

LOKSABHA DEBATES
TENTH SERIES (VOL. XXXI No.38)
MAY, 13, 1994
NINETH SESSION



TENTH LOK SABHA

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates

(English Version)

....

Friday, May 13, 1994/Vaisakha 23, 1916 (Saka).

....

<u>Q.1/Line</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Read</u>
17/8 (from below)	Place	found
362/16	these	these areas
362/8(from below)	Rs. 21	Rs. 219
362/4(from below)	Both	Bodh
363/3,5 & 20	Both	Bodh
365/4	crecting	erecting
366/16	sitarm	Sitaram
376/3	SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN	SHRI SUKHDEO PASWAN
377/18	S.KELKAR	S.DELKAR
377/19	L,Mr.Speaker	Mr. Speaker
378/8	Terrtry Concil	Territory Council
383/7	HRI	SHRI
383/11	Ambedkar	Dr.Ambedkar
387-389	387-389	387-388
388/12-13(from below)	delete "I already have..several times"	
388/Footnote	*Translation	**Translation
401/5 (from below)	T-5969/947	T-5970/947
402/1,6,10,15,19, and 23	5969	5971,5972,5973, 5974,5975 and 5976 respectively
428/18	R.SPEAKER	MR.SPEAKER
453/3(from below)	by	but
456/12	Predeceassor	Predecessor
458/6	lie	like
458/20	delete '27 percent the recommendations of the Mandal Commission.	
480/7 (from below)	power	upper
481/2 (from below)	breather	brethren
521/5	cenaminous	Unanimous

CONTENTS

*(Tenth Series, Vol. XXXI, Ninth Session, 1994/1915-1916 (Saka)
No. 38, Friday, May 13, 1994/Vaisakha 23, 1916 (Saka)*

	COLUMNS
Oral Answers to Questions:	1-39
* Starred Questions Nos. 681 to 685	1-36
Written Answers to Questions:	40-391
Starred Questions Nos. 686 to 700	40-74
Unstarred Questions Nos. 7449 to 7627	76-347
Papers Laid on the Table	392-408
Messages from Rajya Sabha	409-410
Assent to Bills	
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions	411
Minutes - <i>Laid</i>	
Committee on Petitions	412
Minutes- <i>Laid</i>	
Re: Withdrawal of constitution (Seventy-First) Amendment Bill and Representation of the people (Amendment) Bill Pending Before the House	412-437
Matters Under Rule 377	438-442

* The Sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

(ii)

COLUMNS

(i)	Need to construct a National Highway between Ranoai and Jaipur via Vilaspur and to include it in English Five Year Plan	
	Shri Khelan Ram Jangde	438
(ii)	Need to take measures for electrifications in Nisamabad district, Andhra Pradesh to safeguard the interests of farmers under Nisan Sagar project	
	Shri G. Ganga Reddy	439
(iii)	Need to formulate a uniform policy for the welfare of tribals in the country	
	Shri K. Pradhan	440
(iv)	Need to provide financial assistance to Trivani struturals Limited at Allahabad, U.P.	
	Shrimati Saroj Dubey	441
(v)	Need for early revision of pay scales of teachers of centrally managed schools	
	Shri Muhi Ram Saikia	442
(vi)	Need to set up a subsidiary of Rural Electrification Corporation in Vidisha, Raisen and Sidhor districts of Madhya Pradesh	
	Shri Shivraj Singh Chauhan	442
(vii)	Need for construction of an over-bridge on railway crossing near Oswal Sugar Mill at Phagwara in Punjab	
	Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary	443
Welcome to Parliamentary Delegation from Egypt		443-444
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions		444

(iii)

COLUMNS

Resolution Re: Reservation in Educational Institutions, etc. for OBC - <i>Withdrawn</i>	445-501
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	445-447
Shri Tej Narayan Singh	448-450
Shri Yaima Singh Yumnam	451-452
Dr. S.P. Yadav	453
Shri Kashiram Rana	454-457
Shri Naval Kishore Rai	458-460
Shri Sribalav Panigrahi	461-465
Shri Dattatraya Bandaru	466-469
Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav	470-474
Shri K.P. Reddaiah Yadav	475-478
Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat	479-481
Dr. G.L. Kanaujia	482
Shri K.V. Thangka Balu	483-495
Shri K. Ramamurthy Tindivanam	496-501
Motion Re: Allocation of Gas to Gujarat	502
Shri Kashiram Rana	502
Coir Industry (Amendment) Bill	503
Motion to consider	
Shri M. Arunachalam	503
Shri Dattatraya Bandaru	504-506
Shri Ramesh Chennithala	507-511

(iv)

COLUMNS

Shri G.M.C. Balayogi	511
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya	512-513
Shri Ram Prasad Singh	514-517
Clause 2 and 1	518
Motion to Pass, as amended	518
Shri M. Arunachalam	518
Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill	519-520
Motion to consider	
Kumari Selja	520
Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya	520
Clauses - 2 to 6 and 1	521
Motion to Pass	521
Kumari Selja	521
Dr. G.L. Kanaujia	522
Shri Gopi Nath Gajapathi	522
Shri Kirip Chaliha	522

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, May 13, 1994. Vaisakha 23,
1916 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Trade Between CIS and India

*681. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the turn-over of the trade between
former USSR (now CIS) and India during the

last three years;

(b) the total debt which former USSR
has to pay to India and the details of
arrangement reached for its repayment;

(c) whether there is any dispute over the
repayment of debt which is adversely affecting
current trade between the two countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC
DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d). A
Statement is laid on the table of the
House.

