) Local	81.8/98.6	76.5/95.7	76.3/97.7	75.4/99.0
	(ii) STD	73.9/74.0	71.1/73.8	69.6/65.0	69.9/66.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
4. % of telegrams delivered with in 12 days light hours.	93.5/88.4	91.6/92.0	91.7/92.4	91.7/93.0	

*(Translation)*

### Requirement of Railway Coaches/Wagons

1988. SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

DR. G.R. SARODE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are facing acute shortage of wagons and coaches;

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

(c) whether it has seriously affected the revenue earnings;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the additional requirement of wagons/coaches, zone-wise;

(f) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding shortage of wagons and coaches;

(g) if so, the details thereof, zone/division-wise; and

(h) the steps taken/proposed by the Government to meet the requirement of wagons and coaches?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Judged in the context of the Railways' freight target, there is no shortage of wagons. However, in relation to the total demand in the country for rail transport, there are pockets of unsatisfied demand in some areas. The present fleet of coaches is adequate to run scheduled passenger services.

(e) The requirement of wagons/coaches is assessed for the entire Indian Railways (not zone-wise) based on expected materialisation of traffic and efficiency of utilisation. The requirement of wagons and coaches in 1996-97 has been worked out as 25,000 wagons (in Four Wheeler Units) and 2096 coaches (including EMUs, MEMUs and DMUs). In addition, 5000 wagons are expected to be procured under 'Own Your Wagon Scheme'.

(f) and (g). Generally, there are presently no complaints about shortage of wagons. However, complaints are received regarding cleanliness/ conditions of coaches and for provision of new coaches on trains in their areas.

(h) Need based procurement of wagons and coaches consistent with the availability of resources

and production capacity. Besides customers are being encouraged to buy wagons under 'Own Your Wagon Scheme'. Efforts are also being made to improve utilisation of assets.

### I.A. Accident

1989. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "IA high risk airline: IATA" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated October 29, 1996;

(b) If so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Airlines is having a higher accident rate than the world average;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. International Air Transport Association (IATA) has denied having incorporated in its safety report safety statistics related to safety performance of any specific airline including Indian Airlines.

(c) and (d). The accident rate of Indian Airlines is slightly higher than world average since the flying by Indian Airlines is much less compared to cumulative flying by world Airlines. As a result even a single accident will result in shooting up the accident rate.

(e) Steps are continuously taken to enhance the level of air safety by upgrading the facilities at the airports, monitoring of flight recorders, safety audit of airlines, adherence to laid down procedures, and weather minima, implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents, dissemination of safety information, carrying out periodic inspection of aerodromes, conducting safety seminars etc.

### Provident Fund Deposit

1990. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make some changes in the investment pattern of Provident Fund

and enlargement of the social security network for the majority of workers;

(b) If so, the details thereof.

(c) whether the Government also propose to review the restrictions imposed on the investment of this money in order to accrue maximum benefits to the members of the employees Provident Fund without jeopardizing the security of the money held by the fund; and

(d) if so, the details regarding the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). The Employees Provident Fund monies collected but not immediately required for disbursement are being invested as per the investment pattern prescribed by the Ministry of Finance. The pattern of investment has been reviewed and from 1.10.1996 it has been decided to invest 40% amount in Banks / Public Financial Institutions and 20% in the special deposit scheme as against 30% amount deposited earlier in each category. The remaining 40% amount continues to be invested in the Government securities.

#### Link Train from Meta Road to Bikaner

1991. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have provided link train from Meta road to Bikaner to give connection to Howrah-Jodhpur Express Train;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the people of Bikaner as well as people of Calcutta are demanding another superfast train from Howrah to Bikaner; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. 2307A/2308A Bikaner-Meta Road Link Express running in conjunction with 2307/2308 Jodhpur-Howrah Express has been introduced from 12-9-96.

(c) and (d). Some representations have been received in this regard. These were examined but introduction of the train has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

#### Parties holding Contracts at Allahabad Railway Station

1992. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of parties which are holding catering and vending contracts etc. at Allahabad Railway Station;

(b) whether licence fees of these contractors are being fixed by the Railway Administration based on the number of vendors officially permitted;

(c) If so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are aware that the contractors are employing a quite large number of vendors than those officially permitted causing loss to railway revenue; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c). The licence fee is fixed by the Railway Administration keeping in view all relevant factors including, *inter-alia*, the vendors permitted.

(d) and (e). Regular and surprise checks are conducted by Railway Administration and suitable remedial measures are taken.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Licencee	Nature of Contract
1.	M/s Sanjay Sandip Sonkar	Fresh Fruit
2.	M/s Amna Ali	Fresh Fruit
3.	Shri Munne Khan	Fresh Fruit
4.	Shri Mehboob Khalil	Fresh Fruit
5.	Shri J.H. Abidi	Fresh Fruit Juice
6.	M/s H.P.M.C.	Apple Juice
7.	Shri Mehboob Usmani	Fruit & Fruit Juice
8.	Smt. Siraj Nazir	Fresh Fruit Juice and Salad
9.	Shri Anant Ram Chaurasia	Tea/Biscuit
10.	Shri Iqbal Ahmed	Tea/Coffee/Biscuit
11.	Shri Kamla Devi	Tea/Biscuit/Bread
12.	Smt. Nirmala Devi	Cigarette/Bidi/Pan/Matches
13.	Shri Suresh Kumar Rakesh	Misc. Articles

#### Goods Trains

1993. SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that to cope with the capacity problem, Government had made a strategic plan, at the suggestion of a NRI, to operate 9000 tonnes-12000 tonnes per goods train, instead of 3600 tonnes-4500 tonnes per train;

(b) if so, whether the NRI had demonstrated the system successfully in 1989 in Kirliburu-Bokaro line with 9000 tonnes iron ore in a train and trained drivers of SER to operate such longer/heavier trains; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, including the economic benefits of heavy haul and the present status of that project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Heavy haul operation is one of the methods of increasing the capacity of the railways to move more freight traffic on a route. Indian Railways has experimented with running of heavy haul freight trains in some areas, including Kiriburu-Bokaro line. The introduction of heavy haul is an area of continuing research and certain technological and infrastructural problems are yet to be overcome before the system can be implemented.

[Translation]

#### Out of Turn Telephone Connections

1994. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government accommodations (P&T) STD-ISD connections/telephone connections were allotted on compassionate ground between January 1, 1993 and June 30, 1996.

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

(c) whether such allotments made between July 1, 1996 and November 10, 1996;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any criteria/guidelines has been fixed for such allotment;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether these are strictly followed; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a)

#### Department of Post & Telecom.

#### GOVERNMENT ACCOMMODATIONS:

POST & TELECOM : The information is being collected and the same would be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Department of Telecommunications

#### STD-ISD CONNECTIONS/TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS.

Generally telephone connection on out of turn priority basis are sanctioned on various grounds including compassionate ground. However, no separate record is maintained for telephone connections sanctioned on compassionate grounds.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply at Part(a).

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The details are given below:-

(i) Applicants suffering from prolonged and serious illness like cancer, serious Kidney diseases, diarrhoea of liver.

(ii) Widows, genuinely placed in highly adverse social condition.

(iii) Genuine victims of natural calamities and man-made catastrophes who do not have telephone facilities. This should include cases of terrorist threats only.

(iv) Senior Citizens of India (70 years and above).

(v) Public servants performing arduous nature of duties but not provided with telephone at residence by their employers.

(vi) Statutory, Government aided and Government recognised Educational Institutions and Accredited Journalists.

(vii) Physically Handicapped persons with more than 60% disability.

(viii) Any special or extraordinary case deserving compassionate consideration (including recognised Social Workers).

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Demand of AC-I Quota

1995. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is demand for AC-I quota for Asansol;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that at present there is no quota of AC-I at Asansol;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to allot at least three to four AC-I quota for Asansol for each train;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (g). There is a demand for allotment of AC First Class quota at Asansol station in trains passing through this station. Computerised reservation facilities have already been provided at Asansol station linked with the computerised passenger reservation system at Calcutta and passengers can seek as many reservations as required on first-come-first served basis.

[Translation]

### Foreign Investors

1996. SHRI JAI PRAKASH(Hardoi): Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to deport the foreign investors who have invested in the Indian civil aviation service;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). A proposal to review the policy on domestic air transport services is under consideration of the Government.

[English]

### Asian Railway Project

1997. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bangladesh is not considering India transit facility to connect with the Asian highway and railway through Assam via Myanmar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this matter was discussed with the Bangladesh Government at any level;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Bangladesh thereto; and

(e) the manner in which the Government now contemplate to go ahead with its participation in the Asian Railway Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). Under the Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development Project, UN-ESCAP is considering to undertake a study to examine the feasibility of establishing a Railway Route in South Asia which would be passing through India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. While some preliminary information has been collected by UN-ESCAP, a full fledged study is yet to be undertaken.

[Translation]

### Expenditure and Expansion of Agra Airport

1998. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total expenditure likely to be incurred on the renovation and expansion of the Agra Airport;

(b) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed;

(c) whether the Government propose to connect Agra to other Metropolitan cities of the country and abroad by air route in view of the expanded capacity of Agra Airport to ease the work load at Delhi Airport and the international importance of Agra in regard to Tourism;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether the Government received proposals for consideration for introducing flights via Agra from the Private Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) . The terminal building at Agra Airport is being modified and expanded to handle 500 passengers at a time at an estimated cost of Rs.10.8 crores. This work is likely to be completed in June, 1997.

(c) to (e) . Agra is already connected with Delhi, Khajuraho, Varanasi and Kathmandu. There is no proposal at present to allow scheduled services of foreign airlines to touch Agra airport since Delhi airport which is being continuously modernised and expanded will be able to handle international services.

(f) At present, no private airline is operating to Agra.

[English]

### Telephone Facility to Villages

1999. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No.121 on 18.7.1996, and state :

(a) whether the weekly reports from circle office in respect of new telephone facilities to the villages have been received;

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

(c) the action taken on unsatisfactory reports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). weekly reports from Circle Offices in respect of number of new telephone installed in the week are being taken regularly by DoT Headquarters on telephone on every Monday.

Detailed monthly reports are also taken from the Circle offices which are in printed from indicating the details of Village Public Telephones(VPTs) installed in the month. These reports indicate about the names of Base Stations, names of village received, Tehsils, districts and SSA areas.

(c) C.G.M. Telecommunications are reminded by letter as well as on telephone in case their progress is not satisfactory. They are being requested to gear up their installation programme.

## EPF and ESI

2000. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is significant rise in the cases of default by the industrial units in the country for implementing the provisions of the Employees' Provident Fund Act and the Employees' State Insurance Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether there have been reports of defaults in this regard on the part of M/s Sylvania and Laxman Ltd., Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to protect the interest of the employees working in this industrial unit?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d). A statement showing the State-wise no of cases of default during the last three years is annexed. M/s. Sylvania and Laxman Ltd, Delhi has defaulted in payment of provident fund and ESI dues from February, 1996 and June, 1996 respectively. Necessary legal action as provided under the ESI Act and the EPF & MP Act, is already being taken for recovery of dues outstanding against the defaulting establishment including M/s. Sylvania and Laxman Ltd. Three FIRs under section 406/409 of the IPC have also been filed against M/s. Sylvania and Laxman for non-payment of the employees' share of Provident Fund.

## STATEMENT

## (A) Number of ESI default cases

Name of Region	As on 31.3.1994			
	1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2661	3086	3004	
Assam	695	701	772	
Bihar	1333	1366	1380	
Delhi	1884	1859	1043	
Gujrat	2651	2884	3158	
Haryana	2504	2601	2653	
Karnataka	2950	3300	3379	
Kerala	2062	2275	2407	
As on 31.3.1995				
Madhya Pradesh	1894	2098	2268	
Bombay	4532	4784	4742	
Nagpur	455	523	365	
Pune	1038	2053	2929	
Goa	266	299	323	
Orissa	642	690	726	
Punjab	2599	3112	3496	
Rajasthan	1524	1716	1863	

	1	2	3	4
Tamilnadu	2250	2194	2362	
Pondicherry	248	246	242	
Coimbatore	745	762	998	
Madurai	1543	1045	1083	
UttarPradesh	1185	1228	1533	
West Bengal	3556	4264	4582	
<i>(B) Number of Establishments in default of EPF Dues</i>				
Andhra Pradesh	971	647	745	
Bihar	1139	1304	1349	
Delhi	456	536	500	
Gujarat	282	274	209	
Haryana	360	464	525	
Karnataka	409	413	424	
Kerala	503	388	464	
Madhya Pradesh	693	667	505	
Maharashtra	876	768	893	
N.E. Region	145	144	124	
Orissa	390	343	275	
Punjab	1329	1389	1139	
Rajasthan	490	546	577	
TamilNadu	1316	1525	1281	
Uttar Pradesh	1230	1352	1458	
West Bengal	1232	1216	1216	

## Introduction of Fast Express Trains

2001. SHRI MEHBOOB ZEHEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce fast express trains from Howrah to Barharwa, Azimganj, Sahibganj and Darbhanga;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Howrah is already connected to Barharwa/Azimganj/Sahibganj/ Darbhanga by train services. There is no proposal at present to introduce express trains from Howrah to Barharwa/Azimganj/Sahibganj/Darbhanga.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

### Express Trains Hauling from Howrah

2002. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all passengers and several express trains are hauling from Harwah with less number of coaches;

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

(c) the steps taken to provide adequate number of new coaches and space coaches to Eastern Railways;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to improve the situation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However occasional underload running takes place due to last minute sick marking of coaches.

(c) to (e) . During 1996-97, new air brake coaches have been provided to Eastern Railway for introduction of 3017/3018 Howrah-Rampurhat Express and for conversion of 2307/2308 Express into air brake and new coaches for conversion of Darjeeling Mail into air brake will also be given during the course of the year.

### Settlement of Pending Claims

2003. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of refund claims pending for settlement at the new Delhi Railways Offices and break-up of the duration of the said pendency;

(b) the time limit fixed for settlement of refund claims;

(c) whether the Audit has pointed out any shortcomings/deficiencies in the system of settling claims; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) 14970 refund cases are pending settlement at New Delhi Refund Office. Out of these cases 3106 cases are pending settlement for more than six months and 11864 cases for less than six months.

(b) On completion of formalities by claimant, railway settles the cases within reasonable period.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

### Complaints against Unknown Calls

2004. SHRI G.A.CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received

complaints of abusing, obscene telephone calls from unwanted/unknown persons in Delhi causing harassment to the families of the subscribers;

(b) if so, the details therof;

(c) whether any measures have been devised to check such calls; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During the year 1996 about 3000 written complaints of malicious telephone calls causing harassment to the subscribers have been received in Delhi. The telephones of such subscribers were put under malicious call observation to detect the telephone numbers of the calling parties.

(c) and (d). In an Electronic exchange the complainants number is put on observation and a print out of the caller's number is automatically given by the exchange system. After confirmation of the facts, action as per rules is taken against the caller.

However, for subscribers connected to non-electronic exchanges and in case of incoming long distance calls it is very difficult to trace and identify the caller.

### Microwave Tower

2005. SHRI THOMAS HANDSA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make use of the Microwave Tower which was set up two years back at Rajmahal to provide STD facility there;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be made operational; and

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By 1997-98.

(c) Due to non-completion of Building works.

*[Translation]*

### Inconvenience to Passengers due to Non-halting of Trains

2006. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether passengers are facing great difficulties due to non-halting of a number of trains at Sanjan and Umargam railway stations of Valsad district in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to provide halt for all the trains passing through these railway stations:

(c) if so, the time by which the halt is likely to be provided for all the trains; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Some representations have been received for stoppage of additional trains at Sanjan and Umbargam Road. At present, Sanjan and Umbargam Road stations are being served by 19 and 21 trains in both directions respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

(d) Examined but not found operationally feasible.

[English]

#### Cargo Service from Nagpur

2007. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are persistant demand to introduce cargo service from Nagpur Airport; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M.IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines has its own cargo storage facilities in the city. Airports Authority of India has plans to modify the existing old terminal Building at a cost of Rs. 60 lakhs and have an integrated cargo complex. The building and facilities are expected to be ready by December, 1996.

#### F.M. Station. Madurai

2008. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any test relay was conducted by the FM station at Kodaikanal, Madurai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said station is likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) (a) and (b). Transmissions are being carried out from time to time from the 10KW FM Transmitter at Kodaikanal for testing, pending regular commissioning. However, there is no FM Transmitter installed at AIR, Madurai.

(c) The radio station with 10 KW FM Transmitter, Multi-purpose Studio at Kodaikanal will be technically ready for commissioning by January, 1997.

#### Survey of Lanka-Silchar Line

2009. SHRI UDDHAB BARAMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new survey works for Lanka-Silchar (Ramnagar) line has been planned; and

(b) if so, the time by which the survey work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) . Surveys for Lanka-Silchar has already been completed in September.95.

[Translation]

#### Landing Facilities at Kota Airport

2010. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no landing facility at Kota Airport; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing landing facility at the said Airport and the time by which this facility is proposed to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b). Kota airport is operational and suitable for Dornier =228 type of aircraft. At present, no airline is operating services to this airport.

[English]

#### Minimum Wages

2011. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the existing minimum wages for unskilled labour, State-wise;

(b) when these wages were revised last and date when the next revision is due;

(c) the basis for the computation of the minimum wage

(d) whether the Government propose to advise the States to revise the minimum wages at the beginning of every year to bring it in line with the inflationary rise in cost of living; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNAHALAM) : (a) to (e). Minimum wages for

scheduled employments are fixed by the appropriate Government in accordance with the procedure prescribed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The existing rates of minimum wages fixed by different States and the dates of last revision are give in the statement enclosed. As per Section 3 of the Act these rates can

be reviewed at such intervals as the appropriate Government may think fit but not exceeding five years. The State Governments have already been advised to update the minimum wages regularly and to link them to the consumer price index by incorporating in them an element of variable dearness allowance.

### STATEMENT

*Minimum rates of wages for the unskilled workers in different States/Union Territories Admn.*

(as on 1.10.1996)

Sl.No.	Name of State Govt./ UT Adminsitration	Range of Minimum Rates of wages & date of last revision	Remakrs
1	2	3	4
<b>I. STATE</b>			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 11.00 to Rs. 42.40 p.d. (12.2.96)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 23.00 p.d. (1.1.1994)	Rates vary from employment to employment and areas to areas.
3.	Assam	Rs. 33.00 to Rs. 43.20 p.d. (1.4.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
4.	Bihar	Rs. 27.30 to Rs. 39.70 p.d. (21.12.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
5.	Goa	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 46.00 p.d. (1.4.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 34.00 to Rs. 48.00 p.d. (21.3.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
7.	Haryana	Rs. 51.52 to Rs. 55.52 p.d. (1.1.95)	Single rate for all employment except agriculture.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	26.00 to 45.75 p.d. (1.3.96)	Double Rates for all employment.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	30.00 p.d. (13.3.95)	Single Rate for all employment.
10.	Karnataka	26.00 to Rs. 37.32 p.d. (Sept. 94)	Rates vary from employment to employment.

1	2	3	4
11.	Kerala	Rs. 19.50 to Rs. 76.40 p.d. (31.3.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 22.50 to Rs. 43.96 p.d. (29.1.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
13.	Maharashtra	Rs. 8.00 to Rs. 83.00 p.d. (29.6.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
14.	Manipur	Rs. 44.65 to (for plain) Rs. 47.65 (for hill areas) (1.12.88)	Double Rates for all employment.
15.	Meghalaya	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (16.3.94)	Double Rates for all employment.
16.	Mizoram	Rs. 28.00 to Rs. 35.00 (11.6.93)	Double Rate for all employment.
17.	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (6.7.92)	Single Rate for all employment.
18.	Orissa	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (15.8.96)	Single Rate for all employment.
19.	Punjab	Rs. 51.95 to Rs. 55.58 p.d. (1.7.95)	Single Rate for all employment except agriculture.
20.	Rajasthan	Rs. 32.00 p.d. (1.1.95)	Single rate for all employment.
21.	Sikkim	Nil	Minimum Wages Act 1948 is yet to be extended and enforced.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 10.00 to Rs. 56.25 p.d. (21.7.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
23.	Tripura	Rs. 17.70 to Rs. 36.00 p.d. (15.5.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 18.00 to Rs. 48.00 p.d. (13.6.96)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).

1	2	3	4
25.	West Bengal	Rs.17.40 to Rs. 45.16 p.d. (1.12.93)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	Rs.37.00 to Rs. 40.00 p.d. (15.8.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
27.	Chandigarh	Rs.1084.50 p.m. (27.2.90)	Single rate for all employment.
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 35.00 to Rs. 40.00 p.d. (18.5.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones).
29.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (8.5.95)	Single rate for all employment.
30.	Delhi	Rs. 64.50 p.d. (1.2.94)	Single rate for all employment.
31.	Lakshadweep	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (1.1.96)	Single Rate for all employment.
32.	Pondichery	Rs.19.25 to Rs. 40.20 p.d. (24.7.95)	Rates for agricultural workers.
II. *CENTRAL GOVERNMENT		Rs. 34.96 to Rs. 63.09 p.d. (12.7.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment according to areas

Note 1. \*Indicates the provision of variable Dearness Allowance along with minimum rates of wages.  
2: Figure in bracket under column (3) indicate the date of revision for the last revised scheduled employment.

*[Translation]*

**Employment to Affected Families**

2012. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have given an assurance for providing employment in the railways to one member of each of the families affected by acquisition of land in the context of construction of the Guna/Etawah broad gauge line;

(b) if so, the number of persons employed by the railways so far and the number of cases which are still under consideration; and

(c) the time by which the remaining persons are likely to be provided employment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The extent

instructions on the Railways provide for consideration for preferential employment subject to certain stipulations of individuals/their family members displaced on account of acquisition of land for large scale Railway projects and the cases of preferential employment arising in the context of construction of Guna-Etawah broad gauge line are governed by the said extant instructions.

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

*[English]*

**Action against HFCL**

2013. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "DOT failed to

take action against HFCL : CAG" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated September 28, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Telephone Industries has been starving for lack of orders of 2GHz, whereas orders were being placed on HFCL; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the order placed on HFCL and on the ITI in the last three years;

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). To provide Subscriber Trunk Dialling Services in Rural/Semi Urban areas, it was decided to induct 2 GHz Digital Microwave Equipment and accordingly a tender was floated for first time during 1992-93 for the procurement of 3500 terminals of this equipment. The Purchase Orders were placed on the 13 short-listed bidders including M/s HTL(HFCL) and M/S ITI on the basis of their ranking in the tender. The tender did not have the condition of type approval at the time of opening of the tender. It may be stated that there was no out of tender reservation at that time.

(ii) To meet the objective of 8th Five Year Plan for providing STD to all exchanges, on review during 1995, it was decided to procure additional 1500 terminals against the earlier tender to meet the urgent requirement of 1995-96. The orders were placed on the firms who had obtained type approval namely M/s HTL(HFCL), M/s Shyam Telecom and M/s Fujitsu Optel. M/S ITI were not considered for placement of orders at this time as they did not possess valid type approval for this item. These orders were placed at the reduced negotiated prices, as indicated below:

Configuration	Tender Basic Price (Rs.)	Negotiated Basic Price (Rs.)
30 Chl (1+0)	810320	751885
120 Chl (1+0)	989420	922190

However, matter is under investigation.

(iii) The details of the orders placed during the last three years on M/s HFCL & M/s ITI are as below:

Year	HTL(HFCL) (Terminals)	ITI (Terminals)
1993-94	1050	420
1994-95		
1995-96	1048	344*

\* inclusive of advance purchase order of 300 terminals.

#### Modernisation of Exchanges in U.P.

2014. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for modernisation/expansion of telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and its suburban;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to install new telephone exchanges in the above states;

(d) if so, the details and the target fixed therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are being collected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details are being collected.

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

#### Revival of Sick Units

2015. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sick steel units of SAIL in the country at present;

(b) whether any revival plan for these has been undertaken by SAIL;

(c) the number out of these likely to be revived;

(d) whether SAIL has decided to invest 51% in West Bengal at 6% on washeries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of sick units likely to be revived during 1996-97; and

(g) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (g). SAIL is continuously making profits since 1984-85.

However, the following subsidiary companies of SAIL have been declared sick and referred to the BIFR.

- IISCO-Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Company Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited (IISCO).
- Indian Iron & Steel Company (IISCO)

IISCO-Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Company Limited was referred to BIFR in March 1994. The BIFR in its hearing dated 21.6.1996 decided that the company is not likely to exceed its accumulated losses within a reasonable time while meeting all its obligations and that it is just and equitable to wind it up. Pursuant to the BIFR order, a hearing was to be held on 2.12.1996 in Calcutta High Court which did not take place. IISCO was referred to the BIFR in June, 1994. In August, 1996, SAIL had invited offers for participation in the revival/modernisation of IISCO through a joint venture arrangement with SAIL retaining majority share-holding of 51% in the Joint Venture Company. SAIL have received offers from two parties viz. M/s Tyazhpromexport (TPE) of Russia and M/s Mitsui of Japan. SAIL had sought extension of time from the BIFR in order to further assess the offers received by them. The BIFR have since granted extension to SAIL till 6th January, 1997. The latest position is that M/s Mitsui of Japan have indicated their unwillingness for equity participation which is an essential requirement for selection of a Joint Venture Partner.

As IISCO has been referred to the BIFR, any scheme to be taken up for modernisation will have to be in accordance with the orders of the BIFR in this regard.

*[Translation]*

#### **'Namaskar' Service**

2016. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

KUMARI UMABHARTI :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Namaskar' Service has been closed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government have made any alternate arrangement in this regard;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

*[English]*

#### **Employees' Welfare Schemes**

2017. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any welfare schemes for the employees of the Department of Telecommunications and Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocation of funds made for these schemes during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, circle-wise, scheme-wise;

(d) whether these schemes are being implemented properly; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is placed in Statement-I for the Department of Telecommunications and in the Statement-II for the Department of Posts.

(c) The requisite information is placed in Statement-III for the Department of Telecommunications and in the Statement-IV for the Department of Posts.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details of the schemes being implemented are as mentioned for Part(b) above.

#### **STATEMENT-I**

##### *Details of the Welfare Schemes for the Employees of the Department of Telecommunications.*

- i. Setting up of and grant-in-aid to Staff Welfare Institutions such as Holiday Homes, Creches, Tailoring Centres, Schools, Recreation Clubs etc.
- ii. Financial assistance to Telecom staff welfare association and Telecommunications Women's Organisations.
- iii. Financial assistance to Telecom Teams/ Players for participation in various sports and games at All India/International level.
- iv. Organisation of arts and crafts competitions, exhibitions, holiday/scouting camps, etc.
- v. Organising training in first-aid and ambulance brigades, etc.
- vi. Providing immediate relief of an emergent nature for which no provision exists or can be made available in the normal way.
- vii. Financial assistance to deserving educational institutions sponsored by the staff of the Deptt.

- viii. Scholarships or other financial assistance to children or dependents of telecom employees for their education.
- ix. Financial and medical assistance in case of proved exceptional hardships resulting from serious or long illness or major surgical operations and financial assistance to the dependents of deceased telecom employees.
- x Such other specific purpose as the Telecom staff Welfare Board may decide.

#### STATEMENT-II

*Details of Welfare Schemes for Employees of the Department of Posts*

- i. Award of scholarships for the children of postal employees for technical/non-technical

- education.
- ii. Financial assistance to family members in case of death of employees.
- iii. Financial assistance to Postal Employees and dependents, in case of prolonged illness, for nutritive diet for TB patients, and for victims of natural calamities and for handicapped persons.
- iv. Provision of Recreation Clubs/facility of Holiday Homes at 20 places in the country.
- v. Assistance to Central Postal Ladies Organisation for activities for the welfare of the families and children of the employees of the postal department, like creches, coaching classes, tailoring, typewriting and shorthand.

#### STATEMENT-III

*Welfare Grants to Regional Staff Welfare Boards during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 : Deptt. of Telecom.*

S. No.	Name of Circle/Unit	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
		(In Rupees)	(for six months April'96 to Sept.'96)	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1032000	1072000	411000
2.	Assam	181000	308000	53000
3.	Bihar	483000	300000	146000
4.	Gujarat	1231000	1982000	451000
5.	Haryana	677000	300000	
6.	H.P.	nil	45000	61000
7.	J & K	nil	300000	nil
8.	Karnataka	1913000	1707000	485000
9.	Kerala	1517000	1100000	486000
10.	M.P.	1040000	667000	324000
11.	Maharashtra	1552000	1172000	nil
12.	North East	43000	37000	32000
13.	Orissa	451000	406000	203000
14.	Punjab	366000	388000	152000
15.	Rajasthan	602000	641000	322000
16.	Tamil Nadu	1816000	2032000	820000
17.	U.P.	1040000	1061000	412000
18.	West Bengal	425000	321000	240000
19.	A & N		50000	nil
20.	U.P. (West)			300000
TELEPHONE DISTRICTS				
21.	Calcutta	889000	387000	293000
22.	Madras	487000	1129000	4220001

1	2	3	4	5
<b>TELECOM PROJECT CIRCLES</b>				
23.	New Delhi	30000	100000	78000
24.	Madras	95000	163000	78000
25.	Calcutta	173000	180000	71000
26.	Bombay	121000	268000	126000
<b>TELECOM MAINTENANCE CIRCLES</b>				
27.	New Delhi	438000	253000	191000
28.	Madras	351000	314000	178000
29.	Calcutta	173000	300000	115000
30.	Bombay	374000	286000	190000
<b>TELECOM FACTORIES</b>				
31.	Bombay	150000	352000	150000
32.	Jabalpur	96000	135000	72000
33.	Calcutta	100000	105000	nil
<b>OTHER UNITS</b>				
34.	O.A. Bangalore	139000	143000	67000
35.	T&D Circle, Jabalpur	88000	209000	75000
36.	Telecom Stores, Calcutta	134000	93000	92000
37.	T.T.C. Jabalpur	51000	113000	55000
38.	A.L.T.T.C. Ghaziabad	80000	137000	69000
39.	Task Force, Guwahati	nil	50000	nil
40.	Telecom Directorate(Hqrs.)	192000	300000	500
<b>TOTAL</b>		18480000	19306000	7715000

Allotment of Fund is made Circle-wise and not Scheme-wise

#### STATEMENT-IV

*Details of allocation of funds, circle wise for the department of posts*

Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
		(Rs. in Lakhs)	(Rs. in Lakhs)	(Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.00	8.00	
2.	Assam	2.00	2.00	
3.	Bihar	3.00	3.50	
4.	Delhi	4.00	3.50	Allocation of Funds
5.	Gujarat	5.75	5.00	Not Made
6.	Haryana	2.00	2.00	So far
7.	H.P.	1.50	4.00	

1	2	3	4
8. J & K	0.75	1.00	
9. Karnataka	7.25	6.00	
10. Kerala	5.50	5.00	
11. M.P.	5.00	5.00	
12. Maharashtra	8.50	8.00	
13. North East	1.50	1.50	
14. Orissa	3.25	3.00	
15. Punjab	5.15	3.50	
16. Rajasthan	3.00	4.00	
17. Tamil Nadu	9.25	9.00	
18. U.P.	10.00	9.00	
19. West Bengal	9.00	7.50	
20. Directorate	0.60	0.50	
Total	95.00	91.00	

Allotment of Fund is made Circle-wise and not Scheme-wise

*[Translation]*

**Expansion of Computerised Reservation at Ranchi Railway Station**

2018. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the computerised reservation office at Ranchi Railway Station keeping in view the overcrowding there;

(b) if so, the time by which the expansion work is likely to be done;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are aware of the demand for opening of extension counter of railway reservations at Gumala and Lohardaga district headquarters; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By April, 1997.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

*[English]*

**Non -Availability of Accommodation in Trains**

2019. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of persons have been buying journey tickets in the New Delhi-Howrah and Howrah-New Delhi routes by Poorva Express, and they are kept under 'Waiting List' and then denied any accommodation in the train;

(b) if so, the details of average daily number of persons on waiting list for Poorva Express and Kalka-Howrah Mail for all classes during the last two years;

(c) whether the frequency of Poorva Express via Gaya is going to be increased to 'Daily' in lieu of three days a week as now; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The average number of passengers left on the waiting list by 2381/2382, 2303/2304 Poorva Express and 2311/2312 Kalka Mail in different classes varies as under:-

Down direction towards Howrah		
I AC	-	1
II AC	-	4 to 8
Sleeper Class	-	23 to 88

Up direction towards Delhi		
I AC	-	5 to 10
II AC	-	20 to 40
Sleeper Class	-	300 to 400

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[Translation]

### Doordarshan/AIR Kendras in Bihar

2020. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the districts in Bihar where there are no Doordarshan/AIR Kendras;

(b) whether any requests have been received from various districts to cover more areas of the State for setting up DD/AIR Kendras there;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) All India Radio/Doordarshan do not have district-wise scheme for setting up of stations/kendras. However, Bihar is fully covered by 10 radio stations and by a 200 KW MW transmitter at Siliguri. All the districts in the state are wholly or partially covered terrestrially by TV service including the districts of Vaishali, Saran, Jehanabad, Nalanda, Samastipur, Purnia and Kishanganj, where no relay kendras exist at present.

