

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

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



(Vol. X contains Nos. 11 to 20)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, March 17, 1997/Phalgun 26,
1918 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock.

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Non-Uniformity in Scales of Non-Teaching Employees

+

*301. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the non-teaching employees of Colleges and Universities of India have no uniformity either in terms of scales of pay or tenure and conditions of service or work-load and requirement and designations of post;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the situation in this regard; and

(d) whether the Government propose to recognise the auxiliary staff who constitute an important segment of Higher Education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Successive National Policies on Education (NPEs) lay down that efforts will be made to reach the desirable objective of uniform emoluments and service conditions for teachers throughout the country. In pursuance of this, as also in fulfilment of its Constitutional mandate for promotion and coordination of university education and for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching and research in universities, the Central Government has revised the pay scales and service conditions of university and college teachers from time to time. The Government provides the required financial assistance to State Governments for a period of five years for implementation of the Scheme. These scales

are applicable to Registrars, etc., as these posts are often manned by serving teachers. Uniform scales have also been provided for Librarians and Physical Education personnel on certain cases.

In so far as non-teaching employees are concerned, the Government does not regard laying down of uniform scales of pay for such personnel as its Constitutional responsibility as in the case of the teaching staff. Moreover, laying down of uniform scales of pay for such personnel throughout the country will lead to serious anomalies and difficulties as the over-whilming majority of such State Government employees perform duties and responsibilities comparable to employees in other Departments of the State Governments. Similarly, there are long established 'Post to Post' and 'Scale to Scale' parities between such employees and various other categories of employees in other Departments. Disturbing the equilibrium will cause serious problems and dissatisfaction among various categories of employees within the States.

Central Government is, therefore, not in favour of laying down uniform scales of pay for non-teaching employees in universities and colleges under the State Governments.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, the Minister has submitted not just a statement but nearly a document. I am just going through all that is relevant in the document in connection with my question. The statement clearly states that the Government wants to deal with teachers and non-teaching staff on a different footing and the Central Government is not prepared to take any responsibility, as the non-teaching staff are recruited by the State Government and they have different pay scales. This is the principal reason given by the Minister.

Is it not a fact that the teachers of Government colleges of different States are recruited by the College Service Commission of the States and the teachers of private colleges are recruited by their management and after that they are brought under UGC? If that is the situation, then why should the Central Government not take the responsibility of non-teaching employees also who are an essential component of education, as much as teachers?

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Sir, the hon. Member has mentioned the fact that in the states the teachers of Government colleges are appointed by the State Commission. In the case of colleges and universities of different States, the pay scales of teachers are different from the pay scales given to the non-teaching staff.

Sir, the Government of India's Education Policy of 1986, as modified in 1992, lays down that efforts will be made to reach the desirable objective of uniform emoluments and service conditions for teachers throughout the country.

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR : But they are not getting it.

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Over and above that, as per the Seventh Schedule to Article 246, the coordination and determination of standards of teaching, examination and research in universities and higher education and in fulfilment of its Constitutional responsibility for promotion, determination, maintenance of the standards of teaching, examination and research in universities and higher education, the Central Government lays down uniform scales of pay and service conditions of the teachers throughout the country. Therefore, in 1960, the Union Government revised the pay scales of college and university teachers. The Central Government provides additional fund to the private colleges and universities of the States to supplement the schemes.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, the Minister's reply, instead of answering my question, has strengthened my question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : He has a long experience of a Principal.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : He knows very well that he is in difficulty. I know that he wants to do something for them. The question that was put to him was, why there is no uniformity in the scales of non-teaching staff. He has given two reasons for it; to maintain the standards of teaching and research in universities and to fulfil the Constitutional obligation. I believe, the Constitutional obligation is to give education. These are the two reasons which he has given. If these are the reasons, then I would like to know, can they maintain the standards of teaching and research in universities without the full and happy cooperation of the non-teaching employees. Surely, they cannot do that. As he knows very well, teachers also could get these pay scales only after several agitations. If that be so, why deny the same to the non-teaching employees who are equally seriously conducting the agitation and are coming here tomorrow?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, you may please give a brief reply.

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : The Government is generally guided by the findings and recommendations of the expert bodies. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the expert bodies including that of Dr. Radha Krishnan, Dr. Kothari and Shri Gajendragadkar. These expert bodies have held that the conditions of non-teaching staff universities and colleges do not affect any such determination. It is the Constitutional responsibility of the Government to improve the pay scales of the teachers of colleges and universities of the States. As these universities are established by the State Service Commission, it is the responsibility of the States. Till now, no State has come forward to accept this recommendation. If the States come forward to accept this recommendation, then the question of financial burden on the States will come.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister's answer will not convince anybody. Sir, if the UGC is Constitutionally obliged to consider the teachers

issue, the same criterion applies to the non-teaching staff also. Teaching is conducted not by the teaching staff alone but with the help of the non-teaching staff. In this age of social justice, a graduate assistant makes the pay bills and such other things of the teachers.

Non-teaching staff are also a part and parcel of the UGC education scheme. There is no question of separating them from the teaching staff. This is a Constitutional obligation on the Government. Will the Government consider the representation made by the non-teaching organisations?

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Sir, we have been receiving memoranda from non-teaching staff of various colleges and universities of the States, now and then. Recently also we have received a memorandum demanding separate uniform emoluments and service conditions to the non-teaching staff. What the Government finds is, an overwhelming majority of these employees are working as non-teaching staff in colleges and universities and it would lead to disturbances and dissatisfaction, and would create a chain of reactions because the duties and responsibilities of these employees are comparable to those of the employees of the State Government. Over and above that, there is a long-established post-to-post and scale-to-scale parity between the employees of the universities and colleges with their counterparts in the various Departments of State Governments. If any suggestion is made now, it would create a chain of reactions throughout the country. Therefore, the Government, at the moment, has no proposal for this.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : My second supplementary is...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You have to right to ask a second supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI MONOJ KUMAR SINHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I want to know from Mr. Minister as per the minimum eligibility requirements set by U.G.C. only those who qualify the NET examination would be called for interview. Whether the UGC is contemplating to implement this criteria in all those P.G. colleges which are in receipt of grant from the university.

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Sir, the Constitutional mandate is for coordination, determination, promotion and maintenance of standards of teaching in order to attract talented people to special professions. Therefore, the Union Government has given the revised pay scales of teachers to some non-teaching officers who perform similar responsibilities and duties—you may take the case of Registrars, Deputy Registrars and Assistant Registrars of the universities—because these posts are manned by serving teachers. These posts are filled based on transfer or deputation.

[Translation]

MR. MANOJ KUMAR SINHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether only those candidates are called for appointment who qualify the NET examination. Whether UGC is going to lay down the condition even for those degree colleges and P.G. colleges which receive grant from University Grant Commission.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : There was a Supreme Court Judgement some years back to the effect that Demonstrators and Laboratory Instructors in colleges and universities, who were non-teaching staff till then, should be treated as teaching staff. Some of the States have not yet implemented that order of the Supreme Court.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will take up the issue of treating Laboratory Demonstrator and Instructor as teaching staff with the State Governments?

There is a peculiar situation in regard to other non-teaching staff also. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the hon. Minister will assure the House that he will convene a meeting of Ministers' of Higher Education of States to discuss the issue for having uniform pay scale for all the non-teaching staff of colleges and universities?

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : There are recommendations for revised pay scales to Librarians and the Directors of Physical Education in universities.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : My question is about laboratory.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is asking about Laboratory Assistants. Are you going to convene the meeting of Ministers of Higher Education of various States?

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : So far as my knowledge goes, there is no such Supreme Court judgement equating Laboratory Assistants with the College Teachers.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : There is.

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : I will pass on the suggestions made by him to the State Government. But we should keep in mind that the United Front Government is legitimately concerned about extending federalism. Therefore, we can go to a certain extent, beyond that, we cannot go.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the demands of non-teaching staff are not being accepted though being raised for many days and no reply is being given in the cases in which the financial burden is neither on the State Government, nor on the Centre. The Central Committee of AICT regulates the technical education matters. Their fees are the same as these were 10 years ago but one employee who used to get a salary of Rs. 2000 in those days, are in receipt of a

salary of Rs. 10000 nowadays. Maharashtra Government and other Governments had proposed to raise the fees. But even then fees are being paid as decided by the Government. Now these colleges are about to close down but where there is no Government burden, their income and expenditure...

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want to ask.

SHRI DATTA MEGHA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask whether AICT would to raise the fees structure in those cases where there is no financial burden involved. Today more than 50 per cent poly technics are facing closure, whether you would issue instruction to the State Government to change standard fees in those colleges which are paying regulary.

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is true that in the technical education, provision has been made for mobilisation of resources from within. There is no such proposal with the Government. Because of financial constraints, there is a proposal with the Government to mobilise resources for the universities to make them self-sufficient, There is also a proposal regarding the free structure. It is because it was established long long ago.

But regarding increase of expenditure on education, I would like to say that the Government has a proposal for introducing such schemes.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mr. Minister has shown lot of concern and he says :

[English]

.. "In fulfilment of its constitutional mandate for promotion and coordination of university education and for the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching and research in universities."

[Translation]

He is concerned about the standard of teaching but has he paid any attention to Bihar where the norms laid by U.G.C. are being flouted, where any one can be demoted with a whimsical order, then a court case is fought and then only viction is promoted but not given salary for months and months together. Bungling has been done by State Selection Commission in the recent appointments, the family members of the officers of politicians and provincial officers have been selected though they do not fulfil the norms. This is how candidates of a single community have been selected.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What relevance does it bear to this question.

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Whether UGC's norms are being followed in the States like Bihar and I want to ask him as to what is being done to fulfil this responsibility.

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Sir, so far as Bihar is concerned, there is no further financial assistance being given for revision of pay scales due to violation of conditions...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Though the question is not relevant but Mr. Minister is going to reply it.

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : So far as people who violate the norms and so far as suspension, etc. are concerned I would like to inform the hon. Member that it is a State subject. But if she gives me a concrete instance, I will take action on that.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINHA : I would like to know whether the Government wants to implement the recommendation of Kothari Commission which stipulates equal pay for equal work?

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA : Sir, the Kothari Commission noted the requirements under the provisions of the Education Commission. It had recommended for similar cases, viz., the teachers who are performing similar work and having similar qualifications in the universities and colleges. But Kothari Commission did not say about equal pay for equal work.

Irrigation Projects in A.P. and Rajasthan under CAD

+
*302. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to conduct state-wise survey regarding implementation of Command Area Development scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the areas identified particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan during the survey; and

(c) the progress achieved in implementing the command area development programmes during the current plan period?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Ministry reviews the state-wise implementation of Command Area Development Programme. The progress made in each state in respect of core components of the Programme namely field channels, field drains, warabandi and land levelling during the first four years of the current plan is given in the Annexures I to IV. However, there is no proposal to conduct a survey to identify any area in any State.

Annexure-I

Physical Achievements in Respect of Field Channel Under the CAD Programme

(Unit Thousand Hectares)

S. No.	State Name	1992-93 Ach.	1993-94 Ach.	1994-95 Ach.	1995-96 Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.36	1.05	1.19	0.09
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	1.59	1.50	0.95	0.74
4.	Bihar	40.40	0.75	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.50	1.30	0.77	0.27
6.	Gujarat	22.78	9.25	8.19	22.04
7.	Haryana	23.70	30.74	44.17	33.95
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.10	0.62	0.10	0.01
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	8.00	3.43	2.06	3.95
10.	Karnataka	17.64	27.05	9.43	13.04
11.	Kerala	9.25	25.57	19.95	17.75
12.	Madhya Pradesh	11.57	5.42	8.27	8.95

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Maharashtra	22.13	25.50	27.42	39.49
14.	Manipur	0.39	2.20	1.31	2.50
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	18.32	9.08	6.73	8.80
18.	Rajasthan	39.49	21.81	34.52	51.83
19.	Tamil Nadu	50.73	47.40	40.16	43.94
20.	Tripura	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	90.16	130.26	94.12	116.55
22.	West Bengal	4.40	3.76	4.77	5.64
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		365.71	346.69	304.11	369.54

Annexure-II

Physical Achievements in Respect of Warabandi Under the CAD Programme

(Unit Thousand Hectares)

S. No.	State Name	1992-93 Ach.	1993-94 Ach.	1994-95 Ach.	1995-96 Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.83	12.86	14.89	11.04
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	7.30	1.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	1.80	2.07	0.17	0.00
5.	Goa	1.90	1.50	1.50	1.50
6.	Gujarat	33.18	17.84	6.34	7.06
7.	Haryana	31.90	18.87	13.72	9.58
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.93	1.78	0.88	0.13
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	8.00	27.25	16.00	28.37
10.	Karnataka	21.00	7.91	18.30	9.63
11.	Kerala	8.14	13.46	13.27	3.97
12.	Madhya Pradesh	25.00	0.00	0.00	8.48
13.	Maharashtra	5.48	13.33	15.18	4.25
14.	Manipur	0.00	1.66	1.99	1.36
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	60.58	65.33	71.26	56.55
18.	Rajasthan	36.66	18.14	31.31	53.86
19.	Tamil Nadu	16.48	49.80	59.60	58.34
20.	Tripura	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	360.50	259.64	241.73	198.45
22.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		636.88	512.44	506.14	452.57

Annexure-III*Physical Achievements in Respect of Field Draths Under the CAD Programme*

(Unit Thousand Hectares)

S. No.	State Name	1992-93 Ach.	1993-94 Ach.	1994-95 Ach.	1995-96 Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.31	0.64	1.17	0.30
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
6.	Gujarat	0.21	0.14	0.00	0.00
7.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.56	0.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.43	1.10	1.36	1.38
10.	Karnataka	3.50	0.80	0.01	0.01
11.	Kerala	2.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	1.24	15.69	0.02
13.	Maharashtra	20.47	19.25	0.00	16.65
14.	Manipur	1.00	0.92	0.00	0.98
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	5.84	0.00
17.	Orissa	14.82	11.43	0.00	9.72
18.	Rajasthan	1.58	0.00	0.00	2.87
19.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	23.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		67.95	35.52	24.64	31.93

Annexure-IV*Physical Achievements in Respect of Land Levelling Under the CAD Programme*

(Unit Thousand Hectares)

S. No.	State Name	1992-93 Ach.	1993-94 Ach.	1994-95 Ach.	1995-96 Ach.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhara Pradesh	3.17	3.89	3.26	7.41
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Goa	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.01
6.	Gujarat	0.37	0.14	0.05	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Haryana	1.37	0.96	0.63	0.65
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.52	1.72	1.78	2.27
10.	Karnataka	22.30	25.58	0.00	0.00
11.	Kerala	0.05	0.10	0.33	0.20
12.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13.	Maharashtra	1.83	0.87	0.00	0.73
14.	Manipur	0.75	2.20	0.00	1.28
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.73
18.	Rajasthan	1.58	0.00	2.21	3.01
19.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		32.97	35.49	8.30	19.29

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Sir, 60 per cent of the land in Andhra Pradesh is cultivable command area. Thus large areas are available for irrigation. Andhra Pradesh is basically an agricultural State and there is scope for taking up a number of major and minor irrigation projects to cover the most backward and drought affected areas of Telangana and Rayalseema regions. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has formulated and submitted 19 major and 10 medium project to clear additional irrigation potential, but the projects have not been cleared so far.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister when the projects are likely to be cleared.

[Translation]

MR. JANESHWAR MISHRA : I think nothing has been asked as this question about the projects. For that separate information is required.

[English]

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Sir, I just wanted to know from the hon. Minister when the projects would be cleared.

My second supplementary is this. It takes an extremely long period for a project to be finally cleared.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question relates to Command Area Development Schemes.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : He is asking about projects.

MR. CHAIRMAN : About which projects you are asking?

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Sir, command areas also need some irrigation projects. That is why I am asking about these projects.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But the question relates to Command Area Development Schemes.

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Sir, plenty of wasteland area is there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please confine yourself to the main question.

SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : All right, Sir.

Sir, it takes extremely long period for a project to be finally cleared as clearance from the Central Ministries like Water Resources, Environment etc. are to be taken.

I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether the Government will streamline the procedure to enable the State to get their projects cleared through one window of techno-economic as well as environmental clearance to avoid any harassment in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a general type of question anyway.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : This question pertains to the Command Area Development but you are not putting a question related to that, then how can I reply to your question.

[English]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the unutilised irrigation potential between the First Plan and now. And because of this, what is the quantum of loss that the national exchequer having to bear?

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman? Sir, this question pertains to the Command Area Development.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the same thing. I am asking.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Command Area means the land adjoining a State. What efforts are done to develop irrigation facilities there. The utilisation or non-utilisation of irrigation facilities throughout the India is a different question.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Sir, that is not a different question.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Why?

[English]

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : There is a difference of almost 10 million hectares of land.

[Translation]

Due to this national exchequer is incurring losses.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This question does not relate to irrigation potential.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Sir, I am asking about the position of the Command Area Development Irrigation. The Command Area Development Irrigation position at the moment is that there is almost 10 million hectares of land which has not been unutilised.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : She is asking about Command Area Development.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Command Area Development is not, a phraseology.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Then you tell us in Hindi as to what is it?

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir generally the States frame their schemes and the Centre evaluates them and therefore there can not be any report on that.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, 10 million hectare land is lying idle...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister told about the Command Area but you perhaps did not listen to him carefully.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, perhaps he does not know that at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN : A supplementary outside the scope of the question can cause problem for the Minister.

SHRI L. RAMANA : Mr. Chairman, I am new Member and want to deliver my maiden speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Well you raise hand and you would attract my attention. However at the moment I have called Mr. Chennithala.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Command Area Development Programme is meant for irrigation purpose. It is very well known to everybody. I do not know why the Minister is misleading the House. This is basically for irrigation purpose only, to make certain land into an irrigated one.

My question is this. There are certain reports about the irregularities in the utilisation of funds under this CADA. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether this programme is administered by the State Government or by an independent agency. What is the role of the Central Government in looking into the implementation of this programme? What are the criteria for allocation of funds in regard to Command Area Development Programme?

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir the Centre makes contribution in common area Development Fund matching to that of the state. The State Governments incur more expenditure on their own. I have already told you that irrigation is a state subject, the centre only reviews that. If there are any irregularities in that, that should be enquired by state agencies only. The Common Area Agencies set up by the State Governments, comprised of the representatives of various Ministries such as irrigation, Agriculture, Co-operative etc. They lack a coordination the centre is twice and again instructing them to make concerted efforts so as to avoiding difficulty.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the figures of physical achievement furnished by the Minister indicate that under Command Area Programme during 1992-93 to 1995-96 no ground levelling was done, 0.02 percent work of conduct construction was done in M.P. and during 1993-94 and 1994-95 no embankments were constructed, in 1995-96 it was done only in eight thousand hectare of land; and in the work of field channels M.P. lags far behind. Even otherwise it is far behind other States various counts. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know as to why M.P. is so backward and what lead it to its present plight.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the report and the information will be given on the basis of the information submitted by the M.P. Governments

well, it's true that the farmers did not show any interest in ground levelling work in view of its being a costly activity. Generally the State Government a more interested as executing Major irrigation projects and less interested in command area projects.

[English]

SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if we look at the statements under Annexures I, II, III and IV, for the last three years, the figure in respect of core components of this project in the case of some States like, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Dadra and Nagar Haveli is shown as almost 'zero'. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the State Governments have been provided with funds, and if so, whether they have-utilised those funds or not? What is the actual position?

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir none of them sent any scheme and for that reason zero figure has been shown against the States indicated by hon'ble Member.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission, time and again, while discussing the Plan with the Irrigation Ministry and the State Government laid special emphasis that the long-term irrigation projects take longer time for execution due to the problem of resources mobilisation and other things. So, the Command Area Development Programme, for utilising the natural resources available in the nearby areas and make the non-irrigated land irrigated by involving the State Governments, should be given the highest priority. In this regard, several State Governments did draw up plans, both the annual plan and a perspective of the entire plan every year. The monitoring is done both by the Centre and the State. I find in the statement which you have given to us that the State which need very badly the Command Area Development Programme aggressively for utilising the non-irrigated land with the help of the Warabadi, levelling of the land and all these schemes which come under the CAD. I did attend two Workshops of the CAD. Nothing has been done so far. Either the States adopt the programme, and you keep quiet or you decide to draw up the programme and the States keep quiet. How will things be placed before you? Now, the statement says, 'the State of West Bengal draws a blank-zero for the four years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, that is, from 1992-96' whereas you could have done enough in Purulia, Bankura and at other places to make the Command Area Development facilities. It is because I attended two Workshops. The Panchayat people are ready to work. But there is no plan and programme. Did you interact with the West Bengal Government? Why

did it remain blank, zero, for the last four years without any exploitation of the Command Area Development Programme? Did you interact with them? You cannot say that you will do nothing and it is up to the State. You are also responsible.

[Translation]

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, should I repeat the same question in reply that the Centre reviews all the schemes forwarded by the State Governments. The State Governments are repeatedly advised to develop all the farmers within command area. If it is not done, the the centre has no agency of its own to develop command areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon'ble Members have repeatedly asked the question that until command Area Development Scheme is not implemented properly, no benefit can be desired from irrigation potentiality.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : That is right.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the hon'ble Members have one anxiety whether, if considered appropriate, the Minister would call a meeting at his level to find out a way in case the State Governments fail to do this work properly. Whether you will take any utilisation in this regard.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : The Centre will not take an initiative in the matter of Command Development work.

MR. CHAIRMAN : At least it can do something to review the matter.

SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA : But the authorities of the State Government, their Engineers, Secretaries and at times their Ministers are also called and asked to included the areas falling within irrigated and so that common farmers are benefited. The State Governments take initiative, then we to take initiative.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 303, Shri Banwarilal Purohit.

(Interruptions)

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Please call out an assurance from the Minister that the Centre would set up a committee to monitor the States. You get as an assurance...(Interruptions)

[English]

Conference of Indian System of Medicines

*303. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Conference of Health Ministers, Secretaries and Director of Indian System of Medicines and Homoeopathy was held at New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details of the important resolutions adopted in the Conference;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate a medicine policy in respect to ISM and Homoeopathy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the important Resolutions are given in the statement being laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(c) and (d) The Department has decided in principle, on the recommendation of the Conference, to formulate a national policy on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy drugs. Action is being initiated in this regard.

Statement

1. Recommend to Planning Commission to make available additional resources to the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy and to the State Governments during the Ninth Plan.
2. The State Governments should out of their total budget allocation for the Health Sector separately earmark budgets for the development of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
3. The Central Government as well as the State Governments shall set aside adequate funds for Information, Education and Communication of the Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
4. Central Council of Indian Medicine and Central Council of Homoeopathy should carry out an exercise to rationalise the existing standards/norms of education.
5. Standards of education should be improved by ensuring compliance of minimum standards prescribed, in a phased manner.
6. The mushroom growth of sub-standard colleges should be checked.
7. Reorientation training programmes for in service/ Government/Semi-Government teachers, Research Physicians and private practitioners should be organised in a big way by States/ Central Governments.
8. Existing National level institutes should be strengthened. National Institutes of Siddha and Yoga should be established in the Ninth Plan.
9. The Central Council of Research need to be consolidated and strengthened.
10. They should take up project oriented research particularly in the fields of National Health Programmes and Family Welfare Programmes.
11. Universities, public and private research organisations be associated in research and development through extra mural research projects.
12. There is a need to evolve pharmacopoeial standards for Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy drugs. Pharmacopoeial Laboratory of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy Pharmacopoeial Laboratory, Ghaziabad should be strengthened. Outside agencies be involved in projects for evolving standards.
13. State Governments should develop their own drug testing laboratories.
14. A National policy on Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy drugs be formulated.
15. A Patent Cell be established in the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
16. Immediate steps should be taken to conserve, preserve and promote development of medicinal plants, to set up medicinal plants gardens as well as 'Vanaspati Yans' to develop Agro-techniques for Medicinal Plants.
17. The services of the practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy be utilised in executing various National Health Programmes by giving them a short term training and by making them acquainted with the National Health Programmes.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to recall the hon. Minister the way the Indian system of medicine which includes Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Yoga, Natureopathy and Homoeopathy, has been badly neglected. I mean to say that it has been neglected since not only your resumption office as Minister but the day our country got freedom and during the regime of all the Governments which came into effect. These are all easy means of recouping health. These are the best and the cheapest ways of getting medical treatment by the piors. But the Government has been neglecting this aspect.

I would also like to recall that Shri Antuley Saheb who is sitting over here and when he was the Minister, he convened a conference of Ministers belonging to all the States in which he announced to set up a separate Department. An independent Department would be constituted and duly financed. It was proposed to prepare a project to be completed during a five year plan. A project report amounting Rs. 2500 crore for a Five Year Plan was also made. But what happened. If you see the Budget for 1997-98, you will find that a provision of Rs. 37 crore has been kept. In this way, it is the witness how it has been neglecting badly. Can it serve the purpose? Can it do any welfare of the people of the country?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Purohit ji, come to the point.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the Government what it would do to make it effective. His office is sented one and situated at Redcross. The matter has been neglecting totally. What will you do for the purpose? It has been sought to enhance the Budget provision earmarked for this year, that is, Rs. 37 crore to Rs. 2500 crore during the Five year Plan. Would you like to earmark such an amount? Are any efforts are being endeavoured to increase the Budget proposal or will it be continued neglecting? How will it serve the purpose without having sufficient fund?

MR. CHAIRMAN : O.K. You have already asked this question.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, the hon. Member has raised the question about the Indian system of medicine which covers Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Natureopathy, and Yoga. It has not been getting much importance for any reason...*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, what is this 'Ayurveda', 'Siddha' and 'Yoga'? Sir, it is like that 'Ayurved', 'Siddh' and 'Yog' and not what the hon. Minister is uttering.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : For the purpose I have called a conference on 18-19 February in which the concerned Health Ministers of all the States participated in it. Some resolutions were taken up. They ran into 23 pages. Besides, it has been asked to prepare an action plan in which the items of work to be done and its target time would be mentioned. It should be date-wise. For some matters, it has been prepared while for others, it would be made ready by 31 March. As far as the Budget is concerned, it was budgeted for Rs. 23 crores last year. It has been enhanced to Rs. 35 crore for the year. In this regard, I have asked the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission in writing about the meagre amount earmarked and demanded at least Rs. 100 crore for the current year. Since I am giving much more importance to this subject, I have asked the Secretary (Welfare), Ministry of Health, to divert some fund from the Welfare head to this system. I am uttering these words in the Parliament before you that I am going to divert Rs. 20-25 to 30 crore from the Budget of my Department and wish to provide the same to this system.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Purohit ji, is there anything left even after the second supplementary?

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Chairman, Sir, today the burning issue before the country is that 50 per cent primary Health Centre in rural areas are found without doctors. 50 percent doctors have not been made available as the allopathic doctors who are holding M.B.B.S. degree don't like to visit there. The Government may issue an order and make it mandatory for doctors to serve rural areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is suggestion.

SHRI SALIM IQBAL SHERWANI : Just now a question was raised to which I had replied that we had held a conference wherein five working groups were constituted. One working group had suggested that we have six lakh Ayurvedic practitioner and how we will utilise in villages. He is right our allopathic Doctors do not want to go there. I told you that a working Programme is being framed on our resolution which contains an agenda on how to get our villages benefited from these six lakh practitioners.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a separate cabinet committee was formed during Shri Narsimha Rao's premiership the reply suggests that Mr. Shervani is interested in Ayurvedic, Homeopathic and Allopathic. I congratulate him for that. We would have full complacent had there been a Minister exclusively for Ayurvedic or Mr. Shervani would have been deating only Ayurvedic or the Indigenous pathies.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Earlier you were asking a supplementary, and now you are diverting him of his portfolio.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : In your reply you have stated that out of 17 programmes in 14 it has been envisaged that reforms should be carried out and the increase should be checked. Whom you are telling all this? Mr. Minister, you have to do it. Whom you are wistructing. Just how you kindly told us that 30 crore more would be sanctioned. How unfortunate it is that you department sanctions only two and half paisa for five Desi pathies, i.e. Agriculture, Homeopathic, Unani, Sidh and Yoga. The remaining lion's share of fifty seven and half paisa are spent on allopathy. What you will do. At the most you will raise it from two and half paise to five paise. I don't think this Government takes this issue seriously, specially when the entire world is singing calogy of Ayurvedic. Everybody is taking keen interest in Ayurvedic in view of the side effects of alloptathic medicines. In such a state of affairs what your department would do with two and half paise. I don't think you would increase it their share to five paise (old) in a Rupee. You extant you inluence and sanction adequate funds for them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You put the question.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Will you kindly use your good offices and ask the Prime Minister to sanction more funds.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : I want co-operation from all of you so that I get more money for them. As for his question, the finality of our resolution was that we should do so. Besides that one Action Plan is being formulated in which dates and months have been decided. You always had your interest in it and you have always raised question on these issues. We will have our Action Plan by 31st, the copy of which

would be sent to you from that you can know what is going to be done and by when.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : What are you doing about funds.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have already replied to that.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Sir, Paragraph '8' of the statement of the answer given by the hon. Minister says : "All the existing research centres should be strengthened". The Central Homoeopathy Research Centre which is situated in Kurichy-Changanassery in Kottayam District is lacking infrastructural as well as research facilities. They have sent many proposals for improving the infrastructural as well as research facilities. But so far no action has been taken. Many representations have already been made to the hon. Minister, and even my learned friend, Shri Ramesh Chennithala, representing Kottayam constituency, has submitted many proposals for improving the infrastructural as well as research facilities.

On the basis of the answer which has been given in this House, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government would take appropriate steps to improve the infrastructural as well as research facilities of the Homoeopathic Research Centre which is situated in Kottayam.

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : Sir, we are reviewing the whole situation. It is because we are constrained with the Budget and we have to manage with the funds which are available to us...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Those facilities which are existing in the Centre are also abandoned. I do not know what is the reason...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please let him reply. You cannot intervene like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI : We have a plan to look into all these programmes. The CCRS Centre which you have mentioned is one of the areas that we are looking into.

We have decided that we will strengthen the existing research centres - not only strengthen them *vis-a-vis* with more Budget but also monitor the kind of research work that is going on there.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : The existing facilities should be strengthened...*(Interruptions)*

DR. C. SILVERA : Sir, the Indian system of medicines is a very important component of health care system of the country. The previous Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao has made this into a full-fledged Department and stress has been given that the Indian system of medicines in the country should progress further and further so that it comes within the reach of the rural population as well as the urban population. At

para 12 of the answer given, mention is made of pharmacopoeial standardisation. There are a number of products in the Indian system which need standardisation. How long is it going to take to have these various types of Indian system of medicines standardised? Mention also has been made that outside agencies be involved in projects for evolving standards. Which are the outside agencies which are going to help in evolving the standardisation of these Indian system of medicine products?

The medicinal plants are available in certain parts of the country. Mostly these medicinal and herbal plants are available in the hilly areas of the country. What incentives are being given by the Ministry so that these medicinal plants are grown, preserved and protected and also helped so that the people can take the benefit?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Dr. Silvera, you have already asked three Supplementaries...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI: Sir, regarding the standardisation we have decided that the pharmacopoeial studies which are being conducted will end by the Ninth Five Year Plan and by that time we will have our total standardisation of all the medicines. This is the target that we have got and we are very hopeful that by the end of the Ninth Five Year Plan we will be achieving our pharmacopoeial standards.

When we talk about the outside agencies we are also involving the C.S.I.R. and the universities where the system is being taught so that they can also help us study the matter.

Chemical Weapon Convention

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*304. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
DR. ASIM BALA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has ratified the "Chemical Weapon Convention" (CWC);

(b) if so, the details in this regard and when it will come into force;

(c) whether United States, Russia, China and Pakistan are not among the 68 nations which have so far ratified the treaty;

(d) if so, whether India's ratification of the treaty without proper deliberations could harm the interest of its armed forces when Pakistan has not ratified the treaty; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the security of the country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

India signed the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) on 14th January, 1993, ratified it on 18th October, 1995 and deposited the Instrument of Ratification with the UN Secretary General on 3rd September 1996, becoming the 62nd country to do so. The CWC will enter into force on 29th April 1997. 70 countries have ratified the CWC till date.

United States, Russia, China and Pakistan are among the countries which have not ratified the treaty, so far.

India considers the CWC to be a model disarmament agreement as it is a global and non-discriminatory treaty. India hopes that CWC would be subscribed to universally. However, in the event that major signatories to the Treaty do not ratify and deposit their instruments of ratification, India would reserve the right to review the situation for an appropriate response. The Government of India is committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard its security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perceptions.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, civilised human society would always prefer a world free of wars and weaponry. As chemical warfare is the most heinous manner of waging wars, hence a convention regarding chemical weapons would always be a welcome step. But when countries like U.S.A. and Russia which have the largest stock of chemical weapons and none of our closest neighbouring countries like China, Pakistan, Banglades, Nepal have ratified the convention, I fail to comprehend as to why was Government of India in such a hurry to ratify the convention. In the reply furnished by the Government, the Government has stated that if the prominent signatories, which probably are U.S.A., Russia, Pakistan, China, do not ratify the convention, India reserves the right to review the situation. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister the time-frame stipulated therefor? If Pakistan, China, U.S.A. and Russia do not ratify it by signing it, how would we be able to make this effort a success. Either countries like Pakistan, China, U.S.A. and Russia should be persuaded to sign it and in case we are unable to get their signatures on it, I would like to know from Hon'ble Minister the stipulated time frame after which we will be exercising our right to review the situation.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Hon'ble Member has held the charge of Ministry of Defence. He must have reviewed such matters and I believe that he must have gone through the documents and when he would have gone through these documents ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am relieved that you did not say that I must have got them photocopied.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when we would have gone through these documents, he must have noticed that all the countries he has named have signed this treaty but have not ratified it. There is a stipulated time frame for ratification and we are keeping an eye as to who ratifies the treaty by then and we will always have this option that if we consider it necessary to withdraw are ratification in interest of our defence requirements, we will surely do so but uptil now, such a situation has not arisen you have specifically mentioned U.S.A. U.S.A. is going through a period of internal strife. Republican party has a separate viewpoint and Mr. Clinton has a different view point. This is their internal conflict which is going on. There is still time and we have not taken this step in haste. It is only that the action which was to be taken after two years, has been taken. We are watching the situation, thus it has not been hurried through.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is quite possible that he has been unable to follow Hindi vocabulary. I was under the impression that Shri Gujral would have no difficulty in comprehending it. I also know the difference between signatures and ratification. Hence when I was putting across my views, I did not say that they have not signed it. I said that they have not ratified it and so lay as you do not submit the document after ratifying it, your signatures on this treaty would not be considered sufficient 70 countries have already ratified it and much time is not left. It would come into effect in April hence it is not as if much time is left. But in your reply or at least while replying to my supplementary question, you should have mentioned the position particularly with regard to Pakistan and China because the biggest problem comes to the fore when these weapons are used. You next reply could be that we have already signed a treaty with Pakistan regarding non-usage of Chemical weapons against each other. An apprehension is being expressed that such weapons have been used in Siachan. It is not confirmed whether it is true or false but such a view is being expressed. In these circumstances, even after this treaty comes into force, the countries can keep the stock of chemical weapons for another ten years. What I want to say to you is that you may not consider it a hasty step but the world see it as one. As USA is going through a period of strife, it may not ratify it and if Russia, Pakistan and China do not ratify it, when will we review the situation that is the question which you have not answered as yet.

I once again put the same question and would also like to ask another question alongside as you will not permit me to ask the second supplementary question. There is a small point towards which I would like to draw your kind attention. There is a provision for inspection of chemical industries. There would be 400 Inspectors who would carry out inspection of chemical industries. With this sort of inspection, the chemical know how of the poor third world countries and here I

am not talking about the weapon power, but about the other chemical technology. Would no longer remain secret and there is a danger of our technology being made public. The treaty does not take any responsibility regarding transfer of our technology in guise of inspection or for any sort of commercial violation. Under these circumstances how our chemical industry is being guided and safeguarded so that our technology is not stolen in name of inspection. Please resolve this apprehension also.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Regarding the reply to the earlier question, he has asked as to what are the options before us. I have already stated that in this regard, our options are very open. In case such countries which pose a threat to the security of our country do not sign it and ratify it, we can always review our position and if such a stage comes, we will review it. I can assure you of that. Right now such a stage has not come hence there is no danger as yet. As for the position in this regard, the positions is that about 70 countries have already ratified it. Pressure is being excited on them talks have been held in Geneva. Now let us watch their next step and we are keeping an eye on the situation. If such a stage comes, we will devote full attention to the matter.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : 70 countries have signed it. It is immaterial whether the remaining countries sign it or not.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : As for what you have said regarding Siachen, no such report has come to our notice that any chemical weapons have been used in that area or elsewhere. We have signed a bilateral agreement with Pakistan wherein it has been stated that weapons of mass destruction can not be used and they have not been used either. Hence we are keeping our views reserved. Please do not worry about it.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Then why Pakistan is manufacturing such weapons if it is not against us anymore.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : We have no such information that it is making any such weapons. No other country has stated that it is making such weapons. Hence this question does not arise. As for your query regarding its effect on technology, it has been clearly stated in the treaty that we are free to use it for non-weapon's purposes. Chemicals are used in our country. There are chemicals Insecticides factories and chemical weapons industries. We are also exporting it. Recently a controversy arose in Iran. An industry is being set up there. It was a matter pertaining to export of chemicals. We had certified that it would be used for non-weapons purposes. Except for the danger posed by other side. It is not going to have much effect on technology.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Asim Bala;

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry to interrupt. There are three categories of

Chemical weapons and chemical factories wherein under one category, chemicals are used directly whereas in the other two categories, chemicals are used indirectly, what do you have to say about the provision made for carrying out inspections thereof?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : You speak such Hindi which I am unable to follow.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You should have one to one meeting in this regard.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, since reports have come out in the Press that american companies produce chemical weapons and are carrying on a clandestine business of selling all types of arms, including chemical arms to other countries and terrorists are procuring such weapons I would like to know whether the Government of India has taken any steps to prevent the dumping of chemical weapons like RDX in our country by America or by any other foreign mercenary.

I would also like to know whether RDX is coming into our country secretly and whether the Government has taken any steps to prevent the infiltration of chemical weapons into our country.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, there is no question of our not importing chemicals. We are not importing any chemical weapons. If the hon. Member has any information, he may let me know and I will check up.

So far as RDX is concerned, RDX is not a chemical weapon.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : It is arsenic.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the perceived danger from across the border mostly from the neighbouring countries like China and Pakistan and since India is a leading member of the Non-Aligned Movement, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, specifically, as to whether there has been due consultation among the member-countries of the Non-Aligned Movement for the security of these countries.

Sir, India has always demanded for a membership in the UN Security Council and U.S. is also insisting upon our signing the NPT. NPT. Under these circumstances, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the urgency of submitting this instrument of ratification immediately. I would also like to know whether the Government would interact with the member-countries of the Non-Aligned Movement and take a decision in this respect.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : The urgency primarily is because from 1997 itself the treaty will come into force.

Therefore, that is the process which is going on. We have waited for a couple of years and then we have ratified and deposited it. The ratification was done earlier in 1995, but we have deposited it now. There is no urgency that way. But urgency is there because the 'entry into force' clause is operational.

So far as NAM countries are concerned, we have always been in touch with them. So far as the weapons of mass destruction are concerned, India and all Non-Aligned countries have a similar point of view that all these weapons should be destroyed.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Completion of Irrigation Projects

*305. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government to complete the ongoing major and medium irrigation projects and to institutionalise the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme;

(b) whether the Union Government have prepared concrete plans to develop the water resources for irrigation and flood control etc; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, and the nature of assistance proposed to be provided to the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The Union Government has been impressing upon State Governments to take a number of steps namely, attaching top most priority to projects which are in advanced stage of completion, ear-marking of outlays for important projects, monitoring of projects at State and Central level, providing more outlays for major and medium irrigation sector and adopting sub-project approach for large projects.

Irrigation and Flood Control are state subjects and projects are investigated, formulated and implemented by the State Governments. The Central Plan Assistance is released in the form of 'Block Grant' not tied to any sector of development or project. However, the Union Government has launched Accelerated Irrigation benefits Programme (AIBP) with a budget provision of Rs. 900 crores (revised to Rs. 500 crores) during the current financial year 1996-97 to provide Central Loan Assistance on matching basis to the States for accelerating implementation of major and medium

irrigation projects. The programme is being continued during 1997-98 with a proposed budget provision of Rs. 1300 crores. Union Government has also taken up Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for extending loan assistance to minor, medium and major irrigation projects through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

The Union Government has also taken a number of steps to deal with problems of flood namely, setting up of National Commission on Floods (1976-1980), establishing Ganga Flood Control Commission (GFCC) for Ganga basin, setting up of Brahmaputra Board, Flood forecasting by Central Water Commission and preparation of a model flood plain zoning Bill. In addition, Central assistance for flood proofing and maintenance of flood protection works of Kosi and Gandak projects, and Central Loan Assistance to Assam are provided. GFCC has prepared comprehensive plan for flood control for subbasins of the Ganga basin. Brahmaputra Board is engaged in preparation of the Master Plan for flood control of the main stem of Brahmaputra, the Barrak system and the tributaries of the Brahmaputra.

Modernisation of Shipping

*306. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out a plan for expansion, modernisation and improvement of efficiency of shipping operations, if the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether ship building and repair services in various shipyards in the country are satisfactory, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen and modernise the Cochin Shipyard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Government has taken various steps to simplify and liberalise the ship acquisition procedures to facilitate acquisition of modern and efficient ships. As a result 8th plan target of reaching 7 Million Gross Registered has already been achieved.

(c) and (d) Indian shipyards have an installed shipbuilding capacity of 2.8 lakh (approx.) Dead-Weight Tonnes and the shiprepair capacity of 3850 drydock days per annum. Modernisation and upgradation of the Public sector shipyards is a continuous process which is taken up through the Plan Schemes. For Cochin Shipyard Limited a sum of Rs. 111.14 crores has been proposed for this purpose for the 9th Five Year Plan.

PHCs In Urban Areas

*307. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :
DR. M. JAGANNATH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are no primary health centres in most of the urban areas; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to increase the number of urban primary health centres particularly to cover urban slum population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Primary Health Centres are opened in rural areas of the country. In urban areas, primary health care and Family Welfare Services are provided through the Hospitals and dispensaries maintained by the Government, Local Bodies and Private Organisations.

(b) The network of urban hospitals and dispensaries serves the urban slum population also. Health Services to urban slum areas in Delhi, Calcutta, Hyderabad and Bangalore are being currently strengthened under a World Bank assisted project also. Similar strengthening has been done in Bombay and Madras under a recently concluded World Bank Assisted Project.

[Translation]

Funds for Child Care and Safe Motherhood Programmes

*308. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) The funds provided to each State/Union Territory under Child Care and Safe Motherhood Programme during the last two years, year-wise and the funds earmarked for this purpose for 1997-98;

(b) the details of the programmes covered under the said scheme; and

(c) the steps taken for proper implementation of these programmes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) A statement showing details of assistance provided to States/UTs under the Child Survival and safe Motherhood (CSSM) Programme during the year 1994-95 and 1995-96 is attached. Budget provision for Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme is Rs. 300.00 crores for 1997-98 in the budget presented to the Parliament. State-wise provision is not made in the budget.

(b) Under Child Survival and Safe Motherhood the following interventions are included :-

(1) Universal Immunization Programme

- (2) Essential New-Born Care
- (3) Diarrhoea Control Programme
- (4) Acute Respiratory Infections (Pneumonia) Control Programme
- (5) Prevention and Control of Vitamin A Deficiency
- (6) Prevention and Control of Anaemia Among Pregnant Women
- (7) Setting up of first Referral Units for emergency Obstetric Care
- (8) Dais Training for Improving Maternal Health

The following new initiative have also been taken up under the Programme.

- (1) Pulse Polio Immunization
- (2) Special School Health Check Up Scheme for Primary Schools

(c) The performance of the Programme is regularly monitored at District, State and Central levels. The Extensive network of dispensaries/hospitals and district health set up created in the country in the past implements the CSSM Programme.

Statement

Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme Assistance Provided to States/UTs During 94-95 to 95-96.

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/UTs	Assistance Provided	
	94-95	95-96*
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1521.77	1769.09
Arunachal Pradesh	55.73	142.39
Assam	1106.12	971.02
Bihar	2494.33	2439.17
Goa	24.98	35.52
Gujarat	1022.46	1222.94
Haryana	489.47	632.82
Himachal Pradesh	235.15	252.14
J&K	274.76	362.53
Karnataka	1133.84	1392.09
Kerala	723.33	770.43
Madhya Pradesh	2518.37	2575.75
Maharashtra	1638.46	2380.53
Manipur	86.11	137.08
Meghalaya	56.91	107.6
Mizoram	28.69	65.51
Nagaland	44.24	100.1

1	2	3
Orissa	1330.37	996.53
Punjab	491.38	734.41
Rajasthan	2076.07	1783.84
Sikkim	23.76	47.37
Tamil Nadu	1274.75	1676.26
Tripura	77.12	97.14
U.P.	4558.07	4723.8
West Bengal	1253.02	1788.04
Andaman & Nicobar	6.07	28.56
Chandigarh	11.93	27.63
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	9.81	11.35
Delhi	284.72	250.17
Daman & Diu	1.28	11.43
Lakshadweep	1.02	10.71
Pondicherry	26.12	40.46
Total	24880.21	27584.41

* Excludes Rs. 16.00 crores given to States/UTs for social mobilisation under PPI.
(figures provisional)

Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme

*309. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount provided in the Budget grants for 1996-97 and 1997-98 to States for large projects under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme, State-wise and project-wise;

(b) the funds released therefor so far, State-wise and project-wise; and

(c) the irrigation potential projected to be created as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) The budget provision for Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) during 1996-97 was Rs. 900 crores which was revised to Rs. 500 crores in RE 1996-97. The budget provision for 1997-98 under AIBP is proposed as Rs. 1300 crores subject to approval of the Parliament. The state-wise and project-wise details of Central Loan Assistance (CLA) approved and released under the programme as on 12-3-1997 are as under :

(Amount Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Name of Project	Amount of CLA approved during 96-97	Amount of C.L.A. released	Irrigation Potential of the Project on Completion	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
(in th. ha.)					
Andhra Pradesh					
1.	Sriram Sagar Stage-I	63.00	31.50	392.00	
2.	Cheyru Irrigation	7.50	3.75	9.11	
		<u>70.50</u>	<u>35.25</u>	<u>401.11</u>	
Assam					
3.	Pahumara	1.20	0.60	12.96	
4.	Hawaipur Lift Irrigation	1.75	0.875	2.43	
5.	Rupahi Lift Irrigation	0.51	0.755	3.99	
6.	Kallong Irrigation	1.00	0.50	1.64	
7.	Dhansiri Project	3.00	1.50	68.98	
8.	Champawati	2.00	1.00	24.99	
	- Borolia	1.00	-	-	1.00 crores transferred from Rupahi to Borolia.
		<u>10.46</u>	<u>5.23</u>	<u>114.99</u>	

1	2	3	4	5	6
Bihar					
9.	Kosi Project	20.00	10.00	284.80	
10.	Upper Kiul	5.00	2.50	19.56	
11.	Durgawati	2.00	1.00	29.21	
		27.00	13.50	333.57	
Gujarat					
12.	Sardar Sarovar Multipurpose Project	95.00	71.25	1792.00	2nd instalment of CLA released.
13.	Jhuj	2.40	1.20	5.81	
14.	Kukteshwar	0.65	0.325	6.19	
15.	Harnav-II	0.13	0.065	3.44	
16.	Umaria	0.27	0.135	2.37	
17.	Sipu	3.27	1.635	22.08	
		101.72	74.61	1831.89	
Haryana					
18.	Water Resources Consolidation Project.	40.00	30.00	113.00	2nd instalment of CLA released.
19.	Gurgaon Canal	5.00	2.50	81.00	
		45.00	32.50	194.00	
Jammu & Kashmir					
20.	Marwal Lift	1.00	0.50	11.20	
21.	Lethpora Lift	0.60	0.30	3.20	
22.	Koil Lift	1.00	0.50	2.30	
		2.60	1.30	16.70	
Karnataka					
23.	Upper Krishna Stage-I	114.00	57.00	424.94	
24.	Malaprabha	3.00	1.50	218.19	
25.	Harehalla	5.50	2.75	8.30	
		122.50	61.25	651.43	
Kerala					
26.	Kallada Project	5.00	2.50	92.60	
		2.00	2.50	92.60	
Madhya Pradesh					
27.	Bansagar Multipurpose	31.00	15.50	249.00	
28.	Indira Sagar	50.00	25.00	109.00	
29.	Upper Weinganga	5.00	2.50	105.30	
		86.00	43.00	463.00	
Maharashtra					
30.	Goshikhurd Project	20.00	10.00	190.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Surya	4.00	2.00	27.19	
32.	Waghur	4.80	2.00	23.58	
		28.00	14.00	240.77	
Manipur					
33.	Khuga	8.60	4.30	15.00	
		8.60	4.30	15.00	
Orissa					
34.	Rengali Irrigation (Part of WRDP, Orissa)	15.00	7.50	423.60	
35.	Upper Indravati Right Bank Canal	38.00	19.00	556.00	
36.	Subernarekha Multipurpose.	36.00	18.00	176.50	
37.	Anandpur Barage	3.10	1.55	40.18	
		92.10	46.05	1196.28	
Punjab					
38.	Ranjit Sagar Dam	90.00	67.50	348.00	2nd instalment released.
		90.00	67.50	348.00	
Rajasthan					
39.	Jaisamond Modern.	1.85	0.925	8.35	
40.	Chappi	3.50	1.75	7.00	
		5.35	2.675	15.35	
Tripura					
41.	Manu	1.75	0.875	7.60	
42.	Gumti	3.12	1.56	9.80	
43.	Khowai	1.80	0.90	8.10	
		6.67	3.335	25.50	
Tamil Nadu					
44.	Uttar Pradesh Consolidation Project	40.00	20.00	13.00	(Consolidation)
				+ 655.00	
		40.00	20.00	668.70	
Uttar Pradesh					
45.	Sharda Sahayak	20.00	10.00	1582.00	
46.	SArju Nahar	18.00	9.00	1404.00	
47.	Upper Ganga including Madhya Canal	20.00	10.00	187.00	
48.	Rajghat	6.00	3.00	-	
49.	Gunta Nalla Bandh	2.00	1.00	3.88	
50.	Providing Kharif channel in Hindon Krishi Doab.	1.00	0.50	8.50	
		67.00	33.50	3195.38	
West Bengal					
51.	Teesta Barrage	10.00	5.00	533.52	
		10.00	5.00	533.52	
Grand Total		818.50	465.50	10353.03	

[Translation]

Indo-Pak Trade Relations

*310. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to simplify the existing visa system between India and Pakistan for reopening of mutual trade and establishing trade relations with each other;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said proposal has since been finalised;

(d) if so, the main features of the proposal; and

(e) if not, the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e) In pursuance of our policy to promote people-to-people contact, to assist the separated families and to encourage commercial and economic relations between India and Pakistan, Government have unilaterally eased the issuance of visas to Pakistani business persons and trade delegations. Government are also actively considering proposals for a more liberal visa regime for Pakistani business persons.

Doctors Eager to Join Private Hospitals

*311. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Doctors and specialists working in various Government hospitals especially those working in big hospitals in Delhi and other parts of the country are eager to join private hospitals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government of their services;

(c) the number in percentage of senior doctors and surgeons who have joined private hospitals during the last three years; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The feedback received from the Central Government hospitals and those under the National Capital Territory of Delhi does not indicate that the doctors are leaving to join private hospitals in significant numbers. However, there are always cases of doctors leaving for various personal reasons including

assignments in the Private sector and abroad. This proportion is not high.

A number of measures have been taken to increase the satisfaction level of doctors by giving them opportunities to travel, widen their knowledge and present research papers at national and international fora. Besides improving their working conditions to the extent resources permit.

(c) Over the last 3 years, 2.2% doctors from the total Central Health Service Cadre have resigned on personal grounds in the last three years. In the case of AIIMS and PGIMER, Chandigarh, the numbers who have left represent 6.7% and 4.1% of the total faculty strength over a period of three years. No indication has been given by such doctors about their joining private hospitals.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Secondary Health System

*312. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the funds proposed to be earmarked for secondary health system in the country for Ninth Plan;

(b) the number of Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres proposed to be set up in different States during Ninth Plan;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any request from the State Governments for revamping secondary health system in the States;

(d) if so, whether the Government have forwarded that project proposal to the World Bank for assistance;

(e) if so, the reaction of the World Bank thereto;

(f) the funds likely to be obtained from World Bank for implementing those projects in the country; and

(g) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (g) Health is a State subject and Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres are set up by the State Governments according to the outlays earmarked for this purpose in the plan period. The Ninth Plan has not been finalised.

Proposals have been received from some State Governments for strengthening the secondary health infrastructure with World Bank assistance. Such Projects are already under implementation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, West Bengal and Punjab.

The State Proposals are processed through detailed discussions with the external agency and generally take upto twenty four months to fructify, depending on the time taken on the design and formulation of the projects by the States.

[Translation]

Recognition from All India Council for Technical Education

*313. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made it compulsory for all the institutions engaged in providing technical education to get recognition from All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of institutions recognised by the Council after verifying their educational standards and examination results?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), established as a statutory authority under the AICTE Act, 1987 is empowered to grant approval for starting new technical institutions and for introduction of new courses or programmes in consultation with the agencies concerned. As on 31.12.1996 the AICTE has approved 1504 Diploma level and 753 Degree level institutions in Technical Education covering the fields of Engineering and Technology, Pharmacy, Architecture and Hotel Management and Catering Technology.

[English]

Deported Indians from Gulf Countries

*314. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :
SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indians deported from Gulf countries due to lack of adequate documents during last one year;

(b) the number of them returned to Gulf countries after obtaining proper documents;

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Government with regard to the remaining deported workers;

(d) whether inquiries have been made into the circumstances in which so many Indians had gone to UAE without proper documents; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) During the year 1996, over 70,000 Indians were deported from Gulf countries after Indian missions issued emergency certificates to them to return to India. These persons were deported, either because they entered legally but due to overstay or other reasons became illegal; or they entered illegally, with or without

visas/passports. The number of persons who were deported on their Indian passports due to illegal stay cannot be exactly estimated as the local authorities do not provide this information to the Indian missions. Hence, the illegal status of Indian nationals is due to a lack of valid permission to stay in Gulf countries, rather than non-availability of Indian travel documents.

The actual number of Indians, out of those deported from Gulf countries, who have returned to these countries cannot be estimated as they are not required to identify themselves as returnees either at the time of exit from India or report to the Indian missions on arrival in Gulf countries.

Government have already issued instructions to passport issuing authorities in India for issue of duplicate or fresh passports, as the case may be, to Indian nationals deported from the Gulf, subject to the furnishing of required documentation. However, their return to Gulf countries is dependent on their obtaining valid visas.

A vast majority of persons deported from UAE had originally gone to UAE holding valid travel documents and on valid visas. Their stay became illegal subsequently when they did not abide by the visa conditions. Their large scale deportation has been as a result of the tightening of immigration procedures in UAE and a crackdown on illegal immigrants. A small percentage, however, would be persons who would have gone by sea or crossed over by land from neighbouring Gulf countries with or without valid travel documents.

Insurgent Activities in North-Eastern Areas

*315. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Hasina admits Ulfa camps in Bangla" appearing in 'The Asian Age' dated December 17, 1996;

(b) if so, the precise locations and strength of such camps;

(c) whether these camps are also used as conduits for supplying arms into the North-Eastern areas of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have asked the Bangladesh Government to close down these camps; and

(f) if so, the response of the Bangladesh Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (f) Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Hasina admits ULFA

camps in Bangla" appearing in the Asian Age dated December 17, 1996. During her discussions in Delhi in December 1996, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh had conveyed that her Government was fully cognizant of India's security concerns including the presence of insurgent groups along the border.

Government is aware of anti-India activities of ULFA insurgents inside Bangladesh. Government's concern at such activities have been taken up on a regular basis with the Government of Bangladesh at high levels. A positive response has been received from the Government of Bangladesh. Both Bangladesh and India have agreed to work together to counter terrorism and insurgency activities and have stated that they would not permit their territories to be used for any activity targeted against the other. The Home Secretaries of India and Bangladesh during their meeting in February 1997 also agreed to take all necessary action on specific information provided in regard to security related matters exchanged between the two sides.

Employment to Farmers whose Land has been Acquired

*316. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any policy under which members of families of such farmers whose land has been acquired for construction of dams can be employed in such projects; and

(b) if so, the number of local people provided employment in Damodar valley Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) There is at present no National Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy. However, in the year 1980, the then Union Ministry of Irrigation had issued directives to all the States regarding rehabilitation of displaced persons due to major reservoir projects. Besides, various State Governments have evolved their own Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policies which vary from State to State and Project to Project. Employment Opportunities for eligible members of such families whose land has been acquired for construction of dams are attempted to be taken care of to the extent possible.