STATEMENT

(a) The turnover of trade between the
USSR/ former USSR (which now includes
12 CIS & 3 Baltic countries) and India during
the last three years has been as follows :-

Value : in Rs crores)

<i>Years</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Turnover</i>
1991-92	4043	1796	5838

(Value : in Rs crores)

<i>Years</i>	<i>Exports</i>	<i>Imports</i>	<i>Turnover</i>
1992-93	1693	745	2438
1993-94 (apr-Jan.)	1987	941	2928

Disaggregated trade data relating to each of the 15 former USSR Republics has been made available by DGCIS only with effect from April '93. The latest available figures pertain to the period April '93 to Jan.94 and may be seen at annexure.

(b) There is no outstanding debt which the former USSR has to pay to India. However, India's outstanding debt to Russia as on 31.12.93 was about Rs 31566 crores. Repayments and in the current financial year will total approximately Rs 3000 crores. The repayments are credited to the central account of the Bank of foreign economic

Affairs, Moscow with IBI, Bombay. In accordance with an inter-governmental exchange of letters in January, 1993, the funds received from the Indian side in repayment of State Credits granted by the erstwhile soviet Union, will be utilised by the Russian Side for Purchase of any goods and services from India that are permissible for export under the Export and Import Policy of the Government of India, in force from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

ANNEXURE

Source : DGI&S
Value : Rs. Lakhs

INDIA'S TRADE WITH FORMER USSR (CIS & BALTIC COUNTRIES) DURING APRIL '93-JANUARY, 1994

Sl.No.	Country	Export	Import	Total Turnover
1.	Armenia	1.16	28.44	29.60
2.	Azerbaijan	12.10	0.57	12.67
3.	Belarus	197.66	92.28	289.94
4.	Estonia	308.01	265.45	573.46
5.	Georgia	5.01	-	5.01
6.	Kazakhstan	448.15	527.41	975.56
7.	Kyrgyzstan	41.00	2387.96	2428.96
8.	Latvia	523.43	1228.16	1751.59
9.	Lithuania	126.33	195.25	321.58
10.	Moldova	54.19	-	54.19

Sl.No.	Country	Export	Import	Total Turnover
11.	Russia	163353.97	62748.85	226102.82
12.	Tajikistan,	230.18	234.24	464.42
13.	Turkmenistan	472.94	515.89	988.83
14.	Ukraine	32517.76	25541.08	58058.84
15.	Uzbekistan	413.03	327.15	742.18
Total (Former USSR)		198704.92	94092.73	292797.65
Total (Former USSR)		1987.05	940.93	2927.98 (In Rs. crores)

[Translation]

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Mr. Speaker, Sir we had trade relations with the Soviet Union for many years. Under the trade agreement, Soviet Union was supposed to make payment of the goods, supplied by us, in rouble. However, it has been stated that despite making payment at less rates than the rates prevailing in the World trade market in those 25-30 years, we are to pay the Soviet Union their outstanding amount. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that had they paid us the then actual prevailing rates, they had to pay us the some more amount.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : We are not demanding anything from them. In fact, they are not to pay us anything. We are to pay to them. The total amount which we have to pay, the total outstanding due is Rs. 31,000 crores. At one point of time, somebody suggested taking advantage of the present situation that as the rouble has come down sharply VIS a VIS U.S. dollars and others, if we want to just convert that and take advantage of that situation, it is not fair. According to some calculations, is it that we got all the assistance from the Soviet Union including bhilai and Bokaro plants and all the Deface equipment, just only at Rs. 72 crores ? It is not fair. Nobody can accept that. Therefore, when President yeltsin came here, we entered into some agreement. The amount which was decided is Rs. 31,000 and odd crores. It would be disbursed over a period of 10 to 12 years at the rate of around Rs. 3000 crores per year. About Rs. 11000 crores will be disbursed over a period of 45 years. Therefore, this is the right type of agreement.

The hon. Member should not push to the conclusion that we should take some difficult situation and disadvantageous position in which they are placed.

[Translation]

SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our trade with Russia has been going on for several years. It has come to my notice that our exporters send below standard material there. As a result, our material is rejected and sent back to India. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that what was the amount of the goods that have been sent back to our country ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It does not arise out of the main Question. It is disallowed.

SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, looking at the figures given by the Minister, it appears that imports from some countries are more as compared to exports. For example, take Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia.