(b) to (d). Whereas All India Radio has not received any request from State Government during this year, requests for setting up of TV transmitters have been received by Doordarshan. Such requests are duly considered after taking into account factors such as existing coverage, resultant coverage, technical, suitability, etc. and expansion plans are formulated accordingly.

### Monitoring of Railway Functioning

2021. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn towards the news-item captioned 'panel to monitor Railways functioning' appearing in the 'Financial Express' dated September 2, 1996;

(b) if so, whether the Government have decided to constitute a panel to monitor the functioning of the railways;

(c) if so, the time by which the said panel is likely to be constituted; and

(d) the level at which the said panel is proposed to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Monitoring cells headed by an Officer on Special Duty has been set up in the Ministry of Railways for monitoring complaints/suggestions relating to punctuality of trains, passenger amenities including cleanliness and catering services on the railway. Separate cells for monitoring complaints/suggestions on these aspects have been set up at the Zonal and Divisional levels also.

### STD Facility in Tourist Centres of Madhya Pradesh

2022. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for providing STD facility at tourist places in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the STD/ISD/FAX and Telex facilities are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of (a) above.

### Telephone Facility in Madhya Pradesh

2023. SHRIMATI CHHABIA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges in Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the number of telephone exchanges having STD facilities;

(c) the number of telephone exchanges likely to be linked with STD facility during 1997-98

(d) the number of persons waiting for telephone;

(e) the time by which waiting list is likely to be cleared;

(f) the number of Gram Panchayats having telephone facility in Bastar;

(g) the number of Gram Panchayats not having telephone facility; and

(h) the time by which all the Gram Panchayats are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) 59

(b) 26

- (c) 17
- (d) 1463
- (e) The waiting list is likely to be cleared by March, 1997.
- (f) 673
- (g) 661
- (h) All the Gram Panchayats are likely to be covered with telephone facility during IXth Plan period.

### Survey for New Railway Lines

2024. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : SHRI K. PARASURAMAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey for new railway lines has been conducted/proposed to be conducted during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, zone-wise;
- (c) the allocation made for each survey; and
- (d) the time by which the survey is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). The information is contained in the Demands for Grants Part-II, pages 2.1.01 to 2.1.22 supplied to the Hon'ble Members with the documents of the Railway Budget 1996-97 and may kindly be referred to.

- (d) The completion of surveys is a gradual and on-going process.

*[English]*

### Implementation of New Labour Policies

2025. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to use the services of ILO in framing and implementing new labour policies;
- (b) if so, whether the Planning Minister attended the tripartite workshop on Economic Reforms and Labour policies organised by ILO;
- (c) if so, whether the findings of the report "Indian Reforms and Labour Policies" were discussed in the workshop; and
- (d) if so, the type of help ILO has agreed to provide to India?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) to (d). Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

### Development of St. Mary's Island

2026. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal was made by the Government of Karnataka to the Union Government to develop St. Mary's Island of the Mangalore Coast as a tourist Centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (c). Development of tourist centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, however the Department of Tourism provide Central Financial assistance for specific projects based on their merits, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

Government of Karnataka has not submitted any proposal for development of St. Mary's Island of Mangalore.

*[English]*

### Use of Helicopters

2027. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that with the entry of a number of multinational corporation in oil, power and other key areas the potential for use of helicopters is likely to witness a great upsurge in the next few years;

(b) if so, the present strength of helicopter fleet owned by the Government and other private corporates and the plans drawn up for their expansion in future;

(c) details of operations planned by the private corporate to provide regular services for promotion of tourism in various sectors; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to strengthen infrastructure facilities for increased operation of helicopters including training facilities for pilots and supporting staff and workshop for maintenance/repairs etc.?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fleet strength of helicopters of various agencies is as under :-

Central Government

4

State Governments

18

Public Sector Undertakings (including Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.)	51
Air Taxi Operators	19
Private Companies	42

*In addition Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. would receive 2 helicopters during December 1996 and private operators hold permission to import 10 helicopters.*

(c) No proposal has been received from any private operator to provide scheduled helicopter service for tourism purpose.

(d) Guidelines have been framed to ensure that facilities and infrastructure exist/are created for operations, maintenance and training of the personnel for helicopter based operators.

#### **Hospet-Mahaboobnagar Railway Line**

2028. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to conduct a survey for laying a railway line between Hospet and Mahaboobnagar;

(b) if so, the time by which the survey is likely to be completed; and

(c) the time by which the work on above line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey for a new BG line from Munirabad (near Hospet) to Mehaboobnagar has been included in the Budget, 1996-97.

(b) 31.03.1997

(c) Consideration of the project will only be possible, once the results of the survey become available.

*[Translation]*

#### **Air Services for Ajmer and Pushkar**

2029. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has offered free land for connecting the religious places Ajmer and Pushkar with air services; and

(b) if so, the time by which the airport is likely to be constructed there?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Airports Authority of India (AAI) has requested the State Government to acquire 460 acres of land for construction of an airport at Ajmer suitable for operation of AB-320/B-737 type of aircraft. The State Government has not so far confirmed the

acquisition of land. The land is therefore, yet to be handed over and as and when the State Government hands over the requisite land AAI would take up the project.

#### **Development of Railway Stations**

2030. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Railway Stations modernised/developed/ expanded in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the names of the Railway Stations which are being modernised/developed/expanded in Uttar Pradesh and expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(c) the names of the Railway Stations proposed to be modernised/developed/expanded in near future;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up any new Railway Stations in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Lalitpur, Jhansi, Orai, Banda, Mahoba, Chitrakutdham, Saidraja, Chopan, Billi, Barakalan, Duhinagar, Chandauli, Majhwar, Tulsi Ashram, Kuchm, Renukoot, Krishnashilla, Saktinagar, Deoria Sadar, Indara, Badshahnagar, Basti, Allahabad, Belthara Road, Deoria Sadar, Salempur, Kasganj, Ballia, Gonda, Agra Fort, Faizabad, Mirzapur, Allahabad, Firozabad, Varanasi, Lucknow, Bhadoi and Ghaziabad.

(b) Mathura, Jhansi, Agra Cantt., Dildarnagar, Mughalsarai, Belthara Road, Mau Jn., Salempur, Bhatni, Ghazipur city, Deoria Sadar, Manduadih, Allahabad City, Pilibhit, Lucknow, Lalkuan, Gorakhpur, Gonda, Kanpur Central, Tundla, Varanasi, Allahabad Jn. and Aligarh. Likely expenditure on development of these stations is Rs.16.90 crore.

(c) Modernisation/development/expansion of railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken on need based programme depending upon the overall availability of funds in each financial year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **Allocation of Funds for providing Passengers Amenities**

2031. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

SHRI N.I. RATHWA :

SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA :

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of allocation of funds for providing Passenger Amenities at the railway stations of Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the targets have been achieved during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the passenger amenities provided so far;

(d) whether drinking water is available for passengers in sufficient quantity at railway stations of Badodara, Chhota Udepur, Panchmahal, Bharuch, Jambusar and tribal areas of Gujarat; and

(e) if not, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). Allocation of funds for the provision of passenger amenities at stations are provided to the Railway Zones according to their requirements and no state-wise bifurcation of allocations are maintained. Amenities at stations are provided as per norms based on the volume of passenger traffic and all stations are provided with the same. Drinking water facility is provided at all railway stations.

#### Setting up of Ancillary Units of VSP

2032. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up Task Force for setting up of ancillary/downstream projects for Visakhapatnam Steel Project;

(b) if so, the names of the companies and products selected during the last three years;

(c) whether MOU has been signed with all the units selected by the Task Force for the supply of raw material;

(d) the names of the selected companies with which

the MoU has not been signed so far and the reasons therefor;

(e) the units which have started commercial production; and

(f) the steps initiated to encourage the development of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Yes, Sir. In September, 1990 the Government of Andhra Pradesh constituted a special Task Force with the District Collector, Visakhapatnam as the Chairman and representatives from Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, District Industries Centre of Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation, Andhra Pradesh State Finance Corporation and the State Bank of India as the members.

(b) Since 1993-94 thirty seven (37) downstream and ancillary industries have been identified. The names of the downstream and the ancillary units selected are given in the Statement-I.

(c) So far, MOU has been signed with 28 units.

(d) MOU has not been signed with remaining 9 units, details of which are given in the enclosed statement-II

(e) 14 units have started commercial production as indicated in the enclosed statement-I.

(f) The progress of the units which are yet to be commissioned and which are not performing well is being regularly followed up by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant through the constituted special Task Force. These entrepreneurs are also being counselled both by Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and the Task Force. On review and after a reasonable/sufficient period a decision to cancel the non-performers is taken by the Task Force.

#### STATEMENT - I

##### Units Selected in Last Three Years

Product/Name of the Unit	Whether MOU entered into	Whether in operation	Remarks
1	2	3	4
<i>Downstream Industries</i>			
HP Napthalene			
Andhra Organics	No		On review it was decided to make further value added items internally.
Himadri Chemicals	No		
Slag based Industries			
Sri Ratnagiri Cements	Yes	Yes	
Sri Sowbhagya Cements (I) Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
Himalaya Cements Pvt. Ltd.	Yes	Yes	

1	2	3	4
Himagiri Cements (P) Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
Visakha Cements (P) Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
Nilkantha Cements Pvt. Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
Sri Haripriya Cements Pvt	Yes	Yes	
Sri Saptagiri Cements Pvt. Ltd	Yes	Yes	
Sri Sai Industries Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
Sunder Cements (P) Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
<i>SSR Cements &amp; Allied Building Materials (P) Ltd.</i>	Yes		Under Implementation.
Surya Chakra Cements Pvt. Ltd.	Yes		
Nagachandra Cements	Yes		
Sajeela Cements (P) Ltd.	Yes		
Samudra Cements Pvt. Ltd.	No		Being taken up with the parties.
Dolphin Cements (P) Ltd.	No		
<i>Coke Dust</i>			
Sri Krishna Steels (P) Ltd.	Yes		Cancelled due to no progress
<i>Reliable Bitumens</i>	No		No progress, being taken up with the party.
Sai Teja Enterprises	Yes		Under implementation.
Threepuramba Enterprises	Yes		
<i>Tar Pitch Based</i>			
Hemadri Chemicals & Ind.	Yes	Yes	
Tarchem (P) Ltd.	Yes		Under implementation.
Atkal Tar Products	Yes		Cancelled.
<i>Benzene Based</i>			
Prahari Aromatics	No		Being taken up with the parties.
Harrington Chemicals (P) Ltd.	NO		
G. Mallayya	No		
<i>Billet based Units (Rolling Mills)</i>			
Velagapudi Steels Ltd.	Yes		Under implementation
Lorven Steels Pvt. Ltd.	No		Being taken up with the party.
<i>Wire Rod Based</i>			
Surana Industries	Yes	Yes	
Gowthami Steels (P) Ltd.	Yes	Yes	
Visakha Iron & Steel Ltd.	Yes		Under implementation.
Madanlal Steel & Forgings	Yes		Cancelled due to no progress
I T W Signode (I) Ltd.	Yes		
<i>Fly Ash Based</i>			
Techsearch Australia	Yes		Under implementation.
<i>Ancillary Industries</i>			
<i>Wire Rope Slings</i>			
Madras Hard Tools	Yes	Yes	

## STATEMENT - II

Coke Dust Based: Reliable Bilumens	Unit selected by task force in March, 1995. Also accepted by VSP party has not shown any interest and has not responded to VSP's letters.
HP Naphthalene Based: Andhra Organics Himadri Chemicals	Units selected by Task Force in Septemebr, 1995. Subsequently VSP decided to withdraw this item and produce value added items internally from HP Naphthalene with additional facilities.
BF Slag Based Samudra cements Pvt Ltd. Dolphin Cements Pvt. Ltd	Units selected by Task Force in September, 1995. Accepted by VSP. Parties invited to set up the units. Being followed up with the parties.
Benzen Based Prahari Aromatics Harrington Chemicals Ltd.	Units selected by Task Force in September, 1995. Accepted by VSP. Being followed up with the parties.
G MALLAYYA	Units selected by Task Force in September, 1996. Accepted by VSP. Parties invited to set up the units. Being followed up with the party.
BILLET BASED Lorven Steels Pvt. Ltd.	Units selected by Task Force in September, 1996. Accepted by VSP. Parties invited to set up the units. Being followed up with the party.

## Electrification of Railway Routes in Gujarat

[Translation]

2033. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIP SINH  
GAEKWAD :

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of rail routes electrified in Gujarat so far;
- (b) the present position of rail routes on which the electrification work is in progress; and
- (c) the rails routes which are proposed to be electrified in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The details of rail routes electrified in Gujarat are as under :-

Section	Route Kilometre
i) Sabarmati-Ahmedabad-Ghovad	372
ii) Gondhra-Anand	78
iii) Vadodara-Nahargarh	173
iv) Sabarmati-Chandoliya	05
v) Chandoliya-Gandhinagar	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>651</b>

(b) At present, no electrification work is in progress in the State of Gujarat.

(c) Udhna-Kikakui Road section which is a part of Jalgaon-Udhna electrification project is proposed to be electrified in IX Five Year Plan.

## Introduction of Superfast Train between Ranchi and Delhi

2034. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to start a new superfast train service between Ranchi and Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). Introduction of a new train service between Ranchi and Delhi is under examination and action as found justified and feasible will be taken.

## Introduction of Shatabdi Express Train between Delhi and Bareilly

2035. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the previous Government had given the assurance that Shatabdi Express train would be started between Delhi and Bareilly; and

(b) if so, the action being taken to fulfil the assurance and the time by which the assurance is likely to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Live Telecast of Janmastami**

2036. DR. VALLABH Bhai KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast of Janmastami Celebration being relayed at Dwarka in Jamnagar district of Gujarat live as " The Lord Krishna Birthday of Mathura in UP & Lord Jagannath Yatra" at Orissa is being telecast live;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether representations from various quarters and Members of Parliament and MLAs have received in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes Sir. A few representations, including one from an Hon'ble Member of Parliament, were received.

(e) Due to constraints of infrastructural facilities and non-availability of micro-wave link between Dwarika and Ahmedabad, it is not possible by Doordarshan to provide live telecast of Krishna Janmashtami celebrations from the Dwarikadheesh Temple, Gujarat.

[Translation]

**Maintenance of Telephones in N.C.R. Delhi**

2037. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that effective steps have been taken during the last months to bring improvement in the maintenance services of telephones in the National Capital Region of Delhi by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the other facilities likely to be enjoyed by the subscribers as a result thereof;

(c) whether the above steps taken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam could not be implemented throughout Delhi;

(d) if so, the percentage of telephone subscribers benefited in Delhi as a result thereof; and

(e) the time by which all the subscribers are likely to benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following steps have been taken by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd., Delhi for improvement in the services:-

i) Fault Repair Services of all major exchanges are computerised.

ii) Replacement of old and life expired equipments.

iii) Replacement of old fault prone under ground cables.

iv) Pole mounted Distribution points being converted into wall type distribution points.

v) Strict norms laid down for repair of faulty phones.

(c) All the above steps are being implemented throughout Delhi.

(d) All the subscribers of Delhi have been benefitted.

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

**Skilled/Unskilled Workers in BSP**

2038. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of skilled and unskilled workers and officers in the Bokaro Steel Plant upto March, 1996 since the commissioning of the said steel plant, category-wise;

(b) the number of contract labourers in the Plant at present;

(c) the task for which these workers have been engaged;

(d) the number of skilled and unskilled apprentices recruited temporarily;

(e) the details of skilled and unskilled workers recruited during each of the last three years category-wise; and

(f) the procedure adopted for the said recruitments?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Category-wise number of employees in Bokaro Steel Plant since its commissioning is as follows:

Manpower position as on	Executive	Non-Executive	Total
31.3.1972	1167	12651	13818
31.3.1973	1548	21390	22938
31.3.1974	2088	28073	30166
31.3.1975	2646	29508	32154
31.3.1976	2925	29390	32315
31.3.1977	2993	30210	33203
31.3.1978	3093	31999	35092
31.3.1979	3363	36156	39519
31.3.1980	3513	38626	42139
31.3.1981	3757	40378	44135
31.3.1982	3842	43177	47019
31.3.1983	4031	45806	49837
31.3.1984	4094	47202	51296
31.3.1985	4112	47466	51578
31.3.1986	4178	48398	52576
31.3.1987	4195	48260	52455

  

Manpower position as on	Executive	Non-Executive		Total
		Skilled	Unskilled	
31.3.1988	4295	19412	28084	51791
31.3.1989	4480	21596	25268	51344
31.3.1990	4459	22673	24362	51494
31.3.1991	4697	21069	21258	47024
31.3.1992	4715	23900	18690	47305
31.3.1993	5057	24005	19017	48079
31.3.1994	4991	23957	18780	47728
31.3.1995	5381	23529	18626	47536
31.3.1996	5292	23845	18150	47287

(Breakup of skilled/unskilled workers in Non-Executive cadre for the years from 1971-72 to 1986-87 was not being maintained).

(b) The total number of contract labour in Bokaro Steel Plant as on 1.11.1996 was 3809.

(c) Bokaro Steel Plant is engaging contractors for short duration for such works which are non-perennial in nature, like cleaning, repair, maintenance, material handling etc. Contractors in turn deploy labourers for completing the same.

(d) Bokaro Steel Plant does not recruit skilled and unskilled apprentices temporarily.

(e) Appointments made during the last three years are as under:-

Year	Skilled	Unskilled	Total
1993-94	3	489	492
1994-95	32	320	352
1995-96	54	184	238

(f) The said recruitments have been made through notification issued to the local employment exchange and press advertisement issued on all India basis. Further, as per policy, some of the appointments have been given on compassionate grounds to dependents of the deceased employees who died while on duty.

#### Installation of Metro Channel Gujarat

2039. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from Government of Gujarat for installation of some Metro Channel Transmitters in the State;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which these are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d). Representations are received from time to time, from various quarters, including the State Governments, for expansion of Metro Channel (DD-2) service of Doordarshan to more areas of the country. While the service is available throughout the country, including the entire State of Gujarat, via satellite by using an appropriate dish antenna system, terrestrially this service is being extended initially to State Capitals and major cities of the country, in a phased manner, depending on availability of resources and inter-se priorities. At present, a High Power TV transmitter (HPT) at Ahmedabad and a Low Power TV transmitter (LPT) at Gandhinagar are relaying Metro Channel (DD-2) service in the State of Gujarat. There is no approved scheme, at present, to set up any additional DD-2 transmitter in the State during the VIII Plan.

*[English]*

#### **Mobilisation of Funds from Capital Market**

2040. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have tried to mobilise funds from the capital market for the promotion of tourism during the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the target fixed for this purpose is likely to be achieved;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the purposes for which the funds are being mobilised from the capital market?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The Tourism Finance Corporation of India (TFCI), a specialised public financial institution has raised a sum of Rs.153.65 crores so far, during the current financial year.

(c) to (d). The TFCI envisages raising an additional Rs.100 crores by March, 1997 by way of private placement of unsecured bonds. These funds are being raised to meet the requirements of financial assistance for the tourism industry.

*[Translation]*

#### **Introduction of Train from Bodh Gaya**

2041. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government propose to start

any train between Gaya, Bodh Gaya and Delhi or Sounth India:

- (b) if so, the details thereof
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to start Varanasi-Tirupati Express and Varanasi-Cochin Express from Gaya; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

*[English]*

#### **A.C. Chair Car Facility in Trains**

2042. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA T. : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of trains having A.C. Chair Car facility till date;
- (b) the number of superfast trains have been provided with 3-tier A.C. sleeper accommodation in place of chair car accommodation;
- (c) whether the Government propose to re-introduce A.C. chair car accommodation as many passengers cannot afford to travel by 3-tier A.C. sleeper in view of steep increase in fares; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

#### **Introduction of New Superfast Train**

2043. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the inconvenience and difficulties being faced by the large number of passengers travelling on Firozpur-Faridkot-Kotaka Pura-Bhatinda-Delhi route due to the non-availability of any fast express train on this route;

(b) if so, whether keeping in view the rush of passengers on this route and difficulties being faced by

them the Government propose to introduce a Shatabdi train on the Firozpur-Faridkot-Kotkapura-Bhatinda-Delhi route; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Punjab Mail and Janata Express provide fast service on the said route, besides one pair of passenger service.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Marathi Channel on Doordarshan

2044. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No.5477 dated September 12, 1996 regarding starting of Marathi channel on Doordarshan and State:

(a) the progress made so far in this regard;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra have also approached the Union Government to allot around one hour's time for Marathi in the morning telecast and during the Prime Time telecast on Doordarshan channel;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) There is no change in the position.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra vide his letter dated the 19th August, 1996 has requested that Prime Time between 7.00 p.m. and 8.30 p.m should be exclusively earmarked for 'Mai Marathi'.

(d) Does not arise, as the time slot between 4.30 to 8.30 PM (Monday to Friday) and 4.30 to 7.30 PM on Sunday on DD-I is already dedicated to regional programmes in Marathi.

#### Basic Telecom Services

2045. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL :

DR. LAXMINARAYANA PANDEY :

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that not a single licence has been issued to any one for basic telecom services;

(b) whether no company has accepted the letter of intent so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) action being taken in this regard; and  
(e) the penalty imposed on the companies for the delay in executing the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). Out of the seven Letter of Intent holding companies, five of them have accepted the letter of intent for their respective allocated Service Area and the cases relating to the remaining two companies are subjudice in the High Court of Delhi.

Alongwith the Letter of Acceptance, the companies have raised certain issues pertaining to Licence and Interconnect agreements, viz. Assignability of Licence, Interconnect charges, Advance deposit against bills, External Commercial borrowings Force Majeure, Arbitration provisions etc. and these are still being reviewed by the Government.

#### Non-Functioning of Telephones

2046. COL. RAO RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints of non-functioning of telephones provided to gram panchayats of Mahender Garh, Rewari and Gurgaon Districts of Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which these telephones are likely to be made functional; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to provide telephones to such Gram Panchayats of the above districts where there are no telephone?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 15% Village Public Telephones are reported faulty in Mahendergarh, Rewari and Gurgaon Districts.

(c) These faulty telephones are likely to be made functional by end of January 1997.

(d) Of 531 left over villages in these three districts, 320 are planned to be provided with Village Public Telephones during 1996-97. The remaining 211 villages are likely to be covered during 1997-98.

#### Villages Connected with Telephone Connections

2047. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages connected with/without telephone facilities in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to provide telephone facilities to all villages;

(c) the time by which all the villages are likely to be provided telephone facilities; and

(d) the estimated funds required therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The information about the number of villages with/without telephone facilities state-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c). The Government is planning to provide telephone facilities to all the villages of the country during the IXth Plan period.

For this purpose, Village Public Telephones (VPT) programme is being implemented to provide at least one VPT in every village of the country. Private operators are expected to supplement the efforts of DOT in providing VPT in the villages.

(d) About Rs. 3,500 crores funds is required for this.

#### STATEMENT

S.No.	Circle	Total Villages as on 1.4.96	No. of Villages with VPT as on 1.4.96	No. of Uncovered villages as on 1.4.96	Target 96-97
1.	Andaman Nicobar	292	91	201	201
2.	Andhra Pradesh	29460	18653	10807	4000
3.	Assam	22224	8430	13794	500
4.	Bihar	79208	12043	67165	6500
5.	Gujarat	18125	12903	5222	4000
6.	Haryana	7018	6661	357	357
7.	Himachal Pradesh	16997	4041	12956	1000
8.	J & K	6453	1461	4992	600
9.	Karnataka	27024	13361	13663	3000
10.	Kerala	1530	1530	0	0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	71526	28012	43514	9850
12.	Maharashtra	40430	23034	17396	5000
13.	North East	14197	2492	11705	1000
14.	Orissa	46989	12750	34329	5000
15.	Punjab	13252	8501	4750	4750
16.	Rajasthan	37889	12274	25615	6500
17.	Tamil Nadu	20196	14430	5766	3200
18.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	75462	17692	57770	9000
19.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	37106	9957	27149	6000
20.	West Bengal	38337	8125	30212	5000
21.	MTNL, Delhi	191	191	0	0
		603906	216632	387273	75458

North East Circle includes Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya.

[Translation]

### Pilferage of Coal

2048. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE  
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of pilferage of coal and other items booked by wagons have come to Government's notice during the last three years, till date.

(b) if so, the details showing the quantity and value of goods pilfered, zone-wise and state-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government against the persons involved in such cases and to check the recurrence of these incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The statistics in this regard are maintained Railway Zone-wise. Two statements separately showing the details of theft/pilferage of coal and other items booked by wagons are enclosed.

(c) The persons involved in thefts/pilferages of booked consignment are dealt with under the provisions of law and sent to the Court for trial.

The following steps are taken by the Government to check the recurrence of these incidents in future:-

1. Escorting of trains carrying coal and other valuable consignments over the vulnerable sections as far as possible.
2. Intensive beat patrolling in the yards and other affected areas/sections.
3. Joint checking at the interchange points to take stock of the conditions of wagons/seals.
4. RPF armed pickets are posted/deployed in the vulnerable sections as far as possible.
5. Plain-clothed RPF personnel are also deployed to collect crime intelligence with a view to tracking down the criminals.
6. Based on the criminal intelligence, raids and searches are conducted on the dens of the criminals/receivers of the stolen property in order to bring them to book.
7. Dog squads are deployed for patrolling the vulnerable yards and areas.
8. Close coordination between the RPF, the GRP and the local police is maintained at various levels to apprehend the criminals and the receivers of the stolen property.

### STATEMENT - I

*Comparative Statement showing the cases of theft/pilferage of booked consignments  
(Excluding coal) during transit over Indian Railways  
during the financial years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (upto October, 1996)*

Rlys.	Period	No. of Cases	Value of Property		Persons Arrested
			Stolen	Recovered	
1	2	3	4	5	6
C.R.	1993-94	795	3693095	1300487	181
	1994-95	702	16904483	12273737	231
	1995-96	394	3493812	1027534	89
	Apr. to Oct.'96	105	561994	276603	98
E.R.	1993-94	4090	15937001	1009905	125
	1994-95	3219	18057056	1597651	164
	1995-96	2383	10821990	878559	95
	Apr. to Oct.'96	1213	5473407	955458	113
N.R.	1993-94	1112	7818869	1114922	312
	1994-95	933	7157550	1412874	310
	1995-96	887	4977524	2126688	333
	Apr. to Oct.'96	377	2079528	1004779	216
N.E.	1993-94	843	3998459	75758	66
	1994-95	642	5226338	216680	36
	1995-96	558	2269136	365111	27
	Apr. to Oct.'96	5	7450	120	1

1	2	3	4	5	6
N.F.	1993-94	1306	11300194	286790	88
	1994-95	1212	6768456	186722	70
	1995-96	1117	5670115	143301	52
	Apr. to Oct.'96	80	773579	275910	79
S.R.	1993-94	1564	4023746	99520	76
	1994-95	987	3261388	227613	77
	1995-96	611	2773436	396653	90
	Apr. to Oct.'96	4	9580	9380	15
S.C.	1993-94	439	1481682	378455	130
	1994-95	296	1586437	913201	216
	1995-96	205	560215	44228	38
	Apr. to Oct.'96	6	20650	14168	18
S.E.	1993-94	1756	4050179	813519	166
	1994-95	1172	6285176	1350368	118
	1995-96	846	4290041	45526	152
	Apr. to Oct.'96	30	1115625	470565	59
W.R.	1993-94	730	6094282	497693	197
	1994-95	662	3269189	315095	177
	1995-96	660	3049025	424555	173
	Apr. to Oct.'96	49	152897	110482	68
TOTAL	1993-94	12635	58397507	5577049=10%	1341
	1994-95	9825(-22%)	68516073(+17%)	18493941=27%	1399
		1399			
	1995-96	7661(22%)	39905294(-42%)	5452155=14%	1049
	Apr. to Oct.'96	1869	10194710	3117465	667

### STATEMENT - II

Comparative statement showing the cases of Theft/Pilferage of Coal during transit over Indian Railways during the financial years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 (Upto October, 1996)

Rlys.	Period	No. of Cases	Value of Property Recovered		Persons Arrested
			Stolen	Recovered	
1	2	3	4	5	6
C.R.	1993-94	-	-	-	-
	1994-95	-	-	-	-
	1995-96	91	23990	23990	136
	Apr. to Oct.'96	29	6731	6731	27
E.R.	1993-94	33	119779	110919	30
	1994-95	56	125915	138265*	133
	1995-96	326	856508	908148*	343
	Apr. to Oct.'96	50	103835	105835*	159

1	2	3	4	5	6
N.R.	1993-94	70	473382	10025	38
	1994-95	106	365699	1285	15
	1995-96	59	492008	2095	18
	Apr. to Oct.'96	18	214300	14655	14
N.E.	1993-94	4	1720	1720	4
	1994-95	2	160	160	2
	1995-96	35	21435	21435	54
	Apr. to Oct.'96	-	-	-	-
N.F.	1993-94	-	-	-	-
	1994-95	-	-	-	-
	1995-96	7	1260	1260	11
	Apr. to Oct.'96	-	-	-	-
S.R.	1993-94	-	-	-	-
	1994-95	-	-	-	-
	1995-96	-	-	-	-
	Apr. to Oct.'96	-	-	-	-
S.C.	1993-94	-	-	-	-
	1994-95	-	-	-	-
	1995-96	2	8700	8700	17
	Apr. to Oct.'96	13	19685	19685	35
S.E.	1993-94	60	606115	609115	33
	1994-95	57	434183	417683	118
	1995-96	54	295191	294591	130
	Apr. to Oct.'96	49	79450	79450	91
W.R.	1993-94	-	-	-	-
	1994-95	8	3265	3265	15
	1995-96	2	440	440	6
	Apr. to Oct.'96	71	40949	40949	119
TOTAL	1993-94	167	1200996	731779=61%	105
	1994-95	228(+37%)	929222(-23%)	560658=60%	283
	1995-96	576(+153%)	1699525(+83%)	1260659=74%	715
	Apr. to Oct.'96	230	464950	267305	445

\* The recovery has exceeded the quantity stolen on Eastern Railway due to recovery of unreported and unconnected coal.

#### Residential Accommodation to Employees in M.P.

2049. DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the employees of Post and Telegraph Department have been provided residential accommodations in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the allottees, District-wise, category-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Department of Post : No, Sir.

Department of Telecom : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Department of Post: Due to non-availability of sufficient funds, the Department has not been able to construct residential accommodations for all the employees in Madhya Pradesh.