(b) As per information received from Damodar Valley Corporation, for the old projects like construction of Dams, Power Plants, the policy of Damodar Valley Corporation was to fill up 30% attrition vacancies from the panels prepared for the displaced persons. For new projects, policy is to give employment to one member of those families which lost 75% and above of their land holding. From, 1978 onwards, out of 1398 displaced persons empanelled against the old projects, 635 persons have so far been provided employment in Damodar Valley Corporation. As for Majia Thermal Power

Station which is a new project, appointment offers to 120 displaced persons against the displaced quota have been issued and all of them have already joined in the unskilled posts.

Assistance to Technical Institutions

*317. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance given by World Bank/ other international organisations, for establishing technical/professional institutions in Maharashtra and Karnataka, project-wise;

(b) the progress achieved in respect of ongoing projects;

(c) the new projects proposed by the State Governments for financial assistance by the World Bank/ other international organisations, location-wise;

(d) the present status of the proposals, proposal-wise;

(e) whether the Government of Karnataka has sought funds for purchase of equipments and for creating internet facilities among technical institutions; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) to (f) The World Bank assisted project for development of Technician Education includes establishment of 3 new polytechnics in Maharashtra and 3 polytechnics in Karnataka. The total outlay under the project for Maharashtra is Rs. 164.2 crores and that for Karnataka is Rs. 46.6 crores. Except one polytechnic for Film and Television Institute in Karnataka all other institutions have been established. The World Bank assisted project covers polytechnics in 19 States with a total project cost of about Rs. 1650 crores. No other proposals are in the process so far as assistance sought by the State Governments from international agencies for technical institutions are concerned.

Guidelines for Safety and Hygiene of Food

*318. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has studied the book on "Health Law : International and Regional Perspectives" by an internationally renowned legal expert;

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

(c) whether the Union Government propose to issue any guidelines to States regarding ensuring safety and hygiene of food served by small hotels on streets in urban areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The book titled "Health Law - International and Regional Perspectives", has been pursued which interalia covers the nature and scope of various types of health legislation covering areas like Food Safety, HIV/AIDS, counterfeit drugs, pharmacy manpower, drug and alcohol dependence etc. The topics covered are of current interest.

(c) and (d) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules, 1955 already stipulate conditions for ensuring safety and hygiene of food served by eating establishments including small hotels on streets in both urban and rural areas. Some of the salient features of such conditions are :

- (i) Premises of eating establishments have to be free from sanitary defects.
- (ii) No person shall manufacture, store or expose for sale or permit the sale of any article of food in any premises not effectively separated from any privy, urinal, sullage, drain or place of storage of foul and waste matter.
- (iii) Food/eating establishments shall not employ any person who is suffering from infections, contagious or loath-some disease.
- (iv) All vessels used for the storage or manufacture of the articles intended for sale shall have proper cover to avoid contamination.

The Food Health Authorities of States/UTs have been advised to strictly implement the above cited conditions for ensuring safety and hygiene of food.

Family Welfare and Vaccination Programmes

*319. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Family Welfare and vaccination Programmes are being carried out efficiently and smoothly in all the States in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the names of such States where the aforesaid programmes are not being implemented properly; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to run these programmes smoothly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) The Family Welfare Programme being a centrally sponsored one, is voluntary and its acceptance level depends on factors like effectiveness of State Government set up and of NGOs in the area, Socio-Economic conditions, literacy and status of women in the Community. The performance is comparatively weak in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir and in North-Eastern States.

(d) Keeping in view the wide awareness already created, the effort now is to improve the quality of services for the people. Various programmes have been integrated into one integrated programme designated "Reproductive and Child Health". The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has been replaced by decentralised planning of services at the level of the Primary Health Centre. In the IXth Plan, the States, districts which are lagging behind are proposed to be given greater attention.

Blood Banks

*320. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives for streamlining the operations of blood banks in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Experts Committee have reviewed the functioning of Blood Banks both private and Government in the country in various States;

(d) the number of such blood banks in operation in the States and their yearly collection of blood vis-a-vis actual requirement, State-wise; and

(e) the details of reforms carried out recently/under consideration for scientific and effective operation of blood banks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Statement-I is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Statement-II indicating the number of blood banks in operation in the States/UTs and their yearly collection of blood is laid on the table of Lok Sabha.

The actual requirement is not yet known; however, World Health Organisation recommends requirement of 7 units of blood per hospital bed per annum.

(e) A Statement-I laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement-I

1. The National Blood Transfusion Council has been set up and registered as a 'Society' under the Societies Registration Act on 23rd May, 1996.
2. State Blood Transfusion Councils have been set up in all States/UTs except UT of Lakshadweep.
3. The programmes and activities of the National and the State Councils cover the entire range of services related to the operation and management of blood banks including the launching of effective motivation campaigns launching programmes of blood donation, undertaking training programmes for training of technical personnel and promotion of post-graduate education in Immunohaematology and Transfusion Medicine.
4. Action has been initiated to ensure the licensing of all blood banks in the Country by 17th May, 1997-dead-line given by the supreme Court in this regard.
5. Action has been initiated to 'Revise the existing Drugs and Cosmetics Rule to ensure proper regulation of collection, processing, storage, distribution and transportation of blood and the operation of the blood banks.
6. All State Governments/UT Administrations have been directed to ensure that the system of professional blood donors at present prevalent in the country is phased out by the end of 1997 and steps are taken to generate adequate quantity of blood by promotion of Voluntary Donations.
7. For generating blood through Voluntary Blood Donation Programme, Government of India has taken the following steps:
 - (a) A campaign has been launched through mass-media for motivating people for donating blood voluntarily through Television by specially developed TV spots telecast through Doordarshan at suitable intervals during prime time.
 - (b) Messages are broadcast on Voluntary Blood Donation through times FM channel in one of their popular music programmes.
 - (c) National AIDS Control Organisation with the help of Central Health Education Bureau have developed proto type IEC material for one to one communication on Voluntary Blood Donation Programme in the form of folders, posters and stickers and the same have been given to various States and UTs for use and reproduction in local languages.

(d) National Council for Science and Technology Communication (Department of Science and Technology; Government of India) have initiated a pilot project for generating Voluntary Blood Donation in 50 selected cities, with a view to fill the gap between demand and availability of blood through voluntary donations. The specific objectives of the project being :

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

The present status of the implementation of the Scheme : Department of Science and Technology have initiated studies in 10 cities for determining the status of blood collection etc., with the assistance of certain selected NGOs. The assessment of the software available for motivating the voluntary blood donors has been completed and proposals for developing new software have been taken up. Apart from this training modules for motivators are also being developed. Proposals for computerised system for blood banks and networking have also been received from various organisations and are being examined. Further pilot training programmes and motivation camps are proposed to be organised during 1997-98.

Some of the objectives included in this programme are pertaining to development of software (film, slides, posters etc) for propagation of voluntary blood donation, training of communicators and creating database for networking of information etc.

- (e) Every year, 1st of October is celebrated as the National Voluntary Blood Donation Day. Special campaigns to educate the masses for need for voluntary donation of blood are undertaken through mass media and special camps for blood collection are organised. Messages from the President of India, the Prime Minister and Minister for Health and Family Welfare with appeals for Voluntary Blood Donation are telecast and broad-cast. These messages are also published in newspapers.

Statement-II**Blood Banks and Quantity of Blood Generated by States/UTs (year-1996)**

S.No.	Name of State/U.T.	No. of Blood Banks	Blood unit collected
1.	Andhra Pradesh	113	79800
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	816
3.	Assam	44	115066
4.	A&N Islands	2	2721
5.	Bihar	69	49550
6.	Chandigarh Admn.	2	43410
7.	Delhi	32	412526
8.	D&N Havel	&	135
9.	Gujarat	109	288965
10.	Goa	7	17690
11.	Haryana	18	32130
12.	Himachal Pradesh	13	10850
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	13	28917
14.	Kerala	85	185615
15.	Karnataka	81	75090
16.	Lakshadweep	&	340
17.	Maharashtra	197	592288
18.	Madhya Pradesh	77	100155
19.	Meghalaya	4	952
20.	Manipur	2	10410
21.	Mizoram	4	11702
22.	Nagaland	19	5103
23.	Orissa	59	112606
24.	Punjab	66	65320
25.	Pondicherry	2	8845
26.	Rajasthan	46	168330
27.	Sikkim	1	1020
28.	Tamilnadu	280	64435
29.	Tripura	5	11348
30.	Uttar Pradesh	121	103520
31.	West Bengal	95	285836
32.	Daman & Diu.		545
Total :		1475	*2236963 **(+)581610 2818573

* The Figures estimated from information received from the States/U.T.s towards their demand for HIV test kits required for the screening of blood. From the estimates 10% deduction has been made towards quality control.

** Figures calculated @ 26% blood generated by private blood banks.

AICTE

3335. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the staff strength of the All India Council of Technical education in (AICTE) headquarters and those in the SC/ST category thereof;

(b) whether AICTE is strictly following reservation provisions of Constitution in selection and recruitment of its staff;

(c) the number of staff of AICTE posted on contract/deputation basis and the number of them who have been absorbed/regularised/made permanent during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the provision of reservation were observed while regularising/absorbing of the staff;

(e) whether AICTE has taken the prior approval of the Government before such absorption/regularisation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Sanctioned regular posts in all categories in the AICTE are 65. At present 18 posts have been filled out of which, 7 posts filled by SC/ST candidates.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During the last three years' period 81 persons have been taken on deputation/contract. Out of these, five persons have been absorbed as under :

1994	-	2
1995	-	1
1996	-	2

(d) The Council has made provision of reservation for SC/ST etc.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Not Applicable.

Financial Assistance

3336. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for setting up of an Institute of Imageology and Laboratory service at T.D. Madical College, Alappuzha in Kerala with Central assistance worth Rs. 10.05 crores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Trafficking in Women

3337. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Footpath par rahne wali larkiyian veshyavirti ki shikar" appearing in the Delhi edition of 'Navbharat Times' dated December 2, 1996;

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

(c) the number of such incidents come to the notice of the Government during the last three years and till date;

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter;

(e) whether the Union Government are contemplating to formulate any scheme for the welfare of the prostitutes; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has noted the contents of the news item which refers to the findings of a survey of street children indicating that street girl-children suffer destitution and neglect and are in danger of being forced into prostitution.

(c) The incidence of crimes in the entire country reported under the provisions of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 for the last three years by the National Crime Records Bureau is as under :

1994	-	7547
1995	-	6756
1996	-	5680

(d) to (f) With a view to support and strengthen voluntary organisations to provide integrated community based, non-institutional, basic services for the welfare and development of street children, the Government started the Scheme for the Welfare of street children in 1993-94. The focus under the scheme is on reduction of exploitation and abuse and withdrawal of children engaged in hazardous street work. Under this scheme appropriate interventions are initiated for children particularly girls to integrate them in their respective families and facilitate their participation in formal primary education. Efforts are directed at enhancing their educational level and providing vocational training for equipping them with productive skills for adult life.

Besides schemes for training, employment and income generation like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Support to Training and Employment Programme

(STEP), Setting up of Training-cum-Production Centres (NORAD), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), TRYSEM and DWACRA are implemented in source areas for the welfare and rehabilitation of prostitutes. In some of the redlight areas Integrated Child Development Services Scheme has been launched. The Government has an extensive network of Short Stay Homes and homes set up under the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 for protection and rehabilitation of the victims of prostitution.

Soil Conservation in Sikkim

3338. SHRI BHIM PRASAD DAHAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Sikkim and Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council have submitted any scheme relating to soil erosion, for getting central assistance, during last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Union Government have not received any scheme relating to soil erosion from the Government of Sikkim and Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council for Central assistance during last 3 years.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Suppliers of Defence Hardware and Equipments

3339. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether major foreign suppliers of defence hardware and equipments have set up liaison offices in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government deals with those liaison offices;

(c) if so, the names of the liaison offices with their principles known to the Government;

(d) whether the liaison offices acts as middlemen and their chief receive a part of their emoluments in terms of their contracts they secure; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e) Major foreign suppliers of defence hardware and equipment establish liaison offices in India based on their corporate policies. The policy on foreign commercial entities setting up representative offices is determined and implemented by the Reserve Bank of India and the Ministry of Finance. In so far as the purchase of weapons and weapon systems is concerned, the Government policy is to deal directly with the original equipment manufacturers.

Requirement of MBBS Doctors

3340. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of MBBS doctors required in the country during Eighth Five Year Plan and the number of doctors working in various States at present;

(b) the number of doctors out of them who have joined rural health service;

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme to fill up the gap between the availability and requirement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the steps proposed to be taken to ensure adequate availability of doctors in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No such survey has been done. However, the doctor-population ratio for allopathic doctors is about 1:2250 and taking into account the number of qualified practitioners of Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy the said ratio comes to 1:950 is considered fairly good in comparison to other developing countries.

(b) As per information available, 26930 doctors were working as on 30.6.1996 in Primary Health Centres in rural areas.

(c) and (d) The State/UT Governments have been advised to consider introducing regional decentralised recruitment policy for doctors for filling up vacancies of doctors in rural areas and reserving a certain percentage of post graduate seats for Medical Officers who have put in two to three years service in rural areas.

Construction of Dams

3341. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to monitor the construction of dams in the States by the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the modus operandi to be adopted in this regard; and

(c) the time from which the same would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Most of the ongoing approved major and selected medium projects are being monitored by Central Water Commission. The projects are visited at regular intervals by the Officers of Central Water Commission to review programme and progress of various project components. The remedial measures for shortfalls and constraints are suggested. Detailed

Project Status Reports highlighting the critical issues needing the attention of State Governments are prepared and sent to all concerned.

Setting up of Private Universities

3342. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the State Ministers was held in February, 1997 to consider the entry of private sector in the setting up of universities;

(b) if so, the names of the States which were represented in the above meeting; and

(c) the salient features of the opinions expressed by the various State Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) A meeting of the State Ministers for Technical and Higher Education was held on 11th February, 1997. The Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 1995, which was introduced in Rajya Sabha on August 25, 1995 along with the Report of Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on the said Bill was discussed. Most of the Ministers were of the opinion that a wider debate is needed on the subject.

2. The list of the States represented is shown in the statement enclosed.

Statement

List of States which were Represented in the Meeting of Ministers held on February 11, 1997.

S.No.	Name of the State/Union Territory
1	2

STATES

1. Assam
2. Andhra Pradesh
3. Arunachal Pradesh
4. Bihar
5. Haryana
6. Himachal Pradesh
7. Goa
8. Gujarat
9. Karnataka
10. Kerala
11. Maharashtra
12. Madhya Pradesh
13. Manipur
14. Mizoram

1	2
15. Nagaland	
16. Orissa	
17. Rajasthan	
18. Sikkim	
19. Tamil Nadu	
20. Uttar Pradesh	
21. West Bengal	

15. Nagaland
16. Orissa
17. Rajasthan
18. Sikkim
19. Tamil Nadu
20. Uttar Pradesh
21. West Bengal

UNION TERRITORIES

1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Chandigarh
3. Delhi
4. Pondicherry

Sports Policy

3343. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Sports Policy is adrift, with no accountability" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated November 19, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news item deals generally with the alleged ills of sports management in the country.

(c) The Government is aware of the need to have accountability in sports management and co-ordinated approach by all Sports Developmental agencies. There is already a proposal to reformulate the existing National Sports Policy to make it result oriented.

[Translation]

Grant given to Jamia Millia University

3344. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of grant given by the Government to Jamia Millia University during each of the last three years;

(b) the other sources from which Jamia Millia University is getting the funds; and

(c) the amount received from such sources during the above period, source-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Test Tube Baby

3345. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item published in the 'Hindustan Times', New Delhi dated February 19, 1997 under the caption "Test Tube Baby, now 18 is ready to talk";

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government and facts thereof;

(c) whether any action-plan has been drawn to carry forward a research on the findings of the late lamented scientist-physician;

(d) if so, whether propagation of the system might brighten the scope of family planning in the country; and

(e) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the matter involved ethical and legal issues also, necessary detailed guidelines involving all related issues including technical, scientific, legal and ethical issues are under preparation.

(c) Research in the field of assisted reproductive technologies is already in an advanced stage in comparison to what had been achieved by the scientist/physician (who is no more). Specific action plan, Lower, shall be formulated after finalisation of the necessary guidelines.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The propagation of assisted reproductive technologies may help the family planning programme as the people have a positive perception of family planning necessity and come forward for availing the family planning services.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance

3346. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN :
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :
SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of hospitals modernised and expanded in Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any proposal has been received from the State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether new hospitals/dispensaries have been set up in these States with the World Bank assistance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e) 'Health' being a State subject, the delivery of health care services is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UT Administrations.

Proposals from a few States including Madhya Pradesh have been received for upgrading their secondary level infrastructure with World Bank assistance. The process of negotiation and finalisation of World Bank assistance as per their procedure takes upto 24 months, based on the past practice. It is, however, not possible to comment on the final outcome of such proposals at this juncture.

[English]

Incidence of Malaria in Andhra Pradesh

3347. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that incidence of Malaria is alarming in the districts of East and West Godavari and Krishna in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether according to the Malaria Eradication Department, statistics reveal a sharp increase during the last two years on the three districts of Andhra Pradesh State;

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

(d) whether a World Health Organisation team of doctors from New Delhi which visited the areas has yet to submit its findings on the problem;

(e) if so, the steps Union Government propose to help the State Government of Andhra Pradesh in checking the rise of Malaria cases; and

(f) if so, the extent to which the Union Government have helped the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) As per reports received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh malaria is on the increase in the districts of East and West Godavari and Krishna during the last two years. A statement showing the trend of malaria cases is enclosed.

(d) Government is not aware of any such visit.

(e) and (f) A National Malaria Eradication Programme is implemented on 50:50 cost sharing basis between the centre and the states. The Central Government provides assistance every year to the State Governments including Andhra Pradesh in the form of materials which includes insecticide, drugs larvicides etc. Central assistance in the form of materials earmarked to the State of Andhra Pradesh during the year 1996-97 amounts to Rs. 908.26 lakhs. Government is negotiating an enhanced Malaria Control Project with World Bank assistance in which interalia the material endemic districts in the State of Andhra Pradesh are proposed to be covered.

Statement

Malaria Epidemiological Data for the Last Three Years in Three Districts of Andhra Pradesh

Year	Malaria cases	P.f cases	Deaths
East Godawari			
1994	6883	6242	Nil
1995	7042	6159	One
1996	8991	7292	Two
West Godawari			
1994	262	185	Nil
1995	288	207	Nil
1996	384	287	Nil
Krishna			
1994	11929	269	Nil
1995	18963	1142	Nil
1996	24489	2923	Nil

By-pass between Cannanore and Calicut

3348. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct any By-pass between Cannanore to Calicut in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to Tellicherry Mahe bypass for which alignment has been approved. The work has been divided into two phases. Acquisition of land for phase-I is in progress. Due to paucity of funds, acquisition of land for phase-II could not be sanctioned.

(c) It is too early to indicate the date of completion.

Occupation of Ancient Monuments

3349. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of ancient monuments have been forcibly occupied in the Capital for religious purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any responsibility fixed in these cases of forcible occupations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Some of the centrally protected monuments have been occupied for religious purposes as per the details given in the statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) F.I.R.s have been lodged with the police. The help of law enforcing agencies has been sought to clear the monuments of illegal occupation.

Statement

1. Mosque at Safdarjung Tomb	: Religious congregation is organised for Friday Prayers for a temporary period after occupying the mosque forcibly.
2. Khairul Manazil Mosque	: Namaz is offered on every Friday during the day time when the mosque is opened to public.
3. Mosque at Firoz Shah Kotla	: The mosque at Firoz Shah Kotla is forcibly occupied for a temporary period every night during the month of Ramzan for offering of Namaz. Namaz is also offered regularly every Friday.
4. Mosque at Sarai Shahji	: The mosque at Sarai Shahji has been forcibly occupied for running a religious school. Namaz is offered every Friday and during Ramzan as well.
5. Qudsia Mosque	: This mosque has been forcibly occupied by a self styled Imam on the pretext of religious activity. The Imam is residing inside the monument.
6. Sunehri Masjid	: Namaz is offered daily. Imam is residing permanently inside the monument.
7. Nili Masjid	: Namaz is offered only on Fridays during day-time when it is opened for visitors.
8. Mosque at Afsarwala, Humayun's Tomb	: -do-
9. Purana Qila	: An area has been encroached upon by a temple and Archaeological Survey of India has filed eviction suit and the matter is sub-judice.
10. Razia Sultan Tomb near Turkman Gate	: Occupied by a Moulvi for religious activities.
11. Gandhak-ki-Baoli Graves	: Encroached upon by a Moulvi for religious purposes.

Agreement between India and Canada

3350. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Canada have recently agreed to establish a working group to combat terrorism and take necessary steps for the expansion and diversification of bilateral cooperation in different fields; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the agreement as well as the progress in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During Canadian Foreign Minister, Lloyd Axworthy's visit to India in January, 1997, it had been

agreed to intensify cooperation between the two Governments to combat terrorism for this purpose.

It was also agreed to establish a Joint Ministerial Committee for intensification of cooperation and consultations between India and Canada in the political as well as in the economic and commercial fields.

The first meetings of both these bodies are expected to take place in the course of this year.

Development of Rural Sports Stadlums

3351. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any schemes for the development of rural sports stadlums; and

(b) if so, the number of schemes approved for the State of Kerala during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) and (b) Central financial assistance is provided for development of stadia in the country under the Scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure. Five stadia were approved for the State of Kerala during the last five years.

There is, however, no separate Scheme for the development of rural stadia.

Haj Pilgrimage

3352. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Haj pilgrims during the last three years;

(b) whether all the Haj pilgrims travel by air or there are still some pilgrims who travel by ships;

(c) the number of Haj pilgrims for the next pilgrimage, State-wise;

(d) the average expenses of travel by air and sea, separately;

(e) whether expenses on Haj Travel is fully borne by pilgrims; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The number of pilgrims who performed Haj under the arrangements made by the Central Haj Committee stood at 25,685 for 1994, 30,505 for 1995 and 50,346 for 1996.

(b) All pilgrims from India going for Haj now travel by air.

(c) The State-wise number of Haj pilgrims whose applications were accepted for the next Haj pilgrimage under the auspices of Central Haj Committee is as follows :

1. Andhra Pradesh	1728
2. Andaman and Nicobar	22
3. Assam	512
4. Bihar	924
5. Chandigarh	3
6. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6
7. Daman and Diu	15
8. Delhi	1746
9. Goa	15

10. Gujrat	5280
11. Haryana	957
12. Himachal Pradesh	7
13. J and K	2849
14. Karnataka	3002
15. Kerala	4049
16. Lakshadweep	89
17. Madhya Pradesh	3198
18. Maharashtra	8023
19. Manipur	168
20. Orissa	91
21. Pondicherry	35
22. Punjab	142
23. Rajasthan	3447
24. Tamil Nadu	2124
25. Tripura	19
26. Uttar Pradesh	13936
27. West Bengal	1438

(d) to (f) Expenditure on Haj travel is partly met by Government subsidy. Average expenses of travel by air, after subsidy, were Rs. 12,000/- for the last pilgrimage. Facility for Haj travel from India by sea is not available. Hence, the average expenses of travel by sea is not available.

CGWB to Tubewells

3353. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government Ground Water Board has since worked out a scheme for installation of tubewells in the Eastern Region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Central Ground Water Board has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for investigation and development of ground water in Eastern States comprising the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Eastern Madhya Pradesh. Under this Scheme, 16,125 shallow tubewells and 1100 medium tubewells are proposed to be constructed in these States at an estimated cost of Rs. 136.50 crore to be shared by the Central Government, State Government and beneficiaries in the ratio of 60:30:10. The Scheme is still at consultation stage.

Irrigation Projects in A.P.

3354. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have stated that the central clearance for almost all irrigation projects proposed by Andhra Pradesh was held up because of failure of the State Government to supply the information sought by the Central Water Commission, and there was no delay on the part of the union Government;

(b) if so, whether all the projects which were submitted to the centre have been returned to the State Government for further clearance;

(c) if so, the reasons stated by the State Government for delaying the information of these projects;

(d) the total number of projects pending at present with the State Government and also with the Union Government; and

(e) by what time the Union Government would clear the pending projects of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Out of 19 projects, 6 projects were found acceptable by the Technical Advisory Committee subject to certain observation like clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests and from Ministry of Welfare. Project Reports of 11 projects have been returned to the State Government for submitting modified proposals based on the comments of Central Water Commission and also for sorting out Inter-State issues. 2 projects are under examination in Central Water Commission.

The clearance of projects depends upon how soon the State Government is able to comply with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and obtain Clearances from Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Welfare in addition to sorting out the Inter State issues involved, if any.

Majauli Island

3355. DR. Y.S. RAJA SEKHARA REDDY :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the size of Majauli Island in Assam ten years ago which has been ravaged by the mighty Brahmaputra river;

(b) the present size of the Island;

(c) whether it is a fact that Island which is considered to be World's largest since Island is slowly but surely losing its land mass to the river;

(d) if so, the steps being taken to prevent erosion;

(e) whether specific scheme for protection of this island is proposed to be taken up during 9th Plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) According to the Census of 1971, the geographical area of Majauli island was 924.60 Sq.Km. During 1993, the size of the island was 879.28 Sq.Km. which was based on the study by satellite imagery.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Brahmaputra Board has recently taken up works for preparation of a Master Plan for flood and erosion management of the Majauli Island. The works envisage detailed survey and investigation, laying of a physical model and the result thus obtained will be utilised for taking effective measures against flood and erosion.

The Government of Assam has proposed for construction of embankments/retirements. pro-siltation devices at appropriate points in the Majauli Island. The State Forest Department has prepared a synoptic project on eco-stabilisation and conservation of Majauli Island during 1996-97. This report is under examination.

(e) and (f) The following scheme is proposed to be taken up during 9th Plan to protect the Majauli Island: Construction of land spurs at 4 km. to protect Brahmaputra dyke from erosion of river Brahmaputra in three phases.

Early Child Education Centres

3356. SHRI JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to close the Early Child Education Centres (E.C.E.) which are in operation in different Blocks of the States for children aged between 6 years to 9 years;

(b) if so, the policy decision of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the fate of the Teachers engaged in the E.C.E. Centres?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Since Non-formal pre-school education for children in the age group of 3-6 years is one of the components of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme of this Department, it has been decided to phase out the Early Childhood Education Programme to avoid duplication with the ICDS.

(c) Wherever ECE Centres are phased out, efforts will be made to utilise their services under other existing programmes.

[Translation]

Irrigation Facilities in U.P.

3357. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the substantial area of cultivable land in Uttar Pradesh does not have any irrigation facilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;
- (d) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (e) the effective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As per Land Use Statistics brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1993-94 (latest), out of 20.84 million hectares of total cultivable area in Uttar Pradesh, the net area under irrigation is 11.56 million hectares.

(e) To expedite the development of irrigation facilities in the State of U.P., Central Loan Assistance of Rs. 67.00 crores have been earmarked for 4 major irrigation projects namely Sarda Sahayak, Saraju Nahar, Upper Ganga including Madhya Canal and Rajghat and 2 medium irrigation projects namely Gunta Nala Bandha and Kharif Channel in Hindon Doah of U.P. during 1996-97 under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme.

Dredging of Silt from Canals in Ghatampur Area (U.P.)

3358. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the funds allocated for the dredging of silt from canals under the department of irrigation in Uttar Pradesh during the year 1996-97;
- (b) the amount allocated for dredging of silt from canals in Ghatampur area;
- (c) whether fake payments are being made for the removal of silt from canals with the connivance of officers and contractors of the Department of Irrigation;
- (d) whether any inquiry has been conducted by any agency in this regard;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof and the corrective measures taken in this regard; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Winding up of Disciplines by SAI

3359. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India has taken decision to close down the discipline of Gymnastics, Badminton, Table Tennis and Fencing from all the schemes;

(b) if so, whether the SAI has asked the parents of the students to bear the expenses of education, boarding/lodging etc. which were earlier paid to them; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) In order to give more emphasis to priority disciplines non-priority disciplines like Gymnastic, Badminton, Table Tennis and Fencing are planned to be taken out from the SAI schemes.

(b) and (c) Regional Directors of Sports Authority of India have been asked to submit their recommendations with regard to closing down of disciplines for the consideration of the Empowered Committee. However, it has come to the notice of Sports Authority of India that one of the Regional Directors has issued instructions at his own level asking the parents of the children under the schemes to bear the expenses of education, boarding/lodging etc. These instructions are being withdrawn.

Afghanistan Problem

3360. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing interference of Pakistan and some other countries in the internal affairs of Afghanistan;

(b) if so, whether the Government think that Pakistan's policy to destabilise Afghanistan endangers the security in the South Asia;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to prevent such an eventuality and whether any negotiations with Russia, Iran and other countries have taken place by the Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI !.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Foreign interference in Afghanistan is not conducive to the peace and stability of the region including South Asia.

(c) and (d) Government continue to follow developments in Afghanistan closely and have exchanged views with concerned countries on this issue, including Russia and Iran. India has also participated in the Tehran Conference on Afghanistan called by Iran during October, 1996 and has participated in UN sponsored meetings in New York during November, 1996 and at Ashgabat during January, 1997. During these meetings we have reiterated our support for the unity, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan, called for peaceful negotiations among Afghan parties and emphasised the need for cessation of foreign interference for resolution of the conflict.

[Translation]

Survey of Halon Project

3361. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether survey to Halon Project (Narmada Kachhar) in Mandla District in Madhya Pradesh was started in 1986;

(b) whether this project has been approved;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which work on the said project is likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) No information is kept at the Centre regarding surveys carried out by the States.

[English]

Brahmaputra Waterway

3362. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Assam to harness the river Brahmaputra as a waterway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Transport Ministers of North Eastern States submitted a Memorandum to the Government for development of transport sector in North Eastern region, which include setting up of terminals, night navigation facilities, maintenance of fairway etc. for development of Brahmaputra as a waterway.

(c) Dhubri to Sadiya stretch of 891 kms. of river Brahmaputra was declared as NW-2 in September, 1988. For development and maintenance of the fairway,

conservancy works like bandalling, channel marking are being taken up on year to year basis. Floating terminals exists at Dhubri and Pandu. A Scheme sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 60.20 lakhs for provision of additional floating terminals at Dhubri, Jogighopa, Tezpur, Neamati and Dibrugarh is under implementation. A scheme for providing night navigational facilities between Dhubri and Pandu is also under process. A fairway with 2 mtr. LAD is being maintained from Dhubri to Dibrugarh during the current year. River Conservancy work is proposed to be extended upto Saikhowa during 1997-98.

During 9th Five Year Plan, construction of additional permanent terminals at various locations such as Dhubri, Jogighopa, Pandu, Tezpur, Neamati with mechanical loading/unloading facilities and providing night navigation facilities for the stretch from Dhubri to Dibrugarh are proposed to be taken up.

[Translation]

Recruitment of Education Officers in KVS

3363. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court in the case of 'Ajay Hasia' in 1981 gave a direction to the Government to keep a ratio between maximum marks prescribed for written examination and the interview under the direct recruitment procedure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this direction is being adhered to in the direct recruitment of Education officers in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan; and

(d) if no, the justification of violation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) and (d) For filling posts of Education Officers by direct recruitment, selection is made on the basis of performance in written test as well as interview. Shortlisting of candidates is done on the basis of written test and the final list is prepared on the basis of the combined merit of written test and interview.

Statement

Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of 'Ajay Hasia' etc. Vs Khalid Mujib Sehravardi and others etc. adjudicated upon whether an institution registered under the Societies Registration Act is an authority under Article 12 of the Constitution, validity of viva voce examination as permissible test for selection of

candidate for admission to a college and whether allocation of 33.1/3% marks for oral interview is arbitrary and unreasonable.

2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court inter-alia held that Regional Engineering College, Srinagar was an authority within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution, that oral interview test should not be relied upon as an exclusive test but it may be resorted to only as an additional or supplementary test and moreover, great care must be taken to see that persons who are appointed to conduct the oral interview test are men of high integrity, calibre and qualification.

3. Hon'ble Apex Court also held that in their opinion if the marks allocated for the oral interview do not exceed 15% of the total marks and the candidates are properly interviewed and relevant questions are asked with a view to assessing their suitability with reference to the factors required to be taken into consideration, the oral interview test would satisfy the criterion of reasonableness and non-arbitrariness.

[English]

Education in Sanskrit Language

3364. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any measures for the propagation of education in Sanskrit language; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have formulated various schemes/programmes for the development of Sanskrit

language. These include financial assistance to Voluntary Sanskrit Organisations, Adarsh Sanskrit Mahavidyalayas/Shodh Sansthan, Publication of Sanskrit Literature, eminent Sanskrit Scholars in indigent circumstances, modernisation of Sanskrit Pathshalas, holding of Sanskrit Seminars/Conferences, etc. These schemes/programmes are being implemented through Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, Maharishi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, two deemed Universities and the Central Plan Scheme of financial assistance to States/UTs. for development of Sanskrit.

N.C.C.

3365. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES :

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of N.C.C. Cadets passed out for 'B' and 'C' Certificate every year;

(b) whether there are reserved vacancies in Defence Services for employment of such cadets who are holding 'B' and 'C' Certificate;

(c) if so, the percentage of vacancies reserved for them in Defence Services; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) On an average, over 50,000 N.C.C. Cadets are awarded 'C' certificate every year.

(b) to (d) For N.C.C. Cadets possessing 'B' and 'C' Certificate, a certain percentage of vacancies are reserved for recruitment in the officer cadre of the Defence Forces and weightage of marks is given for recruitment in other ranks of the Defence Forces. The details are given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

Name of the Organisation	Concession in Officers Cadre.	Concession in Recruitment to ranks.	Remarks recruitment to
1	2	3	4
1. Army	(a) 32 vacancies in each course in Indian Military Academy reserved for NCC 'C' Certificate holders. (b) NCC 'C' Certificate holders exempted from written examination by UPSC for selection for SSC (non-technical) course at Officers Training Academy, Chennai.		Subject to being found fit by UPSC and Service Selection Board.

1	2	3	4
		(a) 8% and 10% weightage to 'B' and 'C' Certificate holders in physical standard and written examination for recruitment as Soldiers (GD) category and Soldiers Technical/ Clerks/SKT/Nursing Assistant.	-
2. Navy	6 vacancies per course for grant of commission in the Navy reserved for NCC 'C' certificate holders of the Naval wing	-	Exempted from appearing in the UPSC examination. Subject to being found fit by Services Selection Board.
		(a) 4 & 6 marks weightage for 'B' and 'C' Certificate holders direct entry. Sailors.	
		(b) 10 and 15 marks 'B' and 'C' Certificate holders weightage for artificer/ and apprentices.	
3. Air Force	(a) 10% of vacancies reserved for Pilots for direct entry by NCC 'C' Certificate holders.	-	Exempted from UPSC entrance examination.
	(b) 10% vacancies of each of the other Branches of Air Force reserved for NCC 'C' Certificate holders.	-	- do-
		Weightage of 4 and 5 marks given to NCC 'B' and 'C' Certificate holders for selection as Airmen.	
4. National Cadets Corps	(a) 20 vacancies of NCC Whole Time Lady Officers reserved for NCC 'C' certificate holders. (b) Possession of NCC 'C' certificate is a desirable qualification for recruitment as NCC Whole Time Lady Officers and Civilian Gliding Instructor.		All vacancies of Girl Cadets Instructors (Sergeant Major Instructors) are reserved for NCC 'C' Certificate holders.
5. Military Nursing Service	1 seat reserved in BSc (Nursing) Course for NCC 'C' holders.	24 seat reserved NCC 'C' Certificate holders for Probationer Nurses Course.	-

Health Care Scheme

3366. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the centrally sponsored Health Care Schemes being operated through NGOs in the country particularly in Delhi, U.P. and Bihar; and

(b) the amount allocated for these schemes during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Women High Schools and Colleges

3367. DR. AMRIT LAL BHARTI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is no High School and College for women in Allahabad particularly in Chayal Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the educational development of women of this constituency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

NGOs in Assam

3368. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of Non-Government Organisations providing health services in Assam that receive aid from the Union Government; and

(b) the details of the services being provided by those NGOs to the public during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and would be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Child Marriage

3369. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether child marriage system is still prevailing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to take any special measures to check this system; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) to (c) Child Marriage is prevailing in certain parts of the country. The Government of India has already enacted the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 1978 fixing the minimum age for marriage for boys at 21 years and for girls at 18 years. The administration and implementation of this Act is the responsibility of the State Governments.

Government is implementing the National Plan of Action for the girl child which focusses on survival, protection and development of the girl child. It has stepped up media programmes against child marriages in the country through electronic and print media. Social awareness regarding the ill effects brought about by early marriages and consequent early pregnancy on the health of girl child is being generated under the awareness generation programmes implemented through voluntary agencies and universities. The Central Government has requested the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to consider formulating a specific scheme to raise the status of the girl child, including as one of the objectives, postponement of marriage of girl children beyond the minimum legal age for marriage.

[English]

Non-Utilisation of Funds by NCERT

3370. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the NCERT is not making use their funds for educational purposes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the amount utilised by NCERT during the last three years towards Educational Development Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) Funds provided to the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) by the Government of India are used for educational purposes in order to improve the quality of school education.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Educational development programmes undertaken by the NCERT include :

- (i) Curriculam development leading to production of textbooks, work books, teachers' guides' supplementary materials, etc.
- (ii) Training programmes both at Pre-service and Inservice level.
- (iii) Promotion of Educational Research.
- (iv) Conduct of Educational Surveys.
- (v) Support to programmes like District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) etc.
- (vi) National Talent Search.

Year-wise details of the funds utilised by the NCERT from the grants released by the Government of India are as under :

	(Rs. in Lakhs)
1993-94	- 2568.67
1994-95	- 2744.28
1995-96	- 2473.84

Discovery of Gene

3371. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Scientists find gene that might help people lose weight" appearing in the "Times of India" dated March 4, 1997;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Obesity gene was identified three years ago and several studies have been made on this aspect. The news item refers to one of the studies and its potential for the control of obesity through thermogenesis.

(c) Scientists at the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad have developed a mutant rat model for study of obesity and the related problem. The potential of the proposed hypothesis could be studied in this model.

[Translation]

Funds to Colleges

3372. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has provided grants to colleges of different States during the last year;

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

(c) whether the Commission has made a provision or propose to provide amount of grants to the colleges of Gujarat during the current financial year;

(d) if so, the details thereof, college-wise and item-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pancheswar Dam Project

3373. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Nepal has given its final consent for commencement of the work on Pancheswar Dam project;

(b) whether there is still any obstacle in the commencement of the above project; and

(c) the time by which the construction work of the said project is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) In accordance with the Treaty signed between His Majesty's Government of Nepal and the Government of India, the Pancheswar Multipurpose Project is to be constructed in accordance with the Detailed Project Report being jointly prepared by the two countries.

(b) Discussions are in progress, on preparing a joint Detailed Project Report.

(c) The time by which the construction of the project is likely to be commenced would be known after the Detailed Project Report is jointly prepared.

[English]

Typhoid

3374. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that number of Typhoid deaths are still quite high;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to control typhoid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) A statement showing State/UT-wise reported number of deaths (provisional) due to Enteric Fever (a broad term which includes Typhoid) during the last 3 years is enclosed.

(c) The current Government efforts concentrate on :

(i) Improvement of water supply and sanitation both in Urban and rural areas;

(ii) An IEC Plan to educate the general public in regard to :

A. Purification of water at home.

B. Improvement in and maintenance of a high level of personal hygiene.

Statement

Enteric Fever During the Last 3 Years (Provisional)

No. of Deaths	Name of State/UT		
	1994	1995	1996
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	32	51	33
Arunachal Pradesh	0	23	2
Assam	—	—	—
Bihar	—	—	—
Goa	0	0	0
Gujarat	20	11	6
Haryana	11	1	3
Himachal Pradesh	4	3	2
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
Karnataka	20	14	12
Kerala	8	2	2
Madhya Pradesh	38	53	150
Maharashtra	57	42	8
Manipur	0	0	0
Meghalaya	0	0	0
Mizoram	0	2	0
Nagaland	1	7	0

1	2	3	4
Orissa	37	21	18
Punjab	0	4	0
Rajasthan	29	11	4
Sikkim	—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	14	5	9
Tripura	4	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	27	—	67
West Bengal	46	—	—
A and N Island	4	1	0
Chandigarh	—	—	—
D and N Haveli	0	1	6
Daman and Diu	0	2	0
Delhi	20	30	4
Lakshadweep	0	0	0
Pondicherry	0	4	1
Total	372	288	327

— Not Reported.

Effect of Floride Toxity

3375. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the States affected due to floride toxity;

(b) the details of affected areas, particularly in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the measures undertaken by the Government to save public and cattle in areas affected from floride toxity in general and particularly in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The following States are endemic for fluorosis :

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Rajasthan
3. Gujarat
4. Karnataka
5. Tamil Nadu
6. Maharashtra
7. Madhya Pradesh
8. Uttar Pradesh
9. Haryana
10. Punjab
11. Bihar
12. Orissa
13. Kerala
14. Jammu and Kashmir
15. Delhi

(b) According to information collected by the Rajiv Gandhi National Water Mission, all the districts of Andhra Pradesh are affected.

(c) The measures taken for the control of fluorosis are :

- (i) Creating community awareness through IEC activities;
- (ii) Carrying out epidemiological surveys;
- (iii) Testing drinking water quality of all sources in affected areas;
- (iv) Providing safe drinking water to the Community;
- (v) Erecting Defluoridation Plants for treating fluoride contaminated water.

Private Financing of N.H. Projects in Maharashtra

3376. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted some projects of National Highways to be undertaken through private financing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of projects approved for Private Financing; and

(d) the time by which the remaining projects are likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The list of such project is given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) and (d) One project relating to construction of Thane-Bhiwandi by-pass has been approved by the Union Government. The other proposals are at various stages of examination and it is too early to indicate a time frame for their final approval/clearance.

S.No.	Name of the work
1	2
1.	Improvement and maintenance of <i>Thane-Bhiwandi</i> bypass from km. (-)0/115 to km 23/509 including links and loops.
2.	Construction of <i>Panvel Bypass</i> on NH 4.
3.	Four laning of <i>NH-48</i> .
4.	Construction of major bridge across <i>Patalganga</i> river near <i>Kharpada Village</i> in Km. 26/4 of PMP Road.
5.	Construction of major bridge across <i>Wainganga</i> river in mile 39/1 (km 491/0) including approaches on Raipur-Nagpur Section of NH-6, near <i>Bhandara</i> .

1	2
6.	Strengthening existing two lane pavement from Tapi Bridge at Dabhashi to Km. 233/0 of Mumbai-Agra Road NH 3 i/c construction of ROB in km 228/0 at <i>Nardhana</i> and its approaches on NH 3 in Dhule Distt.
7.	Construction of ROB with approaches at Km. 399/0 near <i>Fekari Village</i> and km. 418/800 near Nashirabad Village including strengthening km. 400/200 to 428/00 on NH 6 in Jalgaon Distt.
8.	Construction of missing link Zarap to Patradevi of Panvel - Mahad - Panjim road, NH. 17, Section III- <i>Banda to Patradevi</i> (Km. 18/758 to 21/508=2.75 Km.)
9.	Four laning of road between Vadgaon to Lonawala Km 34/0 to 61/600 and <i>Lanawala-Khandala</i> bypass between km 61/600 to 67/785 on Mumbai-Pune road.
10.	Construction of <i>Paldhi bypass</i> and strengthening existing two lane pavement on NH 6 from Km. 442/0 to 465/0 in Jalgaon Distt.
11.	Construction of R.C.C. <i>flyover</i> bridge on <i>Westerly diversion</i> outside Pune city on NH 4 at Warje junction in Km. 27/160 to 27/680.
12.	Construction of major bridge across <i>Pinglai</i> river including approaches on NH 6 in Amrawati Distt.
13.	4-laning of Nagpur-Hyderabad road NH 7 Km 10/860 to 30/0 (Nagpur-Butibori Section).

[Translation]

Health Survey of Labourers

3377. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have got conducted any survey regarding the health of the labourers working in factories and other industrial establishments on the instructions of World Health Organisation;

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

(c) action proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) The World Health Organisation has not given any specific advice to the Government of India to conduct surveys regarding the health of labourers working in factories. However, WHO does encourage and promote such survey and studies involving surveillance of workers' health. The National Instt. of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad, which is

under the Indian Council of Medical Research has been regularly carrying out surveys on the health of workers engaged in various industries such as Cotton, Cement, Pesticides. Occasionally the National Instt. of Occupational Health also collaborates with World Health Organisation on various other projects. Whenever, ICMR comes to know about any specific health hazards, it alerts the concerned industries for taking appropriate remedial measures.

[English]

Spurious Drugs Racket in UP, MP

3378. SHRI RAM SAGAR :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Spurious drugs racket in U.P. and M.P." appearing in the Economic Times dated February 4, 1997;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Newspaper report mentions that drugs supplied by the Government of India-owned Pharmaceutical units through third parties to many of the Government hospitals in U.P., M.P. and Delhi have been found sub-standard and even spurious. The report also states that there is a network of some unscrupulous traders and dealers who connive with State Government and Company officials and supply medicines labelled as marketed by Central Pius.

(c) The facts are being collected from the concerned State Governments on the basis of which suitable action will be taken.

[Translation]

Underground Water

3379. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee to review the methodology for estimation of ground water resources of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have drawn any plan to fill the underground water artificially;

(c) if so, the number of areas covered under this plan in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) the estimated cost thereon during last two years?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on studies of ground water recharge in Karnataka, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi and Chandigarh. Besides, the Central Ground Water Board has also formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to assist the State Governments in Artificial recharge of Ground Water. This Scheme is at consultation stage.

(c) and (d) Questions do not arise.

[English]

Prevention of Food Adulteration Act

3380. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Amending the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules thereunder is a continuing process in the effort to provide clean and wholesome food to the consumer. A Task Force under the chairmanship of Justice E.S. Venkataramaiah, Chief Justice of India (Retired) has made a number of recommendations relating to the amendment of the Act. The process of examining the recommendations has been set in motion by obtaining the views of the Central Committee for Food Standards where representatives of the State Government and experts are members.

[Translation]

Agitation against Construction of Dam on Vichhian and Vihar River

3381. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agitation against the construction of a dam over Vichhian and Vihar river of Riva Nagar is going on;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Union and State Governments on the construction of this dam?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) As reported by State Government officials no agitation is going on at present against the Construction of a dam over Vichhian and Vihar river of Rewa Nagar.

[English]

**Declaration of Roads as National Highways
in Maharashtra**

3382. SHRI KACHARU BHARU RAUT :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Transport Policy Committee has been asked to recommend that three roads in Maharashtra be declared as National Highways;

(b) whether any proposal was also been submitted by Maharashtra Government in December, 1996 in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) The proposal for declaration of three roads aggregating to 853 kms. was received from Government of Maharashtra in December, 1996. These roads were also recommended by the National Transport Policy Committee for declaring them as National Highways.

(d) Due to paucity of funds, none of the proposals could be acceded to.

[Translation]

**Workers in Water Resources Department,
Kanpur (U.P.)**

3383. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the daily wages workers in Water Resources Department in Kanpur, (U.P.) are eligible for regularisation, D.A., casual/medical leave and other facilities;

(b) if so, whether such facilities/emoluments are not being provided to them;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Regularisation, Dearness Allowance, Casual/Medical leave and other facilities to daily wages workers in Irrigation Department of the State Government at Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) are governed by the State Government rules.

Prisoners in Pak Jails

3384. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :
SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards newsitem "Pak Jailo mein abhi bhi sarh rahe hai 71 yudh ke 54 sepahi" published in 'Jansatta' dated December 16, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) whether the Government have introduced any welfare schemes for the dependents of war-soldiers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (e) According to available information, at present 54 missing Defence personnel are believed to be in custody in Pakistan. Missing personnel are presumed killed and their families are given liberalised pensionary awards, which include liberalised family pension, family gratuity, children allowance and education allowance for children.

Use of Word Herbal by Pan Masala Products

3385. SHRIMATI KETAKI DEVI SINGH :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the producers of pan masala have started using the word 'harbal' to boost their sale;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to take action against such producers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) No such case of use of the word 'herbal' by the producers of pan masala has been reported.

(c) and (d) Standards of pan masala prescribed under P.F.A. Rules, 1955 already permit use of ingredients derived from plant products like Detelnut, Coconut, Catechu, Cardamom, Dry fruits, Mulethi, Sabermusa and other aromatic herbs and spices.

[English]

Supply of Water by DVC

3386. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the DVC has stopped supplying water for irrigation purpose to West Bengal due to non-payment of dues and as such the Boro Cultivation is suffering; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The water is released in accordance with the indents placed by the Government of West Bengal and payment of dues is not a precondition for the release of irrigation water.

Release or Irrigation water from DVC reservoirs is decided by the Damodar Valley Reservoir Regulation Committee (DVRRC) comprising representatives of Government of West Bengal, Government of Bihar, Central Water Commission (CWC) and Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), taking into account the availability of water.

Bofors Deal

3387. LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the then Chief of the Army Staff had recommended the cancellation of the Bofors contract after it became evident that bribes had been paid in the Bofors deal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) and (b) The then Chief of Army Staff was requested to give his assessment of the implications of cancellation of the Bofors contract in June, 1987, on receipt of report of the Swedish Audit Bureau about the payment of winding up charges by Bofors. The communication received from the then Chief of Army Staff expressed the view that the threat of cancellation of the contract could be used, if necessary, to compel Bofors to provide full information regarding the alleged payment of moneys. It also stated that although the cancellation of the contract would lead to a large void in the vital artillery support to field formations for 18 months to 2 years, he was prepared to live with it as a calculated risk. The COAS was requested to re-examine the matter comprehensively as it was felt that the note did not contain an evaluation of the precise security implications, the attendant risks and the relative strengths and weaknesses of potential adversaries during this period, in relation to probable threat scenarios. The second note, received from the then COAS on 15.7.1987, was, virtually, a verbatim copy of his first note.

Rice for Mid Day Meal Scheme

3388. SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the quota sanctioned to Assam of free rice being supplied under the Government's Mid-day Meal Scheme for school children for the year 1996-97;

(b) the quantity despatched and the quantity lifted out of it from FCI godowns by the State Government during the current year so far;

(c) whether the State Government has failed to lift the full monthly quota from time to time during this period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAikia) :

(a) Under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, popularly known as Mid-day Meal Scheme, the State of Assam has been allocated 62,815 metric tonnes of foodgrains (rice) for the year 1996-97.

(b) According to information furnished by the Food Corporation of India, the State Government has lifted 16,885 metric tonnes of rice upto February, 1997.

(c) and (d) A statement giving information furnished by Food Corporation of India regarding monthly lifting of foodgrains in Assam during 1996-97 is enclosed.

Statement

ALLOTMENT	(Figures in Metric Tonnes)
Total for the Year 1996-97	62,815
LIFTING	
April, 1996	Nil
May, 1996	Nil
June, 1996	297
July, 1996	781
August, 1996	2,969
September, 1996	3,144
October, 1996	2,644
November, 1996	2,791
December, 1996	1,081
January, 1997	1,841
February, 1997	1,337
Total :	16,885

Canal from Sankosh River

3389. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for construction of a canal from Sankosh River to Ganges in West Bengal for regular augmentation of water and better flow of water in Calcutta Port has been received by the Government for clearance;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Canal water will create the environmental problem;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Detailed Project Report has been prepared by the Central Water Commission which envisages construction of dams across the river Sankosh for generation of power of 4060 MW. The regulated discharge is also proposed for irrigation and other purposes in Bihar and West Bengal territory through a gravity canal upto Teesta Barrage pond.

(b) to (d) Environment Impact Studies have been carried out by Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) and the final report is under examination by the Central Water Commission. Ministry of Environment and Forest would be approached for further examination before seeking investment clearance for the canal component which is in the Indian territory.

[Translation]

Proposal for River Bridges

3390. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals pertaining to construction of bridges over the rivers particulars in Uttar Pradesh which are under the consideration of the Government; and

(b) by when these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) As per Annual Plan 1996-97, the following two proposals, relating to bridges on National Highway network in U.P., are under consideration :

S.No.	Name	No. of National Highway
1.	Anoopshahar Branch Canal, Km. 77	NH-2
2.	Pili Nadi Km. 191	NH-56

Technical details of these proposals are under finalisation.

[English]

National Security Problem

3391. SHRI L. RAMANA :

SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the long term comprehensive approach proposed to the National security problems in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : Government continually assess possible threats to national security and ensure the maintenance of adequate defence preparedness.

[Translation]

National Commission for Women

3392. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Women has emphasised the need of including women and children in the Ninth Five Year Plan as a policy matter and has urged the Government to formulate schemes for women and children to save the children from malnutrition and for child care;

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

(c) the names of the schemes included or proposed to be included in the Ninth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[English]

Dredging Corporation of India

3393. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the present area of operation of the Dredging Corporation of India;

(b) the funds allocated for it by the Government year-wise since its incorporation;

(c) the number and type of dredgers in its possession;

(d) the number of dredgers in operation in different National Waterways; and

(e) the details of the proposals for making the National waterways No. 2 fully navigable, to be undertaken during Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Capital and Maintenance Dredging for all Major, Intermediate Ports, Fishing Harbours, Indian Navy, Shipyards and Inland Waterways.

(b) Information is as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)				
Year	Towards Share Capital	Working Capital Loan	Long Term Loan	Remarks
1975-76	1984.00	54.81	391.51	Loan fully Repaid
1976-77	-	-	1179.31	Loan fully Repaid
1977-78	816.00	-	934.96	Loan fully Repaid
1978-79	-	-	16.70	Loan fully Repaid
1983-84	-	-	719.00	Loan fully Repaid
1993-94	-	-	2650.00	Rs. 650 lakhs Repaid by 1995-96, as scheduled. No payments are overdue.
2800.00				

Notes

- The amounts indicated against the years 1975-76, 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79 (except for Rs. 54.81 lakhs for working capital, which was paid in cash) are book adjustments against value of assets (Dredgers) transferred by the Government of India to Dredging Corporation of India. The amounts indicated against 1983-84 and 1993-94 were paid to DCI in the form of cash.
 - 1.44% of the paid-up share capital was disinvested in 1991-92, and the Government continues to hold the remaining 98.56% in Dredging Corporation of India's share capital.
- (c) (i) Ocean going trailer Suction Hopper Dredgers - 7 Nos.
(ii) Highpower Cutter Suction Dredgers - 2 Nos.
(iii) Inland Dredgers - 3 Nos.
- (d) None at present.
- (e) Under 9th Plan proposals, an allocation of Rs. 110 crores as given below, for the development of National Waterways No. 2 has been proposed.

(Rs. in Crores)	
Fairway Development	53.00
Terminal	29.00
Navigational Aids	10.00
Organisation	5.00
Others	13.00
Total	110.00

Under fairway development, provision of Rs. 17 crores is included for procurement of one Cutter Suction Dredger and two Water Injection Dredgers. The fairway development activity also includes expenditure on year to year maintenance dredging on National Waterways No. 2.

The development works on National Waterways No. 2 will be implemented depending upon the availability of funds during the plan period.

Formulation of Concept Plan by IIT, Delhi

3394. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi had formulated a Concept Plan about 3-4 years ago which was approved by its Senate and Board of Governors;

(b) if so, whether IIT Delhi has abandoned the Concept Plan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are contemplating to have another concept plan for IIT, Delhi; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (e) The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi had formulated a concept plan on Organisational Structure of the institute in 1990 and it has not been abandoned. The recommendations are implemented by the institute.

[Translation]

Japanese Cooperation in Management of Human Resource Development

3395. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to invite Japanese cooperation in the management of Human Resource Development and resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Government Doctors Foreign Trips

3396. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to impose restriction on Government doctors' going abroad for international conferences sponsored by multinational companies; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Institutions/Hospitals affiliated with this Ministry have been advised to discourage the practice of recommending doctors from attending International Seminars/Workshops/Conferences etc., where foreign hospitality, especially from the private pharmaceutical companies is involved. This has been done with the view to ensure that the doctors are not influenced in their decisions relating to purchase and use of medical equipment, pharmaceuticals etc. and maintain objectivity in the interest of the institution they serve.

Universities

3397. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of universities functioning in the country at present, alongwith the average number of students during Eighth Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the number of degree colleges functioning in the country during Eighth Plan as approved by UGC and number out of them functioning without Science faculty, Science Honours courses, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

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

Utilisation of Waterways

3398. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have found out the possibility of developing long waterways in the country;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact only 8.9 percent of the total waterways is being utilised;

(d) if not, the estimate of the Government in this regard;

(e) whether only 3 per cent of total cargo transportation of the country is being undertaken by waterways; and

(f) if not, the facts in this regard and the scheme of the Government for encouraging the use of waterways?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Three waterways, the Ganga, the Brahmaputra and the West Coast Canal have been declared as National Waterways where navigational developmental activities are in progress. These waterways have a combined length of 2716 Kms. Techno-Economic studies on other potential waterways have also been carried out and their development would be taken up depending on availability or resources.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The National Waterways, Sunderbans, Goa rivers, Tapti, Mahanadi Delta, Godavari are presently being utilised by mechanically propelled vessels, total length of which would account for about 3000 kms. This would account for more than 8.9% of the total waterways. Exact details on percentage and statistics in this regard are not presently available.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Indian Territory under the possession of Pakistan

3399. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) total area of India (in sq. kms.) illegally occupied by Pakistan, State-wise and sector-wise separately, since independence; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for taking back the Indian territory from Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Pakistan is in illegal occupation of Indian territory in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The area under Pakistan's occupation is approximately 78,000 sq. kms. In addition, Pakistan has illegally ceded approximately 5,120 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Pakistan occupied Kashmir to China under the so-called Sino-Pak 'boundary agreement' of 1963.