I would like to from the hon. Minister what are the kinds of goods that we are importing from those countries where our imports are more than our exports.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : So far as the balance between export and import is concerned, it always happens that from some countries we import the commodities which we want and we export the commodity if they want. But if we take the overall figure which I have given in the first part of the statement, there you will appreciate that the export are more compared to the imports. Even for the current year 1993-94 - it will be January figure-export is Rs. 1,987 crores and imports Rs. 941 crores. In international trade, no

other country will have that kind of balance of trade.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : At one time, our trade with USSR was over 34 per cent of our foreign trade. Now it is less than half of that. In the present circumstances, when the other advance countries are trying to capture the erstwhile Soviet market there, what steps Government has taken to recover that old market and what is the present position and what is the future plan or prospective plan to increase the exports to the CIS countries ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : It is true that our exports to the erstwhile USSR and now CIS countries reached the peak figure of Rs.5,400 crores in the year, 1990. Thereafter, it came down and it reached almost the lowest figure around Rs. 1,693 crores in 1992-93 but again it Yeltsin visited India last year was that they would take in a good sense the debt repayment which we are obliged to make and, in fact, recently they have indicated the commodities which they will like to have tea - Coffee, leather goods, soyabean and certain other pharmaceutical products which are the traditional items which we are exporting to Russia and other CIS countries. We are having one of the assured markets with them and the amount of money they are going to use by exporting goods from India is to the extent of Rs. 600 crores. There are some problems initially. Particularly in the year 1992-93, to build up the necessary institutional arrangements because old arrangements collapsed. These new arrangements took some time to come into effect and from this year, it has started picking up and I do hope that in the current financial year 1994-95 there will be further improvement.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr.

Speaker, Sir, last week, the Prime Minister of Russia wrote an article in an official newspaper. Therein, he has stated that the western countries, particularly America is putting pressure on Russia and is directing it what to do or when to do. He has also mentioned as to how America Stopped Russia from supplying cryogenic engines to India. he has, *inter-alia* also mentioned about their problems. One of these problems was that where was no progress in the field of agriculture. Today, there is heavy demand for food grains in CIS countries. Now, when under GATT agreement we are talking of selling food grains all over the World, can we not take any immediate step to sell our agricultural items to that region ? In the context of the comments made by Russian Prime Minister against the mischievous acts of America, is the Government taking any step to maintain special relations with CIS countries ?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Our efforts are to maintain better relations. I recognised the situation and, that is why, I pointed it out to the Finance Minister and to the Prime Minister that we do not want to take advantage and fix it at a level which was advantageous to us. So far as the goods which they want are concerned, we have suggested to them to give us an indicative list and in the indicative list which they have given, some of the agricultural products are there. They have indicated certain agricultural products and whatever they will indicate, I can assure the hon. House that if it is permissible within our policies, we will try to accommodate this as far as possible and there will be no problem to that extent.

I cannot make any comment on what the hon. Member said about other countries.

[Translation]

Tourism Projects

MAJ. GEN.* (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the amount of Rs. 7200 crore, which was to be paid to Russia, was not justified. therefore, this amount was fixed at Rs. 21566 crore. While working out the amount, both, Russia and India were to benefit. In this amount, supply of cryogenic engines was also to be made. Now, will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of facilities accepted by Russia, out of the facilities agreed upon in favour of India ? If not, was it justified to fix Rs. 21566 crore instead of Rs. 7200 crore ?

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : These two issues have been confused. One issue is that we have to meet our debt obligations towards them and the amount which has been agreed, that we have to pay over a period of 10-12 years. Instead of taking cash, they will take in goods. So far as the normal trade is concerned, as we have agreed, from the first of January 1993, there will be trade in fully convertible currency. The old arrangement which prevailed earlier would no longer remain valid. Therefore, there are two channels through which we are having trade with the Russian Federation and the other CIS countries. One is the normal trade channel through the convertible currency and they are indicating - it was also agreed - the type of commodities which they would like to have and the quantum which they would like to have. They will indicate this to us. Very recently, they have indicated. They will designate their parties. The agreements between the Reserve Bank of India and their bank have also been reached. So, another route will be through the debt-servicing route.

*682. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether some cases of non-utilisation and mis-utilisation of financial assistance sanctioned/released to the State Government for development of tourism and also of diversion of such assistance to projects other than those for which it was sanctioned have come to the notice of Union Government during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM) (SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR): (a) : No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister is surprising. In the performance budget, it has been stated that for Palam Yatri Niwas, a project of Rs. 45 lakh has been sanctioned. I would like to inform the House that this project is only on papers. Whereas, the officers of the Department say that the project has been completed. Neither any amount has been sanctioned for this project nor any work has started. will the hon. Minister look into the matter and take action against the guilty person.

MR. SPEAKER : For which project are you talking about?

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Palam Yatri Niwas. It has been mentioned in the performance budget.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I think you can get it examined.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are so many cases but I have mentioned little example.

I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to sanction funds for the development of Konkan region, which is also known as California of India ?

[English]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : This question does not relate to the main question. But I can say that the procedure is that the State Governments give these projects. We do not tell them that to do. The State Governments give these projects. We examine them. In 99 per cent of the time, we agree to those proposals.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask a very specific question.

MR. SPEAKER : Not only this, but all the questions should be specific.

DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : There are very important places located in Bihar. For example, there are important places like Both Gaya, Rajgiri, Parasnath and Thumari-Talaiya. These are important places of

tourism. These are attracting a large numbers of pilgrims and tourists from all over the country. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to develop all these important places of tourism in order to attract more and more foreign exchange more and more pilgrims and more and more tourists from all over the country and outside also.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : He has given the reply.