Department of Telecom : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### Multinational Project for Rural Coverage

2050. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's first IT multinational project involving an investment of \$ 850 millions have decided for 100 per cent Rural Coverage of India both in Cellular telephones and Communication;

(b) if so, the rural areas which are proposed to be covered in India by the company;

(c) the time by which this is likely to be completed, and

(d) the States where the programme is likely to be undertaken during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) There is no such proposal with the Department of Telecommunications.

(b) to (d). Not applicable in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

#### Halt of Train at Ayodhya

2051. DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dera and Sealdah express trains which passes through Ayodhya halts there only for 2 minutes and due to which passengers are facing great difficulties and they miss their trains due to lackness of time;

(b) if so, whether the time of halt of said trains will be raised from 2 minutes to 5 minutes;

(c) if so, the time by which the time of halt of these trains is likely to be raised; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). 3152 Jammu Tawi-Sealdah Express stops for 2 minutes, 3151 for 5 minutes, 3009/3010 Doon Express for 4 minutes. Increase in duration of halt of 3152 Express to 5 minutes is neither feasible due to operation constraints nor justified.

[English]

#### Daitari-Banspani Project

2052. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost of on-going Daitari-Banspani Project;

(b) the amount actually spent on this project upto October, 1996;

(c) whether EXIM bank of Japan has shown interest in extending loan to Railways for the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which loan is likely to be received alongwith steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The present anticipated cost is Rs.402 crores excluding Electrification.

(b) Rs.67.90 crores (upto September, 1996)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Project report has been submitted to them for consideration.

(e) This will be known only after their response and terms and conditions have been received and considered by the Government.

#### Open Skies Policy

2053. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the private air operators who entered the Indian skies under the "Open Skies Policy" have either disappeared from the scene or are grounded and facing prospects of closure;

(b) if so, whether the Government have since reviewed the operation of the policy and gone into the cause of failure, partial or total in respect of the different Air-operators;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to secure a fair competition to the State-owned operators?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Out of the seven scheduled private airlines holding permit to operate scheduled air transport services, two are not operating air services due to non-availability of operational aircraft.

(b) to (d). A proposal to review the policy on domestic air transport services is under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

#### Telephone Services in Tribal Districts of M.P.

2054. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared/ proposed to prepare any scheme to connect Panchayats

with telephone service in tribal districts of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the number of Panchayats in rural area connected with communications facility so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) All Villages of the country are to be provided with at least one Village Public Telephone and Panchayats will automatically get covered under this policy.

(b) Total 19226 Panchayat Villages have been provided with telephone facility in Madhya Pradesh. District-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

#### STATEMENT

*District-wise details of gram panchayats with telephone facilities.*

S.No.	Name of District	Total No. of villages
1	2	3
1.	Balaghat	464
2.	Bastar	673
3	Betul	475
4.	Bhind	315
5.	Bhopal	127
6.	Bilaspur	907
7.	Chhatarpur	339
8.	Chhindwara	650
9.	Damoh	303
10	Dantewada	154
11.	Debas	430
12.	Dhar	348
13.	Durg	446
14.	Guna	512
15.	Gwalior	258
16.	Hoshangabad	412
17.	Indore	272
18.	Jabalpur	678
19.	Jhabua	33
20.	Khandwa	534
21.	Khargon	744
22.	Mandla	659
23.	Mandsaur	528
24.	Morena	635
25.	Narsinghpur	365
26.	Panna	159
27.	Raigarh	721
28.	Raipur	1025

1	2	3
29.	Raisen	489
30.	Rajgarh	426
31.	Rajnandgaon	379
32.	Ratlam	218
33.	Rewa	348
34	Sagar	547
35	Sarguja	299
36.	Satna	331
37.	Sehore	302
38.	Seoni	389
39.	Shahdol	384
40.	Shajapur	456
41.	Shivpuri	440
42.	Sidhi	271
43.	Tikamgarh	254
44.	Ujjain	387
45.	Vidisha	378
Total		19226

#### Dilapidated Communication System in Sambal

2055. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether communication system of Sambal is in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the number of complaints/representation received in this regard; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). No, Sir, some representations have, however, been received about replacement of the electromechanical exchange by an electronic exchange.

(c) It is planned to replace the existing electromechanical exchange by an electronic exchange, during the current financial year.

*(English)*

#### Airlines Expansion

2056. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Airline expansion may lead to traffic chaos in skies" appearing in the Financial Express dated October 1, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the private airlines are keen to induct more planes and the expansion of fleet by private airlines is going to create congestion in the skies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The news-item reports that the growth in air traffic has led some of the private airlines to plan for acquiring more capacity.

(c) to (e). Induction of capacity and expansion of related infrastructure are on-going process. In order to ensure safety, security and orderly growth of air transport operations, keeping in view the availability of infrastructural facilities, and as per existing policy, addition of capacity is being permitted to the existing scheduled operators and new operators are allowed import of aircraft upto 50 seat capacity.

### Stake in the Air Lanka

2057. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and the Air India are interested in the 40% stake in the Air Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the manner in which the Air India and the Indian Airlines are likely to be get benefited as result of acquisition of stake in the Air Lanka particularly in view of their dismal performance in managing their own operation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

### Preparation of Tourism Plans

2058. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have been asked to prepare perspective tourism Plans for the next 16 to 20 years;

(b) if so, the details of State which have prepared such plan and submitted to the Union Government for approval;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to make proper coordination so that those plans are cleared and also the funds made available; and

(d) the details of the schemes of the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The following State Governments have prepared Master Plans for development of Tourism.

i)	Andhra Pradesh
ii)	Goa
iii)	Himachal Pradesh
iv)	Karnataka
v)	Kerala
vi)	Madhya Pradesh
vii)	Punjab
viii)	Rajasthan
ix)	Tamil Nadu
x)	Assam
xi)	Andaman and Nicobar

(c) to (d). The Master Plans are intended to provide a comprehensive set of activities for the development of Tourism over a period of time and assign priorities for implementation by the respective State Governments. The Planning Commission, the State Government concerned and the Department of Tourism discuss the plan together. Funds for projects derived from the Master Plans are drawn from the Centre, State Governments and the Private Sector.

### Development of Railway Stations

2059. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN :

PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Railway Stations modernised/expanded/Developed in Kerala during the last three years;

(b) the names of the Railway Stations which are being modernised/expanded/developed in Kerala and expenditure likely to be incurred thereon alongwith budgetary allocation and completion date thereof;

(c) the names of the Railway Stations proposed to be modernised/expanded in near future;

(d) whether Government are aware of the difficulties experienced by the passengers due to lack of facilities at Alleppey Railway Station; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Calicut, Ernakulam Jn, Tellicherry, Changanacherry, Chengannur, Pattambi, Trivandrum Central & Cannanore.

(b) Various development works have been taken up at Trichur, Ettumanur, Kayankulam Jn. and Chalakudi at

a total cost of Rs.108.07 lakh with an outlay of Rs.72.90 lakh during 1996-97. Works at these stations are expected to be completed by March, 1998.

(c) Modernisation/expansion of railway stations is a continuous process and the same is undertaken on need based programme depending upon the overall availability of funds in each financial year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

### Growth Rate of HCL/HZC

2060. SHRI P.R. DASMUINSI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Copper Limited and Hindustan Zinc Corporations have been working according to the expected growth rate of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the modernisation Plan and growth rate projection for Ninth Plan period of those organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Because of resource constraints, required investments could not be made by Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) for expansion of smelting and refining capacity from 47500 TPA to 61500 TPA. Hence production of refined Copper remained almost static during the VIIIth Plan period.

Non-stabilization of the new Lead-Zinc Smelter at Chanderiya and unremunerative prices of imported Lead Concentrates have resulted in lower than targetted production by Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) during VIIIth Plan period.

(d) HCL has conceived of a plan for expansion of Smelter and Refinery at the Khetri Copper Complex from 31000 TPA to 100000 TPA during the IXth Plan period thereby increasing the smelting and refining capacity of the Company from existing 47500 TPA to 116500 TPA.

HZL has conceived of a plan to expand the existing Zinc smelting capacities by 20000 TPA and to set up a new Zinc Smelter of 60000 TPA capacity during the IXth Plan period.

### Aero Magnetic Survey on Minerals Deposits

2061. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Aero-Magnetic Survey was undertaken by Australia to explore the possibility of mineral deposit in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken for the proper exploitation of diamond, gold and other precious minerals in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)and (c). An Area of 75,000 sq. km has been covered by aero-magnetic surveys by Orissa Government in Phulbani, Boudh, Bolangir, Naupara, Angul, Dhankanal and parts of Kalahandi and Mayurbhanj districts with the help of World Geoscience Ltd., Australia. Data collected through survey require analysis and it is premature at this stage to indicate any steps for exploitation of the minerals.

### Survey Report of Angamaly-Muvattupuzha-Pala-Erumely

2062. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received final report of survey of Angamaly-Muvattupuzha-Pala-Erumely railway line,

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the time by which the work on above line is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

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

*[Translation]*

### Tower Telephones

2063. DR. G.R. SARODE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether tower telephones have been installed in some panchayats of Jalgaon district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the cost of expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the number of such tower telephone which are unfunctional; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to make them functional?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Village Public Telephones have installed using MARR Technology in some Panchayats of Jalgaon district of Maharashtra.

(b) There is Rs.80,000 on an average expenditure per VPT.

(c) Total 212 Nos. of VPTs on MARR system are unfunctional.

(d) All efforts are being made to keep all the MARR telephones in good working condition.

### Crash of Archna Airways at Mandi

2064. SHRI SAT MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the investigation pertaining to the crash of Archna Airways in district Mandi near Kulu Air strip, Himachal Pradesh has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the results of the investigation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Investigation Report is under consideration of the Government.

### Construction of over Bridges in Kerala

2065. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of on-going construction works of Railway Over bridges in Kerala;

(b) the amount spent thereon so far and the expected expenditure for the completion of the above works;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the inordinate delay in completion of the constructin work of Ambalapuzha rail over bridge in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay and steps taken so far and proposed to be taken for the speedy completion of the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Details are as under:

Name of work	Cost Estimated to be incurred by Railway lakhs Rs.	Expenditure incurred by Rly. so far lakhs Rs.
1	2	3
1. Road over bridge on link Road (NH.47A) connecting Wellington Island & Cochin bypass.	375.95	141.95
2. Road under bridge at Varkala.	189.16	-

1	2	3
3. Road Over bridge between wada- kancheri & Muluguna thuka vu.	30.65	12.65
4. Road Over Bridge near Tellicherry.	91.86	103.68

(c) and (d). Due to contractual problem the work got delayed. 80% work has now been completed. Rest expected to be completed by 31.5.1997.

### New Railway Lines under Ambala and Moradabad Divisions

2066. SHRI MUNAWWAR HASSAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to lay a new railway lines under Ambala and Moradabad Division; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

*(English)*

### Increase in Criminal Activities

2067. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether criminal activities have been increased no-a-days in Orissa-New Delhi bound trains due to slackness of the concerned personnels; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

*[Translation]*

### Engagement of Commander/Pilots on Contract Basis

2068. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to engage Pilots, Commanders etc. on contract basis, in the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the other measures proposed to be taken to meet the situation arising out of acute shortage of such personnel?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). To meet the existing and unforeseen shortage of commanders, the Government has permitted Indian Airlines to appoint superannuated Commanders having current licences, on contract, for a period of two years and upto the age to 60 years.

[English]

#### Trans Asian Railway Network

2069. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of Trans Asian Railway network; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The proposed Trans Asian Railway is being considered by UN-ESCAP under its Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development Project. Its main objective is to provide basic rail link from South East Asia to Europe. It is envisaged that the network would also connect land locked countries with main parts in neighbouring territories by extending railways.

Presently, UN-ESCAP has undertaken three feasibility studies. Specific project proposals have not been formulated and no target date can be suggested.

[Translation]

#### Tire at Delhi Airport

2070. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of fire have damaged Government property at various airports in the country especially in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details of the damage of property, State-wise/airport-wise;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in these fire incidents;

(d) if so, the inquiry-wise details thereof; and

(e) the safety measure taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). During the period 1994 the following fire incidents took place at various airports in

the country:-

1994 - No incidents.

1995 - One incident -

Vayudoot Office in Terminal 18 of Mumbai airport caught fire on 18.2.95. The damage was estimated at Rs.3.02 lakhs. Cause of fire was cable fire.

1996 - Three incidents -

(i) On 1.2.96 there was fire incident at Tiruchirapalli airport in Tamil Nadu in which two oil tanks of IOC and oil shed were gutted. Loss to Airports Authority of India and IOC were estimated at Rs.70,000 and Rs.2.5 lakhs respectively.

(ii) On 19.8.96 there was fire at Guwahati airport due to electric short circuit. Loss to Airport Authority of India was estimated at Rs.2000/-.

(iii) On 30.10.96, Terminal 1A of Delhi airport was completely destroyed due to fire. Loss of property to Airports Authority of India is estimated at Rs.11 crores. An expert Committee is investigating into the cause of the fire.

(e) A one time check and inspection of the fire fighting arrangements including the fire alarm system at all terminals of the airports has been conducted. Fire detection and alarm system, fire extinguisher, wet riser and fire hydrant system and fire dampers in the return airduct of A/C system have been provided at the terminal buildings.

#### Development of Children Films

2071. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the development of children films in the country is not proper and satisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). The films meant for children, catering as they do to a specific age group, have a limited market and hence tend to be produced in limited numbers.

(c) The Children's Film Society, India (now called the National Centre of Films for Children and Young People or N'CYC in short) has been set up for production of children's films in various languages. In 1995-96 it was given a grant-in-aid of Rs.160 lakhs under plan for production of children's films. N'CYC also organises an International Children' Film Festival

every alternate year, inviting outstanding children's films from all over the world. Films certified as children's films by the Central Board of Film Certification are considered by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for grant of exemption from entertainment tax. Government also gives an award to the best children's film every year in the National Film Festival.

#### **Inadequate Telephone Facilities in Maharashtra**

2072. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts of Maharashtra where telephone facilities are inadequate;

(b) whether any proposal for expansion of communication facilities in those districts are under consideration; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). There is waiting list in all the districts of Maharashtra and the details of waiting list for the telephone connections, district-wise as on 31.10.96 are given in Annexure. There are proposals to expand communication facilities in all the districts of Maharashtra. The targets for providing telephone connection district-wise during 1996-97 are also given in Annexure.

#### **STATEMENT**

Names of districts in Maharashtra with waiting list for telephone connections and the target for providing telephones during the current year (1996-97)

Sl.No.	Name of Districts	Waiting List	Target for
		as on	1996-97
31.10.96			
1	2	3	4
1.	Jalgaon	12562	5800
2.	Raigad	6548	7000
3.	Kalyan	65172	36000
4.	Ratnagiri	6018	1800
5.	Sindhudurg	3083	1500
6.	Sangali	12787	7000
7.	Satara	7626	5800
8.	Solapur	9597	8800
9.	Nagpur	16448	13000
10.	Beed	2907	1700
11.	Jalna	1631	700
12.	Latur	3676	3000
13.	Osmanabad	1514	1200
14.	Parbhani	1634	1600

	1	2	3
15.	Ahmednagar	14669	9200
16.	Aurangabad	8045	7600
17.	Nanded	2439	2700
18.	Nasik	26646	15300
19.	Dhule	8359	4700
20.	Pune	54808	39500
21.	Akola	3658	3900
22.	Amravati	4815	3700
23.	Bhandara	1793	1100
24.	Buldhana	2132	1000
25.	Kolhapur	12761	4400
26.	Chandrapur	2912	2500
27.	Gadhchiroli	412	(262)*
28.	Wardha	1715	1500
29.	Yeotmal	3273	1000

Note : - \* Out of 2500 of Chandrapur SSA.

[English]

#### **Survey for Talcher-Sukinda Railway Line**

2073. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey has been conducted on the proposed Talcher-Sukinda railway line in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to construct that line; and

(c) the estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The survey report is under finalisation in consultation with the Zonal Railway. Further consideration of the Project jointly with Planning Commission will be possible once the results of the survey are finalised.

(c) As per the survey report, the estimate cost is Rs.245.58 crores.

#### **Introduction of New Trains from Rajasthan**

2074. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any demands have been made by the Government of Rajasthan for introducing new trains from Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether some of their demands have been examined; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to introduce new trains during the last three years;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is attached.

### STATEMENT

*Trains Introduced serving Rajasthan during the last three years (Jan. '94 to Oct. '96) include :*

1994

1. 391/392 (New No. 199/200) Bikaner-Jaipur Fast Passenger
2. 4721/4722 New Delhi-Sriganganagar Express
3. 393/394 Jodhpur-Bikaner Passenger
4. 2465/2466 Jodhpur-Jaipur Express
5. 181/182 Jaipur-Rewari Express
6. 183/184 Alwar-Rewari Shuttle
7. 185/186 Alwar-Mathura Shuttle
8. 2413/2414 Jaipur-Delhi Express.
9. 2015/2016 New Delhi-Jaipur Shatabdi Express
10. 4711/4712 Chandigarh-Sriganganagar Express
11. 9735/9736 Jaipur-Sikar-Lohari Express
12. 10 Pairs of Rail Bus services between marta Road and Merta City.

1995

1. 2461/2462 Mandore Express
2. 4863/4864 Marudhar Express
3. 187/188 Jaipur-Hissar shuttle
4. 9759/9760 Jaipur-Delhi Express
5. 2467/2468 Bikaner-Jaipur Express
6. 1 JPJ/2 JPJ Jaisalmer-Jodhpur Passenger
7. 2307/2308 Jodhpur-Howrah Express
8. 4 pairs of Rail Bus services been Bikaner-Kolayat

1996

1. 33/34 Nimach-Chittaurgarh Passenger
2. 2413A/2414A Jaipur-Ajmer Express
3. 2307A/2308A Bikaner-Merta Road Link Express

4. 9767/976B Jaipur-Madras Express (Weekly)
5. 201/202 Ajmer-Jaipur Fast Passenger
6. 1/2 DR Ratangarh-Degena Passenger
7. 4311/4312 Ajmer-Bareilly Express

### Disallowing the Sponsored News Programmes

2075. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to disallow sponsored news programmes on Doordarshan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether current affairs programmes are likely to be allowed on Doordarshan provided they are submitted for regular vetting of officials of Doordarshan; and

(d) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Current Affairs programmes under sponsored/commissioned categories are already being allowed on Doordarshan provided they conform to the Broadcast Code and Doordarshan's prescribed guidelines.

[Translation]

### Additional Railway Route Length

2076. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of net addition of railway route length in the country during the last three years, zone-wise;

(b) the details of the target and achievement during the above period;

(c) whether it is a fact that the net addition of route length was negligible in the Western Zone during the above period; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The zone-wise net addition of railway route kilometers during the last three years is indicated in the statement attached.

(b) The target of construction of new lines was 428 Kms. against which achievement has been 374 Kms. There has also been some addition to route length due to adjustments resulting from gauge conversions.

## STATEMENT

Railway	Route Kms. as on 31.3.93	Route Kms. as on 31.3.96	Net Addition in route length	Remarks
Central	7,076	7,047	(-)29	Decrease due to handing over of a portion of Mathura-Alwar Section to Western Railway
Eastern	4,303	4,318	(+) 15	
Northern	10,995	11,004	(+) 9	
North Eastern	5,130	5,107	(-) 23	Deccrease due to closure of portion of line in Lucknow Division and handing over some portion of Northern Railway
Northeast Frontier	3,858	3,816	(-) 42	Decrease partially due to closure of Champarmukh-Silghat Town Line.
Southern	7,009	7,049	(+) 40	
South Central	7,218	7,203	(-)15	Due to updating electrified route kilometre in double line Section in Secunderabad Division.
South Eastern	7,161	7,351	(+)190	
Western	9,736	10,020	(+)284	
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,486</b>	<b>62,915</b>	<b>(+)429</b>	

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

details of the Indian Railway Projects in abroad, country-wie?

**Railway Projects in Abroad**

2077. SHRI BRAHAMAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : A statement is attached.

## STATEMENT

*Two of the Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Railways, namely, Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd., (RITES) and IRCON International Ltd. (IRCON) are implementing/executing railway projects aborad. The details are as under :*

*RITES*

S.No.	Country	Project	Value
1	2	3	4
01	Mozambique	Professional services of Financial Expert and Accounts Officer to CFM	0.212 m USD
02	Botswana	Management Support Services Projects	0.389 m USD
03	Ghana	Advisory Consulting Engineer Services to Ghana Railway Authority	0.083 m USD

1	2	3	4
04	Cameroon	Addl. Engineering studies for Melong-Dschang Rd.	0.140 m USD
05	Tanzania	(a) General management Support, Tanzania Railway Corporation (b) Computerisation of Incentive Schemes for Tanzania Railway Corporation (c) Fuel Economy Study for Tanzania Railway Station (d) 140 km Track Renewal Project Tanzania Rlys. Corporation (e) Technical Management Support Tanzania Rly. Corporation	0.393 m USD 0.159 m USD 0.151 m USD 0.275 m USD 0.320 m USD
06	Nepal	(a) Preparation of DPR and Construction management for 9 bridges in Nepal - Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India (b) Rehabilitation of Diggie Bridge on Janakpur Rlys. (c) Rail link between India & Nepal (d) Environmental Impact Assessment Study for MMT and TFT in Nepal (e) Supply of 2 Nos. locomotives, 12 passenger coaches and support services	Rs.248 lakh Rs.7 lakh Rs.7.50 lakh Rs. 7 lakh Rs.501.20 lakh
07	Bhutan	Preparation of DPR and tender documents for 3 bridges in Bhutan	Rs.28 lakh
08	Tunisia	MEA of India	
08	Tunisia	Upgradation of wagons carrying phosphates	Rs.41 lakh
09	Malaysia	(a) Consultancy services on automatic Knuckle Tipe couplers (b) Consultancy for maintenance mana-gemnt services for KTMB's freight wagons and passenger coaches (c) Consultancy services in railway electrification for KTMB's freight wagons and passenger coaches	28.22 lakh Rs.0.177 m USD 0.095 m USD
10	Mauritius	Reservoir Sedimentation studies in Mauritius	0.135 m USD
11	Sri Lanka	Supply of one WDM6 BG loco	Rs.320 lakh
12	Vietnam	(a) Supply of spare parts for diesel locomotives YDM4 and AC coaches (b) Supply of loco spare (c) Supply of diesel loco spares	292 lakh Rs.0.80 lakh Rs.52.93 lakh
13	Peru	(a) Supply of diesel loco spares spare for ALCO engine	Rs.120.30 lakh

1	2	3	4
14	Chile	Supply of diesel loco spares for ALCO engine	Rs. 1 lakh
15	Bangladesh	Maintenance of locomotive	Rs. 1800 lakh
<i>IRCON :</i>			
1	Tanzania	Supply of 100 BS 80A turnouts and accessories to Tanzania Railway Corp.	269 lakh Rs.
2	Nepal	(a) Construction of Pension Paying Office Complex at Dharan	354 lakh Rs.
		(b) Road Rehabilitation Project	981 lakh Rs.
3	Bangladesh	(a) Railway Signalling and interlocking work for six railway stations on Mymensingh-Jamalpur section of Bangladesh Railways	600 lakh Rs.
		(b) Second Road Rehabilitation and Maintenance Project	3000 lakh Rs.
4.	Iran	Signalling Project on Ahwaz-Badare-Imam section of Islamic Republic of Iranian State Railways. Contract signed but work not yet start.	2055 lakh Rs.
5.	Malaysia	a) Leasing of 10 additional YDM4 diesel locomotives for the use by the Malayan Railway. b) Earlier supplied 24 locos now under maintenance	5068 lakh Rs.
		c) Construction and commissioning of the south chord line near Port Klang in Malaysia.	275 lakh Rs.
6.	Angola, Italy & lebanon.	Contract for provision of engineering and support services to the United Nations, New York.	US \$ 4.95 million

[English]

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

**Rajbhasha Hindi Awards**

2078. KUMARI SUSHIL TIRIYA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Rajbhasha Hindi test is conducted annually among the employees of All India Radio;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the norms fixed for selecting panel of judges;
- (d) whether the selection of employees for giving award has been done on merit this year; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

**Shortage of coaches**

2079. SHRI JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there are shortage of all types of coaches in Eastern, North Eastern Frontier and South-Eastern Railways;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to provide spare coaches to these zones;
- (c) whether these zones have to take coaches from other zonal railways;
- (d) whether Shatabdi Express between Howrah and New Jalpaiguri has not been introduced for want of coaches; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) There is no shortage of coaches for running the trains with scheduled composition.

(b) and (c). During 1996-97, Eastern Railway have been allotted new air brake coaches for introduction of 3017/3018 Howrah-Rampurhat Express, for conversion of 2307/2308 Express into air brake and during the year, they will also be given new coaches for conversion of 3143/3144 Mail into air brake. S.E. Railway have been given coaches for conversion of 2801/2802 Express into air brake. Similarly N.F. Railway will be given new coaches for conversion of 5659/5660 Kamrup Express and 5645/5646 Express into air brake during the current year.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Facilities to Railway Employees at Tikiapara Railway Yard**

2080. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees who are performing their duties in night at Tikiapara Railway Yard of Eastern Railway are facing lot of hardship in the absence of insufficient light, doctors, ambulance, telephones and canteen facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have to perform their duties at docks which are always full of dirty water;

(c) whether it is a fact that attention have been drawn towards the high officials of Eastern Railway about these problems; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

(e)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir. Canteen facilities are available during day time.

(b) Tikiapara is a low lying area and prone to water logging during monsoon. Pumps which are operated round the clock are provided to remove the water.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Adequate lighting arrangements are ensured at the Tikiapara Coaching Yard and the arrangements regularly checked. Adequate Telephone facilities are available at Howrah Orthopaedic Hospital of the Railway, which is about 2 Kms. from Tikiapara Yard, in addition to Doctors at Tikiapara Dispensary during day time. Meetings are held with Mayor, Howrah Municipality for the improvement of the drainage system to solve the water logging problem. [Translation]

#### **Western Television Culture in the Country**

2081. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any formal cultural policy keeping in view the increasing effect of Western Television Channels in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Paging Services**

2082. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the newstime captioned "Pagers : A fat book but a few pages missing" appearing in 'The Economic Times', New Delhi dated November 6, 1996;

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

(c) the measure being taken by his Ministry to meet the likely growth of the paging services subscribers base; and

(d) the reaction of the Government regarding the demand by the subscribers for cellular phones and pagers in the near future and in which area this is likely to raise the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No study of market for Paging & Cellular Services have been carried out by Department of Telecom.

(c) and (d). Department of Telecom has licensed Radio Paging and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services to Indian Registered companies on a non-exclusive basis. The number of slots for Cellular Service has been fixed as two and for Radio Paging Service between 2 to 5 in a service area. No licence has been granted for Cellular Service in Jammu & Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar Territorial Telecom. Circles. Also no licence has been issued for Radio Paging Service in Bihar Circle excluding Patna city. It is expected that the licensee companies shall meet the growth of paging and cellular services subscribers base in the country.

[Translation]

### Inconvenience to Tourists

2083. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of the inconvenience caused to the tourists and the occurrence of accidents at Fatehpur Sikri area due to heavy damage of Agra-Jaipur National Highway No.11 between Agra-Fatehpur Sikri and due to heavy traffic at this narrow route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India makes all out efforts to keep all National Highways in a traffic worthy condition within the resources available. As regards National Highway 11, the restoration of damaged road caused due to heavy flood is in progress as per the report received from the State Government.

[English]

### Production of AC-I Coaches

2084. SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have stopped production of AC-I coaches;

(b) if so, the reasons for attaching combined AC-I, II coaches with Kalka Mail, Poorva Express, Darjeeling Mail, Bombay-Howrah Mail, Amritsar Mail, Coromandal Express and Gitanjali Express;

(c) whether it is a fact that passengers have disliked these combined coaches;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether full AC-I coaches have to be provided to Eastern South Eastern and North Eastern Railway;

(f) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Partial I A.C. coaches have been provided on Kalka Mail and Purva Express in view of increase in upper class accommodation in this sector by Rajdhani Express. While there is no I A.C. coach on Coromandal and Geetanjali Expresses, Full I A.C. coaches are running on Bombay-Howrah and Amritsar Mails. Partial I A.C. coach on Darjeeling Mail has been replaced by a full I A.C. coach w.e.f. 18.11.1996.

(c) and (d) Partial I A.C. coaches have been in use for a very long time. Provision of partial or full I A.C. coaches is dependent on the traffic potential. Patronage of partial I A.C. coaches has been good.

(e).No, Sir.

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

### Railway Connection in West Bengal

2085. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have provided only north-south connection throughout West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether there are demands to provide east-west connection in West Bengal;

(c) if so, the steps taken in this direction to provide such connections between Murshidabad, Nadia, Birbhum and Bankura, Purulia and Midnapore;

(d) whether it is a fact that this connection is urgently needed by constructing railway lines from Durgapur to Jhargram via Bankura, from Raniganj to Bankura via Mejia and by conversion of Barddhaman-Katwa narrow gauge line into Broad gauge;

(e) whether his Ministry propose to give due consideration to connect Eastern Railway line with South Eastern Railway to provide direct link with all district;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if no, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) East West connections are available between Naihati and Bandel and between Chamararam and New Farakka.

(b) to (d) Do not arise. However, a survey for conversion of Bankura-Damodar Railway with extn. to Tarakeswar/Burdamman/Durgapur has been taken up and further consideration of this link would become possible once the survey report becomes available.

(e) and (f). South Eastern Railway and Eastern Railway are already linked to each other.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Telephone Exchanges

2086. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for setting up Telephone exchanges at Bandarbela, Sanjan, Panchlai and other places of Balsad district in Gujarat;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes. Sir. There is a demand for setting up telephone exchanges at Bandarbela, Panehlar and other place of Balsad District in Gujarat. There is no village named Panchlai in this district. It seems to be a misprint for Panehlar.

At Sanjan a telephone exchange is already working.

(b) it is planned to set up telephone exchanges at Bandarbela and Kakawad during 1996-97. The applicants of Panehlar will be provided connections from the telephone exchange proposed at Krishnapur during 1997.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

### Misuse of Local Telephone

2087. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any provision exists to check misuse of local telephones as in done in case of STD locking facility by Dynamic locking system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to introduce secret code locking system for local telephones in Delhi and Mumbai; and

(d) if so, the time by which the secret code locking system is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). Subscribers enjoying dynamic locking facility can check misuse of local calls as well as STD/ISD calls by debarring all types of outgoing calls.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.[English]

### Post Offices in Tamil Nadu

2088. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to open post offices in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details there alongwith target fixed therefor; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Post Offices are opened progressively under Annual Plan Scheme subject to fulfilment of Departmental norms and availability of resources. The policy of the Department is to open post offices in rural areas preferably in Gram Panchayat villages where basic postal facilities do not exist apart from developing colonies and industrial areas. 6 Extra Departmental Post Offices have, however been opened during the year against a target of 2 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu during the current Annual Plan.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.[Translation]

### Waiting List for Telephone Connections :

2089. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications pending for grant of telephone connections, as on date, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to clear them expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The number of pending applications as on 31.10.96 are as per statement enclosed.

(b) it is proposed to provide about 24.5 lakh telephone connections by DOT during 1996-97, thus achieving 86 lakh new connections during 8th Plan. The same growth rate is proposed to be maintained in future also.