(b) Government are committed to the Simla Agreement under which all differences with Pakistan are to be resolved peacefully through bilateral negotiations.

Firing by Pakistani Troops

3400. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the incidents of firing by Pakistani troops on various points along the line of control are increasing;
- (b) if so, whether due to these incidents of firing, the farmers are not able to carry out farming in these areas; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Unprovoked firing by Pakistani troops across the Line of Control and International Border in Jammu and Kashmir is a recurring phenomenon. There has been no significant change in the firing incidents along the Line of Control. At times these incidents of firing do affect the normal life of people living in border areas, including farming activity. However, such disruptions are generally localised, and temporary.

[Translation]

Research Work on Vedic Mathematics

3401. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH :
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to start research work on 'Vedic Mathematics' in universities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the grants provided by the Government for research work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

World Bank Aid for Cataract Control

3402. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total amount of World Bank aid received for the control of cataract during Eighth plan period;

(b) whether the major portion of this aid has not been utilised for the purpose for which it was given;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action the Government propose to take for complete utilisation of the World Bank aid for that purpose;

(d) the States where the above project is being implemented;

(e) whether the project has been implemented in Orissa also; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Cataract Blindness Control Project at a total outlay of Rs. 554.36 crores is being implemented with World Bank assistance over the period 1994 to 2001. The World Bank provides assistance on the basis of reimbursement and in this project about 89% of the total cost is reimbursable by the World Bank.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) World Bank Assisted Cataract Blindness Control Project is being implemented in 7 States namely Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) World Bank Assisted Cataract Blindness Control Project is being implemented in Orissa since April, 1994 and the details of funds released and cataract operations performed in Orissa are as under :

Year	Funds released by Govt. of India	No. of cataract operations performed (Rs. in lakhs)
1994-95	91.58	40536
1995-96	236.76	46835
1996-97	54.25	39980
		(upto Jan., 1997)

[Translation]

Child Development Schemes in Bihar

3403. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places where child development schemes are being run in Bihar by UNICEF and Union Government; and

(b) the places in Bihar particularly in Saharsa, Madhepura and Supaul districts where child development schemes are likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Transport Facilities between India and Bangladesh

3404. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to create transport facilities between North-Eastern States and rest of the country through Bangladesh roadways; and

(b) the response of the Bangladesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) The question of transit facilities, including road transport, through Bangladesh, to provide transportation link between the North-Eastern States of India and rest of the country, has been raised on many occasions with the Government of Bangladesh. The subject remains under discussion between the two Governments.

[Translation]

Survey by ASI

3405. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in the country in which surveys have been conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India during the last three years;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the number of villages in Gujarat where surveys have been conducted and the details of items found there?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) During the last three years two thousand three hundred sixty three villages have been surveyed by the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) State-wise details are given in the Statement-I.

(c) the number of villages surveyed in Gujarat is fifty four. The details of items found at these sites are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of the Number of Villages Surveyed State-wise

S.No.	Name of the State	Number of Villages Surveyed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32
2.	Bihar	415
3.	Goa	3
4.	Gujarat	54
5.	Haryana	187
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	10
8.	Karnataka	352
9.	Kerala	2
10.	Madhya Pradesh	133
11.	Maharashtra	59
12.	Orissa	67
13.	Rajasthan	6
14.	Tamilnadu	108
15.	Uttar Pradesh	715
16.	West Bengal	209
Total		= 2363

Statement-II

Details of Villages Surveyed in Gujarat

S.No.	Name of Surveyed Villages	Details of Items found at these Sites
1	2	3
1.	Bhatsan	Sculptures of Durga Shiva-Parvati of Medieval period.
2.	Hanumanpura	Sculpture of Jain Tirthankar.
3.	Lorwada	Sculptures of Ganesh, Durga, Siva of Medieval period.
4.	Malgad	Microliths.
5.	Rasana	Sculptures of Vishnu, Siva Bhairava of Medieval period.
6.	Samadi	Remains of Siva-Temple of Medieval period.
7.	Velaval	Sculptures of Ganesh and Brahma Medieval period.
8.	Wedaval	Medieval period site.
9.	Fategad	Sculptures of Ganesh, Siva Durga, Apsara of Medieval period.

1	2	3
10.	Jamuna Padar	Habitational site of Medieval period.
11.	Raner	Sculptures of Ganesha, Vishnu, Siva of Medieval period.
12.	Aida	Medieval period site.
13.	Akri Moti	Medieval period sites with red ware pottery, black painted redware, T.C. objects, stone objects.
14.	Cholae	Medieval site with pottery.
15.	Hothi	Medieval period pottery mainly red ware.
16.	Makada	Chattri and Hero stones of Medieval period.
17.	Motibeg	-do-
18.	Padar Wadi	Early Medieval period site with pottery.
19.	Thumri	Painted red ware T.C. objects from Medieval period site.
20.	Wadasar	13 Chhatris of late Medieval period dilapidated Temple of late Medieval period
21.	Bhitali	Microliths.
22.	Guner	Late Medieval period.
23.	Jara	Hero stones of late medieval period.
24.	Kora	Microliths, copper coins and pottery of medieval period site.
25.	Lakhapur	Siva temple 15th-16th century A.D.
26.	Nara	Five hero stones of late medieval period. Fort of late medieval period. Two sculptures of Dwarpalak sculptures of Bhairav, Mahisasuramardini, two elephants at the entrance of the fort.
27.	Umrasan	Factory site of Microliths.
28.	Ludbay	Late medieval period site with pottery.
29.	Muru	Microliths, Late Harappan potteries, Temple remains and three Hero stones of Late Medieval period.
30.	Walka	Potteries of late medieval period.
31.	Umata	Remains of 11th-12th century A.D. Jain temple.
32.	Tejgadh	Rock paintings belonging to the late medieval period.

1	2	3
33.	Dohad	Remains of Siva Temple dated 12th century A.D.
34.	Devadarbar	Temple remains and sculptures of 15th century A.D.
35.	Tana	Islamic inscription of late medieval period, wooden carving of early 19th century A.D.
36.	Gadha	Sculptures of 15th century A.D.
37.	Khodala	Hero stones
38.	Adgam	Temple remains of 13th century A.D.
39.	Kanakapur	Hero stones.
40.	Ganeshpur	Potsherds of Medieval period.
41.	Shivarajpur	Medieval habitation site.
42.	Kunvada	Medieval period temple remains.
43.	Indrapuri	Medieval period temple remains.
44.	Shehra	Late medieval period habitation site.
45.	Jher	Microliths.
46.	Panchamuhi	Microliths.
47.	Devdi	Microliths.
48.	Hap	Medieval.
49.	Turkhera	Microliths.
50.	Antras	Microliths.
51.	Kodada	Microliths.
52.	Kamrej	Early historic habitation site.
53.	Bhutokiyan	Late Medieval habitation site.
54.	Kanmer	Harappan and Late Harappan site.

[English]

Issuance of Passport

3406. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :
SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that several applicants do not get their Passport from passport office in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of applications pending at the end of December, 1996 in each of the passport offices, separately;

(d) whether steps have been taken for speedy disposal of pending applications;

(e) whether the Government propose to open some more passport offices in the country for the speedy disposal of pending applications; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delay in issue of passports is normally due to reasons such as receipt of negative or incomplete reports from concerned police authorities, discrepancies in documents submitted by applicants particularly in respect of applications received by post, lack of response from applicants who are asked to submit additional documents.

(c) A statement is attached.

(d) The Government are committed to streamline the working of Passport offices for expeditious issue of passports by augmentation of staff strength, upgradation of office facilities including computerisation, review of systems and procedures in order to reduce delays, regular inspection of Passport Offices and follow up action.

(e) and (f) The opening of new Passport Offices is based on certain parameters such as the location of existing Passport Offices, inflow of applications from a particular region in the context of the recommendations of the Standing Committee of Parliament for External Affairs that there must be at least 50,000 applications per annum from an area for a new Passport Office to be opened. At present, there is no proposal to open any new Passport office, besides the new offices at Vishakhapatnam, Ghaziabad, Pune and Thane.

Statement

S.No. Office		Total Pendency as on 31-12-1996
1	2	3
1.	Ahmedabad	16049
2.	Bangalore	6600
3.	Bareilly	5497
4.	Bhopal	3185
5.	Bhubaneshwar	3725
6.	Bombay	13217
7.	Calcutta	11578
8.	Chandigarh	10923
9.	Cochin	7914

1	2	3
10.	Delhi	19455
11.	Goa	713
12.	Guwahati	3128
13.	Hyderabad	30156
14.	Jaipur	8600
15.	Jalandhar	11069
16.	Kozhikode	22368
17.	Lucknow	24311
18.	Chennai	18233
19.	Nagpur	1457
20.	Patna	9245
21.	Trichy	22769
22.	Trivandrum	11590
23.	Jammu	13131
		274913

Shortage of Eye Specialists

3407. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that one out of five visually handicapped people in the world live in India and in more than four-fifths of these cases, blindness could have been avoided, say experts;

(b) whether there is a shortage of eye specialists in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are about 8000 Eye Specialists in the country who are providing eye health care services in the country.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

New Ports

3408. SHRI K. KANDASAMY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open new ports in the country in near future; and

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir, there is no proposal to open new ports in Central Sector. The State Governments are free to grant permission to open new ports either under the public investment programme or through private sector.

Generating Set for Hydro Power Project

3409. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to procure/import or manufacture the generating sets and equipments to be installed for hydro power projects under the Sardar Sarovar Project;

(b) the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) the time by which installation was scheduled to be completed and how far the same has been delayed, indicating the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/propose to be taken to expedite the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) The Unilateral decision of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF), Japan to suspend the release of further instalment of loan after disbursement of first slice of Yen 2.85 billion in 1986 due to certain environmental considerations, created an empassé in the procurement of Turbo Generating Sets for River Bed Power House of Sardar Sarovar Project. The delivery of these equipments were originally scheduled between December, 1990 to June, 1994 and installation by August, 1995. However, to sort out the deadlock, several meetings were held at various levels, both in the State and in this Ministry with all concerned. On 13th November, 1996, a meeting of the Review Committee of Narmada Control Authority (RCNCA) was held. Accordingly, a negotiating team has already been set up by this Ministry to hold talks with M/s. Sumitomo Corporation, Japan, the suppliers of the TG Sets for the Project.

Aloka Palace, Mysore as Museum

3410. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Aloka Palace near Mysore is being used at present by the Chamarajendra Academy of Visual Arts;

(b) if so, whether the Government are giving any assistance to it;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government propose to set up a museum in Aloka Palace;

(d) if so, whether the Karnataka Government are willing to hand over the Palace for museum; and

(e) if so, the type of museum proposed to be set up in the Aloka Palace?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) As per information furnished by the Government of Karnataka,

Chamarajendra Academy of Visual Arts (CAVA), an Art Institution of Government of Karnataka has been in possession of Aloka Building near Mysore.

(b) The Government of Karnataka runs the Institution and financial assistance of Rs. 20 lakhs and Rs. 6.81 lakhs under Plan and Non-Plan respectively has been provided during 1996-97 by the Government of Karnataka.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Since Aloka Building is within the reserved forest area in Sy. No. 265 of Yelwala Village, Mysore Taluk, Mysore District, the Forest Dept. of Government of Karnataka in view of the Supreme Court Judgement in W.P. (Civil) 202/95 has taken an objection for non-forest activity there, and has insisted for the transfer of the said building to the forest Department, for their activities.

(e) Does not arise in view of the reply of part (c) of the question.

Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Karnataka

3411. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various projects and works taken up and completed by Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Karnataka during the last three years and till-date, year-wise;

(b) the plans, projects and proposals of the Nehru Yuvak Kendras for 1997-98, Kendra-wise;

(c) the sources of income of Nehru Yuvak Kendras to run the activities; and

(d) the base on which assistance is being provided to such Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Minority Communities in Sri Lanka

3412. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the ordeals faced by the minority communities in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) The Government are not aware of ordeals faced by all minority communities in Sri Lanka. However, Government are aware that continued conflict in some areas of Sri Lanka has created acute difficulties

for the people of that country, including in particular, the Sri Lankan Tamil minority community.

(c) The policy of the Government is consistent and well known. India has always stood for a peaceful political solution of this issue.

Security of Indians Abroad

3413. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the families of India Origin settled in foreign countries including Afghanistan have been targetted by soldiers/civilians in those countries during the last three years;

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

(c) the number of people of Indian origin whose houses have been looted and then were asked to leave the country and the number of people of Indian origin out of them have come back to India so far during the period;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to save the life and property of these people in those countries including Afghanistan; and

(e) the number of people of Indian origin who have come back to India after the eruption of disturbance in these countries including Afghanistan and the extent of assistance and facilities provided to them so far?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (e) The incidents of looting and attacks can be placed in two broad categories - one, where the overall law and order situation breaks down and civil war conditions arise in which case the population of Indian origin suffers as much as other foreign nationals, as indeed the local population also. The other situation arises where the Indian community is specifically targetted for some reason. So far as Indian origin population being affected in the first category is concerned, Government takes all possible measures to help them in their evacuation and subsequently makes efforts to get compensation payments on their behalf. Afghanistan comes in the first category. Similar disturbances also took place in Liberia and Sierra Leone during 1995-96 but there were no specific incidents of looting or harassment. Most Indian origin people from Liberia numbering about 250 were evacuated safely with the help of our Missions in Sierra Leone (Honorary Consul), Abidjan, Dakar and Accra. As for the second category, the Government have been taking up the matter strongly with the concerned authorities to get justice for the population of Indian origin residing abroad. The incidents which took place in Zambia, Kenya

and Uganda come under this category. Country-wise details are as under :

AFGHANISTAN

We have seen press reports stating that people of Indian origin in Afghanistan have been subjected to harassment in the recent past but we have not received any corroborative report on the subject from other sources. According to our records, the number of Afghans of Indian origin who have come to India in the last three years is as follows :

1994	-	1937
1995	-	515
1996	-	853

ZAMBIA

The Indian origin community in southern Zambian city of Livingstone became the target of widespread looting and violence in October-November, 1995 which appeared to have been provoked by allegations of "ritual murders" and had racial overtones. Government of India expressed its concern to the Government of Zambia and asked for appropriate measures to be taken to protect the lives and property of the Indian community. The Indian High Commissioner in Lusaka also kept in touch with the representatives of Indian community regarding their welfare. There is no information of any Indians having been asked to leave the country on account of these incidents or having returned to India on their own.

KENYA

The Chairman of the opposition party, Mr. Kenneth Matiba is reported to have called for expulsion of Asians from Kenya in April-May, 1996. Government of Kenya in fact defended the Asian community against the opposition's allegations. No specific indications or precise statistics are available of the incidents which may have occurred as a result of this controversy nor about the members of Indian community who may have returned to India in the wake of the controversy.

UGANDA

The Ugandan Immigration authorities raided the premises of various members of the Indian origin community as part of an ostensible drive against those working without work permits and relevant documents. 70 members of the Indian community were detained, 53 of which were released the same day and 10 were bailed out after a week and the remaining a few days later. Out High Commissioner in Kampala took up the matter with the Government of Uganda and expressed concern at the undue harassment and maltreatment meted out to the Indians who had been detained. No information is available on any of the Indians who have since been asked to leave Uganda or any of them who may have returned to India in the wake of the incident.

Many of the persons of Indian origin residing in developing countries, hold US, UK, Canada, etc.

passports and approach the concerned Governments for evacuation and other assistance. However, the Government remains vigilant and prepared to extend all required assistance to the people of Indian origin.

[Translation]

Shipping Activities in West Bengal

3414. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the shipping activities on port situated in West Bengal likely to be closed due to decrease in the level of water in the Ganga River;

(b) if not, the number of ships loaded and unloaded at that port during 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(c) the reasons for continuous decrease in water of Ganga and loading and unloading of ships thereof; and

(d) the scheme prepared by the Government for the development of this port?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The number of ships loaded and unloaded during 1995-96 and 1996-97 (April, 1996 to Feb., 1997) are given below :

	1995-96	1996-97 (April, 96 to Feb., 97)
Calcutta Dock	836	852
Haldia Dock	805	804

(c) The uneven distribution of flow during monsoon and non-monsoon periods of the year, constraints in storage development, and diversion of water for irrigation and other purposes during dry season without supported by storages cause decrease in flow.

(d) Calcutta Port Trust has prepared and number of capital river regulatory and dredging schemes which have been proposed for inclusion in 9th Plan.

Loading/Unloading on Ports

3415. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of major ports functioning in the country with locations thereof;

(b) whether loading and unloading on these port have been increased during the last three years;

(c) if so, the quantity of goods exported and imported through these ports during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(d) whether loading and unloading of goods in the said ports have decreased in the current year in comparison of last years; and

(e) if so, the names of such port and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : There are 11 Major Ports functioning in the country. The names of these Major Ports and their locations are given below :-

Calutta/Haldia	-	West Bengal
Paradip	-	Orissa
Visakhapatnam	-	Andhra Pradesh
Madras	-	Tamil Nadu
Tuticorin	-	Tamil Nadu
Cochin	-	Kerala
New Mangalore	-	Karnataka
Mormugao	-	Goa
Jawaharlal Nehru	-	Maharashtra
Bombay	-	Maharashtra
Kandla	-	Gujarat.

(b) and (c) The loading and unloading on these 11 Major Ports has increased during the last three years. The quantity of cargo exported and imported through these Major Ports during the financial years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are as under :-

Cargo traffic at Major Ports

(In million tonne)

Year	Import*	Export*	Total
1993-94	100.49	78.77	179.26
1994-95	113.92	83.34	197.26
1995-96	126.63	88.70	215.33

* Import and export figures include Coastal traffic also.

(d) No, Sir, The total traffic handled in 11 Major Ports in the first ten months of current financial year was 185.00 million tonnes as against the 175.81 million tonnes handled during the first ten months of the last financial year.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Infrastructural Facilities in Tripura University

3416. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Tripura has submitted any project for building up infrastructural facilities in Tripura University; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Department of Education had received a project proposal of Tripura University seeking one time special Central Assistance of Rs. 20.52 crore for construction of buildings for academic and administrative departments, development of infrastructural facilities for the University complex and extension of academic curriculum. The Department of Education do not provide financial assistance to the Universities directly. Development assistance to the Universities is provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Accordingly, the proposal of Tripura University has been forwarded to UGC for appropriate consideration.

Non-Alignment Movement

3417. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have expressed firm commitment to building and revive the Non-Alignment Movement as an instrument for promoting peace, disarmament and development and for creating a "just world order";

(b) if so, whether the Union Government is considering to revive the foreign policy and also revive the NAM; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) Non-alignment, implying independence of thought and autonomy of action, has been and remains a central element of our foreign policy. India, is committed to playing a constructive role, in cooperation with all other NAM countries, to enhance the role of the Movement. India would be hosting the XII Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries in New Delhi from April 7-8, 1997, which will inter-alia focus on the steps required for strengthening the Movement.

Compensation by United Nations

3418. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) have released funds towards compensation in respect of settlement of claims of Indians under 'B' category;

(b) if so, the quantum of the money and the number of claims for which the said funds have been released;

(c) whether any other Indian claims under other categories are still pending with the UNCC; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government to settle the claims of Indians and Indian companies by the UN Compensation Commission at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) have released US\$ 700,000 towards compensation in respect of 183 category "B" claims.

(c) The other claims filed by individuals, corporate bodies and Government of India fall in "A", "C", "D", "E" and "F" categories. Though some of the Indian claims in category "A" and category "C" have already been approved by the UNCC, no funds in their respect have been received so far. None of the Indian claims in categories "D", "E" and "F" has been approved by the UNCC so far.

(d) Government of India's role in settling these claims is that of a "facilitator". When the U.N. announced the setting up of the UN Compensation Commission, the Government of India had advertised it widely in the leading national dailies advising the people concerned to file their claims as per the UNCC format and by a certain date specified by the UNCC. The applications thus received were sent to the UNCC, Geneva through the Permanent Mission of India in Geneva.

It is exclusively for the UNCC to examine these claims and decide their admissibility and the amount of compensation which the claimant is entitled to. The Government of India have been maintaining close liaison with the UNCC. It has made adequate arrangements for quick disbursement of funds through four nationalised banks.

[Translation]

Konar Irrigation Project in Bihar

3419. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on Konar Irrigation project in Bokaro district of Bihar is in progress;

(b) if so, when the said project was under taken;

(c) the initial estimated cost as also the present estimated cost of the project;

(d) the sources from where funds have been mobilised for execution of the project and the quantum of funds received/released so far for this project; and

(e) the details of the progress made in the project and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Konar Irrigation Project is under construction since, 1979.

(c) The estimated cost of the project was Rs. 187.67 crores in 1988 against an initial estimated cost of Rs. 11.43 crores in 1971.

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs. 77.90 crores has been spent upto March, 1994 without creating any irrigation potential so far. The completion of the project will depend upon the priority attached to it by the State Government.

Reduction in Width of NHs

3420. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the width of National Highways from 30 mts. to 25 mts.; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Malaria Cases in Bihar

3421. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entire Bihar was in the grip of Malaria and almost 10,000 people died due to this disease;

(b) if so, whether malaria, kala-azar, jaundice and diarrhoea took the shape of an epidemic last year in this State which claimed 20,000 lives;

(c) whether the Bihar Government had made sufficient arrangements to deal with these diseases;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the entire Central fund was returned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) According to the figures available with the National Malaria Eradication Programme (NHEP) Authorities, there were 86 deaths due to Malaria and 666 deaths due to Kala-azar in Bihar during 1996. In respect of jaundice and diarrhoea also there has been no report of epidemic.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has advised the Bihar Government to strengthen the surveillance machinery, adhere to the prescribed spray schedule and fill up the vacant posts. The State Government had reported during 1996 of having undertaken spray operations and provided Chemotherapeutic treatment for treatment of malaria and kala-azar.

(e) No, Sir. Central assistance under National Eradication Programme and Kala-azar Control Programme is normally given in kind (Insecticides, Larvicides and Drugs). However, the allocation of DDT could not be fully utilised by the State Government during the last 2 years.

[English]

Bhimtangi Irrigation Project (Orissa)

3422. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3302 on December 16, 1996 and state :

(a) whether the Bhimtangi Irrigation Project in Orissa has been neglected;

(b) whether areas covered by this Irrigation Project have been affected as a result thereof;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government for well revival of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) There is no major, medium or minor irrigation project in Orissa named Bhimtangi Irrigation Project.

[Translation]

Mid-Day Meal Scheme in Maharashtra

3423. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that inferior quality/stale food is provided to the children under the mid day meal programme in the schools of Maharashtra as a result of which children suffer from vomiting and dysentery;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents occurred so far during this year; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government against the persons found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Under the National Programme of Nutritional support to Primary Education, commonly known as Mid-day Meal Scheme, Government of Maharashtra is distributing foodgrains (rice) to eligible children in Classes I to V. The beneficiaries are not given cooked or processed food. Hence the question of distribution of inferior quality or stale food to children under this scheme does not arise.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Sanskrit Schools and Colleges in Uttar Pradesh

3424. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Sanskrit schools/colleges in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of such schools and colleges which are recognised by the Boards/Universities and are conducting examinations for more than five years; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to promote Sanskrit in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Government have been promoting the Sanskrit Language in Uttar Pradesh as well as the rest of country through the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, Maharishi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Pratishthan, Ujjain, two Deemed Universities and the Central Plan Scheme of financial assistance to States/UTs. for the development of Sanskrit.

Progress of TLC and PLC Programmes

3425. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the States which have taken up Total Literacy Campaign and which have taken up Post Literacy Campaign Programme after completion of TLC; and

(b) the latest position of TLC and PLC, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) As of date Total Literacy Campaigns have been launched in 423 districts and Post Literacy Campaigns in 183 districts, throughout the country. A statement indicating the State-wise number of districts covered under TLCs/PLCs is enclosed statement.

Statement**TLC and PLC Programmes**

State/UT	Total No. of Distts.	Distts. covered under TLCs	Distts. covered under PLCs
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	23	23	22
Arunachal Pradesh	13	-	-

1	2	3	4
Assam	23	20	6
Bihar	55	32	6
Goa	2	2	-
Gujarat	19	19	18
Haryana	17	15	2
Himachal Pradesh	12	12	11
Jammu & Kashmir	14	5	-
Karnataka	20	20	16
Kerala	14	14	14
Madhya Pradesh	45	45	12
Maharashtra	31	31	13
Minipur	8	1	-
Meghalaya	7	6	-
Mizoram	3	-	-
Nagaland	7	-	-
Orissa	31	19	10
Punjab	17	11	2
Rajasthan	31	31	7
Sikkim	4	-	-
Tamil Nadu	29	23	18
Tripura	4	3	1
Uttar Pradesh	68	66	8
West Bengal	18	17	12
A&N Islands	2	-	-
Chandigarh	1	1	1
Dadra & N Haveli	1	1	-
Daman & Diu	2	1	-
Delhi	1	1	-
Lakshadweep	1	-	-
Pondicherry	4	4	4
Total :	527	423	183

[Translation]

Indo-Pak Relation

3426. SHRI ILYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is considering to send delegations of M.P.s., Journalists and Dignitaries to Pakistan to create harmony and fraternity among the citizens of the two countries and improve the situation further; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Government are actively encouraging a process of enhanced interaction between

academics, legislators, journalists, intellectuals and eminent personalities of India and Pakistan. Such interaction through bilateral visits would contribute to building a relationship of trust and friendship between the two countries.

Official Language Implementation Committee

3427. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian Embassies and Consulates, where Official Language Implementation committees have been constituted and functioning;

(b) the number of embassies where Hindi Officers, translators and Stenographers are working;

(c) the number of embassies where not a single Hindi Officers, or employee has been employed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the post of Hindi Officers remained vacant for quite a long time in embassies even if there was vacancy for it;

(f) whether it is a fact that his Ministry neglects the Official Language Act and yearly Hindi programmes, while our embassies neglect the official language; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (g) Out of total of 156 currently operative Missions/ Posts and other Offices abroad under the Ministry of External Affairs, the Official Language Implementation Committees have been constituted in 85 Indian Missions/Posts abroad and they are performing their prescribed functions.

There are two posts of Second Secretary (Hindi) in Port-of-Spain and Port Louis respectively. At present, posts of Attache (Hindi) are operative in Kathmandu, London and Paramaribo. 25 Indian Missions have been provided with Hindi Stenographers.

Designated posts of Hindi Officers have been provided in some Missions depending on their specific requirements and local conditions. In other places, suitable action is taken for promotion of Hindi in accordance with the local need and scope. In some countries, Hindi teachers are deputed from time to time under the bilateral agreements. Some Missions also organise Hindi Classes using suitably qualified members their staff or their families.

As regards appointments against the designated posts of Hindi Officials, immediate action is taken as and when a vacancy arises.

Like all other Government of India Offices, the Ministry of External Affairs and the Indian Missions and Posts abroad make all possible efforts to achieve the targets laid down in the Annual Programme for the implementation of the official language policy of the Government. Besides the designated Hindi Officers/ Teachers wherever required, the entire IFS (A) cadre and a majority of the other cadres of MEA possess working knowledge of Hindi. All possible avenues are explored to promote the use of Hindi. The question of neglecting the Official Language Act or the official language in any way does not arise.

[English]

Assistance to Madhya Pradesh under Mid Day Meal Scheme

3428. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are providing financial assistance to States for Mid-day meal scheme;

(b) if so, the allocations made and utilised in Madhya Pradesh during each of the last two years;

(c) whether complaints of corruption, adulteration, practical difficulties have been noticed; and

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to reassess the utility and practicality of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Under the National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, popularly known as Mid-day Meal Scheme, funds are released to the Food Corporation of India (FCI) which supplies foodgrains to the States/Union Territories including Madhya Pradesh.

According to information furnished by FCI, foodgrains allocated to Madhya Pradesh and lifted by the State during the last two years are as under :

Year	Allocation	Lifted (Metric tonnes)
1995-96	81,239	78,996
1996-97	1,78,317	1,05,374

(c) and (d) This Department has not received any complaint in this regard so far. However, according to information given by Government of Madhya Pradesh, complaints of non-provision of Mid day Meal have been noticed. In view of the financial and practical difficulties in providing hot cooked meals to children, State Government has decided to provide foodgrains to eligible children in 156 blocks covered under the scheme in 1996-97.

Involvement of Foreign Agencies in Family Planning Programmes

3429. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign agencies/volunteer agencies are participating in family planning programmes;

(b) if so, the names of such agencies in Madhya Pradesh and the amount of foreign money so far received by them;

(c) the guidelines laid down by these agencies;

(d) whether the Government are satisfied by their role particularly in the backward areas (remote areas) of Madhya Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (e) Cash and kind assistance is received for the National Family Welfare Programme from various external agencies.

World Bank assisted Area Project (IPP VI) at a total cost of Rs. 43.00 crores is being implemented throughout Madhya Pradesh from April, 1990. The State also received funds from DANIDA for Pulse Polio Immunization along with a few other States and under Child Survival and safe Motherhood (CSSM) Programme being jointly founded by world Bank and UNICEF.

External Assistance is given for Family Welfare Projects which are in consonance with the objectives of the National Family Welfare Programme.

Export of Defence Equipments

3430. SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are exporting defence equipments; and

(b) if so, the quantum of foreign exchange earned due to exports during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The value of direct defence exports (excluding deemed export) achieved by Ordinance Factories and defence public sector undertakings during the last three years is as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

1993-94	124.33
1994-95	76.25
1995-96	96.00

Adult Education

3431. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated and utilised under the Adult Education programme during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the allocation for 1997-98; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) No State-wise financial allocations are made under the Adult Education Programme. The funds are released to the various Organisations, Zilla Saksharata Samitis and to the States as approved for the schemes/campaigns. The funds are required to be utilised in accordance with the terms and conditions governing these schemes/literacy campaigns. A statement showing state-wise break-up of funds spent during the last two years is attached.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Statement

Amount spent for Adult Education

(Rupees in Lakhs)

S.No.	State/U.T.	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1370.68	884.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	71.56	25.63
3.	Assam	1159.04	361.09
4.	Bihar	1628.87	1977.84
5.	Goa	11.59	5.95
6.	Gujarat	884.50	262.98
7.	Haryana	243.01	175.31
8.	Himachal Pradesh	109.15	26.43
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	190.40	132.70
10.	Karnataka	1041.84	319.58
11.	Kerala	57.32	7.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2821.52	977.67
13.	Maharashtra	1024.55	1153.63
14.	Manipur	72.67	17.62
15.	Meghalaya	29.08	127.74
16.	Mizoram	16.42	1.29
17.	Nagaland	39.73	47.81

1	2	3	4
18.	Orissa	606.36	801.36
19.	Punjab	277.61	370.34
20.	Rajasthan	1745.00	1681.76
21.	Sikkim	11.22	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	1594.58	1212.48
23.	Tripura	6.77	0.10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2505.58	889.01
25.	West Bengal	1583.69	308.40
26.	Chandigarh	25.62	20.12
27.	Delhi	120.77	322.58
28.	Pondicherry	-	-
29.	Daman & Diu	0.56	0.56
30.	Andaman & Nicobar	12.15	8.12
31.	Dadra & N Haveli	0.83	-
32.	Lakshadweep	7.41	1.62
33.	All India Level Organisations	537.77	-
34.	Central Government Level	843.41	-
Total :		20951.26	12121.93

NHs to Private Sector in Karnataka

3432. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have entrusted any work relating to National Highways and bridges in Karnataka to private sector during 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the names of parties to whom the said works were entrusted with terms and conditions?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Kala-Azar

3433. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases relating to kala-Azar that have been reported in various states so far during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to take measures to provide proper treatment to the patients suffering from Kala-Azar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The requisite information about number of cases relating to Kala-azar State-wise is given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) Injection Sodium Stibo Gluconate (SSG) and Pantamidine Isethionate are procured by the Directorate of NMEP for treatment of Kala-azar cases. SSG is given as first line of treatment and Pantamidine Isethionate is administered in cases unresponsive to first line of treatment. Under Kala-Azar. Control Programme, the Central Government supplies drugs and insecticides to the Kala-azar endemic states. The State Governments meet the operational cost for implementation of the Programme. The strategies adopted for control of Kala-azar include :-

- Residual insecticidal spraying in the affected areas to interrupt transmission through vector control
- Early detection and complete treatment through Primary Health Care System;
- Health Education and Community Participation.

Statement

S.No.	State	1994		1995		1996 (Prov)	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1.	Bihar	24391	379	21045	259	24665	666
2.	Delhi	55*	1*	13*	0	-	-
3.	Uttar Pradesh	57	1	15	-	-	-
4.	West Bengal	1149	3	1552	18	1520	11

Note :

1. * = Imported from Bihar

2. - = Nil.

[English]

International Seminar on Education

3434. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any International Seminar had been organised in Delhi during the month of July 1996 to make the school education more effective;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the suggestions made in the Seminar; and

(d) the steps taken to implement those suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An International Seminar on "School Effectiveness and Classroom Processes at Primary Stage" was organised by the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) at New Delhi from 24-26 July, 1996 under the auspices of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP). International and Indian Scholars shared the outcomes of their research studies and presented papers on various aspects of classroom processes, including teacher behaviour, curriculum and other related issues.

(c) The significant suggestions include the importance of teachers' empowerment and encouragement of teachers to undertake action research for identification of problems related to classroom processes with particular focus on the needs of disadvantaged groups, in service training to teachers, grant of incentives to teachers, strengthening of interface amongst schools, community and educational planners, synergy between the teachers, policy planners/administrators and researchers, professional development of teachers, and their greater participation for achieving the goal of universalisation of elementary education.

(d) The participants including educationists, researchers, policy makers have been sensitized to make use of the suggestions. The presentations and recommendations made during the seminar have been documented for wide circulation to enable the educational researchers, practising teachers, programme managers and policy planners etc., to formulate action points and suitable interventions to bring about appropriate solution to the various problems.

[Translation]

Medical Facilities

3435. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :

SHRI G.M. KUNTURKAR :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Dakhila Nahin Milane

se Gambhir Marij Khule Main Ratain Katne Ko Majboor' appearing in 'Jansatta' dated December 24, 1996;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to make available sophisticated medical equipments and treatment in Dr. Ram Mnohar Lohia and Safdarjang Hospitals like All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the number of such hospitals/medical colleges in the country which have medical facilities/sophisticated medical equipments equivalent to that of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi a patient, Wasim Ahmed IRCH No. No. 41006 was first diagnosed on 26.6.96 as Hodgkin's Disease. The patient was given Chemotherapy. The patient relapsed in December, 1996 but due to non-availability of bed, the patient could be admitted only on 8.1.97. He is died the same evening from relapse of the disease and its complications.

(c) Central Government hospitals and AIIMS have been directed not to refuse admission to any patient who is in a critical state and to see that arrangements are made in another hospital before any patient is moved in a serious condition. Facilities for dharmashalas etc. exist and improvements are carried out within the resources available.

(d) and (e) Modernisation for better patient care is a continuous process. New facilities are provided in the Central Government Hospitals from time to time including purchase of sophisticated equipment like C.T. Scan, Ultrasound and strengthening of emergencies and intensive care unit.

(f) The Government have no such records.

Iodised Salt

3436. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any research or study had been undertaken by Indian Council of Medical Research regarding Iodine contents is depleted on keeping the polythene bag in sunlight;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity of Iodine required for each individual every day; and

(d) the members proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The quantity of iodine required for each individual for normal growth and development is 100-150 micrograms per day.

(d) The Government is implementing the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme. The main components of the Programme are :-

- a. Universal iodisation of salt.
- b. Establishment of IDD Control Cell in States and Union Territories.
- c. Publicity and health education.
- d. Establishment of IDD Monitoring Laboratory; and
- e. Monitoring the quality of iodised salt.

Sale of edible non-iodised salt has also been completely banned in all States/Union Territories except in Kerala, Goa, and Union Territory of Pondicherry and partially in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.

By passes in Rajasthan

3437. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of bypasses constructed on national highways passing through Rajasthan with locations thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct more bypasses in the State; and

(c) if so, the details with locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) In addition to 12 bypasses already constructed on National Highway Nos. 8, 11, 12, 14 and 15, the construction of 5 bypasses on National Highway Nos. 8, 11 and 12 is in progress in the Rajasthan State.

(b) and (c) The 9th Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

[*English*]

Illegal Emigration from Thiruvananthapuram

3438. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of illegal emigration of Afghans, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans etc. have come to the notice of Government from International Airport of Thiruvananthapuram;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) measures taken by the Government to put an end to this kind of illegal practice?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) The information is being obtained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign Investment for NHs

3439. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign investments are sought for the expansion of National Highways in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Some 2000 kms. of four laning of existing two lane National Highways which are financially viable and bankable are being proposed for private investment, both domestic and foreign.

[*Translation*]

Subernarekha Multi-Purpose Project

3440. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to suspension of work Subernarekha multi-purpose Irrigation Project, the tribal districts of Southern Bihar have been adversely affected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the suspension of work; and

(c) the efforts made by the Government to re-start the work on the above project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Subernarekha Multipurpose Project of Bihar was accepted by the Technical Advisory Committee in December, 1992 subject to clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Welfare and obtaining concurrence from State Finance Department. As clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests and Welfare Ministry has not yet been obtained by the State Government, the Planning Commission has not given investment clearance to the project.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

NHs in Gujarat

3441. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the year in which the latest National Highway was constructed in Gujarat; and

(b) the current length-wise states of National Highways at present in the State?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) National Highway No. 14 from Beawar to Radhanpur was added to the National Highways network in the year 1989.

(b) The details are as under :

NH No.	Name	Length in km.
8	Delhi-Ahmedabad-Bombay Road	498
8A	Ahmedabad-Kandla Port Road	378
8B	Porbandar-Rajkot-Bamanbore Road	206
8C	Chiloda-Sarkhej Road	46
14	Beawar-Abu Road-Palanpur-Radhanpur Road	140
15	Pathankot-Bikaner-Radhanpur-Samkhiyali Road	270
E-1	Expressway (under construction)	93
Grand Total		1631

Kandla Port Trust Area

3442. SHRI CHANDUBHAI DESHMUKH :
SHRI N.J. RATHWA :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received some proposals from the Revenue Department of Gujarat Government in regard to handing over of the lands of Kandla Port Trust Area to the State Government during the last three years and till date;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of such proposals received till date during the aforesaid period;

(c) the year-wise number of proposals out of these accepted/under consideration/lying pending with the Government;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these proposal are likely to be accepted and the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir. No proposal has been received from the Revenue Department of Gujarat Government in regard to handing over of the lands of Kandla Port Trust Area to the State Government during the last three calendar years.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Mahila Vikas Nigam

3443. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mahila Vikas Nigams have been set up in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of districts where these Nigams have been set up; and

(c) the works undertaken by these Nigams so far, Nigam-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMALI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bihar State Women Development Corporation and the Madhya Pradesh Mahila Arthik Vikas Nigam are working in the entire state of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh respectively.

(c) The works undertaken by the Bihar State Women Development Corporation so far are;

(i) The Corporation has so far given margin money assistance to 444 Women totalling Rs. 5,06,836/-. Besides, a Training-cum-Production Centre for Handloom sari and bags was organised at Deoghar and at Bansjora a tassar weaving and reeling centre is being run presently.

(ii) Every year on the occasion of the International Women's Day a "Mahila Samridhhi Utsav" is organised in which sale of articles produced by women and women groups, exhibition, daily workshops, cultural programmes and free medical check-up camps are also organised.

The works undertaken by the Madhya Pradesh Mahila Arthik Vikas Nigam so far are :

(i) Implementing GRAMYA scheme under which women desirous of undertaking small business are given an interest-free loan of Rs. 500/- by the Nigam. Nigam has already extended loans to more than 53,000 women beneficiaries.

(ii) Implementing PHOTOCOPIER MACHINE sheme under which women setting up a photocopier machine through Bank loan are given a subsidy of 10% not exceeding Rs. 10,000/-

(iii) Implementing SAMARTH scheme under which training expenses in recognized institutions of widowed, divorced and deserted women are borne by the Nigam.

- (iv) Implementing TYPING TRAINING schemes under which free training with stipend is imparted to women in District Headquarters and other bigger towns of the State.
- (v) Implementation of NORAD schemes like Computer Training assigned to the Nigam.
- (vi) Nodal Agency for Rashtriya Mahila Kosh.
- (vii) Implementation Agency for STEP project.
- (viii) Implementing agency of World Bank-IFAD funded Centrally sponsored Rural Women's Development and Empowerment Programme for 6 districts (Hoshangabad, Dewas, Sehore, Betul, Tikamgarh and Chhatarpur) of the State.
- (ix) Arranging sale of goods produced by DWCRA groups by holding Mela.
- (x) Organising training of women for income generating activities.

[English]

Logo Marks

3444. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :
DR. A.K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have allotted "Logo" marks for the services such as family planning Logo etc;
- (b) whether there is no such mark for private and Government hospitals throughout the country;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to take steps to standardise a special logo mark known as charter mark for the hospitals both in public and private throughout the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Logo mark for Family Planning Services is the inverted red triangle. A logo has also been introduced for the Pulse Polio Immunisation Programme.

(b) There are no specific Logo marks for Government or private hospitals. However, the 'Red Cross' is generally used for identification of a hospital.

(c) to (e) The charter for improvement in hospitals services is at various stages of formulation and implementation. No decision relating to a separate logo mark for hospitals has been taken.

[Translation]

Death of Children due to Diseases

3445. SHRI LALIT ORAON : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of children who annually die due to diseases of T.B., polio, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and measles;
- (b) whether the figures of death of children due to these diseases in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh are alarming;
- (c) the reasons for not succeeding in reducing the death rate of children, inspite of various national immunisation programmes launched by the Government;
- (d) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for effective implementation of these programmes so that death rate among children could be reduced;
- (e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per the Central Bureau of Health Intelligence, the provisional total number of deaths in 1996 due to T.B., Polio, Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus (including neonatal tetanus) and measles were 4834, 27, 61, 13, 823 and 180 respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The 0-4 years mortality rate in children has declined from 41.2 per 1000 in 1984 to 23.7 in 1993 as per Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India.

(d) to (f) The Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme has been implemented since 1992 to reduce the death rate among child children. Interventions to reduce child deaths will be continued in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Promotion of Lecturers in PGI Hospital

3446. SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether increment has not been given to some Lecturers in Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Chandigarh since 1993;
- (b) whether some lecturers out of them have not been promoted though they are eligible for promotion for the last two years;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to promote these lecturers and to give them annual increment soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) The post of Lecturer does not exist in the Medical/non-Medical faculty cadre at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh. However, the posts of Lecturers exist in the College of Nursing and Medical Technology for teaching of B.Sc/M.Sc (Nursing)/ (Medical Technology) students. No increment has been withheld of any of the Lecturers working at PGIMER, Chandigarh. Since there is no other higher post in the cadre, the question of not promoting eligible Lecturers for the last 2 years does not arise.

[English]

Bridges in A.P.

3447. SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals for construction of new bridges on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh pending with the Union Government for approval; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Six numbers of proposals for construction of new bridges on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh, are at different stages of scrutiny.

Ashes of Netaji

3448. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposal to bring back the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Tokyo; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) No final view has been taken on this matter till now.

(b) Does not arise.

Bridges on N.H. 5 in Orissa

3449. SHRI ANCHAL DAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the carrying capacity and life of the river bridges over river Brahmani and Kharsrota on National Highway No. 5 between Cuttack and Balasore and average capacity being handled by each of the two bridges; and

(b) the steps taken to strengthen, widen and construct additional bridges on the said rivers on NH 5 in the aforesaid section?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Normal design life of a permanent bridge on a river is 50 years. The average traffic being handled by these bridges is 26931 PCU.

(b) There is no proposal either to strengthen and widen these bridges or to build additional bridges on these rivers in this section.

Madrasas in Jammu and Kashmir

3450. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) number of Madrasas working in Jammu and Kashmir run by Jamait Islami;

(b) whether these Madrasas are engaged in anti-national activities; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

Water for Daman and Diu

3451. SHRI GOPAL TANDEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhuban Dam was constructed on the border of Dadra and Nagar haveli (U.T.) in 1986 and completed by the Gujarat Government solely for the purpose of providing and sharing waters of Daman Gabga among Gujarat and Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman for drinking and irrigational purpose; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Gujarat Government and the Daman Administration in providing required share for irrigational purposes to the Union Territory of Daman when the people of Daman have been suffering on account of shortage of irrigation water?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. Madhuban Dam was completed in 1989. The canal system is at various stages of completion. Out of ultimate irrigation potential of 41,433 ha, 7114 ha and 3102 ha upto June, 1996; 24708 ha, 5844 ha and 1571 ha have been created in Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman, respectively.

The main constraints for completion of balance works are land acquisition problem and encroachments of canal lands by local people especially in Union Territory of Daman.

Development of Management Institutions

3452. SHRI RAJENDRA SINH RANA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of management institutions working in the direction of Indian Ethos and value systems, State-wise; and

(b) the steps, the Government taken so far to enhance the overall development of institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Management Education oriented towards Indian experiences and value system has been well emphasised in the National Policy on Education and the Programme of Action. Some institutes are working in this direction. The State-wise details however, are not available.

(b) In 1981 and in 1992 reviews of Indian Institutes of Management were conducted through expert committees and the recommendations were suitably acted upon. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has taken the following steps to improve the quality of management education in the country :-

- (i) Setting up of an All India Board of Management Studies;
- (ii) Development of Norms and Standards for approval of institutions.
- (iii) Periodic monitoring of institutions for compliance/fulfilment of conditions of approvals; and
- (iv) Encouraging a competitive environment through the process of accreditation by National Board of Accreditation.

Financial Incentives to Shipping Industry

3453. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated a package of financial incentives to be provided to shipping industry for ensuring healthy growth in the emerging competitive global scenario;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of financial investment proposed in the shipping sector both public and private separately during the current year and next three year; and

(d) the details of targets set for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) There is no financial incentive package provided by the Government to the shipping industry.

(c) and (d) Working Group on shipping set up by the Government has recommended acquisition of 3.7 million Gross Registered Tonnes (GRT) in Private and Public Sectors during the 9th Five Plan i.e. 1997-98 to 2001-2002 at an investment of Rs. 15,000/- crores (approx.) including investment of Rs. 5611/- crores by Shipping Corporation of India, a public sector shipping company. The tonnage target of the 8th plan (1992-93 to 1996-97) of reaching 7 million Gross Registered Tonne has already been achieved.

Mal-Functioning of Mid-day Meal Scheme

3454. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Accounts Committee has severely indicated the Orissa Government for large scale corruption and mal-functioning of the mid-day meal scheme;

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

(c) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted any explanations to the indictment by the PAC, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the names of State Governments which have not been implementing the mid day meal scheme properly and involved in corrupt practices;

(e) whether the Municipal Corporation of Delhi has invited tenders for the supply of "Monaco type" salted biscuits but purchased some other quality and not the Monaco type biscuits; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (f) Information is being collected and will be laid out on the Table of the Sabha.

Medical College in Tripura

3455. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Tripura Government to set up a medical college in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No proposal to set up a medical college under the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act, 1993 has been received from the Government of Tripura.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Indore-Ujjain Road

3456. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring the Indore-Ujjain-Ratlam-Banswara-Durgapur-Ahmedabad road route under new National Highway Scheme; and

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Accreditation to Journalists

3457. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether journalists are accredited by his Ministry separately;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of journalists allowed for press coverage of all the three armed forces during the last one year; and

(d) the norms prescribed for taking the journalists to various places for the press coverage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d) Accreditations given by Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting are considered valid by the Directorate of Public Relations (DPR), Ministry of Defence in Delhi. The Ministry of Defence do not issue any separate accreditation to correspondents/media persons. The branch offices of DPR accord recognition to accreditation given by the respective State Governments. Generally, open invitation to all media organisations are issued for coverage of the functions of the Ministry of Defence, subject to constraints of transportation, accommodation and space. As the Defence PROs are spread over 24 regional offices besides the headquarters in New Delhi, no centralised compilation of journalists taken on press parties is maintained.

[English]

Construction of Dam

3458. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that 'construct your Check dam' scheme has recently been launched by the Gujarat Government in Junagadh district;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme;

(c) the details of the irrigation capacity of the scheme;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to provide assistance to encourage similar schemes in other States also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Farmers, Non Government Organisations and donors can take part in this scheme as their own programme. Any farmer or village can select site for a Check Dam near-by in consultation with Water Resources Department officials, Government of Gujarat. Beneficiaries will deposit 10% of the estimated cost with any N.G.O. registered for the purpose by the Water Resources Department. The construction will start by N.G.O. utilising this 10% contribution. On spending this 10% amount by N.G.O., the Government of Gujarat will contribute the remaining 90% amount in three instalments as per the progress of the work. The completed Check Dam will be maintained by N.G.O. and farmers and used by the beneficiary farmers. Government of Gujarat will allocate 5% of the estimated cost for maintenance to NGO. Check Dams costing upto Rs. 15 lakh can be considered under this scheme. Any NGO or donor; who contributes 25% or more of estimated cost as contribution; can give his name to this Check Dam.

(c) Each Check Dam may benefit about 10 hectares of land in the vicinity.

(d) At present, there is no such proposal.

(e) Does not arise.

Casualties at Safdarjung Hospital

3459. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether accident victims brought to AIIMS Casualty Department are being refused admission and

are transferred/shifted in their ambulance to Safdarjung Hospital casualty;

(b) if so, the number of such cases including serious, emergency cases shifted to Safdarjung Hospital during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the number of cases of critically ill patients who died in the shifting process, during the above period;

(d) whether Casualty department of Safdarjung Hospital is provided with specialists and required equipment to save the critically ill patients by timely treatment;

(e) whether vital equipment like CT Scan, Ultra-sound etc., remain out of order in the Emergency Department and patients are advised to go to private institutions in critical stage, for their tests; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) All accident victims brought to AIIMS casualty are resuscitated at AIIMS Casualty and in the event of non-availability of beds are referred to other hospitals including the Safdarjung Hospital.

(b) The Institute maintains the copies of the record of medical advice in respect of the patients including those referred to Safdarjung Hospital or other Government Hospitals. But these figures are not compiled for statistical purpose. On an average 8-15 cases per day are referred from the Institute to Safdarjung Hospitals due to non-availability of beds in the Institute.

(c) The deaths during the transit of the patients from the Institute to other hospitals are not reported and thus records are not available. Such cases are rare because no critically ill/serious patient is referred to any other hospital before they are stabilised.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. On occasional instances when equipments are temporarily out of order, the patients are referred to other Government Hospitals.

[Translation]

Land-Route to Myanmar

3460. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are making efforts with Myanmar Government for providing facility of visa to Indian citizens for travelling by road to Myanmar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard keeping in view the close proximity of Indians with the people of Indian origin in Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d) The question of permitting travel by road into Myanmar had been taken up with authorities of that country. The Government of Myanmar have conveyed that at present overland movement by road is not feasible.

[English]

Privatisation of Education System

3461. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to Privatised Education System thereby allowing the private Entrepreneurs to open Universities, Engineering Colleges, Medical Colleges and other Technical Institutions;

(b) if so, the details of the policy of the Government and the time scheduled for the implementation of such policy;

(c) if not, whether the Government have any proposal to open University, Engineering Colleges and Medical Colleges in any part of the country to solve the disparities;

(d) whether the Government have received any proposal from the State of Orissa for opening a new University/Engineering/Medical Colleges; and

(e) if so, the steps, the Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) Privatisation connotes transfer of control, fully or partially, in respect of institutions or enterprises existing under the Government to private parties. Government has no intention to resort to privatisation. Establishment of Universities in the country require either a specific or general enabling legislation. A Bill entitled "The Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Bill, 1995" is pending consideration in the Rajya Sabha.

(d) and (e) A proposal to establish a Central University in Orissa was received. Central Advisory Board on Education had recommended that in view of severe constraints of financial resources, Government should exercise restraint in setting up more Central Universities.

Functioning of Navodaya Vidyalayas

3462. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a number of complaints about the functioning of Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action, the Government have taken thereon;

(c) the steps taken/proposed for revamping of functioning of Navodaya Vidyalayas;

(d) whether the Government propose to constitute a high level committee to look into the functioning of Navodaya Vidyalayas; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Some complaints about the functioning of Navodaya Vidyalayas have been received from time to time. These mainly relate to shortage of basic facilities such as electricity, water, play ground and accommodation at temporary site and quality of food. All such complaints are enquired into and appropriate remedial actions taken.

(c) Samiti has taken steps to speed up the construction work at permanent sites. For the Vidyalayas functioning at temporary sites, provision of all basic facilities like electricity, water accommodation etc. is arranged by the Samiti. Allocation on expenditure on boarding has been increased per child. Effective and closer monitoring is being done with a view to improve quality of food and remove other deficiencies.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Research Project of Asiatic Society

3463. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Asiatic Society of Calcutta, has sent a team to Moscow to carry out a research Project, on Indo-Russian relations;

(b) whether Institute of Oriental Studies, Moscow has worked in Collaboration with Asiatic society on this research project;

(c) whether the Asiatic Society have since returned after completion of their work in Moscow;

(d) whether the Asiatic Society have since submitted any report; and

(e) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Medical and Dental Colleges in U.P.

3464. SHRI RAMSAJEEVAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any applications from the U.P. Government for setting up of Vinayak Mission Medical and Dental College in Sitapur district;

(b) if so, whether the Medical Council of India has given its recommendations for setting up of both colleges; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in recommending the same despite fulfilling all the eligibility conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued essentiality certificate to Thirumuruga Kirupananda Variyar Thavathiru Sundra Swamigal Medical Education and Charitable Trust for establishment of a medical college and a dental college in Sitapur District.

(b) The Medical Council of India has recommended for issue of a letter of intent for setting up a medical college but also noted that there were deficiencies in appointment of staff and other necessary requirements. On the basis of the recommendations of the Dental Council of India, a letter of intent has been issued for establishment of a dental college.

(c) The recommendations of the Medical Council of India are under examination.

[English]

Ban on Benzene Hexa Chloride

3465. SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have announced ban on Benzene Hexa Chloride (BHC) insecticide in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Government have selected its substitute;

(c) the details of comparative cost of spraying the target population area with BHC and the selected substitute;

(d) the total additional cost outlay on Malaria Control Programme due to switch over to substitute insecticide; and

(c) whether the additional cost is justified in comparison with the risk involved in the continued use of BHC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Benzene Hexa Chloride (BHC) is a potential environmental pollutant due to which its continued use as an insecticide has been banned after 31st March, 1997.

The alternative insecticide under the Public Health Programme is mainly Malathion 25% wp in areas where mosquitoes are resistant to BHC and DDT. However, in general the reliance on insecticides is to be replaced by safer bio-environmental methods and by encouraging the community to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes through education, example and deterrent measures where necessary.

(c) As per the Environment Assessment Report submitted by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur, per capital cost for indoor residual spray with Malathion per annum is Rs. 36.12 as against Rs. 8.97 for BHC at the prices prevailing in 1996.

(d) and (e) BHC is a decentralised item to be procured mainly by the States. Intensive stratification of areas is being undertaken to reduce the use of spraying insecticides. Safer methods like use of larvivorous fish and medicated bet-nets are being tried out so that dependence on chemical larvicides reduces. It is too early to say what the substitution costs would be as this would depend on the efficacy of all the alternative strategies which are at various states of trial. In view of the potential hazards in the use of BHC, the extra costs spent on alternatives are justified.

T-72 Ajeya Tank

3466. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocations made for the T-72 (Ajeya) Tank project;

(b) whether there had been over-procurement of raw materials intentioned for the tanks;

(c) if so, the total number of machines/raw materials lying idle causing the exchequer huge loss of money;

(d) whether a large quantity of machines and raw materials failed to meet the quality standards;

(e) if so, whether quality control requirements have been ignored while placing the orders;

(f) if so, the estimated loss due to the machines not being put to use resulting in pilferage, etc.;

(g) whether the Government propose to appoint a high-level committee to unearth these large scale losses to the exchequer due to mismanagement; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) The allocation is Rs. 412.25 crores.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

(g) and (h) No, Sir. Do not arise in view of (b) to (f) above.

[Translation]

Ground Water Level

3467. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any scheme to the Union Government for increasing the ground water level; and

(b) if so, the time by which the scheme is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had submitted a proposal for providing financial assistance for the project prepared by them for ground water recharge in six Districts at an estimated cost of Rs. 3257.39 lakh. In addition, a scheme on Bolana Percolation Tank in Khandwa Distt. has also been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) The State Government have been inform that the Government of India have prepared a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Assisting the States in Ground Water Recharge on pilot basis. The Scheme is still at consultation stage. Financial assistance for some of the projects of the State Government can be considered after the Scheme is approved.

Planetariums

3468. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of planetariums set up in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposed to set up any planetarium in Giridih, Kodarma and Hazaribag districts of South Bihar;

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous scientific organisation with Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development has set up two mediumsized Planetaria in the country—one at Calicut and other at Nagpur attached to Science Centres in those places. In addition to these two Planetaria, the NCSM has also developed and distributed in-house small portable planetaria for astronomy education in different parts of the country.