[English]

The State Government has to send them proposals.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Minister of Civil Aviation and tourism where it is a fact that in three big airports there were kennels built at the cost of crores of rupees, but there were no dogs. Is it a fact or not ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Geetaji, this is a different question.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, taking advantage of the fact that the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation and Tourism is here, I want to know this thing because the Comptroller and Auditor General had commented on it.

MR. SPEAKER : Civil Aviation and Tourism are two different subjects. Of course, they are with one Minister. No, please.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL : Mr Speaker, Sir, today Nanded is a famous place all over the world. The people believing in Sikh religion from all over across the borders come to have a glimpse of tenth - guru. Today Nanded is surrounded by Gurudwaras. Whether the Government has any scheme to make this famous religious place as a tourist attraction centre so as to spread the message of the Guru all over the country ? If not, the reasons therefor.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, Nanded has been identified as one of the pilgrimage centres and as soon as the Government of Maharashtra sends us any proposal, we will definitely consider it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Chandravati in Varanasi is a holy place for the followers of Jainism as well as the followers of Shiva of Hindu religion. Some remnants of Mahabharata period have also been found there. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has recently sanctioned Rs. 2 crore for the development of tourism there. However, during the last ten years, many tourists have been attracted towards this place. In Saidpur, which is located between Chandravati and Ghaziapur, remnants of Chandragupta Maurya era have been place as well as similar other places ? Whether it is a fact that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has also sought additional assistance for the development of both these places and the Union Government propose to sanction additional funds for this purpose in the near future ?

[English]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Sir, I do not have the details of this right now. But when it comes, we will definitely help.

Trade Agreement Under GATT

*683. SHRI RAMESH
CHENNITHALA :
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some developed countries are seeking to link social issues like human rights, child labour, environment, health, etc. with trade agreement under GATT;

(b) if so, the names of such countries;

(c) whether India has taken up this issue with the developing countries; and

(d) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

The US and some European countries raised the issue of the consideration of the link between international trade and internationally recognised labour standards (the so called Social Clause) in the last phase of discussions at Geneva prior to the Ministerial meeting at Marrakesh. Some developed countries like Canada, Japan and the UK had a different position. Almost all developing countries were not in favour of

the subject being considered by the WTO and the Marrakesh declaration contains no reference to it. However, it will be possible for interested delegations to raise issues of concern to them in the preparatory Committee of the WTO and decisions in this regard are to be by consensus.

On environment, a Ministerial decision was adopted to establish a Committee on Trade and Environment comprising of all W.T.O. members to study the relationship between trade measures and environmental measures in order to Promote sustainable. The interface between Trade and Environment had been under study in GATT since 1974.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, though the whole world knows that the maximum damage to the environment has been caused by the developed countries, yet they want to put the blame on the developing countries for environmental degradation. The very idea of linking trade with environment raises a presumption that the developing countries are to be blamed for environmental problem and so through trade they want to punish the developing countries. In this context, I want to know whether India has taken any initiative in mobilising developing countries against any concerted action by the developed countries to create trade barrier in the name of environment and other social issues.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : Sir, so far the other social clause particularly the international labour standard is concerned, which was attempted to be brought as a part of the Ministerial declaration at Marrakesh, it was ultimately not included because most of the developing countries have pressed their

views and the Chairman while concluding and summing up the deliberations, pointed out that the various Ministers representing various countries have indicated these steps which are to be taken by the WTO.

So, he left it at that stage. It did not form part of the Ministerial Declaration.

As regards environment, it is a different matter. So far as environment is concerned, GATT is considering environment related trade from 1971 which I have indicated in the text of my statement also. The Committee was not functioning very effectively. Since 1990, the Committee has been actified. In addition to that, Agenda 21 of the Rio Declaration also indicated, to which we are a party, that WTO should constitute a group to look into the problems of the matters related to trade and environment. Therefore, the Ministerial Meeting at Marrakesh endorsed the decision for setting up of a Committee to look into this aspect. In respect of other matters which are referred to like the human rights, child labour and labour relations, some to them, particularly the labour relations, were raised by USA, France and by some of the Nordic countries. Even the developed countries also differ in that area. Already, the WTO is having a very heavy agenda. And one basic principle which was endorsed by most of the developing countries was that extraneous issues should not be brought to raise the non-tariff protection and to interrupt the free flow of trade.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Taking action against those countries under Super 301 by the United States is also hanging over us like a Damocles sword. I wanted to know, through you, Sir, what strategy the Government has adopted for countering the threat which goes against the spirit of multilateralism embodied in the GATT Agreement.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : So far as unilateral action, particularly imposing trade sanction, is concerned, it will be subjected to the review of the WTO. So far as Special 301 is concerned, the hon. Member and the Members of this House are aware that we have been designated as a priority country under Special 301 over a couple of years. And in 1991, they withdrew GSP on certain products of our exports. But so far as GSP is concerned, the hon. Member is aware that it cannot be considered as a trade sanction because GSP is given by a country as its own voluntary assistance to promote the trade of the other country. It is not a part and parcel of the trade. It cannot be construed as a trade sanction or anything like that. But if the country is designated under Special 301 and if we find that some harm or injury is caused to our trade then we shall have the right to bring it to the notice of the WTO and the Disputes Settlement Mechanism will take its own course of action to settle the dispute.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA :
But why is this Special 301 still there ?