### STATEMENT

*Number of pending applications for grant of telephone connection, as on 31.10.1996, State-wise.*

Sl.No.	State	Waiting List for
		Telephone connections
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	215625
2.	Assam	27335
3.	Bihar	57435
4.	Gujarat (Including Dadar, Diu, Daman and Nagar Haveli)	284644
5.	Haryana	97297
6.	Himachal Pradesh	46588
7.	J & K	28844
8.	Karnataka	230318
9.	Kerala (including Lakshadweep U.T.)	5903330

1	2	3
10.	Madhya Pradesh	62223
11.	Maharashtra (Including Goa)	388276
12.	North East (Including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura)	14920
13.	Orissa	23057
14.	Punjab (Including Chandigarh U.T.)	228129
15.	Rajasthan	188753
16.	Tamil Nadu (Including Pondicherry U.T.)	442902
17.	Uttar Pradesh	178104
18.	West Bengal (Including Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands)	156759
19.	Delhi	73861

[English]

#### Telecom Equipments

2090. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain/telecom equipments, namely 8 Mb/s. (OLTE MUX DDF) meant for 11 States including Andhra Pradesh have been diverted to U.P., depriving the consigness to other State;

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

(c) the time by when other States including A.P. are likely to get these consignments of these equipments;

(d) whether any enquiry has been made or proposed to be made to penalise the officers responsible for the diversion; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the equipment was diverted to meet urgent requirements in Eastern U.P. Circle. However, before the supply of the diverted equipment could commence, the allocation of the

diverted equipment was restored to all these 11 States and also additional quantities were allotted to all these States.

(c) All States including Andhra Pradesh are likely to get the allotted equipment during the current financial year.

(d) and (e). In view of reply to (b) & (c) above, question does not arise.

#### A 310S and L-1011 Aircraft on Wet Lease

2091. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up any investigation team to enquire into the deal of three Airbus A-310s and two Lockheed L-1011 aircrafts on wet lease from Europe based Caribjet and US based Aero Club;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said team is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). Allegations contained in a newsitem published in The 'The Daily' (Mumbai) about certain aspects of the said wet-lease arrangement of Air India are under verification by the Central Bureau of Investigation. No definite time frame can be indicated at this stage for completion of the verification.

[Translation]

#### Complimentary Card Passes

2092. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number of complimentary card passes issued during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : The number of Complimentary Card Passes issued during the last 3 years is as under :

1	2	Category	1994	1995	1996
			3	4	
(i)	Former Members of Parliament	=	1258	1301	1620
(ii)	Arjuna Award Winner, Olympic Medalists and Gold Medalists of Asian and Commonwealth Games	=	-	-	318
(iii)	Presidents and Secretaries of National Sports Federations (NSFs) and State Olympic Association (SOAs) affiliated to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA)	=	-	-	41

1	2	3	4
(iv)	Recipients of Gallantry Award and widows of winners of Gallantry Awards (Chakra series)	=	352
(v)	Complimentary Card passes at the discretion of Minister of Railways to organisation and individuals	= 186	323 423

### Noida-Greater Noida Rail Link

2093. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to connect NOIDA and Greater NOIDA in Uttar Pradesh with Railway Network;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the survey has been conducted or proposed to be conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). A survey has been taken up. Further consideration of the project will be possible once the survey report becomes available.

### Misleading Advertisement on Doordarshan

2094. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMORIA :

KUMARI UMABHARTI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the recent spate of advertisements on television and on other media which give misleading, incomplete and wrong information to the consumers;
- (b) whether the Government propose to put a ban on such misleading advertisements;
- (c) if not, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (d). Telecast/Broadcast of advertisements on Doordarshan and All India Radio is guided by the provisions of the Commercial Code and any advertisement which does not conform to the Code is not allowed on Doordarshan and All India Radio. Whenever complaints and reports on contravention of the code, if any, is received, both Doordarshan and All India Radio take suitable remedial action.

### Setting up of New Steel Plants

2095. DR. BALIRAM :

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

KUMARI UMABHARTI :

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI KACHARU BHAN RAUT :

SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up some new public sector big/medium/small steel plants in the country;

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

(c) the criteria for selection of any site in the State;

(d) the quantity of steel likely to be increased by setting up of any new steel plant alongwith period thereof;

(e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;

(f) the details of private companies which have been allowed to set up above mentioned steel plants, State-wise, location-wise;

(g) the number of licences issued for setting up steel plants and the facilities have been provided in this regard, and

(h) the number of pending applications for setting up of steel plants and by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) According to the new industrial policy announced in July, 1991 "Iron & Steel Industry" has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the Public Sector and also exempted from the purview of compulsory licensing. No Industrial Licence is, therefore, required to set up Iron and Steel production/processing facilities, except for certain national restrictions. Entrepreneurs are, therefore, free to set up such facilities anywhere in the country based on their commercial judgement. At present, Union Government do not propose to set up any new greenfield integrated steel producing unit in the country. However, the State Government of Orissa has proposed to set up an integrated steel plant under the name and style of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd., in which some of the Central

Public Sector Undertakings have/proposed to have equity participation.

(d) to (f). According to available information, the details of new steel plants set up/being set up since the announcement of the new industrial policy in July, 1991 are annexed.

(g) While no industrial licence has been issued for setting up of new steel plants under the new industrial policy, however, one letter of Intent has been issued in

February, 1995 to M/s Progressive Steels (India) Ltd., for setting up of steel plant in private sector for manufacture of mild stethel ingots and allow steel castings for a capacity of 28,000 tonnes per annum at Digha Ghat, Distt. Patna, Bihar. As per available information this company has already installed production facilities. The said copany has not approached the Government for extending any facilities/assistance.

(h) No application for setting up of new steel plant is pending under the new industrial policy.

#### STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Unit and Location	Capacity L.Tonnes	Investment Rs. Crs.	Status/Date of Commissioning
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Nova Udyog Ltd. (Nainital, U.P.)	2.40 B&R	101.40	Closed, under BIFR in Dec., 1993
2.	Indian Seamless S&A Limited (Pune, Maharashtra)	1.50 B&R/Seamless Bar	175.00	In production Dec. 1994
3.	Lloyds Steel Ind. (Wardha, Maharashtra)	6.00 HRC/CRC/CPGC Diversification	885.90 326.00	In production Dec. 1995 Under Impl. Oct. 1996
4.	Rajender Steel Ltd. (Raipur, M.P.)	1.70 HRC 1.30 (Exp)	215.83 118.50	In production Jan. 1996 Under Impln. June, 1996
5.	ESSAR Steel Ltd. (Hazira, Gujarat)	20.00 HRC	3933.00	In production March, 1996
6.	Prakash Ind. Ltd. (Bharuch, Gujarat & Silvasa, DNH)	1.20 Billets/LP (Rolling Mill at Silvasa)	62.52	In production Mar. 1996 Under Impln.
7.	Jindal Strips Ltd. Raigarh, MP	5.00 Slab/Billets	421.00	In production Mar. 1996
8.	NGVA Steels (I) Ltd. (Bilaspur, MP)	2.00 (WR/B&R)	140.00	Under Impln. Sept., 1996
9.	Kalyani Steels Ltd. (Raichur, Karnataka)	2.15 Blooms/LP	231.00	Under Impln. Sept., 1996
10.	Malvika Steel Ltd. (Jagdishpur, UP)	5.75 (WR/B&R)	1532.50	Under Impln. Jan., 1998
		(1st RF Commissioned, producing pig iron)		
11.	Jindal Vijayanagar Steel (Bellary, Karnataka)	12.50 HRC	3300.00	Under Impln. Stage-I; Dec., 96 Stage-II; Sep., 97

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Southern L&S Co. Ltd. (Salem, Tamil Nadu) (BF Commissioned, Producing pig iron)	2.20 B&R, WR	450.00	Under Impln. Mar., 1997
13.	SJK Steel Corp. Ltd. (Anantpur, AP)	2.63 LP/Billets	405.00	Under Impln. April, 1997
14.	Trident Steels Ltd. (Dahej, Gujrat)	1.00 LP	99.00	Under Impln. Apr., 1997
15.	NIPPON Denro Ispat Ltd. (Raigad, Maharashtra)	30.00 HRC	4570.00	Under Impln. 50% by July, 1997 50% by July, 1998
16.	Kumar Met. Corp. Ltd. (Nalgonda, AP)	1.25 WR	127.00	Under Impln. March, 1998
17.	Grand Foundry Ltd (Pune, Maharashtra)	1.20 B&R, WR	260.00	Under Impln.. April, 1998
18.	Usha Ispat Limited (Satarda, Maharashtra)	6.00 LP	1400.00	Under Impln., Sept., 1998
19.	Bellary S&A Ltd. (Bellary, Karnataka)	4.14 LP	891.00	Under Impln., Sept., 1998
20.	Bhuwalka Inds. Ltd. (Bellary, Karnataka)	2.70 Billets	452.00	Under Impln., April, 1999
Total		112.62	20095.75	

*[English]*

#### Saturated Trunk Routes

2096. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all trunk routes are fully saturated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Heavy freight train of 9000 tonnes and above per train instead of present 3600 tonnes - 4500 tonnes per train may solve this vexing capacity problem keeping in view that a Non-Resident Indian (NRI) had demonstrated this revolutionary system in 1989;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received a proposal recently from the Australian Delegation for Cooperation in regard to Heavy Haul Freight Train Operation;

(f) if so, whether the Government are considering for a cooperation agreement with Australia;

(g) whether the Government propose to operate Heavy Haul Freight Train along with the position of earlier project started by Non-Resident Indian; and

(h) if so, the details thereof along with the benefits of using the Heavy Haul Freight Train Operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). As per the estimates, about 70 per cent of the total traffic on Indian Railways is carried via the trunk routes.

(c) to (h). Heavy haul operation of freight trains is one of the methods of increasing ability of Railways to move more traffic on same route. Introduction of heavy haul trains is an area of continuing research. Indian Railways has experimented with heavy haul operation by running train upto 9000 tonnes. Exchange of views with foreign Railways, including Australian Railways, has also taken place. However, certain technological and infrastructural problems are yet to be overcome before the system can be implemented.

[Translation]

**PCOs in Rural Areas**

2097. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to provide a number of PCOs and upgrade the capacity of many lines into automatic trunk exchanges in rural areas of Bihar during the current year is under consideration of the Government;

(b) the details thereof, district-wise; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c). There is a proposal to provide 6500 village Public Telephones (VPTs) PCOs in rural areas of Bihar during 1996-97. District-wise details of proposed PCOs are given in the enclosed Statement.

There is no proposal to upgrade the capacity of many lines into automatic Exchanges in rural areas of Bihar during 1996-97. Trunk Automatic Exchanges are provided at Secondary Switching Areas (SSAs)/District Headquarters.

**STATEMENT***District-wise Details of proposed PCOs*

Name of District	Target fixed by Telecommunications Department to provide VPTs during 1996-97
Ara	353
Bhagalpur	283
Chhapra	357
Darbhanga	398
Dumka	282
Dhanbad	500
Gaya	363
Hazaribagh	476
Jamshedpur	476
Katihar	438
Muzaffarpur	438
Munger	370
Motihari	275
Patna	351
Ranchi	392
Sasaram	398
Saharsa	370
<b>Total</b>	<b>6500</b>

**TV Relay/AIR Centre in Karnataka**

2098. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :  
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of TV Relay Centres and AIR stations in Karnataka, location-wise;

(b) the number of projects pending so far, location-wise;

(c) the present status and financial provisions made for completion of these projects;

(d) whether the Government have any proposal to set up new TV and AIR stations in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof and time by which these are likely to be completed;

(f) whether the TV transmitter, Gulbarga has not been installed since 1972;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(h) the time by which it is likely to be installed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Statement-I indicating number of TV centres and All India Radio Stations is enclosed.

(b) and (c). Statement-II is enclosed.

(d) and (e). Whereas All India Radio does not have at present any scheme for setting up a new radio station, Doordarshan proposes to set up 4 High Power Transmitters at Mangalore, Mysore, Raichur and Hassan. Although locations of these projects have been approved, the schemes are yet to be sanctioned. The implementation of these projects would require a lead time of 3 to 4 years after sanction of schemes which is dependent upon availability of resources vis-a-vis *inter-se* priorities.

(f) to (h). High Power Transmitter (1 KW) Gulbarga has been commissioned since 3.9.1977. Replacement of the existing 1 KW HPT by a 10 KW transmitter is presently under implementation and is expected to be completed during 1997.

**STATEMENT-I**

DOORDARSHAN	ALL INDIA RADIO
1	2
<b>HPT</b>	
BANGALORE	BHADRAWATI
DHARWAD	DHARWAD
GULBARGA	GULBARGA
SHIMOGA	MANGALORE/UDIPI
<b>LPT</b>	
ARSIKERE	MYSORE
ATHANI	BANGALORE
	HASSAN

1	2
BAGALKOT	CHITRADURG
BANTWAL	HOSPET
BELGAUM	RAICHUR
BELLARY	MERCARA
BHATKAL	KARWAR
BIDAR	
BIJAPUR	
CHICKMAGLUR	
CHIKODI	
CHITRADURGA	
DAVANGERE	
GADAG BETGARI	
GANGAWATI	
HASSAN	
HOSPET	
HUNGOND	
KARWAR	
KOLAR GOLD FIELD	
KUMTA	
MANDYA	
MANGALORE	
MEDIKERI	
MUDIGERE	
mysore	
PAVAGADA	
RAICHUR	
RAMADURG	
RANIBENNUR	
SANDUR	
SIRSI	
TIPTUR	
UDIPI	
BANGALORE (DD II)	
VLPT	
SAKLESHPUR	

## STATEMENT-II

## DOORDARSHAN

State	Under Implementation	Capital Cost (Rs. in Lakhs)	Target Date & Status
1	2	3	4
<b>KARNATAKA</b>			
HPT			
GULBARGA	547.30	1997	
BANGALORE (DD II)	232.05	1997	

1	2	3	4
LPT			LPT
GOKAK	89.65	Ready*	
JAMKHANDI	89.65	1997-98	
HARPANBALLI	100.70	Ready*	
BASAVA KALYAN	100.70	Ready*	
SAGAR	100.70	Ready*	
HATTIHAL	100.70	1997-98	
DANDELI	97.00	-DO-	
TUMKUR	97.00	-DO-	
PUTTUR	97.00	-DO-	
MUDHOL	97.00	-DO-	
TALIKOTA	97.00	-DO-	
INDI	97.00	-DO-	
HUVIN HIPPARGI	97.00	-DO-	
HIRIYUR	97.00	-DO-	
HOSDURG	97.00	-DO-	
KUDLIGI	97.00	-DO-	
VLPT			
SULYA	83.00	-DO-	
BADAMI	83.00	-DO-	
MADHUGIRI	83.00	-DO-	

\*Staff for Operation and Maintenance is to be sanctioned in full.

## ALL INDIA RADIO

1.	Bijapur 6 KW FM Tr. MP Studios & Staff Quarters (LRS)	257.90 lakhs	Ready
2.	Gulbarga Replacement/ Upgradation of 10 KW MW Tr. to 20 KW MW Tr.	206.54 lakhs	December, 1996
3.	Bangalore 10 KW FM Tr. (Stereo Channel)	397.00 lakhs	Interim set up ready

## Development of Wireless Local Loop System

2099. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian company/institute has in foreign collaboration, developed a wireless local loop system in which radio signals substitute copper wire which link the telephone subscriber to the exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether under the above system the telephonic communication remains unaffected even during bad weather conditions and reduces the dependence on the services of lineman etc.

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to encourage the use of the wireless local loop system so as to improve the telephone services in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes. Sir. Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras in collaboration with M/s Analog Devices Inc., USA has taken up development of wireless local loop system based on the Digital Enhanced Cordless Technology standard.

(c) and (d). Telephone communication is affected as compared to conventional wireline systems during bad weather conditions and hence reduces the dependence on the services of lineman.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Govt. has plans to introduce wireless local loop system in Telecom network. A generic specification giving requirements of such system, has already been prepared. Such of those wireless in local loop systems which broadly meet with the requirements, are subjected to field trial if they are offered by the companies. The system developed by IIT Madras is proposed to be tried in the Madras Telephone network.

#### Agitated Workers of Bulb Factories

2100. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Kanpur the agitation of workers of Miniature Bulb factories, is at its peak for their unattended long pending demands;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to stop the agitation and resolve the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) At present, no agitation of workers is going on in the Miniature Bulb Industries in Kanpur. The workers started an agitation w.e.f. 1.9.96 to press their demands which was subsequently resolved with the intervention of the Labour Department of Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) The workers were demanding fixation of piece rate wages on the basis of the scheduled minimum wages, and implementing the provisions of the Factory Act and various other labour laws.

(c) Following a bipartite meeting held on 19.9.96, it was agreed to refer the demands of the workers to the Deputy Labour Commissioner, Kanpur for an informal arbitration. After hearing both the parties, the Deputy Labour Commissioner gave his award on 10.10.96. Since then, there is no dispute between the concerned parties and production is going on smoothly.

#### Promotion of SC/ST

2101. DR. C. SILVERA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain proposals for promotion of selection grade officers working in Zonal Railways and Railway Board Office belonging to SC/ST Categories to Senior Administrative Grades are pending for the last 8 months;

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

(c) whether some of such officers are likely to retire in near future with no other chance of further promotion are feeling disgusted and humiliated over unnecessary delay in their promotion;

(d) whether such officers have to suffer heavy monetary losses in case orders for their promotion are not issued by December, 1996;

(e) whether the Government propose to approve these proposals immediately; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

#### Telephone Exchange in Goa

2102. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open more telephone exchanges in Goa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A new telephone exchange of C-DOT 256 is proposed to be opened at Armbol (Harmal), North Goa, before March, 97. In addition, the exchanges at Madgaon, Cansaulim, Verca, Sangol and Aladona are being expanded.

#### Corruption Complaints in Darbhanga and Ranchi

2103. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rampant corruption is existing in telephone offices in Darbhanga and Ranchi Telecom Units;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered during the last three years; and

(c) the case-wise details of the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir. However, a few cases of irregularities have been noticed.

(b)

Year	Ranchi	Darbhanga
1993	1	1
1994	4	Nil
1995	3	2

(c) Details are given in annexure.

#### ANNEXURE

Name of the Officer	Action Taken
<b>RANCHI</b>	
<i>Year 1993</i>	
1. Shri A.K. Sinha, TDM and others	Disc. Action initiated and after due consideration proceedings dropped.
<i>Year 1994</i>	
1. Shri A.K. Sinha, TDM	Administrative action taken for lapses.
2. Shri A.K. Sinha, TDM	Case registered by CBI is under investigation.
3. Shri P. Panjiyara, STT	Disc. action for major penalty has been initiated.
4. Shri Mundrika Singh, AE Shri R.B. Singh, AD (TRA)	Proceedings for major penalty are in progress.
<i>Year 1995</i>	
1. Shri R.B. Singh, STT	Allegations could not be established.
2. Shri B.B. Hembram, TDE	-do-
3. Shri Madanpuri, TDE	-do-
<b>DARBHANGA</b>	
<i>Year 1993</i>	
1. Shri P.N. Jha, AE (G) Jhanjharpur	Officer transferred and proceedings for major penalty initiated.
<i>Year 1994</i>	
<i>Year 1995</i>	
1. Shri S.S. Jha, TDE	Case under consideration for initiating suitable disciplinary action.
2. Shri R.C. Jha, AE(G)	Case is under investigation by CBI.

[English]

#### Probe into Licences for Cellular Services

2104. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to probe into the licenses issued for cellular and other telecommunication services during the tenure of the office of the former Telecommunication Minister; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). The Department has at present no proposal to order probe into the licenses issued for Cellular and Other telecom services so far, since the licenses were issued after study of the bids received in accordance with tender conditions and approval of the competent authority.

[Translation]

#### Shifting of DHQ Post Office

2105. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is also a fact that the DHQ Post Office has been shifted nearer to the Prime Minister Office;

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

(c) the criteria fixed for the security of the Prime Minister?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The DHQ Post Office has been shifted to the alternate accommodation provided by the Ministry of Defence near 'B' Block at the request of the Ministry of Defence in order to give a clear frontage to Gate No. 11 of South Block.

(c) Since the proposal for giving alternate accommodation for the DHQ Post Office had come from the Ministry of Defence, the security aspect might have been kept in view by the Defence Authorities.

[English]

#### Misappropriation of Amount by Booking Clerks

2106. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a heavy amount was misappropriated through Pay Orders by the Booking Clerks of the New Delhi Railway Station in the year 1995 and the case was handed over to CBI for further investigations;

(b) if so, whether the investigations have been completed;

- (c) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (d) whether the case has been challaned in the Court of Law; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e). No. Sir. However, a case of fraudulent refund amounting to Rs. 36,384/- on Pay Orders issued by Refund Office involving staff of Refund Office and some Booking Clerks of New Delhi Railway Station was detected by Vigilance Department of Northern Railway in 1995. Six employees were placed under suspension and taken up under DAR. Besides action under D&AR, five staff of Refund Office were transferred from their seats and three Booking Clerks were debarred from cash duties for five years.

Preventive, surprise and decoy checks by Commercial and Vigilance Organisations are conducted on a regular and sustained basis to tackle such irregularities.

### Flex Technology

2107. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the technologies relating to high speed protocols in Radio Paging Service being introduced by the Government at present;
- (b) whether the Government propose to introduce the FLEX or ERMES technologies in the country;
- (c) if so, when and the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (d). DOT has licensed a number of Indian Registered companies for the operation of Radio Paging Service. As per tender/licence conditions, the service providers are required to use POCSAG Protocol. Requests have been received from these service providers to allow use of High Speed protocol, namely FLEX, ERMES Instead of POCSAG protocol which is presently used.

There are two upcoming and contending technologies in High Speed Protocols, namely FLEX, ERMES, which is a European standard.

Decision for introduction of high speed protocol in the paging service as against the POCSAG protocol provided in the licence agreement has not been taken yet.

### Job Seekers from Tamil Nadu and Kerala in Gulf

2108. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the population of skilled, technicians, semi-skilled persons particularly belonging

to Tamil Nadu and Kerala have declined in Gulf countries during the last few years;

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

- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent such decline of employed persons with a view to earn adequate foreign Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The number of persons from the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu who emigrated for work abroad, including in the gulf countries, after getting clearance/endorsements from Offices of Protectors of Emigrants (POE) during the years 1993,1994 and 1995 was as under:

	1993	1994	1995
Kerala	1,55,208	1,54,407	1,65,59
Tamil Nadu	70,313	70,525	65,77
	2,25,521	2,24,932	2,31,36

It would be seen that while there was no decline in the number of persons going abroad for work from the State of Kerala, there was a marginal decline in the case of workers from Tamil Nadu, emigrating for work, after getting clearance endorsement from POE offices. This however, does not mean that there is an actual decrease in the number of persons emigrating for work from the State of Tamil Nadu, in absolute terms. Persons included in the category of professionals and skilled workers are not required to get emigration clearance from POE offices in case their passport is stamped as "Emigration Check Not Required". It is likely that a number of persons belonging to this category from the State of Tamil Nadu also emigrated for work during 1995. No information in respect of such emigrants is available.

### STD Facility in Kishatwar

2109. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any telephone communication facility exists between Jammu and Paddar (Kishatwar) for public of that area;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to provide STD facility for the above area; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) There is no registered demand for telephone.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) Electronic Telephone Exchanges (MILT-64) is planned and connecting Media is proposed via MCPC V-SAT.

### STD/PCO Booths

2110. COL RAO RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of STD/PCO booths in operation in each district of Mahender Garh, Rewari and Gurgaon;
- (b) the number of applications pending for allotment of such booths in each of above districts, and
- (c) the time by which booth are likely to be allotted to the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BLNI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No. of STD/PCO booths working are as under :

1. Mahender Garh	22
2. Rewari	54
3. Gurgaon	118

(b) No. of application pending for allotment are as under :

1. Mahender Garh	64
2. Rewari	226
3. Gurgaon	118

(c) By December, 1997.

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

12.00 hrs.

**Aircraft (Amendment) Rules, 1996 and Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Airlines for 1994-95 alongwith the Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon etc.**

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. BRAHIM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Aircraft (Amendment) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 349(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 1996, under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 together with an Explanatory Note thereon

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T.769/96]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (I) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Airlines for the year 1994-95.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Indian Airlines for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in the Library See No.L.T. 770/96]

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

- (4) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commission of Railway Safety for the year 1995-96, under section 10 of the Railways Act, 1989.

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T. 771/96]

**Annual report and Review by the Government of the working of the National labour Institute, Noida for 1994-95 alongwith the statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers etc.**

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Labour Institute, Noida, for the year 1994-95, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Labour Institute, Noida, for the year 1994-95.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T. 772/96]

**Annual Report and Review by the Government of the working of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Ltd. Bangalore for 1995-96 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table

- (1) A copy each of the following papers(Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, Bangalore for the year 1995-96.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited Bangalore, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T. 773/96]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):

(i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T. 774/96]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T. 775/96]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 1996-97.

[Placed in the Library See No. L.T. 776/96]

**Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1996**

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) : Sir, I lay on the table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 79(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th February, 1996, under sub-section(5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. [Placed in the Library See No. L.T.777/96]

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA**

12.03 hrs.

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Apprentices (Amendment) Bill, 1996, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on 4th December, 1996".

**APPRENTICES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1996  
AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA**

12.03½ hrs.

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the apprentices (Amendment) Bill, 1996 as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 4th December, 1996.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you assured me that you would allow me to raise the matter regarding what happened in Kashmir yesterday. It is a very serious matter.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will allow you, wait for some time

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Everybody will get a chance

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sir, the report of Amarnath Yatra...

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

(Interruptions)\*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri I.K. Gujral will make a statement now.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER**

12.04 hours.

**Visit of the President of the People's Republic of China**

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, his Excellency Mr. Jiang Zemin, President of People's Republic of China, paid a State visit to India from 28 November, 1996 to 1 December, 1996 at the invitation of the President of India. President Jiang had meetings with our President, Vice-President, Speaker, Lok Sabha, Leader of Opposition in Parliament and myself. He had detailed talks with the Prime Minister. He also met leaders of political parties. Separately, I had a long meeting with my counterpart, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister, Qian Qichen. These talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The Chinese President also interacted with the business community and visited Agra.

This was the first visit by a President of the People's Republic of China to India. The visit was a part of the continuing process of dialogue at the highest level initiated with the visit of former Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to China in 1988. Our former President, Shri R. Venkataraman and former Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao have visited China. We have received Premier Li Peng and other high ranking Chinese leaders in India. The Parliaments of the two countries have maintained contacts with the visits of the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha, Hon. Deputy-Chairman, Rajya Sabha to

\* Not recorded

China and their Chinese counterparts to India. These high level exchanges have permitted us to discuss, in a constructive manner, all relevant issues in our bilateral relations.

In recent years, India-China relations have acquired maturity and substance. While continuing to address outstanding issues, including the boundary question, we have sought to expand mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas. Hon'ble Members will agree with me that this policy, pursued over last several years, reflects the consensus in this House which transcends party lines.

Both sides have expressed their satisfaction with the outcome of the visit, which afforded us an opportunity to assess the current state of relations and the prospects for our relationship until the end of the century and beyond. During their talks, the Prime Minister and President Jiang agreed that India and China should work towards a constructive and cooperative relationship, while continuing to address outstanding differences. They also shared the assessment that friendly and good neighbourly relations between India and China served the fundamental interests of the two peoples.

A significant outcome of the visit has been the signing of the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual "Control in the India-China Border Areas. This agreement is built on the foundation of the Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquillity along the line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas, signed in September 1993 during the visit of the then Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, to China. The Agreement of 1993 committed the two countries to respect the line of actual control (LAC) and take a series of steps to clarify the LAC, devise additional confidence building measures (CBMs) and move towards phased force reduction in border areas. The present Agreement on CBMs stipulates that neither side shall use its military capability against the other side. It lays down some important guiding principles for reduction or limitation of identified categories of military forces and armaments to mutually agreed ceilings within mutually agreed geographical zones along the LAC. The depth of the geographical zones as well as the ceilings will be decided in subsequent negotiations in the joint working Group and the Expert Group. The agreement also provides for a number of important CBMs, which will help in preserving peace and tranquillity in border areas. The two sides have also agreed to accelerate the process of the clarification of the entire LAC, including through an exchange of maps.

The Agreement on CBMs represents a major step forward in our efforts to ensure that the India-China border areas remain peaceful. We believe that the full implementation of the two agreements will help in advancing our agenda for developing an institutionalized framework for consultations, cooperation and maintenance of peace and tranquillity in border areas, and, for moving towards force reduction or limitation,

along the India-China LAC in a manner which fully safeguards our national security interest.

During discussions between the Prime Minister and the Chinese President, the two sides have agreed to continue their efforts to seek a fair reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. This understanding is reflected in the Agreement on CBMs. The new Agreement, like the Agreement of 1993, makes due provision for the fact that its implementation will be without prejudice to the respective positions of India and China on the boundary question.

During our wide-ranging discussion with the Chinese President, the two sides agreed to impart a much greater economic and technological content to the relationship. It has been agreed that the next meeting of the Joint Economic Group, co-chaired by the Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of China and myself, will be held in the first quarter of 1997 to work for a significant expansion of economic cooperation and trade between India and China. The India-China sub-group on Science and Technology will also meet early next year to look at the opportunities for enhancing functional cooperation between the two countries.

Apart from the Agreement on CBMs, three other agreements were signed. These agreements relate to the maintenance of our Consular establishment in Hong Kong after it reverts to the Chinese sovereignty on 1st July, 1997, cooperation in combating illicit drug trafficking and other major crimes, and maritime transport. These agreements will contribute to the development of an institutionalized frame work for inter-state and people-to-people contacts between India and China.

We had a useful exchange of views on regional and international issues, including recent developments in Afghanistan and Myanmar. Prospects of cooperation in Central Asia were also discussed. We briefed the Chinese President on our efforts to improve relations with all countries of South Asia. We also exchanged view on the reform of the UN system, including the question of giving adequate representation to non-aligned and other developing countries in the UN organs. We pointed out that any objective criteria for the restructuring of the UN Security Council would provide for India's inclusion in the expanded Security Council as a permanent member. The two sides agreed that the dialogue on regional and international issues and cooperation in international fora were mutually beneficial and must be expanded.

In our discussions with the Chinese President and the Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister, we conveyed our concerns regarding Chinese sales of missiles and other weapons to Pakistan and their assistance in Pakistan's nuclear programme. It was also conveyed to the Chinese President that Sikkim is an integral part of India and that we would expect early Chinese recognition of this reality. The importance of paying adequate attention to

each other's concerns on vital issues affecting their respective unity, territorial integrity and security, was underlined. We propose to continue our dialogue with China on these important issues.

The visit of the Chinese President to India represents a significant step forward in the process of steady improvement of our relations with our largest neighbour, China. It provided the two countries an opportunity to assess the present state of relationship at the highest level and also move towards a long term basis for a cooperative and constructive relationship. While reiterating their determination to resolve the boundary question in a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable manner, the two sides agreed, in the interim, on concrete measures to ensure that peace and tranquillity was effectively maintained in the border areas. We also utilised the visit to convey to the Chinese side our concerns on some vital issues affecting the unity, territorial integrity and security of India...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Calcutta South) : What about Indo-Bangladesh water dispute? We appreciate the statement made by the hon. Minister.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Let the House discuss this issue sometime. We also congratulate the Minister for making a positive move towards China...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please instruct the hon. Minister of Defence to present his statement. I would like to raise a issue regarding statement made by my colleague the hon. Minister of External Affairs Shri I.K. Gujral. Yesterday, discussion started on foreign policy. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee started the discussion otherwise till then this statement was not before us. In yesterday's discussion, the Deputy Leader of my Party and spokesman of the Party's foreign policy, Shri Jaswant Singh had delivered his speech. Had this statement been delivered before him, he would have commented on this too since this statement is very important. The entire House would like further improvement in our relations with China. But there are certain questions to be raised by the hon. Members which they would like to be replied satisfactorily. I would like to seek your guidance as to when these questions should be raised...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It may be included in the on going discussion...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : A laudeworthy development has been made by the Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this question is related to the functioning of the business of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It would have been better had it come earlier.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : The statement could have been made earlier and the foreign policy could have been taken after discussion. I fail to understand as to how the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is conducting the business of the House...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : It is a very important question.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I do not see any system in it.