Besides, Planetaria are also set up in different places by State Governments and Private Organisations, details of which are not maintained by NCSM.

(b) No proposal to set up any Planetaria in these districts of Bihar has been received by National Council of Science Museums.

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

[English]

Funds from Chavara Bridge to Kollam Bypass

3469. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala to utilise Rs. Two Crores, which are existing for Chavara bridge, for the construction of Kollam Bypass, Phase-II;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to accord permission for the same; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work is likely to be commenced on the said project?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to financial Constraints, the work of construction of Kollam Bypass Phase-II could not be included in the Annual Plan 1996-97.

- (c) Does not arise.

Port at Narsapur in A.P.

3470. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to develop a rice/grain port at Narsapur in the West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether his Ministry has discussed with the Ministry of Agriculture the proposal for a rice port regarding its viability; and

(c) if so, the capital outlay involved and the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The Central Government is not developing a rice/grain port at Narsapur in the West Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The viability of a rice port at Narsapur has not been discussed with the Ministry of Agriculture.

- (c) Does not arise.

Engineering College/University in West Bengal

3471. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal had requested for opening of new engineering college/Central university; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) Neither the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) nor the University Grants Commission (UGC) has received any proposal from Government of West Bengal for opening any new Engineering College/Central University.

Withdrawal of Brigade

3472. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Army has decided to withdraw the Ninth Independent Brigade from the Barahoti Plains bordering China; and

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) Movement of Army units are decided based on operational requirements. These do not affect operational preparedness.

Increase in Defence Allocations

3473. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airforce has sought increased allocation of funds in order to counter the large allocation for defence made by Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details and the response of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) The Indian Air Force has sought allocations in the budget for its ongoing modernisation in the light of the prevailing security scenario and threat perception in the regional and global context.

The Government has provided increased allocations for their modernisation needs. As against the RE 1996-97 provision of Rs. 7551.57 crores, the BE 1997-98 has been proposed at Rs. 8786.15 crores, which shows an increase of 16.35%.

Mughal Road Project

3474. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir is pressing for execution of work of Mughal Road Project in Jammu and Kashmir by its own agencies;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Central Government to persuade that State Government for transfer of Mughal Road Project to BRDB to execute the work keeping in view the expertise and better infrastructures available with BRDB;

(c) whether the Mughal Road Project is a part of package announced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister for Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for delay in execution of Project?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VEKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This being a State project, the Central Government have advised the State Government to consider utilising the expertise of BRDB.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The detailed project report is still awaited from the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Transfer of Apprenticeship Training

3475. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested to transfer the Apprenticeship Training for vocational students, at present entrusted with Board of Apprenticeship Training; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Panel on Road Transport Corporation Act

3476. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a panel set up to review the Road Transport Corporations Act has submitted its report to the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details of observations/recommendations made and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon, State-wise and with respect to Maharashtra in particular;

(c) the details of the review of alarming rise in the pollution level by emission from motor vehicles in major cities in particular; and

(d) the details of action plan worked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VEKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations of the Committee are as under :-

(i) The composition of the Board of Directors of State Road Transport Corporations should be more broad based and should include professionals as representatives of the commuters;

(ii) The Corporation shall act on business principles in such a manner as to ensure a minimum rate of return of 3% on the capital invested;

(iii) To give greater autonomy to the Corporation in its functioning.

The Road Transport Corporations Act as and when amended will apply equally to all State Road Transport Corporations in the Country.

(c) and (d) Though no such review is undertaken, taking into account the alarming rise in pollution level it is mandatory for all petrol driven four wheelers to be fitted with Catalytic Converter for registration in four metro cities namely, Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras w.e.f. 1.4.95. It is also proposed to enforce this regulation in other major cities, subject to availability of unleaded petrol. Further, in order to check vehicular pollution, stricter emission norms for all categories of vehicles have been notified w.e.f. 1.4.96. Every vehicle manufactured after 1.4.96 is required to comply to these emission norms for plying on roads. Moreover, all four wheeled petrol driven vehicles of all Ministries/ Departments, their attached and subordinate offices and autonomous organisations located in Delhi have been

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either converted to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) or retrofitted with Catalytic Converter.

Deployment of Army in Counter Insurgency Operations

3477. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Army deployed in counter-insurgency operations spread over Kashmir lost their lives 'in peace time wars';

(b) if so, the number of soldiers injured in peace time wars in Kashmir area during the last three years; and

(c) the number of doctors and other medical staff looking after them in the above area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) It is true that a number of Army personnel have died in counter militancy operations in the Kashmir Valley.

(b) 1795 Soldiers were injured in Kashmir Valley in such operations during the three year period from 1994 to 1996.

(c) 4616 doctors and other medical staff are looking after the Army personnel deployed in counter militancy operations in Jammu and Kashmir.

Rural University in Kerala

3478. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for starting Rural University in Kerala; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) No such proposal has been received by the Central Government.

Fifth National Games

3479. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fifth National Games are going to be held at Imphal;

(b) if so, the funds sanctioned for this event;

(c) whether a portion of the Stadium constructed has already collapsed;

(d) if so, whether any enquiry has been instituted to go into the incident; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has approved a special Central assistance of Rs. 17.10 crores for creation of sports infrastructure for the Fifth National Games.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The entire construction is being done by Government of Manipur, who has stated that a Departmental Enquiry Committee was constituted by the Government of Manipur on 21.11.96. As per the recommendation of the Committee, re-verification of design and load testing of the structure was conducted. Further, a Technical Scrutiny Committee has been constituted by the State Government to go into the technical specifications of various projects under implementation.

Cerebral Malaria

3480. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Drug Research Institute in coordination with the Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow, has developed an effective drug for the deadly cerebral malaria afflicting large parts of Maharashtra and Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of the drug and its efficacy; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for commercial production thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) A new anti-malaria drug "Arteether" has been developed from Plant Artemisia annua (Chinese weed) by the Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) in coordination with the Central Institute of Medical and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow. The drug is effective in the patients of P. falciparum malaria, drug resistant malaria and serious and complicate malaria cases.

(c) During January, 1997 Drugs Controller General (India) approved the manufacture and marketing of Arteether injection for CDRI, Lucknow for use in severe malaria including cerebral malaria and as a second line in Chloroquine resistant malaria cases only.

This is exclusively meant for supply to hospitals/institutions/nursing homes and is prohibited to be sold,

stocked and distributed through retail outlets to avoid the indiscriminate use of this potent drug.

NGOs Involved in Adult Education Programme in Orissa

3481. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have involved voluntary agencies in implementing Adult Education Programmes;

(b) if so, the number of voluntary agencies dealing with Adult Education Programme in Orissa; and

(c) the specific programmes implemented by these agencies and the funds received by them during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Agencies in Adult Education grants are given for Total Literacy, Post Literacy and Continuing Education programmes. 48 VAs in Orissa have been given grants during the last 5 years.

(c) A statement showing the details is enclosed.

Statement

NGOs involved in Adult Education Programme in Orissa

Name of the Agency	Programme Implemented	Grant Released to the VAs (Rs.)
1	2	3
1991-92		
1. Jagrata Shramik Sangathan	30 AECs	37,500
2. Jatiya Yuba Sangha	3 JENs	10,405
3. Khallikote Mardraj Sanskritika Parishad	15 AECs	17,000
4. Dengaborai Mahila Samiti	50 AECs 60 AECs(cont.)	18,125 46,672
5. YARR (Distt. Angul)	TLC	3,35,000
6. Sarbodaya Seva Samiti	60 AECs	68,300
7. Gram Mangal Pathagar	15 JSNs	41,583
8. Ramji Yubak Sangha	60 AECs	66,830
9. Yuba Krushak Sangha	30 AECs	29,369
10. Moonlight Club	30 AECs(cont.)	25,427
11. NYSASDRI (Distt. Dhenkhal)	30 PL&FU	6,579
12. Sriram Yubak Sangha	3 JSNs 30 AECs(cont.)	31,500 36,500
13. Bidyut Club	100 AECs	32,070
14. NYSCAP (Distt. Dhenkhal)	200 AECs 30 AECs	2,05,966 22,716
15. Ganapati Yubak Sangha	30 AECs	8,439
16. Lokdrusti	15 AECs	17,000
17. Friends Association for Rural Reconstruction	30 AECs	37,500
18. Balasore Distt. Naari Sangha	30 AECs	37,475
19. Arthik-or-Samajik Hith Ayog	30 AECs	36,350
20. Duarsani Shramik Sangha	30 AECs	37,500
1992-93		
1. Cuttack Zilla Mahila Vikas Samithi	30 AECs	21,885

1	2	3
2. Council for Cultural Growth and Cultural Relations	60 AECs	47,476
3. Netaji Yubak Sangha, Goilbhadi, Bolangir	30 AECs	35,582
4. Jagannath Jubak Sangha, Kandhakegaon	30 AECs	30,054
5. Gram Seva Mandal	30 PL & FU 30 ACEs	4,386 17,675
6. Netaji Yubak Sangha Risida, Kalahandi	30 AECs	35,484
7. Aurobindo Club	30 AECs	22,803
1993-94		
1. Antyodaya Chetna Mandal	TLC	5,00,000
2. Netaji Yubak Sangha Balipokhari, Balasore	5 JSNs 2 JSNs	23,875 6,835
3. The Divine Life Society	60 AECs	9,060
4. Paradip Sakhyarta Samiti	TLC	1,47,551
5. VISWAS (Distt. Nuapada)	TLC	2,80,615
6. Bharat Seva Parishad	TLC	1,94,742
7. Bidyut Club	TLC	1,81,798
8. Gram Unnayan Samiti	TLC	2,14,217
9. Jayanti Pathagar	TLC	1,54,269
10. YARR (Distt. Angul)	TLC	50,843
11. Nilachal Seva Pratisthan	TLC	3,03,009
12. Bapujee Yuba Parishad	TLC	2,67,715
13. Sri Sri Balikapiliswar Yuba Sangh and Pathagar	TLC	1,79,430
14. Institute of Self Employment and Rural Development	TLC	1,45,406
15. NIIRD (Distt. Jajpur)	TLC	1,71,551
16. Joy Bharati Sathi Samaja	TLC	9,96,902
17. VARRSA (Distt. Bhadrak)	TLC	1,16,030
18. Bharatiya Jana Kalyan Kendra	TLC	4,63,824
1994-95		
1. Sriram Jubak Sangha	3 JSNs	9,429
2. Centre for Youth & Social Development	Evaluation of TLCs in Orissa.	1,04,000
3. Ramjee Yubak Sangha	6 JSNs	3,169
4. Kasturibai Mahila Samiti	30 AECs	22,800
5. Jayanti Pathagar	TLC	1,23,415
6. Jana Bikash Kendra	TLC	7,11,292
7. The Orissa State Bharat Scouts' and Guides	TLC	5,00,000
8. Paradip Sakhyarata Samiti	TLC	1,18,041
1995-96		
1. Jatiya Chetna Bikash	TLC	8,99,340
2. Joy Bharati Sathi Samaj	TLC	4,98,450
3. NIIRD (Distt. Jajpur)	TLC	85,775

Functioning of IIM, Indore

3482. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the present stage of functioning of Indian Institute of Management, Indore;
- (b) the number of students admitted so far during the current year;
- (c) the total investment on this institution-i.e. non-recurring, recurring etc.;
- (d) the role of the State Government in Management of Institute; and
- (e) the intake capacity of the institute and the criteria and mode of selection of students and also of the teaching staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) The Government have approved the establishment of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Indore with a total cost of Rs. 43.10 crore during 8th and 9th Plan period for recurring and non-recurring expenditures and have taken several steps to operationalise it. The first academic session is commencing from July, 1997 with an intake capacity of 60 students and the students are being admitted through Common Admission Test, 1996. The general superintendence, direction and control of the affairs of the institute is vested with the Board of Governors in which the State Government of Madhya Pradesh is represented. The teaching staff shall be recruited as per the established procedures.

[Translation]

Upper Project on Narmada

3483. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULESTE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether an upper project is proposed on the river Narmada near the village Rina Tola in tribal tehsil 'Dindoti' of Mandla district in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details of the said project; and
- (c) when work on the said project is proposed to be started and the target fixed for its completion?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The State Government has forwarded the project report of Upper Narmada Project to the Central Water Commission in 9/96 for techno economic appraisal. The Project envisages construction of a composite dam of maximum height of 30.64 metre and total length of 2.12 Km. near

village Rina Tola of Mendla District of Madhya Pradesh. The Ultimate Irrigation Potential is 18,810 hectares.

(c) According to the Project Report construction on the project is proposed to be started in 1996-97 and scheduled to be completed in six years.

[English]

Diversion of Brahmaputra Water

3484. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there was a proposal few years back to divert the river water of the Brahmaputra to the mainland of the country to curb the flood havocs in Assam and to make available water for irrigation in other states;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government propose to implement the said proposal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) A pre-feasibility report was prepared which envisages a barrage across the river Brahmaputra at Jogighopa in India and a link canal taking off from the barrage passing through Assam, Bangladesh and West Bengal, outfalling into Ganga upstream of Farakka Barrage. The feasibility report for the proposal has not been taken up further.

N.Hs in A.P.

3485. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether during the period of cyclone and rains in 1996 in Andhra Pradesh, all the major roads were damaged,
- (b) if so, the total loss suffered by the State on account of this;
- (c) whether all the damaged roads have since been repaired;
- (d) if so, the total cost/expenditure involved therein; and
- (e) the Central assistance provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) As far as National Highways, which are the responsibility of the Central Government, Cyclonic storms of October and November, 1996 caused damaged to parts of NH-5 and NH-18.

(b) Estimates amounting to Rs. 6 crores to cover the repair needs of the entire National Highway network in the State including the cyclone affected parts have been sanctioned.

(c) As far as repairs are concerned, urgent repairs have been carried out and the National Highways maintained in traffic worthy condition.

(d) and (e) A sum of Rs. 4 crores has been released so far to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Bridge over Yamuna in Allahabad, U.P.

3486. DR. AMRIT LAL BHARTI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any amount has been sanctioned for construction of bridge over Yamuna river in district Allahabad of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the construction work of the said bridge is likely to be started; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The sanctioned amount is Rs. 100.36 crores.

(c) and (d) Supplementary feasibility studies have since been carried out. After completion of the detailed design and tendering process, the construction of the bridge is targetted to start in September, 1998.

[English]

Special Grant for Narmada Project

3487. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the Union Government had decided to give special grant of Rs. 90 crores to Gujarat Government for Narmada Project;

(b) if so, the reasons that promoted Union Government to sanction special grant;

(c) whether the Gujarat Government has been asked to prepare three years time bound plan to complete the Sardar Sarover Canal and distribution system up to Mahi; and

(d) if so, the present position of the canal and the distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Union Government has not provided any special grant of Rs. 90 crores to Gujarat for Narmada Project. However, Central loan assistance of Rs. 95 crores has been approved for Sardar Sarovar Project in Gujarat under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme launched by the Government of India during 1996-97 with a view to expedite the completion of the Project.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the works of Narmada Main Canal for the Reach 0 to 264 Kilometres are in progress. The Works of distributories in varjous blocks are also in progress.

Standard of Education in MCD Primary Schools

3488. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Cash-strapped MCD for private role in primary education" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated February 14, 1997; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The said news item speaks of a suggestion for adoption/sponsorship of some Primary Schools functioning under Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) by Corporate Houses, Public Sector Undertakings, etc., in view of lack of adequate funds. The MCD have reported that no decision have been taken in the matter.

Visa for Indian Tourists

3489. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI :
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI VIJAY PATEL :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and United States of America share reciprocal arrangement for issuing visas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has switched over to issue passport valid for ten years and twenty five years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether US has mooted a proposal for ten years visa for Indian tourists and travellers;

(f) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(g) the time by which this proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) On September 9, 1996 Government announced a new policy to issue passports for 20 years at a time. However, in view of the continued interest and demand for 10 year validity passports, this policy was modified and an option given to applicants to apply for either a 10 year validity passport on payment of the existing fee of Rs. 300 or a 20 year validity passport on payment of an a fee of Rs. 600.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The United States has proposed on the basis of reciprocity, the maximum period of validity of business and tourist visas to be increased from 5 years to 10 years. Visas issued to applicants under 18 years of age would be limited to a maximum of 5 years. Both sides would have the discretion to issue visa for less than the maximum period of validity.

(g) The US proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Modernisation of Madarsa Education

3490. SHRI MUKHTAR ANIS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the plan outlay made in Eighth Plan for the Scheme on modernisation of Madarsa education;

(b) the funds utilised during the plan period and the number of beneficiaries State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the low utilisation of funds;

(d) whether the Scheme would continue for the 9th Plan as well;

(e) whether any steps have been taken to publicise the Scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) to (c) The allocation for Madarsa Education in the Eighth Plan is Rs. 1.00 crore. Total grant released upto 12.3.97 is Rs. 1.72 crores. Statewise details are given in the attached statement-I and II.

(d) Planning Commission have not finalised the Ninth Plan.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Copies of the scheme of 'Modernisation of Madarsa Education' and of a pamphlet were sent to Director of School Education/Higher Education, Chairman of Minority Commissions, State Education Secretaries members of National Council for Promotion of Urdu, etc. give wide publicity to the scheme.

Statement-I

(Amount in Rupees)

S.No.	Name of the State	Year			
		1993-94		1994-95	
		Amount released	No. of Madarasas	Amount released	No. of Madarasas
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 3,04,000/-	10	Rs. 11,69,600/-	40
2.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	Rs. 5,88,600/-	19
3.	Haryana	-	-	Rs. 1,52,000/-	5
4.	Karnataka	-	-	-	-
5.	Kerala	-	-	-	-
6.	Tripura	-	-	-	-
7.	West Bengal	-	-	-	-
8.	Assam	-	-	-	-
9.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-
10.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
11.	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-
12.	Delhi	-	-	-	-
13.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	-
14.	Bihar	-	-	-	-
15.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-
	Total	Rs. 3,04,000/-	10	Rs. 18,99,200/-	64

Statement-II

(Amount in Rupees)

S.No.	Name of the State	Year			
		1995-96		1996-97	
		Amount released	No. of Madarsas	Amount released	No. of Madarsas
1.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 34,88,000/-	120	Rs. 9,42,400/-	31
2.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 11,09,600/-	39	-	-
3.	Haryana	Rs. 1,32,000/-	5	-	-
4.	Karnataka	Rs. 2,73,600/-	9	-	-
5.	Kerala	Rs. 12,76,800/-	42	-	-
6.	Tripura	Rs. 7,29,600/-	24	-	-
7.	West Bengal	Rs. 24,32,000/-	80	-	-
8.	Assam	Rs. 19,45,600/-	64	-	-
9.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 30,400/-	1	-	-
10.	Sikkim	Rs. 30,400/-	1	-	-
11.	Rajasthan	Rs. 4,07,000/-	For establishment of book banks.	-	-
12.	Delhi	Rs. 1,52,000/-	5	-	-
13.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	Rs. 10,94,400/-	36
14.	Bihar	-	-	Rs. 9,42,400/-	31
15.	Chandigarh	-	-	Rs. 30,400/-	1
Total :		Rs. 1,20,07,000/-	390	Rs. 30,09,600/-	99

[Translation]

Adulteration of Food Items

3491. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of adulteration of food items, particularly in edible oil in the markets have been brought to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have tested such adulterated poisonous food items and soft drinks sold in markets;

(d) if so, the action taken against those involved in it;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to prevent the said adulteration of food items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HELATH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) Out of eight (8) samples of edible oils collected by the Field Staff of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public

Distribution from the cities of Ahmedabad and Chennai (Madras) during 1996, three (3) samples were found to be not conforming to the standards. However, no poisonous matter has been reported to be present in the aforesaid samples of edible oils. No case of presence of poisonous matter in samples of soft drinks has also been reported to this Ministry.

(d) and (e) The concerned State Governments of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu have been advised to take appropriate action in the matter as per law.

(f) Standards of commonly used food articles including edible oils and soft drinks have been prescribed under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and rules made thereunder. The Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.Ts enforcing the provisions of the P.F.A. Act, 1954, are periodically advised to keep a strict vigil on the quality of food items sold in markets.

CGWB for Water Wells

3492. SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the places where digging work for water well has been undertaken by Central Ground Water Board in 1996-97;

(b) the places selected for drilling of bore holes in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Ghatampur in the year 1997-98;

(c) the criterion fixed for selecting the drilling of base holes by Central Ground Water Board; and

(d) the time by which the bore holes work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) District-wise number of places where Central Ground Water Board has drilled wells in 1996-97 upto 31.12.1996 is given in attached Statement.

(b) In 1997-98, wells are planned to be drilled at 57 places in Uttar Pradesh in the districts of Uttar Kashi, Bijnaur, Pauri, Nainital, Rampur, Bareilly, Moradabad, Badaun, Muzaffarnagar, Ghaziabad, Bullandshahr, Fatehpur, Etawah, Allahabad, Bhadohi, Varanasi, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra and Banda. No boreholes are proposed to be drilled in Ghatampur area of Kanpur Dehat in 1997-98. In previous years boreholes were drilled in the district of Kanpur Dehat by Central Ground Water Board.

(c) The criteria for selection of sites for drilling of boreholes by Central Ground Water Board includes the need for ascertaining the availability of ground water including its quantity and quality.

(d) The drilling of boreholes is a continuous process and is undertaken by Central Ground Water Board under its normal programme of work on annual basis in different parts of the country. The Programme of drilling in 1997-98 will commence in April, 1997.

Statement

District-wise Number of wells constructed by Central Ground Water Board upto December, 1996.

State	No. of Wells Drilled
1	2
ANDHRA PRADESH	
1. Chittoor	16
2. Cuddapah	9
3. Guntur	1
4. Khammam	2
5. Nalgonda	27
6. Prakasam	5
7. Ranga Reddi	22
	<u>82</u>
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	
1. Lohit	2

1	2
ASSAM	
1. Jorhat	3
2. Kamrup	1
3. Sonitpur	6
	<u>10</u>
BIHAR	
1. Chhapra	3
2. Deoghar	3
3. Godda	4
4. Jamui	2
5. Madhubani	2
	<u>14</u>
GUJARAT	
1. Ahmedabad	5
2. Banaskantha	6
3. Mehsana	14
4. Rajkot	9
5. Surat	1
6. S. Nagar	4
7. Valsad	8
	<u>47</u>
HARYANA	
1. Faridabad	8
HIMACHAL PRADESH	
1. Kangra	1
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	
1. Jammu	5
2. Udhampur	1
	<u>6</u>
KARNATAKA	
1. Bijapur	4
2. Belgaum	1
3. Bidar	5
4. Dharwad	1
5. Gulbarga	7
6. Kolar	8
7. Hassan	4
	<u>30</u>
KERALA	
1. Alleppy	10

	1	2
2.	Calicut	6
3.	Kozhikode	2
		<u>18</u>

MADHYA PRADESH

1.	Baster	6
2.	Durg	12
3.	Jabalpur	6
4.	Khandwa	3
5.	Raipur	10
6.	Sarguja	6
7.	Sidhi	3
8.	Shahdol	3
9.	Ujjain	3
		<u>52</u>

MAHARASHTRA

1.	Amravati	23
2.	Nanded	24
3.	Rajgarh	4
		<u>51</u>

MEGHALAYA

1.	E.K. Hill	6
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ORISSA

1.	Bhadrak	5
2.	Bolangir	5
3.	Deogarh	2
4.	Kalahandi	8
5.	Sambalpur	7
		<u>27</u>

PUNJAB

1.	Faridkot	2
2.	Fatehgarh	1
3.	Hoshiarpur	1
4.	Patiala	4
		<u>8</u>

Rajasthan

1.	Barmer	4
2.	Bharatpur	5
3.	Chittoorgarh	2
4.	Churu	5
5.	Jaipur	5
6.	Jodhpur	1

	1	2
7.	Jhun-Jhunu	1
8.	Sawai Madhopur	3
		<u>26</u>

UTTAR PRADESH

1.	Allahabad	2
2.	Agra	1
3.	Buland Shahar	1
4.	Mahrajganj	1
5.	Mau	1
6.	Mirzapur	7
7.	Nainital	2
		<u>15</u>

TAMIL NADU

1.	Dindigul	7
2.	Madurai	6
3.	P.M.R.	2
4.	Ramnad	1
5.	N.A.A.	2
6.	T.V.M.S.	5
7.	S. Arcot	2
		<u>25</u>

WEST BENGAL

1.	Birbhum	3
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UNION TERRITORY

1.	Delhi	14
2.	Pondicherry	6
		<u>20</u>

*[English]***Meeting of Executive Board of KVS**

3493. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken in the meeting of Executive Board of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan held on 27th January, 1997 to enhance the promotion quota; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) and (b) The Board of Governors of Kendriya

Vidyalaya Sangathan in its 62nd meeting held on 27th January, 1997 interalia enhanced the promotion quota from 33 1/3% to 50% for promotion from Primary Teacher to Trained Graduate Teacher and Trained Graduate Teacher to Post Graduate Teacher to provide for more promotional opportunities.

River Valley Projects

3494. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken to promote sustainability for river valley projects;

(b) whether the Government have already mooted out any methods to prevent the silting of river beds and so enhance the storage capacity on a need basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are considering the involvement of private enterprises in this respect; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : A number of steps have been initiated to promote the sustainability of river valley projects. These include emphasis on adequate operation and maintenance of projects, extension, renovation and modernisation, controlling of siltation of reservoirs through catchment area treatment and dam safety measures.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) With a view to arrest the silting of river beds and consequently that of the storage reservoirs, catchment area treatment is undertaken.

(d) and (e) For examining the feasibility and scope of private sector participation in Irrigation and Multi-Purpose Projects, the Government constituted a high level Committee which submitted its report on 22nd December, 1995. The Committee concluded that while private sector participation is feasible in respect of all irrigation (surface and ground water) and multi-purpose projects, it would be desirable to introduce this on pilot basis for selected projects. A copy of the report has already been sent to all States/Union Territories for necessary action.

Intrusion in Arabian Water

3495. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Pakistan is intruding into Indian waters in the Arabian Sea; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and corrective steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Government have seen reports regarding Pakistan's notification specifying 'baselines' to measure Pakistan's territorial waters, the contiguous zone, the EEZ and continental shelf in the Arabian Sea.

Government have conveyed to Pakistan that while they reserve the right to seek suitable revision of the 'baselines' as notified by Pakistan insofar as they impinge upon India's sovereign jurisdiction, Government unequivocally reject as unacceptable the coordinate point (K) 23 33.90N ... 68 07.80E referred to in the notification as it encroaches upon the territorial waters of India which are within its sovereign jurisdiction.

Racket in Selling Petrol

3496. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

SHRI CHUN CHUN PRASAD YADAV :

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "For Cheaper Petrol, contract Government armed Forces drivers" appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated January 1, 1997;

(b) if so, whether Government have received complaints about corrupt armed forces drivers racket in selling petrol and other petroleum products meant for official use;

(c) if so, the number of complaints received during the last two years and names of complainant as also quantity of petroleum products involved in the racket;

(d) whether the Government have conducted enquiry in this regard;

(e) if so, the details of the action taken against culprits as also the acts and rules under which action has been taken; and

(f) the mechanism devised or proposed to be devised to curb such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (b) The Government are aware of the said news-item.

No specific complaint has been received in this regard. However, during the last two years, one driver (MT) was apprehended in July, 1995 by the Army Headquarters Transport Coy, Delhi. The individual was duly charge-sheeted and punished under Section 63 of the Army Act.

If the Armed Forces, there is a well-established mechanism, prescribing stringent/deterrant measures to safeguard against any pilferage of Government stores,

including petrol and petroleum products which is being enforced strictly. Enquiries made did not reveal existence of any such racket in the Armed Forces, as alleged. However, Service Headquarters have been again instructed to exercise strict vigil in this regard.

Shortage of Life Saving Drugs in AIIMS

3497. SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the enquiry conducted consequent to the death of the wife of a resident doctor of AIIMS has revealed inadequacy of equipments and life saving medicines in the casualty department of the institute; and

(b) the remedial measures taken so far in this regard and the result achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The enquiry conducted to know the circumstances leading to the death of the patient concluded that the death was due to cardiac arrhythmic, resulting from prehospital circulatory collapse. Subsequently, the Institute constituted two Committees to assess the adequacy of the equipments and the related facilities in the Casualty. Requisite measures to provide facilities in the Casualty were initiated immediately.

[Translation]

Less Quantity of Water in Canal in U.P.

3498. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
- SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether owing to release of less quantity of water in the canals in Uttar Pradesh crops of thousand of farmers have been destroyed and they are on the verge of starvation;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action to ensure release of adequate quantity of water in the canals for farmers;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d) Depending upon the actual availability of water, varying quantities of water are released through canals from time to time. Information regarding operation of canals is not kept at the Centre.

[English]

Forged Passport

3499. SHRI SUKHLAL KUSHWAHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the identification of some of the deceased, who died recently in an incident occurred in Charkhi-Dadri in Haryana could not be done as their names and passports were forged;

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to identify the actual passport holders; and

(c) the action taken against those travel agents who helped them for going abroad on the forged passports?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The main reason for difficulties in identification of the deceased, who died recently in the mid air collision of Saudi and Kazak Airlines near Charkhi-Dadri in Haryana, was due to severe mutilation/ charring of the bodies of the deceased. However, the possibility of some passengers having travelled on passports which were tampered after being issued by Passport Offices cannot be ruled out.

(b) Lists of those reportedly dead, provided by the immigration authorities, were immediately sent to the concerned Passport Officers for verification of passport particulars. The Passport Officers were also asked to obtain verification from local police authorities. The police authorities in Bihar, Delhi, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and UP are conducting enquiries and reports are awaited.

(c) Action against the errant travel agents, if any, is contingent upon the outcome of the enquiries being made.

World Bank Report on Family Welfare Programmes

3500. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI YELAIAH NANDI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a World Bank Report published in the Hindustan Times dated 9th September, 1996 has stated three major problems for hampering the successful implementation of the family welfare programme;

(b) if so, whether the Government has examined this Press Report in which the World Bank's observation on India's poor performance of family welfare programme has been mentioned;

(c) if so, whether Government has fully examined the views expressed by the World Bank Report; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) No such report has appeared in The Hindustan Times dated 9th September, 1996. However, the World Bank in its report "India's Family Welfare Programme : Towards a Reproductive and Child Heart Approach" has recommended reorientation of the family welfare programme to a Reproductive and Child Health Services approach that meets the individual client health needs and provides high quality services. The Report has recommended an essential package of services with emphasis on improved access and quality.

The Government of India has formulated an action plan for reorientation of the family welfare programme to a Reproductive and Child Health Approach. The important features of the Action Plan include improving quality and outreach of services, decentralised participatory planning, promotion of spacing methods among younger age couples, special focus on lagging districts, involving voluntary and non-Governmental organisations to promote community participation and strengthening of interventions to promote maternal and Child Health Care.

[Translation]

Passports of Officers of Public Sector Undertakings

3501. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether guidelines in regard to issuing official passport to officers/employees of public sector undertakings while going aboard on official work, has been abolished from June 1, 1995;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to revive it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. A policy decision was taken in May, 1995 that officials working in Public Sector Undertakings would no longer be entitled to official passport.

(b) It was decided in present circumstances it would be appropriate to treat all Public Sector Undertakings on par with commercial organisations as they were primarily transacting commercial business.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to revive the facility to grant official passport to officials in Public Sector Undertakings.

Irrigation Facilities in Mewat Region

3502. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have assured to provide financial assistance for the construction of Mewat Canal;

(b) if so, the details and the quantum of funds proposed to be provided therefor;

(c) whether the Government have also approved an irrigation project for Mewat region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated cost and funds released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Birth Place of Netaji

3503. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the utter neglect of Janakinath Bhawan in Cuttack where Netaji was born and Giddapahan in Darjeeling district of West Bengal where Netaji built his home in the late thirties;

(b) the special efforts have been made during the centenary year to preserve these symbols of national heritage and legacy of freedom fighter;

(c) whether North Bengal University had sent a proposal to the State Government for conversion in to a study centre-cum-museum; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) The National Committee for the celebration of birth centenary of Netaji has already decided to set up a suitable memorial, preferably in the form of a museum, in Netaji's ancestral house at Cuttack. Similarly, an INA memorial would be developed at Moirang. Already existing Swatantrata Sangram Sangrahalaya and Swatantrata Senani Smarak (Red Fort-Salimgarh Fort Complex, Delhi) would also be strengthened.

There is, however, no proposal with regard to preservation of the house at Giddapahan in Darjeeling district of West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Information in this regard has been sought from the Government of West Bengal.

Non-Teaching Staff in Universities/Colleges

3504. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the non-teaching employees of Colleges and Universities have been left outside the purview of the University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are aware that All India College and University Employees Federation have been Agitating for their inclusion within the purview of University Grants Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) to (d) According to the information furnished by UGC, All India College and University Employees Federation had submitted a representation to the Commission for inclusion of non-teaching employees within the purview of UGC. Pay scales and service conditions of non-teaching employees of State Universities/Colleges are laid down by the concerned State Government/Universities. Laying down of uniform scales of pay for such personnel will lead to serious anomalies and difficulties as the overwhelming majority of such employees perform duties and responsibilities comparable to employees in other Departments of the State Governments. Similarly, there are long established 'Post to Post' and 'Scale to Scale' parties between such employees and various other categories of employees in other Departments. Disturbing the equilibrium will cause serious problems and dissatisfaction among various categories of employees within the States. In view of this, the Government is not in favour of laying down uniform scales of pay for non-teaching employees in Universities and Colleges under the State Governments.

Indo-China Relation

3505. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen our relations with China taking into account the developments that are likely to take place after the demise of their leader Deng Xiaoping;

(b) whether the border issue between India and China has been settled; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) In recent years, India-China relations have developed steadily and acquired maturity and substance. The momentum of high level dialogue has been maintained and there is growing functional cooperation between the two countries in diverse fields. The two countries have agreed to work towards a constructive and cooperative relationship into the 21st century. Both sides have worked to remove institutional bottlenecks to expand bilateral trade and economic cooperation. The volume of bilateral trade in 1996 reached US \$ 1.4 billion. There are about 50 joint ventures between the two countries.

(b) and (c) India and China are committed to work towards a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question. Both countries are discussing the boundary question in the framework of the India-China Joint Working Group (JWG) and India-China Expert Group (EG). The Agreements on Maintenance of Border Peace and Tranquillity signed in September, 1993 and the Agreement on Confidence Building Measures signed in November, 1996 will contribute to maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

[Translation]

Mortgage of Ships

3506. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow the Indian Shipping Companies to mortgage their ships in order to mobilise funds from foreign sources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the terms and conditions on which the Indian Shipping Companies are likely to be allowed to raise such funds; and

(d) the estimated quantum of loans likely to be mobilised and the role of Indian Shipping Corporation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d) There is no proposal in the Government to this effect, however, Section 47 to 54 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 permits mortgage of Indian ships for raising finance from India and Abroad. The terms and conditions for raising loan from abroad are negotiated between the lenders and the borrowers which are subject of External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) guidelines. As per the projections made by the Working Group on Shipping for the 9th Plan External Commercial Borrowings to the tune of 500-700 US million dollar is required per year.

[English]

Utilisation of Ground Water

3507. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey on the utilisation of ground water resources by various States;

(b) if so, the State-wise and year-wise details thereof in Eighth Plan;

(c) whether there is a need to enhance the utilisation of ground water resources for the development of agriculture; and

(d) if so, the projection made by the Government in that regard for Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Government have not conducted any survey on the utilisation of the ground water resources by various States for irrigation during the Eighth Plan. However, on the basis of information received from various States/Union Territories, the estimated utilisation of ground water resources by various States/Union Territories is given in the Statement attached

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A working group on Minor Irrigation set up by Planning Commission has recommended creation of an irrigation potential of 10.00 million hectare through ground water in the Ninth Plan.

Statement

S.No.	Name of States	Utilisation of Ground Water during VIII Plan (in 000' ha.)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	89
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-
3.	Assam	16
4.	Bihar	771
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	54
7.	Haryana	48
8.	Himachal Pradesh	-
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
10.	Karnataka	75
11.	Kerala	35
12.	Madhya Pradesh	48
13.	Maharashtra	76

1	2	3
14.	Manipur	1
15.	Meghalaya	-
16.	Mizoram	-
17.	Nagaland	-
18.	Orissa	17
19.	Punjab	129
20.	Rajasthan	96
21.	Sikkim	-
22.	Tamil Nadu	70
23.	Tripura	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3983
25.	West Bengal	227
26.	Union Territories	2
Total States and U.Ts.		5745

Death of Indians in Gulf Countries

3508. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indians died in Gulf countries during the last one year;

(b) the average time taken in each country to bring back the dead body to India;

(c) the details of Government's assistance in this regard;

(d) whether Government propose to bring the dead bodies free of charge; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The number of Indians who died in Gulf countries during the year 1996 is as follows :

Bahrain	123
Iraq	3
Kuwait	161
Oman	255
Qatar	88
Saudi Arabia	1461
U.A.E.	785
Yemen	1

(b) The average time taken to bring back the dead body to India varies from two weeks to four months depending on the nature of death. In the case of natural death, it takes at least two weeks and in the case of unnatural death, as police report is required, it takes more than two weeks. In the case of death where foul

play in suspected the dead body is not despatched till medical examination report is issued by the Ministry of Health as well as police report is made available to our Mission, which takes upto four months.

(c) As soon as information is received about the death of an Indian national, immediate contact is established by our Missions with the sponsors and the next of kin for completion of formalities like death certificate, medical report, police report for attestation and issue of No Objection Certificate for despatch of nortal remains. Whenever necessary, the cases are taken up with the concerned authorities of the Foreign Government by our Missions.

(d) and (e) Presently there is no proposal to bring the dead bodies free of charge from Gulf countries.

[Translation]

Health Care

3509. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocation of funds made by the Union Government to the Gujarat Government for the prevention and treatment of the diseases like kidney failure, heart attack, cancer, T.B. etc. item-wise details thereof;

(b) the per-capita expenditure incurred on Health care/medicines in Gujarat;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the present limit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Health being a State subject, States are primarily responsible for meeting the preventive, promotive and curative health needs of the people from their own resources. However, Central assistance to the States is given for Centrally Sponsored Scheme and National Health Programmes. A Statement showing major National Health Programmes including Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented in Gujarat and their allocation during 1995-96 is attached.

(b) Medicines are procured and supplied by the State Government from their own resources. However, as per information available in National Accounts Statistics, per capita Government expenditure in Gujarat on Health is Rs. 62.00 for the year 1993-94.

(c) and (d) Plan allocations have been increased for State Sector Health Programmes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Assistance has also been availed of from external agencies which is an on-going process when new projects are added each year.

Statement

Allocation of Funds to the State of Gujarat during 1995-96 in Respect of Major National Health Programmes

Name of the Programme	Amount Allocated (Rs. in lakhs)
National Malaria Eradication Programme :	848.19
National Leprosy Eradication Programme :	140.18
National Programme for Control of Blindness :	39.00
National T.B. Control Programme :	193.75
National AIDS Control Programme :	131.26
National Cancer Control Programme :	50.00
National Family Welfare Programme :	5536.01

[English]

Upgradation of Canals in Karnataka

3510. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka State Government had submitted a master plan to the Union Government for modernisation/upgradation of canals;

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

(c) the total estimated cost involved therein;

(d) the quantum funds sanctioned and released so far for the purpose; and

(e) the projected schedule fixed for completion thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Development of Waterways in Ninth Plan

3511. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the potentiality of the development of National Waterways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for the development of certain Waterways during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the names of such Waterways and details of the scheme for their development?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Waterway No. 1 has an annual traffic capacity of about 10 Million Tons with the existing facilities. With the improvement of facilities such as navigational locks, night navigational aids etc. It will have the potential of 40 Million Tons per annum. The development cost envisaged is about Rs. 200 crores. The study of cargo potential indicates feasibility of about 13.6 million tons by the year 2000 and 16 million tons by the year 2005.

The National Waterway No.2 has an annual traffic capacity of about 30 million tons with the existing facilities. After the improvement of the facilities this capacity would increase to about 100 million tons. The development cost envisaged is about Rs. 100 crores. The cargo potentiality is 3.2 million tons by the year 2000 and 4.4 million tons by 2005.

The National Waterway No.3 has got annual traffic capacity of about 8 million tons with the improvement in facilities the annual traffic capacity would increase to 64 million tons. The cost of development envisaged is about Rs. 130 crores. The cargo forecast for the year 2000 is 3.4 million tons for the year 2005 is 4.2 million tons.

The full capacity utilisation of all the waterways will also depend on availability of sufficient number of inland vessels.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The 9th Plan proposals include creation of additional infrastructure and navigational facilities in all the three declared National Waterways. Declaration and development for three more waterways namely Godavari, Goa rivers and international steamer route in Sunderbans is also included in this plan. Techno-economic feasibility studies on new waterways namely Narmada, Tapi, East Coast Canal, DVC Canal, Barak river, Kakinada-Madras Canal, etc. are also proposed during this plan period.

[English]

Encroachments in Cantonments

3512. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Old Grant Lease premises containing bungalows and open areas in various cantonments under Central Command have come under illegal possession of land-grabbers and unauthorised occupants;

(b) if so, whether some of these bungalows were taken over by the Government and despite the same

unauthorised construction of new premises are being carried out;

(c) if so, whether any special drive would be resorted to safeguard Government properties and also initiate action against concerned Executive Officers for such major defaults; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Instances of illegal occupation and unauthorised construction have been detected on Old Grant bungalows in some Cantonments in Central Command.

(b) Some of the Old Grant bungalows have been resumed/taken over by the Government but there is no new unauthorised construction on these resumed Old Grant bungalows.

(c) and (d) Action as per law wherever necessary is being taken by the Cantonment Authorities. No special drive for this or action against the Cantonment Executive Officers is considered necessary.

Indian Fishermen in Pak Custody

3513. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :
SHRI VIJAY PATEL :
SHRI B.K. GADHVI :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHAN :
SHRI RAJENDRA SINH RANA :
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
DR. A.K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of fishermen captured by Government of Pakistan during the last three years;

(b) the number of Indian fishermen detained by the Government of Pakistan as on date;

(c) the number of Indian fishing vessels captured/seized by the Government of Pakistan during the last three years;

(d) the number of Indian fishermen and fishing vessels released by the Government of Pakistan till date;

(e) the action being taken to secure release of remaining Indian fishermen languishing in Pakistan jails for a considerable time;

(f) the probable time frame in which the release will be secured;

(g) whether the Government of India have come to any understanding in this regard so as to protect unintended drifting of fishing vessels from both countries; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) According to available information, 230 Indian fishermen and 37 boats have been captured and detained by Pakistani authorities since March 1994. Pakistan has, however, so far only acknowledged 190 fishermen and 31 boats to be in their custody.

(d) As a result of our efforts, 110 fishermen and 18 boats were released by Pakistan between May, 1994 and January, 1995. However, these fishermen and boats were seized by Pakistani authorities prior to March, 1994.

(e) and (f) Government is pursuing vigorously all the cases of Indian fishermen currently under detention in Pakistan.

During the meeting of External Affairs Minister with the then Pakistani Foreign Minister in Delhi on 18th December, 1996, the issue of the release/repatriation of fishermen in each other's custody was discussed and it was decided that data should be exchanged by both sides and the concerned officials would meet as soon as possible to address this issue. The relevant data is being compiled.

(g) Incidents of capture of Indian fishermen by Pakistani Security Agencies occur off the Coast of Gujarat, close to our maritime boundary. Regular and continuous patrolling of our territorial waters off the coast of Gujarat is being maintained by the concerned Indian authorities to prevent unintended drifting of boats from both countries into each other's territory.

(h) Both countries had undertaken in 1987 that the concerned authorities in each country would take all steps to educate their fishermen to stay at a safe distance from each other's Maritime Zones.

[Translation]

Deaths due to Chicken Pox and Measles in U.P.

3514. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of deaths took place in Uttar Pradesh from Chicken pox and measles during 1995-96;

(b) whether any new immunisation scheme has been prepared by the Government to prevent chicken pox and measles virus; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per information available for the year 1996 (upto June, 96), 65 deaths due to measles were reported in Uttar Pradesh. However, no data is available in respect of deaths due to chicken-pox.

(b) and (c) Vaccination against measles is already included in the immunisation programme of the

Department of Family Welfare. There is no programme for immunisation against Chicken-pox.

Vocationalisation of Education

3515. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have vocationalised the Secondary Education;

(b) if so whether the Government have set up Central Institutes in various States for this purpose;

(c) if so, the locations thereof in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) the details of the works done by the said Institutes so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes Sir, Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education was started in February, 1988 under which vocational education has been introduced at the +2 level selected schools.

(b) The Central Institute of Vocational Education named "Pt. Sunderlal Sharma Central Institute of Vocational Education" was set up at Bhopal in 1993 under the aegis of National Council of Educational Research and Training.

(c) and (d) The Scheme envisages establishment of either such Institutes in the States or a wing in the State Councils of Educational Research and Training for providing research and development support to the programme. No separate Institute for Vocational Education has been set up by the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

Ground Water Level in Delhi

3516. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the water requirement of residents of Delhi are primarily met with ground water;

(b) whether the Government are also aware that the level of ground water in Delhi is going down sharply;

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for drawing ground water in Delhi with the help of WAPCO or any other agency;

(d) whether any amount has been allocated to Delhi Government for raising the ground water level during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the success achieved by Delhi Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Some portion of requirement of water of the residents of Delhi is met with the ground water resources.

(b) A decline of 4-8 meters in the level of ground water has been observed in certain pockets of Delhi during the last 15-20 years.

(c) No such step has been taken or is proposed to be taken in consultation with Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited for development of ground water in Delhi.

(d) to (f) The Ministry of Water Resources has not allocated any funds to Government of NCT of Delhi during the last three years for recharge of ground water. However, the Central Ground Water Board has prepared a report titled, "Development and Augmentation of Ground Water Resources in NCT of Delhi". A copy of this report has been made available to the Government of NCT of Delhi for taking follow up action. The Central Ground Water Board is also implementing a Central Sector Scheme on studies of ground water recharge in Karnataka, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi and Chandigarh. In Delhi, the recharge studies are being carried out in Jawaharlal Nehru University and I.I.T., Delhi. An amount of Rs. 36.37 lakh and Rs. 96,200/- has been sanctioned so far to these Institutions respectively for construction of recharge structures under the scheme. The studies being carried out in Jawaharlal Nehru University area have indicated improvement in availability of ground water.

Polavaram Project, A.P.

3517. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the completion of the Polavaram Project in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the measures taken for early completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The State Government has not yet taken up the construction of the project.

Polio Affected Persons

3518. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey for identifying Polio affected persons in the country;

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

(c) whether any case of side-effect of Polio vaccine has come to the notice of the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research in 1981-82 revealed an incidence of 1.7 per 1000 children in rural areas and 1.6 per 1000 children in urban areas. The details are given in the statement attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Annual Incidence Rate of Poliomyelitis per 1000 Children 0 to 4 years (Based on sample surveys 1981-82)

State/UT	Incidence Rate per 1000 children	
	Rural	Urban
Andhra Pradesh	1.7	1.4
Gujarat	2.5	2.2
Haryana, Punjab	3.1	1.7
Chandigarh	-	-
Karnataka, Goa	1.2	1.2
Madhya Pradesh (Bhopal & Jabalpur Division)	1.9	1.7
Maharashtra	1.4	1.3
Orissa	0.8	0.7
Rajasthan (Jaipur Division)	3.1	2.5
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	1.9	2.1
Uttar Pradesh (Allahabad Division)	2.3	1.6
West Bengal	0.8	1.0
Delhi	-	1.6
All India	1.7	1.6

Examination Reforms

3519. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of committees set up by Delhi University to bring about reforms in the examination system;

(b) the salient recommendations made by those committees;

(c) the action taken on the recommendations made by those committees;

(d) whether the reforms in the examination system universities particularly in Delhi University are yet to take place; and

(e) if so, the action the Government are contemplating to take to bring about reforms in the examination system in the universities particularly in Delhi University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

UGC Assistance to Universities in Karnataka

3520. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds given as grant-in-aid by the University Grants Commission to each University in Karnataka;

(b) the number of colleges affiliated to each University;

(c) the number of colleges out of them which are classified as rural colleges, University-wise;

(d) the number of students studying in each of these rural colleges;

(e) whether there is any proposal to give financial assistance to the rural colleges during Ninth Plan to establish libraries, purchasing of teaching equipment and for constructing of buildings;

(f) if so, whether the Universities in Karnataka have been asked to submit the needs of the rural colleges for special assistance from the UGC; and

(g) if so, the amount released during 1996-97 so far in the form of grant, assistance etc., to various Universities in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Family Welfare Projects

3521. DR. BALIRAM :
SHRI VENKATARAMI REDDY ANANTHA :
SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA :
SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Family Welfare Projects under implementation in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala alongwith their locations;

(b) the efforts made by the Government for effective implementation of these projects; and

(c) the achievements made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Details of programmes/projects being implemented in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala are given in the Statement-I. These are in addition to various schemes implemented under the National Family Welfare Programme, throughout the country.

The main objectives of these projects are to improve the health status of women and children, reduce maternal and child mortality, morbidity and birth rates. These Projects are implemented by the State Governments and progress in implementation is reviewed by the Government of India from time to time.

(c) Details of achievements under the World Bank/USAID assisted project in the States mentioned above are enclosed as Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of Projects under implementation in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Kerala

State	Name of Agency/ projects	Total cost (Rs. in crores)	Period	Districts covered
Assam	World Bank/IPP-IX	101.22	16.6.94 to 15.6.2001	Entire State
Andhra Pradesh	World Bank/IPP-VI	75.66	6.4.90 to 31.3.97	-do-
	World Bank/IPP-VIII	35.15	6.8.93 to 5.8.98	Hyderabad
Uttar Pradesh	World Bank/IPP-VI	97.37	6.4.90 to 31.3.97	Entire State
	USAID/IFPS Project	810.00	30.9.92 to 30.9.2002	-do-
Kerala	-----	NIL	-----	-----

Statement-II*Details of Achievements under the World Bank/ USAID assisted project***WORLD BANK**

State	Item	Achievements
	I. CONSTRUCTION :	
Assam	Sub Centres	: 80
	Staff Qrs	: 30
	Upgradation of existing State Dispensaries to PHCs	: 5
	Upgradation of PHC/ CHC/Hosp. as FRUs	: 3
	II. TRAINING :	
	Medical & Para-medical Functionaries.	: 1532
	I. CONSTRUCTION :	
Andhra Pradesh (IPP-VI)	Sub Centres	: 599
	Training Institutes	: 26
	II. TRAINING :	: 50565
	I. CONSTRUCTION :	
Hyderabad (IPP-VIII)	Renovation of Urban F.W. Centres into D Type Health Posts	: 5
	Const. of new D type Health Posts	: 3
	Upgradation of Maternity Centres (30 beds)	: 2 in Progress
	II. TRAINING :	
	Med. & Para-Med. staff	: 2198
	Non-Health Functionaries	: 977
	I. CONSTRUCTION :	
Uttar Pradesh	Sub Centres	: 750
	Training Institutions	: 66
	II. TRAINING	: 167958

Indo-Iranian Joint Commission

3522. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the meeting of the ninth session of Indo-Iranian Joint Commission held in February, 1997 in Tehran;

(b) the issues that were discussed during the visit of our External Affairs Minister in Tehran;

(c) whether the proposal for laying a pipeline to transport gas reserves to India was also discussed during the visit;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the route of gas pipeline;

(e) whether any agreement was signed between the representatives of two countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) The Ninth Session of Indo-Iranian Joint Commission was held in Tehran on 21st and 22nd February, 1997. The Indian side was led by External Affairs Minister and the Iranian side was led by Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran. Important issues discussed were the establishment of a Joint Venture Fertiliser Project. Pipeline Project for transportation of Natural Gas to India, proposals on Trade Agreement, Double tax Avoidance Agreement and Agreement for Promotion and Protection of Foreign Investment, Cooperation in the fields of agriculture, health and education.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Efforts are to continue to obtain the consent of all parties for a feasibility study of the projected pipeline. Details of the possible route will be available only after the feasibility study is complete.

(e) and (f) No, Sir.

Promotion of Libraries

3523. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a scheme for promotion of libraries in small towns and rural areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, an autonomous organisation fully founded by the Government of India through Department of Culture has a number of schemes to promote and support public library movement in the country. The Foundation has the following schemes for the promotion of libraries for the benefit of small towns and rural areas :

(1) Assistance towards building up of adequate stock of books and other reading and visual materials.

(2) Assistance towards development of rural book deposit centres and mobile library services.

- (3) Assistance to public libraries below district level for increasing accommodation.
- (4) Assistance to State Central Libraries and District Libraries to acquire TV-cum-VCR sets for educational purposes.
- (5) Assistance to voluntary organisations providing public library services.
- (6) Assistance to children's libraries or children's section of general public libraries.
- (7) Assistance to centrally sponsored libraries such as Jawahar Bal Bhavans, Nehru Yuvak Kendras etc.

[Translation]

Nursing Home Facility To Ex-MPs

3524. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ex-Members of Parliament are facing difficulties due to non-availability of nursing home facility in the Government hospitals;

(b) if so, whether a memorandum has also been submitted to the Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) Nursing home facilities are available in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital and G.B. Pant Hospital. Ex-Members of Parliament are allotted these facilities depending on the availability of rooms in above Hospitals.

A memorandum was presented by the Federation of Legislators of India on 20th August, 1996 and a meeting held with them by Government in this regard. The existing facilities for Ex-MPs was explained to them.

The Central Government have recognised certain private hospitals under the CGHS Delhi whereby all the CGHS beneficiaries including Ex-MPs can obtain treatment at the hospital of their choice.

Privatisation of Waterways

3525. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :
 PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
 SHRI SUBRATA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have finally decided to hand over the construction work of new waterways and

development of old ones to private sector in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

IP Under Construction

3526. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
 SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several irrigation projects which were under construction in the country during December, 1996;

(b) if so, the number of projects out of them which are being implemented by the Government with foreign financial assistance;

(c) the number of projects among them which are lagging behind their original schedule of completion and the minimum and maximum duration of delay of the projects; and

(d) the target fixed for completion of those projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) As on December, 1996, 162 Major, 256 Medium and 107 Extension/Renovation/Modernisation (ERM) Projects were under construction in the Country.

(b) Eleven Projects out of them are being implemented by the Government with foreign financial assistance.

(c) Generally a Major irrigation project is expected to take 10 to 15 years and a medium project five years for its completion. On this basis 107 major, 206 medium and 61 ERM Projects are lagging behind schedule. The maximum delay is in case of two major projects started in 1st Plan. The minimum delay is in the case of Major Projects started in VII Plan.

(d) It is assessed by the Working Group on Major and Medium Irrigation projects for IX Plan that apart from 9 major, 20 medium and 12 ERM projects reported to have been completed during the first four years of VIII Plan, another 29 major, 80 medium and 33 ERM projects are likely to be completed by the end of VIII Plan and the balance are likely to spill over.

Foreign Aid for Road Projects in Gujarat

3527. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has submitted a list of important road projects before the

Union Government for their development with foreign aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal submitted by the Government of Gujarat is for the improvement of various categories of State roads with about 1500 kms. length. The Government of India has signed an agreement for loan amounting to US \$ 51.50 million towards project preparation for road projects in various States, including the State of Gujarat.

Irregularities in Purchases

3528. PROF. AJIT KUMAR METHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious irregularities in the various purchases made by family welfare department were detected;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the loss suffered by the Government as a consequence thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Audit team had carried out the inspection of the files relating to the purchase of items required by the Deptt. of Family Welfare. Certain observations have been made by audit.

(b) and (c) This Department of Family Welfare is in the process of explaining the actions and offering comments on the observations of audit.

[Translation]

Allocation to Malaria Control Programme

3529. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total outlay earmarked for the eradication and control of Malaria during the current plan;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon under this programme during the past three years;

(c) the total budget outlay earmarked for this programme during 1995-96 and the amount spent out of it till December, 1996;

(d) the major heads of expenditure under this plan during the current year;

(e) whether the Malaria is again spreading in the country; and

(f) if so, whether changes are being made in this programme to deal with this disease?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The total outlay earmarked for National Malaria Eradication Programme (NMEP) during the eighth plan is Rs. 445.25 crores.

(b) Amount spent under NMEP during the past three years are as under :-

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in Crores)
1993-94	110.54
1994-95	110.00
1995-96	128.00

(c) The approved Budget outlay for 1995-96 was Rs. 128.00 crores. Expenditure upto December, 1996 was Rs. 97.86 crores against the provision of Rs. 145.00 crores in Budget Estimates 1996-97

(d) Major components of expenditure under the Programme during the current year have been procurement of insecticides, larvicides and anti-malarial drugs.

(e) and (f) Malaria incidence in the country has been contained around 2 to 3 million cases annually. However, focal outbreaks of malaria are being reported from some parts of the country. Besides existing Control strategies to effectively control the disease added emphasis is being given to Information, Education and Communication activities so as to enlist community support and participation for making Malaria Control activities a mass movement. 100% Central assistance is being provided to 7 North Eastern States to intensify anti-malaria activities in those States. Further, Government is negotiating an enhanced Malaria Control Project with World Bank assistance to intensify Control measures in malaria-endemic and tribal/backward areas of the country.