[Translation]

SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Sir, in the 'Economic Times' of 17th last month, an article regarding migration of labourers was published. In this article, the American Government had raised an objection regarding education standard of Indian labourers. However, the industrialists of America had rejected this stands of the Government. It will close the opportunities and avenues for working of our labour abroad. It is a dangerous conspiracy of America against us by creating these hurdles. As he is going to US tomorrow, I would like to know from him whether he would make any effort to remove hurdles in free flow of our labour.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : He is referring to the free flow of labour.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, so far as movement of service givers is concerned, the position which we have taken and which we have suggested even in Marrakesh is that if WTO has to take up any new agenda, they should take up the movement of the natural persons who are the service providers because trade in service is under consideration of the WTO. Therefore, it is more logical that the WTO should on the movement of the free and uninterrupted movement of the natural persons who are associated with providing the services. And this position which India and some other developing countries have taken was contrary to the international labour standards. Therefore, this issue is already settled.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, when this issue was raised in this House, Members of all political parties expressed their concern over it. At that time hon. Minister had assured that if social clause would be especially included with international trade, we will not accept it. But now the formation of WTO is announced and the Government has authenticated the GATT Final Act. The Government has also accepted the social clauses which are before the Preparation Committee for consideration. It has been a policy of America that it start discussion and propaganda of an issue, which it wants to impose on people of the world. Discussion on Intellectual Property Rights was started in 1983, which became a part of GATT and included in Final Act. In the same way it is going to impose its policies regarding social clauses, labour standard and child labour. It was also included on the agenda of

Preparatory Committee. Keeping in view the style of functioning of US Government can you guarantee that it will not become a part of International Trade at a later stage after an open debate on it. Sir, through you, I would like to know that whether the Government is going to assure this House and the whole country that it will not let become the social clauses, a part of international trade. It will oppose this tooth and nail and take all the possible measures with other developing countries to avoid its practical implementation.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, so far as the social clause is concerned, hon. Members are aware that in the later stage of negotiations, practically in the first week of December, at Geneva itself, the United States of America, France and certain other Nordic countries wanted that it should constitute a part of the Ministerial Declaration at Marrakesh, India and other developing countries opposed it. As a result of that, it has not formed a part of the Ministerial Declaration at Marrakesh. That is clear.

So far as PREPCOM or WTO is concerned, nobody is prevented from raising any issue. So far as Preparatory Committee is concerned, if any issue is being raised and if they want to accept it, it will have to be accepted through consensus; consensus means one individual member can even put a veto on it. At the PREPCOM stage, so far as our position is concerned, we have made it abundantly clear that we are not going to accept the social clause to be linked up with trade relations and this should not be used as a part of trade sanction or in other words, it should not be imposed giving rise to protectionism and protectionist policy in the name of international labour standards.

am aware of the two pending Bills—Harkins Bill and Brown Bill - in US Senate and House of Representatives. But, so far as the present indication is concerned, most of the developing countries here, particularly on this issue, do consider that the appropriate forum is ILO and it should not be brought within the purview of GATT at all.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR : In view of the deteriorating significance of UNCTAD in international trade relations and the consequent effect this has had upon the unity of Group - 77 and the significance of the Group - 77, will the Minister please assure us that in WTO, India will take the initiative to ensure the establishment of Group - 77 in WTO, accord this new group - 77 in WTO the highest importance in our foreign policy and specifically our foreign economic policy; and thereby ensure that in the future we are able to rely upon the unity of the developing countries in a way in which we were able to rely on such unity in the negotiations of the Uruguay round ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, in fact, one informal group has already been set up in Geneva at the Ambassadorial level and they are having frequent consultations among themselves. I am talking of the developing countries. The hon. Member is aware of the sequence of events which took place before the Marrakesh meeting. When we had G-15 Summit here, in the declaration of the G-15 Summit this issue was highlighted. After that when we had the 50th ESCAP Session in Delhi, nearly 57 countries present here. They also expressed their views almost in the same way; and that got reflected in the Marrakesh meeting also. Therefore, this type of consultation and informal setting up of the group has already taken place; and I think it will have to be strengthened to ensure that the interests of the developing countries are protected in the WTO.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARIYA:

Sir, the Minister has said in his answer that the Ministerial decision was adopted to establish a Committee on Trade and Environment, comprising of all WTO Members; and he has said in his reply that this is in accordance with the Rio Declaration. Now, I may point out that when the Rio Declaration was signed, the WTO was not in the offing. I have gone through the text of the Rio Declaration very carefully, since the Minister made the same statement in Rajya Sabha. I have not found anywhere that it has been said that the WTO should form a Committee to deal with environment. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER : No.

(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Please, let us not take up the time of the house in this fashion.

(Interruptions).