*[English]*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : If the House gets time, it should be discussed separately. It is a positive development. We must give a direction to the Government in this regard and the House can discuss this matter

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The time of on going discussion can be extended

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, It should be discussed separately...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall call them again to speak. The remaining Members of various parties can speak on this issue.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Sir, it was already decided that foreign policy will be taken for discussion and it was expected to be included in the list of business. It was known to the Government and the whole country that the President of the People's Republic of China paid a State visit to India and important discussion was held with him. People would like to know the Government's attitude in this regard, therefore, a discussion could be held after coordinating both the issues.

*[English]*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I have great regard for Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji. I submit with all respects that we deliberately postponed making our suo motu statement here because you know that the Chinese visitors will be visiting our neighbourhood also. I wanted to watch that before I make a statement.

*[Translation]*

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I have no objection in it. He was going to visit our neighbouring country and it is also very important as to what he says there. The Government has made statement keeping in mind that aspect also but the duration of time for discussion on foreign policy could have been extended. It is not related to you. I am attacking on the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

*[English]*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I have absolutely no objection and I repeat, no objection, even if my hon. friend speaks once again because I am equally keen that our foreign

policy debate should be worthwhile and, therefore, it will be useful if my hon. friends will comment on this Agreement as well as on some other things. It is most welcome. I make this request to you as otherwise on your Agenda you have made this today's item. I made this request to you in the Chamber. Unfortunately, I have a similar debate going on in Rajya Sabha. So, I will be grateful if the House permits that this debate takes place next week here, and then you can take up any issue.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: One hon. Member had mentioned about it and had demanded for a statement on it. I think, it is a lapse.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before you term it, a lapse, I would like to say something.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already said that.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Yesterday, the issue was raised as to why the hon. Foreign Minister was not making statement on it. Yesterday, we wanted that time of discussion on President rule in Uttar Pradesh should be extended for one hour and the time of discussion on foreign policy should be rescheduled at 6 p.m. instead of 4 p.m. but the House was of the opinion that since the time of discussion on foreign policy has been fixed 4 p.m. in the List of Business it must be taken up as per the schedule. The Chair has also given its ruling that the discussion on foreign policy should be taken up at 4 p.m. I do not think that there is any lapse on the part of either Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs or the Government.

ONE HON. MEMBER : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the statement has been made today. When will it be discussed?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It will be taken up for discussion on next week.

*[English]*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Sir, yesterday we decided to continue the discussion under Rule 193 which is regarding foreign affairs and that the matter on Uttar Pradesh can be taken up tomorrow. Hon'ble speakers also say that discussion under Rule 193 cannot be postponed further and that this should go on.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (SILCHAR) : We fully appreciate what you have said. But another international agreement is going to be signed on 9th with Bangladesh. That is also important for us. ...*(Interruptions)*

What I would suggest is that if you extend it to next week, you should also see that a statement comes on Bangladesh because there is lot of information coming

in the newspapers and others or, as you think best, we can have a separate discussion on this subject because we would like to speak on both the issues. I have no dispute if the Deputy Leader of BJP is allowed to speak again because the Leader and the Deputy Leader can speak. I do not think there is any objection to this, but we would like to know how much time we get to discuss the Bangladesh issue.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : So far as Bangladesh is concerned, I do not make any commitment at this stage for the simple reason that the Government has not yet finalised any agreement with Bangladesh...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : That is all right. But it was reported yesterday that the Chief Minister is doing the job of the Prime Minister. What is this?...*(Interruptions)* The Chief Minister is saying that he is doing the Prime Minister's job...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I call the attention of the House to this aspect. I want to know whether the Government has finalised the agreement or not. I raised this issue in the House. This particular subject is confined to the Union List. It is a bilateral issue with Bangladesh. In what capacity, was the Government of India constitutionally represented by the Chief Minister of West Bengal and that too to discuss a more vital issue linked with India's interests? It is not a matter between two Bengalis of Bangladesh and Calcutta or West Bengal. If Shri Jyoti Basu is allowed to intervene in the matter relating to Farakka, could it be spelt out that Dr. Farooq will intervene on the issue of Kashmir on behalf of the Central Government? Will the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh be allowed to take up the matter of the Mc-Mohan Line with the Prime Minister of China? Will the Chief Minister of Mizoram be allowed to take up the issue of Burma with the Prime Minister of Burma? Are such things really taking shape now? I, therefore, demand that Parliament should be taken into confidence in this matter...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : With your permission with due respect to my excited fellow Members, I would like to say that I have taken note of what my hon. friend has raised in the House. Shri Jyoti Basu visited Bangladesh on the invitation of Bangladesh. He did not arrive at any agreement...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : He has. He said about that. It was reported in the Press that he is going to allow 3,400 cusecs of water to Bangladesh ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : It was reported in the Press that in his meeting with Ms. Sheik Hasina, he has finalised everything. Are you sure? Either you disown that statement or clarify the correct position. It is not correct. These are bilateral issues...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, I hope that you will appreciate our feelings about the Bangladesh issue. We have very good relations with Bangladesh. Shri Jyoti Basu is reported to have said that he is going to release 3,400 cusecs of water to Bangladesh...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our colleague Kumari Mamata Banerjee is speaking and other colleagues are interrupting her but they forget that every party President constituting this Government considers himself Prime Minister. As such, there are many Prime Ministers in this Government. That is why Shri Jyoti Basu went as a Prime Minister and not as the Chief Minister.

*[English]*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : With all my regards to the Foreign Minister, I would like to say that the Foreign Minister cannot take casually the issue of the Chief Minister discussing the more sensitive issue with the Head of the State of another country. The Doordarshan is reporting that everything has been finalised...*(Interruptions)* This is not correct. It was not only reported but also it continued to be reported. Sir, you have to give a direction to the Government to make a firm clarification in the House that nothing has been done...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am making that. A submission has been made to the hon. Speaker already. In the context of the notice that was given to me on your submission, what I am saying is that Shri Jyoti Basu visited there. I repeat what I have said. Shri Jyoti Basu has not - I repeat the word 'not' - arrived at any agreement with Bangladesh. The agreements will be arrived at in Delhi. The Government of India will decide what the Government of India must do. But at the same time, I must say with due respect to my colleagues here, that it is a very fortunate dimension of Indian Diplomacy that we, as a nation, lead delegations. Atalji, sitting there has led several delegations on behalf of India and that too with a great deal of pride to the country. I am thankful to him for that. There is nothing wrong on it. I myself, sitting on those Benches, had led several delegations on behalf of the Congress Government when they were in power...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I supported that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : I will take just one minute. The opinion given by the Members are individual opinions. Here, we would like to say that there are some instances even in the past when Mr. Nixon came to China and before that Mr. Kissinger came and discussed with the people concerned. But what was told in Doordarshan was something else. Of course, somebody going and discussing is one thing.

Do not take it that the Congress is opposed to that...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We are not opposing that aspect.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Please take your seat.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I will take my seat. But it is about my State. The interests of my State are there...*(Interruptions)* The Government must clarify it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What are we saying is that we are not objecting to Shri Jyoti Basu's going and talking there. What we are objecting to is this. The Doordarshan is trying to say that he has made them agree to do something. The headlines are coming. What the hon. Minister has been saying is that nothing has been finalised or, it will be signed on the 9th.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am not saying that.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : What are you saying then?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am saying that whatever agreement are there, they will be finalised here. We have not finalised any agreement. At the Central level, we have not done it.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You are finalising it and we agree with you. But what is wrong when we say that after you sign the agreement, you come to the House and discuss it?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I will do that. I never objected to that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : But why do you say that you would not come?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I do not say this. The moment any agreement is finalised, naturally I will make a *suo motu* statement.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : That satisfies us.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I understand from the Minister that the visit of Shri Jyoti Basu was a private visit on a private invitation and not an official visit sponsored by the Government of India. Is it clear?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : It is very clear. You need not get angry. Bengal is not your State. It is my State also. I object to that word. So, let us not say so.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I have not said, 'My state'

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : You said so. It is on record.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I never said 'my State'. I said: "It is not a matter between two Bengali communities; It is a matter of two nations."

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Definitely you said so.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I said, It is a matter of two nations. You are wrong...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : You have not allowed me, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You please sit down. Now Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is to make a statement.

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Why is it so?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already called him. Madam, please sit down.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: My point is very clear. We have very good relations with Bangladesh. We want to help them... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. You already had your say. Let him have his say.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Members have a right to say. Why is this controversial issue coming? It is because we remember Bangladesh and we should have very good relations with Bangladesh. We want to help Bangladesh like anything. But the problem is, Shri Jyoti Basu thinks himself a man of the match in regard to the agreement. That should not be there. The agreement is signed among the Government of India, the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Bhutan. Shri Jyoti Basu cannot say that he is giving this much cusecs of water. Who is he to decide about it?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He is a man of the match and not a captain of the match to decide.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : All untrue statements that have been uttered should be expunged.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Madam, please sit down.. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is to make a statement.

12.28 hrs.

#### STATEMENT BY MINISTER

##### Supply of 40 SU-30 MK Aircraft for the IAF from Russia

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am glad to inform the august House that after two years long discussion, the Indian delegation under the leadership of Secretary to Defence has signed an agreement with Russia for supply of 40 SU-30 MK aircraft for Indian Air Force. This agreement has been made between the Ministry of Defence and Ruzvoruzhni & Irkutsk Aircraft Industry Association. The salient features of this agreement are :

1. This is for the first time that Russian agencies have agreed to co-share the research and development with our Defence Research and

Development Organisation and jointly develop the aeronautics.

2. This agreement also permits Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to manufacture such aircrafts in the country for supply in future.

S.U.-30 aircraft is such a multipurpose aircraft of its kind with accurate target striking power and also extraordinary enduring capacity. It has been specially designed keeping in mind the operational needs of Indian Air Force. This aircraft is more useful than its cost even in the aircrafts of its type.

This pact symbolises the old Indo-Russian friendly relations that still exist in the field of defence, besides other fields of cooperation. Our relations have been strengthened further during the last few years. Thus, this important joint venture of both the old friendly countries will strengthen the stability of the entire region.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have to say something to the hon. Members.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to congratulate Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav for this agreement signed with Russia, a clause has been included in the agreement for the first time with Russia that Asian agencies will cooperate in research and development works.

[*English*]

"For the first time, the Russian agencies have to permit DRDO to participate in R&D and joint development of avionics for the aircraft"

[*Translation*]

and the second clause reads -

[*English*]

"The contract permits license production of the aircraft in India by the HAL for subsequent supplies."

Both these points are very important and the hon. Defence Minister deserves appreciation for it.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : I thank the hon. leader of opposition for his comments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The whole House express its thanks to you.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, a decision was taken in the House that any hon. Member will be able to raise only one issue in one week during zero hour... (*Interruptions*) Yesterday, I stopped Shri Ram Naik from raising on issue. I received a wrong note from the Office mentioning that he had already raised three issues. Therefore, I had stopped him from raising the issue. I am sorry for it. Now, Ram Naik ji, please speak.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue which I was raising yesterday, has become more serious today. The issue pertains to the sensitive index of Mumbai Stock Exchange. It has touched the lowest point of 2745 during the last three years. This downfall of the sensitive index is very serious and can be seen as a dangerous signal of country's economic condition. When this Government came into power in June, 1996, the sensitive index was 4131 point and now it has touched 2745 points yesterday which means there is a fall of 1386 points in sensitive index. It is creating doubt in the minds of small investors and they are almost afraid and nobody is showing his interest in share market the financial institution of the Government. It is being observed that foreign financial institutions are playing some game in it. The situation has become so grim that the daily turnover of Mumbai Stock Exchange which generally used to be 15 hundred crores, has fallen to seven hundred crores i.e. below fifty percent. Sir, please see the headings of today's dailies...

*[English]*

In this regard, today's edition of The Indian Express says, 'Sensex tumbles to its lowest in three years'. The Hindustan Times says, 'Sensex falls' and The Times of India says, 'Sensex dips further'.

*[Translation]*

I, therefore, demand that the hon. Finance Minister should make a statement on this serious situation and I also demand that there should be a discussion in the House on deteriorating state of economy of the country. I have worked in Joint Committee on Security Scam. It is being doubted whether another security scam is not taking place. Therefore, I demand that the hon. Finance Minister should make a statement in this regard and a discussion should be held in the House on today's state of economy.

*[English]*

SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA (Narsaraopet): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the rail track along the coast of Andhra Pradesh has been swept away by recent cyclonic floods.

This has become a regular phenomenon every year resulting in heavy economic loss to the nation.

So, the Government must think of an alternate line to the interior of the sea coast.

So, I suggest an alternative line from Nadikudi to Venkatagiri via Vinukonda, Darsi, Podili and Kanigiri. This would be an alternative to the coastal railway line. Moreover, this proposed line would cover backward areas in the district of Guntur, Prakasam and Nellore. So, I would suggest that the Government should take up the matter and lay a new line to serve as an alternative line to the coastal railway line from Madras to Vijayawada.

*[Translation]*

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (Bettiah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise an important question in the

House regarding Bagaha-Chhituni Rail bridge linking Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. A Railway overbridge was constructed at that place and a bridge on road was also being constructed along with that. The pillars of the bridge have already been constructed but the Ministry of Railways has stopped the construction of bridge. I, through you, would like to inform the hon. Minister of Railways, present in the House that the Government of Bihar has released Rs.18 crore out of its total contribution of Rs.22 crore and the Government of Uttar Pradesh has released its full contribution of Rs.18 crore for the contribution of the bridge but the Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India did not release its contribution of Rs.22 crore so far. I request the hon. Minister of Railways, present in the House to use his good offices to press the department of Water Resources to make available Rs. 22 crore immediately so that the construction of this important bridge linking Uttar Pradesh and Bihar can be completed soon. He should give assurance in the House for early completion of the said bridge ... (*Interruptions*) I request the hon. Minister of Railways, present in the House to make a statement in the House. Sir, the hon. Minister of Railway is ready ... (*Interruptions*) He himself hails from Bihar

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have made your point I won't prevent the Minister from speaking on the subject if he wishes to.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Hon'ble Minister has rightly stated that Bagaha-Chhituni Rail-Road bridge is a very important bridge connecting Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The Ministry of Railways has discharged its responsibility. As you are well aware that the Government has a collective responsibility. So far as the Ministry of Water Resources is concerned, earlier when the Ministry was under the charge of Shri Gujral, a letter was sent by the Ministry of Railways. Later on when the charge of the Ministry was handed over to Shri Janeshwar Mishra, we wrote to him also and I personally made a request that since this is a very important route, the sanction should be accorded as soon as possible. I request the Minister once again. Even it would be better if Hon'ble Member also speaks to him about it.

DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Please have the proposal passed in the Cabinet meeting. After all, you are the leader of the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : This is not a Cabinet matter. It pertains to one Ministry only.

SHRI RAM SAGAR (Barabanki) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Lucknow is the capital of Uttar Pradesh. All the trains and buses starting from Lucknow and proceeding towards various destinations throughout Northern India pass through my constituency i.e. District Barabanki. After Lucknow, Safedabad is the second Railway crossing where traffic remains jammed for hours together.

Several serious accidents have occurred at the Safedabad-Barabanki Railway crossing and the possibility of accidents is always there. In view of the traffic jam and heavy rush at this Railway crossing, the people of Barabanki have constantly been raising the demand for an overbridge. When Shri Janeshwar Mishra was holding the charge of the Ministry of Railways, he had promised to get it constructed. We made a request to the present Minister of Railways in this regard. He says that if the Government of Uttar Pradesh contributes 50 percent of the total cost of the overbridge, he would get it constructed as soon as possible.

Sir, as you are aware that Uttar Pradesh is under the President Rule. Hence if Hon'ble Minister so wishes, he can get a report regarding the overbridge at Safedabad crossing in Barabanki and can also issue orders to start the work immediately. This is the major problem being faced in District Barabanki. Hon'ble Minister is present here ad if he so wishes, this problem can be solved. Hence, through you, I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister of Railways that he should give the orders to start the construction of overbridge at Safedabad Railway crossing in the District Barabanki without further delay. I also request him to kindly make an announcement to this effect in the House.

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR (Khargone) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the news published in yesterday's newspapers that the Government has decided to discontinue the circulation of currency notes of one, two and five rupees denomination and the notes would not be printed in future. If it is true, it would not be printed in future. If it is true, it would be very wrong to do so because the condition of currency notes of Rs. one, Rs. two and Rs. five denomination is deplorable. The notes available are soiled and torn.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the currency notes are indicators of economic situation, stability and dignity of the Government of that particular country. The currency notes of our country are soiled and torn which evoke a pitiable reaction. Sir, the traders and shopkeepers are looting the villagers on this pretext. Hence I demand that the circulation of such notes should not be discontinued; rather their number should be increased and these notes should be printed in larger numbers.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir at present, coins of Re.1, Rs.2 and Rs.5 denomination are in circulation in the market but the actual position is that, a two rupee coin looks like a one rupee coin and a five rupee coin looks like a fifty paisa coin. Due to this confusion, the villagers are being looted by the shopkeepers. Besides, a large number of notes can be kept easily, however, it is not possible to carry a large number of coins in one's purse. Otherwise also, the notes have their own importance. Hence, I urge upon the Government that the printing of currency notes of Re.1, Rs.2 and Rs.5 denomination should not be discontinued, rather they should be printed in large numbers.

[English]

SHRI SAT MAHAJAN (Kangra) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am raising a very very serious matter before you. There is great anger, anguish and resentment in Himachal Pradesh. While all the other States have been given economic package, people of Himachal Pradesh have been denied an economic package.

[Translation]

Are we being punished because of our decorum and decency?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Government had constituted a committee. The Ninth Finance Commission did injustice to us when it removed the name of the State from the list of Special Category States. Thereafter a Rangrajan Committee was constituted which recommended that non-plan allocation should be curtailed. We made a request for permission to impose generation tax on electricity but we were not granted the permission. Our consent is not being sought. Royalty is given for Chamera and Barasyul Hydel Projects but we are not getting any money. We have deficit of Rs.1200 crore. Ever since reorganisation of the States, we are getting 2 percent whereas we are entitled to receive 7.50 percent. Injustice has been done to us. Himachal Pradesh Assembly, cutting across the party line, has unanimously passed a Resolution on 2nd of this month.

[English]

The Central Government must come forward with a package. We are losing our patience and I warn the Central Government not to put the hills on fire.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Firozabad) : Hon'ble Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards Uttar Pradesh. There are 66 districts in Uttar Pradesh and Hon'ble Members from all these districts, whether they belong to Ruling Party or the Opposition Party, would agree that there is a serious power crisis in the State. The supply of electricity being unsatisfactory in all the districts, the Power and Water Crisis has taken a serious turn. As you know that electricity plays a very important role in our daily affairs Uttar Pradesh is presently under the President rule, hence the Central Government can directly intervene in this matter. Hence, I make a request that the present Government should give instructions to the administrative authorities to ensure power supply in these 66 districts without further delay. Power is not being supplied in even 40 districts out of these 66 districts because of which the lands of farmers are unirrigated and their crops are getting destroyed.

At the same time, I would like to submit, through you, that there is a severe power crisis in Agra and Ferozabad. The Government of India should ask the

State Government to make arrangement for power supply in Uttar Pradesh. This is a very important matter for the farmers. You may enquire from any member from Uttar Pradesh.

Hon'ble Minister is present here. Would he give an assurance to Hon'ble Members...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What is this? I have allowed only one person to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the farmers want electricity. They want water. Their crops are getting affected ...*(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister is known as the son of a farmer and son of a labourer. But those people are not getting water and electricity...*(Interruptions)* The Government should give a reply...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: All right you have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please allow him to speak.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No. This is not good.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. You have made your point and it has been recorded.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down. There should be some limit. Please taken your seats. Shri Chennithala.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is reported in the Press that the Regional Office of the Tea Board which is situated in Kottayam which is in my constituency is going to be shifted from there.

Sir, this Office of the Tea Board has been there in Kottayam for a long time. Actually, the Regional Office of the Tea Board is very much beneficial for the tea growers as well as the labourers who are working in the nearby district, Idukki. All of a sudden, now the Tea Board officials have decided to shift this Regional Office from Kottayam to Ernakulam. This will be a great injustice to the labourers as well as the tea growers of the Eastern part of Kerala. I do not know why they have decided to shift this Regional Office from Kottayam to Cochin. The tea growers, the planters and the labourers are agitated over this decision.

So, I request the hon. Minister, through you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, to put off this decision to shift this Regional Office of the Tea Board from Kottayam to Cochin. This will have a very serious repercussion in the tea growing areas. The labourers are agitated, the planters are very much disgusted. So, through you, Sir, I request the Hon. Minister for Commerce to drop this idea to shift the Regional Office of the Tea Board from Kottayam which is in my constituency to Cochin.

Thank you.

*[Translation]*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA (Ujjain) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the condition of the labourers is not good in our country. Their employment is also not secured. The labourers of the textiles mills of Ujjain and Indore were lathi charged. They were demanding to run the mill. Injustice and atrocities are being committed to them. Therefore, these mills should be made functional. The Government is not paying any attention towards it. Not only this, there is a great resentment among the employees. Fifth Pay Commission should give its report soon and its recommendations should be implemented at the earliest. The trade Unions of India have demanded that recommendations of Fifth Pay Commission should be implemented from 1st January, 1994. Its another demand is that the minimum pay for group 'D' employees should be Rs.3000/- . Fifth Pay Commission should submit its report soon. All the Trade Unions of India are considering about this problem and today they are staging a demonstration at Sharm Shakti Bhawan. Therefore, I would like to demand through you that the Government should not ignore the demands of the labourers. The Government should accept their demands immediately.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my Parliamentary constituency Patna. Some months ago, a Doordarshan Studio was set up in Patna. Its inauguration had also taken place on which lakhs of rupees were spent. Big buildings were constructed there and many equipments were installed. But it is a matter of great concern that the studio was closed after a few days. I have also drawn the attention of hon'ble Minister orally as well as in writing in this regard but no action has so far been taken and Doordarshan Studio is still lying closed.

A Doordarshan Studio has its own importance. Due to the closure of Doordarshan Studio there, the information do not reach the villages, thereby the people of Bihar are not getting its benefit. Therefore, through you, I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister of Information and Broadcasting to pay attention towards it in order to make it operational. When we approach him, he says that there is a shortage of staff there. I would like to know that if there is shortage of staff, why building was constructed there after spending lakhs of

rupees? Therefore, I would like to submit that in order to make that studio operational at the earliest, appointment to technical staff and other employees should be made so that the people of Bihar can avail this facility and the objective for setting up of Doordarshan Studio and installing equipments worth lakhs of rupees there can be achieved. If the Studio is not made operational, all machines installed there would develop some defects. All the machines are developing defects because these are technical equipments. Therefore it is very necessary to make it operational.

Through you, I strongly demand in the interest of the people of Bihar that the Doordarshan Studio may be made operational as early as possible so that the people of Bihar can get its maximum benefit.

SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE (Jabalpur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there are 63 Military cantonments in the country. These cantonments are administered by the cantonment Board. Elected Councillors are also the Member of this Board. This system is being adopted since pre-independence period. After independence, people living in the cantonments came closer to the councillors, MPs and MLAs. Now-a-days the position is that the MPs and MLAs get many of their works done in the cantonments from their quota. Keeping in view all these things I suggest that the MP and MLA may be nominated as ex-officio member of the concerned cantonment Board where military cantonment exist. I urge upon the Government that such amendment should be made in the rules...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA (Satna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the issue related to my Parliamentary constituency. Gross injustice and exploitation are being committed to the labourers working in the quarry. Basic amenities have not been provided to them. They are not being provided even with the facilities of drinking water and accommodation. Moreover, when these labourers get injured, they are thrown away as if they are insects. They have to go to Satna on foot. But the vehicles of the company are used for the sons and wives of the Officers of the company for their visits to city. The injured labourers are not taken to the hospitals in these vehicles. Besides, first aid facility near the quarry has not been provided. Water supply system is also not good. If the labourers raise their voices for providing basic amenities, contractors and officers take a suppressive stand against them. They get these labourers lathicharged and false cases are registered against them. Such an injustice is being done to those labourers who have toiled for the development of the country. Therefore, I demand that the Officers posted there should be suspended and transferred immediately. Besides, this action should be taken against those mafia contractors who exploit them and suppress their voice. Not only this, after conducting an inquiry, the Government should

withdraw false cases registered against the labourers.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Even after passing of so many years we think that the Congress party has played an important role in the freedom struggle of this country. I agree that the Congress and Mahatma Gandhi have contributed a lot in the freedom struggle but one Member of Tamil Manila Congress who is the present Finance Minister of the Union Government claims to be the follower of the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi and to be the real congress, had given such a statement in London in a meeting with Britishers which is a matter of shame and unfortunate to the entire country. He had said to Britishers that they had come in India and ruled for 200 years... should a Finance Minister give such a statement? If he does not agree with it, he should give a clarification in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On what basis you are saying like this?

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : I have evidence that he had said so. I will submit it to the House tomorrow. If he had said so, what action the Central Government propose to take?

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, this should not be a part of the proceedings.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not allowed. I will allow only after going through the evidence.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : His statement has also been published in Hindi, as well as English dailies.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I want proof.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : I will submit the proof. I will also present the audio and video cassettes recorded in London...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have said that I have not permitted. Please sit down.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : I can bring that proof within ten minutes.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : This should be expunged.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*[Translation]*

I will see it later on.

\*...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : If you will submit the proof tomorrow, you should speak this tomorrow itself.

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have already told you. What is the need to repeat it again. Umaji, please sit down.

[English]

13.00 hrs.

**RE TERRORIST ATTACK OF KULGAM TOWN.  
NEAR SRINAGAR. JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA (Jammu) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, yesterday there was bomb blast in Kulgam town of Kashmir valley, when Shri Mohammad Yusuf Tarigami, the State Secretary of C.P.I.M and a renowned leader of our State was addressing a public meeting in which 5-6 persons were killed and 20 were injured. This meeting was declared many days before and the Government and the security forces were aware of the fact that the meeting was going to be held there. Our Chief Minister Dr. Farooq Abdulah was also invited in this meeting but I am sorry to say that proper security arrangements were not made for this meeting. I feel that since the Assembly elections Pakistan sponsored terrorism has increased, infiltration has increased and co-ordination between security forces and State administration has decreased. I want that the hon'ble Home Minister should visit that place and see as to how the increasing infiltration should be stopped, how the co-ordination between security forces and State's administration should be increased and how the day-to-day incidents should be stopped and especially I would like to add that the hon'ble Chief Minister who regularly visits Delhi is not considering the issue of the State seriously. I shall request the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs to request the Chief Minister to devote more time on State matters and especially when in winter season the whole Secretariat has been shifted to Jammu and no one sits in Kashmir Valley, in this situation I would like to say that in winter season, some ministers should remain in Kashmir to see that Pakistan sponsored terrorism should not spread there and leaders of the political parties who have participated in the election should not become target of the terrorists. The hon'ble Home Minister should take steps to stop this. It is a serious issue and therefore the attention of the whole country should be drawn towards it.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, yesterday there was a public meeting being organised by my Party, the CPI (M) in Kashmir. Our State leader and Party MLA, Mohammed Yusuf Tarigami was addressing that meeting. There was an incident of firing at that public meeting... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please allow him to speak.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, three persons were killed and several persons were injured in that firing. I spoke to Shri Yusuf today in the morning and he said that he was hurt in that blast... (Interruptions) It is a very serious incident. There should not be any laxity in regard to security matters. The hon. Home Minister is here. I would like to draw his attention to this fact and would also like to know - the holding of the public meeting was announced long back - whether adequate security arrangements were made for this purpose or not. Why has such an incident taken place? There should not be any laxity in regard to security arrangements.

There is an elected Government installed in the State. The extremist forces who do not want that there should be peace in Jammu and Kashmir would try and create such problems. We should not have any complacency in regard to the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All right, that is enough.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I would like to urge upon the Home Minister to take effective steps in regard to the security arrangements in Jammu and Kashmir and should see that such incidents do not take place in future. The Home Minister should make a statement on this incident either today or tomorrow... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA (Udhampur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir first of all I must congratulate Shri Mohammed Yunus Tarigami for his first public meeting after the Elections. Those people who could win two-third majority in the elections could not address any public meeting. By addressing the public meeting Shri Tarigami has proved his stand. As I have told earlier, all the people knew about this meeting much before the scheduled time. The State Government has demoralised the security forces there after that situation. The Government always tries to take action against the security forces as a result of which the security forces have stopped functioning. They have demanded again and again that this area should be declared as disturbed area and thereafter they will do the work. I, therefore, submit that not only of Shri Tarigami but the bullet proof cars of all the leaders, has been withdrawn and the security has been withdrawn from all the political leader except those who belong to the National Conference. I would like to request you that under such circumstances all the political workers should get security... (Interruptions) These people are shouting too much. They have perhaps forgotten that when Shri Jagmohan was there and he started adopting some strict measure by deploying security forces and the circumstance began to improve. Inspite of that they were shouting on same other point that the actual situation is as before. In view of that the Government of that State should give instruction. The Minister of Home Affairs knows the situation very well and he should give

a statement in this regard. Situation is deteriorating day by day. Pakistan is deliberately encroaching there. The present Government of the State is good for nothing and people have migrated with their families to Jammu. No one is ready to face the situation and these who dare are being demoralised. To improve the situation this demoralisation should be stopped.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Gupta Ji would you like to say something...*(Interruptions)*. Let him speak first...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : (Baramulla) : Being a Democratic leader, it is your duty that you should have second opinion. Please listen to my point of view also...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please speak

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : Sir, the discussion on Kashmir is made mainly to solve the problem of Kashmir. Those who feel that there should be bomb blast and killing of people...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No one has said like this.

SHRI GULAM RASOOL KAR : It has been said. The security forces were doing this...*(Interruptions)* this is the view point of Bhartiya Janata Party that it should be declared as a disturbed area. The issue of Kashmir is an International issue. They are not serious about it. People of the State have elected a democratic Government. All the candidates who contested election have got a security but the polling agent and other such officials should also get security. There is very good co-ordination between our security forces and the Government of Kashmir. If sometime any kind of atrocity occurs there then it is the duty of the Government to express their views. Often the security forces commit too much atrocity...*(Interruptions)* Gupta ji, first of all you should inquire into the matter without making it a political issue. The present Government is only three month old and it is good for nothing and does nothing. The Minister presided every meeting held at Baramula, Kupwara and Anantnag but never met people personally. I again say that the present Government should be active and create an atmosphere of harmony. They should get full protection in public meetings and see that it does not become a political issue...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have brought this proof.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will consider that later. Let him speak first.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am sorry. I am not allowing you at this stage.. I have asked the Home Minister to speak.

THE MINISTER OF HQMF AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Sir, I share the anxiety and concern

of the hon. Members who have brought up this question of this incident which has taken place. It is a very serious incident indeed I also share the view that there is no ground at all for any complacency regarding the security situation in the Valley.

It is not only this incident, there are killings going on by the militants almost every day. The targets are mainly either those people who have supported the National Conference or who are supporters of Farooq Abdullah Sahab and members of the security forces. They are being targeted and singled out for killings and, unfortunately, the security forces are not able to give complete protection to the people who need it. During the elections also Mr. Tarigami's father-in-law was killed, and now this incident has taken place in another area where he has gone to be one of the main speakers in this public meeting which the Chief Minister was also expected to attend

I am not aware of the details - I have to find them out - but allegations are being made. Of course, when a public meeting was to be held, obviously the information must have been there. Public meetings are not held secretly. Preparations have to be made and propaganda has to be done. So, everybody must have known that a public meeting was going to be held and the Chief Minister was expected to be one of the speakers. But, as to whether there was also any other additional information that the militants are likely to strike in that area, I do not know, I have to find out. I will find out and I will come back to the House with a detailed statement as the Members have desired.