Treatment of Poor Patients in Private Nursing Homes

3530. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is provision for treatment of poor patients in private nursing homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that these provisions are not being observed in practice and fake entries are made only on papers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) Some States have given land and other facilities at concessional rates and prescribed free treatment for poor patients in lieu thereof. Similarly customs duty exemption had been extended to certain hospitals and diagnostic centres who were expected to provide free indoor/outdoor treatment to the poor. The State Government are required to check whether these conditions are being met by private hospitals/ nursing homes. The general experience has been that the requirement of free work is being met only partially at places.

[English]

Functioning of Joint Consultative Machinery in KVS

3531. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any Joint Consultative Machinery is functioning in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;
- (b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof including the guidelines for holding of meetings;
- (c) whether meetings are held at frequent intervals; and
- (d) if so, the dates and minutes of its meetings held during the last year and so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It deals with matters relating to conditions of service, welfare and improvement of efficiency and standards of work of all regular employees of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

The ordinary meetings of the Council are held as often as necessary, and not less than once in six months. A Special Meeting may be called by the Chairman at any time.

(c) and (d) The last meeting of Joint Consultative Machinery was held on 2.9.94 which took the following decisions for consideration by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan :

1. Increase in promotion quota of teachers;
2. Organisation of training programmes for non-teaching staff;
3. Constitute a Sub-Committee to consider payment of higher duty allowance to teaching as well as non-teaching staff;
4. To place the matter regarding fixation of staff strength for Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Headquarter) and Region

Offices for consideration by the Internal Work Study Unit of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Legislation on Sports

3532. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have taken any decision to enact a Central legislation on Sports to make the working of the Sports federations and associations "transparent, professional and accountable";
- (b) if so, by when enactment is likely to be made;
- (c) whether the Government are aware that the funds released to the sports federations/associations by the Government are misappropriated;
- (d) if so, whether the Government propose to get the fund utilisation by the sports federations and associations audited in respect of the last three years; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) and (b) The views of various State/UT Governments, National Sports Federations and other concerned organisations have been invited on the proposal relating to the transfer of the subject 'Sports' from the 'State list' to the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India. At present, no decision has been taken to enact a Central legislation for the development of sports and games in the country.

(c) to (e) Grants released to National Sports Federations are being monitored by keeping individual record of each sanction. Utilisation certificates and audited statement of accounts are invariably-obtained from the National Sports Federations and no further releases are made unless these details have been furnished.

[Translation]

Operation Black Board Scheme in Maharashtra

3533. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount provided to Maharashtra under 'Operation Black Board' during 1995-96 and 1996-97;
- (b) whether crores of rupees have been misappropriated in the implementation of 'Operation Black Board' Scheme in Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to initiate action against the officials found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) Under the scheme of Operation Blackboard, Rs. 5,559.72 lakh and Rs. 6,725.40 lakh respectively were released to Maharashtra during 1995-96 and 1996-97.

(b) The State Government has informed that no case of misappropriation has been reported so far.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Contagious Diseases/Epidemics

3534. SHRI KACHARU BHAU RAUT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of contagious diseases/epidemics spread in the country during the last three years, State-wise; and

(b) the action taken or proposed to be taken to check the recurrence of the said diseases in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The disease outbreaks that have been reported in the country during the last 3 years mainly occurred in the following States :-

Japanese Encephalitis	- Kerala, Haryana & Punjab
Measles	- Uttar Pradesh
Dengue	- Delhi and Haryana
Malaria	- Orissa, Rajasthan & Delhi.
Viral Hepatitis	- New Delhi & Rajasthan
Cholera	- Delhi, Orissa & Haryana
Plague	- Maharashtra & Gujarat.

(b) To check the recurrence of epidemics the Government is taking steps to strengthen the disease surveillance system and improve the implementation of programme that cover specific diseases. To set up an early warning system the Government has issued instructions to states to develop a calendar of activities for taking pre-emptive actions for control of epidemics like Malaria and Dengue.

[English]

Uniform System of Education

3535. SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a uniform system of education in colleges on the pattern of Kendriya Vidyalayas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

I.S.I. Activities

3536. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "I.S.I.. Ne Chuninda Netaon Ki Hatya Ki Sazis Rachi" appearing in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated February 16, 1997;

(b) if so, whether the Government have sent letter of protest to Pakistan in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Pakistan Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have consistently taken up the issue of Pakistan's support and promotion of terrorism directed against India with Pakistan. Unfortunately, Pakistan's support to cross border terrorism continues. Government are resolved to taking all measures to counter the role of Pakistani agencies directed against India.

[English]

Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary

3537. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

DR. M. JAGANNATH :

SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the repl given to Unstarred Question No. 2344 on December 9, 1996 and state :

(a) whether regular meetings were held to implement three issues of land boundary agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;

(c) the details of the discussion held during the third meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint working group held in New Delhi; and

(d) steps taken for early completion of demarcation of Indo-Bangladesh land boundary?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (d) Regular meetings are held between the Land Records and Surveys Authorities of the two countries to discuss and implement the outstanding issues relating to the land boundary agreement. In 1994, 7 meetings; in 1995, 10 meeting in 1996, 12 meetings; were held. During the third meeting of Indo-Bangladesh Joint Working Group held in New Delhi from January 28-31, 1997 the two sides recognised the need for early completion of land boundary demarcation work. Both sides also agreed on the need to increase the number of survey teams for early completion of the work. Other issues discussed during the Joint Working Group meeting included security related issues, cross border movement, repatriation of Chakma refugees, visa regime, trans-border crimes etc. During the discussions between the Home Secretaries of India and Bangladesh in February 1996, both sides reiterated the need to increase the number of survey teams for boundary demarcation. As per information received from Survey of India, the land boundary demarcation in West Bengal sector has been discussed and field programme finalised, and demarcation of the pending portion of land boundary by both sides is presently being undertaken. The relocation of missing pillars/and repairs of damaged pillars has been undertaken in Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya sectors. The progress of printing and finalisation of boundary strip maps in all sectors have been reviewed.

[Translation]

Mentally Retarded People

3538. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to make law for mentally-retarded people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The proposed "National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Mental Retardation and

Cerebral Palsy Bill, 1995" envisages making arrangements for care and rehabilitation of the persons with mental retardation, providing aid and assistance to the organisations engaged in such care and receiving and managing the properties bequeathed for the purpose.

[English]

District Primary Education Programme

3539. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :
SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) in different States;

(b) if so, the achievement made by the States during the Eighth Plan state-wise; and

(c) the amount utilised by each State under DPEP during the Plan period, district-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The progress of implementation of the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP) is reviewed from time to time through visits of Supervision Missions, Computerised Management Information System (MIS). Periodical reports, meetings with the State project officials, etc.

(b) DPEP is a 5-7 years project Phase-I of the programme was launched in November, 1994 in 42 districts of 7 State namely Assam, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. Under Phass-II the programme has been extended to 17 districts of 4 additional States, namely Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh in 1996-97. Major achievements in 7 DPEP-I States are given in Statement-I attached.

(c) The position is indicated in Statement-II attached.

Statement-I

(Major achievements under DPEP upto December, 1996)

Name of States	Assam	Kerala	Haryana	Karnataka	Maharashtra	Tamil Nadu	Madhya Pradesh
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
New Primary School Buildings Constructed/ in progress	-	-	12	258	327	-	2141
Construction of buildings for existing schools completed/in progress	213	-	-	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No. of Schools Repaired/under progress	23	-	312	120	-	-	1117
Additional Class Rooms constructed/ in progress	36	481	591	16	675	510	2288
No. of BRC/CRC constructed/in progress	218	187	257	96	-	67	198
Early Child Education Centres set up/ in progress	49	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. of New Teachers appointed	-	-	-	914	1899	-	3243
No. of Teachers/ Resource Persons/ Other functionaries trained	42875	18158	13687	54773	48819	16623	239334
Development of New Text books	Class II Text books in assamese and class I Text books in Bodo introduced	Integrated books class I & II language, EVS, Maths for Class III & IV developed	Class I maths and language books prepared	Class I, II & III introduced	Class I & II Text books ready	Class I & II introduced and class III ready	Class I & II Text books introduced

Statement-II*(Expenditure against Annual Work Plan and Budget by DPEP-I States)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/Name of Districts covered under DPEP	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (upto Dec. 1996)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	ASSAM-State level	47.90	165.34	72.68	285.92
	1. Dhubri	30.55	434.89	44.31	509.75
	2. Darrang	24.43	497.80	80.07	602.30
	3. Karbi Anglong	2.68	-	-	2.68
	4. Marigaon	30.36	335.88	19.22	385.46
	Total Assam	135.92	1433.51	216.28	1785.71
2	HARYANA-State level	26.41	78.86	52.29	157.56
	1. Kaithal	95.78	126.09	144.89	366.76
	2. Jind	138.14	126.62	68.44	333.20

1	2	3	4	5	6
	3. Hissar	151.07	402.92	143.07	697.06
	4. Sirsa	99.29	163.23	111.53	374.05
	Total Haryana	510.69	897.73	520.21	1928.64
3	KARNATAKA-State level	57.76	93.18	47.75	198.69
	1. Belgaum	202.67	281.47	215.04	699.18
	2. Kolar	190.69	197.52	198.68	586.89
	3. Mandya	200.83	152.36	153.20	506.39
	4. Raichur	145.48	123.26	158.36	427.10
	Total Karnataka	797.44	847.79	773.03	2418.26
4	KERALA-State level	7.47	69.16	89.53	166.16
	1. Kasargode	11.49	243.34	164.84	419.67
	2. Mallapuram	11.29	605.77	452.19	1069.25
	3. Wayanad	8.70	117.26	89.86	215.82
	Total Kerala	38.95	1035.53	796.43	1870.91
5	MAHARASHTRA-State Level	46.81	113.40	195.00	355.21
	1. Aurangabad	54.30	234.87	539.22	828.39
	2. Latur	49.31	196.94	428.07	674.32
	3. Nanded	70.80	359.75	652.76	1083.31
	4. Osmanabad	50.84	210.67	300.21	561.72
	5. Parbhani	71.90	302.98	510.32	885.20
	Total Maharashtra	344.15	1418.61	2625.58	4388.34
6	TAMIL NADU-State level	80.69	53.78	9.60	144.07
	1. Dharmapuri	180.32	181.30	3.37	364.99
	2. South Arcot	296.70	269.08	6.20	571.98
	3. T. Sambuvarayyar	152.30	212.90	3.56	368.76
	Total Tamil Nadu	710.01	717.06	22.72	1449.78
7	MADHYA PRADESH-State level	144.45	227.93	233.64	606.02
	1. Sidhi	70.98	196.15	192.55	459.68
	2. Raigarh	145.33	347.35	229.22	721.90
	3. Sarguja	194.63	255.22	267.93	717.78
	4. Guna	73.34	303.03	134.53	510.90
	5. Panna	42.61	184.44	120.77	347.82
	6. Tikamgarh	43.89	204.68	81.88	330.45
	7. Shahdol	105.43	393.07	227.15	725.65
	8. Dhar	80.47	345.52	204.67	630.66
	9. Chhatarpur	69.73	249.14	195.71	514.58

1	2	3	4	5	6
10. Sehore		59.41	249.02	89.57	398.00
11. Raisen		58.03	229.31	170.02	457.36
12. Rajgarh		63.55	288.76	151.20	503.51
13. Rewa		66.87	332.98	186.10	585.95
14. Bilaspur		206.15	400.24	343.88	950.27
15. Satna		70.50	244.66	150.16	465.32
16. Rajnandgaon		87.30	368.02	137.75	593.07
17. Mandsaur		83.89	364.04	215.62	663.55
18. Ratlam		73.34	271.52	228.92	573.78
19. Betul		71.31	222.02	183.99	477.32
Total Madhya Pradesh		1811.21	5677.10	3745.28	11233.59

Irregularities Committed in SAI

3540. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the improper recruitment and financial malpractices committed in Sports Authority of India during the conduct of Bharatiyam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry into the matter;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) the action taken against the defaulters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) and (b) To commemorate Nehru Centenary Celebrations Ministry of Human Resource Development decided to conduct National Bharatiyam in Delhi on 14th November, 1989. A "Special Organising Committee, Bharatiyam'89" was constituted. For the conduct of Bharatiyam 89, no regular recruitment was made by the Special Organising Committee (SOC). However, all accounts for the event were maintained separately. During audit the Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG) made certain observations which have already been replied to on the basis of information furnished by S.O.C. Further clarifications asked by the C&AG are being attended to.

(c) and (d) The Chief Technical Examiner (CTE) of the Central Vigilance Commission, had enquired into the matter and made certain observations with regard to the structural defects in the construction of geodesic domes and lavatories.

(e) The report of CTE was considered by the SOC Bharatiyam-89 in its VIth meeting held on 18th March,

1994. The Committee was of the view that in view of the prevailing circumstances, all the decisions were taken in the best interest of the programme and the responsibility could not be fixed on any individual or group.

Ganga in Kanpur

3541. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the River Ganga is changing its course in Kanpur, U.P. recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Land for Sports Stadium in Ranikhet Cantonment

3542. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a resolution was adopted in 1996 for transfer of land on lease for thirty years to the Sports department of Government of Uttar Pradesh for construction of a Sports Stadium in Ranikhet cantonment in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether this proposal has since been approved by the Army Headquarter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) The Cantonment Board, Ranikhet in its meeting held on 28.4.1995 resolved that a ground under its management known as N.C.C. ground comprising GLR Sy. No. 3/6

measuring 4.497 acres be leased out to Uttar Pradesh Government through its Directorate of Sports for a period of 30 years for construction of a mini stadium. However, the proposal was not approved by the Competent Authority as the said land is required for defence purposes.

Development of Indigenous System of Medicines

3543. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a separate directorate of Ayurveda;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) The Government of India have set up a separate Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy. Under the Department, a Directorate for Ayurveda and Siddha with a Director as its administrative head is to be established. The filling up of various posts in the Directorate is in progress.

- (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Specialised Hospitals

3544. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up any specialised hospitals in different States;
- (b) whether each State really require a hospital like All India Institute of Medical Sciences; and
- (c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for setting up of such hospitals in the capitals of various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) 'Health' being a State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to establish hospitals in the States keeping in view their priorities and availability of resources.

National Ayurvedic Institutes

3545. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of National Ayurvedic Institutes functioning at present in the country;

(b) whether the working condition of the National Ayurvedic Institute, Jaipur is satisfactory; and

(c) if not, the measure being taken by the Government to improve the condition of this institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) There is only one National Institute for Ayurveda at Jaipur, Rajasthan.

(b) The National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan. The University of Rajasthan has been granting provisional affiliation to the Institute on a year to year basis. The Inspector of the University has pointed out certain shortcomings in the Institute. The Inspection teams of the Central Council of Indian Medicines (CCIM) which lays down the minimum standard of education, visited the Institute to assess whether the facilities provided are as per the norms. The Inspection report of the CCIM has made certain observations regarding nonfulfilment of the norms in some respects. The major short-comings are as follows :-

- (i) Non-filling up of vacant posts;
- (ii) Non-availability of certain equipments;
- (iii) Additional requirements of hostel facilities; and
- (iv) Establishment of a Herbal Garden.

(c) A herbal garden has been established. Hostel facilities have now been provided. Steps have been initiated to procure equipments and fill up vacant posts.

Ahir Regiment

3546. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Ahir Regiment ever existed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for its abolition; and
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to revive it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Multipurpose Project for Koshi

3547. SHRI MAHABIR LAL BISHVAKARMA :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have any multipurpose project for the Mithilanchal region from the Koshi river;

- (b) if so, the reasons for delay in its completion;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be completed and the estimated amount to be incurred thereon;
- (d) whether the Government are aware of the losses likely to be suffered due to its non-completion; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Kosi High Dam Project is proposed in Nepal territory and hence Nepal's cooperation in the project is essential. In the Indo-Nepal technical level meeting held in January, 1997 to discuss this project, it has been decided to take up detailed studies leading to preparation of Detailed Project Report jointly.

(c) Time frame for completion of the project and estimated cost would be known only when the detailed project report is prepared after investigations.

(d) and (e) The completion of the project would provide additional irrigation, power and flood control benefits to the terai region of Bihar.

[English]

Closure of Banaras Hindu University

3548. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Banaras Hindu University has been closed indefinitely;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any Committee had been set up to look into the reasons of violence in the University; and
- (d) if so, the findings of the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (d) Consequent upon the invalidation of the nomination of certain candidates for the BHU Students Union Election (on their being found ineligible on account of their past misconduct); there was an altercation between the students and the security staff and police personnel. This aggravated into large scale disturbances including arson and loss of life on the BHU campus and outside. In view of the deteriorating law and order situation and on the advice of the district administration, the University was closed sine die w.e.f. 21/2/1997.

A One Man Enquiry Committee headed by Shri Justice R.R. Rastogi, retired Judge of the Allahabad High Court has been appointed by the University to enquire into the violent incidents leading to the closure of the University and to suggest remedial measures to

prevent recurrence of such incidents in future. The work of the Committee is in progress.

Double/Multi Shift System in CGHS

3549. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce double/multi shift system in C.G.H.S. dispensaries to ensure adequate medical services to time beneficiaries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the time by which the revised time is likely to come into the effect; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) The 5th Central Pay Commission has given recommendations in this regard and the same are under examination.

River Valley Projects

3550. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of the on-going River Valley projects in the country and the progress made so far, State-wise and Project-wise;
- (b) whether the Government propose to set up a monitoring cell to review the physical progress of these projects; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to sustain the availability of resources for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) A statement giving details of ongoing Major and Medium Irrigation Projects in various States is enclosed.

(b) The Central Water Commission is already having a monitoring organisation which is monitoring most of the ongoing approved major projects and selected medium projects. Moreover the physical and financial progress of the projects are also reviewed at the time of Annual Plan discussions in the Planning Commission.

(c) Irrigation is a State subject and irrigation projects are planned, funded and implemented by the State Government from their own resources. The Central Assistance is released in the form of block loans and grants not tied to any sector or development and project. However, in order to provide Central Loan Assistance to the State Governments for early completion of irrigation projects, the Union Government has launched Rural Infrastructure Development Programme in 1995-96 and Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme in 1996-97.

Statement*Details of ongoing major and medium Irrigation Projects in various*

S.No.	States Name of State	Major		Medium			
		No. of Project (Nos.)	Latest Estimated Cost. (Rs. in Crores)	Ultimate Irrigation Potential (Thousand hectares)	No. of Project (Nos.)	Latest Estimated Cost. (Rs. in Crores)	Ultimate Irrigation Potential (Thousand hectares)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14	9140.31	1947.47	29	500.88	147.53
2.	Assam	5	429.90	166.48	6	74.18	47.75
3.	Bihar	16	4202.63	1211.29	23	537.24	105.28
4.	Goa	1	347.72	46.06	1	40.00	11.20
5.	Gujarat	9	11308.79	2121.13	30	716.99	161.93
6.	Haryana	4	944.41	322.00	-	-	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	143.32	26.54	2	11.37	4.87
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	144.15	67.88	11	112.02	40.16
9.	Karnataka	13	7277.21	1684.67	18	506.85	98.00
10.	Kerala	12	1442.14	569.45	22	545.10	126.79
11.	Madhya Pradesh	19	7834.17	2312.50	34	839.40	239.60
12.	Maharashtra	39	11554.79	2105.44	53	849.43	262.70
13.	Mainipur	2	324.64	44.67	2	66.58	11.05
14.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	1	17.18	16.81
15.	Orissa	7	4813.19	1094.69	13	606.28	110.32
16.	Punjab	-	743.54	-	1	2.00	NA
17.	Rajasthan	8	4560.82	1808.57	7	202.59	51.09
18.	Tripura	-	-	-	3	105.59	25.52
19.	Uttar Pradesh	18	6027.71	4923.86	3	55.37	6.68
20.	West Bengal	3	1695.41	1580.56	21	94.44	48.91
21.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	5	81.89	13.93
Total :		172	72934.85	22033.26	276	5963.38	1532.12

Survey for Water Resources in Saurashtra

3551. SHRI RAJENDRASINH RANA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made analytical geographical survey of Saurashtra region of Gujarat to assess Water Resources;

(b) if so, the salient features of the survey reports;

(c) the watertable level of different districts of Saurashtra;

(d) whether Government have planned to implement conventional methods for long run results in the area of water management and water harnessing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board has completed systematic hydrogeological survey of the entire State including Saurashtra region.

Reappraisal hydrogeological survey has also been carried out over an area of 34,861 square kilometres in six districts of Saurashtra region, namely, Amreli, Bhavnagar, Junagarh, Rajkot and Surendranagar.

(c) Central Ground Water Board monitors the position of ground water levels from 289 observation wells in six districts of Saurashtra. Ground water level in Saurashtra region ranges from less than 2 metres to about 45 metres below land surface. Districtwise range of ground water level below and surface in Saurashtra is given below :

District	Ground Water Level Range in Metres
1	2
Amreli	4.08 to 37.50
Bhavnagar	3.14 to 38.15
Jamnagar	3.66 to 23.81

1	2
Junagarh	2.89 to 39.72
Rajkot	3.10 to 22.60
Surat	1.95 to 23.00

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Measures like construction of check dams, watershed development, minor surface irrigation schemes, efficient methods of irrigation and prevention of salinity ingress are planned by the State.

Funds for National Highways in Kerala

3552. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are taking expeditious action on the request of Government of Kerala to release the sum of Rs. 227 crores provision for which has been made in the Eighth Plan for converting the National Highways in the State into four lanned paths; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Out of a total provision of Rs. 227.00 Crores for the development of National Highways in the State of Kerala, during the 8th Five Year Plan, works costing Rs. 166.50 Crores, including Rs. 93.47 between Alwaye and Cherthala, have been sanctioned.

[*Translation*]

Adult Education Centres

3553. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Adult Education Centres

functioning at present under the Adult Education Programme, State-wise;

(b) the funds allocated under this programme during each of the last two years, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons benefited under this programme during the above period; State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government have made any arrangement to review the working of these centres from time to time; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) The centre-based adult education programme (popularly known as adult education centres) under the Rural Functional Literacy Project has been revised from April 1991, since the reviews had indicated that it was not having much impact and was not cost-effective. The approach to adult literacy is now through the Total Literacy Campaigns (TLC) which are area-specific, time-bound, volunteer-based and cost-effective. However, for the difficult and remote areas where campaigns cannot be launched, a revamped Rural Functional Literacy Project is implemented. This revamped scheme has been approved for implementation in the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim, North-Eastern States and border districts of Rajasthan. But Rajasthan has opted for campaign mode Total Literacy Campaign even in border districts instead of centre based Rural Functional Literacy Project scheme. The State-wise details of the projects sanctioned, and the funds released under the scheme for the last two years are given in attached Statement.

(d) and (e) The projects are monitored and supervised by the State Governments who are the implement agencies. The reports are required to be submitted by them particularly on the progress of implementation. The Directorate of Adult Education is monitoring the programme at the National level.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State	No. of Projects*	Coverage	Grants released	
				1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	1,73,322	42.49	-
2.	Assam	15	48,700	50.00	-
3.	Jammu and Kashmir	7	23,275	154.85	-
4.	Manipur	10	1,40,000	41.65	-
5.	Meghalaya	2	27,954	9.00	4.14
6.	Maharashtra@@			100.00	4.45

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Mizoram	2	4,921	8.00	-
8.	Nagaland	7	64,200	19.13	19.07
9.	Rajasthan**	86	10,27,000	150.00	-
10.	Tamil Nadu@@			143.63	
11.	Sikkim	4	5,168	11.22	-

* Each project is of one year duration. Under Each project 100 centres are allowed and each centre can enrol 25 to 30 non-literates in the age-group of 15-35 years.

** The projects are not under implementation and the grant is adjusted in Strengthening of Administrative Structure (SAS) for 1996-97.

@@ Reimbursement of expenditure of earlier years.

[English]

Selection Standards for NDA and M.A.

3554. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the selection standards for entry into the National Defence Academy and Military Academy have been lowered recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether such a decision is going to affect adversely on the efficiency of the army; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Armed Forces

3555. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government feels that rapid modernisation of the armed forces is necessary to keep pace with changing security needs and improve the county's defence preparedness to meet the real and potential threats to our security; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) Government are continually engaged in the strengthening and modernising of our Armed Forces. The pace of modernisation, is based inter alia on the prevailing and long term potential threat perceptions. It will not be in national security interest to disclose details of the modernisation programmes.

Referral Centres for AIDS

3556. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Referral Centres set up under the AIDS Control Programme in the country till December, 1996;

(b) the number of Zonal Blood Testing Centres established till December, 1996; and

(c) the names and locations of Medical Colleges in the country having upgraded facilities for HIV infected persons and AIDS cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) 9 HIV Reference Centres have been set up under the AIDS Control Programme in the country so far. A list is enclosed as statement-I.

(b) There are 154 Zonal Blood Testing Centres established under National AIDS Control Programme. A list is enclosed as statement-II.

(c) A list is enclosed as Statement-III.

Statement-I

List of HIV Reference Centres

1. National Institute of Communicable Disease, Delhi.
2. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
3. Indian Institute of Immunohematology, Bombay.
4. National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases, Calcutta.
5. School of Tropical Medicines, Calcutta.
6. Madras Medical College, Madras.
7. National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune.
8. Regional Medical College, Imphal.
9. Christian Medical College, Vellore.

Statement-II**Zonal Blood Testing Centres in the Country****In various States/Union Territories**

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 1. Blood Bank, Gandhi Hospital, Hyderabad. |
| | 2. Blood Bank, M.J. Cancer Hospital, Hyderabad. |
| | 3. Blood Bank, Nizam's IMS, Hyderabad |
| | 4. Blood Bank, Instt. of Preventive Medicines, Hyderabad |
| | 5. Blood Bank, Government Headquarters Hospital, Vijayawada |
| | 6. Blood Bank, Government Headquarters Hospital, Karim Nagar |
| | 7. Blood Bank, Government Headquarters Hospital, Cuddapah |
| | 8. Blood Bank, Government Headquarters Hospital, Kammam |
| | 9. Blood Bank, Government Headquarters Hospital, Chittoor |
| | 10. Blood Bank, Medical College, Trupati |
| | 11. Blood Bank, Guntur Medical College, Guntur |
| | 12. Blood Bank, General Hospital, Kurnool |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 13. Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Itanagar |
| 3. Assam | 14. Blood Bank, Guwahati Medical College, Guwahati |
| | 15. Blood Bank, Medical College, Dibrugarh |
| | 16. Blood Bank, Medical College, Silchar |
| 4. Bihar | 17. Blood Bank, Medical College, Gaya |
| | 18. Blood Bank, Patna Medical College, Patna |
| | 19. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Dhanbad |
| | 20. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Jamshepur |
| | 21. Blood Bank, Jamshedpur |
| | 22. Blood Bank, Rajendra Medical College, Ranchi |
| | 23. Blood Bank, Medical College, Bhagalpur |
| | 24. Blood Bank, Shri Krishna Medical College, Muzzafarpur |
| | 25. Blood Bank, Medical College, Dharbanga |
| 5. Goa | 26. Blood Bank, Medical College, Panji |
| | 27. Blood Bank, Civil Hospital, Panaji |
| 6. Gujarat | 28. Blood Bank, Surat Medical College, Surat |
| | 29. Blood Bank, Government Medical College, Vadodara |
| | 30. Blood Bank, B.J. Medical College, Ahmedabad |
| | 31. Blood Bank, M.P. Shah Hospital, Jamnagar |
| | 32. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Junagarh |
| | 33. Blood Bank, Civil Hospital, Amreli |
| 7. Haryana | 34. Blood Bank, Medical College, Rohtak |
| | 35. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Hissar |
| | 36. Blood Bank, General Hospital, Faridabad |
| | 37. Blood Bank, General Hospital, Karnal |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 38. Blood Bank, Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla |
| | 39. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Dharamsala |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | 40. Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Srinagar |
| | 41. Blood Bank, Medical College, Jammu |
| 10. Kamataka | 42. Blood Bank, K.C. General Hospital, Bangalore |
| | 43. Blood Bank, H.S.I.S. Hospital, Bangalore |

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|-----|-----|---|
| | 44. | Blood Bank, K.M. Instt. of Oncology, Bangalore |
| | 45. | Blood Bank, K.M.C. Hospital, Hubli |
| | 46. | Blood Bank, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal |
| | 47. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Bellari |
| | 48. | Blood Bank, Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore |
| | 49. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Gulbarga |
| | 50. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Belgaum |
| 11. | 51. | Blood Bank, Medical College Hospital, Calicut |
| | 52. | Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Ernakulum |
| | 53. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Trivandrum |
| | 54. | Blood Bank, District Hospital, Trichur |
| | 55. | Blood Bank, District Hospital, Cannanore |
| 12. | 56. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Bhopal |
| | 57. | Blood Bank, District Hospital, Ujjani |
| | 58. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Gwalior |
| | 59. | Blood Bank, D.H. Sagar |
| | 60. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Indore |
| | 61. | Blood Bank, Rewa Medical College, Rewa |
| | 62. | Blood Bank, District Hospital, Bilaspur |
| | 63. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Jabalpur |
| | 64. | Blood Bank, District Hospital, Chindwara |
| | 65. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Raipur |
| 13. | 66. | Blood Bank, KEM Hospital, Bombay |
| | 67. | Blood Bank, L.T.M.G. Hospital, Bombay |
| | 68. | Blood Bank, B.Y.L. Nair Hospital, Bombay |
| | 69. | Blood Bank, Haffkine Institute, Bombay |
| | 70. | Blood Bank, Tata Memorial Hospital, Bombay |
| | 71. | Blood Bank, Red Cross, Bombay |
| | 72. | Blood Bank, Coopar Hospital, Bombay |
| | 73. | Blood Bank, Rajawadi Hospital, Bombay |
| | 74. | Blood Bank, J.J. Hospital, Bombay |
| | 75. | Blood Bank, General Hospital, Solapur |
| | 76. | Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Ulhasnagar |
| | 77. | Blood Bank, Sasoon Hospital, Pune |
| | 78. | Blood Bank, Government Medical College, Miraj |
| | 79. | Blood Bank, Dist. Hospital, Chandrapur |
| | 80. | Blood Bank, General Hospital, Kolhapur |
| | 81. | Blood Bank, Medical College, Nagpur |
| 14. | 82. | Blood Bank, J.N. Hospital, Imphal |
| 15. | 83. | Blood Bank, Pasteur Hospital, Shillong |
| 16. | 84. | Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Aizwal |
| 17. | 85. | Blood Bank, Dist. Hospital, Dimapur |
| | 86. | Blood Bank, District Hospital, Mukohchung |
| | 87. | Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Kohima |
| 18. | 88. | Blood Bank, M.K.G.G. Hospital, Burla |
| | 89. | Blood Bank, V.S.S. Medical College, Berhampur |
| | 90. | Blood Bank, S.C.B. Madical College, Cuttack |

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|--------------------------|---|
| 19. Punjab | 91. Blood Bank, Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital, Amritsar |
| | 92. Blood Bank, Rajendra Hospital, Patiala |
| | 93. Blood Bank, Civil Hospital, Ludhiana |
| 20. Rajasthan | 94. Blood Bank, S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur |
| | 95. Blood Bank, Medical College, Ajmer |
| | 96. Blood Bank, Medical College, Bikaner |
| | 97. Blood Bank, S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur |
| | 98. Blood Bank, General Medical College, Udaipur |
| | 99. Blood Bank, Medical College, Kota |
| 21. Sikkim | 100. Blood Bank, S.T.N.M. Hospital, Gangtok |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | 101. Blood Bank, Madras Medical College, Madras |
| | 102. Blood Bank, Stanley Medical College, Madras |
| | 103. Blood Bank, Kilpak Medical College, Madras |
| | 104. Blood Bank, Government Rayapettah Hospital, Madras |
| | 105. Blood Bank, Apollo Hospital, Madras |
| | 106. Blood Bank, Madurai Medical College, Madras |
| | 107. Blood Bank, S.G. Hospital, Madras |
| | 108. Blood Bank, Central, Egmore, Madras |
| | 109. Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Coimbatore |
| | 110. Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Salem |
| | 111. Blood Bank, Government Hospital, Tiruchirappally |
| | 112. Blood Bank, Medical College, Tirunelveli |
| 23. Tripura | 113. Blood Bank, G.B. Hospital, Agartala |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | 114. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Gorakhpur |
| | 115. Blood Bank, G.S.V. Medical College, Kanpur |
| | 116. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Allahabad |
| | 117. Blood Bank, K.L. Sharma Hospital, Meerut |
| | 118. Blood Bank, K.G. Medical College, Lucknow |
| | 119. Blood Bank, S.G.P.G.I., Lucknow |
| | 120. Blood Bank, Medical College, Agra |
| | 121. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Dehradun |
| | 122. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Nainital |
| | 123. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Shahjahnpur |
| | 124. Blood Bank, M.L.B. Medical College, Jhansi |
| 25. West Bengal | 125. Central Blood Bank, Calcutta |
| | 126. Blood Bank, C.N.M.C.H. Calcutta |
| | 127. Blood Bank, N.R.S.M.C.H., Calcutta |
| | 128. Blood Bank, R.G.K.A.R.M.C.H., Calcutta |
| | 129. Blood Bank, S.S.K.M., Calcutta |
| | 130. Blood Bank, District Hospital, West Dinajpur |
| | 131. Blood Bank, North Bengal Medical College, Darjeeling |
| | 132. Blood Bank, District Hospital, Jalapaiguri |
| | 133. Blood Bank, State Hospital, Burdwan |
| | 134. Blood Bank, G.B. Pant Hospital, Port Blair |
| 26. A&N Islands | |
| 27. Chandigarh | |
| 28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli | |
| 29. Daman & Diu | |

30. Delhi
31. Lakshadweep
32. Pondicherry
135. Blood Bank, G.T.B. Hospital, Shahdara, Delhi
136. Blood Bank, Hindu Rao-Hospital, New Delhi
137. Blood Bank, LNJP/MAMC Hospital, New Delhi

Under Indian Council of Medical Research

138. Blood Bank, RMRC, Bhubneshwar
139. Blood Bank, Institute of Pathology, New Delhi

Under Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services

140. Blood Bank, Command Hospital, Bangalore
141. Blood Bank, Command Pathology Lab Eastern Command, Calcutta
142. Blood Bank, Armed Forces Command Hospital, Delhi Cantt.
143. Blood Bank, Command Pathology Lab, Central Command, Lucknow
144. Blood Bank, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune
145. Blood Bank, Command Hospital, Northern Command, Udhampur

In Central Institutions

146. Blood Bank, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi
147. Blood Bank, Blood Transfusion Services, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi
148. Blood Bank, Jipmer Pondicherry
149. Blood Bank, RML Hospital, Delhi

In Autonomous Institutions (Other than ICMR)

150. Blood Bank, Medical College, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
151. Blood Bank, AIIMS, New Delhi
152. Blood Bank, Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi
153. Blood Bank, PGI, Chandigarh

In Private Institutions

154. Blood Bank, Christian Medical College, Vellore

Statement-III

Name and location of the centres having upgraded facilities for treatment of AIDS Patients.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.</p> <p>2. Calcutta Medical College, Calcutta.</p> <p>3. Madras Medical College, Madras.</p> <p>4. Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram</p> <p>5. Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad.</p> | <p>6. S.C.B. Medical College, Cuttack.</p> <p>7. Government Medical College, Guwahati.</p> <p>8. S.M.S. Medical College, Jaipur.</p> <p>9. Sher-e Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar.</p> <p>10. P.G.I., Chandigarh.</p> <p>11. Regional Medical Institute, Imphal.</p> <p>12. K.G. Medical College, Lucknow.</p> <p>13. Grant Medical College and J.J. Group of Hospitals, Mumbai.</p> |
|--|--|

Blood Bank

3557. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government and some of the State Governments have not been able to remove the deficiencies from their blood banks even after one year of the Supreme Court directions and 596 such blood banks are on the verge of closure;

(b) is so, the reasons for the failure of the Union Government and the State Governments to act on the orders of the Supreme Court; and

(c) whether Government propose to ensure the uninterrupted supply of blood to the needy people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c) It is not true that 596 blood banks are on the verge of closure. The various deficiencies reported of such blood banks are in the process of rectification. As such Central Government had moved the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to extend the time for grant of licences and the Hon'ble Supreme Court has extended the time limit for three months from 17th February, 1997. The extension of time was sought to ensure the compliance of one of the Supreme Court directions that only licensed blood banks should operate in the country. With this extension of time, it will be possible for more blood banks get themselves licensed so as to ensure availability of uninterrupted supply of blood to the needy people.

Historical Relics

3558. SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :
SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to undertake archaeological excavation at Pillak and Boxanagar in the State of Tripura where there are immense possibilities of finding of rich historical relics;

(b) whether any steps have been taken towards this direction; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAL) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Archaeological Survey of India conducted exploration and excavation at these sites in 1948-85 and recovered important archaeological relics. There is no proposal to conduct further excavations.

[Translation]

Ajmer-Ahmedabad National Highway

3559. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct four lanes on National Highway No. 8 on Ajmer-Byawar-Udaipur-Ratanpur-Ahmedabad Road by widening it; and

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to commence and completed?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is at feasibility stage and hence it is too early to give details.

Subsidy on Pilgrimage

3560. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total subsidy provided by the Government to Haj pilgrims during the last three years, year-wise and per capita details thereof;

(b) whether the amount of subsidy has been increased for the current year (1997);

(c) if so, the amount thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any subsidy is given to the pilgrims of Kailash Mansarovar also;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether subsidy is provided to the pilgrims of any other Hindu pilgrimage; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No subsidy is given directly to the Haj pilgrims. Government fixes a Haj pilgrim fare which is generally lower than the fare calculated on the basis of actual expenditure, the difference constituting the subsidy borne by the Government on account of Haj transportation arrangements and paid directly to the Air Charter. In addition, Government depute administrative and medical contingents (doctors and paramedics) to Saudi Arabia and also supply medicines and attendant medical facilities such as ambulances, camp dispensaries etc., to attend to the needs of the Haj pilgrims. Government subsidised travel of pilgrims to

Saudi Arabia for the Haj during the last three years as under :

Year	Number of Pilgrims	Expenditure Incurred (Rs.)	Per Capita Expenditure (Rs.)
1994	25,685	24.69 crores	9612.00
1995	30,503	17.95 crores	5884.00
1996	50,346	42.02 crores	8346.00

(b) The amount of subsidy on air travel for Haj pilgrimage has not been determined for 1997.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) In 1996, Government decided to peg the amount payable to Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) by pilgrims at the rate of Rs. 5000/- per pilgrim. The total cost charged by KMVN was Rs. 8250/-. Thus, the Government provided a subsidy of Rs. 3250/- per pilgrim to KMVN towards board, Dodge and transport arrangements. Government also provides other facilities to pilgrims which include medical assistance, security and escort cover through ITBP and UP State Police, communication links between Delhi and places en route on the Indian side as well as in China and a Liaison Officer at Government cost with each batch of pilgrim.

(f) and (g) In the case of Sikh/Sehajdhari and Hindu Jathas from India to Pakistan, Government extends all required assistance, obtains approval of the Government of Pakistan for the visit of each Jatha; coordinates with various State Governments/Ministries/Authorities and forwards the lists of intending pilgrims to the Pakistan High Commission, New Delhi for visas; arranges with the Ministry of Railways special train services for the pilgrims both for onward/return journey; expedites release of foreign exchange from Reserve Bank of India as a special case in view of the fact that permission for Jathas is given at short notice and visas are stamped on the pilgrims' passports which is one or two days prior to the departure of the Jathas; attaches a Liaison Officer from the High Commission of India in Islamabad to render assistance to the visiting pilgrims when they contact for any kind of help etc.

Science Centres

3561. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have set up Science Centres in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the criteria prescribed for setting up of these Science Centres;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up Science Centre at Saharasa in Koshi area of Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (d) National Council of Science Museums, with its Headquarters at Calcutta, is engaged in setting up of large, medium and small Science Centres throughout the country. The details of the 26 Science Centres which have been set up so far are given in the attached statement.

For setting up of Science Centres, the concerned State Government is required to offer land free of cost and to bear 50% of the development cost.

Neither the Council has any proposal nor any request from the State Government has been received.

Statement

1. Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, Calcutta (West Bengal).
2. Central Research and Training Laboratory, Calcutta (West Bengal).
3. District Science Centre, Purulia (West Bengal).
4. Science Centre, Bardhaman, (West Bengal).
5. Science City (Convention Centre Only) (West Bengal).
6. Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bangalore (Karnataka).
7. District Science Centre, Gulbarga (Karnataka).
8. Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai (Maharashtra).
9. Raman Science Centre and Planetarium, Nagpur (Maharashtra).
10. National Science Centre, Delhi (Delhi).
11. Shrikrishna Science Centre, Patna (Bihar).
12. Regional Science Centre, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh).
13. Regional Science Centre, Bhubaneswar (Orissa).
14. Science Centre, Dhenkanal (Orissa).
15. Kapilas Science Park, Kapilas (Orissa).
16. Regional Science Centre, Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh).
17. District Science Centre, Dharampur (Gujarat).
18. District Science Centre, Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu).
19. Regional Science Centre, Guwahati (Assam).
20. Regional Science Centre, Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh).
21. Science Activity Corner, Gwalior (Madhya Pradesh).

22. Regional Science Centre and Planetarium, Calicut (Kerata).
23. Science Activity Centre, Sirsa (Haryana).
24. Panorama Museum, Kurukshetra (nearing completion) (Haryana).
25. North Bengal Science Centre, Siliguri (West Bengal) (Awaiting inauguration).
26. Science Centre, Digha (West Bengal) (Awaiting inauguration).

[English]

KV at Sundergarh

3562. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the land for construction of building of Kendriya Vidyalaya has been allotted by the District Administration of Sundergarh in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether the funds have been allotted for the construction of building;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the time by which the funds are likely to be allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Parsuram Road Scheme

3563. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any Parsuram Road Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of roads connected with the National Highways by the Government under the said scheme, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to declare the road connecting Ranchi, Jamshedpur Raipur, Bilaspur, Mandla Road to Jabalpur as a National Highway; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c) Under this scheme there was a proposal to connect Bombay, Nagpur-Rourkela and Dhanbad through Super National Highway. However, the scheme could not take off due to resource constraints.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Central Institute of Psychiatry

3564. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for providing modern equipment and facilities in the Central Institute of Psychiatry at Kane in Ranchi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether number of cases of corruption in the said institute have been reported during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the action taken by the Government against the person found guilty;

(f) the amount of food being provided to each patient daily in the said institute; and

(g) the efforts made by the Government to increase this quantum as it is inadequate to provide adequate quantum of food in the present circumstances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Central Institute of Psychiatry is a Central Government Institute and has essential equipments and facilities. However, it is proposed to upgrade the facilities during the IXth Plan Period.

(c) to (e) There were allegations of corruption in the Institute and preliminary enquiry revealed that in matters of purchases of stores and equipments, proper procedures as per financial rules and regulations had not been followed. Consequently; a special audit has been ordered by the Director General of Health Services to be conducted by the Director of Audit, New Delhi, Report of the special audit is still awaited.

(f) and (g) The quantity of food supplied to the patients in the Institute is shown in the Statement attached. The Diet Committee of the Institute meets periodically to review the quantity and quality of the food provided to the patients and suitable action is taken in the matter.

Statement

Diet for 1st and 2nd Class Patients

Breakfast	Food items	Vegetarian	Non-Vegetarian
1	2	3	4
	1. Bread	100 grams	100 grams
	2. Butter/Jam	10/20 grams	10/20 grams

1	2	3	4
	3. Seasonal fruits	1 No.	1 No.
	4. Tea	200 ml	200 ml
	5. Eggs	-	-
	6. Milk	500 ml	-

Diet for 3rd Class and 4th Class Patients

	Food Items	Vegetarian	Non-Vegetarian	
1. Breakfast	Bread	100 gm	100 gm	
	Butter/Jam	10/20 gm	10/20 gm	
	Milk	233 ml	233 ml	
	Tea	200 ml	200 ml	
2. Lunch	Rice/Atta	175 gm	175 gm	
	Dal	55 gm	55 gm	
	Green vegetables	146 gm	146 gm	
	Potato	146 gm	146 gm	
	Meat	-	175 gm (once weekly)	
	Fish	-	87 gm (once weekly)	
	Egg	-	1 No. (once weekly)	
	Curd	100 gm (3 days in a week)	-	
	Papad	1 No. (5 days in a week)	-	
	Vegetable bhujia	3 days in a week	-	
3. Evening Tea	Snacks (Bun/fruity)	50 gm	50 gm	
	Tea	200 ml	200 ml	
	Banana (Yellow/green)	2/1 (3 days in a week)	2/1 (3 days in a week)	
Dinner	Rice/Atta	175 gm	175 gm	
	Green vegetable	146 gm	146 gm	
	Potatao	146 gm	146 gm	
	Dal	55 gm	55 gm	
	Mustard Oil	15 gm daily	15 gm daily	
	Condiments	9 gm daily	9 gm daily	

High Protein Diet fo Debilitated Patients

1. Rice/Atta	: 234 Gram per day
2. Meat/Chicken/Fish	: 175/146 Gr. per day
3. Eggs	: 2 Nos. per day
4. Dal	: 87 Gram per day
5. Fruits	: 2 Nos. daily
6. Vegetables	: 350 Gram per day

7. Potato	: 175 Gram per day
8. Bread	: 100 Gram
9. Milk	: 500 Gram
10. Tea	: 2 Cups.
11. Snack	: 50 Gram
12. Curds	: 100 gram daily

Milk diet

1. Bread	: 300 Gram Per day
2. Milk	: 1.8 Lts. Per day
3. Sugar	: 100 Gram Per day
4. Sago	: 87 Gram Per day
5. Eggs	: 2 Nos-. Per day
6. Butter/Jam	: 30/60 Gram Per day
7. Banana	: 2 No. of daily
8. Tea	: 7 Cups daily.

Commercialisation of Government Hospitals in Uttar Pradesh

3565. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government hospitals in Uttar Pradesh have been commercialised; and people have now to pay for each and every facility they avail in Government hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for taking such a step; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to abolish such charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT CORRECTING THE ANSWER TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2867 DATED 26TH AUGUST, 1996 REGARDING WORLD BANK LOAN FOR ROAD PROJECTS IN BIHAR

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : The Original answer to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question. No. 2867 given on 26th August, 1996 reads as under :-

Question

(a) whether Bihar has submitted any proposal in March, 1996 for road projects in the State for World Bank loan, and

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

Answer : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

THE ANSWER AS PRINTED ABOVE MAY BE READ AS UNDER : (a) In-complete proposals had been received and State Government has been requested to furnish complete details.

(b) Does not arise.

12.02 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 1997-98

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of External Affairs for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1658/97]

Annual Report and Review of the Working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati for the year 1995-96 etc.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JENESHWAR MISHRA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Board, Guwahati, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1659/97]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1995-96.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1660/97]

- (5) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Water Resources for the year 1997-98.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1661/97]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for the year 1997-98, Annual Report and Review on the working of Bharat Electronic Limited, Bangalore for the year 1995-96.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the Defence Services Estimates for the year 1997-98 (Hindi and English versions).
- (2) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Defence for the year 1997-98.
- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1663/97]

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual report of the Bharat Electronics Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1664/97]

Annual Report and Review of the Working of Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Pune for the year 1995-96 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : On behalf of Shri S.R. Bomma, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Khuda Baksh Oriental

Public Library, Patna, for the year 1995-96.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1665/97]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1666/97]

Notifications under Major Port Trust Act, 1963 and Annual Report and Review on the working of Nationalship Design and Research Centre, Vishakhapatnam for the year 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963 :-
- (i) G.S.R. 537 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd November, 1996 approving the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Contributory Outdoor and Indoor Medical Benefit after Retirement) Regulations, 1996.
- (ii) G.S.R. 572 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th December, 1996 approving the Mumbai Port Trust (Recruitment of Heads of Departments) Amendments Regulations, 1996.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1667/97]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Ship Design and Research Centre, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Ship Design and Research Centre, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1995-96.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1668/97]

- (4) 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 Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1995-96.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1669/97]

Annual Report and Review of the Working of Central Council of Homoeopathy, New Delhi for the year 1995-96 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Council of Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Council of Homoeopathy, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1670/97]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, for the year 1994-95.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1671/97]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, for the year 1995-96.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1672/97]

Annual Report and Review of the Working of Distt. Primary Education Programme, Kerala for the year 1995-96 and statement showing reasons for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the District Primary Education Programme, Kerala, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the District Primary Education Programme, Kerala, for the year 1995-96.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1673/97]

12.03 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Second Report presented to the House on 13th March, 1997 have recommended that leave of absence from the sittings of the House be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each :-

1. Shri Louis Islary 20.11.96 to 20.12.96
2. Shri Hindu Rao 20.11.96 to 6.12.96
Naik Nimbalkar
3. Shri S. Ramachandra 20.11.96 to 11.12.96
Freddy

4. Shri C. Narayana Swamy 20.11.96 to 5.12.96
5. Dr. Amrit Lal Bharti 29.11.96 to 15.12.96
6. Shri S.D.N.R. Wadiyar 1.12.96 to 20.12.96
7. Shri Mohammad Shahabuddin 26.8.96 to 13.9.96 and 20.11.96 to 20.12.96
8. Shri Shibu Soren 26.8.96 to 13.9.96 and 20.11.96 to 20.12.96
9. Shri Bhim Prasad Dahal 20.2.97 to 21.3.97
10. Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao 20.2.97 to 21.3.97 and 21.4.97 to 9.5.97
11. Shri G.M. Kunturkar 20.2.97 to 6.3.97
12. Shri Shivaji V. Kamble 20.11.96 to 20.12.96 and 20.2.97 to 6.3.97
13. Shri Prakash Vishwanath Pranjpe 20.2.97 to 10.3.97

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave as recommended by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Leave is granted. The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.04 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

Twenty-First Report

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA METHA (Mumbai South) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy (Hindi and English versions) of the Twenty-First Report of the Standing Committee on Industry on 'Industrial situation'.

[Translation]

(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, an incident of train dacoity has taken place in Bihar, I have raised a question of privilege in that regard...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down, Everybody will get a chance on his turn.

(Interruptions)

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, an incident of train dacoity has taken place in Bihar...(Interruptions)

[English]

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM (Tiruchengode) : Sir, I want to raise a very important issue in this august House.

The biggest sandalwood godown is situated in Thirupattur of Tamil Nadu. In that Depot, yesterday, there was a major fire accident due to which Rs. 100 crore worth of sandalwood was damaged.

The Central Government banned the sandalwood exports from 1992 onwards. Due to the ban on the export of sandalwood and chips, the buyers have not lifted the stocks, and the stocks have been accumulating in the Depot.

Now, apart from Thirupattur Depot, Salem Depot, Sathiamangalam Depot and other Depots in Tamil Nadu have stocks of more than Rs. 600 crore worth sandalwood. Regarding the lifting of ban on the export of sandalwood, our Tamil Nadu Government has written several letters to the Central Government. Due to enormous delay by the Central Government, the Tamil Nadu Government is incurring heavy losses on the stocks held in these Depots. So, the Central Government must lift the ban on the export of sandalwood immediately.

Another important issue is that in Periyar District of Tamil Nadu, which comes under my constituency, the coconut trees in thousands of hectares are affected by an unidentified disease.

Due to that, coconut trees spread over lakhs of acres are damaged. The disease will be spread over to Kerala also through Pollachi. So, that disease must be identified. One expert team of scientists must be sent to Tamil Nadu. Then, relief fund must be given to the farmers. I demand that per acre, about Rs. 15,000 relief fund must be sanctioned by the Government.

Sir, this is a matter of highest urgency. The Government must see to it that necessary action is taken in this regard....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have given a notice of privilege regarding Bihar ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is nothing about it. You please sit down. Don't waste the time of other members. Mr. Handique please speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your notice has not come to me. Please sit down. It might be with the Speaker. He must be examining it. You please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are also raising the same issue. You are on the panel. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxor) : A train dacoity has taken place and a number of people have been killed in it...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him complete, then I will listen to you. Let him complete. Please sit down. It is of no use to keep on standing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (Jorhat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Tocklai Experimental Station in Assam, a Tea Research Institute established in 1911, the first of its kind in the whole world, is paralysed by a three-month long strike arising out of mismanagement and is on the brink of collapse. Only a couple of such Institutes exist in the world today.

Sir, the decline of this world famous Institute began in 1989 when it was withdrawn from the management of CSIR and was transferred to the Tea Research Association, a cooperative set up and funded by the Tea Board to the extent of 50 per cent of its budget allocation. In addition to the resource crunch, bad management and lack of purpose and a sense of direction have frustrated the employees and scientists.

In a written reply to my question on the subject, the hon. Commerce Minister chose in his wisdom to leave the matter to the Tea Research Association interpreting the matter as a private sector dispute. The Government cannot wash its hands off like that. Till 1989, it was under the CSIR and Government cannot afford to remain a dumb witness to the drifting of this world famous Institute into purposelessness and to the undoing of research and development of tea, which is one of the biggest foreign exchange earners.

During the last visit of the hon. Speaker in the month of February, all the employees and scientists met him and drew his kind attention to the problems of the Institute. I, therefore, urge upon the Commerce Minister to depute a senior officer of the Ministry to visit the place and to meet both the management and the employees and scientists and amicably settle the matter. Only, Governmental intervention can save the Tocklai Experimental Station. It will be a colossal national loss if this Institute is closed down.

The hon. Members of Parliament of the North-Eastern Region have already submitted a memorandum to the hon. Minister seeking his immediate intervention. So, I request the Government to do the needful in this regard...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, my submission is that when the matter of Bihar was raised here on Saturday. I was total that I would be allowed to speak on Monday...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are talking about the Motion of Privilege. It is still under consideration. So, you please, sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chaubeyji is also saying the same thing.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I am not talking about the Motion of Privilege...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are talking about the Motion of Privilege. It is still under consideration. So, you please, sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chaubeyji is also saying the same thing.

SHRI RAM NAIK : I am not talking about the Motion of Privilege...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no need to display documents. Is it provided in the rules? You are on the panel.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Uma Bharti ji, you also sit down. You have not been given the floor. Please speak on your turn. You are required to give a notice. Everybody will get a chance on his turn.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (Motihari) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Railways and inturn the Government of India towards the vast region of North Bihar. The people of Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Champaran region of North Bihar have been facing the havoc of floods of Bagmati river since independence to this day. No transport facility are available for the population of about 50 lakhs covering 15 blocks and 2000 villages of the four districts of Sitamarhi, Seohar, Muzaffarpur and Champaran. I would like to point out Hon'ble Minister of Railways that District Head quarter of Seohar and the Divisional Head quarter of Pakaridayal have so far not been linked with the rail lines. Through you, I demand that Motihari, Pakaridayal, Seohar and Sitamarhi in Bihar may kindly be linked with the rail network. There is also a need for providing a rail link between Birganiya and Muzaffarpur via Seohar and thereby connecting the densely populated areas Bairganiya, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi Motihari. It will provide train services for people of 2000 villages and towns of this rigions. Sir, the difficulty being faced in operating train services in Champaran (Motihari) under Samastipur Railway Division may kindly be removed. I would also like to urge upon the Ministry of Railways to create a new Railway Division in Champaran.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN (Mumbai-North East) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, previous Government distributed Gas agencies and Petrol pumps very liberally. When this

matter was brought before the Supreme Court they opposed it and cancelled those allotments. Not only that but Supreme Court also gave historical judgement and imposed a fine of Rs. 50 lakhs on a former Minister. Consequentially the United Front Government decided to do away with the descretionary quota of M.Ps. was also discontinued. But now a news item has appeared in the Press that Ministry of law have submitted a note to the Central Cabinet seeking regularisation of Gas agencies and Petrol pumps allotted by previous Government. and that Ministry has requested to that effect to the Cabinet...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Ballia-Bihar): It has been opposed in the Central Cabinet that the wrong practice of distributing petrol pumps started in congress region will not continue any more...*(Interruptions)*

12.13 hrs.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I am not standing for your reply. It means that the Law Ministry intends to regularise the allotments, which were liberally made by the previous Government to sons, daughters-in-law, Brothers-sister, mother-son and mother-father-of the politicians and the administrative officers. In case these allotments are regularised naturally, it will be contempt of the Supreme Court and disrespect of public.

Therefore, Sir, I urge upon the Government to ask Ministers to make a statement in this regard making their intention clear...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a question of privilege...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bakura) : Sir, the Government should clarify its position...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am fully aware of your notice, Shri, Reddy.