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:

Sir, I am not taking up the time in that way.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The issue was mentioned in the Rio Declaration; the WTO was not in existence.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:

Yes. In that case, the Minister should say as to what was the purview of the UNCED. It is being now taken over by WTO. may I know whether the Minister has made any objection to that ? In relation to this. I have another question. The second part of my question is this. So far as the Social Clause is concerned, already non-trade related matters have been

included in the Treaty that has been signed. It is nothing new. There is a sanitary and phyto-sanitary clause which deals with environmental issues. So, within the discussion of the Preparatory Committee, why was it necessary to include the possibility of the discussion on social clause anew ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : If the hon. Member would have cared to read the last sentence of the statement itself, she would have found that I have mentioned there that from 1977, GATT is seized of the matter and a Committee in the erstwhile GATT is already dealing with the trade related environmental matters. The Committee has been activated in 1990 itself. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA:

That GATT is separate; WTO is separate, WTO is not GATT. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : WTO is going to be the successor of GATT. Therefore, they will have to take it up; even the negotiation was going on, this Committee was already functioning and Ministerial Declaration has endorsed it; there is nothing new in it. That is the point I have explained earlier.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL VIHARI BAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, decision in W.T.O. will be taken on the basis of consensus. He also said that if any country wishes

MR. SPEAKER : He has said it about the Preparatory Committee of W.T.O.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : We are talking about Preparatory Committee but if any country will use its veto power on a decision then how there will be consensus or unanimity. As Mr. Speaker has said that

there is difference in consensus and unanimity, veto can be raised by developing countries as well as by developed countries. If developing countries collectively form an opinion on an issue, a developed country can stop its implementation by his veto.

[English]

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, exactly this is the position. What is the job of the Preparatory Committee? The Preparatory Committee, will exist, say, up to 31st December. After 1st of January, WTO will come. In between from 16th April to 31st December, they will suggest what subjects WTO will take up when it comes into existence.

At this stage, if somebody wants that international labour standards should be included as the new agenda to be adopted by the WTO, any individual member can say it. Those countries who are members of the Preparatory Committee can say 'no' and that would not be taken up by WTO. Therefore, in the interregnum period, there is no possibility of this being taken up. In the WHO, anybody can raise it. According to the procedure of the WTO, it will be taken up.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, the hon. Ministersaid that extraneous subjects, which are aligned to the GATT regime, with not be allowed to be taken up by us. Everybody knows that the question of Intellectual Property Rights was actually extraneous to the GATT Jurisdiction. But through the back door and finally through the front door, the developed countries could bring it into the final agreement. In the same way, they are taking up the social clause also.

I am sorry that the Minister has not biven a categorical assurance in spite of all these replies that we will not agree to the inclusion

of social clauses whether it is child labour or whether it is labour standard.

I would categorically ask the Minister : will you give such an assurance to this House ? The intention of the developed countries is to neutralise whatever small advantage we have in the final agreement. Therefore, if the developing countries cannot be united in this, it is for the hon. Minister and this Government to assure us that even if we stand alone, we will fight it out.

MR. SPEAKER : You must conclude now.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : I want this assurance from the hon. Minister. Will the Minister give it?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : It is corrent. Sometimes they try to influence the decision-making of the various contracting parties. Even in this meeting, it was suggested by one developed country. Some countries are taking the attitude of penalising the country which does not want to accept the social clause. Some other developed countries are suggesting for inducing them, alluring them, by linking GSP as an incentive for resorting to international labour standards. The hon. Member was my predecessor. He is fully aware how the international negotiations take place. That is why I mentioned earlier that it is the area where we shall have to remain ever vigilant. We shall have to build up cooperation among ourselves so that any such move could be resisted.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about the Harkins Brown Bill. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that this Bill is going to be discussed and given a shape by July 15 in USA after which if the President of USA signs it, it will have

tremendous impact on our exports to USA, particularly the handicrafts, hand-knotted carpets, gem and jewellery. In that case, will the Government take necessary steps so that this particular aspect of child labour could be taken care of? In our country, the parents teach their children right from the early age how to do that artisanship.

This will not in any way infringe upon the child labour regulations which are there. So, will the Government protect the interest of our country by ensuring continuous export and will it stubbornly block this type of Bill which will be detrimental to our interest?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, How can I block a Bill from being brought in the senate or the House of Representatives there as nobody can do so in the Indian Parliament? I have no instrumentality available at my command to do such a thing. But, I can assure the hon. Member that if any action is taken by any country which is harmful to our trade, we have the instrumentality to go to WTO and get the redressal.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole country is worried on the issue that developed countries are creating trouble for developing countries in the name of human rights, child labour and environment. So I would like to know as to the Government will take action that.

“Dhoondani hai manzil to khud apna rahnuma ban,
Ve bhatak gaye hain aksar jinhen mil gaya sahara.”

MR. SPEAKER : It is correct that you have recited the poem but there can not be a reply of poetry.

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is my question. Please direct the Government to give me a reply of this question.

MR. SPEAKER : He will give you the reply after composing a poetry.

[English]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is reported that the hon. Minister, as a counter to the assertion of the social clauses by the United States of America, has placed on the Table the question of free immigration. I would request the Government to clarify whether such a proposal was firstly placed on the Table or voiced. And, secondly, if such a proposal about free immigration is voiced, has the Government examined in its totality the implications and the ramifications of free immigration policy, particularly so far as India is concerned in the context of its neighbours?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, so far as placing the proposal on the Table is concerned, it formed part of my formal speech which I delivered at Marrakesh. In that speech I mentioned that the movement of persons linked with the service should be ensured. But, it is not as a counter to the assertion of the social clauses. We do believe that when the trade in service is under consideration of WTO, the service providers should have a free movement. It is the logical consequence of linking the trade in service. The point which I am emphasising is about the service providers.

SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt that the developed countries have linked the social issues to the trade agreement under GATT to put the developed countries like India at disadvantage. Yet, Sir, GATT or no GATT,

India has deep commitment to preservation of its values like abolition of child labour, environment promotion and human rights. May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will make a special effort to create a climate of credibility in the world by ensuring positive steps on the promotion of these values since the country's image is greater than the trade related issues ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : In fact, in reply to one of the question I mentioned on the floor of this very House that some of our export promotion organisation have volunteered the buyers and customers of other countries to come in our country and examine for themselves. So far as our commitment to the prevention of child labour is concerned, it is second to none. India, as a Member of the International Labour Organisation has accepted a large number of conventions on the labour related issues. We are fully aware of our responsibility in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Gajipur and Mirzapur are the biggest centres of carpet industry in Uttar Pradesh. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a question of international level.

SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Child labour are exploited there. I would like to say that Carpet Industry earns foreign exchange worth crores. Children involved in carpet industry should be given at least primary education. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that whether any arrangement for their education and sports facility will be made?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Disallowed.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Sir, now, it is abundantly clear that any of the signatories to the Final Act can become a Member of the Preparatory Committee. The Minister had also said that in the Preparatory Committee, a single member also will have the right to veto. In the light of this, it is very clear that the social issues would be discussed in the Preparatory Committee. Will it not be possible that if India becomes a Member of that Preparatory Committee and veto out such issues and then develop a strong lobby even in the Preparatory Committee so that the fight could be taken up or continued in the WTO further ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : I have already answered this question that so far as the Preparatory Committee is concerned what we had already stated in the Marrakesh we cannot say another thing in the Preparatory Committee. We are already a Member of that Committee.

Export Promotion

*684. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide more powers to RBI in respect of automatic approval of export promotion proposals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a final decision has been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is surprising to note that the question relates to the Ministry of Commerce and the answer is coming from the Ministry of Finance.

MR. SPEAKER : You shall have to send that question to the right Ministry. If you had committed a mistake, it has been corrected now.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Sir, I have not committed the mistake.

Sir, it clearly indicates that there is lack of coordination between Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce. That is way I had said this.

Recently, the Government had reduced the export growth from 25 per cent to 15 per cent. The effect of this on the country's economy is very severe. Within a very short time, it has been reduced. In my opinion, the main cause is the lack of coordination.

In view of this I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether the Reserve Bank of India can be made a coordinating agency. It is because, they can gather maximum information regarding foreign exchange.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether RBI can be given more autonomy.

MR. SPEAKER : His question is whether RBI can be given more autonomy in this respect.

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : Please do not take the time of the House. Hardly we have covered three questions.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Sir, the Import-export Policy of 1990-94 has provided that there will be a single window clearance by the RBI which will clear the proposals automatically. But in most of the cases where a sizeable investment is involved, there, it will be done through a special procedure. The RBI guidelines have not yet been framed, But the RBI should notify the procedure in this regard.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : How may are automatic? It is because Prices Committee and the barrowing are very important. Even the country like Pakistan had given autonomy to its Central Bank, Why our Government is hesitating to go in for this?

MR. SPEAKER : His supplementary is why are we following Pakistan.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : No, It is not my second Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : It is a good question. If something has been done in some other countries, can it be useful in our country also ?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH) : I had announced in my Budget speech that from the beginning of this year, we will lay a total limit of Rs. 6000 crores of Central Government borrowing from the Reserve Bank of India. If, at any time, the total amount exceeds Rs. 6000 crores for a period of ten days, the Reserve bank can automatically go to the market and sell it. This is the beginning of giving a greater autonomy to the Reserve Bank in the management of monetary policy. We will

watch the result.

I can assure the House that the view of the Reserve Bank weighs very seriously for the Government. We are in constant touch with the Reserve Bank of India; and its advice will be given weightage that this high monetary authority deserves.

SHRIDATTATRAYABANDARU : Indian scientists have made a lot of technological breakthrough and advancement in different fields of industry and science. There are many inventions patented in the name of India scientists and technocrats. Just as the Government has thrown its economy open to the outside world, what measures and steps have been taken by the Central Government to ensure and encourage the export of India technological expertise and knowhow to the third world and other developing countries? How many proposals for export of project services have been cleared by the Reserve Bank of India as on 31.3.1994?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This question requires a separate notice, because it is not connected with this question.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : Tamil Nadu earns more than Rs. 10,000 crores foreign exchange for the country through the export of leather, hosiery and engineering goods. Would the Government come forward to give more funds to improve the infrastructural facilities in the export zones like Tarapur and Paniampadi, etc. in Tamil Nadu?

SHRI MANMOHAN SINGH : This question has to be addressed to the Minister of Commerce.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : If you permit me,

I can answer it. The hon. Member will be happy to know that already we have agreed to establish an industrial infrastructural centre of international standard in Tamil Nadu, which is a centrally sponsored scheme; and 57 per cent of the capital goods will be provided by the Central Government. The State Government will give land plus 25 per cent. In addition to that, the State will be given 2 per cent levy which will be imposed on the users of facilities which will be created there so that the State can augment their resources for exports.