I agree that there is no question about it that the security arrangements must be tightened up considerably. Much earlier we had decided that after the elections are over in UP as well as Kashmir, the additional units of the paramilitary forces which had been withdrawn from several States and sent there for election purposes would be restored to the original States. But, in view of what is happening now in Kashmir, we have not stuck to that decision. We are not withdrawing any forces, either Army or paramilitary, from Kashmir. It would be absolutely wrong to do so at the present moment so long as this kind of terrorism continues.

I agree that politically Pakistanis are not likely to take it lying down. When the elections were being held, they were trying to prevent it at all cost. Naturally, they will try to create more disturbances in the Valley. So, as to the actual conduct of the security forces, as to whether they have really not been as vigilant and as active as they should have been, and as to whether there has been any laxity or not, I must be given a little time to inquire into all the circumstances of this case. If necessary, I will go there myself. Not that I am an expert on security but it is necessary to check up and find out whether there are gaps in our security apparatus.

I also want to say that this is the season, as a Member mentioned, in which the Durbar moves to Jammu from Srinagar. Everybody knows it. So, if the

people have gone to Jammu, it does not mean that they are running away out of fear. Somebody said that they are cowards and they are running off to Jammu. This is the time when the Durbar sits in Jammu, not in Srinagar.

So I agree that all the leading political workers of different parties, including those who were candidates in the elections, must continue to be provided with adequate security. There is no doubt about it. I will do my best to see that these measures are carried out and I will come back to the House with a statement after getting adequate information.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

**13.16 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

**14.20 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Twenty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER IN THE CHAIR)

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

##### (i) Need to expedite opening of a Central School at Mandsaur in Madhya Pradesh

*[Translation]*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY (Mandsaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in view of the persistent demand of the Central Government employees and with a view to provide educational facilities to their children, the Human Resources Development Ministry was requested to open a Kendriya Vidyalaya in the Mandsaur city in Madhya Pradesh. Holding the demand to be genuine, an ad hoc permission was given for opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya. But even in the current academic session, the Kendriya Vidyalaya was not opened causing immense problems to the employees.

Generally, the Central Government employees are transferred from one State to another. Kendriya Vidyalaya are suitable for the uninterrupted study of their children, because of uniform syllabus. It was due to this reason sanction was given for opening of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Mandsaur. The State Government has proposed to provide suitable land for this purpose. Therefore, it is my request to the Human Resource Minister to issue necessary directives for opening of Kendriya Vidyalaya.

##### (ii) Need for Immediate Release of Funds to Rajasthan to Compensate for the heavy loss it suffered as a result of floods during last monsoon

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Rajasthan, during the previous

monsoon, Bharatpur, Alwar and adjoining areas were ravaged by floods. The Central Government had sent a team to assess the damage. It has submitted its report. Similarly the sandy plains of Hanumangarh etc. were also effected by floods. The Central team had recommended providing assistance to the Rajasthan Government for this region also. But the sanctioned amount is yet to reach the State. The Prime Minister had surveyed the affected areas. But, even now the Central Government has not provided any amount to compensate the farmers, for their loss of houses and damage caused to their farms and crops, in both the floods. The only amount provided for this purpose was only that amount which is given each year to meet the severe drought situation.

The Central Government is requested to immediately provide funds to the Rajasthan Government to compensate for the loss suffered due to floods.

*[English]*

##### (iii) Need for early completion of irrigation projects in Western Orissa

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur) : There has been an inordinate delay in tapping the irrigation potential available in Western Orissa. The delay in the construction of Upper Indravati Multipurpose Project has caused a lot of unrest in the minds of the people of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput districts better known as KBK districts. The World Bank aided Indravati Project started some decades ago. This was specifically meant to provide adequate irrigation facility in the perennially drought-affected undivided Kalahandi District. Kalahandi would have been removed from the list of drought-prone districts, had the Indravati project been completed timely. Since the situation has gone from bad to worse and as the farmers in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Padampur sub-division of Bargarh District mainly depend on rain water for cultivation, the irrigation projects are required to be completed expeditiously.

The present drought of severe nature in these districts is caused due to inordinate delay in completing the irrigation projects proposed to be executed in these districts in Western Orissa. Unless these ongoing irrigation projects are completed, it will not be possible to improve the situation of farmers in those districts.

In view of the prevailing famine situation in Western Orissa, I demand that apart from completing all the minor irrigation projects in Western Orissa, Upper Suktel Projects should be completed as early as possible. At the same time, the Ong irrigation Project in Padmapur sub-division of Bargarh District should be finalised and posed for World Bank assistance so that the project is taken up at the earliest.

##### (iv) Need to ensure proper maintenance and repairs of national highways in Bihar.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the condition of National Highways is poor

in Bihar. Considering the problems faced by the people, there is an urgent need for its repairs. The National Highways passing through Bihar, connect the nation from one end to another. The condition of this Highway is somewhat better in other States. But the condition of this Highway deplorable in Bihar. The Bihar Government has no funds for its repairs. Because the funds have not yet been received from the Centre.

Hence, my demand to the Central Government is to make arrangements for the repairs of the National Highway Passing through Bihar.

**(v) Need for an Inquiry into the reasons for non-implementation of Central Projects in Tamil Nadu**

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Central Government had sanctioned funds for various development projects for Tamil Nadu during the period 1991-96. But, unfortunately, no project could be completed as per norms and as a result the development of the State has been greatly affected.

I request the Centre to look into the reason urgently for non-completion of development projects such as Jawahar Yojana Kar and schemes for the benefits of those who are below poverty line and funds allotted for the benefit of the scheduled caste population sanctioned by the Union Government.

I appeal for an early action in this regard from the Government.

**(vi) Need to lay super Railway Lines in the Coastal Regions of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu**

SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tiruppattur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir rail transport is an important communication link in the country. The Railways play a vital role in connecting the Northern and upper regions of the country with the Southern region. Every year in Andhra Pradesh whenever there are heavy rains or floods or cyclone, the South bound trains from the North are the worst hit. This problem has become an annual feature. Long distance travellers who go from the Northern tip to the Southern tip of the country are put to severe hardships. Due to the cancellation or diversion of several trains during the period, heavy losses to the tune of several crores accrue. This is a loss not only to the public but also to the Railways. Hence, it is imperative to go in for Super Railway Lines on the same pattern as Super Highways. This will be a very good prospective plan. If not from Kashmir to Kanya Kumari, such a Super Railway Line may be laid at least in the coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu as a pioneering pilot project.

\* Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Tamil.

**(vii) Need to hold elaborate discussions before reviewing the foreign exchange regulation act**

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (Surendra Nagar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government is going to undertake a comprehensive review of the FERA keeping in view the changes in the economic scenario. The Government has admitted itself the fact that FERA provisions are not in consonance with the existing economic scenario. These were the remarks of the Secretary (Revenue) of the Government of India.

The clarifications regarding what provisions of FERA would attract review and what consequent steps are to be taken to reflect such review in FERA suiting to the changed economic scenario should be made by the Government and let the House know the plan of action to be worked out so that the whole gamut of the matter is studied in depth. Since it is going to take alternation in FERA regulations and would play a vital role in Foreign Exchange regime, it is imperative to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the circumstances which had led to the framing of FERA regulations at that time and the circumstances prevailing now in the context of changed economic reforms.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that nothing should be done in a hurry and widespread and elaborate discussions with all concerned should be held.

14.30 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY PRESIDENT IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall take up further discussion on the Statutory Resolution regarding the Proclamation issued by the President in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh. Shri Pramotes Mukherjee is to continue his speech.

SHRI PRAMOTES MUKHERJEE (Berhampore) (WB) : Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for the opportunity given to me to continue my speech today.

The first thing that should be uttered here is that U.P. cannot be finished but the discussion on U.P. may be finished today.

I have already referred to the version of the Sarkaria Commission with regard to the failure of the constitutional machinery for the imposition of the President's rule in a State. I have already referred to these things yesterday. The political crisis or the deadlock of the situation in a State should be regarded, according to the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission, as the prime factor for the consideration of imposition of the President's rule in the State. In this case a situation has emerged for the Governor recommending the imposition of President's rule in the State and that is the demonstrated inability to form a Government, not

commanding over the majority of the Legislative Assembly.

I may mention here that the motive force behind the recommendation of the Governor should be taken into consideration first. Now, what is the motive force behind the recommendation of the Governor for the imposition of the President's rule? So far as the report is concerned, the motive force behind the recommendation of the Governor for the imposition of President's rule was not to dissolve the Government because there was no Government in existence.

The objective of the use of article 356 or the objective of the Governor's recommendation for keeping the U.P. Assembly in suspended animation, was to give a long rope to all the political parties or combinations to come to an understanding and to form a Government. Even the BJP was given the same long rope to come to an understanding and to form a Government. The objective of this recommendation was to explore all the possibilities to come to an understanding and to form a Government. But what can anybody do with the isolation of the BJP in politics? There was a ray of hope that there was going to be an understanding among the secular forces to form a Government. There was no pre-poll understanding but there is a ray of hope that the post-poll understanding, mutual understanding is going to be developed to form a Government. This is good and if this is done, we welcome it. But we cannot do anything about the isolation of the BJP in politics, and nobody can do anything with the isolation of BJP.

Today, it is unfortunate to say that the BJP lives in an isolated world of political firmament. It is an established fact that nobody came forward to support the Confidence Motion moved by Shri Atal Bihar Vajpayee, or in defence of the Confidence Motion or in defence of the BJP's minority Government a few months back. The only one thing that can be said in response to the cry of the BJP friends is to get the majority and govern the country. If they do not get the majority, then they cannot claim to Govern the country. Nobody prevents the BJP from ruling the country. BJP got the majority and they were allowed to rule Delhi, they were allowed to rule Rajasthan and they were allowed to rule Maharashtra, and they could be allowed to rule U.P., had they got the majority.

But, they lost the majority in Gujarat. So, they lost their credibility to rule Gujarat. A Party should get the majority and govern the country. This is the rule of democracy and this is the rule of the land.

We beg to mention here that after the Vaghela affair and after the contradictions exposed within the B.J.P. forum, the B.J.P. myth is crunched. Their crass character is known to the people of India. They can support a Dalit Chief Minister for their political purposes. But they can never distribute a tiny plot of surplus land to a Dalit

woman or a poor peasant or a landless peasant for their livelihood. This is the crass character of the B.J.P. This cannot be accepted today by the conscious people.

Anyway, many things can be said here. We know all those things. The B.J.P. myth has gone and the secular forces are trying to come to an understanding to form a Government in Uttar Pradesh. We welcome it. I would urge upon the Government only to restore normalcy. Nothing more is to be said here. I want that the hon. Home Minister should take the initiative to restore the normalcy in U.P. politics...*(Interruptions)* To restore normalcy in Uttar Pradesh is the first task of the Central Government here. Normalcy is not there. There is the question of development. There is the question of administration. These questions should be looked into by the interference of the Central Government in U.P. politics.

Nothing more could be said here. Many things have already been told...*(Interruptions)* The people have lost their confidence in them. They can get the majority and rule the country. This is the rule of the land. My friends here should not forget this. The people have lost their confidence and the people have lost their faith. Four elections have already been held within five years in Uttar Pradesh.

So, I would urge upon the Central Government to adopt the confidence-building measures immediately for the restoration of normalcy and for the restoration of development and administrative process in Uttar Pradesh.

With these words, I beg to conclude my speech and thereby accord my approval to the Statutory Resolution moved by the hon. Home Minister Shri Indrajit Gupta.

DR. DEBI PRASAD PAL (Calcutta North-West) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when the discussion on the President's proclamation imposing President's Rule in Uttar Pradesh was taken up here, it was taken along various lines. I find that there is a gulf of difference between constitutional norms and constitutional practice which is in action.

It is true that the Proclamation of the President regarding President's Rule expired on 17th October, 1995. On that very day this present Presidential Proclamation was introduced by revoking the earlier Proclamation. Now, there may be a debate by constitutional experts as to whether when the President's Rule has been imposed under Article 356(3) without allowing the Parties to form a Government, can the President's Rule extended beyond one year under Article 356(5).

We have heard the speeches of many of the Members on the floor of the House. They have mentioned that when Article 356 was introduced, Dr. Ambedkar, who was introducing this Article, expressed the hope-

that this would be almost a dead letter in the constitutional history of this country, the country expected to be governed by the ordinary rules of democracy enshrined in our Constitution. But these are all constitutional norms which are to be followed. Undoubtedly, it would be desirable that these norms should be adhered to, but circumstances might exist or crop up when the Constitution has to be understood and interpreted when it is in action. Now there are persons who are clamouring that the President's Rule should not have been imposed on 17th of October, 1996 when one year had already elapsed. I am not going into the constitutional propriety of the imposing the President's Rule, but the exigencies of the situation which called form the Present Action.

Inspite of high expectations of BJP, the people have completely belied them. Even in May, 1996, they got 34 per cent or a little more of the votes. A few months later their vote bank was depleted and they got only 32 per cent of the votes. With securing only 32% votes, they wanted to form the Government. They wanted that the Governor should invite them as they formed the largest political party.

Now, when we are speaking of certain democratic norms, I would say that these norms can only be expected to be observed when the political parties also exercise their norms and discipline in a democratic spirit. But the BJP has shown more than once that they do not believe in democratic norms, they do not believe in certain traditions that a democratic Government expects from them. The first thing that people will remember is the during Kalyan Singh's Government, the Chief Minister of a popular Government for giving an undertaking solemnly before the Supreme Court that they would maintain law and order and then allowing the Babri Masjid to be demolished. That was the solemn undertaking that they had given to the people and to the Court. Now, if the Chief Minister does not care, does not hesitate even to disregard completely his solemn promises, what are the democratic traditions, what are the democratic norms that they can expect? The constitutional norms can function only when political parties also behave according to certain constitutional norms.

Now look at the other instance. A few months back when the BJP emerged as the largest political party, they had not the remotest chance of forming the Government and they knew it fully well. In spite of that the President of India according to constitutional norms, invited the largest political party at that time, viz. BJP to form the Government. That was the norm which the President of India observed according to true constitutional principles.

But was it proper at that time for the BJP to accept the invitation of the President to for the Government

knowing fully well that even during 12 or 13 days they may be in power they would not even have the remotest chance to prove the majority? The Constitutional norms can function in an atmosphere where the political parties observe those norms faithfully and sincerely and accoring to the spirit of the Constitution. When the BJP was invited by the President of India to form the Government, they knew fully well that unless they believe in and practice horse trading there was not even a remote chance to prove the majority for forming the Government. In spite of that, they thought that for 12 or 13 days they can remain in power. That is, if I may say so, a complete\* of political norms. This is the behaviour of the BJP both at the time when Shri Kalyan Singh's Government was in power in Uttar Pradesh as well as at the time when the BJP functioned at the Centre. It does not lie in their mouth to say that the Governor should have invited them because they are the largest political party. It is true that they are the largest political party. But they ran short of more than three dozen Members and in spite of that they could not convince the Governor that there was a possibility of the BJP forming a stable Government in Uttar Pradesh.

Sir, a comment has been made that the strength of the party should be shown only on the floor of the House and not outside the House. Undoubtedly, this is not an absolute norm. But this is a convention of healthy political morality. The Governor could equally send a message under Article 175(2) of the Constitution that the Members of the Legislature may elect and choose their leader. That is also one of the options which is left with the Governor. But at the same time, if the Governor is satisfied that a political party, in spite of its protestations, has no possible chance to form a Government, then it is the satisfaction of the Governor which is required under Article 356 of the Constitution when he sends his report to the President of India. It is true that this satisfaction is subject to a very limited compass of judicial review.

They have already gone to the court of law and the court of law will decide how far the satisfaction of the Governor is influenced by relevant considerations only and not by any extraneous factors. How can the BJP say that they will form the Government in Uttar Pradesh even when they are short of nearly four members? The Governor has to assess the situation. His situation has to be on various grounds and the Governor has rightly said that his concern was how to introduce and maintain a stable Government. The only alternative was to call the United Front and the Congress-BSP combine. Earlier, when Shri Rajiv Gandhi was invited by the President to form the Government, the Congress had more than the number that the BJP holds now in the Parliament.

We had much larger number. But even when Rajiv Gandhi plainly told the President that his Party is not in a position to form the Government with the strength of

the Members which he has. But the Bharatiya Janata Party when they were invited by the President to form the Government, knowing fully well that it was not possible for them to form the Government, they wanted to remain in the Sansad for 13 or 14 days. That is, if I may say so, there is no political morality among the party which is now trying to say that the Governor has acted unconstitutionally. The political parties in this country must have to learn to respect the Constitution and not to ride rough-shod over it. That is the lesson. The Governor has no other choice at present. He has to see that in spite of BJP being invited whether there is any possibility of forming the Government. They could not even indicate it. So if they want that they would remain in power only like 12 or 13 days as they did at the Centre, well that is a matter which the Constitutional experts will certainly examine. But at the present moment, it could not be permitted. Congress has shown the political lesson. In spite of having 142 members, Congress have allowed the United Front Government to function at the Centre with its support. If the Congress does not extend its cooperation, the present Government cannot survive. One should have thought that the United Front should have allowed the secular forces to combine under the Congress and the BSP. But unfortunately, that has not been done. So the Governor had to find out how to introduce a stable Government. There may be certain breach of norms if strict constitutionalism is adhered to. But we have got to see that the Constitution is a living instrument. It is not a dogmatic one. It has to adjust itself and accommodate itself to the realities of a political situation. Having regard to the present political situation, the Governor has no other alternative but to extend the President's rule and the President has to declare proclamation. But at the same time, the possibilities are open and it was open for the political parties to behave according to Constitutional norms and try to form a stable Government.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my party is supporting the present Government not on all issues. On basic issues, we have the right to articulate and we have the right to differ. Keeping that in mind the present action of the Governor, undoubtedly whatever might be its constitutional implications, can be explained as there was no other choice but to do it.

With these words, I thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, for allowing me this opportunity to speak.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion tabled by the hon. Home Minister.

In this House, during the past two days a long discussion has taken place regarding the President's rule in Uttar Pradesh. The Bharatiya Janata Party Members have expressed their views extensively. In

principle, we do not support the President's rule. But, if the situation so demands, President's rule has to be imposed. Consider the Uttar Pradesh election results. The Bharatiya Janta Party has secured only 176 seats. Whereas it had an electoral alliance with the Samata Party. No political party or any alliance in its manifesto which contested the Assembly elections there had mentioned forming a coalition Government with your party. Everyone branded you communalist and divisive. When a delegation of your party, under the leadership of Shri Kalyan Singh had gone to meet the Governor, he gave it in writing that this party was in a position to form a Government, and by virtue of being the single largest party, it should be invited to form the Government. He further expressed his readiness to prove his majority in the State Assembly. The Bharatiya Janta Party, with 176 members, does not enjoy the support of even 14 independents, in the Assembly.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi): How could we get 199 votes?

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS: It may have been managed somehow. You were in no position to obtain majority. You were the single largest party also in this House. The President gave you 13 days to prove your majority. Could you do it? For this reason the Governor did not invite you to form the Government there.

Regarding other parties, a Front was formed by the Congress and the Bahujan Samaj Party. They secured 100 seats. But what happened in the election? The Bahujan Samaj Party leaders, in their speech spoke strongly against the leaders of the Samajwadi Party. They spoke of sending them behind the bars and to do this and that. I want to say that when your alliance was formed, then you should have advised them against such occurrences. They should have been reigned. Dr. Murli Mahohar Joshi, the respected leader of Bharatiya Janata Party is sitting here.

*[Translation]*

Shri Kalyan Singh gave a statement to the newspapers levelling serious allegations on B.S.P. that it committed such and such crimes during its regime. All this has appeared in the newspapers. In view of the present situation in Uttar Pradesh, Lok Sabha has no other alternative except to pass the resolution regarding the President Rule in the State.

As far as Article 356 is concerned, it is required in the present context so that no one demolishes any masjid; no one resorts to rioting in the country and in case anyone is found indulging in such activities, the way your Government has toppled in Gujarat and a situation akin to that arised here, the provisions of the article can be utilised. I would like to caution the B.J.P. leaders that if you try to form a Govt. with help of some political party of the B.S.P. the problem of defection may

rear its ugly head. Hence you should sit in the opposition and wait for some time. The people will decide in the next elections where you stand. With these words, I support the President Rule and also support the Resolution moved by the Home Minister in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Yesterday, it was decided that after the B.J.P., Congress and Samajwadi Party members have spoken, the Home Minister would reply and then the voting will take place.

Four hours time was allotted for discussion on this issue by the B.A.C. whereas six hours have already been taken. Discussion on this very issue is in progress in Rajya Sabha also and the Home Minister has to attend the Upper House also. So if we finish discussion by 4 p.m., he may be able to attend the Upper House also.

15.00 hrs.

[English]

This is my only request. It should be completed before four O' clock.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the names of 12 hon'ble members on my list.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : New names come up every day.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As the time was increased, new names also got added. Now this decision has to be taken by the House. I suggest that the Home Minister should go to Rajya Sabha at 4 p.m. and give his reply in this House at 5 p.m. Before that, the discussion can be completed. He may give his reply in the House at 5 O' clock.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I cannot assure you that he can come back before five o' clock.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He may reply at 5 p.m. or even afterwards. Right now, there are many members waiting for their turn to speak. If all of them are invited to speak, the discussion might go on till six o'clock.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Sir, this is a matter pertaining to 15 crore people... (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Please listen to me first. Nobody is preventing you from expressing your views.

[English]

It was decided in the Business Advisory Committee that four hours should be allotted for this discussion. We have already consumed more than six hours and there are political parties who want to participate in this debate. Let them participate. But my only submission is that it should be complete before four o'clock. Even the Akali Dal can take another ten minutes. Shri George Fernandes can speak for ten minutes. Then Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev can speak and then the Home Minister will reply. It will be complete. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is not possible. It would be difficult to wind up this discussion by 4 o'clock.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is true that instead of four hours, the discussion has taken five hours and ten minutes so far. But I still have the names of 12 members with me.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, all the members would be interested in speaking on the subject.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, it is true that they would be interested in expressing their views. That is why I am saying that after 5 p.m. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad): whether decision is taken in this regard, would be honoured by my party. The name of only one member was forwarded from our Party and he has already spoken on this issue. Now, if every party continues forwarding the names of its own members, our party will also send the name of another member.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only one name has been forwarded by Akali Dal. Then again there is only one representative, Shri George Fernandes.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HUSSAIN : Yesterday the list consisted of ten names and today it has got names of twelve members ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This has to be decided by the House... (Interruptions)

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS (Sitapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the B.J.P. members have already spoken, hence the rest of the members should also be given some time... (Interruptions)

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI (Allahabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say that everybody should be given the time to speak. You may speak a little longer. We have no objection to that ... (Interruptions)

LT. GENERAL PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, out of a total of 85 seats of Uttar Pradesh, the B.J.P. has won 52 seats. Injustice is

being done to Uttar Pradesh ... (Interruptions) You should give time to our party to speak on it. You should take into account that 52 seats out of 85 seats are represented by B.J.P. members. It is essential to listen to them as to what is ailing them.

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Sir, please allow Shri George Fernandes to speak because his speech is very important in so far as this subject is concerned.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER : Well, the decision has to be taken by the House.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah): Whatever decision has been taken by the Business Advisory Committee, everybody has to stick to that decision.

Let us go by the decision of the Business Advisory Committee.

[Translation]

PROF PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala): We should also be given the chance... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev wants to say something. Please go ahead.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him speak first  
(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will call out your name also but let us first decide the time limit.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, I fully agree with your views that no member from Shri George Fernandes Party has spoken yet. So, he should be given a chance to speak. Also, Members from the Akali Dal Party have not spoken. So, one Member from that Party should also be allowed to speak. I am withdrawing the name of Shri Sultanpuri, whose name is there. Literally, I will speak only for two or three minutes. If any Party has not taken part in the discussion so far, you can give a chance to Members of that Party. Otherwise, you have to go by the decision of the hon. Speaker or you can take a decision. Our Members have some fixed engagements. I am also going at 4.30 p.m.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have not given any ruling. I have only stated that I have 12 more names with me and according to that position, the discussion won't finish by 4 p.m... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdadu) : Yesterday we did take a stand about this issue. What have we to decide today?

[Translation]

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, everyone should get the chance to speak. Democracy is being murdered there... (Interruptions) Sir, you should allow full speeches ... (Interruptions) You are hitting us and not permitting us even to bewail... (Interruptions) you do not want us to express our feelings. This is an injustice.

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : You are not being attacked. We have saved you from being attacked ... (Interruptions)

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : All the parties should be given a chance, not just the B.J.P. and the Congress... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, running the Government is a separate matter altogether. Parliament is the biggest Panchayat and manner of its functioning is decided by the House... (Interruptions) The House won't be run on whims and fancies of the Government.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : All the parties that have been left out should be given a chance... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, This is not the first time that we are allocating time to different political parties. As has been the practice in the House, the BAC decided the time. Sometimes it goes beyond the decision of the BAC. Sometimes, the debate goes half-an-hour or one hour more than the time allotted by the BAC. But ultimately the time is fixed by the BAC. According to the strength of the party, different parties get the time. So, accordingly time is given to different parties... (Interruptions) let me complete it.

[Translation]

ONE HON. MEMBER : It did not always happen. Have you always done it. (Interruptions)

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Why was time not allotted to Akali Dal... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI (Jhansi) : When you were sitting this side, you had compelled to extend 4 hour's allotted time to 12 hours... (Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Please, listen to me. When your leader is present, why are you trying to speak... (Interruptions). As Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev said that you can allot time to parties like Samata Party and Akali Dal which have not been given time so far. After that the Congress Party will take two-three minutes time and then the hon. Home Minister will speak... (Interruptions). You belong to a very disciplined party. Why are you standing when your leader Shri

Jaswant Singh is already present in the House: he will speak. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : It is a question of 15 crore people of Uttar Pradesh. It will not be tackled in this way. I must speak... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM KIRPAL YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have to go, therefore please take any decision.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are shouting without any reason. Please call their leaders and talk to them.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, keeping in view the feelings of the hon. Members of Uttar Pradesh and the people of Uttar Pradesh, please allow him to speak... (Interruptions) dictatorship cannot prevail here.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, they are not allowing us to speak. This kind of discrimination will not do... (Interruptions). The people of Uttar Pradesh are being exploited... (Interruptions). The people of the State are being suppressed. Had it happened in any other State, violent incidents could have taken place there... (Interruptions) The democracy as well as the people of the largest State of India are being mocked... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have a suggestion to give. I shall invite hon. George Fernandes to speak. Other party leaders may decide as to how much time they would take. If it is possible, please do it... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, what is happening here... (Interruptions) Had the chance been given to Hon. MLAs of Uttar Pradesh the situation of President Rule would not have come. Due to their excess, the elected MLAs of Uttar Pradesh have not been able to attend the Assembly, so far. Atleast give us opportunity to speak today, so that we can express our views about the sorrows and sufferings of the people and newly elected MLAs of Uttar Pradesh and injustice done to our party there... (Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on the one hand, the hon. MLAs of Uttar Pradesh were not given opportunity to form the Government and on the other hand due to dictatorial attitude, we are not being allowed to speak... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, I just want to respond to one point of the BJP's allegation. In the BAC, the leader of the BJP was present, when the time for this discussion was decided as four hours... (Interruptions) there is a limit to everything... (Interruptions) This is not the way... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : It has happened many times that the discussion has been held for more time than allotted... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please sit down

[Translation]

Jaswantji, do you want to say something?... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please allow him to speak... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGATVIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : It is on record that you have discussed the issued for six hour for which only two hours were allotted... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned for fifteen minutes.

15.17 hrs.

*The Lok sabha then adjourned till thiry-two minutes past fifteen of the clock.*

15.32 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Two Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.*

(Shri Chitta Basu in the Chair)

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION BY PRESIDENT IN RELATION TO THE STATE OF UTTAR PRADESH - CONTD.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, to begin with, I want to make an earnest appeal to you all. Without your cooperation, the House cannot be conducted properly. Every hon. Member has got a right to speak, subject to certain limits.

Now, it has been decided that the hon. Home Minister will reply to this debate at 4.30 p.m. Some hon. Members, particularly those belonging to certain parties who have not yet spoken, would be allowed to speak. I again request you to kindly extend your cooperation.

Now, Shri George Ferandes. Kindly remember the time limit.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on my legs to oppose the resolution moved by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and the discussion on which has been going on for the last three days. The first thing is that, in my opinion, the decision taken by the hon. Governor and the Union Government is unconstitutional and in contradiction to Article 356 of the Constitution. I know that it has been discussed here to some extent but I felt unhappiness when our respected colleague, Shri Somnath ji stood to support this resolution. When emergency was imposed under Article 356, Shri Somnath Chatterjee had launched an extraordinary movement, so that the situation leading to Emergency could not be created again and under the same movement when a Constitution Amendment Bill was introduced in the House in 1978, he delivered a well worded speech and presented the best arguments for removal of Article 356. Today, I am saying it with a heavy heart because when a person like him, steps back, due to some reasons, from such a role he had selected for himself by delivering a nice speech with best arguments, then our faith in many things is lost and we become puzzled as to how we would be able to maintain the Democracy for which he had given thrust in his speech.

Perhaps Somnathji might be remembering that when a resolution regarding not using Article 356 for more than 6 months period and after that for a further period of 6 months period and under no circumstance it would be used after a period of one year, was brought, then he had, through an amendment, sought to reduce 6 month's period to 3 months and further 6 month's period to 3 months and in no case Article 356 should be used for more than a total period of 6 months. It is necessary today to remember those arguments which he uttered in favour of his Amendment. I am not saying so to remind him but it is necessary to remind the House of those arguments because these things are worth remembering.

Somnath Babu put his Amendment and the next day discussion was held on the Bill in the House. It is not needed that the House should be reminded of his entire speech but since most of the Members of the time of 1978, are not the Members at present and new Members have taken their place, they should know as to what for they are required to vote. The hon. Members of this House should know as to on which resolution our oldest and the most revered hon Minister of Home Affairs is asking for vote. Somnath Babu gives the reason of this opposition and he says:

"The position is that starting from 1959 and during the great leadership of Congress, of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, by machinations of the Centre and not because of any bona fide

reasons. Article 356 had been used for political reasons and not for any administrative reasons. This is an experience of the application of Article 356. It has been used indiscriminately against political opponents in West Bengal. We have been victims in Kerala; we have been victims in Orissa. Then people have been victims in UP, Haryana and what not..."

[Translation]

He further says.

[English]

"Article 356 is very antithesis of a federal structure of Government in this country. They cannot really go together."

Either they cannot or Somnathbabu, sometimes they can.

[Translation]

I have gone through your full speech and I shall comment on it in the end of my speech but we had not expected this of him because today it is not the question as to who will form the Government in Uttar Pradesh and who will not or who is in power in West Bengal and who is not. This case will always be considered as a standard because the Government changes after some time and once this tradition is established in the House, it seems very difficult to think today as to what repercussion will it cast on them tomorrow. He further says.

[English]

'If a political party in power loses its majority or if there is uncertainty in the Government at the Centre, there is no provision for President's rule. Then, why should you take States of second class political entity? Now, in the present context, we have seen different political parties ruling different States in the country. There is no protection whatsoever against political misapplication of Article 356 so far as a particular State is concerned. Therefore, we have suggested that in cases where only elections cannot be held, then, for three months, there can be a sort of interregnum only to allow the elections to be held".

[Translation]

The day before yesterday, he opposed all these points on the basis of Sarkaria Commission. Mr. Chairman Sir, they have tried to find out new interpretation of Article 356. Further he says:

"We can allow to that extent but we would be happy if article 356 altogether goes. Due to

the overbearing attitude of the Centre, they can stifle State Governments in a different manner not only in respect of political and Constitutional power but there is also economic strangulation of different State Governments in this country.

Article 356 cannot go side by side with the federal structure of our country. We are clear about this. The people of this country are convinced about this. Article 356 is a method of crushing political opposition in this country as also the dissidence in the ruling party."

Therefore, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, we are objecting to it 'on principle'.