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a news item appeared in the Economic Times that the Cabinet has opposed the instructions of the Supreme Court regarding the allotments made by the previous Government...*(Interruptions)* It has been opposed...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Did you attend the meeting...*(Interruptions)*

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : You are not a minister....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will come to you, Achariaji.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Nitish Kumar.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record other than what Shri Nitish Kumar is saying.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nitish Kumar has helped me and I have to help him now.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am going to raise a matter causing difficulties to the people of Bihar. Therefore, I seek your protection for all the people of Bihar. It is very much needed in Bihar. Mr. Speaker, Sir, for a programme of the ruling party in Bihar the Government machinery is being misused and buses are being seized for this purpose...*(Interruptions)* Funds are also being raised from traders by a group of ten persons. The petrol pumps are closed these ...*(Interruptions)* trains are not running. The Ranchi Bench of Patna High Court *(Interruptions)* has asked the government not to seize any of the buses.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nitishji, please. I do not think that it is fair to raise a state subject here.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nitishji, no more, please.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : But Government officials and police personnels are raising funds forcibly in violation of the order of the High Court. Bus commuters are unable to travel. Traders are closing their shops out of fear.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is a State matter. How can you raise such questions?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : People are running for their lives. Law and order has collapsed. I therefore seek your protection...*(Interruptions)* in respect of ...*(Interruptions)* such illegal activities and such programmes as this in which Prime Minister of the country is likely to take part...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY (Buxor) : The people who create scene in the House are not present here today...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. I have given the floor to Shri Acharia only

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI LAL MUNI CHAUBEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the funds are being collected forcibly. Buses are not plying on the roads. It is causing inconvenience to the commuters...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Sir, I have already stated and I have made my Party's position clear...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have seen your notice.

Shri Rudy and Shrimati Rita Verma have given the notice. I am still going through it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am aware of your privilege notice. I will take a decision.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : For regularisation of what has been done by the previous Governments in allotting petrol pumps and LPG dealership and what has been stated by the Supreme Court of India, I want that the Government should clarify its position ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, I have started this issue. Let us first complete this one. You can then go to another subject...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : it is a matter pertaining to Bihar...*(Interruptions)* The Prime Minister is taking part on this programme...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot go on talking about the State Governments.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : It is said that the Government would move a Bill in this session ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You have not even given notice. Nothing is going on regard, whatever you are saying.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice on this issue. Please give me a chance...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Fernandes, I have gone through your notice. I must appreciate that knowing fully well

that this is not under the purview of the Parliament, you have not pressed it in spite of giving notice for it. I must compliment you for that.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, please listen to me...*(Interruptions)* I would like to bring to it to your kind notice that the life of a sitting member of the House who is a General Secretary of the party whose President is our hon'ble Defence Minister as well as he has come out to stop the movement of trains to protest against forcibly taking away all the buses of his town to Patna. Since he has arrested that the buses should not be taken away forcibly his life is in danger. Please do not look at this issue of Centre-State relations. Three days ago, had requested the Prime Minister to look into it.

In case tomorrow, the Prime Minister from the stage speaks high about those leaders against whom C.B.I. is conducting an inquiry and High Court is monitoring the case on behalf of the Supreme Court where the case is pending and the officers of C.B.I. are going to file a charge-sheet, and observes that this is a great rally and its leaders are great. Will the constitution under these circumstances in the country continue to exist? Do not look upon this matter as the matter of a State. Will under such a situation democracy in the country continue to exist? What will be the fate of democracy in this country...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think, it is enough.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in which direction we are moving? We do not want that the people of our party there...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhepura) : You have already disallowed him. This is not fair. You have not allowed him. The issue is settled.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give you a chance.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is not the way.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of my party are being threatened on the roads. How the Government is going to protect them? The Party is power is threatening them. Where should they go? The workers of Bhartiya Janta Party are being threatened. We seek your protection...*(Interruptions)* whom should we ask for protection...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing is going on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot raise things like that. Nothing is going on record. Everything is stopped.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Very good. Speaker is not required.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : We have congratulated the Government for taking a bold step in regard to the special quota for Ministers. They have abolished it. The first decision taken by the United Front Government is that there will not be any special quota.

I would also congratulate you for announcing the abolition of special quotas and special dispensations for MPs. But there is a disturbing news item that has appeared in the newspapers which I want that the Government should clarify. The names of some hon. Members of this House have also appeared there. They have taken their names in regard to allotment of petrol pumps or LPG dealership...*(Interruptions)* An attempt is made to regularise - to undo what has been done by the Supreme Court - the dealership which were sanctioned through the special quotas. If these allotments are regularised, that would be an injustice. I want that the Government should clarify this. I also want that there should not be any regularisation...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, all the retired judges should be tried first. All the retired judges should first be subjected to an inquiry by the CBI...*(Interruptions)* The Heads of the Oil Selection Board has been distributing favours. They should be tried first...*(Interruptions)* Most of the retired judges, including the Judges of the Calcutta High Court have to be tried...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : I have also to say this.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I think, you have made your point.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha) : Sir, we would like to say something to the Government.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : It is a very important issue. The entire House is concerned about it.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa) : Sir, going by the sense of the House, the Government must take a decision. Irrespective of party affiliations, this is the feeling of the House. The Government must monitor the situation and issue a statement that they would not regularise these allotments. The statement must come from the Government...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speakers, Sir, you give direction to the Government.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, there are no two opinions on this. There seems to be a unanimity and rightly so, if I may say so. But at the same time, ordinary, simple Government employees who have been occupying Government quarters for years together have been asked to vacate peremptorily.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : That is a separate issue.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I agree, but they are also suffering. Therefore, I would make this request to the Government. I do not know if it should be regularised or not because the Supreme Court may take it as an affront to them if they are regularised. But something has to be done. Twenty thousand Government employees are suffering; their children are in the midst of their educational career. What will happen to them? They have no place to go. They are meeting us. I am sure they are meeting the leaders of every political party.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : It is a different subject.

MR. SPEAKER : That is the same subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : There are a number of women employees among them, who are in dire distress...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The Government has taken note of the sense of the House.

(Interruptions)

DR. DEBI PROSAD PAL (Calcutta North-West) : There should not be any delay, particularly in asking them to vacate...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government is silent. It means that Government intends to regularise it. It wants to regularise the Petrol Pumps and Gas Agencies allotted by the earlier Government. It is not speaking against it and from her silence it seems that she is in agreement with this issue.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Involve their 13 days Government too.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Not only that names of M.Ps. have also figured in it. This Government is allotting Petrol Pumps and Gas agencies to oblige them. Their names should also be revealed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot expect an individual Minister to react to such a question.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE (Jadavpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the House...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Is the news report confirmed that they are going to regularise it? Unless they contradict it, we will take it that the news reports are correct.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, the Government is going to act now.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are 450 people on the list. So petrol pumps have been sealed...(Interruptions) Names of MPs too are there, which should be revealed.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : You have made your point. You must listen to the Minister now.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : Sir, let me put the records straight. The Government would see whether it has the approval or consensus of all the political parties because there is another issue with regard to allotment of houses. That was also allotted from the Minister's discretionary quota. The Government would like to consult all the political parties. If there is a consensus, we will go by it. Otherwise, the Government is not interested in it...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The decision of the Supreme Court should be implemented. We do not want anything else...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a decision can be taken in this regard...(Interruptions) As far as the allotment of Gas Agencies and Petrol Pumps is concerned these have been allotted by taking huge sums and these have been allotted to them out of charity...(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The decision of the Supreme Court should be implemented.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am very sorry that a human matter which I raised is being sought to be politicised...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : We know how these houses have been allotted...(Interruptions)

[English]

What about those who have been denied accommodation?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I have not spoken for any A or B or C or D. I have said that many ordinary

Government employees are out to great problems and that the Government should look into that because that is also a matter of allotment. I have not linked it up with LPG dealership or petrol pump dealership. These are separate issues. I said everybody is supporting them. So, do not say that I have linked it.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I have never said that you have linked it up...(Interruptions) The Prime Minister wants it...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Fernandes, you have made your point. Now, let us listen to others.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : There were some unemployed people who were given LPG dealership. Their case should also be seriously thought over...(Interruptions) I know that some unemployed people were given this dealership. This should be thought over...(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, on both these issues, we have a stand. As regards these 20,000 Government employees who have been served notice, I have written to the Prime Minister that their case should be considered sympathetically...(Interruptions) In case some alternative arrangements can be made, that also should be thought of. This is our party's stand. I have written to the Prime Minister.

As regards the LPG and petrol pump issue, we will abide by the Supreme Court verdict. If there is consensus about it after discussion, we will take our stand. What Shri Rajesh Pilot has said is our latest stand...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I think the matter is closed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has said that he is going to call a meeting of all the political parties.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : I hope this would not be a secular consensus only...(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : But you should not boycott...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I suppose the hon. Minister has said 'all'.

SHRI SRIKANT JENA : Yes.

MR. SPEAKER : He has confirmed that he has said 'all'.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : I was chairman at the time when P.A.C. examine have presented the report.

[English]

We have condemned all such things which have been done.

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Krishna Bose may speak now.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : I request the hon. Members to cool down. I would like to raise another matter...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have been receiving so many notices. What can I do?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We have to finish the Budget discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only what Shrimati Krishna Bose speaks will go on record. Other speaker's speech will not go on record.

(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the dismal condition in which the port majdoors live in Calcutta Port area. I have just visited the majdoor quarters in the Hide Road area of Calcutta Port. The majdoor families there are living under inhuman condition.

The place is so filthy that it is unfit for human habitation. On top of that the Port authorities suddenly started disconnecting the electric connection of the area plunging the quarters in darkness. The children had to stop studying for their examination. The Port authorities have temporarily stopped the process of disconnecting electricity. But it has not been restored to the already disconnected areas...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rudy, I have said that I am considering it. I will come to you later on.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA BOSE : Huge sums of money are allotted for upliftment of major Ports. Would the Government spend a part of it for civic amenities of the majdoors who help the Port activities going? How can we expect efficiency from them if we leave them in darkness and filth?

This is my submission.

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, are you going to call ladies?

MR. SPEAKER : I am not calling them.

[English]

SHRIMATI M. PARVATI (Ongole) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the aquaculture activity has been promoted by the Government of India, by extending loans and subsidies to the export oriented activity. 90 per cent of the aquaculturists are small and marginal farmers and they

* Not Recorded.

have invested their life's savings into this activity. Recently, the hon. Supreme Court had directed the respective coastal Districts' Collectors to close or demolish all the farms situated on the sides of the rivers creeks and seashore by 31st March, 1997 ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Budget is to be passed, otherwise you will not get your salary.

[English]

SHRIMATI M. PARVATI : I would like to know from the Government what measures do the Government intend to take to protect the interests of the farmers who are to be affected by this order of the hon. Supreme Court since the deadline for implementing the order of the hon. Supreme Court is fast approaching. These farms, it seems, contribute around Rs. 3000 crore of foreign exchange to our national exchequer. The National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur has given a contradictory report about the aquaculture to the Government of India and the hon. Supreme Court. I wish that the Government probe and examine this report thoroughly...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Small issues are not taken up in Zero Hour. Big issues should be raised in this Hour.

[English]

SHRIMATI M. PARVATI : Moreover, most of the investment by aquaculturists is done by way of loans. NABARD and other commercial banks have advanced crores of rupees and the repayment normally will become a question, placing the banks and others which have lent the loans, in an awkward position.

The future life of around 50 lakhs of people who are directly or indirectly employed in this sector is at stake and the view of the Government regarding this issue is sought with concern by the Members of this House.

Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have discussed the issue of providing political protection to criminals particularly about some Members of Parliament. Since it has created a disastrous situation in the country. I wish to invite your attention in the matter.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rudy, I have said that I have received your notice and also the notice of Prof. Rita Verma and I am looking into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, it is a document ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Yes, I know that. Okay.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, it is a matter of great concern because the country is facing a lot of problems today because of the political protection which is given to such criminal elements...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No. Please sit down. You cannot raise it now. I did not read your original note in Hindi. I had to read the English translation. Maybe, you are more informed. But what I understand is that the two names that were taken did not mention that they are Members of Parliament. One person is referred to as an MLA and the other person is referred to without any designation. It is not allowed to be raised now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am verifying it. It is under my consideration. The fact that I have referred to it, should convey that I have also taken note of that. What else do you want? Please do not ask me to take a final decision now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow any more. We have to pass the Budget also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Namgyal, please come to my chamber. I will discuss it with you. Let me understand it and then I will allow you later on.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, we may take up Matters Under Rule 377.

12.40 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to start work on Mohane Reservoir Project in Bihar.**

[Translation]

SHRI DHIRENDERA AGARWAL (Chattrra) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Gaya District of Central Bihar is a very backward district. This region has come in the grip of terrorism due to poverty, unemployment and very slow development. Mohane Reservoir Project in Mohanpur, Barachatti Block was sanctioned in the Eighth Five Year Plan for developing this region. At that time the estimated cost of this project was one hundred and thirty crores of rupees. This project was to be completed during the Eight Five Year Plan. Completion of this project will irrigate 85,000 Hectare of land of Gaya and border districts of Barachatti, Mohanpur, Sherghati, Bodhgaya,

Chandausi, Manpur, Bela, Tekari, Fatehpur, Wazirganj, Atri and Khijra Sarai etc. Blocks and will generate 30 MW of electricity, completion of this project will benefit more than fifty lakh farmers of Gaya and its twelve border districts.

12.41 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

Construction of Mohane Reservoir Project could not be started till now. I, in the public interest, request the Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources through this House that the construction of this project should be started immediately so that farmers of this region could be benefitted and presently the industries which are unable to prosper because of power shortage prosper with the availability of power and the local people are provided with jobs.

(ii) **Need to allocate adequate LPG to Kanyakumari District in Tamil Nadu to clear the Backlog**

[English]

SHRI N. DENNIS (Nagercoil) : Sir, the common people of Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu are facing a lot of difficulties and inconvenience for a long time due to acute shortage of LPG connections. The waiting list is very long almost in all the gas agencies there. In some agencies, consumers are not getting opportunities to get gas connections even seven years after registration. This District is declared as cent per cent literacy district. In most of the families there, both males and females are employed. They are the worst affected people due to the long waiting list. Moreover, Kanyakumari District is located in between Arabian Sea and the Western Ghats. The coastal, tribal and other people of mountainous areas need to be protected giving special attention in the allotment of gas connections.

I urge upon the Government to allot adequate number of LPG connections to the gas agencies of Kanyakumari District so as to enable them to clear the prevailing long waiting list.

(iii) **Need to increase the number of Flights from Calcutta to Tezpur**

SHRI ISWAR PRASANNA HAZARIKA (Tezpur) : Sir, the Headquarters of Sonitpur district in Assam, Tezpur occupies an important place in Indian mythology. Agnigarh hill in the heart of Tezpur was the fortified abode of Usha, the bewitching maiden of King Banasura. Legend has it that Usha fell in love with the picture of debonair Aniruddha of Dwaraka, son of Krishna, painted by Chitraklekha. Usha's bosom companion, Chitraklekha managed to get Aniruddha flown over from Dwaraka to Tezpur in Krishna's Pushpak Rath. Aniruddha was instantly smitten by passionate love for

Usha and having tied the proverbial nuptial knot, both had flown back by the same Pushpak aircraft from Tezpur to Dwaraka and lived happily ever after.

Against this glorious aviation mythological background, it is highly lamentable that Tezpur does not have regular air services even on the verge of 21st century.

Presently, there are only two flights a week by Indian Airlines from Calcutta to Tezpur and Imphal to Calcutta after the NEPC flights from Calcutta to Guwahati and Tezpur were discontinued. There is an imperative need to increase the number of flights to at least five per week from Calcutta to Tezpur by Indian Airlines alone or by IAC and another private airlines together.

Apart from nearly 100 tea gardens in Sonitpur district and vicinity of Arunachal Pradesh, the Headquarters and Cantonments of 4 Corps of the Army, Indian Air Force bases for fighter and transport squadrons, Zonal Head Offices of Border Roads, MES and Assam Rifles and the Central University were located in or near Tezpur. The stimulus provided by greater frequency of flights will generate more than adequate passenger traffic, a part of which is now getting diverted to Guwahati.

I would, therefore, fervently urge the Civil Aviation Ministry to take necessary effective measures to increase the number of flights to Tezpur from Calcutta at least to five per week, if not daily and to construct a separate civil enclave within IAF's present airport complex for smooth management of passenger traffic.

(iv) **Need to shift LPT installed in Shekhpura, Bihar to a Government building.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR (Begusarai) : Mr. Chairman Sir, an L.P.T. has been installed in Shekhpura, Bihar. The building in which this L.P.T. has been installed is a private one and is insecure. Keeping in view its safety, District Officer of Shekhpura has written to Director, Doordarshan, Patna for installing it in a Government building. I have also written several letters for shifting it to a Government building from the private building but no action has since been taken in this regard.

Central Government is, therefore, requested that L.P.T. may be installed in a Government building by shifting it from the private building.

(v) **Need to set up a Doordarshan Kendra at Indore, Madhya Pradesh**

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Indore of Madhya Pradesh is a down of art and industries. Indore and its nearby areas has given us several artists of world fame. Several cultural organisations are cooperating in promoting Indian arts. The culture of Malwa is known since old ages for its own specialities. From political angle too Indore has got

its own special status in Madhya Pradesh. In view of above facts a Doordarshan Kendra should have been set up in Indore much earlier the building of Indore Doordarshan is almost complete. In view of linking the whole Central India region, which is an important part of Madhya Pradesh from every angle, with the rest of India I request the Central Government to start transmission of Doordarshan Programmes from Indore Kendra. By installing all the required equipments there. A Metro Channel should also be started in Indore. This Indore Kendra will cover the whole Central India as well as the adjoining areas of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(vi) Need to set up a separate Vananchal State in Bihar.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a separate State for Vananchal (Jharkhand) in Bihar is being demanded since 1938. This Vananchal region comprises of 18 Districts and it has got 81 legislative assembly and 14 Lok Sabha constituencies. Not being a separate State development has not taken place though this region is full of mineral and forest resources. It differs from rest of Bihar as far as language, culture, customs and living of people are concerned. During Mughal and the British rule too this region had its own administrative set up. That is why Governor's House was made at Ranchi.

Central Government is, therefore, requested to set up a separate State of Vananchal at an early date.

(vii) Need to ensure availability of adequate currency in Banks particularly in Western Orissa

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, the branches of Banks in the State of Orissa particularly Western Orissa are not being supplied with the required currency by the Reserve Bank of India, Bhubneswar (RBI), for the past several months. RBI is not meeting even 25% of the indents placed by the Currency Chest branches with the result several Bank branches are not in a position to meet the demands for cash from the public and Government in time. It is gathered that the position is not so acute in other States.

The RBI has also resorted to issuing inter chest remittance orders on branches knowing very well that the supplying branches do not have adequate cash to comply with the orders only to dispose of the banks knocking at their doors. There is a wide gap between the amount of currency indented and the currency supplied. Bank branches are spending huge amounts on transportation of small amounts of cash from one place to the other to tide over the difficulties to a small extent temporarily but the expenses are not reimbursed

by the RBI. Such frequent remittances involve enormous security risk.

Currently the currency requirement of SBI alone for next one month (*i.e.* up to March, 1997) is Rs. 1000 crore for which necessary indents have been placed with RBI. It is understood that RBI is not having any plans to supply this much cash before March, 1997 with the result the public is likely to face undue hardship and Government payments, salaries to workers and grounding of Government sponsored schemes and loan disbursements are likely to be affected.

I request the Union Government to look into the matter...*(Interruptions)**

(viii) Need to start work on Hubli-Dharwar Bypass, Karnataka

SHRI SHIVANAND H. KOUJALGI (Belgaum) : Sir, the Government of India has called for tenders for Hubli-Dharwar by-pass road in Karnataka under Build on Lease Transport.

Though the tenders have been called for long back, but no tender has been accepted so far. On account of this, loss is being caused to Government. Therefore I, request the Union Government to accept the tenders immediately so that the work may be taken up early.

12.53 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE
AUTHORITY ORDINANCE, 1997

AND

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE
AUTHORITY BILL, 1997

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up item now. 12 and 13 together. The time allotted for this is one hour.

Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Environment and Forests has brought in a National Environment Appellate Authority, Bill. The hon. President is given the trouble of promulgating ordinances time and again when there has not been a gap of more than a month and a quarter between the last session and the present one. Not a single ordinance was issued during the last session

* Not Recorded.

and now the country is flooded with 13 ordinances together.

The hon. Minister is a new incumbent and a friend of mine. This Government should shun the practice of issuing ordinances every now and then. It was understandable if this practice were pursued by the Congress who are used to it but is not befitting of a person who has always remained in the opposition and has been opposing this practice. We are meant to oppose the Congress who will in turn oppose as if we sit on that side tomorrow.

I request the hon. Minister not to resort to issuing ordinances repeatedly.

Pollution is not restricted to a single form. There is water pollution, sound pollution and air pollution. Who will control pollution and go in for appeal? An appellate authority has been constituted for the purpose that will be composed of three people to be appointed by the President. An offender will be punished with seven years imprisonment and a fine which may extend to rupees one lakh or both. A fine of Rs. 1 lakh and not a thousand or two will be imposed for a petty offence. It should be lessened. It is, indeed, necessary to control pollution. He must be aware that penalty is imposed on a person in England or USA who blows horn. Conversely, in India, a vehicle fitted with a blow horn has the word, 'Horn Please' painted at its near. Speed breakers near hospitals, schools are meant to decelerate the speed of the vehicles. We must contemplate measures to check the misuse of horn in India.

I oppose the provision of punishment made in it and the intention behind promulgating ordinance. There are 350 mines in Jaipur city where from people used to extract stones for constructing their houses. The hon. Governor has promulgated ordinance with regard to these 350 mines. There is a place called the Jhalana ki Dungri. The hon. Governor has banned extracting stones there under the garb of Department of Forests. But the 350 odd mines are not even remotely connected with the forest department. Closures of these mines have put an end to house construction activity resulting in non-availability of pebbles used for constructing roads. Consequently, lakhs of labourers belonging to the scheduled castes have been rendered unemployment and have been running from pillar to post, engaging lawyers in the courts. More than 1500 half body trucks meant to ferry stones are also rendered jobless. Hence, my submission is that the tribunals meant for the purpose, as you direct, I can speak later if the lunch is necessary. I may also have lunch.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much time will you take?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I will take time. I have only given the background. I have no problem if

you give me time after lunch. Time shall have to be given to me...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are aware that only one hour's time has been allotted to this issue.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : That is in routine. You shall have to give time to me. More one hour will not do...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I did not fix that, Joshi ji.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Whosoever, right have fixed. They fix time like that under the perception that it is a petty Bill and shall be passed in no time. The day before, Jena ji was asking as to what was special about that.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

13.00 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.09 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at nine
minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.*

[SHRI NITISH KUMAR in the Chair]

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE
AUTHORITY ORDINANCE - *Contd.*

AND

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE
AUTHORITY BILL - *Contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, you may please continue your speech.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, environment is a very important subject. In 1972, a Committee was constituted in this regard. Subsequently, in 1980, a committee was constituted to empower it and in 1985, it was entrusted with the work relating to the department of environment and forests. Water and air pollution were included in it after the formation of the Central Board. My submission is that sound pollution be included in it if it is not included so far. Presently, 23 states have concurred to this law and the hon. Minister has brought forward this Bill today. According to him, there will be three members in it - one a retired judge

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

of the Supreme Court while the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are to be appointed by the hon. President. Their term of office will be three years. An inquiry by a Supreme Court judge will be instituted in case a member wishes to resign before the expiry of three years provided he given a three months' notice and can be removed from office if the charges are proved. This provision has been made to facilitate the concerned person to make an appeal if the order is passed but the Civil Procedure Code is not applicable in this regard. As I have already submitted to the hon. Minister, the punishment of seven years' imprisonment or a fine of Rs. one lakh, or both should be reduced.

Sir, it was provided in it that rules will be formulated after issuance of ordinance but there is no inbling of the rules after about two months now. I would like the hon. Minister to lay a copy of the rules in the House so that we come to learn what action has been taken so far and how many people punished physically or financially. What is the effect of the ordinance? To me promulgating ordinance has no relevance. Instead, the Bill should have come. Rules should be laid on the table.

I have made a mention of 350 mines. Stone is extracted from big and small mines in Makrana, Jaipur, which are even transported to other places for constructing houses. Not a single tree exists there. Closure of these mines has rendered thousands of people, including truck operators, jobless. There life is meaningless and it is a question of life and death for them. Nobody can appeal in a civil court once this Bill becomes an Act. These mines don't come under the department of forests. Thus these should be revised and the term of punishment reduced. A situation of starvation has arisen in my constituency. I expect a favourable consideration on his part.

Sir, there have been other decisions as well like there will be no mines award the Taj. Likewise, closure of 168 factories was ordered in Delhi on 30, November, 1996 for causing pollution. These included the silk factory and the Birla Textiles Mill and I hope the latter is still functioning. Shri J.P. Jindal, the President of Delhi factory Federation has said that the closure of these age old factories will pose a problem of earning livelihood before the workers. they will have to be paid compensation, one year's salary and the shifting charges.

Printing Presses are operated in Pali, Rajasthan. Their effluent go down the drains there. In Delhi, one can fetch petrol for his vehicle only after producing a 'pollution under control' certificate. What is the progress of the pollution related rules. In Mathura, the gutter-water and the urine etc. flow down into the Gangas. This should be pondered upon. Pollution is a sensitive issue. His concern about it is appreciable. I have my

apprehensions about the question of work the tribunal can do. This should be considered.

Sir, kitchen hearths (chulhas) cause pollution in villages. The Gobar gas plant scheme was mooted for this. This should be considered rising above party politics - be it the B.J.P., Congress or Janata Dal. A law on abatement of pollution was made on 26th Feb., 1992. I would like to know the progress made in that.

Sir, lastly, I would say that Ganga Authority was constituted, mines projects were mooted. National Forest Policy was formulated in 1996 envisaging that one-third of the country's land will be brought under forest cover. Presently, only 19.44 percent land is under forest cover. Thus, we have to seek the cooperation of the tribals for this and a pollution law is a must for healthy like. We can counter the problem of pollution if every person resolves to plant a tree or two in his premises.

Sir, I reiterate that the ordinance and the rules have not been laid on the table. I would like to know the action taken in this regard and the number of people imprisoned or fined with Rs. one lakh so far or I am here to oppose this ordinance. Thank you.

I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the National Environment Appellate Authority Ordinance, 1997 (No. 12 and 1997) promulgated in the President on 30th January, 1997".

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Environment Appellate Authority to hear appeals with respect to restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in doing so, I submit that this Bill seeks to fulfil an urgently felt need for some mechanism for effective and expeditious disposal of appeals against the directions of competent authorities under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 giving environmental clearances to developmental projects.

The hon. Members are aware that conservation and protection of the environment has been the cornerstone of our culture and traditions. Our Constitution was one of the first to acknowledge the importance of environmental conservation. The Constitution also makes it a fundamental duty of every citizen to protect and improve the environment.

The basic principle guiding us is "Sustainable Development". This implies social and economic betterment that satisfies current needs without foreclosing options for the futures or compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The principle entails a balanced relationship between short-term uses of our environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity.

Very importantly, environment protection also has to be directed by the "precautionary principle". According to this principle, the causes of environmental degradation have to be anticipated to ensure the necessary preventive steps. Environmental clearance address this aspect. Such clearance is issued by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Notification of 1994. Expert Committees appraise projects to ensure that they comply with pollution control and safety standards and do not have adverse ecological, social and economic consequences. The appraisal, among other things, includes impact assessment on livestock, wildlife, agriculture and forests. The Appraisal Committees each headed by a non-official Chairman includes experts from the concerned disciplines besides representatives of NGOs.

At the same time the need was felt of having a mechanism independent of the Ministry of Environment and Forests to deal with appeals against environmental clearance decisions. This appellate mechanism would also give effect to the principles enunciated by the Supreme Court in various public interest litigations involving environmental protection issues. This will lead to increased transparency and greater accountability, concerns which have so often been expressed by the hon. Members. Significantly, the expeditious redressal of public grievances would great by reduce delays in project implementation. In this background, an Ordinance was promulgated for the establishment of a National Environment Appellate Authority to deal with appeals against the grant of environmental clearance to developmental projects.

The National Environmental Appellate Authority Bill has now been brought to the House for consideration and passing. The Bill seeks to replace the aforesaid Ordinance.

I would not like to highlight briefly the main aspects of the Bill seeking to establish the Appellate Authority. The Authority shall comprise a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other Members not exceeding three.

A person shall not be qualified for appointment as Chairperson unless he has been a Judge of the Supreme Court or Chief Justice of a High Court.

Appointment as Vice-Chairperson will be held by a person who has, for at least two years, been a Secretary

to the Government of India or has held any other post under the Central or a State Government carrying a scale of pay which is not less than that of a Secretary to the Government of India; and has adequate knowledge and experience in the administrative, legal, managerial or technical aspects of problems relating to the environment.

A person shall not be qualified for appointment as a Member unless he has professional knowledge of a high standing and practical experience in the relevant areas of expertise pertaining to conservation, environmental management, law, planning and development.

Hon. Members must have observed that the composition of the Authority is such which can impart the necessary legal and judicial erudition to the appeal process, blended with expertise related to environmental issues, both technical and managerial.

The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and other Members shall hold office for a term of three years, but shall be eligible for re-appointment for another three years. The Chairperson shall not hold office after attaining the age of seventy years. The Vice-Chairperson and other Members shall not hold office after the age of sixty-five years.

Hon. Members may also like to note the class of persons who will have the right to appeal to the Appellate Authority. This includes :

- (i) any person who is likely to be affected by the grant of environmental clearance;
- (ii) any person who owns or has control over the project with respect to which an application has been submitted for environmental clearance;
- (iii) any association of persons (whether incorporated or not) likely to be affected by such order and functioning in the field of environment;
- (iv) the Central Government, where the environmental clearances is granted by the State Government, and the State Government, where the environmental clearance is granted by the Central Government; and
- (v) the concerned local authorities.

We are conscious that many of those who will appeal to the Authority for redressal of grievances will be from the relatively deprived sections of society. There is also the need for expeditious disposal of appeals, and, therefore, the imperative of making the procedure simpler. Hence, our insistence in the Bill that the Authority shall not be bound by the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, but shall be guided by the

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

principles of natural justice. The Authority shall have powers to regulate its own procedure, as also enjoy the powers vested in a Civil Court. The Authority shall fix the place and time of its inquiry.

The National Environmental Appellate Authority Bill is a very important initiative in our quest for sustainable development and the preservation of our ecology and natural resources. This social legislation provides a greater voice to our citizens in the adjudication of matters pertaining to the environment. Hon. Members will agree with me that the essential objective of sustainable development is to provide further opportunities to our citizens for enhancing their well-being. The Bill is a step in this direction.

With these words, I move the motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions moved :

"That this House disapproves of the National Environmental Appellate Authority Ordinance, 1997 (No. 12 of 1997) promulgated by the President on January 30, 1997."

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Environment Appellate Authority to hear appeals with respect to restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Shri Ram Naik to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have stood up to oppose the ordinance regarding the National Environment Appeal Authority Bill, 1996 which has been promulgated by the Government. The Government has done a miracle by issuing 13 ordinances so far. It is a coalition of 13 parties, that is why of they have issued 13 ordinances, I oppose the Bill because the Government has violated the Constitution by promulgating this ordinance on the day which is the death anniversary of Mohatama Gandhi. I would like to support the circumstances in which this Bill has been brought but I would also like to draw the attention of the Government towards the shortcomings of this Bill and for that I have given an amendment. I do support the Bill in the form it has been brought to the House. The total financial burden for protection of environment will be Rs. 51,55,000, I have no objection if it would have been Rs. two to four crore. It would not

be good if every time people from every corner of the country have to come to Delhi for taking direction from the authority. In my opinion, it would be better to establish regional authorities at several places.

11 years have been elapsed since the Environment Protection Act - 1986 was passed. The point to be considered is as to whether it has protected the environment or it has created obstacles in developmental works. Big dams have been constructed at many places but no-objection certificate for constructing Channels have not been issued, dam is there but no water for fields. So, it is constructing the development works and I would like to say that the merits and demerits of the Bill during these 11 years should be reviewed and for that a Review Committed should be constituted to plug the loopholes of this Act. One of the reasons stated for promulgation of this ordinance is that the ordinance was brought in the light of judgements delivered by the Supreme Court. The first judgement of the Supreme Court given on 28 August, 1996, said that 900 tanneries were creating pollution in Tamil Nadu. I have the copy of that judgement with me. In the judgement, the Supreme Court has said that such appellate authorities should be set up within a month. It is the directive of the Supreme Court. The Government took five months upto 30 January, 1997 while the court had directed to do this within one month. The Government takes five months for the work which is to be done within a month. Another thing which the Supreme Court had said in its judgement, was that a Green Bench should be set up in each State. I would like to know the number of State High Courts where this bench has been set up and have it has been functioning. I am opposing the Bill because the Minister has said nothing about this.

Secondly, this Ordinance was promulgated on 30 January, and 1 1/2 months have been elapsed. I would like to whether any Authority have been formed? Who are its Chairman and Vice-Chairman? When nothing has been done in this regard, then what was the necessity for promulgation of the ordinance. When you did nothing in this regard and you are promulgating 13 ordinances only because the Bill cannot be introduced, had the ordinance not been promulgated. If the Bill is referred to the committee they will study it that is why the Government adopted this tactics and promulgated the ordinance. Now it cannot be referred to the Standing Committee and the Government will have its full say. I, therefore, oppose the very system of promulgating ordinances. The Government should tell the House what steps have been taken for constituting the authority.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Act is being misused. I would like to give an example. Shri Chintaman Wanaga who has been elected from Dahanu S.C. constituency, his

block was declared as ecological fragile under this Act by the Government. In the whole Maharashtra in one tehsil where there is 86% green cover and forests, all the industries were banned. The ban has not only been imposed in Dahanu block but around 25 km area outside this block also. The Tarapur Atomic Plant comes under my constituency. No further work can be taken up there. No repair work can be done in the M.I.D.C. industrial colony situated there. Time has come to look into all these aspects. Mr. Pilot is not here, he has assured us to look into all these points, when there was a Government led by Shri Chandra Shakher and the day this Government tendered its resignation, Mrs. Maneka Gandhi was the Minister of Environment and she issued a notification imposing ban on setting up industries in Dahanu block. The Government did not have the right to do so in that block. We have been requesting for the last five years to lift this ban. Naxalites activities are increasing there because the people are not getting employment. Because the Supreme Court had given a judgement in this regard so I asked a question in this connection. The court directed that a committee should be constituted for Dahanu block. The Government have given this reply on 11th March. I would like to read out the following two sentences.

[English]

As per the directive of the Supreme Court the Dahanu Taluka Environment Protection Authority in the district of Thane, Maharashtra has been constituted with the following co-position.

[Translation]

All the names have been mentioned when I asked how much have been done, the reply is :

[English]

Member-Secretary of the Authority has informed that no meeting has taken place so far.

[Translation]

Now some works have been undertaken and the people of that area are getting employment. The Appellate Authority have no time for all these. So I demand that it needs to be reviewed whether the work during the ten years has been done or not Shri Rajesh Pilot, at that time had said that the ban was wrong, and he was lifting the ban. A notification was sent to the Law Ministry but in the meantime, the Government changed and the notification remained unchanged. Now Capt. Nishad is the new Minister and I told him the whole story and he stated that he would look into it. Again the Minister has changed so I would like to state that where there is no need for such ban, it has been imposed, it should be lifted and a dialogue with the people of that area should be initiated. Shri Chintaman Wanaga is the only M.P. of that area. But he has not

been represented in that Committee Shri Sharad Yadav is the working President of Janta Dal and his worker Shri Vilas Vichare, being the member of N.G.O.K., has been included in that Committee. The people's representative of that area should be listened to first. I should be informed of the steps proposed to be taken for cancelling the notification as has requested by Maharashtra Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my second question is regarding section 11 in which it has been said :

[English]

"Any person aggrieved by an order granting environmental clearance in the areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations and processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards may, within thirty days from the date of such order, prefer an appeal to the Authority in such form may be prescribed."

[Translation]

If you are going to set up any industry or any food industry, no objection certificate from the Authority has to be obtained. Regulation zones within 500 mtrs have been formed under this Act, not only any industry cannot be set up there but even a house cannot be constructed there. There are high tides within this 500 mtrs and there is ban on construction of a house so the fishermen are not allowed to construct their houses. The World Bank and the Central Government have launched a housing project through the Maharashtra Housing Development Authority. The people have purchased plots Rs. 4000/- per square mtr. Three thousand people have applied for no objection certificate but no house can be constructed after the new notification. Where will go the middle class people. That is why I have given this amendment.

[English]

"including those relating to housing, fishing or aquaculture or those providing for civic amenities."

[Translation]

Coastal Regulation zones have been formed for fishing and the area lying under High tide or low tide is called zone-I. This zone will be under the Central Government. There can be aquaculture. There will be fish breeding by stopping the sea water. The traditional fishermen are saying that said under the aquaculture will turned saline. No vegetables or paddy will grow there. So I would like to say that aquaculture zones should not be allowed there. In its verdict the Supreme Court has said that all such aquaculture zones should be destroyed and if these are not destroyed, action will

[Shri Ram Naik]

be taken. Now the question arises as to why the Government encouraged the aquaculture. The Government department has arranged for the loan and nationalised banks have provided loans for aquaculture. But now the Supreme Court has given its verdict against it. The traditional fishermen who catch fish in the deep sea, agitated against this and they have won the case. Because the issue is related to Government action so a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri P. Murari have been set up. Now, Mr. Thomas Kocheri has launched an agitation against allowing aquaculture. One crore fishermen under the National Fishermen Forum assembled and they demanded that aquaculture should be banned. Some people have started aquaculture which has been banned by the Supreme Court all of a sudden, hence the court should be approached for giving relaxation. Now conflicting demands are coming. The Government should constitute a Committee like that of deep sea fishing and the local M.P. should be included in that Committee so that he could look into all the problems and formulate a suitable policy. In order to look into the matter of C.R. zones a Committee like P. Murari Committee which comprised of 17 members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, should be constituted to solve this problem. I would like to suggest that in order to sort out this problem a Committee of the Member of Parliament and fishermen of the nine coastal states should be constituted.

Thirdly, Mr. Soz is the new Minister matter regarding the Maharashtra Development Authority has already been discussed with the former Minister and he wrote me a letter on 28 February in which he has said :

[English]

"Dear Shri Naik,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 4th February forwarding therewith a representation from the Association of CRZ Affected MHADA Plot Owners regarding permission of construction under CRZ Regulations. I am having the matter examined and shall revert to you soon.

[Translation]

It is a routine letter. Sir, you belong to Kashmir where there are hills and lakes only but sea is not there. I request you to visit Mumbai to understand this typical problem and discuss it with us and to see the situation in Dahanu and Mumbai yourself and find out a solution. I would not make any comment on as to what decision he takes but would like to say that our M.Ps Shri Sarpotdar and Shri Suresh Prabhu will also support my imitation. It can be beneficial if you come to Mumbai and take stock of the situation there.

Before concluding I would like to tell Shri Bhargavji that like egg fish is also vegetarian. It lives on water that is why it is vegetarian. All the people take fish...*(Interruptions)*. I would not leave the matter here. We have to make arrangements for drinking water and supply of power in the small villages near the sea coasts. We want to construct cremation grounds from the funds under M.P.LADS on the land near the sea coast but for that also 'No Objection Certificate' is required and that certificate cannot not be obtained. If you go to Chaupati in Mumbai, you will come to know that permission from Ministry of Environment is required for constructing toilets there. Civic amenities should be provided in the villages without any difficulty. If you delegate such powers to the Metropolitan Council, the concerned Government, the village Panchayat, I feel that all these facilities can be provided there. While keeping all these points in his mind the Minister should reply and he should also intimate us about the date of his visit to Mumbai. We would welcome him and appraise him of our problems.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : The issue of environment has never been discussed. Whenever a discussion is initiated on this issue. Jena ji immediately says that the hon. Minister should give his reply ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Shri Ballabh Panigrahi will speak. Rudy ji kindly listen to him.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am saying that the issue of environment is always put to giloline. If sometimes any issue regarding environment is brought to the House the Hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs says that the discussion of this issue should be concluded here and the concerned Minister should give his reply.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : When my turn comes, I will reply to each and every suggestions.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : The total time allotted is only one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : One hour is not sufficient for this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will be discussed at an appropriate time? Why are you so puzzled in this regard? Now listen to Shri Panigrahi ji.

SHRI HARBHAJAN LAKHA (Phillore) : Injustice has been done to the people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

[English]

If you permit, I want to speak on that.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are discussing here the Bill. I thought that you had given your name for speaking on this Bill.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, we should not worry much about it because this is the maiden Bill of the new Minister in charge of Environment and Forests. Therefore, sufficient time should be given for this and the Minister should also be given sufficient time to answer.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : I am on a point of order to say that it is not a 'maiden Bill', but it is a 'bachelor Bill'.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur) : Is it a confirmed one?

SHRI SANAT MEHTA (Surendra Nagar) : Sir, it can neither be a 'maiden Bill' nor a 'bachelor Bill' because Bill is a Bill.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, this is indeed a good Bill and, I think, it was overdue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you saying 'good Bill' or 'goodwill'?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, the Bill was overdue and, that is why, I would like to support it. But I have a reservation over the way the Bill has come here. Had it been first referred to the concerned Standing Committee and if detailed discussions would have been held in that Standing Committee, that would have been better.

I do not know whether the Bill that is there to replace the Ordinance which was promulgated is in compliance with the directive of the Apex Court. Mr. Minister, I am yet to understand whether this Bill, which is to replace the Ordinance which was promulgated earlier, has been brought forward in order to comply with the directive of the Apex Court of the country or the Government has brought it forward on its own.

I agree with the learned previous speaker Shri Ram Naik. I also find in the Press that there was a directive given by the Supreme Court in the last week of August - 28th or so - saying that within a month there should be some authority of this nature, at least, established with a retired High Court Judge presiding over it...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will explain it later. That is a different judgement. That Authority has already been instituted. So, there is a misunderstanding about it.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I do not know whether it was done in a different context. Now, we see

this Bill. The one Authority that has been set up is quasi-judicial in nature. But I do not remember if any Authority has been set up in compliance with the directive of the Apex Court. I shall be very happy if the hon. Minister clarifies this position in the course of his reply.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will do that.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : How many Authorities have been set up since August? At least, in the House we come across only one Authority which has been set up, that too through an Ordinance ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Minister, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it has been clearly stated...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Ramesh Chennithala, this is not the way of doing it. You will get an opportunity. Let him conclude now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : Is the hon. Minister concerned intervening in between? He says that it is not a judgement of the Supreme Court...*(Interruptions)* He is pointing out that.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, I am on a point of clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everything is written in the Bill. You will get a chance to speak.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it has been stated :

"In view of recent pronouncements by the Supreme Court in certain public interest litigation cases involving environmental issues, it was considered necessary to take immediate steps to set up an independent body for quick redressal of public grievances."

Subsequently, the Ordinance was promulgated. Do you agree? It is because of the direction given by the Supreme Court that the Ordinance was promulgated. Let it be clarified in the House...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I think there will be no opposition to this Bill. In this Bill, as it is, there are good provision, some welcome provisions ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you taking your seat? I think you are concluding now.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : No. I am just beginning my speech. Sir, you know how I begin.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : One hour was allotted for this now that time is about to over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is very important subject. So Kindly extend the time by an hour.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : This is not a light issue. The hon. Minister may feel it is a light issue. But it is concerned with the lives of thousands and thousands of people...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are extending time by an hour now.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI : Sir, kindly extend the time allotted to this issue by two hours.

SHRI SHRIBALLABH PANIGRAHI : Sir, allotte a full day for this subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right but it does not mean that the whole day is allotted to you. Kindly conclude soon. The hon. Member has demanded to extend the time by an hour because all of them want to speak on this subject.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I think the hon. Minister himself is confused about the origin of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think you are not confused. Take your seat, please.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I am not confused. I object to this. Why should he come to that conclusion? This is wrong...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not necessary to respond to every Member. Take your seat, please. Anyway, I think you are not confused.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : I am absolutely clear about this. Kindly see the Statement of Objects and Reasons. In last August, there was such a directive. The hon. Minister says that it was given in another context. It might be so. Perhaps, it might be given in the context of the tanneries around Chennai. But that Judgement is there. Again, on 11th December, there was a landmark Judgement relating to environment, given again by the Supreme Court. There is a directive given saying that within one month from January 15, the Authority should be set up. That is why, I wanted to know from him as to what is the origin of this Bill. I can quote from the judgment also delivered by the Supreme Court on 11th December. That directive is with regard to the prawn culture in coastal areas. The Collectors, Superintendents of Police and District Magistrates were instructed by that judgment to demolish all such things in the coastal belt. I wanted to know what is there is the backdrop of this Bill. I am not yet clear about it.

There is now an opportunity given to persons, bodies and associations as also to Central and State Governments aggrieved by any order of the concerned authority in certain matters and in certain areas about the clearance of environmental aspects. In some cases, some restrictions are imposed, which according to them, are not tenable, not acceptable and are not in the interest of the industry or the State. In such cases they can come before this appellate authority which is quasi-judicial and independent in nature. The time frame given is thirty days within which appeal can be preferred. If they can convince the appellate authority saying that due to unavoidable reasons appeal could not be preferred within the time-schedule, then another 30 days' time is given.

Now coming to the Objects and Reasons of the Bill...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : What were you doing all this time. You have taken ten minutes.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLABH PANIGRAHI : Seven minutes are not consumed by me.

[Translation]

And that time is not sufficient. 5-7 minutes are consumed in thought process.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have already taken more than ten minutes.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : One can't speak in this way.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly take care of the House also.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : India has been playing a vital role in the environmental scenario of the world. In 1972 the then Prime Minister of the country...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : 12 or 13 more members want to speak on this bill and one hour is allotted for this.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : If you interrupt right from the beginning I can't speak on this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But there is no need to deliver a long speech.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : If it will run like this nobody can speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly tell me how much time will you take?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : It is so, nobody can speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can speak but kindly tell me how much time do you want.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Allright. I have all regard for the chair, for the person who occupies the chair. There is some thought process and such interference interrupt that thought process.

[English]

If in every sentence there is an interference, nobody can speak. I have all regard for the person who occupies the Chair. If there is a running commentary from there, it is very difficult to do justice...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not a running commentary. I take exception to this. This is bad. It is not a running commentary. I am just trying to regulate the proceedings. Other Members are also willing to participate in the debate. I just wanted to know how much time do you want. We have to give opportunities to others also. That is why I wanted to know the time you want to take and nothing more.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : You go from here itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please stop arguing. You can just mention how much time you want.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : India's role in the International Conference on Environmental Protection at Rio is important. We should have regard for both the aspects of environmental protection — how to minimise pollution and at the same time to ensure that our developmental process is not affected.

15.00 hrs.

It has got to be eco-friendly development and environmental friendly development. It is not impossible to achieve. We have, therefore, to strike a balance between the developmental aspect and the environmental aspect.

Sir, it is true that when we achieved Independence, the problem of environmental pollution was not there. We were not conscious of that aspect. In our anxiety for faster development, many power plants etc., came up in the heart of the cities. Those things contributed a lot to the pollution of the city lives everywhere. Today we find there is a severe pollution caused by the DTC buses plying in Delhi. We must know, how serious the problem is in our Capital City of Delhi. It is one of the most polluted cities of the world.

15.01 hrs.

[COL RAO RAM SINGH *in the Chair*]

Somebody has also said that Delhi is at number one position in terms of air pollution.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Panigrahi, you have already taken 15 minutes. Please conclude now.

SHR SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes, Sir.

On the other hand, we have got some regulatory agencies like State Pollution Boards, etc. In the States. But in many States, they are defunct; they are not well equipped to deal with this increasing menace. And, in some States, they do not have the teeth that is required.

So, now we should review, what is to be done. The Supreme Court have a directive that green benches should be there in every High Court. But after the establishment of this authority, I am afraid, the jurisdiction of every court has been taken away by the authority.

Sir, in the Statement of objects and reasons, we find that the purpose is very limited. Which authority is in charge of monitoring? In my Constituency, the river Ib and river Brahmini are the most polluted rivers. They are in the list of 14 most polluted rivers. But nobody is monitoring that. When I approach the State Boards, they say that the pollution is well within the emission standard. What is this emission standard? Who regulates it? Who controls it? The Chairman of the Board says that they do not have the expertise, the technical experts. So, this is the situation. There is a lot of confusion.

Sir, I will finish by giving a reference to one judgement given by the Supreme Court on 11th December 1996. A writ petition was filed by Shri S. Jagannathan, a well-reputed environmentalist of Tamil Nadu. He has come with the writ petition before the Supreme Court — S. Jagannathan Vs. Union of India and others.

Sir, clearly, the Central Government has been asked to do certain things and take certain steps within some timeframe. But I find, nothing has happened so far. Therefore, I think, there can also be a case of contempt of court in this matter.

I would like to know about the progress made and the action taken in relation to different provisions of this judgement. Such pollution is also affecting the coastal belt of Orissa, prawn culture badly.

Some powerful lobby is working behind it. We have reasons to feel this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think, you have made all the points. So, please conclude, now.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes, Sir.

There is an interference from some powerful lobby. That is why, in spite of the Supreme Court judgement, the remedial measures are not being taken in this direction. So, it is high time that the Government of India should come forward and they should not remain content with bringing about a Bill of this nature or setting up of such authority only. Much more has got to be

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

done. As I have already said, all the party leaders should be consulted in this matter.

I have come to know that a committee has also been formed in this regard. The scope of that committee should be widened. It should be of more representative nature.

With these words I conclude.

15.04 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Bomb blast at Jalandhar

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MODH. MAQBOOL DAR) : Hon. Members had expressed their concern in this House on March 15th, 1997 regarding the bomb blast outside the Jalandhar City Railway Station on March 14th, 1997 which resulted in the death of seven persons and injury to twelve persons. As per report received from Punjab Government, a bomb blast took place in the parking lot of Jalandhar City Railway Station at about 13.05 hours on March 14, 1997. The bomb exploded a little after the Amritsar bound Shan-e-Punjab train had left the station and while the Flying Mail was approaching it. The bomb exploded at a place where seven to eight cycle rickshaws and a Gypsy Jeep of the Border Security Force were parked in front of the Railway Station. The explosion generated a lot of heat, suffocating smoke and nauseating smell. Six persons were killed as a result of the blast while thirteen were injured. One of the injured succumbed to his injuries in the hospital later.

DGP and other senior police officers rushed to the spot, made arrangements for transporting the injured persons to the hospital and cordoned off the blast site. A search of the area and the Railway Station was also carried out. Later in the evening, forensic experts from Chandigarh and Delhi reached Jalandhar to inspect the blast site and the dead bodies.

Preliminary investigations have revealed that the explosion was caused by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) which was being carried by one of the victims namely Kamlesh Chaudhary whose leg got severed in the blast. The material collected from the blast site revealed that the crude bomb was possibly housed in a 2 kg. ghee tin which was wrapped around with cotton undergarments. The tin box was in a bag which was held in the hand by Kamlesh Chaudhary. The crude bomb also had a large number of rivets and

iron nails which are commonly available. The casualties caused were mainly because of these rivets which worked as projectiles. The explosive material used appears to be Ammonium Nitrate or Potassium Chlorate which is a low grade explosive. However, this is being ascertained from the chemical analysis of the material found at the site.

The explosive and other material used in the IED, the *modus operandi* and the selection of blast site at Jalandhar points towards the possibility of involvement of the same subversive outfit which had earlier caused or tried to cause explosions at various places in Haryana, Delhi and Punjab. So far no militant outfit has claimed responsibility for the blast.

The security in the State has been beefed up. Passengers and vehicular traffic from Jammu and Kashmir is subjected to random checking. All public places like Railway Stations, cinemas, restaurants and places of religious gatherings are being covered.

Surprise and random checks of the trains coming in from Delhi or from Jammu and Kashmir are also being conducted. Night dominance operations have been launched throughout the State and senior officers move out in the field at night to check for any untoward incidents. Adequate security has been provided to the threatened persons and other sensitive installations in the State. The law and order situation is under constant watch and under control. Our security forces are maintaining strict vigil along the borders to prevent infiltration of militants and mercenaries and smuggling of arms and explosives from across the border.

The virtual rout of separatist elements in Punjab in the recently concluded Sikh Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee elections and subsequently in the State Assembly elections has completed the process of their marginalisation from the mainstream of public opinion in Punjab. As a result, there is demoralisation and desperation among the few remnants of separatist elements and their patrons based abroad who may select soft targets like this to show their existence and to malign the democratic process in the State which has been strengthened by recent elections.

Let me once again assure the House that by proper and coordinated action by all the concerned Central and State security agencies, perpetrators of such cowardly acts would be severely dealt with and not allowed to disrupt the peace and harmony that valiant people of Punjab have established after defeating the evil forces of terrorism and fundamentalism.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Has the Government thought of giving any monetary aid to the next of kin of the deceased personnel?

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Did they ask the Punjab Government to do something? Or, is it that they themselves would be doing something?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I recommend that the Government should give some monetary grant to the next of kin of the deceased personnel.

SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR : Sure, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : If the Punjab Government has done something, it should have been mentioned in the statement. The hon. Minister should also have clarified what the Central Government wants to do.

SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA (Sangrur) : The Punjab Government has already announced a relief of Rs. 1 lakh for each of the victims and the next of kin of the deceased.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : The Central Government can also give some money to the victims and the next of kin of the deceased.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : He has already assured us of that.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : He can give them double the money.

15.13 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL
OF NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE
AUTHORITY ORDINANCE - *Contd.*

AND

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT APPELLATE
AUTHORITY BILL - *Contd.*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now resume discussion on the National Environment Appellate Authority Bill. Shri K.V. Surendra Nath.

SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH (Trivandrum) : Sir, I rise to support this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would request hon. Members to restrict their submission to ten minutes, if possible.

SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH : I will be as brief as possible.

I rise to support this Bill and welcome this important piece of legislation. There actually have been some lapses. In 1974, we effected a Constitution Amendment, which made it a duty and an obligation for Government and all the citizens of India to conserve, preserve and improve the environment. That was in 1974. Then, a spate of legislations came in and finally, in 1986, the

Environment Protection Act was enacted. That contains at least two provisions dealing with the same point as the present legislation now trying to deal with. Under Section 3(1) of the Act, the Government can, when the need arises, appoint an Authority, or by whatever other name it is called, to decide on the environmental problems. Section 5 gives the Government powers to issue orders on environmental problems to whoever it concerns. These were provided for in 1986.

We have taken about twelve years to propose this piece here on the creating of an Environment Appellate Authority. In the meantime, there have been a large number of issues including that relating to Kerala's Silent Valley, where after having a protracted struggle for ten years, we won the Silent Valley is now safe and protected.

There were several other cases. The affected people did not have a place to go to. They had to go to the civil courts, possibly to get a negative order. So, the sole resort for the aggrieved was to approach the courts, including the Supreme Court. What was to be the last resort become the first resort for the people who were affected by environmental problems. That is what has happened. The number of cases rose. There was no solution. Environmental Protection Act did have certain lacunae and deficiencies. It did not have the teeth. So, it was very difficult to use the Environmental Protection Act to solve all these problems. As one of the previous speakers said, an order was issued by the Supreme Court but in an entirely different context in Tamil Nadu. It has nothing to do with this. Anyway, this Bill is a very big thing and I welcome it. All these problems arose because the civil courts did not have a clear approach and direction to deal with these cases. As one of the hon. Members said now we will have a quasi judicial body which should take decision within a fixed time limit, that is, three months or at the most four months. This is a blessing. We should not negate the good impact this piece of legislation is going to make in the environmental sphere for its belatedness. The world is now concerned with environmental problems. Almost all the countries have enacted legislations several years back. Canada, a small country with two crores of population had brought a legislation ten years back. Almost all the other countries have done it. I do not know about Africa and Latin America. We in India are ten years late. But better late than never. This is what I have to say about this.

Now, a question arises regarding the counterpoising of development with environmental concerns. Positive development has to take care of the environmental problems. Environment and development should be integrated together. That is the only way to bring about what we call sustainable development. Without sustainable development, we would first be wasting our

[Shri K.V. Surendra Nath]

natural resources, we would be spoiling the ecology and we would be destroying the forest and wealth of bio diversity both have. So, to be united and integrated. The Development has to be integrated along with environment. It should be environment-cum-development. I hope this independent Authority would insist upon such an approach. I do not want to say anything more. Many issues could be discussed, but I do not want to, because time is so scarce. I am not going to deal with all those things. I just want to deal with one or two things. As I said, I support this Bill. The Bill is welcome. At the same time, I have some suggestions to make.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please conclude now?

SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH : Sir, I will take only one or two minutes. I think I should allowed this much of time. It has become inevitable. Due to the new policy of globalisation and liberalisation, the environment, including the great Himalayas, is in danger. To protect the environment including the Himalayas, to protect our rivers and to protect our sea coasts, some restrictions have to be made. People's interests are in reality suffering because of bad environment. That is what I want to say.

Now, coming to the clauses of the Bill, I would say that Environment is an all India Problem. The proposed authority have to function from Delhi. As you know, India is a vast country and how can they tackle it from Delhi? There are two categories of coastal line; one category is the sea coast up to 200 metres from where the waves touch the land, and the other is the area between 300 and 500 metres from where the waves touch the land. Thus, our coastal zone itself is bigger than that of any other country. With such a vast area, how would they be able to tackle it with the limited means and equipment given to them? I do not know how they are going to tackle this problems.

When I went into the details, I found that the Authority was left to work out its own schedule of time, place, mode, features and procedure, etc. It was also left to the Authority itself to decide about the rules and regulations. Many more things are also left to the Authority itself to decide. In all the Authority would have five members, that is what the Bill says.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay, please wind up.

SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH : I am winding up. I have to make only two more points.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I suggest, you reduce it to one more point only. You may choose the most important of the two because a lot of other hon. Members are to speak. I think, in all fairness, you have got to give opportunity to others.

SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH : Okay.

The number of members is restricted to just five. It should be increased to at least seven. I am not going into the justifications because there is no time. The second point is that the Chairman would resign or retire at the age of 70 and the members would do, so at the age of 65. At the same time, there is the provision for tenure, that is, they will have a tenure of three years. When they are to have the criterion of age, why should they have another criterion of tenure? When they want to restrict the tenure, why do they insist on our age limit? I do not understand it.

A 'Person' is defined as to include a State Government, Panchayat, Municipality, association of people, etc. A person can have grievances which may arise out of the environmental problems. When it is conceded rightly that some lawyer could raise a debt of create confusion an association of people can also have the same grievance? That has to be sorted out. That is what I want to say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Okay. Thank you very much.

Now, Prof. Jitendra Nath Das. You may please take only ten minutes.

PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS (Jalpaiguri) : I am very glad to support this Bill as this Bill is very nice. While supporting this Bill, I would like to hope that this Bill would be executed in the truest sense.

Environmental protection has been the most neglected area of our national life. There are so many rules and regulations to check pollution in our country. It is not as if there is no Statute to bring the culprits to book. In spite of all this, the position of India in the field of pollution is very bad. As you know, the capital of India, Delhi is the fourth most polluted cities in the world. I think that not only the Central Pollution Board but also the State Pollution Boards have been polluted. The Government should come forward to execute all its rules, regulations and laws. I would like to know the latest position of the victims of the Bhopal gas tragedy like who has to get compensation, their rehabilitation and about the punishment to be given to the persons responsible for the tragedy. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether Bailadila, the most important mine in our country, has been closed by the directions of the court. If so, I would like to know the exact direction of the Government.

Sir, there is a law that no industry would be set up without having an effluent treatment plant. But we see that industries are being set up done with goal on setting up effluent treatment plants and as a result people are exposed to various diseases. You know that there are so many power plants in our country from which nitrogen dioxide is being discharged which is

dangerous to the health of our people. What is the reaction of the Government to this problem? It is alarming that in our country, the judiciary is assuming the role of the Government in various spheres including pollution control. For example, 168 industries have been ordered to be closed down in Delhi by the order of the honourable Supreme Court. Nine hundred tanneries in five districts of Tamil Nadu have been fined to the extent of about Rs. 10,000 each and they are going to take many other steps in the field of pollution control. So, I would like to know from the Government whether the role of the Government is allowed to be played by the honourable Court in this way.

There are so many lakes in our country. Is there any proposal to make all these lakes to be treated as national lakes? In this regard, I would like to point out that Mirik Lake of Darjeeling has already been proposed by the State Government of West Bengal to be treated as a national lake. The Central Government should clear this proposal.

Another thing is that open cast mining is found in coal mining areas which will have an effect on the environmental discipline. What is the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Lastly, I would like to impress upon the Government that an alarming situation is prevailing throughout the country in the field of pollution, i.e. environmental degradation. It is high time that the Government should realise its responsibility and statutory obligation to protect the degrading environment in our country and to protect the people of the country from becoming unnecessary victims of this pollution which causes environmental degradation.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I had also given notice of motion for disapproval of the National Environment Appellate Authority. Ordinance 1996-97 Shri Giridhari Lal Bhargav moved that motion. I would like to support his motion because the tendency of promulgating ordinance is not a healthy practice. It has been provided in the constitution because when Parliament is not in session and if any emergency or special circumstances arises only then a ordinance should be promulgated.

[English]

'Whereas Parliament is not in session and the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action'.

[Translation]

What were those circumstances when this ordinance had been promulgated. Several days have passed and now a bill to replace that ordinance has been introduced in the House. The discussion is going

on here on that Bill. The Government want to set up an authority. Now why that authority has not been set up so far. Instead an ordinance has been promulgated. I could not understand this. The Government want to curtail the rights and powers of the Parliament and do not want to discharge its duties with responsibility. It want to use its extra-ordinary powers. The Government want to avoid the right course of functioning the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill says :

[English]

"In view of recent pronouncements by the Supreme Court in certain public interest litigation cases involving environmental issues, it was considered necessary to take immediate steps to set up an independent body for quick redressal of public grievances. Accordingly, it was proposed to provide for the setting up of a National Environment Appellate Authority to deal with petitions, complaints, representations and appeals against the decisions of the competent authorities granting environmental clearances to developmental projects..."

[Translation]

Now I could not understand this. Panigrahi ji was saying that there is some confusion. Earlier you said that this Bill has nothing to do with the directives of the Supreme Court. In the Statement of objects and reasons of the Bill it is stated that this Bill has been brought in view of recent pronouncements by the supreme Court in certain public interest litigation cases. If this Bill is brought in view of this and the Government feels so it must have taken action in that direction. Bhargavji was right in saying that the Government should frame rules in this regard. But it has done nothing and has only promulgated an ordinance.

My second point is about another confusion regarding the provision of the Bill. Will this proposed authority hear all cases relating to environment? or when environmental clearance is granted to any developmental projects and it creates some problems and affects people in that case whether any individual or association of individual or organisation can approach the proposed authority for registering their complaints in this regard or can people file petitions in this authority as they file P.G.L. in the Courts. There is confusion in this regard so it must be clarified. I think the proposed authority should be entrusted with vast powers.

I would like to come to my constituency. In my constituency there is a big distillery of Macdowells at a place near Mokama, Hateeda. Whenever I visit there people tell me to see the polluted water of the Ganga. Sometimes people say that the quantify of effluent is so high that if you throw a burning matchstic in this water.

[Shri Nitish Kumar]

It will catch fire. There is no effluent treatment plant in this distillery. Now the management of the distillery may say that the State Pollution Control Board is there. People of that area are facing a lot of problems. Ganga water is considered pure and pious. But here it is question of life and death of the people. Not a single water of Ganga reaches Bihar. Not to talk of Bihar even Banaras do not get a single drop of Ganga water which originates from Gangotri, where according to Hindu religious books people attain salvation. In the name of Ganga water we get water of its tributaries.

There are a number of tributaries of the Ganga in Bihar such as Uttar Bihar and Dakshin Bihar. However, everyone knows that the Ganga water with the lives of people. In this background it a distillery is set up on its banks its effluents will definitely pollute the Ganga water. Can an individual approach this authority in such a situation? Or will he approach the authority only when new projects are granted environmental clearances? I would like that the hon. Minister should at least clarify all these points in this reply. There is a proposal for setting up of an Authority at nation level. If the proposed authority engaged itself in the task of examining all the cases in the entire country, it may take years to dispose them off. To set up an authority is a welcome step but it must be set up at state level. There are State Pollution Control Boards at State level. But they have not the required powers. These boards have no powers to take action. Therefore the proposed authority is a welcome step but it should be equipped with all necessary powers. The Government is saying that the constitution of this authority will reduce load of the courts. But it will be materialised only when this authority will be vested with necessary powers and will be set up at state level as well. Earlier also the court has suggested that there should be a green bench in each court to deal with the issues relating to environment. I would like to suggest that an authority be set up at state level. The Government will not clarify as to why this ordinance is promulgated. I support the Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of ordinance and hope that more powers will be given to the authority. The allegation of Shri Ram Naik that the Standing Committee of Parliament has been by passed has some substance. After promulgating the ordinance the Government has not taken any action. In other words it wants to by pass the committee. The Standing Committee of Parliament senetrise the Bill and while doing so different ideas are put forward on the basis of which a comprehensive and better Bill is brought forward and more powers could be given to the authority. Bureaucracy don't want to be involved in it. It does not want that the rights and powers of the Parliament be increased. The executive is also on the same footing. Therefore, until and unless the court directs the

bureaucracy no action is taken. Keeping in view the directives of the court and reduction in the powers of the Parliament I support the Statutory Resolution regarding disapproval of the ordinance and appeal to the hon. Minister clarify all the confusion regarding this Bill. With these words I would like to thank you for giving me time, to speak.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Thank you especially for sticking to the time.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU (Rajapur) : Sir, I propose to oppose not this Bill but the tendencies as well as the way in which this Bill is being introduced to replace an Ordinance. I wish to oppose it on two counts. The first aspect has already been mentioned by everybody so I do not intend to repeat it. I would like to oppose it on some other counts as well.

Various legislations on environment are in vogue. Instead of amending those legislations and trying to consolidate all the legislations under one legislation and calling it a comprehensive Bill on environment, you are bringing in another Act and confusing the affected persons who might be interested to proceed in taking advantage of the various good provisions that existed in this Bill.

There is an Environment Protection Act which prevents the misuse and abuse of environment in certain cases. If a default is committed under that Act, instead of taking any action under that very legislation, we will have to invoke the provisions of new legislation which is now being introduced in the Parliament and then proceed with the matter. Instead of that, the Government should have concentrated all the legislations under one umbrella and bring about a comprehensive legislation. This has not been done and that is why I really wish to oppose it.

There is another reason which really makes me wonder as to whether the Government is really serious in bringing about various noble and laudable objectives which have been mentioned and for which the Bill is now being introduced in the Parliament. If the Government was really committed to bring about control on abuse of environment, the Government would have straightaway started with the rules, as was mentioned, by my illustrious friend, Shri Bhargava. A substantial time has elapsed and no action is initiated. So, it makes me feel that this has been done under coercion of the Supreme Court rather than out of the commitment for the cause of environment. Let me straightaway come to the subject because I have to observe the time limit.

The headquarters of the Appellate Authority should not be in Delhi but it should be in some island. Let that island be in Kerala, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu or in

Lakshadweep. Then and then only the law-makers, the administrators of law, will really come to know the difficulties that are being faced by the people who are affected by legislations like this. Shri Ram Naik mentioned about CRZ. He has invited the hon. Minister to visit Mumbai. I would request the Minister to go a little further and come to the sea coast of Maharashtra. Out of about 720 Kms. of the sea coast line on the West Coast, the substantial part of it is in my Constituency. In the 500 Metres area there is a restriction on construction. Several towns are located there. If you start counting from 500 Metres the other side goes into the brackish water. This means, all these towns which have been located for 100 years now will have to be totally dislocated as a result of this. When you make environment laws like this, you do not take into consideration the realities that exist there. So, if this new Appellate Authority is going to be based in Delhi, we will have to enlighten the Members of this proposed Authority about what does the sea mean, where the sea water flows and what are the difficulties that are being faced by the people whose life is going to be affected by this new legislation.

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : We learn that the sea water is very sweet.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Yes, but not for the people who live around the sea coast.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not made it quite clear as to what you are trying to get at. One limit is, 500 Metres above the high type. What is the other limit which you have talked about?

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : There are creeks, CRZ-I, CRZ-II. There are various notifications. If you start from the creek, there may be some inhabitation on the creek within 200 Metres.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Oh, there may be some creek at the back.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Yes, Sir. This is something which is affecting the lives of thousands and lakhs of people. There is a provision in this proposed legislation which is replacing the Ordinance. The Central Government can see to it if it feels affected or concerned about it. I would request the hon. Minister to immediately take the administrative measures to ensure that the miseries of these people are removed. Secondly, *suo motu*, move the authority on behalf of the Central Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have got another three minutes. This is just a warning bell.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : I wish you could also give a warning bell to the Minister because this is something which is affecting the people.

The environmental activists are now mushrooming all over the country. I think there is a need to legislate as to who is really an environmentalist. Everybody in the country, who knows or does not know anything about the environment, is qualified to be an environmentalist. I think the definition of an environmentalist is now construed to be one who does not know anything about it but call himself to be one. In that process, lives of thousands of people are getting affected...(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT (Agra) : You have said rightly.

[*English*]

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : The provisions of the Bill are good and laudable. Some amendments are required to be made to the Bill but there is no time to Table them. So, let me put them before you for the consideration of the hon. Minister.

There is a provision for a retired Judge to head the proposed Commission, I think, to bring about a sense of equity and natural justice to the judgements that are supposed to be delivered by this mechanism. But, what is the need for having a retired Secretary on this body? Is it that Government is trying to find jobs for retired Secretaries through this proposed environmental body? I really do not know why this provision has been made in the Bill. A retired Secretary might as well qualify to be a member of this body, but why should a statutory provision be made which makes it mandatory on the part of the Government to necessarily appoint one retired Secretary on this body? I would like the Minister to enlighten us about the rationale behind making such a provision in the Bill.

As an hon. Member has mentioned, there are various aspects of pollution - air pollution, sound pollution, water pollution, etc. I strongly support the proposal that every aspect of pollution should be included in this. But can there be a person in the world who is an authority on all these aspects of pollution? There are colleges and universities imparting specialised knowledge on various aspects of the environment but we rarely find a person in India who can talk on all aspects of the environment whether air, sound or water. So, I request that a statutory provision be made in the Bill to make sure that all aspects of environmental science are represented on the proposed body. Otherwise, we find that the various judgements that would be delivered may really come in for judicial scrutiny in one form or the other and may be struck down on account of lack of application of mind only because we are not making proper provisions at the inception stage of this Bill. There are various provisions to which I want to make a brief reference. I would not make any elaboration on them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You had better wind up now.

SHRI SURESH PRABHU : In regard to aquaculture, in the case of S.Jagannathan vs Union of India and Others, the Supreme Court directed the Government and the District Collectors to demolish the structures by 31st March. Now that the proposed legislation is going to come, is the Government thinking of going in for a review petition to make sure that some more time is granted so that the proposed appellate authority hears the view of the aggrieved and comes to a conclusion? I would like to know that from the Minister. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Sir, the Bill brought by the Hon'ble Minister is a half hearted effort. In view of the direction of the Supreme Court, Government is completed to bring this Bill before the House while the fact is that a strong will power is required to improve environment and check the increasing pollution and the Government is lacking in it. I would like the Government to create that willpower.

My friend Shri Suresh Prabhu has said something very good and I can not resist myself to share his views. By filing public interest petitions on environment in the court the issue has been turned into a drawing room luxury. Everything is free to file such petitions in the Supreme Court. But in such cases the Supreme Court hears them as well as the Government and things are manipulated by the Government to the wishes of environmentalists. Infact the Government don't pursue the case and also the aggrieved party is not heard by the court. Similar is the case in respect of Sarovar Dam of Madhya Pradesh and the people have been facing difficulties on this account. I would like the Government to constitute a comprehensive authority in this regard and also take care of the lacunaes. Infact there is nobody who can hear the tale of their woes. Even in Supreme Court each and every concerned individual can not be heard because the entire procedure for that is very complicated and expensive.

In this connection, I would like to place some facts. Yamuna Action Plan popularly known as Ganga Action Plan Phase-II formulated for improvement of environment is being implemented by taking loans from Japan. This scheme is being jointly implemented by the Central Government and State Governments of U.P., Haryana and that of Delhi what progress has been made with regard to Ganga Action Plan Phase-II, Infact, it is not being monitored properly. It was launched with a lot of fanfare but its purpose has not been served to this day. I have been emphasizing that Ganga Action Plan is incomplete and a complete plan should be made. But neither bureaucrats nor the Minister bothered for for it. When a Minister of U.P. was sent their political instability gripped that State and the views of that poor fellow was

not heard. Now the situation has come to such a pass that issuing directions to tap drains by making them pucca. One of our former Minister had threatened that he would not allow any tourists to visit Agra because Agra has become a dirty city. When he was requested to take steps to make pucca drains and to lay sewer lines in the city, the turned a deaf ear. Now the Supreme Court has issued directions to that effect to the Government placed a small scheme of Rs. 36 crores and the Supreme Court have been deceived about the work done by approximately of that amount. We made tentative project in which at least Rs. 136 crore has been spent. On this way, the Government, too delivered the Supreme Court and it has no any such mentioning process that the facts placed by the State of Central Government are right. Supreme Court deemed it as right.

Sir for uninterrupted supply of power for Taj protected area, a project of Rs. 176 crore was sanctioned and an affidavit was produced in Supreme Court. To a reply regarding this question, the definition of CEA has been given. Even if an electricity line is one km. away from the village it is called an electrification of the village. I want to ask how can a village be electrified by the electricity lines which are one kilometer away from the village can we check the pollution. Can we run the tubewells, operation of generators will be stopped but nobody is here to reply these question. Therefore I would like to know that the Authority constituted for this purpose will also be in a position to review these disparities to correct them. The Government of U.P. has also formulated a supplementary scheme but it has also no will power, the situation is not conducive there and thus clearance is not being given for this scheme. No amount has been made available so far. Despite spending a sum of Rs. 172 crore. The Taj is in the danger. Villages and Mohallas are not electified.

Sir, now I shall say something in brief. There is a big danger of vehicular pollution when we approached the Railway Ministry, their reply is that they are not ready to operate metro and local and circular trains of this authority can compel them to save the Raj, this arrangement may be made. Today there is no such arrangement. If railway has denied it, the Ministry of Environment has no right to compel them. Similarly there was talk of the Ring Road which is also not being constructed. Three national highways are passing from there and vehicles pollution is spreading on a large scale. The Department of Environment has said about the construction of a barrage at Yamuna in Agra. It has been recommended by the Ministry, Parliamentary Committee and many others but the Ministry of Environment have objected to the permission given to it. Now, we have approached to the Department of Irrigation. Mr. Mishra is here, I want to say that he is still

not clearing it. The Department of Environment say to construct a barrage for checking pollution but on the other hand objected for implementing it on the flimsy ground, which is meaningless.

I would like to say that where should the people of Agra go to register their complaints?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have raised concrete points. You conclude now.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : The Supreme Court or any of the authorities issue instructions to check these activities but following that how the deteriorating economic condition can be made, these matters need also to be considered. I therefore, would like to submit that his authority should be made are persuasive, comprehensive and powerful so that people are able to make complaint with it. I welcome this thing that this appellate court is not lawyers paradize. It says that there is no need of a lawyer. It is good to have a lawyer, otherwise you will have to defend yourself. But you give this right when it is comprehensive and the Government have also directive that the policy wrong then it should be rectified otherwise it will have repercussion. Otherwise the disired result will not be achieved.

Secondly, I would like to know that people file cases directly in Supreme Court as public interest petitions. I don't prevent them from their right to go to Supreme Court but the crisis being faced in the matter of public interest petitions heard is that the cases are one sided and public is not involved in them. The poor are not able to defend themselves, but injustice is being done to them instead of justice because they do not have approach upto that it would be better if they are to be given justice and then they may approach to Supreme Court.

With these words I conclude and urge upon that it is a good effort but it is a week effort. I urge that a comprehensive authority may be consituted by bringing about a complete and comprehensive bill and legislation. With these words I conclude.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, the Business Advisory Committee had allotted one hour's time for discussion on this Bill. We have already spent two hours and there are three more Bills to be completed today.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Sir, it is important Bill, opinions of all the Members should be sought on it...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is an important matter pertaining to environment ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Sir, it is an important Bill. There are a lot of things in the Bill itself which we have to bring to the notice of the House and which many Members have not revealed ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would request that in the Business Advisory Committee a point should be raised for allocating sufficient time.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSHI : Sir, ultimately the consent of the House has to be taken...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai North) : Sir, I am the Member of the Business Advisory Committee, I would like to throw some light on this. I had a discussion with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs just 10-15 minutes before. Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev is not present here, but I had discussed this with him also ...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : It is not correct to discuss what transpired in the Business Advisory Committee meeting. Only the House can decide it...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, he does not want me to help them. What I am saying is that discussion on this Bill should be continued for another hour and then the next item be taken up. This is what has been agreed by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Business Advisory Committee had allocated one hour. But the House has already extended the discussion for this Bill by another hour. I do not think it is reasonable to extend it by another hour. But I am at the disposal of the House. Would the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs like to say anything on this?

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, one more hour is required for this...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Would the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs like to say anything on this?

[Translation]

The Business Advisory Committee has allotted one hour for discussion on the Bill. One hour is already extended. It has got two hours.

[English]

The request from the hon. Members is to extend it by another one hour but I personally feel that it is too much. What is the opinion of the Treasury Benches?

16.00 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I understand that there are two or three more Members to speak and the Minister's reply will take half-an-hour. If it can be possible to complete it by 4.45 p.m., then we can take up the discussion on the General Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, on my list, there are six more Members. I would request them to kindly stick to five-minute schedule and I suggest that the hon. Minister can give his reply at 4.30 p.m. I would request you to kindly bear with me. Now, there are six more Members and I request them to speak only for five minutes. There should be no interruption so that the time of the House can be saved.

I think, before the hon. Minister replies, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava has to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will speak after the Minister.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I stand corrected. Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava will speak after the hon. Minister's reply. Now, I request you all to cooperate with me.

The next speaker will be Shri P.R. Dasmunsi. You are a very senior Member. I cannot check you. Kindly speak only for five minutes.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, I will have to do justice to the Bill and also justice to my party's timing. I know that only one speaker has spoken till now. I will be very brief but I will not give you a commitment that I will stick to five minutes, maybe four minutes or ten minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may be four minutes or six minutes.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : First of all, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that this National Environment Appellate Authority Bill has quite funny provisions.

16.02 hrs.

[SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA in the Chair]

Section 12 (1) says :

"The Authority shall not be bound by the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by the principles of natural justice..."

...(Interruptions) Sir, where is the hon. Minister?... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is out for two minutes.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You call him.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Several ministers are hearing it.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the United Front Government led by the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Deve Gowda, through his Minister for Environment and Forests, admits very candidly that the Authority shall not be bound by the provisions laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, Clause 12, but guided by the natural justice. The Government agrees in principle that the Civil Procedure Code will not provide any scope of natural justice. That is one Clause. The other Clause, that is Clause 12(2) says :

"The Authority shall have, for the purposes of discharging its functions under this Act, the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, while trying a suit, in respect of the following matters,..."

I just do not understand it. In one Clause you say that the Civil Procedure Code shall not apply because the natural justice will not come and in the other Clause you say that we shall work in the following orders by following the Civil Procedure Code. I think, the hon. Minister must read the actual difference between Clause 12(1) and Clause 12(2). This is the first point to which I draw the attention of the hon. Minister.

Secondly, Clause 3(2) says :

"The head office of the Authority shall be at Delhi."

It must be 'New Delhi' and not 'Delhi' because whenever you draft a Bill and present it, the head office has never been mentioned as 'Delhi' and it must be 'New Delhi', which is the Capital. I know that the Government's nomenclature is 'New Delhi' and not 'Delhi'. If it is Delhi, the jurisdiction will be that of Shri Sahib Singh Verma and if it is New Delhi, then the jurisdiction will be that of the Union Government. It is the basic territorial mistake.

Now, the other important point is that there is a very peculiar arrangement to protect and to provide job to the retired Judges and to the retired bureaucrats.

I thoroughly oppose it. Is it the commitment of the United Front Government? Is this the way you are going

to solve the problems? On the one hand, they will not be given clearance by the Department. They will say that they will not give clearance. But they will give clearance for industries, whether they pay money or not. I am not quoting anybody here. I know what amount of corruption takes place to get the so-called environment clearance. On the other hand, the same fellow, who was one of his earlier bosses, who was the Secretary earlier, will say that I had recommended your name for the Member of that Committee. What does the provision say? The provision says: "Retired Secretary who served for two years or equivalent level, whose scale was equivalent to that of a Secretary and having some experience or professional knowledge". Are these people superior? It is a very cleverly drafted legislation. Professional knowledge means, professional qualification in environment and ecology. When you say, "practical experience", they can appoint a retired Commissioner of a Corporation also. The bureaucrats have done such things during the olden days. Mr. Minister, please do not play in their hands. Apply your own mind. There are eminent ecologists in the country. There are eminent youngsters in the country who are professionals in this subject. Do justice to the nation. Do not take only those people who sit in South Block or North Block or in your Department here, who after their retirement decide the matter again. Do not always think of that. That way, this Bill is just contrary to the United Front's commitment and their basic approach to the system.

In the name of environment, a racket is going on. I entirely agree with the speech made on the other day by Shri Sharad Yadav. Yes, in some urbanized areas, these problems are coming up. We can understand that. But throughout the length and breadth of the country, it is not the problem which you are creating purposely dancing to the tunes of the United States.

Now I will just give you a few examples. First you have to decide that you talk to the Ministry of Industry and have a conference with the Chief Ministers. Now there is no licensing in the country. Everything is de-licensed. First you classify what are your hazardous industries which require environment clearance and what are the industries which are not hazardous. Those industries which are not hazardous, why should they go and apply for clearance? You demarcate the area for the hazardous industries. If you go strictly to the sense of hazardous, this evening, you have to shut down your thermal power units all over the country. It is because the coal dust of thermal power units creates problems. Are you ready to do that? Can the Government do that? It is impossible. If somebody goes and appeals to the Authority that this thermal power unit should be closed, what do you do? I tell you this Authority is like a BIFFR.

I am sorry to say that earlier the Parliament used to act and the Supreme Court used to interpret. Now the Supreme Court is directing the Parliament and the Parliament is enacting.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I am not concluding. I am just coming to the point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You try to conclude because the discussion has to be concluded by 4.30 p.m.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : This legislation looks like a simple Bill. It is another operational group which will centre all the powers in their hands.

[*Translation*]

Money will be needed both for environment clearance and the Appellate Authority. Hence, I want this to be referred to a committee for scrutiny and reconsideration after the debate is over in the House. There is no need of a retired judge. We solve the retired judges but they and the retired bureaucrats do not need any gratuity or pension. There are many intelligent, educated and sensible people in the country. A committee of such persons should be formed.

[*English*]

As you know, Sir, the biggest victim is my State. The small units of the foundry did all the things to control the effluents as per whatever direction. They did everything. Still 110 units are closed by the Supreme Court.

[*Translation*]

Directions should be given. People say that the pipes are not working, the officer should be bribed. There should be a representation of the trade union is the Appellate body.

[*English*]

Social obligation is supreme and top.

[*Translation*]

This country can not be run by directing the workers of their livelihood. This should be referred to the select Committee. We are not ready to cheer this Bill to provide re-employment to the retired officers.

SHRI HARBHAJAN LAKHA (Phillaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Environment Protection Bill. I will conclude within five minutes.

It was welcome to bring forth the Pollution and National Environment Protection Bill. I condemn the statutes of the country that preach that the aborigines of the country should set up their habitats around filthy drains and places because every citizen of this country

[Shri Harbhajan Lakha]

has a right to live at a clean place. People live in slums around filthy drains at the banks of Yamuna a few kms. from here. In Delhi, five lakh people live in slums. Is the Government going to do something for them because they are the aborigines of the country and not the Aryas.

In my constituency, the effluents of the ABC Paper Mill, Selakhand, district Shahpur, Punjab have polluted the water of hand-pumps and wells of Balaun, Chetan, Kangrand, Govindpur, Phagwara, Nawan Shahr and Banga. I approached the Government on 28th but no action was taken. The hon. Minister, when contacted, said that he will talk to the Government of Punjab to check this pollution. On the plea of environment pollution, the forest ranger and the department of forests acquired all the cultivable land of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people in order to save jungles from pollution. They used to cultivate this land since 1974. I raised much hue and cry for that but of no avail.

I had been to Kerala sometime ago. The scheduled tribe people living in jungles are not rehabilitated by the Dept. of Forests on the plea of environment of what use in the Forest Dept. when the people are not given an inch of land in lieu. The Forest Dept. has not given the compensation of the cultivable land taken from the people of Punjab. I request the hon. Minister to make a provision that it should not be binding on the scheduled castes to give away their cultivable land doled out to them by the Government to the Forest Dept. for acquisition under the 1986 Act.

With this, I thank you and conclude.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansole) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude in five minutes.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY : All right. It demands a cautious approach. Subsequently, a full-fledged Bill should be brought forth. I would not like to reiterate what many hon. Members said. We talk more of mines. Nobody cares for it in the environment law. This law is not enforced in places where there are mines. That is why these mines cave in resulting in loss of life and property. Hence, a provision should be made in it to look into environmental hazards. Separate provision should be made for the compensation money for loss of life and property due to environmental hazards.

The effluents and chemicals of all the industries of Bihar and Bengal flow down into Damodar river rendering its water unsafe for drinking and threatening the life of people. Therefore Damodar Action Plan should be formulated on the lines of Ganga Action Plan to make Damodar Water, Pollution free and the letter in

implemented in toto. I agree with what Shri Jaswant Singh ji said. Pollution is caused by industries when they process the raw material for production. But if industries are closed down in the name of pollution, the workers will starve. The law should award stringent punishment to such polluting industries but they should not be closed down diverting the workers of their livelihood. This country is already facing the people of a huge army of unemployed and we shall not add to their number. Thus, we shall here to protect industries, check pollution and ensure the livelihood of the workers. Such provision should be made in the law so that rehabilitation of people living around the mines is done on time, compensation is paid to them and alternative job given and the air, water and sound pollution is also checked. With this, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN (Quilon) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the National Environment Appellate Authority Bill, 1997. When I am supporting this Bill, I would like to highlight the issues which are having a serious concern and serious discussion in our country especially regarding judicial activism. We know that the Environment Protection Act, 1986 has come into force from 1986. As has already been mentioned, Sub-Section 3 of Section 3 of the said Act empowers the Government to constitute an authority or to make a mechanism so as to deal with the environmental problems and issues regarding clearance of industries and all these things.

But it is quite unfortunate to note that one decade has passed after this enactment and this piece of legislation has come to this august House after the lapse of eleven years. That is the reason why during that period a series of judgements were passed from the High Courts as well as from the Supreme Court regarding the tanning industry, aquaculture and several other aspects. The Supreme Court of India has given so many directions so as to protect the environment that a mechanism is highly necessary and a Green Bench is required so as to protect the environment. The Government was directed to constitute an Authority, whatever be its might.

So, I would like to say that judicial activism means that we should commit and accept on facts. During the last decade or so, we have not been able to form or constitute such a mechanism as to resolve the problems concerning the environmental matters. That is why, this piece of legislation can also be said as a compulsion due to the direction from the Supreme Court or the High Court, as the case may be. I would like to submit that we should act in accordance with law and in time also. With this submission, I welcome this Bill.

The main point which I would like to highlight is that there is a finality of the proceedings in this case. Section 11(4) says that it would be completed within a particular stipulated period. If anybody who has been aggrieved by the starting of an industry, a process or an operation should make a complaint to the appropriate authority within 30 days and the proceedings should be completed within 90 days. So, a stipulated time has been enunciated in this piece of legislation. Moreover, the person who starts an enterprise or an industry will also be getting an opportunity to know that an objection has come regarding the industry or the concern which he may start. Since it is an effective mechanism for the speedy and effective disposal of the cases and time is also being saved, I would support this Bill.

Regarding the environment, I would say that I am not against environment. We are all supporting it. Our nature has gifted all these things and we should protect them. The ecological balance, the nature of this country should be controlled and protected, but it should not be done in the way that would adversely affect the interest of the people in the society. What is happening in our country is that, now, almost all the developmental activities in the country are facing threats from the environmentalists. So many rulings have come from the hon. judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court. I am not going through the details since there is a constraint of time.

Firstly, I would point out about the coastal zone management which has already been mentioned. The most affected State is Kerala. The second one is aquaculture. What is going on? Everybody knows that crores of rupees have been spent and no multinational company is there. I apprehend that this environment is being taken as a weapon to control the economic development, the industrial development as well as the agricultural development of our country. This is being used as a weapon by some other agencies and some black sheep are behind this. There is no multinational company in the aquaculture sector. But it is being said and directed that by 31st of March, it should be dismantled. Who will pay the compensation? When a verdict from the court comes, the human needs and demands should also be taken into consideration.

This is the Government which has encouraged to start the aquaculture sector. The Government has instigated and encouraged to start this aquaculture. More than 168 industries in Delhi and tanneries in Tamil Nadu are being affected. What are the net evil consequences? How could the consequences be resolved? I would take this opportunity to say that we should develop our research and development sector. We should make innovations to curtail pollution. I would like to cite an example. There is a Central Leather

Research Institute located at Chennai. We have visited this Institute as members of the Committee on Science and Technology. They are trying to make a mechanism to resolve this problem. So, I would say that when we are speaking for the environment, there should be a balance between environment and development. That balance can lead to a sustainable development. This environment should be protected this way. This has to be done. With these words, I support this Bill.

SHRI MANABENDRA SHAH (Tehri-Garhwal) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, to cut the matter short, I would say that I am surprised - I can expect the bureaucrats not to care for the people - But not the Minister who is representing the people. He has not cared to see the interests of the people, be it Environment Protection Act, Forest Conservation Act or this Bill. None of them have a provision in the interest of the people. I cannot analyse them because you will start ringing the bell.

Sir, one of the basic needs of the people all over India is forest, whether they be in Cape Comorin or in Gangotri, because all of them require wood. Therefore, I will cite the hill districts of Tehri-Garhwal and Uttarkashi in Uttar Pradesh which are saturated with forests as an example. There the impact of the Act and the Bill will be felt very much and in such areas. At present, we are depending on forests for fodder, livelihood, for grazing the cattle, for cooking in the kitchen, for funeral pyre, for constructing houses and so on. We are entirely dependent on forests and that is why, we were given trees at concessional rates. We are entirely dependent on forests and that is why, we were given free grants. All these things have been adversely affected now. So, I would like to put a question to the Government, the bureaucrats and the Judiciary. Do they want the people who are surviving on forests to live without cooking their food because they cannot burn the wood in their *chulhas*? Do they want their cattle to die because they cannot get fodder from the forests? Do they want the people to give up ploughing because they will not be able to make ploughs? Do they want them to stay without houses? What do they want? Why do they not take interest about the needs of the people? Neither the Act, nor the Bill nor the Government, nor the Ministers have cared to see whether the Acts and Bills are protecting the interests of the people or not.

Therefore, I do not only oppose the Bill, but I am also opposed to the two Acts. If the Government have any compassion in their heart they should reconsider these two Acts and the Bill. They should bring a comprehensive Bill and a Select Committee of Parliament should discuss that Bill, because we

[Shri Manabendra Shah]

represent the people and we have more concern for the interests of the people than the bureaucrats or the Ministers who are just becoming rubber stamps.

Therefore, I strongly request that this Bill be withdrawn and reconsidered. I also request that a Select Committee be constituted to reconsider all the aspects so that the interests of the people are fully met.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I welcome this piece of legislation. But I have two points to make.

The first one, I do not understand the logic behind the Ordinance. An ordinance is promulgated only in an extra-ordinary circumstance. At present, there is no extra-ordinary situation here.

The second, by-passing the Standing Committee of Parliament is not a good practice. This will not help us in future also. So, I request the Government to stop this practice of by-passing the Standing Committee of Parliament, which is an effective mechanism for scrutinising the Bills and the Demands for Grants.

Sir, environmental protection is a very serious matter. Now, an awareness is being created all over the world towards environmental protection. Our Capital city of Delhi is choking due to pollution. It is not only Delhi is choking, but all other metropolitan cities are also choking. Growth in industrial activity with scant attention towards the environmental safeguards and high volume of motorised traffic have created a grave pollution problem in our cities. How can we check this pollution? There should be some effective mechanism to check pollution. Of course, there are Pollution Control Boards in the States and there are various other Acts in our country which are passed by this Parliament. But we can see in our practical life that they are not at all effective and pollution is increasing in various forms.

As my learned friend has mentioned here during his speech on the Statutory Resolution, there are different kinds of pollution. How can we check this problem? This is very serious matter and this causes fatal diseases to the mankind. The people around factories and public sector undertakings are raising this issue of pollution and they are very serious about it. Even though there are provisions for treatment plants in the factories near the rivers and other places, they are not at all effective and the people are not getting the benefits out of these treatment plants. So, a serious thought should be given towards this aspect. Definitely, this will help our people to contain pollution.

My friend, Shri Premchandran, has rightly mentioned that there are certain hydroelectric projects from Kerala

which are pending for getting clearance from the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Of course, we are all aware of the need for environmental protection. But we cannot use the cause of environmental protection to defeat the developmental activities.

Sir, the Silent Valley Project was deferred because it was a thick forest. Karappara-Kuriyarkutty is another hydroelectric project that is pending for clearance. In Kerala State, we are starving for power. We have power cuts for hours and hours together. The hydroelectric power is the only power which is available at a cheaper rate. For the Karappara-Kuriyarkutty Project, environmental clearance was not given by the Central Government. Pooyamkutty is another project which is also pending for clearance from the Environment Ministry.

My whole point is that we are all concerned about environmental protection, but we cannot use this as a weapon to defeat the developmental activities in a State. There are inordinate delays in giving clearances. We will fulfil the guidelines and reply to the queries of the Central Government for getting the environmental clearance. But there are inordinate delays in getting the clearances.

I want to make three or four points. Now, I am coming to the Bill. In the Bill, it is said :

"The Head Office of the Authority will be located in Delhi."

As you know, the environmental cases come from different parts of our country, and it will be a difficult task for the litigants to come to Delhi to seek redressal of their grievances. So, my proposal is that we have to set up three branches and, in the least, one branch in the South and one branch in the West and necessary amendments for this should be made by the hon. Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Chennithala, we have to conclude by .

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Clause 11(2) defines the categories of persons who can file an appeal before the Authority. Clause 11 (2) (c) says :

"any association of persons (whether incorporated or not) likely to be affected by such order and functioning in the field of environment."

There is a lack of clarity in this. How can an association be affected by an order? In fact, it would be enough if you say 'any association functioning in the field of environment.' That kind of clarity should be there. Otherwise, there is lack of clarity when you say 'any association of persons'. Clause 11 (3) gives an

impression that the Authority will hear only the appellant before passing the order. Since the proceedings will be judicial, the Authority will have to hear both sides and then decide on the issue. Otherwise, justice is denied. So, in order to do natural justice, both parties should be heard. My fourth point is that it is not clear whether any appeal to the Supreme Court against the Authority is allowed. It has to be made clear especially because there is a stringent penal provision in the Bill, that is, seven years of imprisonment or a fine of one lakh rupees. Since it is a stringent penalty, it has to be made clear. So, my appeal to the hon. Minister is that this Bill needs more consideration and thought.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : I am concluding now. We need a comprehensive Environmental Protection Bill so that all these views can be accommodated in that. Thank you very much.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy is the last speaker.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra) : Sir, giving so little time on such an important issue on which all the Members want to speak...*(Interruptions)* I would like to touch it briefly...*(Interruptions)* When the Environment Act was enforced in this country in 1986...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North West) : Sir, I have given my name.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : This should have been brought forward in the form of a Bill before promulgating this ordinance. The Government tried to enforce it forth with...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Keep your cool. The Members of your party are speaking. Let them speak.

(Interruptions)

[English]

One member of your Party has already spoken.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Only one person has spoken. Who else has spoken? I have also given my name.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please keep quiet because the hon. Member is speaking.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : It is an important Bill and I have already given my name.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Rudy is on his legs. Please keep quiet.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, in view of the time constraint, it is not possible to elaborate on it. But I wanted to highlight the basis sense of the Bill...*(Interruptions)*. The Government has brought this Bill - the House today. The Environment Act is in force since 1986 and this Bill can be viewed from two points.

There is ever rising public awareness India today towards environment. People knock at the doors of the Supreme Court to seek redress of the Government decision affecting them. The purpose of curtailing the activities of the Supreme Court through this Bill, I am saying so because the Government might try to introduce a Bill of its own volition and for working against environment so that its actions are ratified.

A scrutiny of the constitution of the tribunal, the appellate authority will reveal that an endeavour. Though this Bill, is being made to select such people as its Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and the three members who are devoid of the basic bits and knowledge of environment.

This Government brought this Bill in haste because it is somehow or the other anti-environment. The Supreme Court has admitted many (PILS) Public Interest Litigations against the decision of the present Government. This anti-environment fate brought the ordinance in a haste and then brought it in the shape of a Bill in order to create a mid-arrangement so as to achieve its purpose. This Bill is aimed at curtailing the Supreme Court and dilute its dedication towards environment. In view of the arbitrary composition of the tribunal provided for in the Bill, it should be referred to the Select Committee for detailed deliberation.

Environment is a subject that demands therefore discussion in the House which is not possible now. Thus, it should be referred to the Select Committee and both its provision - favouring and opposing—examined before it is passed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Did the House decide on it in your presence?

(Interruptions)

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : He is in search of an opportunity to speak since 11 a.m.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Joshi ji, you speak on every subject and every Bill. You may speak later.

(Interruptions)

VAIDYA DAYAL JOSHI (Kota) : I have not spoken any subject...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is an issue related to environment, not Rajasthan.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You were present, when it was decided, you had agreed to it then.

[English]

At four of the Clock, the House agreed to extend the time for half an hour. It was also agreed that the discussion would be completed by 4.30 p.m. and the Minister would start his reply at 4.30 p.m. So, we will have to conclude it by five of the Clock. We cannot continue it for an indefinite period...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Only one member from our party has spoken...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, Madhukarji, please listen.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Is it not an important Bill? Why are you putting restrictions on the Members to speak on this Bill?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Listen, please. The Business Advisory Committee decided to allot one hour. Then, the House decided to extend the time by one hour. Again, it was extended by half an hour. How long will you prolong with this?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : The House is extending the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have taken three hours discussing it. How long will you take more? This will not do.

[English]

Shri Naik had requested to extend the time of the House by one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Those who have given their names should be allowed to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How is that possible. Please sit down.

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : I should be allowed to speak. I have not spoken on any Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name appears in it at No. 6 in the list provided by Shri Ram Naik.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I will make my point in two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I can't accomodate everybody.

[English]

SHRI RAM NAIK : I suggest a small amendment. You can give a chance to one Member each from the BJP, the Shiv Sena and the Congress to speak for three minutes each.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR : Only one Member has spoken from our Party so far...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We cannot agree to it.

Mr. Minister may speak now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : One hour was earmarked for this item. We have already crossed two and a half hours. If the Minister now starts speaking, he will complete it in another fifteen to twenty minutes. The whole problem is that the General Discussion on Budget has not yet been taken up. That is why, I was suggesting that we could start the discussion by 5 o'clock.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : You are talking like that because you are in power.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : We had earmarked are hours time for this Bill and we have taken two and a half hours. Other term of business are pending. How can we cope with them.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How more time can we extend.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Since 2 o'clock we are in the House but we have not been given a chance to speak...*(Interruptions)* It is your responsibility to maintain chorum in the House, but we sit there from 11 o'clock to 6 o'clock and thus help you in carrying out your responsibility but even then we are not given a chance to speak.

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : I suggest that you give a chance to one Member each from the BJP, the Shiv Sena and the Congress.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it the sense of the House to extend the time on this item by fifteen minutes?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Vaidya Dau Dayal Joshi to speak.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : The work which was supposed to be done by the 'Lok Sabha is being done by the Courts through Publish interest litigations. The Law which we were supposed to pass sho-motu in the House, has been passed by the courts. In the absence of such a law it was not possible to take effective measures to check pollution in Delhi. The Bill presented by the Minister is incomplete. Had it been a comprehensive one then one could have expected some relief through it. You have discussed over a bill in the House. Going through the environmental and pollution situations one can feel that it is very critical. In Rajasthan, Chambal river has got polluted to a large extent. Despite our repeated requests your department has not done anything towards controlling the pollution in the river. I therefore, request the hon. Minister to do something needful in this regard.

The Delhi High Court has ordered to remove the abattoir and sale counters from Delhi. This order has been implemented in the case of sale counters but the abattoir has not been removed. Merely passing a law is not sufficient enough. Shri Sunderlal Patwaji has come to House after defeating Kamal Nath. Shri Kamal Nath got a hotel constructed by changing the course of a river in Himachal. The Government did not take any action in their matter but the Supreme Court gave its verdict and the permission to construct the motel was withdrawn subsequently. You may make a number of laws but so long such leader would continue to get political protection one cannot get a respite. If you do not make sincere efforts to effectively check pollution and maintain environmental balance, one cannot expect the nation to make progress. I therefore, oppose, the bill brought by you.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, whole opposing the promulgation of the ordinance by the President, I do support the spirit of the Bill presented in the House. The verdict given by the Supreme Court on the public interest litigation has caused quite a stir amongst the people.

I come from Konkan area, which is a part of the 720 km. long coastal belt of Maharashtra about which a mention was made before I spoke Mr. Chairman, Sir, a number of villages and colonies falling under this areas are affected with the coastal regulation zone. The people living with in an area of 500 meters from the sea line or 200 meters from the blackish water have a fear that their houses would be demolished and to they would

have to leave their present sites. That is why, I am making a mention about it.

I come from Konkan region. Konkan enjoys the maximum rains in Maharashtra. But two months after the rainy season is over if you go there, you will find that the people there are longing for a rip of water. The proposed for water schemes are lying pending with the Ministry of Environment and people are craving for water. The developmental work should not suffer on account of Environment. In number of cases in which the Supreme Court has given its decision about aqueculture farming people are suffering, especially in Konkan and Vidarbh region. As a result of that most of the people who were engaged in prawn-farming, have been rendered unemployed. They are dying out of hunger. Therefore, the Minister is required to give a statement in this regard. There is no doubt that the maintaining of environmental balance is quite important. But the development works should not be stopped in the name of environment...(Interruptions) people should not die out of hunger. They should not be deprived of their employment. At least two lakh people are engaged in prawns farming. there are hills on one side and sea on the other in the Konkan region. Many proposals of State Government in this regard are licking dust in the Ministry of Environment. The Authority which you intend to set up, is likely to receive many representations as the people have developed a fear, that whom should they go for the redressal of their problem. The life of the fishermen totally depend on the sea and they cannot live away from the sea coast. Fishing is then only business, for which they will have to live on the coast. This bill has created a fear in their mind. The State Government is issuing notices after the decision of the Supreme Court. Therefore, it is very essential to present this problem before the House through you. I hope, the Minister will give his reply in this regard.

With these words, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU (Cuttack) : Mr. Chairman Sir, too much of religion kills God; too much of law kills peace of mind and body and thereby enslaves a person to bureaucracy and expertocracy. This is what is going to happen in this Bill also.

This is a badly drafted and motivated Bill. So far as the badly drafted part is concerned, my friends have already spoken and I would not go into those details. But, kindly see Clause 15 where it says that it would not go to a civil court or any authority. It does not preclude, the authority of the High Court. This appellate authority,

[Shri Anandi Charan Sahu]

after it gives its verdict, will be subject to the High Court and then to the Supreme Court. There are lots of laws on environment. We will defeat the purpose of environment by enacting lots of laws. There are also some other laws which are on the anvil. I would not go into the details.

Very recently we have passed the rules regarding two emergency provisions and very cleverly the Secretary of the Environment Ministry has been made the Chairperson of the Crisis Group. The Crisis Group will have powers as per Section 10 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. If he has the powers enjoined in Section 10, he would be able to inspect, search, seize and can do so many other things. I do not have the time, otherwise I would have given the details of all these things. This is a sinister design.

According to this Act itself which will come into force, a person who is not a geophysicist, who is not a geologist, or geo-chemist who does not have any knowledge about eco-friendliness will become the Chairman of this body. This is very bad. We should not enact this Bill without the Standing Committee going into this for a very thorough reading of its provisions, as my friends have said. You are not giving me time; otherwise I would have gone into the details of the enactments which have come by now.

You will kindly see that in answer to an Unstarred Question, the Government has indicated that different laws have been enacted and the different rules and laws which have come into force. The first thing is, we have the rules on Emergency Planning Preparedness and Response for Criminal Accident, 1986 which has been placed on the Table of House after six months. This should not have been done. That requires through amendments because that will create lots of problems for any industry, small or medium - I am not talking of bigger ones. Yes, we should protect the environment, but not in a manner by which we put lots of checks and balances in which a man would not survive. We have imported faiths, behaviours and ideas from outside. This is not in consonance with the cultural ethos of this country and the way we behave and we work. This has to be taken into account by enacting certain laws. It would not be profitable for us and it would create many difficulties for us.

Then there are other Acts also. We have eco-mark standards fixed by the Bureau of Indian Standards. Why not involve the Bureau of Indian Standards in this Act also? I would not go into details of the eco-mark. Then we have the National Environment Tribunal Act, 1985

relating to damages involving hazardous substances etc. All these provisions of the Present Bill can be kept in this Act. I would not go into further. This Bill should not be passed. I do not support it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me an opportunity to speak. I would like to submit that had the Environment preservation bill, passed in 1986 been implemented in its right earnest then there would have been no need of introducing this bill. This is the general practice that whatever laws are made, are not implemented properly and when it causes a lot of harm then we wake up to make rules. For instance, I take Ganga Action plan which is meant to control pollution but so far no progress report has been submitted in this House in this regard.

You have taken foreign loan to finance this plan but it lacks monitoring, due to which all money is wasted. You make a law to check corruption, if it proves ineffective you make another rule. We are not here to make rules only, we must get the utilization report as well as the report about the expenses incurred and the success achieved. The House should know that how far we have been succeeded in checking the pollution. The Government must submit all these things in order to show its right intentions in this regard.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I must thank hon. Members for their intense motivation for participation in the debate. Even though most of the suggestions that they made were not directly concerned with this Bill, I have taken notes on those suggestions and it would be possible over a period of time to revert to individual Members.

Here and now, I must make my position clear. There was some misunderstanding. We have made our position clear. We have come before this august House with this National Environment Appellate Authority in response to the provisions of the Environment Protection Act itself. Clause 5, sub-section 2, Section 3 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986 empowers the Central Government to impose restrictions of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards.

Now, alongside that, we have also mentioned in the objects that the hon. Supreme Court had, in certain Public Interest Litigations, taken some decisions. We have taken note of those decisions also. There were some misunderstandings within ourselves. Shri Sriballav

Panigrahi raised a point. He is not here but he transferred his confusion to me. There is no confusion on my part. As far as this Appellate Authority Bill is concerned, it is not here because there was an independent judgement of the hon. Supreme Court. Of course, there were many judgements on PILs. The hon. Court wanted an authority to be constituted in respect of tanneries and so many other things. Those decisions have been implemented. The Authority has been constituted.

16.59 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

Here, we have come in pursuance of the provisions of the Environment Protection Act was a principle of precaution...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : Shri Panigrahi was not wrong. He has only said what you have said in the statement :

'In view of recent pronouncements by the Supreme Court in certain public interest litigation cases involving environment issues, it was considered necessary to take immediate steps to set up an independent body for quick redressal of public grievances.

17.00 hrs.

Consequently an Ordinance was promulgated. What is wrong? He did not say anything wrong.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Mr. Chairman, I am only taking the position that this Bill has not come to the House because Supreme Court had wanted the Ministry of Environment to come with this Bill...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let him complete.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : We only say this 'pursuant to the Environment Act and also having Supreme Court decisions in view'. It is the highest Court of the land. So, that is the background why we came here. In the Environment Act itself, there is a principle of precaution. I invite your attention to Chapter II, Section 3, Sub-section 2 (v), where it is stated,

"Restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards".

So, I call this Bill as a social legislation of very great historical importance. This is in pursuance to this precaution. We have taken precaution and we are propounding a law which will give great relief to the people.

Some hon. Members, including Shri Nitish Kumar, have raised a question as to why this Ordinance is needed, this has happened in the past and this might happen in the future also. This is because there was an urgency. The Ministry became conscious that certain authority should be there because people should have the possibility of preferring an appeal very quickly. You know, the courts take quite a long time. Some hon. Members were concerned as to why the PILs are decided so early and why not the other cases. That is a different question and I am not going into that.

But here the Ministry thought that it was urgent. I will tell you the chronology of events. The Committee of Secretaries discussed this whole question. Then, on 15th January, the Cabinet approved this. On 24th January, the Cabinet approved the constitution of National Environment Appellate Authority through promulgation of an ordinance and on 30th January, an Ordinance was promulgated. I came to this House and introduced this Bill. The Ordinance was laid on the Table of the House on 21st February, 1997 and on 4th March, The National Environment Appellate Authority Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha. So, what I am saying is that there was an urgency of promulgating an Ordinance. Therefore, I have to come before this august House to pilot this Bill...(Interruptions)

It is not possible to yield. I heard you with rapt attention. Now, I must answer your queries.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you want to have any clarification, you can seek it later. If the hon. Minister is not yielding, you cannot force him.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I must quickly go through certain provisions of the Bill which are very important because Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava and Shri Ram Naik have raised many issues pertaining to the structure of the Bill. Questions were asked as to who can go in for an appeal. Any person who is likely to be affected by the grant of environmental clearance can go in for an appeal. This is so vast and varied that it would certainly bring relief to the people. And any person who owns or have control over the project with respect to which an application has been submitted for environmental clearance and any association of persons whether incorporated or not but likely to be affected by such orders and functioning in the field of environment, the Central Government, the State Governments and the local bodies can also go in for appeal. I am not reading this out because I must save time. The powers of the Authority are very important. First of all, let us see the procedure. We have said that the Authority will not be bound by the procedures laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 but shall be guided by the principle of natural justice.

[Prof. Saifuddin Soz]

It will also mean that this Appellate Authority can change venue, go to people and respond to their urges any time and in any manner it likes. It has a lot of freedom and this Appellate Authority can enjoy this freedom only for taking due care of the needs and urges of the people.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : You may read Section 12 (2) of the Bill.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will come to that also. When we come to the powers of the Authority, Section 12 (2) of the Bill says:

- "(a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;
- (b) requiring the discovery and production of documents;
- (c) receiving evidence on affidavits;
- (d) subject to the provisions of Sections 123 and 124 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 requisitioning any public record or document or copy of such record or document from any office;
- (e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents;
- (f) reviewing its decisions;
- (g) dismissing a representation for default or deciding it, *ex parte*;
- (h) setting aside any order of dismissal of any representation for default or any order passed by it *ex parte*; and
- (i) any other matter which is required to be, or may be, prescribed by the Central Government."

So, these powers and this procedure give this Appellate Authority a status.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Mr. Minister, in Section 12 (1) you say that the Authority shall not be bound by the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and in Section 12 (2) you say that the Authority shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : There is no contradiction between 12 (1) and 12 (2). I would say that this Appellate Authority will be an independent Authority taking decisions. But there will be no appeals as such either in the High Court or in the Supreme Court and the original jurisdiction of a writ will lie with the High Court and will lie with the Supreme Court. This is necessary because a retired Judge of a Supreme Court or a retired Chief Justice of a High Court will have a position. It is a Body which must decide; it must understand the problems of the people and then decide it.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Why do you not have a regular Judge?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : So, the appeal will not lie with the High Court or with the Supreme Court.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Why do you not have a regular Judge for this purpose?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : That is a separate question.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : It is not a separate issue.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I will tell you.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Why do you want to have a retired Secretary and a retired Judge?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I would respond to that later. Hon. Members have made many suggestions and certainly my friend Shri Dasmunsi deserves my response to that question later. But I would say that there is no contradiction between 12 (1) and 12 (2).

Here, the hon. Members have expressed their concerns about the problems within the purview of environment. They wanted to bring in issues that pertain to the realm of water pollution, air pollution, etc.

Then there was also a concern expressed about the Ganga Action Plan-I. I wish I have time. From the very first day of my taking over, I started studying about the Ganga Action Plan-I. There are so many difficulties. I will take this august House into confidence about the Ganga Action Plan-I because that is a very prestigious national project that deserves the topmost priority in the scheme of things in the Ministry of Environment.

But I will come to those issues separately; I did not feel worried why these issues were referred here. It is a limited question where this Bill wants to institute an Environment Appellate Authority. Therefore, Ganga Action Plans I and II and the questions about pollution, etc., stand outside the purview of this Bill.

While the hon. Members have expressed their ideas, I have taken due care to record or jot down the points. I will try my best to get back to those Members to take up those issues separately with them.

A major question was taken up during this debate.

Some people have expressed very deep concern for environment and some people say that this deep concern for environment simultaneously means that people do not care for development. So, I have taken the middle course and I think, after I have finished my reply, this august House will agree with me that we must be in the middle course because the cause is important; development is important as we are a developing country. The West has gone ahead and now they are doling out advice to us. I want to share my feeling with this august House that I feel proud on our

concern for environment. We cannot compare our position with any other country of the world. This is not bragging. The concern for environment is the cornerstone of our ethos and culture.

I was very sad on a day when I was looking into the Ganga Project, and fortunately, I received a poem from a retired IAS officer who incidentally happens to be a Muslim. He had written a poem on Ganga. He has said that centuries ago, we showed light to the world and we gave a message of harmony and peace and now, we are here polluting a river which is so sacred not only to Hindus but also to all sections of society in India. I have read that poem and when there will be a discussion on Ganga, I will come to this august House and share that poem with you and place it on record.

Here I say that West might give us an advice but we must care and understand our position. We must not try to say that our institutions are weak. I can say with some confidence in this House that we have a most comprehensive law on environment. Various authorities have been instituted on water pollution and air pollution. I cannot say that we have succeeded in everything. But I can say with some confidence that we shall certainly implement the laws that are available, of course, with the support of all Members and political parties here. But on development, my stand is this. We shall have development, of course, without spoiling environment. We shall take care of environment without relegating the concerns of development to the background. So, I stand in the middle and I hope that we shall have development in this country. The Ministry will take care of it.