SHRI P.C. CHACKO(Mukundapuram): It is politics convenience.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Have you heard it? He says: Now, it is politics of convenience.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have reminded it here because a division has to be held on it and I would like the hon'ble Members to vote on it after considering all aspects. They should not forget their past and their principles and convictions. There is a peculiar situation in one State only.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Your support to the BJP is also a matter of convenience for you ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am talking about principle.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Shri Chacko has made a comment to which you have referred. I have said that we have to save the country. I said it with the greatest unhappiness. I am hearing you today speaking on this motion. I have said that it is fractured polity. Today, there has to be some administration. You and your friends - your being brother - cannot do it. What can be done in this country? I asked Shri Joshi... (Interruptions) you cannot take the country for a ride just to suit you... (Interruptions) you cannot do it... (Interruptions)

Shri Fernandes, I hope you will be able to give the list of Members of the U.P. Assembly who can form the Government today. Give that list, please... (Interruptions)

You were a Member of the Government which dismissed nine provincial Governments. Do not bring those things... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Fernandes, please continue.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I was listening to him with all attention. He deserves all attention. But it

seems that his whole argument is a personal attack..(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN . Kindly sit down.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (HISSAR) : Somnath ji, you were also the Member of that Government.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I did not want to hurt his feelings. I was just talking about my agony I did not think that my statement would hurt his feelings. I extremely regret for that.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would also like to speak on the Article 356. Several comments have been made about it and they have tried to interpret it in a peculiar manner. Whether they would give the same logic in a court of law if need arises? I would like to read out the amendment which was made to Article 356 in the year 1978 as things depend upon it.

[English]

"Notwithstanding anything contained in clause 4, a resolution with respect to any continuance in force of proclamation approved under clause 3 for any period beyond the expiration of one year from the date of issue of such proclamation shall not be passed by either House of Parliament...

I repeat:

"shall not be passed by either House of Parliament unless:

- (a) a proclamation of emergency is in operation in the whole of India or, as the case may be, in the whole or any part of the State at the time of passing such a resolution;
- (b) The Election Commission certifies that the continuation in force of such proclamation approved under clause 3 during the period specified in such a Resolution is necessary on account of difficulties in holding general elections to the Legislative Assembly of the State concerned".

[Translation]

I have given some examples of the discussion held in 1978 by Shri Somnathji. If this House, which had made amendment in the Constitution, had thought about the possibility that after election, such a situation can emerge that no party has secured majority, a clause would have certainly been added to it. As per the provisions of the Constitution, Election Commission should certify that due to particular reasons it is not possible to hold elections. Therefore, the condition of one year may be dropped and if emergency has been

imposed in any part of the country due to terrorism, this period can be extended. While making amendment in the Constitution, neither Shri Somnathji nor anyone else who had pondered over it, had taken any decision about such a situation. But when Shri Murli Manohar Joshi gave an example about Sarkaria Commission, Shri Somnathji had rejected that argument saying that he had quoted paragraph 4.11.03 of it but I am quoting paragraph 6.4.01. I would like to read it out because when Shri Somnath ji told about it he put more stress on its initial portion.

*[English]*

"The failure of constitutional machinery may occur in a number of ways. Factors contributing to such a situation are diverse and imponderable. It is therefore difficult to give an exhaustive catalogue of all such situations which would fall within the sweep of that phrase, 'Government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution'. Even so, some instances of what does and what does not constitute a constitutional failure within the contemplation of this article may be dropped and discussed under the following heads:

*[Translation]*

Political crisis. There is no need forgetting extra time for it but today, the issue of political crisis which was raised by Shri Somnathji day before yesterday.

*[English]*

"Constitutional break-down may be the outcome of a crisis or a deadlock. This may occur where after a general election no Party or coalition of Parties or groups is able to secure an absolute majority in the Legislative Assembly and despite exploration of all possible alternatives by the Governor."

*[Translation]*

Here Somnathji has spoken a very interesting thing. He used 4-5 words. He does not talk of a floor test. He does not talk of a floor test for the sake of a floor test.

He has said so.

*[English]*

A situation emerges where there is a complete demonstrated inability to form a Government commanding confidence of the Legislative Assembly."

*[Translation]*

Shri Somnath ji has shown his trust on this report. An hon'ble Member of Janata Dal has dismissed the Sarkaria Commission. He is a new Member who has

joined politics and he is not aware of the appreciation of the Sarkaria Commission highlighted in the election manifesto of his party. The Janata Dal has, not only in its election manifesto but also in other papers stated to implement its decisions but yesterday they rejected it saying that they have no restriction on Sarkaria Commission...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : You are a great leader but he is a new Member, then why are you criticising him?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : That is why I have defended him by saying that he is a new Member and he is not aware of these things. He is a well educated person. Therefore, had he gone through the election manifesto of his party he would not have used such language yesterday.

When you have trust on Sarkaria Commission and say that he had not said so that there should be a floor test, then we should discuss on paragraph four of it some extract of which was quoted by Shri Joshi ji day before yesterday. I will not read it out but I would like to read out that portion which has been given under para 4.11.04 that if there is no

*[English]*

'Single Party having an absolute majority in the Assembly'

*[Translation]*

The recommendations of Sarkaria Commission are:

*[English]*

If there is no such Party, the Governor should select a Chief Minister from among the following Parties or group of Parties by sounding them in turn in order of preference indicated below:

1. An alliance of Parties that was formed prior to the election.

*[Translation]*

It is not here.

*[English]*

2. The single largest Party staking claim to form the Government with the support of others, including Independents.

*[Translation]*

And I shall not read it fully because it will take too much time ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, you must not feel hurt, just remember for how many years we have chanted your slogans and now you want that they should praise you? Please tell me.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH(Vidisha) : Have you only thir argument?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may continue but please remember the time constraint.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, I have hardly spoken for seven or eight minutes. I won't take much time. I am aware of the time constraint.

[Translation]

Therefore, I was saying that I shall not read it fully, there is no need, but the question is:

[English]

The largest single Party staking claim to form the Government with the support of others including Independents. This is the order.

[Translation]

Mr. Somnath Babu when you arrive at that juncture then what you have said, go further 4.11.05.

[English]

'Does not talk about Floor test'

"The Governor while going through the process of selection described above should select a Leader who in his judgement-that is Governor's judgement is most likely to command a majority in the Assembly."

[Translation]

Therefore the point of majority does not exist. The Governor has full power. He only calls the leader of the majority, otherwise none. In other case he may call people and become confident that they can form the majority.

[English]

"Who in his judgement is most likely to command a majority in the Assembly."

[Translation]

The Governor's subjective judgement will play a role here and the more important point is this which just counter your point:

[English]

'The Chief Minister, unless he is Leader of a party which has absolute majority in the Assembly, should seek a Vote of Confidence in the Assembly within 30 days of take over.'

[Translation]

It means that a Chief Minister could be selected without majority who should seek a vote of confidence

in the Assembly within 30 days of take over. This is the report of Sarkaria Commission as presented by me word to word in the House.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Shri Fernandes is reading extracts from the Sarkaria Commission Report. I am not going into my Party's stand on it. It was in general and not on Article 356 alone. He made a distinction between the position obtaining after a general election and the question of ascertainment of loss of majority by a Chief Minister. This is the distinction which he clearly made. The portion I read out was one of the eventualities which the Sarkaria Commission thought off that after a general election the Constitutional machinery will be deemed to have broken down if nobody is in a majority to form a Government. He gave an example of the breakdown of Constitutional machinery. That was what Shri Murli Manohar Joshi was contending otherwise. I said that the Sarkaria Commission itself had said that, and I read it out.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am not supposed to be Mr. Romesh Bhandari, but today I am supposed to be the hon. Member's target. The position is this. If Shri George Fernandes had read my speech carefully, he would have found what exactly I said. I said that I do not agree even with what a Supreme Court Judge has said. One Judge of the Supreme Court has said that floor-test is notalways the test. I only referred to that. Therefore, the hon. Member is quoting me out of context and saying things which are not correct. I know his agony to support a case which he cannot sustain.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall not enter into a circle of questions and counter questions just now. But there will be a discussion on this matter not only in the House. You have referred the point of the Governor that I am making 'Halla Bol' but you must know that my protest is against the Government, not against you. So far as the matter of Governor is concerned, the protest was made against him when he tried to topple the Leftist Government in Tripura

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I said that I am no lover of Mr. Romesh Bhandari.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : That time you took the right stand. The reason could be that there was a Secular Government. Now, you are trying to make a Secular Government. I shall not discuss here in the House as to who we the people who supported him to become the Governor. But when I came to know that it was a clear mandate then I wrote a letter to the

Hon'ble Prime Minister and the hon'ble President against him that it would be unjust for the whole country to make him the Governor of the biggest State of the country.

Today, our hon'ble frid Shri Ram Naik had pointed out about share scam. In regard to the Share Scam when our hon'ble the then Prime Minister was criticising some people then a big conspiracy was hatched in the Raj Bhawan by the Governor as to how the money given by Harshad Mehta to Shri Lal Krishna Adwani, Murli Manohar Joshi and some other leaders of Bhartiya Janata Party will be fixed here. For, this he had misused his telephone in Raj Bhawan and power. This was also informed to the hon'ble President and also to the public. However name of the Hon'ble President should not be mentioned here. Now, at this critical juncture when ultimately the biggest State of the country is being handed over to a person and also a responsibility is being given to him that the Government of Bhartiya Janata Party should not be formed there . It is your responsibility. If this point is being raised outside the House then it is not wrong because there should not be mockery with the constitution and the mandate. This is our feeling. A day before yesterday and today also the number of seats held by a party has been a point of discussion but this is not an issue for discussion. The discussion is going on Article 356 Sarkaria Commission has described measures for maintaining Centre-State relations for the growth of democracy in the country. There has been a lot of discussions over the manner in which constitution should be used. There has been discussions on the number of seats a party has in the assembly. We do not oppose such things.

Sir, it does not matter who criticised whom but the question arises when one party securing only seven seats criticises the one who has got 176 seats. In the first Lok Sabha General Election you won 236 seats and now it is only 174-176. Such discussions in the House or outside the House are not logical. They have neither got right nor the the power to criticise others with five seats in their hands.

16.02 hrs.

*[English]*

(Shri Basudev Acharia in the Chair)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude..

*[Translation]*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am going to conclude in just five minutes. Sir, I have with me a photo-copy of a newspaper which I have got from the Library, in which there is a very beautiful photograph of the hon'ble Prime Mnister. A line is written there. You give me vote, I shall give you development. An appeal of the Prime Minister Shri H.D. Deve Gowda to the People of U.P. I shall not discuss its constitutional aspect.

Shri Somnath Babu may like to say something in this regard. Perhaps during election of legislative assembly, all the newspapers in U.P. carry such types of advertisements for the hon'ble Prime Minister. He is not in the capacity of Party President. Had he been the leader of his party, I would have acknowledged his leadership. Biju Babu, you have always opposed him. Now also you should oppose him. This is my appeal to you. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav is present here. He may or may not be knowing that his party was also included in this. And I know that you were not allowed to hog the limelight during the election campaign. I also know that the six parties, the Samajwadi Party, Janata Dal, Indira Congress (Tewari), Bharatiya Kisan Kamgar Party, Communist Party (Marxist) and the Communist Party of India (CPI) were projected as allies. You sought votes in your name, not for your programme nor in the name of these parties, who contested election on their own symbols. You sought votes in the name of development ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : No, vote for the leader of the alliance.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : No, No, it is very clear. Votes were sought in the name of development. All these things happened. In it, it has been mentioned in bold letters that, on one side there are communal and capitalist forces, bent upon ruining the nation and on the other side is the United Front, fighting for secularism, social justice, farmer's interest and building of a welfare State .

The Prime Minister fought the election on this slogan. The Samajwadi Party won the seats on its own and not because of the Prime Minister. There is no need to describe the power and political standing of Mulayam Singh. I am not saying all this in his praise but presenting the factual position. Mulayam Singhji is a self made man. But, Mr. Chairman Sir, how many seats were secured under the slogan " give me votes". I would give you development". The Prime Minister's party got seven seats, the Leftist got five, congress (Tewari) got four and Ajit Singh's party got eight seats. The total seats thus comes to 24.

AN HON. MEMBER : How many seats did you get?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : We got two seats...*(Interruptions)*. But neither I was the Prime Minister, not did I seek votes in the name of development...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have spoken for over half an hour. Now please finish your speech.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I am saying this because when it is asked as to how may votes or seats have been secured by this and that party, obviously the fact comes in our mind that the Bharatiya Janata Party emerged as the single largest party in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections and according to the norms of

Parliamentary democracy not only in India the Government there. This...*(Interruptions)* This talk regarding secularism...*(Interruptions)* the wrangling among the political parties have deprived the voters of their right to have an elected Government.

Shri Somnath Babu has accepted that the party has secured 34 per cent of the votes and won 176 seats. Thus 34 per cent of the people of Uttar Pradesh have been denied their right to have an elected Government. You should remember that all this is due to the concept of secularism and non-secularism in your mind. I would like to have a discussion on it...*(Interruptions)*. In the name of secularism rape, looting of exchequer and theft is allowed...*(Interruptions)*. All this is secular. If this is going to happen in the name of secularism, then I would request you Mr. Speaker to allow a discussion on it, so that this issue can be solved here. With these words, I strongly oppose this Resolution and would like the Members to express their views against it.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose the motion tabled in this House by the hon. Home Minister. When the Home Minister moved this motion, I was pained and surprised that opportunity is not being given to an elected Government to come to power. Mr. Chairman, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is the biggest State of India. Earlier, the State was denied the opportunity to have simultaneous elections for Lok Sabha and State Assembly. And now when the Assembly elections were held, the Bharatiya Janata Party bagged the largest number of votes in these elections. When BJP got the opportunity to form the Government, article 356 was imposed. In the State and the Union Government did not give them chance. I think this is a mockery of democracy. It is murder of democracy. I am surprised that an elected Government in the Centre is doing this. I recall an instance that once I was travelling in a non-stop bus and the driver was stopping it at each Bus Stop. On being asked, why he is stopping the Bus at each stop, he said that he was picking up his colleagues. On being told that it was a non-stop bus, he further said that he could not leave his colleagues stranded. Similarly Parliament, the largest institution and the Ruling party is not giving an opportunity to them to form the Government. Can there be greater injustice than this?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as article 356 is concerned Shiromani Akali Dal has been against it and during emergency this party had got all these people released who are now in power. These people had made a commitment not to impose article 356 in any State I feel sorry that article 356 was used for the first time against the Akali Government. And now it is being used against other States. For this reason we passed the Anandpur Saheb Resolution and formed the Sarkaria Commission. Rajiv-Longowal accord was also signed. It was agreed that Centre-State relations should be reviewed. So that

article 356 is not misused. When Dr. Ambedkar had framed the Constitution, it was said and assured that Article 356 would not be misused. But today it is being misused. It is being misused by the Governor. I believe that the Governor is a white elephant and the post has no utility. We had made a similar recommendation in the Anandpur Sahib Resolution. Sardar Surjit Singh Barnala is sitting here. Once the then Prime Minister had asked him to misuse Article 356, he refused to do so and tendered his resignation. Only such Governors can save democracy in this country. And a Governor like Bhandari, who has ignored the wishes of 34 per cent of the people undemocratically in order to remain in power, should be removed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the third point is that what we are witnessing today in Uttar Pradesh, has happened several times in many states. It is for this reason I would like to say that the Constitution should be re-written, according to the wishes of the people and the condition of the country. People are divided along minority and majority lines. Minority Government have ruled the country for five years, indulging in scams, and rapes. Today, the plea of minority is being given in respect of Uttar Pradesh.

I agree with Shri George Fernandes views on secularism. First, the wishes of the people were ignored in forming the Government at the Centre. When the people gave their verdict in favour of Bhartiya Janata Party, which emerged as the single largest party, all others united in the name of secularism. It was said that in the elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party had fought against the Bahujan Samaj Party. In Parliament, the D.M.K., Janata Dal, C.P.M., C.P.I., claimed that if they are voted to power, they would take strict action against the Congressmen involved in scam, and when they came to power they have become quiet.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say that the meaning of secularism be explained to the people, otherwise it would be a betrayal against them. In Delhi, Kanpur and Nagpur large number of people were killed just because they belonged to a particular community. This was the murder of humanity. They were executed and their most sacred shrine, Shri Akal Takht Sahib was invaded by Army troops and tanks which are meant for defence of the country. Where was secularism when the most sacred shrine was demolished and people of a particular community were killed on roads. People must understand the meaning of secularism. It should not be the case that you call someone secular or communal in order to remain in power.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be relevant.

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : This is relevant. What would be more relevant...*(Interruptions)* it is a matter of concern that communalism is being spread in the name of secularism. The verdict of people

is being ignored in the name of secularism. This matter should be clarified. In view of the development taking place in Uttar Pradesh, if the elected Government is not given a chance to work there and if BJP, which has emerged as a single largest party there, is not given a chance to rule, I feel that the people of this country will lose faith in democracy. Therefore, in order to save democracy, it is essential to give a chance to BJP to form Government.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we heard with rapt attention the speeches delivered by various political parties. Whatever the political situation in Uttar Pradesh is, by and large, it is the same as in this House. The BJP and their allies are telling that the Governor should have invited them to form the Government while the United Front and their partners are telling, 'No, what the Governor has done is a right thing'.

The Members from U.P. belonging to our Party have already spoken on this. I do not want to repeat what they have said. We are not very happy with what the Central Government has done. We expected that the Governor would invite Kumari Mayawati to form the Government. It is unfortunate that within the United Front, there was no unanimity and they could not do it.

Now the question comes when the Proclamation has been made and brought to this House, as Congress Party, what should we do? As I said, we strongly feel that the United Front and their partners have not done well. They have been telling that they are not in a position to support so and so and will not support. When the Congress Working committee took a decision to support the United Front, we did not ask who should be the leader and who should be so and so? We did not make it a condition. We gave unconditional support. They were comparing that with us. It is not proper. The BJP on their part is telling that they are the largest Party in the Assembly. So they should have been invited by the Governor and they could have proved in the House that they had got the majority. Now the point that we are not able to understand is as to how they could have done it. We have seen that they have got some extra bouts during the Rajya Sabha elections but they have been beaten very badly by all the secular parties.

The only alternative for them could have been to claim that they were at the Centre for 13 days and they would be in U.P. for seven days. That could be one achievement... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : You may form the Government there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be quiet. Let him speak.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I fully appreciate their reaction. Another claim that they are making is that during the Parliament elections, we got 230 seats and now what has happened? They have come down to 171. They have lost Gujarat. They are on the way of losing all the Corporations and Municipalities in Maharashtra. Their partner, Shiv Sena is taking over there. Their condition is very, very bad. At this stage, one could think that the people of this country have realised, as our leader one day said in this House that he could fight with the BJP but he could not fight with religion, that is, with a religious cry, one cannot move.

Now the question is : What will be the stand of the Congress here? Many people are asking as to why we are not giving the whip. We expect that good sense will prevail on the United Front and their partners. Though they are having the Proclamation being confronted in this House, we shall support it most reluctantly because of constitutional compulsions. But I hope that very soon the President's Proclamation which will be approved today, will be withdrawn from U.P. and Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and his partners will rise to the occasion and some effort will be made to save U.P. from them. Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav should try to forget the past and come to the situation so that you can have a Government there. He is in Delhi. He should leave something in U.P. for others also. I am grateful to and I congratulate all the MLAs of our Congress Party, BSP, and SP for the result that has come in U.P. during the Rajya Sabha elections. They have proved and they have given a signal to all over the country that the BJP's trump will last no further. That message has gone... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. OM PAL SINGHENIDAR (Jalesar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you had asked Prof. Chandumajra to stick to the subject. Is his speech to the point?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : From where did these 23 members come? They came from the Congress and the BSP Party.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Shrimati Sushma Swaraj says, 'during the 13-day Ministry, MPs were standing in queue to support the BJP'. Where had they gone? Where were those MPs? No one was standing in the queue.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Right now we are discussing on U.P. From where did these 23 MLAs come? If they have not come from the Congress, S.P., B.S.P., have they come from heaven?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Madam, you do not have any friends in U.P.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: We don't want friends like you.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: We also have no need for your company or friends like you.

*[English]*

We are supporting them with the expectation that political activities for forming a secular Government will take place in order to stop the non-secular forces there.

Tomorrow is the day which is a day of national shame for us, the day on which the B.J.P. demolished the Babri Masjid and the Ram Temple. I hope that this House would condemn that and will not do anything to strengthen them.

With these words, I conclude.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai North East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I was pondering over this matter in order to participate in the debate on President Rule in Uttar Pradesh and was searching for facts, I came to the conclusion that the situation of hung assembly in Uttar Pradesh is not the very first case of hung assembly in the country. Earlier also, several States have had hung assemblies. Certain politicians are raising a protest now and when I looked back to see as to what did they do in such a situation. I was reminded of an incident that occurred 25 years ago. At that time, I was studying in college, however, I would like to tell you whatever I recall. The phenomenon of hung assembly occurred for the first time in West Bengal, 25 years ago in 1971 and an honoured and Respected leader of our country, Shri Jyoti Basu, who also has the distinction of holding the office of Chief Minister for longest period was heading the Left Block of C.P.M. at that time. His party did not have majority in that hung assembly; still he approached the Governor and told him that although he did not have full majority but by the virtue of being the leader of the largest party in the Assembly, he should be invited to hold the office of Chief Minister...*(Interruptions)* I have never attended the Assembly in West Bengal but even if we have always been in the wrong, at least you should follow the path of truth.

At that time, Shri S.S. Dhawan was the Governor of West Bengal. He took the same action as the present U.P. Governor. He procured letters from all the political parties, except the C.P.M. led Left Block, wherein it was stated that the parties were not going to extend support to C.P.M. led Left Block under any circumstances. After the receipt of these letters, when Jyoti Basu told that he did not have the majority, he had stated 25 years ago.

*[English]*

"Governor, as per the conventions of the Parliamentary democracy, should give a chance to form the Government. The majority should only be determined on the floor of the House and not by the Governor."

*[Translation]*

From the point of view of the Communist Party, this is the silver Jubilee year of that Hung Assembly. But things have changed drastically in these 25 years so much so that the points on the basis of which Shri Jyoti Basu staked his claim to the office of Chief Minister, and on the basis of same points when Shri Kalyan Singh is asking to be invited to hold the post of Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, things are being proved to be incorrect. I am not aware as to what action was taken at that time because we never went to West Bengal Assembly to oppose you.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now, I was listening to the speech delivered by Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev. He was saying that our Government has toppled in Gujarat. That we have not been able to form Government in U.P. and we have lost in some municipality elections also. Now he is satisfied. Good. His name is Sontosh i.e. satisfaction, so he should be satisfied. As for them, they are no longer in power in Centre. Their Government was not formed in Bengal. They are not in power in U.P., Bihar, Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Kerala. How many States should I go on naming where they are not in power. I am unable to understand as to why are they feeling so content on having got majority in some municipality elections.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Constitution is silent about the decision to be taken in case of hung Lok Sabha or hung Assembly. If it has not been clearly laid down in this Constitution all the political parties in the country should honour the conventions and what I mean by conventions is that the conventions laid down by the Supreme Conventional authority is the President. I am not speaking about a particular President or a particular incident. I remember that in 1979, because prior to that the Congress Party had the majority in Lok Sabha, for the very first time, the process of mustering majority began and the opinion of the President was sought. In 1979, after the fall of Janata Party Government led by Shri Morarji bhai, the President invited the leader of Opposition Party, Shri Yashwant Rao Chavanji. The President had not asked him to prove his majority or submit any letter or to go to the President's House to apprise him of the situation. He was not asked to do any of these things. There was just one issue on which the Government fell. Thereafter, we have had three Lok Sabha elections in 1989, 1991 and 1996 and all the three times we have had a hung Lok Sabha. No party got a majority in any of these Lok Sabha elections. When

the situation of hung Lok Sabha first arose in 1989. Shri Rajiv Gandhi was invited who was at that time the leader of the largest party. He was not asked to prove his majority or submit a letter. He was invited because his party was the largest party. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi said 'No' he invited Shri V.P. Singh. In the letter sent to him he mentioned that he was being invited not because Bharatiya Janata Party and Communist Party of India (Marxist) were supporting him, but because the single largest Party had refused to form the Government and that he was being invited as he was the second largest party. In 1991 there was hung Lok Sabha. But even in the hung Lok Sabha...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Shri Rajiv Gandhi had said that he would sit in the Opposition...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I want to tell them that Shri Rajiv Gandhi had said in the beginning that he would sit in the Opposition. He would not form the Government. But, it seems that your knowledge Shri Mahajanji, is limited. Shri Narasimhaji is present, ask him...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I know now a days you are being guided by the directions of Shri Rajiv Gandhi's party. Therefore, your memory is absolutely correct. Those who are invited, it depends upon them whether they say 'Yes' or 'No'. There is no need to ask the concerned person whether he would say 'Yes' or 'No' and then invite him...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : This is not the Uttar Pradesh Assembly...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : He had given it in writing at the outset that he would sit in the Opposition...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : You are supporting my point...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : This is not the Uttar Pradesh Assembly. Please sit down...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : You too have come from the Uttar Pradesh Assembly...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Everyone know that happens in Uttar Pradesh Assembly and the manner in which discussion takes place. Please learn how to speak...*(Interruptions)*

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this incident occurred thrice. All the three persons took different decisions. Shri Rajiv Gandhi refused, Shri Narasimha Rao accepted the offer to form the Government and managed to secure majority...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Shri Rajiv Gandhi did not refuse. Instead he went and refused to form the Government. The record should be corrected.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : He was invited...*(Interruptions)* I am not saying that he was eager to form the Government...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, he wrote on his own...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO (Berhampur) : Sir, I would like to clarify. After due deliberations in the Party, it was decided that we would write a letter to Rashtrapati requesting him not to call the Congress Party either to ask whether they would form the Government or to form the Government; because they said, the letter said that : 'We have not got adequate mandate from the people'. That was the clear reason on which the request not to be called was based...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : This is the tradition that we are maintaining. That is what he is saying

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : When Shri Narasimha Rao was invited, he lacked majority and at that time no one even asked you, whether you had the majority or not. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is not in the picture. When Shri Narasimha Rao was invited for the second time, then you lacked majority, and no one requested you to prove your majority in the Rashtrapati Bhavan ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : My good friend is arguing a case but he should know that at the Centre there is no provision for President's rule. Some exercise has to be there to form the Government ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I said it earlier.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Yes, you said it.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sontoshji, at least there is no provision in the Constitution for President's rule at the Centre otherwise you could have gone to any extent in the name of secularism...*(Interruptions)* Had you agreed with Somnathji, you could have not done so here also...*(Interruptions)* Whether any person sitting in Raj Bhawan of Lucknow has become so powerful that he has denied to follow the tradition made by the Supreme custodian of Indian Constitution i.e. hon'ble President of the country? If you do not want to follow the path of traditions then comes written documents. I have heard the views of all including Sarkaria Commission. I would not like to mention it here but I will make a mention about the untouched aspect of the Sarkaria Commission. When Sarkaria Commission came into existence, it wrote letters to various political parties and their Chief Ministers in various States to know their views. I am speaking about Article 356 only. Leaders of

Janata Party had also written letters. At that time leaders like Jenaji and me were also in the Janata Party. Perhaps Shri Mulayam Singhji was also there. All of us were acclaiming Shri George Fernandes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We were not acclaiming.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am talking of 1977 only. You have just said ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Though, I don't want to speak but his statement regarding acclaiming Shri George Fernandes has hurt my feelings...*(Interruptions)* I have been compelled to say this because Shri George Fernandes was saying that he did not want to hurt the feelings of Shri Chatterjee but today he has hurt the feelings of all socialists...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Of course, one socialist always hurt the feelings of the another socialist

I am talking about Janata Party of 1977 of which so many Members are in the power. At that time the Janata Party had written to the Sarkaria Commission that :

*[English]*

"In case there is no leader who can get the support of majority Members of the Assembly, the Leader of the single largest party should be invited to form the Ministry."

They also said :

"Any doubt regarding the majority support to the Chief Minister shall be tested only on the floor of the House".

*[Translation]*

The Janata Party of which you were also a member and Sarkaria Commission which you mention. They had also said about the Sarkaria Commission, Shri Somnathji is a senior leader. Had he made that demand which he had written to the Sarkaria Commission I would have been happy. I am not opposing the imposition of the Article 356. c.p.m. has written in its letter:

*[English]*

"In case of a constitutional break-down in a State, provisions must be made for the democratic steps of holding election and installing a new Government as in the case of the Centre".

The party was, thus, opposed to keep the Assemblies in suspended animation.

*[English]*

We are against keeping the Assemblies under suspended animation.

*[Translation]*

It would have been appropriate if you had said that if no party was in a position to prove the majority, elections would be held again in Uttar Pradesh. But today, you are opposing what you had said to the Sarkaria Commission. I would not like to make an appeal in the name of of Sarkaria Commission...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You did not listen to me nor have you read my speech.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, I have read your speech very carefully, not only this one but whenever you have spoken.

*[Translation]*

I think that certain criteria has been fixed by the Sarkaria Commission about the appointment of a Governor. I would not go into the details due to time constraint but it had mentioned that a person having political background should not be appointed a Governor. And now, the Governor of Uttar Pradesh, who had been defeated by Bhartiya Janata Party in the Lok Sabha elections five years back has entered the Rajbhawan anyhow. There is no possibility that he will do justice with the BJP and remain neutral. Therefore, had the Governor been appointed as per the criteria fixed by the Sarkaria Commission, he would have taken some other decision and would have a different thinking. Shri Goerge Fernandes has mentioned effectively about the remarks made by the present Governor. I do not want to repeat it but I would like to submit that if a Governor joins the election propaganda with the Prime Minister it shows that he has become an agent of that political party and how he can do justice? How can one expect of justice from a Governor who has no patience till the declaration of election results and says that he would not call the single largest party to form the Government? Therefore, Shri George Fernandes has made a mention about the conduct of such a person who has been defeated by us in the political party. In such a situation, who will have faith in the decision taken by such Governor...*(Interruptions)* I will take two or three minutes more.

It has been said again and again that the Bhartiya Janata Party has been isolated. Sometimes I get surprised. It is correct that your Government is an alliance of 13 parties and supported by 14 parties out of these 13 parties, some parties have its only one or two Members which you count a party. Bhartiya Janata Party is not alone in the Indian politics. In Maharashtra, we are ruling with the Shiv Sena. Haryana Vikas party

*[Translation]*

And you had written to the Sarkaria Commission about the voting which you are doing today.

is with us which is ruling in Haryana. In Punjab, Akali Dal is with us which is going to form the Government in the coming February. Samata party is also with us and if elections are conducted just now in Bihar...*(Interruptions)* If, elections are held in Bihar, BJP Samata Party coalition Government will rule in the State...*(Interruptions)*

It is just a misconception. In Indian politics, Bhartiya Janta Party is not alone. Four such political parties are associated with Bhartiya Janata Party which are ruling in various States. We will not be isolated by your efforts made to muster support of small parties. If we are isolated due to our ideology, we welcome it. We are not concerned about it. It is due to this isolation that we have achieved this position. We are not afraid of such isolation. Only cowards afraid of such isolation. The game to check BJP from coming into power can be played only by such coward people. Therefore, there is no need to make us afraid of the threat of political isolation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, haggling is being done. Who is haggling. If you are advocating secularism to such an extent why Shri Mulayam Singh does not support Ms. Mayawati since both belong to secular parties.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : You have earlier supported, therefore extend support to her again...*(Interruptions)*. Earlier, we had formed the Government with the support of BSP and you gave support to the BSP to form the Government. You have always been extending support to others therefore, you should give support to Ms. Mayawati again. We had earlier not given support to anyone but we had taken support and still we do not want to give support.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Mulayam Singh ji is absolutely correct. He is talking of a politics which I have seen earlier. I do not remember the incidents which occurred 71 years ago. It is correct that we had given support to Ms. Mayawati but everybody knows the fact that Shri Mulayam Singh ji had become the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh only with the support of Ms. Mayawati and Shri Kanshiram. But when they withdrew their support he had to quit the office of Chief Minister. Therefore, both of us are equal so far as giving support is concerned. But now the question arises why we do not give support to BSP. The reason is that BSP is a secular party whereas we are not. The alliance of such two parties will prove like a hot icecream which will not be in the interest of the country. Therefore, I want that both of you should join hands and form the Government. All of you are appealing in the name of secularism. But it is only BJP which can form the Government in Uttar Pradesh. Such a situation is certainly being observed by you.

In fact, the Union Government, in connivance with the hon. Governor and keeping aside all the provisions

of the constitution, should frame only one constitution of opposing BJP wherever it comes to power and that should be their Common Minimum Programme

We are sorry that the people of Uttar Pradesh have given us 10-20 seats less than needed to form the Government but they have also not given a clear majority to any party constituting your Government. You are resorting to such tall talks just on the basis of 2-4 percent of votes...*(Interruptions)*. Atleast speak for your party...*(Interruptions)* Many of your party leaders have already delivered their speeches.

Mr. Chairman : Please conclude.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : If they withdraw their support, the number of your constituent parties will reduce from 13 to 12. I just wanted to say that the United Front Government in Centre has imposed the President Rule in Uttar Pradesh under a conspiracy and in connivance with the hon. Governor. We demand that the President Rule should be revoked and BJP should be invited to form the Government there and we be allowed to prove our majority on the floor of the House. We are in a position to prove our majority. Therefore, our party does not support this Statutory Resolution.

*[English]*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, After the heat and passion which has been aroused, especially in the concluding part of this debate, I shall be brief in my reply. Brief because it seems to me that neither those people who are supporting this Statutory Resolution nor the people who are opposing it, are going to convince each other by making further speeches.

*[Translation]*

SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' (Almora) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am ready, I also want to speak...*(Interruptions)* The President Rule has been intentionally imposed in Uttar Pradesh because 17 BJP MLAs have been elected from Uttarakhand. I am one of the speakers but I am leaving my chance...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The leaders are here but they have no control over their own people. My old friend, Shri Jaswant Singh, you are the Leader of this disciplined party, you are an ex-military man, I think, your party has had sufficient opportunity in this debate to expound their point of view without this kind of interruption and unauthorised speech making by some Members. I said that I will be brief for this reason but your hon. Member, of course, did not seem to agree with me that neither of these two sides, for and against

the Resolution, are likely to convince each other. We have already made up our mind and you have already made up your mind. all that remains to be done is to record a vote. Therefore, what is the use of making another lengthy speech?

Sir, let me at the outset thank all the Members, on whichever side of the House they may be, who have participated in this debate. After the heat and passion subsides - which will not be very long, I think - the people of Uttar Pradesh will still be left with the question, where do we go from here? This great Parliament - Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha - debated very furiously and stridently, who is on the right who is on the wrong, who should have done what, but at the end of it all and whatever the result of the voting may be, people will be left with the question, where does Uttar Pradesh and the people of Uttar Pradesh go from here? I think all of us should ponder over this question a bit; all of us irrespective of which party we belong to. I think, this is my point of view. Uttar Pradesh has been a victim of forces which have failed the people in the sense that democratic elections are held with the purpose and the purpose is to provide the people of the State concerned with a suitable Government which can attend to their problems, which can attend to developmental projects and works and which can redress the grievances of the people.

It is for the purpose of installing such a Government that people go to the polls. From that point of view, I think, we should all confess that our parties have failed in their obligation towards the people of Uttar Pradesh. Now, what is going to happen, I do not know. It is for all of us to think about it. But I would say that one element in the whole situation, which has played a dominant role but nobody has mentioned it here, at least, as far as I know - I heard most of the speeches, but nobody mentioned it here - is the factor of casteism. I am surprised that nobody mentioned it. In my opinion, the way that casteism has dominated the thinking of people in Uttar Pradesh, the way in which it has dominated the considerations of polarisation of forces, voting and so on, that kind of casteism, I am afraid, is going to spell the death-knell for democracy.

I am not blaming any particular party. I think, in a greater or lesser degree, all parties in Uttar Pradesh have been tainted by this malady of casteism. You see it in the choice of the candidates, you see it in the way the campaign was conducted, in the way the propaganda was conducted and so on. So, while we are talking about secularism, which it is necessary to talk about, what we have actually done, in my opinion, may lead to the destruction in the eyes of the people of Uttar Pradesh of the credibility of this electoral system, this democratic system under which we have been functioning for nearly 50 years. It will have no credibility left after so much effort and expenditure, hard work and

so many elections, we end up without being able to give a Government to the Uttar Pradesh people.

Of course, intra-party rivalry is not something new in this election. Intra-party rivalry is always there-sometimes more, sometimes less. There is a struggle which is going on in Uttar Pradesh as to who will be holding the Chief Ministership, whether it will be Shri Kalyan Singh or Kumari Mayawati or my friend, who is sitting here, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. What do we go by? A lot of arguments have been adduced here. I do not want to go into that, that numbers are not the decisive things. But when you talk about the largest single party, how do you assess that it is the largest single party? It is only by numbers and not by anything else. Here, it is being argued that the largest single party, that means in terms of numbers should be given the opportunity to form the Government when there is no party or no combination of parties which, by the same token of numbers, is able to command the majority. Now, this question has become a very live question. At the moment, we are functioning under the Constitution - if we want to change the Constitution, that is a different matter; every Member has a right to change the Constitution; one can move some amendments and try to get it changed which provides for that party or group of parties running a Government which can demonstrate that it has a majority in the House.

#### 17.00 hrs.

So, if we say that the single party with the largest number of members should be given a chance, it is an argument, of course. Many examples and many kinds of precedents have been given here. I am also worried about one thing, I can tell you. The way that our country's polity is developing, I apprehend that in the years to come, there will be many many instances in many many States where no party or coalition of parties will be able to claim and clear majority. Then what will we do? What is to be done in those cases where the option is between either handing over the Government to a party which claims to have the largest number of members though it may not have a majority, or the other option is, not to allow any Government to be formed and for the President's Rule to continue? It is a very difficult choice because under the prevailing practice in the Constitution, the ruling party has got to have a majority. On the other hand, if there is no majority, then you have the choice. The Governor in U.P. probably was caught in a dilemma. He did not know what to do. I, of course, repudiate all what has been said here that he was sent there with a specific mandate. I think that Shri George Fernandes had said that he had got evidence and proof and all that, but he would tell us about it later on. May be he has got some evidence I do not know. As far as I know as Home Minister, this particular Governor was never given any mandate by the Centre that "You are being sent there with the sole

purpose of seeing that under no circumstances should the BJP be permitted to come to power".

SHRI RAM NAIK : The Prime Minister did not inform you about it.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : They do not take you in confidence while giving their mandate. It is being done without taking you in confidence, you just announce the decision after it has been taken.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : He has said it publicly also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ram Naik, the hon. Minister has not yielded.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Anyway, some of us may have expressed disagreement with the choice of a particular person.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Then you do not know the brief. You do not know the choice. Naturally you do not know the brief.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I know the brief as well as Shri George Fernandes knows the brief.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : At least, he can have an inference which you are not trying to do.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I can only go on the basis of my knowledge and my information. If it is wrong, it is for any of you to choose to prove it.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : It is always a misinformation.

SHRI SHIRIRAM CHAUHAN (Basti) : What are your views on article 356.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : But I would like to say one thing. Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi, in his speech referred to this imposition under Article 356 on U.P. as the biggest rape that has taken place on the Constitution. I would humbly say - I hope hon. Members opposite will not take it amiss - I think it would be better if the BJP did not go on referring to the Constitution and what constitutes its rape. Let them not discuss that question. Does the Constitution permit the propagation by those people who have taken an oath on the Constitution before becoming legislators or Ministers or whatever it is, to go on propagating this theory of Hindu Rashtra? Does it? You show me how. Does it permit a campaign to be carried on in the country against the minority community saying that they are not loyal to the country and that they should be sent out to Pakistan? It is permitted?... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : If you want to discuss this point, we are ready... (Interruptions) You had asked Shri George Fernandes to be relevant.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister has not yielded. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : If the discussion will be held on the Constitution, we are ready and I also request you to be ready... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : The hon. Minister did not refer to BJP. Why did they think that he has referred to them?... (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : He is telling it in so many words... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I did not say that the BJP has said it... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : You accept that position.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : We are not anti-Muslim. We just say that anybody who resides in India, should live here as an Indian... (Interruptions) Hindus will do themselves but we have to raise the status of those people... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I did not say that you did it. Why are you wearing this cap?

[English]

Sir, all that I want to say is this... (Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Mr. Home Minister, kindly be brief. We have to go... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : My friend, the leader of the Shiv Sena Party, Shri Sarpotdar made a reference I am also tempted to just make a remark on that about the Babri Masjid saying that

[Translation]

It was not a Masjid, it was simply a structure. I think I am not saying wrong... (Interruptions) I did not interrupt you when you were speaking then why are you interrupting me when I am speaking? Why do you not want to listen to anyone?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-East) : I have not said that it is the "Babri Masjid". I said that it was a "Dhancha"... (Interruptions) I do not accept it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Did you not say that it was not Masjid?

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : What I said, I stand by it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I said what you said. You said that it was a "Dhancha"... (Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : This matter is *sub judice*. It is for the Court to decide. The High Court will decide whether it was a "Dhancha" or a Masjid...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt. Please take your seat.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir. I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what Rule do you raise it?

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I said that when the matter is *sub judice* before the High Court to decide whether it was Mosque or a "Dhancha", how does he call it a Mosque?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not referring to any Court case.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : How does he say that it is a Mosque when the High Court is seized of the matter and the matter is *sub judice*. If it is a "Dhancha", how can you say that it is a Mosque or a *Mandir*?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Please remember that tomorrow is the 6th of December. This day is an anniversary of something which will be remembered in this country with shame...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : It would not be a matter of shame for all. It is a matter for consideration. The High Court would decide whether it was a Mosque or a "Dhancha". You cannot take away the jurisdiction of the High Court yourself. The matter is *sub judice*...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sit down, please. Do not interrupt. He is replying. He is not yielding. He is not referring to any Court case.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I say that this day is an anniversary of an event which blackened the face of India throughout the world...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sit down, please. He is replying to the points raised by the Members of the House. So, you please listen to the hon. Home Minister. Take your seats, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kumari Uma Bharati, are you raising any point of order? Under what rule are you raising it?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : She is raising a point of order. Sit down, please.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Sir. I am not on any point of order. But I am on a point of correction...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, you take your seat. I will not allow you.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please take your seat, Uma Bharatiji. He has not said anything unParliamentary...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You cannot fool this country...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : You cannot say anything against the Minister of Home Affair's statement about 6 December...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : you have already spoken You please sit down...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : \*

*[English]*

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Hon. Home Minister has said it very rightly...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Why are you permitting him?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is on a point of order. I have allowed him.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Under which rule?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have allowed him. I had allowed Uma Bharatiji, I had allowed Lodhaji and I am allowing Rajesh Pilotji also. You listen to him.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Hon. Home Minister very rightly said that 6th of December, 1992 has been a black spot in the history of the country. There was a debate held here. Please open the record...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. He has not completed yet.

*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : What is the point of order?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You will have your say also. Let him complete. He has not completed yet.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Why are you allowing a controversial thing?

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have any point to make, let him complete.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I want to draw the attention of the whole House to one fact. There was a discussion held on the 8th or 9th December, 1992 when Shri Vajpayee spoke, he also said

*[Translation]*

We are also sorry for this.

\* Not recorded

[English]

He is on record having said it on that day. Now today we want to know from the BJP friends, what is their stand on this issue? Do they support that act of 6th December or not? They must say that... (Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the statement made by Uma Bharatiji about 6th December be expunged from the record. She must withdraw this and apologise to this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will not go on record. Nobody will speak except the Home Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seats. The hon. Home Minister is speaking. Please listen to him.

Now, only the hon. Home Minister will speak and nobody else will speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Justice Lodha, you please take your seat.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : I would take my seat but this 6th December should not be discussed... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given my ruling that only the hon. Home Minister will speak now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Justice Lodha, please take your seat.

Yes, Mr. Home Minister.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I do not wish to go further into the question of the Constitution and what the Constitution enjoins upon us to do or not to do. It is a fact that regarding that tragic event, there had been many interpretations by many different quarters.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : What is the relevance of it here?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat. Why are you rising yourself? Are you on a point of order.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Yes, Sir. I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Under what rule?

... (Interruptions)

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir, the proclamation under Article 356 is not meant for 6th December, 1992. It has no relevance with 6th December. The old proclamation was issued. The old proclamation was dead. Now, the fresh elections have taken place. The relevance of 6th December is not there.

If the question of the Constitution is there, I would ask him, when Namboodripad was convicted for

contempt of Court by the High Court, at that time also the question of the Constitution was there. What was the Communist Party doing at that time? When he was convicted for contempt of Court, he was the Chief Minister of Kerala... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, that has been demolished. The matter, whether it was a structure or a mosque is *sub judice*.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Ram Naikji, under what rule you are speaking?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, it is under the rule... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South-Central) : When Shri Rajesh Pilot raised this issue, then you have not spoken about any rule. Now why are you asking him about rule?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rawaleji, I have not allowed you. I have allowed only Ram Naikji.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, that was a structure or a mosque, who has demolished that, who are to be punished, all these things are *sub judice*, then how this issue has come up for discussion? It could have been possible if they had spoken something relevant. My second point of order is this that they are speaking irrelevant... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Home Minister referred to the violation of the Constitution. So, that is not irrelevant.

Please take your seat

... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You say that the issue regarding the 6th December cannot be mentioned here because of a judicial proceeding. It is very clear to us. Naturally, you want to avoid any reference to it... (Interruptions) I am on a point of order under the rule quoted by Shri Ram Naik.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you raising the same point of order?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It is similar, if he is allowed to raise it, I should also be allowed.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Then, I should also be allowed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have given a ruling that the Home Minister, while referring to it, has only given a

statement of facts, he has referred only to the violation of the Constitution.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I accept that.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : The matter is *sub judice*.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not referring to a matter which is *sub judice*.

... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is over, Shri Lodha, please take your seat.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : We are not to raise a point of order; we are to raise the Masjid. We have to raise not mere points of order; we have to raise the Masjid so that this national shame comes to an end. That is my appeal.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, if an hon. Member takes the plea of the matter being *sub judice* it is for the Chair to give a ruling on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already given my ruling. You please continue... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Well, I am not going into that. If it is a question of irrelevancy, that question should have been raised when the hon. Shiv Sena Leader spoke on that ... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Why are you joining issue with him on an irrelevant issue?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He is your strongest ally. Without him, you cannot exist in Maharashtra. I have given due weight to his observations.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir.... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down and listen first. All the points raised by you are being replied by the Minister of Home Affairs. Please let him reply... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Joshi ji, he is replying to all your questions. Please sit down.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, why do you listen only to them? The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, sitting by my side, is telling me that there is no time, that time is running out and so I should conclude. I have many things to speak about but I do not want to provoke anybody.

There has been so much controversy and discussion about Article 356 how it should be used and how it should not be used; whether it should be used at all and so on. I am only giving one bit of information to the House, which I think has some importance. After many years, our Government convened a meeting of

the Inter-State Council, which is a constitutional machinery. It had not been convened. This Council was defunct. We called that meeting on the 20th October and it was attended by, apart from the Prime Minister, one Governor, 23 Chief Ministers, two Administrators of Union Territories and 31 Ministers from the Central and State Governments. One of the items which was discussed in the context of the Sarkaria Commission's Report naturally, was the question of Article 356.

So, I am only informing you two things. One is that what should be done regarding Article 356. The opinion of the people who attended the meeting was not the same. There were different opinions. Finally, this was what decided. I am just reading out the conclusion of the meeting.

"The Council observed that based upon past experience and judicial pronouncements, the continuance/amendment of Article 356 is required to be further examined and accordingly there was a consensus that this should be referred to the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council".

Subsequently, a Standing Committee has been formed consisting of a number of Chief Ministers, including the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Rajasthan and, I think, five Central Ministers. So, we are not trying to cut the throat of our BJP friends. They have been given due place in all these important meetings, consultations etc. The consensus was that this Committee should be amended; if it is to be amended, how it should be amended in the light of Supreme Court observations etc. So, I think we should bide our time. We must be a little more patient about this very important issue. It is a very important issue. It cannot be solved simply by shouting at each other. It has to be gone into thoroughly and studied properly.

Therefore, as far as the present case in Uttar Pradesh is concerned, the opinion of the Government is that under the prevailing circumstances the Governor had no other option than what he did because there was no party or group of parties which was able to claim a majority in the House.

We did not dissolve the Assembly. We did not dissolve the Assembly in Gujarat either. It was kept under suspended animation. After a certain time when some people could come together and form a majority, the Assembly was revived... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : So, you are waiting for the same situation to arise here also!

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : To manipulate the majority you have kept U.P. Assembly under suspended animation. Otherwise you could have dissolved the U.P. Assembly... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Dear sister, he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Again he has become Chief Minister just now. He used to sit on the seat of Justice Saheb. This is not our fault that your party has been divided in Gujarat...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Where are Mandal Saheb and other members of your party...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Your party had full majority in Gujarat. There was no one to challenge your party. Inspite of that your party splitted in the race of chair...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : You have divided the B.J.P. by playing the role of "Shakuni"...*(Interruptions)*

JUSTICE GUMAN MAI LODHA : You have left the C.P.M. just for the sake of power...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Please continue. There is the Government of your party in Rajasthan and Delhi. You have got right to speak...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : In our childhood we used to hear that Communist Party of India was a single party. Now it has been divided into 36 different Communist parties...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I do not at all agree with the charge which has been made that the United Front parties, severally or jointly, are only interested in keeping the BJP out of power. Then, you would not have been in power in so many States. Nobody is trying to dislodge you by horse trading or by any other means. It is up to you whether you can retain your power or not.

With these words, I commend that the proclamation which has been issued on the 17th of October, 1996 under Article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh be approved by this August House.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittorgarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon. Home Minister is the senior most Member of this House. He is a dear and respected friend of old standing and I have always held him in my personal regard and I will continue to do that.

Hon. Home Minister, when he intervened, found it very difficult to take decision between maturity, seniority and wisdom which is natural to him and the politics that becomes incumbent on him to play because of the portfolio that he holds and the company that he keeps. I entirely share with him the concern that he voiced on the problems that we are facing, for example of casteism. It is a very real problem.

I commend the hon. Home Minister for having put his finger on to a very serious problem. I also commend him for pointing out a very real difficulty which is precisely the difficulty that this House was seized of.

the difficulty of the electorate not in our competitive politics being able to throw up a clear electoral answer. In that electoral answer, the Union Home Minister suggested, that we either permit a minority party to form a Government and to prove its majority, etc., or we do not permit a Government to be formed at all. That is precisely the dilemma that faces us in the State of UP; and in that dilemma it is the misapplication of Article 356, it is the conduct of Governor the principle of calling the single largest party to form the Government in Uttar Pradesh which has been our stand and continues to be our stand

The Union Home Minister attempted it because he has a brief to carry and he has the burdensome duty of carrying the lot that he is sitting with today. But the rationale that he put across on imposing Article 356, to continue to deny the BJP, the single largest party in UP, the right to govern is, I submit, a very great wrong that has been committed. It is because and these are the very words that you have spoken. The challenge that Indian democracy faces is precisely the challenge that is mirrored in Uttar Pradesh today and it is because of a lack of wisdom, the shortsightedness and a limited political approach that we compund our difficulties.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay. 'Please' conclude.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : How can I be 'pleased'? I am displeased Since I am displeased, I cannot support. We will be judged and we will certainly be judged. This is not an issue that will remain a politically partisan issue. This is a challenge to the Indian democracy. It is because the present Governor of Uttar Pradesh and the present Government supported by this lot, who earlier found fault, are failing in meeting their challenge, the present challenge to democracy, we are failing democracy in Uttar Pradesh, and are denying the BJP the right, their just right to form the Government.

We simply cannot be a party to this fake and a hoax division making process in the House. I seek withdrawal from the House.

17.34 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Jaswant Singh and some other hon. Members left the House...*(Interruptions)**

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA) : Sir, with your kind permission...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: We should adopt the Resolution first and then, the Prime Minister will speak.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, he just wants to clarify a few points.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Sir, on 10th October, the election results of UP Assembly were finally declared by the Election Commission. Till 17th October, the Governor had given sufficient opportunity to all political parties including the so-called single largest party to explore all possibilities and come before him as to whether they are in a position to muster strength to form a Government and give a suitable Government. He waited for one week to send the report to the Government of India or to the President. Sir, they have totally failed. No political party was able to muster strength or with the combination of other political parties, they were unable to submit the list to the Governor. Then the Governor had no option except to send his recommendations to the Government of India and also the President of India. Under these circumstances, there was no option except to impose President's rule in UP.

Recently, there were by elections conducted for Rajya Sabha where the BJP had tried its best to see that their candidates win the elections. All the three candidates of BJP were defeated in Rajya Sabha elections. That itself is a clear indication that the mandate of the people of UP was for secular democracy and our party's commitment is for secular democracy. It is a clear indication.

Sir, I would like to make it clear that even with all the differences amongst ourselves, whether it is the BSP or the Samajwadi Party or the Congress or other parties which are now running the Government, they have got differences all the three BJP candidates were totally defeated in the recent by-elections to Rajya Sabha. That itself is a clear indication and much more than that, it was a secret ballot where they could have played all types of the political manoeuvrings. Sir, with all these things, they failed. I know what all had happened during the period of by elections. They were unable to muster strength. That itself is a clear indication that what the Governor had recommended was totally on the basis of merit and there was nothing wrong in it. so, I request this August House to see that this Resolution is approved.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That this House approves the Proclamation issued by the President on the 17th October, 1996 under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Uttar Pradesh".

*The motion was adopted*

17.39 hrs.

#### DELHI DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1996

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, according to the List of Business, the next item is Constitution Amendment Bill.

But we may take up item No.13, if there is a consensus in the House. Has the House the consensus to take up item No.13?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, we may take up item No.13.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Delhi Development Act, 1957, be taken into consideration".

Sir, the Delhi Development Authority was set up under the Delhi Development Act, 1957 with the object of promoting and securing the development of Delhi according to Plan. Three representatives of the erstwhile Metropolitan Council of Delhi constituted through the Delhi Administration Act of 1966 were represented in the Delhi Development Authority under sub section (3)(f) of the Act. Since the Metropolitan Council has been abolished and the Legislative Assembly has been constituted for the National Capital Territory of Delhi, there has been no representation of the elected body of Delhi in the Authority. In order to ensure effective deliberations and democratic functioning of the Delhi Development Authority, it became necessary to provide for three representatives of the Legislative Assembly of the National Capital Territory of Delhi as Members of the Delhi Development Authority. To achieve this object, the Delhi Development (Amendment) Bill, 1996 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha.

With these few words, I move that the Delhi Development (Amendment) Bill, 1996 be taken into consideration and be passed.

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi) : Sir, there is a lot of disturbance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : I am saying a few points which may not really concern the present Minister. But these have to be taken consideration as a part of the Government...*(Interruptions)*

Still some talk is going on. Nobody is listening.

Sir, I would like to seek the attention of the hon. Prime Minister because he is also holding charge of the Ministry of Urban Affairs.

Sir, the very first point which I would like to raise is that the Government have now decided to include three MLAs to ensure effective democratic functioning of the Delhi Development Authority. Now, this new Act of National Capital Territory came three years ago. Why have the Government deprived this Territory or the Delhi Development Authority of this effective democratic

functioning for three years? Is there any explanation for this effective democratic functioning for three years? Is there any explanation for this long delay of three years? That is why, I said that I have no quarrel with the present Ministry. But what the previous Ministry had been doing is really beyond comprehension. A simple change in the Act that wherever there is 'Members of Metropolitan Council' it should be read as 'Members of the Legislative Assembly' and this could have solved the problem. But why was there a delay of three years? Nothing has been mentioned about this. No explanation for this has been given.

My second point is, it has now been introduced that one of the Members would be the leader of the Opposition. Well, I have no objection to this.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : It is not the leader of the Opposition. Two Members would be from the Ruling Party and one would be from the main Opposition.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : This is a new principle that has been adopted. My only point is that you are adding a new principle without any explanation as to why this principle is being added.

Sir, the other point to which I would like to draw your attention to is that it has been said that the DDA was set up under the DDA Act with the object of promoting and securing the development according to a plan. What it means is that the DDA was constituted and its supervising authority is the Ministry of Urban Affairs. Has that function been discharged by the Ministry of Urban Affairs or the Delhi Development Authority? Now, under the very nose of the Central Government and the Ministry of Urban Affairs all laws of zoning regulations and all DDA provisions are being violated. I can give you several examples of this. But the most glaring example is that these days under the nose of the Central Government, buildings are being demolished and new multistorey flats are being constructed on plots which are meant only for two and a half storey units under the zoning regulations. The land and building mafias have taken over Delhi. I have several photographs with me. This shows very posh colonies. I would like the Prime Minister to kindly look at this because this is a point to which I would like to draw your attention to. This is the statutory responsibility of the DDA and the Ministry of Urban Development to ensure that Delhi is developed according to a Plan. Late Pandit Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi had taken extra pains to ensure that Delhi was developed according to a plan so that it could become a worthy capital of the great nation. Now we are making it a monument of national shame. It has become the fourth worst polluted city in the world. All the laws are being violated with impunity. If you look at these photographs you would see that very good buildings are being demolished and on those plots high rise buildings are being constructed where only two and a half storey

units are allowed to be constructed according to the zoning regulations.

Sir, this is not in one case but in several cases. I have raised this issue on several fora but I do not know what are the powers that are there that nothing is being done. Now, kindly examine the implications of what is happening - if a storey which is constructed for 10-12 persons is inhabited by 100 persons and set up commercial units or set up housing units, wherefrom would the water supply come?

Where will all the sewage disposal take place? Where is the power for all of them? Where is the parking place for them? If you go to Vasant Vihar - the most fashionable city - Shanti Niketan, Hauz Khas or other area you will see the buildings are being demolished. I am a law abiding citizen and the law abiding citizen is suffering the most because it is in his house that all the parking will take place. And, when a pump is set up, all the water will be suck from his line and he will suffer because of shortage of water. If you go to Greater Kailash and so on, all this is happening. As a result of this, you are getting a choked city. There is no justice at all in the city. I do not know what will happen in future. If you do not take action then this scandal will be bigger than any of the scandals that we have so far witnessed or read in the newspapers.

Ever since the reform movement has started, the land prices have gone up, the building prices have gone up. In every unit you are earning crores and crores of rupees. These transactions take place in black money which is against the zoning regulation. I fail to understand why these elementary principles are not being followed. Nobody gets the lay-out plan amended or the service plan amended. Nobody provides the services. The road remains the same but the number of cars increases by hundreds. You can imagine the position of water supply and sewage disposal system. Sewage is flowing back in most of the houses of the law abiding citizens because there is too much of pressure and the system was not built for that. I will send these photographs to you. You may kindly hold a CBI inquiry or a full-fledged inquiry into it if you really want to move fast. Otherwise, the city will collapse totally. It will become an unlivable city. Nobody will be able to live here and it will become a matter of national shame, as it has already become in some respects.

The second point which I would like to mention here is, because of this lopsided uneven development there are about 4000 Blue Line buses plying in the city today. Every day on the road they are murdering the people like anything because no law is being enforced. The road space is very little as a result there is no parking space. Nobody is bothering about it. People are dying every day. If you see the World Bank's latest Report, the health cost of these legal construction is astronomical. It is running into several thousand crores

of rupees. India is losing Rs.5000 crore in Delhi alone for its bad, choked invironment. We had Dengue. Earlier we had Plague also. All this is because there is no planning. There is a total infrastructural loss. You have got all the big cars, like Cielos and so on but do not have sufficient road space.

The municipalities, not only here but in most of the cities, are bankrupt. They have no money with them. All the land has been taken over by the urban sharks. Not a single house is being built in the city which costs less than Rs. 50-60 lakh. For whom are you building these houses? What sort of planning you are doing? What sort of life you are creating in the cities? If this is the situation in the capital, what will happen elsewhere? You may please remember that by another two to three years the population of your cities will be as much as was the population of whole of India in 1947. You are making the city unlivable. You are creating a highly unhygienical environment. If you go for a morning walk you will breath in a lot of smoke. I would suggest you to have a really effective master plan and use it effectively. That is why, really speaking, the Supreme Court has now taken over the job of a town planner. I appreciate the role of the Supreme Court personally because the Executive and the Parliament have totally failed. Even when I am spaking on this Bill, the House is almost empty. It concerns the lives of thousands and millions of people. Half the children of Delhi are suffering from asthma. Nobody bothers about the real issues which concern the lives of the people. The Supreme Court asks the Government to relocate polluting industires and remove jhuggies. Is the function of the Supreme Court? We must understand the reasons as to why the Supreme Court is intervening in this way. It is intervening because Parliament is not discharging its function and the Executive is not discharging its function, it has not discharged its function for the last so many years. When people like me have been crying hoarse, all those pleas have fallen on indifferent ears, for whatever reason it is. Even now I am sure no one is listening to this. They are taking more interest in their own little talk than in such a serious matter which is affecting the lives of many people.

The other point is, the Government wants integrated development. Modern Governments are highly coordinated set ups. They require speed and dynamism. The Government have created a set up in Delhi which is just the opposite. While we should achieve maximum results with minimum effort, the Government have designed an institutional set up which involves maximum effort to arrive at minimum results. The DDA is under the Central Government, the Municipal Corporation is with the State Government, the Police is with somebody else and the land is with somebody else, how do you coordinate with all these bodies? Even if you want to build a school on a site which is occupied by jhuggies, you have to go to the DDA to get

the NOC for the plan, somebody else has to fix the land price and police help has to be obtained. There is no coordination at all. How will you achieve planned development of Delhi if there is so much of fragmentation of authority. Even today, the Home Minister was saying that there is the caste factor and so on. It is bound to happen. Because we have fragmented the society, the political structure will be fragmented. Like this, you have fragmented the administrative structure. This is bound to happen...*(Interruptions)*

DR. U VENKATESWARLU : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I request that the time be extended with the consensus of the House. This is a simple Bill and it can be approved.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I can continue tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much time will you take, Jag Mohanji.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : The time allotted for this is two hours and I have started at 5.45 p.m. I will take at least 10 to 15 minutes more.

*[Translation]*

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : This is the matter relating to Delhi. Do not hurry.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Two-three people from our side shall speak.

*[English]*

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch) : Everyone has to speak on this point

MR. CHAIRMAN : There are six Members more to speak

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : (Ajmer) : Let us continue with this tomorrow, Sir.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Tomorrow afternoon, Private Member's Business is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the consensus of the House?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No, Sir.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : We can sit tomorrow also. Even otherwise, it has come all of a sudden.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : It has been taken up out of turn. Those who are to speak on this have already gone.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : Tomorrow we have got Private Member's Business at 3.30 p.m. How can we take it up tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Tomorrow afternoon we will have one hour thirty minutes' time from 2 to 3.30.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : At 3.30 tomorrow afternoon, I will just remind the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It should be over by 3.30 tomorrow afternoon. I feel.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : We have taken three years to bring this small amendment; you cannot give a day's time...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay. we can continue on this Bill tomorrow.

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi) : May be tomorrow or Monday, whatever suits them...*(Interruptions)*

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : I am not against this. You can extend. The only thing is that since it is already six o'clock, I am reminding the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the House Stands adjourned to meet again on December 6, 1996 at 11.00 a.m.

**18.00 hrs.**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, December 6, 1996 Agrahayana 15. 1918 (Saka)*