I welcome all the suggestions given by the hon. Members. We shall have development without impairing the concerns of environment. Why I said about West here is because so much advice has been doled out to India and if I have a chance to participate in conferences, I can tell them that they have quite a lot to learn from here. This is a digression because you brought the Ganga Plan into picture. I am telling you that the Wild Life Board met after nine years, only three or four days back. There was a meeting of the Tiger Forum in which there were some foreigners also. I told them that if they have concern for tigers, then they should take care of the 16 shops in New York alone where they sell tiger bones and other materials and that they have created a great market in Europe and America for tiger bones and other commodities. Yet, they come here and give us advice that tigers should be protected. We are doing everything possible to protect the tigers but their advice is tainted. This much I had told them...*(Interruptions)* Many apprehensions were expressed here by an hon. Member about the composition of the Authority. He was not in agreement with the composition of the Authority as such. I can

assure him that a lot of thinking has been done about the composition of this Authority. Good, qualified and competent people will be selected for this Authority...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, if you directly start replying to him, then you will be in trouble.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sarvashri P.R. Dasmuni and Srivaballav Panigrahi have made specific suggestions and said: "Why should only retired Judges and retired civil servants be there?" Here and now, I cannot respond and say, "I agree with them." It is difficult. I will request them to pass this Bill. But in due course of time, it must be examined. If they have any definite suggestions, I will sit with them. They will enlighten me for future. But as far as this Bill is concerned, I will commend it. I will request you to pass it as presented.

The other thing I wanted to say is that this Bill has a lot of transparency. Anybody can go. The appellate authority can itself respond to people's needs, requirements and their problems. So, the transparency is the hallmark of this Bill.

Now, I will cover briefly the points raised by Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava because he was the mover of that Resolution. He has talked of forest in Agra, about the Ganga, and the situation in Jaipur. I have noted your observations. You have brought in the Taj also. The only thing to which I will respond pointedly is about the penalty. The penalty is not seven years. It can be anything ranging from six months to seven years. It can be penalty or fine or it can be fine alone. So, I think, he should not worry on the question of penalty. If someone violates the law, he or she will have to suffer the punishment. But seven years is the maximum limit.

Shri Ram Naik had raised so many things about the coastal situation in Bombay. I only respond by saying that aquaculture is different. Aquaculture authority is different. That will come up some day. Aquaculture is basically a subject related to agriculture. It does not belong to my Ministry. About the environment aspect, it is all right. But that is a different situation. He has invited me to Bombay. I will certainly go to Bombay and visit the coast. I will go with him and other Members of Parliament from there.

I have explained the point raised by Shri Srivallav Panigrahi. There was no confusion. The Supreme Court's judgements are there. We have said that has also been a guiding principle. We have come before you pursuant to the provisions of the Environment Act. That authority - the Supreme Court wanted us to constitute it. It has already been constituted.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : You have set the records straight.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I think, Shri Nitish Kumar had said about powers and so many procedures. I have explained it.

Finally, I have recorded the suggestions given by the hon. Members. I can only say that I will apply my mind and revert to these Members about the issues they have raised. But here and now, I appeal to this august House to join me in getting the Bill passed.

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Sir, in order to help the Government, I appeal to him to make this Bill more comprehensive. We can go into more details of pollution. It will be in the best interest of the country and that of the ecological environment. It must go to the Select Committee for an objective consideration by the hon. Members. Let us not be sensitive about such things. Let us not go ahead in such a hurry. The Government will find enough time to apply its mind. We shall also find time. This is not the way. Many things are there which should be brought to our notice. He can invite more experts on this matter. They can explain about their experience. It will be better. He can give time-bound directions to the Select Committee that by such-and-such time, it should give its report. So, it can go to the Select Committee. Then, it can come to the House again.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have not got the answer to my question which I had asked earlier. The national fisheries form has started their agitation, moreover there is a problem being faced by the persons engaged to Dyna farming. You have set up a committee regarding deep sea fishing to deal all such problems. Likewise you should also set up a committee for C.R. zone and agriculture, we will welcome it. The hon. Minister has not said anything about it. I wish he should say a few words about it.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : It is for information. I would like to say that the High Court in Calcutta gave a decision that in public places where political meetings are to be held, microphone of a particular volume shall not be used.

Microphones shall not be used for the purposes of prayer in the Mosques; microphones shall not be used for the purpose of chanting *mantras* in the temples. This has come in this way. I do not take it so lightly. I am thankful to the Chief Minister that with great difficulty he called the religious leaders and made some compromises beyond the purview of the Court. We all agreed to it and stopped this sensational thing. This is not a light thing. Therefore, please consider this aspect. Let it be examined; if not by a Select Committee then at least by a Standing Committee. Then let it come before the House. Your hands would only be strengthened. Please try to understand this.

[Translation]

VAIDYA DAU DAYAL JOSHI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the matter raised by Shri P.R. Dasmunshi is very important, a comprehensive bill was needed. But this is very unfortunate that the Minister is least concerned about it. I also made a point about Presidents' intervention, which I feel is too much. The way Shri Kamal Nath and Shri Sukhram constructed their own hotels in Himachal, there is no provision in the law to check such malpractices. Please explain, how you are going to face such political leaders.

[English]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN SAHU : Sir, I would like to repeat this. This House had passed the Prevention of Corruption Act in the year 1988 in a hurry. When Section 19 of that Bill was being discussed, many Members raised the point that there could be difficulty of previous sanction and that the point regarding previous sanction for MPs should be discussed, but the Bill was hurried through. The then Minister said that he would look into this problem later. Now after 7-8 years we are facing the consequences. In the case of this Bill also we would face the consequences at a later date. There would be a lot of difficulties. So, my humble submission is that it should be referred to a Select Committee...(Interruptions)

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, there are several points which need clarification. An Ordinance was promulgated in haste and today they are trying to get it replaced by a Bill. But all aspects of it need to be gone through more carefully. It should either be referred to a Select Committee or at least to the Standing Committee with a clear direction that it should be sent back within a week's time. I think, that could be done. In case of a Select Committee, a week's time is enough.

Secondly, I had referred to two judgements of the Apex Court, that is, the Supreme Court. I referred to the second judgement which was delivered on 11th December regarding prawn culture etc., wherein it was stated that it should be demolished by 15th of April and monitoring should be done by an authority which should be set up within one month's time. What has been the progress in that respect? The Central Government is quite silent about it. There was also a reference about the Chilka lake...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You just confine to one point.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, I raised four queries. The replies on those points are ambiguous. It needs clarity. Today there is a serious law-making effort and so tomorrow we cannot say that it was done in a hurry. The four points which I mentioned need more clarity and because we are having a very serious law-making effort, my request to the hon. Minister is that in order to have more clarity on these points, I think, this should be referred to the Select Committee or to a

Standing Committee. It could come back within a week and then this august House could pass it. This Bill has very far-reaching consequences.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, would you like to respond to these points?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I would like to intervene to the point raised by Shri Ram Naik very briefly. Aquaculture is a big problem. The Ministry of Agriculture is taking due care of that. It is an important matter. So far as my Ministry, the Ministry of Environment and Forest is concerned, the matter is engaging our attention and I would like to request the hon. Member not to worry about it. Within a couple of days he would be able to see our response in this regard.

I would like to submit before this august House that this Bill has come before this House after a deep thinking. You all know as to how the Ordinance was promulgated. Seven to eight meetings took place. It is a comprehensive law. If you do not like any expression by way of language then such things could be taken care of. I would only plead with this august House that this Bill be passed.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am calling him to give a reply Joshi ji please do not disturb him while he replies.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : One of my colleagues, has recently become a Minister. He has said that, "We have brought it here after discussing it thoroughly and deeply in at least seven meetings and he wants to get it passed by all means today itself. I tell you that it cannot be passed in this manner and if it is not passed, rest assured heaven is not going to fall on us. I can say it with firm belief that if it is referred to a Select Committee or a Standing Committee as is desired by the hon. members present in the House. Your Government will not fall. There is not harm in referring this bill to a Select or a Standing Committee. It does not harm the Government either. It is not fair if you make it a prestige issue by saying that this bill has already been discussed seven times.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I told you water, air and sound pollution, and you also mentioned about the sound of Loudspeaker or a horn, I also gave one example of speed breakers, which are meant to slow down the speed of vehicles. I do not know, whether you have gone abroad or not?

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : What is your reaction?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : I think you must have gone abroad. You will find that blowing a horn is an offence there.

[English]

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will you please yield me for a minute?

I have already explained that we have comprehensive Acts on noise pollution and air pollution. The scope of this Bill is limited within the parameters of environment only. So, I very strongly plead with you to kindly join me in requesting the august House to pass this Bill. When you talk of noise pollution, that by itself is a subject. I agree that Delhi is choking with noise and other pollution. We shall have to think about it in due course of time. You cannot get everything in this Bill. Certainly not. So, this is my appeal to you ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (Bilhour) : Mr. Chairman Sir, what is the objection is referring this bill to select or Standing Committee. The hon. Minister should throw some light on it. The Committee would give its report within seven days.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Mr. Chairman, Sir I simply want an assurance from the Ministers that he would be giving a comprehensive, bill... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not allowing anybody we have taken a lot of time.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman Sir, I have just begun to speak. I want to submit that the Minister should also include noise pollution in it. Hon. Minister, Sir, just listen to me. You are a great scholar. I highly respect you. In foreign countries it is within on the boards that don't blow horn and here... Sir, at present different types of horns are being manufactured in this country, some of them sound like weeping of a child or tune of a song. Therefore, I would like to make a submission that a comprehensive Bill should be brought for it. I request you that noise pollution should also be included in it because it is adversely affecting the society and even you are also being influenced by it as members of 13 political parties are saying different things here.

Sir, so far the intention of the Government is concerned, our Chief whip has already said that we are not betraying the hard work done by you.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister is very efficient and he has worked hard for this Bill but as the other MPs have also mentioned I would like to say that it should be sent to Select Committee or the Standing Committee. Do the hon. Minister want to get it passed today itself. You can hold voting on it. Though, I support you on this issue but so far no rules have been

[Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava]

formulated as to who will be appointed officers in it, where the office will be set up, all such issues should be debated comprehensively.

Sir the 350 mines of Jaipur City do not come under the purview of this Bill but these have been closed down. It has created problems. The Governor had issued orders to close down the Jhalana mine but at present it is functioning and other mines have been closed which used to produce stones for construction of houses and roads. You have said that retired secretaries and Judges will be included in it, Civil procedure code will be formulated and the punishment of 7 years imprisonment and fine of Rs. 1 lakh does not apply to all, I would like to say that all these issues should be reconsidered for efficient and effective implementation of this Bill.

Now, you just tell me when there is a provision for a punishment for a certain period would you be able to instruct a judge that instead of seven years he should give only 6 month's punishment. In case of a retired judge, hearing this case, he would not only award a punishment for seven years but also inflict a fine of Rs. 1 Lakh. I, therefore, request you not to make it a prestige issue and refer this Bill to Select Commtiy or Standing Committee. I hope all members of the House support me on this issue. Even then if you want to get it passed in the House that is your own sweet will.

[English]

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (Dindigul) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am on a point of order. While the hon. Member was speaking, he remarked that 13 Parties are polluting the House. That is an objectionable remark and should be expunged from the record...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, have I said anything objectionable. You just tell me can forty persons rule over India. This Government is not going to remain for a longer period.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, are you going to withdraw your Statutory Resolution, or are you going to press for it?

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the hon. Minister assures me, I will withdraw it. But first ask him to give me an assurance.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, are you prepared to send it to the Standing Committee?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : No.

I am not ready to refer it to the Standing Committee. Shri Bhargava has mentioned about the problems in Jaipur. He has also mentioned about the legal problems. I have taken note of it. I will visit the place along with him understand and resolve that problem.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : That is right Sir, I withdraw my resolution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it the pleasure of the House that leave be granted to Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava to withdraw the Statutory Resolution moved by him?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

The Statutory Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of a National Environment Appellate Authority to hear appeals with respect to restriction of areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 10

There are no amendments to clauses 2 to 10, so I shall now put them to vote.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 11

Appeals to Authority

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Naik, are you moving your amendment?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move-

Page 3 line 36-

After the word "process" following may be inserted "which includes process relating to provisions for housing, fisheries, aquaculture or civic amenities." (1)

Sir, I propose to move this amendment. I do not intend to make a speech but I've already spoken in my speech that it is necessary to provide this for housing, fishing, aquaculture and civic amenities alongwith industry and processing house. It may be looked into.

Mr. Minister, the amendment moved by me is for seeking a clarification. So, I think you'll accept my amendment keeping this fact in your mind.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I would request Shri Naik to withdraw his amendment because aquaculture is an agricultural related activity.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall put amendment No. 1 to Clause 11 moved by Shri Ram Naik to vote.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 11 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clauses 12 to 23 stand Part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 12 to 23 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 1, The Enacting Formula and the Long Title Stand Part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we will have to take up discussion on general Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are not taking up the remaining three Bills and ordinances. I've no objection on that but the discussion on General Budget should be completed. It should be completed by tomorrow even if the house will have to sit late at night so that all the members may have

opportunity to speak. The debate on the General Budget should not be discontinued.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Suggestions given by you would be referred to the Business Advisory Committee.

SHRI RAM NAIK : We are leaving three Bills, therefore, my submission is that the minister should look into this.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your suggestions would be referred to the Business Advisory Committee.

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : Sir, this Revised List of Business is the property of the House. If you skip certain items in the Revised List of Business, then it should be sanctioned by the House. So, kindly get that sanction and then we shall take up the discussion on the General Budget. This Revised List of Business has mentioned many other Bills ...*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we will reschedule the Business for tomorrow and day after tomorrow. And today we can start the discussion on the General Budget. We will have a discussion with the Speaker and also with the Leaders of different parties and reschedule the Business accordingly and then fix up the Business for tomorrow and day after tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is what I have suggested also.

I think, the House is now agreeing with this.

17.41 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 1997-98 —
GENERAL DISCUSSION - *Contd.*
DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT
(GENERAL), 1997-98
DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS - 1996-97

AND

DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS -
(GENERAL) 1994-95

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we shall take up item nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23 together.

Motions moved :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the

Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1998 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 26, 28, 29, 31 to 60, 62 to 92, 94, 95 to 102."

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1997 in respect of the following demands entered in the second

column thereof - Demand Nos. 3 to 9, 12 to 20, 22 to 24, 26, 28, 32 to 37, 39 to 50, 52 to 58, 62, 65 to 68, 70 to 72, 75, 77 to 83, 85, 87, 88, 91, 93, 96 to 101."

"That the respective excess sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to make good the excess on the respective grants during the year ended 31st day of March, 1995 in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof - Demand Nos. 14, 17, 19, 24, 64, 77, 90 and 98."

MR. CHAIRMAN : I now request Shri Sharad Yadav to continue his speech.

Demands for Grants on Account (General) for 1997-98 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha

No. of Demands	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on Account submitted to the vote of the House	
1	2	3	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
Ministry of Agriculture			
1.	Agriculture	490,80,00,000	3,26,00,000
2.	Other Services of Dept. of Agri. and Cooperation	45,95,00,000	39,18,00,000
3.	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	99,88,00,000	—
4.	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	43,06,00,000	31,00,000
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers			
5.	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	38,32,00,000	6,76,00,000
6.	Department of Fertilizers	1848,82,00,000	107,64,00,000
Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism			
7.	Department of Civil Aviation	43,08,00,000	6,86,00,000
8.	Department of Tourism	17,96,00,000	3,31,00,000
Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution			
9.	Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution	13,05,00,000	8,00,000
Ministry of Coal			
10.	Ministry of Coal	28,46,00,000	54,14,00,000
Ministry of Commerce			
11.	Department of Commerce	133,71,00,000	17,83,00,000
12.	Department of Supply	6,28,00,000	—

317	<i>General Budget Demands for Grants on Account (General) Supplementary</i>	PHALGUNA 26, 1918 (<i>Saka</i>)	<i>Demands for Grants (General) Demands for Excess Grants (General)</i>	318
1	2		3	
Ministry of Communications				
13.	Department of Posts	523,11,00,000	12,39,00,000	
14.	Department of Telecommunication	2504,82,00,000	1831,50,00,000	
Ministry of Defence				
15.	Ministry of Defence	397,09,00,000	4,13,00,000	
16.	Defence Pensions	619,10,00,000	—	
17.	Defence Services-Army	3250,69,00,000	—	
18.	Defence Services-Navy	483,09,00,000	—	
19.	Defence Services-Air Force	829,72,00,000	—	
20.	Defence Ordinance Factories	620,37,00,000	—	
21.	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	—	1673,44,00,000	
Ministry of Environment and Forests				
22.	Ministry of Environment and Forests	92,13,00,000	1,21,00,000	
Ministry of External Affairs				
23.	Ministry of External Affairs	234,23,00,000	30,00,00,000	
Ministry of Finance				
24.	Department of Economic Affairs	696,25,00,000	20,89,00,000	
25.	Currency, Coinage and Stamps	130,21,00,000	94,22,00,000	
26.	Payments to Financial Institutions	93,41,00,000	694,43,00,000	
28.	Transfers to State and Union Territory Govts.	1830,51,00,000	170,83,00,000	
29.	Loans to Government Servants, etc.	—	49,78,00,000	
31.	Department of Expenditure	786,38,00,000	—	
32.	Pensions.	257,79,00,000	—	
33.	Audit	85,12,00,000	58,00,000	
34.	Department of Revenue	31,01,00,000	21,00,000	
35.	Direct Taxes	84,50,00,000	21,00,00,000	
36.	Indirect Taxes	132,68,00,000	44,20,00,000	
37.	Department of Company Affairs	3,00,00,000	1,00,000	
Ministry of Food				
38.	Ministry of Food	1288,93,00,000	18,71,00,000	
Ministry of Food Processing Industries				
39.	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	8,12,00,000	2,95,00,000	
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare				
40.	Department of Health	239,43,00,000	84,07,00,000	
41.	Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy	9,47,00,000	1,00,000	
42.	Department of Family Welfare	368,00,00,000	27,00,000	

319	<i>General Budget Demands for Grants on Account (General) Supplementary</i>	MARCH 17, 1997	<i>Demands for Grants (General) Demands for Excess Grants (General)</i>	320
1	2		3	
Ministry of Home Affairs				
43.	Ministry of Home Affairs	51,96,00,000	3,68,00,000	
44.	Cabinet	16,26,00,000	5,00,00,000	
45.	Police	668,37,00,000	77,68,00,000	
46.	Other Expenditure of the Min. of Home Affairs	58,46,00,000	30,68,00,000	
47.	Transfers to Union Territory Governments	41,80,00,000	43,14,00,000	
Ministry of Human Resource Development				
48.	Department of Education	871,80,00,000	14,00,000	
49.	Department of Youth Affairs and Sports	26,25,00,000	31,00,000	
50.	Department of Culture	36,70,00,000	—	
51.	Department of Women and Child Development	158,02,00,000	—	
Ministry of Industry				
52.	Deptt. of Ind. Dev. and Ind. Policy and Promotion	114,73,00,000	6,00,000	
53.	Department of Public Enterprises	85,00,000	—	
54.	Department of Heavy Industry	3,73,00,000	36,52,00,000	
55.	Department of Small Scale Ind. and Agro and Rural Industries	118,46,00,000	48,46,00,000	
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting				
56.	Information, Films and Publicity	27,17,00,000	2,99,00,000	
57.	Broadcasting Services	266,31,00,000	72,37,00,000	
Ministry of Labour				
58.	Ministry of Labour	123,91,00,000	20,00,000	
Ministry of Law and Justice				
59.	Law and Justice	61,37,00,000	—	
60.	Election Commission	97,00,000	—	
Ministry of Mines				
62.	Ministry of Mines	40,16,00,000	6,83,00,000	
Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources				
63.	Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources	37,86,00,000	19,12,00,000	
Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs				
64.	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs	57,00,000	—	
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions				
65.	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	20,95,00,000	43,00,000	
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas				
66.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	64,00,000	—	

321	PHALGUNA 26, 1918 (<i>Saka</i>)	322
<i>General Budget Demands for Grants on Account (General) Supplementary</i>		<i>Demands for Grants (General) Demands for Excess Grants (General)</i>
1	2	3
Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation		
67. Planning	17,14,00,000	7,67,00,000
68. Department of Statistics	24,90,00,000	86,00,000
69. Department of Programme Implementation	131,95,00,000	—
Ministry of Power		
70. Ministry of Power	88,30,00,000	452,59,00,000
Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment		
71. Department of Rural Development	744,36,00,000	—
72. Department of Rural Emp. and Poverty Alleviation	2101,18,00,000	—
73. Department of Wastelands Development	15,87,00,000	—
Ministry of Science and Technology		
74. Department of Science and Technology	85,47,00,000	8,17,00,000
75. Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	76,33,00,000	92,00,000
76. Department of Bio-technology	17,26,00,000	88,00,000
Ministry of Steel		
77. Ministry of Steel	1,18,00,000	4,28,00,000
Ministry of Surface Transport		
78. Surface Transport	12,34,00,000	3,61,00,000
79. Roads	142,20,00,000	350,98,00,000
80. Ports, Lighthouses and Shipping	38,87,00,000	71,92,00,000
Ministry of Textiles		
81. Ministry of Textiles	73,38,00,000	50,96,00,000
Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment		
82. Urban Development	58,74,00,000	66,43,00,000
83. Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	36,57,00,000	6,67,00,000
84. Public Works	77,42,00,000	35,66,00,000
85. Stationery and Printing	23,90,00,000	75,00,000
Ministry of Water Resources		
86. Ministry of Water Resources	74,84,00,000	5,68,00,000
Ministry of Welfare		
87. Ministry of Welfare	249,04,00,000	48,90,00,000
Department of Atomic Energy		
88. Atomic Energy	127,86,00,000	108,40,00,000
89. Nuclear Power Schemes	128,65,00,000	58,53,00,000
Department of Electronics		
90. Department of Electronics	17,49,00,000	5,24,00,000

1	2	3
Department of Ocean Development		
91. Department of Ocean Development	15,34,00,000	79,00,000
Department of Space		
92. Department of Space	171,04,00,000	24,09,00,000
The President, Parliament, Union Public Service Commission and the Secretariat of the Vice-President.		
94. Rajya Sabha	3,82,00,000	—
95. Lok Sabha	8,87,00,000	—
97. Secretariat of the Vice-President	8,00,000	—
Union Territories without Legislature		
98. Andamand and Nicobar Islands	61,72,00,000	31,18,00,000
99. Chandigarh	64,37,00,000	10,71,00,000
100. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	19,01,00,000	3,92,00,000
101. Daman and Diu	14,30,00,000	2,74,00,000
102. Lakshadweep	21,23,00,000	2,85,00,000
<i>Total Revenue/Capital</i>		<i>6707,19,00,000</i>

Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1996-97 submitted to the Vote of the Lok Sabha

No. of Demands	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
1	2	3	
Ministry of Agriculture			
3.	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	32,42,00,000	—
4.	Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying	7,39,00,000	—
Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers			
5.	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals	—	9,90,00,000
6.	Department of Fertilizers	2,00,000	—
Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism			
7.	Department of Civil Aviation	—	1,00,000
8.	Department of Tourism	—	3,00,00,000
Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution			
9.	Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs & Public Distribution	31,30,00,000	—
Ministry of Commerce			
12.	Department of Supply	3,85,00,000	—

325	<i>General Budget Demands for Grants on Account (General) Supplementary</i>	PHALGUNA 26, 1918 (Saka)	<i>Demands for Grants (General) Demands for Excess Grants (General)</i>	326
1	2		3	
Ministry of Communications				
13.	Department of Posts	409,98,00,000		—
14.	Department of Telecommunication	2,00,000	474,00,00,000	
Ministry of Defence				
15.	Ministry of Defence	81,78,00,000		—
16.	Defence Pensions	383,00,00,000		—
17.	Defence Services-Army	367,10,00,000		—
18.	Defence Services-Navy	136,46,00,000		—
19.	Defence Services-Air Force	312,35,00,000		—
20.	Defence Ordinance Factories	52,69,00,000		—
Ministry of Environment and Forests				
22.	Ministry of Environment and Forests	1,00,000		—
Ministry of External Affairs				
23.	Ministry of External Affairs	83,82,00,000		—
Ministry of Finance				
24.	Department of Economic Affairs	—	1,00,000	
26.	Payments to Financial Institutions	18,94,00,000	669,27,00,000	
28.	Transfers to State and Union Territory Governments	148,55,00,000		—
32.	Pensions.	205,37,00,000		—
33.	Audit	48,87,00,000	1,50,00,000	
34.	Department of Revenue	11,36,00,000		—
35.	Direct Taxes	24,50,00,000		—
36.	Indirect Taxes	44,82,00,000	1,00,000	
Ministry of Food				
37.	Ministry of Food	175,69,00,000		—
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare				
39.	Department of Health	31,00,00,000	2,00,000	
40.	Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy	1,00,000		—
41.	Department of Family Welfare	71,10,00,000		—
Ministry of Home Affairs				
42.	Ministry of Home Affairs	18,88,00,000		—
43.	Cabinet	2,19,00,000		—
44.	Police	260,93,00,000	1,00,000	
45.	Other Expenditure of the Ministry of Home Affairs	68,12,00,000	35,79,00,000	
46.	Transfers to Union Territory Governments	113,19,00,000	15,36,00,000	
Ministry of Human Resource Development				
47.	Department of Education	5,00,000		—

327	<i>General Budget Demands for Grants on Account (General) Supplementary</i>	MARCH 17, 1997	<i>Demands for Grants (General) Demands for Excess Grants (General)</i>	328
1	2		3	
48.	Department of Youth Affairs and Sports	6,50,00,000		—
49.	Department of Culture	3,02,00,000		—
50.	Department of Women and Child Development	1,00,000		—
Ministry of Industry				
52.	Department of Public Enterprises	2,26,00,000		—
53.	Department of Heavy Industry	867,68,00,000	101,36,00,000	
54.	Department of Small Scale Industries and Agro. & Rural Industries	2,00,000		—
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting				
55.	Information, Films and Publicity	11,30,00,000		—
56.	Broadcasting Services	22,50,00,000	11,73,00,000	
Ministry of Labour				
57.	Ministry of Labour	1,00,000		
Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs				
58.	Law and Justice	1,00,000		—
Ministry of Mines				
62.	Ministry of Mines	8,73,00,000		—
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions				
65.	Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	9,10,00,000	23,00,000	
Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas				
66.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	17,00,000	174,40,00,000	
Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation				
67.	Planning	1,00,000		—
68.	Department of Statistics	6,19,00,000		—
Ministry of Power				
70.	Ministry of Power	69,09,00,000	2,00,000	
Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment				
71.	Department of Rural Development	1,00,000		—
72.	Department of Wastelands Development	1,00,000		—
75.	Department of Scientific and Industrial Research	30,35,00,000		—
Ministry of Steel				
77.	Ministry of Steel	64,70,00,000	1,00,000	
Ministry of Surface Transport				
78.	Surface Transport	2,22,00,000		—
79.	Roads	61,93,00,000	58,56,00,000	
80.	Ports, Lighthouses and Shipping	2,70,00,000	2,00,000	
Ministry of Textiles				
81.	Ministry of Textiles	2,00,000	97,68,00,000	

329	General Budget Demands for Grants on Account (General) Supplementary	PHALGUNA 26, 1918 (Saka)	Demands for Grants (General) Demands for Excess Grants (General)	330
1	2		3	
Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment				
82.	Urban Development, Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation		—	4,00,000
83.	Public Works	15,96,00,000		1,00,000
Ministry of Water Resources				
85.	Ministry of Water Resources		1,00,000	5,00,000
Department of Atomic Energy				
87.	Atomic Energy	53,21,00,000		—
88.	Nuclear Power Schemes	130,05,00,000		—
Department of Space				
91.	Department of Space	6,74,00,000		—
The President, Parliament, Union Public Service Commission and the Secretariat of the Vice-President.				
93.	Rajya Sabha	1,44,00,000		—
96.	Secretariat of the Vice-President	8,00,000		—
Ministry of Home Affairs Union Territories (Without Legislature)				
97.	Andamand and Nicobar Islands	26,65,00,000		—
98.	Chandigarh	33,61,00,000		1,00,000
99.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—		2,49,00,000
100.	Daman and Diu	4,94,00,000		35,00,000
101.	Lakshadweep	22,00,000		8,00,000
<i>Grant Total</i>		<i>4587,21,00,000</i>		<i>1655,92,00,000</i>

Demands for excess Grants (General) for 1994-95 submitted to the vote of the Lok Sabha.

No. of Demands	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand submitted to the vote of the House
1. Expenditure met from Revenue		
14.	Postal Services	33,59,03,379
17.	Defence Pensions	9,94,02,120
19.	Defence Services-Navy	6,30,17,484
24.	Ministry of External Affairs	35,50,79,760
64.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	1,87,386
77.	Ports, Lighthouses, and Shipping	1,13,87,819
90.	Rajya Sabha	1,25,759
2. Expenditure met from Capital		
14.	Postal Services	2,07,82,817
98.	Daman and Diu	3,49,410

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV (Madhopura) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bill that was being discussed right now, it's quater to six, the members of the House have surely passed it but I don't think that they've been satisfied. Sir, before speaking my point, I want to express my pain and agony, through you. This House has been functioning for the past fifty years. There's no better place of discussion in the country, I can't say about the rest of the world. The way all the Bills and debates are being processed hurriedly, I think since the standing committees came into existence, the time of the house has become limited. In the last budget, there were jokes during the President's address. In this budget also every thing is being done hurriedly. At this moment, when I've risen to speak, it is obvious that the people of the country would be going to bed after having their dinner and we are discussing here things concerning ninety-crore people of the country.

I've been waiting since twelve O'clock that when my turn will come. I would like to appeal, I'm not telling on behalf of a Party, Dasmunshiji is my friend, that this Bill may be kept aside. I don't mean that the Bill has no merits. However, it is important that the House should be satisfied on the debate. Due to inceptions of Standing Committees, the time of the House has been reduced thereby weakening the healthy traditions of the House. This is not the only instance when you are discussing the Bill hurriedly. Let it be any Government, the matter discussed in the House has importance. Outside discussions have no such importance. Sittings of the Standing Committees are held outside of the House. They discuss things but nothing is known about their conclusion. Therefore, I would like to request all the leaders of the House and members of all the parties that I had opposed the formation of Standing Committees at the time when they were being formed. People have done it with great difficulty...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Sharad, you may pass your remarks but I would like to say that these committees are part of the House.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I'm not passing remarks against these committees. I am just saying that this House is a part of political parties. I'm just making a request to look into it. The discussion would be better if it is held according to the traditions established during the laast fifty years. I do not want to say any more on this...*(Interruptions)*

I would start my point which was left. Honourable leader of the opposition, Atalji had started this discussion and he had criticized some points. He had raised a very important point that this budget have not covered the poor people, the labour class of the country and it has favoured only affluent people, industrialists,

businessmen and corporate houses. So, I was trying to place figures in regard to that.

The United Front Government has made this budget keeping in view the plot of poor people and this is what I am telling that when we've made in our mind the target for the poor, what we have achieved to fulfil that target. Our honourable Prime Minister and the Finance Minister Mr. Chidambaram and the United Front itself have a Common Minimum Programme. In that Programme, the labour class, the workers and the villages of the country have been covered. but I would like to know that what provision has been made for them. On that day during the discussion I was highlighting this point while giving some figures. In the last budget, the Government had allocated Rs. 11,785 crores for social services, whereas in the budget of 1997-98 Rs. 15,707 crores have been allocated for this. It has an increase of rupees 4000 crores. Similarly, Rs. 22,000 crore were provided for rural loan which has now been increased to Rs. 38,600 crore. In the budget of 1996-97 the subsidy on food was Rs. 13,833 crore which has been increased to Rs. 16,990 crore in the present budget. In respect of basic minimum services programme, provision of Rs. 2466 crore was made in 1996-97 which has been increased to Rs. 3300 crore. Similarly, in the field of rural development, provision of Rs. 7,825 crore was made in the previous year whereas our United Front Government has increased this amount to Rs. 9096 crore in the year 1997-98. Last year a sum of Rs. 900 crore was provided for irrigation but this time Rs. 1300 crore have been provided for this purpose and this amount of Rs. 1300 crore is not lying with the Central Government. This amount has been given to the states which is known to the Irrigation Minister and the Finance Minister, who are sitting here. We have also made available Rs. 25,000 crore to the states for basic services and infrastructures.

Sir, Ganga Welfare Scheme is not a scheme belonging to the adjoining area of Ganga. Under this scheme, provision has been made to provide water and all the facilities by the Government to the poor people who have one-two or three acres of land or even two-four Bigha of land. For this purpose Rs. 200 crore have been provided. I would like to say to the Finance Minister that this amount is not adequate. This scheme is a good one, so it should be extended to enable the poor people of this country to get direct benefit under this scheme.

Our north-eastern region Jammu-Kashmir has been cut-off from all the facilities. This state is a sympl of unity and integrity of India. It is also the symbol of the division of this country. Mahatma Gandhi used to say that India can not be divided at any cost. The situation of Kashmir has been worsened today. It is integral part of our nation. The youth of that state commit a mistake

when he takes gun in his hand. But, at the same time, we should think over the circumstances under which he has to take gun in his hand. The Government of India and the people of this country should think over it seriously. Recently, the elections were held there and the democracy re-instated. Everybody knows that the people of that area raised a number of questions when elections in the Pak-occupied Kashmir were held. But, the people of that state succeeded in forming a popular and a democratic Government there amidst bullets and guns.

When we make a speech, we talk about the unity and integrity of the country. India is one from Kutch to Bengal and from Kanyakumari to Kashmir. We know that United Front Government is not strong. The majority is not strong. Thirteen political parties have formed this Government together. We have the support of congress party. We are not claiming that our Government is strong but I would like to tell the members of B.J.P. sitting here that Dr. Joshi has to go to Srinagar on foot for hoisting the flag, whereas the way of national unity exists there between Kashmir and India. Kashmir is linked by railline and also its culture. The Government has made provision to allocate separate funds in this budget, in addition to rail budget, for laying rail line upto Baramula, considering it as a national project. Now Dr. Joshi may have his visit to Baramula and not upto Kashmir, by train for hoisting the flag.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hissar) : Hoist the flag at the Red Fort, why go there?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : He will go there also.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA (Kanpur) : Perhaps, Sharadji is making arrangements for himself.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Joshiji may certainly blow the flute (Murli) there because his name is Murli Manohar. He may go there by train. We have followed the language and culture right from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. The secular people, the people of congress party...*(Interruptions)* have more power. I'm telling a fact. We are 45 and they are 145. It can not be refused that we have worked with the support of their strength.

SHRI SATYAPAL JAIN (Chandigarh) : Do you consider those as secular...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : We also consider you as secular. We want to correct the error committed by you. If the condition of muslims is improved and they secure employment here then the aim behind establishing Pakistan is defeated. Mahatmaji used to say that he would go to Pakistan to die. His wish was not fulfilled because he was assassinated. He wished to go and establish in Pakistan. This fact was behind this wish. This was what he wanted to make us believe and he has expressed in his speeches that this division is a

custom. Dr. Lohia had said that Pakistan and Bangladesh formed after 25 years would be divided. Mahatmaji was far elder than Lohiaji. He had told that the earth has been created by the God. So, it could not be divided into religion based countries. If the condition of the muslims of this area would be better than that of Pakistan then the aim behind establishing Pakistan would be defeated...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM NAIK : It will give us pleasure, if the Older India is rebuilt. Let us rebuild the older India ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : The youth of Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Delhi as well should also share our feelings. They should feel that we are working in a right direction and we are going to do something for them. Only then it will do.

You may say anything against us of this sort that 13-14 parties have joined hands to form this Government of ours. But I think that in that formation really something strange has happened. It could not happen in any other country of the world but only in this country of ours where we have a constitution that provides for federal structure and our United Front Government have tried to give it perfection under the leadership of Shri Deve Gowda. As regards the general Budget prepared by Shri Chidambaram, it can be a matter of debate as to how the money has been proposed to be spent. However it has been for the first time that in respect of all the fields of activities, be it electricity or provision of money under various plan heads, our Government has made through this Budget the concept of economic and political decentralisation an effective and real proposition. I would, therefore, like to submit that the Deve Gowda Government and its supporting parties have strengthened.

18.00 hrs.

The federal structure of the country and have thereby taken care of the problems of different sections of the society. Infact, for the first in the history of this country, an account of Rs. 800 Crores has been provided under this plan for...

(English)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): Sir, I will request you to kindly extend the House by another hour so that this can be completed.

SHRI P. UPENDRA (Vijayawada) : No, Sir.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, we can do one thing. We can extend till he completes his speech. Thereafter we can adjourn the House.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Do not create chaos in my Party. Sir, I have got an important meeting at 6 o'clock. I do not mind if you want to extend

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

the House. But kindly make it the last point that in one hour he will complete the speech...*(Interruptions)* He is still referring to 'Independence'. He is yet to come to the Budget...*(Interruptions)* I will postpone my meeting to 7 p.m. and come back. I hope he will complete in one hour...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it the pleasure of the House to extend the House till Shri Sharad Yadav completes his speech?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Sharad Yadav may continue his speech.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I will try to conclude in a shortwhile. It has been for the first time that the recommendation of tenth Finance Commission stressing the need of allocation of 29 percent of revenue receipts to the State Governments has been accepted. Not going into the details of all that for want of time I would like to emphasize that a lot of care of the poor has been taken in this Budget. While broadly specifying those areas, I would like to mention that for public health a provision of Rs. 615 crore has been made under this Budget. For the operation Black board programme which is exclusively meant for the education of poor, a budget allocation of Rs. 384 crore has been made. Rs. 960 crore have been provided for Mid day Meal Scheme.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Yadav, mid day meal is not being given.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I agree that it is not being given.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : You may ask the hon. Minister to start the practice of providing cooked meal to the schools instead of the present practice of giving raw material to them.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : You will also speak on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you start giving replies, you will take more time to conclude.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : For Mid day meal Scheme, a provision of Rs. 960 crore has been made in the Budget. For various programmes of that sort, money has been allocated for the benefit of the poor. In view of the scarcity of time at the tag end of the day, I won't take any more time of the House. I wanted to make only a broad mention of the areas of such allocations.

Amount of allocation for rural employment and Poverty alleviation programme is Rs. 6805 crore. It is Rs. 700 crore for old age pension scheme. For handloom subsidy we have provided Rs. 84 Crore. For artisans who constitute 11 percent of our population some thing substantial should have been done in view of their

poverty and daily wage earnings which are quite insufficient to meet their two square meal requirements and had them to the stage of premature death at the age 50 who would have otherwise lived even up to 70. We should do something significant for the people living below the poverty line. By keeping them starving we can ensure the allround development of this country. The Government has therefore, taken steps to mahia provision of Rs.7500 crore with a view to implement the scheme of supply of foodgrains to the poor at the rate of Rs. 2 per kg.

Here I can say it with a sense of confidence that for all such programmes as are going to benefit the poor, our Government has provided so much amount as no other Government has hitherto allocated on that head. That is why the members of the opposition did not find themselves in position to criticise the Government on that account. In fact that had thrown them into stater and it is now after 16 days of the presentation of budget that they have come out of that State and have started criticising the Government. Our leader of the opposition has observed that this budget has totally ignored the poor. Some others have observed that this budget is going to benefit only the rich. In fact we have inherited the economy in such a state that Shri P. Chidambaram alone can not do anything to set it on rails. No magic hand can do that. Even the faith of our people in God has not helped us in it. However, with our present limitations, we have done our best for the welfare of the poor...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Who has given your the training?

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : You have given that...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SANAT MEHTA : You were given that training by Shri Lohiaji...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I agree. Even you had received that training from Shri Lohiaji. I am also pursuing his guidelines...*(Interruptions)*

For the benefit of the poor, the Government has made allocations for the agriculture, agriculturist, fertilisers, foodgrains etc. In this context I agree with these observations of my friends Shri Nitish ji and Naik ji that during the last nine months, the name of any of our ministers of the pronic minister has not figured in any team. Coming again to my point should say that our late pronic minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had rightly observed that only 15 percent of the total amount allocated for rural development reaches the poor. But I hope that the total amount of Rs. 8000 crore that we have allocated for food subsidy will reach the poor and on behalf of the United Front I would like to urge upon the Government to constitute a committee to monitor the disbursement of this hard earned money of our

people in, such areas where the PDS has not been hitherto strengthened and see that this allocation is not swindled. In case the Government is unable to do that, this amount may be wasted on the supply of mineral water to the rich. I am sure that the United Front Government will take care of it and the hon. Food Minister, Shri Janeshwarji and Shri Jena ji who are sitting there will look to it that it is utilised for the purpose for which it has been provided. Sharing the concern of Shri Atalji I will like to ask the Government as to what shops they have taken to ensure that the amount meant for the benefit of the poor reaches them. The administrative machinery should be geared up to achieve that end.

Though there is a perennial law of change in Nature but all providing corruption and cases of bengling and underhand dealings in all parts of the country, be it Delhi or a small village in a remote area, are not coming to an end. There should be some check on it. This House should also take a decision in this regard. Many more steps have been taken for the benefit of the poor but for want of availability of time I won't dwell on that. As regards these comments of the opposition appearing in the press that this budget would give rise to inflation and price rise, I would say that it is six months back that our hon'ble Finance Minister had given a word to keep the budget deficit at a level of 4.5 percent of the GDP. It is for the first time that it stands at a level of 5 percent of the GDP and we aim at achieving the target of 4.5 percent. That will check the budget deficit which is primarily responsible for inflation and price rise.

In this budget, the Government have concentrated on reducing the non-plan expenditure and thereby they have stood upto their promises. I would like to congratulate Mr. Chidambaram and the entire Government for that achievement of bringing down the budget deficit to a level of 5 percent against the target of 4.5 percent. As regards the raising of income tax exemption limit, it has been increased and those having a net income of Rs. 75000 have brought out of the income tax net. Also the rate of income tax has been brought down from 40 to 10 percent. In a number of countries of this world they have done it but this country of ours is leading in the matter of poverty, illiteracy and starvation. In this context I share the views of Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee when he observes that 60 percent of the total 1 crore 22 lakh tax payers of this country are those who earn their wages from the Government and pay back the amount of tax on it. How is it going to help us increase our finances? Process of reducing the tax rates has not started now but it had set in during the regiment earlier United Front and Left Front Government. Since then the percentage of tax payers has come down from 54 to 30 percent. Reduction in tax rates has not affected revenue receipts. Presently our saving rate is 26 percent of the GDP and 16 percent of that pertains

to the household sector whereas the rate of such savings in the corporate and Public Sector is 6 and 3 percent respectively, the latter's being the lowest. The people of this irrespective of their social and financial status have developed the habit of saving money. That has become the basic tenet of our culture. Even our great leaders like Mahatama Gandhi and Dr. Lohia professed and practised it in their lives. It is because of this inherent attitude of saving money, the highest percent of savings comes from the household. There is nothing if this Government of ours is going to give them incentives for the same. In all my modesty I would like to stress that this United Front Government of ours has given all possible incentives to the household sector to enable them to going for the highest savings. They deserve such incentives. They should be given more relief so that they may save more. We should try to change their habit of spending money on gold. Since the political parties and the people of this country are in need of more money, the political parties should propagate it that the amount of their 26% saving could be spent on the development of this weak country and with that money we can go in for the construction of roads, provision of water for power and irrigation and also for poverty alleviation and to solve our problem of unemployment.

Besides the reduction of tax rate and increase of exemption limit, the Government has given relief in respect of Customs and excise with a view to pull down the earlier barriers that we have had for about last twenty five years and at the time of prescution of budget in this House a large number of people used to throng the corridors of this House. Industrialists used to look into the budget find out as to what steps, of the Government could provide them an opportunity of hoarding things and thereby earn huge profits by their disposal at a later stage. But this budget of the United Front Government has not invited criticism from any section of the society just because of the reduction of tax rates and increase of exemption limit. It has not led to the increase of prices of any of our commodities. People do not fed like resorting to market manipulations. Even the share market and forward trading has not shown any upward trend and errafic fluctuations to give a shock to our people.

This budget has also taken care of the problem of black money which has created almost a parallel economy in this country. Efforts to contain the menace have not been made for the first time but even earlier the steps had been taken by then without any success. Constant efforts are needed in that direction and with the single aim of finding out a solution of problem, we have put in our efforts. I can not say at this stage whether we will achieve complete success. Without taking care of this aspect of the problem, we will not be

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

able to build up this nation. Some opposition members have argued that it is a way no punish the honest people. I would like to ask them whether these tax payers are not having black money. I think that they do have it. It does not make a difference if some of them have more of it and others have a lesser amount of black money. Particularly the people of Bhartiya Janta Party should not raise that point because on page of 19 of their election manifesto they had observed :

"It is since the days of Jan Sangh tht Bhartiya Janta Party has been constantly waging a war against the menace of corruption and black money. We in the BJP Stand Committed to elimination of corruption and in turn to complete wiping out of black money."

How committed they are can be seen from the following lines :

"We shall promote capital formation from the amount of this parrellel economy and on the wealth so generated the Government shall have every right to impose some tax."

That is what they have written in their election manifesto. On the point of present state of increasing domestic savings, they have said :

"By taking appropriate fiscal measures, we shall try to promote domestic savings so as to ensure rapid developmental activities through required amount of investments."

From where they will mobilise those funds? Infact the highest amount of savings we have from our household.. That investment will be made out of black money or from the amount of domestic savings. Because the position of savings in corporate as well as in public sector stands at too low a level of 6 percent and 3 percent respectively. During my tenure as a Minister I have myself seen the miraculous ways of performing things in the public sector particularly the NTC. I felt that common man of this country does not get a Government job but toils hard on agricultural forms. White abusing the capitalists they will stand for total revolution and for the unity of entire international labour community. I have seen in Kanpur as well as in Madras that large number of workers were working on each of the handlooms. Even with position the corporate sector is giving a saving of 3 percent...(Interruptions) In their closure the Government does not have a role to play. Infact that will be the result of wrong doings of the masters of corporate sector who have nither to cared for their own interests. For public or national property they have bothered least. That has now taken the shape of a menace. We have not lost sight of it. It is coming

down to us. Like all others even the people of BJP were thinking in the same direction of making optimum utilisation of domestic savings of the country. We do not propose a different time of action in this regard because this cultured heritage of ours that exists in the form of huge domestic savings should be utilised that way.

Here a lot of discussion has taken place on free market and free trading of goods. Had Mahatama Gandhi been alive today he also would have asked the third world countries to allow free trade of goods across the borders of different countries. But he would have been for a check on free migration of our human power. I would like the United Front Government to raise this matter with other countries and tell them that if they employ a driver of their own country at the rate of 500 dollars, they shall have to give only 100 dollars to an Indian for the same job. Infact a large number of our poor labourers from east U.P. and Bihar have migrated to other countries. With the never support of return fare they can make themselves rich by serving in those countries. Why do not you open your borders for them? If you are for open market of goods, why there should be a check on those who produce them? But you want to continue with check on free migration of manpower and free trade of consumer goods like Pepsi and Coca cola. With that approach our poor people who want to go to other countries to get a menial job of manual labour to earn their livelihood will not be allowed. In fact they should not go there. That is a way out. But we are not a strong country to have our say. However this Government has taken steps to strengthen this country.

On the question of power, Shri Atal ji has asked as to what the Government has done in that regard. As regards the NTPC, it has collapsed just because of the non payment of dues by the States. It is for this reason that the United Front Government has now decided to pursue the policy of give and take. In case this is implemented from today itself, we can find a way out and promote the work of power generation the rough NTPC inspite of the fact that power sector in facing a serious crisis because of present diversification in the field of power generation with the use of multiple resources like Gas, Coal and Petrol. In case none of these works effectively, we won't be able to survive.

MR. CHAIRMAN : At least you give the fullest assurances.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Late sitting is more effective.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, As I have already said that had the session of the House continued for a few days more, it would have been better. I wanted to speak in the morning. At this time entire nation has gone to sleep. However I shall have to speak and to get all that I say recorded.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Newspapers will carry it tomorrow ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Shri Chidambaram is saying like this!

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman Sir, I would like to say that this problem of power cannot be solved by the Government of United Front alone. That is why whatever and wherever we could do, we have done all that. Before the matter could be raised in the meeting of Development Council, the hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Deve Gowda had already announced that no permission was required for the project of power generation up to the level of 250 MW. Such projects could be initiated at the State level itself and no clearance like the environmental clearance was required to be taken for that. That could be taken up instantly. In this way we have cleared all the legal bottlenecks that were within our legal competence. With our limited power whatever allocations we could make we have made for the benefit of the poor to provide fertilisers, water, power and anything else of that sort. I have already highlighted the amount of budget allocations meant for that. With a view to meet their aspirants our Government has given certain directions and reliefs to the poor. That will strengthen this country of ours. We have asked the people having black money to declare that amount. I would like to make it clear that like the Chambal dacoits who had come forward to surrender at the call of Jai Prakash Narayan, they should also come out. But they are not doing that. In case they do not make a declaration to that effect, the entire House should take a decision as to what treatment should be meted out to them and the House should also take a decision about the remedial measures cure the menace of black money in case these people do not make their declarations even upto end of December this year. A weakness in this regard on the part of this House shall only weaken the structure of democracy in this country and as a result we won't be able to improve the lot of our poor.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sharad ji, you are making a very good speech.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : A Government formed on the basis of voting is the Government of the poor. Otherwise the poor people like us would not have been elected to this House to have an opportunity to speak as a representative of the poor. I would like to emphasize that this House should not be turned into a weak entity. For all other weaknesses we can allow excuses but not for a weak democratic institution like Parliament. We should think over that in tranquility.

Mr. Chairman Sir, it is a fact that oil pool deficit is affecting us most seriously. Even from the earlier ministers of petroleum we had not asked for the allotment of a petrol pump or any other thing of that sort but we always insisted on them to do something to take care of the problem of oil pool deficit. In the present situation we have even less than half of our oil requirements. Even in respect of water resources we have not hitherto done anything to improve the situation. It is now only this Government of ours that has signed the Mahanadi Treaty. Even during the tenure of VP Singh's Government they had signed Kosi agreement. In fact whenever we came to power we did something or the other of that sort because we belong that poor sections of the society who have always languished sometimes on account of shortage of water and scanty rainfall or for in foundation. Shri Atalji had rightly said that since last six years we are having a good monsoon. Otherwise we would have faced different sorts of crisis. In fact we here in this country have to depend exclusively on the mercy of God. But now we want that we should do away with that exclusive dependence on Him. We should do something in that direction.

Mr. Chairman Sir, this heavy deficit of Rs. 19000 crore on account of oil pool is not the creation of this budget but that they have inhabited from their producers. It has been a perennial and well known problem of which Shri Man Mohan Singh and all others had spoken earlier. Our Government is also worried on that account. This matter has been repeatedly raised and discussed in the steering committee to find out a solution of this serious crisis. We should think over this problem of oil shortage. As regards the United Front Government, they have done and said all that they could do to solve it. They have also thrown an open invitation to the entire world that whatsoever wants to come here for oil exploration, he may come here for that on the basis of sharing of 50 percent of their total production with us. We are prepared to share even to the extent of 40 to 60 percent. We don't have money. What should we do. We wish some foreign companies come here and explore oil so as to save our lives. But nobody turned up till date to explore it. Thus, this point should be considered seriously in the House because leaving this matter at the disposal of the Government won't help. Ours is not a strong Government. Then what should we do?

Chairman, Sir, we were having discussion on pollution. I was listening. Its a big problem. There was no such problem of environment in the past but it was created. It can be tackled easily. The discussion on it was not concluded. Now the problem of oil is causing serious concern to us. What is the number of persons who use oil in their cars etc. Government is having a biggest pool of it. The next one are those who use

[Shri Sharad Yadav]

mineral water. They are having three four cars. Now about pollution I think there is no such problem of pollution in the country except the rivers. The factories set up at the banks of rivers are causing pollution and this problem exists only in five-six cities only. There are three causes of this problem. The first one is the migration of the people from villages to cities to earn their livelihood. There are no jobs in the villages and due to poverty people are forced to leave their places. This trend is not new, it is continuing for hundreds of years. They were then called "Durmatia". Now they have settled in the banks of rivers so as to work in the factories. Circumstances forced them to leave their home and settle here and now we are here to consider their plight. Chairman, Sir, one reason is that the employment opportunities in the villages are on the decrease thereby forcing the people to migration from villages to cities. The second reason is that the increasing population is heavy pollution. We have not made any proper arrangement of seepage. The root cause of the pollution is the section of these people possessing vehicles and causing vehicular pollution in Delhi. Our courts are giving verdicts against pollution. They are making major contribution in the spread of pollution. We should think how to get rid of pollution and how to save petrol. In this context I would like to suggest that the people having private cars should not use their vehicles on Saturdays and Sundays. If it is so necessary they should travel by train or bus. Only two wheelers or cycles should be allowed. Even if you go for picnic take Hero Honda, Rajdoot or bicycle. A nation wide survey should be conducted to find out the number of persons having more than one car etc. and some heavy amount in the form of tax should be imposed on such persons. Those who are having huge amount of money should contribute more for the welfare of the country. It is not going to cause any harm. There should be some sort of tax on expenditure and this point should be discussed in the House.

Hon'ble Shri Atalji was saying that with the remaining amount they will go to five star hotels. It is true that they will enjoy themselves and celebrate in a carnival like situation. There should be some check on it. They should pay some heed on it. We are having minimum tax payers. We should consider this fact seriously. Merely taking or giving speeches on it won't help. It I say we should make our a great country it would not make any point.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have taken more than one hour.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : I am just concluding. Now take the issue of tax on telephone. I don't say that no inquiry should be conducted. Can't be afford Rs. 2200 or 200. Can't a person having scooter-Hero Honda who

spent Rs. 40/- daily on petrol pay Rs. 100/- or 200/- to the nation? Who will pay? If you want to recover tax from the telephone subscribers, the T.V. owners then fix the amount of tax. They are paying bills of even more amount. They will pay it easily. A habit of paying the tax should be developed among them. Initially the rate of tax should be less. Say 30 rupees, 50 rupees or 100 rupees. A tendency of paying tax should be there. So as far as the scope of tax is concerned there is not such country as you are saying which to having no tax payers.

It we go on saying that the House is not good, MPs are not good and the country is great but all these are co-related. "As the King so are the subjects" but for the first time in the country the regional parties are dominating. The regional parties are in trouble. We are also in trouble. You are also going to be in trouble.

MR. CHAIRMAN : At present I am in trouble.

SHRI SHARAD YADAV : Baghela, Khajuria and Hajooria, all this have been started here also because you can't change the country. It is going to hurt you also. Please find out the remedy of the problem of caste, creed, language and region. Bring some legislation so as to solve this problem. We all are in favour of getting rid of this problem. You should bring some legislation.

A person married with a girl of other caste should only be given job in public sector, private sector and in Government departments also. The married life gets shattered at the age of 50. Please think over seriously the problem of getting votes in the name of caste. I want to say something on Petrol. It is the crisis of the day. The Finance Minister please tell me his plan about petrol. We should try to find out how to effect economy in its consumption. The poor have nothing to do with petrol. 90 percent population has nothing to do with cars etc. Our submission is that the concern of the Government in this regard is genuine, we all should share it, ease it. If we don't do it we would have been left with no alternative. The issue of Petrol is related with the issue of price rise. Had it been raised earlier or at the time when you might be governing the country the issue would have been there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are getting very much annoyed. I know that you are getting exhausted. So I am...*(Interruptions)* I would like to say that this budget is justified, reasonable, practical and daring with the cooperation from all corners it would lead the nation towards prosperity. Without the cooperation from your side its shortcoming can not be removed. There should be some consensus. We are having shortage of oil and some other problems too which require due alternation. The problem of growing population is there. Our country has not been permitted by the Almighty to bear the burden of more than 22 Crores people...*(Interruptions)*

You are nearest to the Almighty. Please persuade him. He is beyond our reach. If we happen to meet him we will feed him one quintal of milk and tell him that his motherland is ruined. We have 56 crores gods and goddesses. He is born straight in our country. Nobody like Bajrangbali, Ganapati Baba born in America. He is within your access, Bhargvaji please let us meet him. We will do our best in his hospitality and request him to take birth at least once in America as this country to take proper care of their over prosperity because the country where you take birth stands doomed ...*(Interruptions)*

Population, Oil and Water - these three require consensus for the formulation of a policy in this regard. The area where water is made available becomes, prosperous.. The persons referred as 'the people at grassroot level' by Mahatma Gandhi can't be made a victim of cruelty. The last Punjab elections were made a success by the Ramdasis. Nobody can stop them because water itself rejuvenate its beneficiaries. The Bhakhara Nangal is providing meal to the whole America. It should be given proper attention. Today Bihar, Orissa, Chhattishgarh, Bundelkhand, BaghelKhand etc. are those areas which are being deserted by poverty and starvation. How these areas could be saved and some wayout should be divided in this regard.

For this budget and for the approach adopted and efforts made in favour of the poor, I not only congratulate the Prime Minister and Finance Minister for this historical move, but also extend a hand of support and wish to keep up their move. Our nation should march ahead. We may be get exhausted but we would strengthen our nation. We have to choose right path and stick on it. If our nation do not strengthen we can not live with dignity and honour. This move has been initiated to keep up the dignity and honour of the country. I have narrated some of problems which should be solved with mutual cooperation so as to built a new nation-Bharat, strong and poverful.

With these words I congratulate the Government for this budget and Mr. Chairman, Sir I thank you for a patient hearing.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, the 18th March, 1997 at 11 A.M.

18.52 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the
Clock on Tuesday, March 18, 1997/Phalguna 27,
1918 (Saka).*

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