[Translation]

INDO - Japanese Tourist Trade

*685. **SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the matter relating to promotion of Indo - Japanese tourist trade was discussed at the 24th Joint meeting of the Indo-Japan Study Committee held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if, so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee in this regard; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM) (SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Joint Committee took note of the suggestions made in the report of the Sub-Committee on Tourism which was

set up in Tokyo in October 1993 and felt that the development of tourism in India and promotion of Indo-Japanese tourist trade should be given top-most priority for development as development of tourism was a precursor to the development of trade and investment between the two countries.

[Translation]

SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, tourists trade and tourism development has badly affected for the last two years. Keeping it in view, a few days back Indian delegation and study group visited Japan and in the leadership of former Prime Minister of Japan a study group also visited here and they discussed. This issue during April this year when asked about the points discussed it was told that Sub-committee on tourism was set up in Tokyo, which made its recommendations and those were discussed there in. I would like to know whether all recommendations have been accepted or some of them were left ? You have accepted that tourism industry in the country has suffered a great set back due to terrorism and other unfortunate incidents. I would like to know whether any agreement has been made to take measures for boosting this industry. Whether any discussion has been made on it and if so, what measures, the Government is going to take in this regard.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Besides other discussions regarding trade and industry, regarding tourism a few suggestions were made that air fare from Japan to India should be lowered, availability of Japanese food in India should be ensured, visa requirements should be eliminated, qualified guides knowing Japanese language should be deployed, safety environment so far as police is concerned should be improved

and unsanitary conditions, i.e. public toilets should be improved. These are some of the suggestions that were made. I would like to have more suggestions in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have asked about the Ministry's reaction over the loss incurred by this industry.

My second supplementary is that India is a multilingual country and is the Guru teacher of Buddhist countries like Japan. Buddhist religion originated here and spread in 40 Buddhist countries. Japan has taken a great interest in India. India has a large number of historical Buddhist monuments and places and is also rich in natural resources. I would like to know that whether the Government proposes to take an action plan for developing the Buddhist places of historical importance which are lying neglected.

MR. SPEAKER : Time is very little.

SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL : You have taken up Uttar Pradesh and Bihar but left Madhya Pradesh. I would like to know whether the Government proposes to develop Bharhut and Deyur villages of Satana and Rewa district of Madhya Pradesh, as tourist spot, which are near the waterfalls and situated between Prayagraj and Chitrakoot? Whether the Government has any plan to develop these places as Buddhist tourist spots.

[English]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : What we have done is, we have concentrated on areas which are visited by most of these tourists, that is, in UP and Bihar. The State

Governments have taken up certain projects. The Central Government has given assistance in certain projects and the Japanese Government has given us loan also. In Madhya Pradesh also whatever proposals are brought to us, we will definitely look into them.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :

Tourism can play a vital role in building up the revenue earnings for our national exchequer, as per the Indo-Japanese study which took place recently. Similarly, China, Japan, Burma, Indonesia and Sri Lanka predominantly have got an impact of Buddhism. So I would like to know whether similar studies can be taken up or similar Committees can be set up to ensure that the tourists from those countries also will have the occasion to come here and contribute a lot to our exchequer.

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNSKAUR : These are on-going talks and agreements and we keep talking to these countries that they should come to India.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The hon. Minister is aware that tourists especially Buddhist tourists from Japan usually come to India and they prefer to visit Buddhist places. In this regard I have drawn the hon. Minister's attention several times about Ratnagiri, Lalitgiri and Udaigiri Buddhist complexes. Even tourists from Japan usually take special aircraft to Bhubaneswar and visit these places. But the infrastructure available there has not been developed. Will the hon. Minister take special interest so that we can really attract more tourists from Japan ?

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNSKAUR : The Member would appreciate that development of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government, but we still assist the

State Government. We have got projects from them and we have given them assistance. They are slow in executing them and I would, in fact, request the hon. Member that he could help us in asking the Government to expedite those projects.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bodh Gaya is a religious place for the people of Japan, China and Sri Lanka. The Government of India is being given a large amount of money for its development from these countries. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether this money is utilised properly or not? If it is utilised properly, then so far how much amount has been spent ?

[*English*]

SHRIMATI SUKHBUNSKAUR : The money is given to the State Governments and we monitor the progress of the project. I can mention about the funds that we have got from the Japanese Government. They are to the tune of Rs. 219 crore and so far only Rs. 51 crore has been spent. We are taking steps to ensure that this work is speeded up.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Pepper and Cloves

*686. **SHRI K.G. SHIVAPPA :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pepper and cloves exported during the last three years;

(b) whether any special efforts are being made by the Government to boost their

export; and

[Translation]

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Quantity of pepper exported during the last three years is given below :-

Year	Quantity (M.T.)
1991-92	20,535
1992-93	23,752
1993-94	46,650

India imports cloves as our production is insufficient to meet the domestic demand.

(b) and (c) Steps taken by Government to boost exports of spices including pepper and cloves are :-

- (i) Stepping up production and productivity to generate exportable surpluses by increasing the outlays in the VIII plan;
- (ii) Improving the quality of spices for export through extension work, popularisation of international standard etc.; and
- (iii) Popularisation of Indian Spices abroad through logo promotion, brand promotion publicity and participation in international trade fairs etc.

Investment Guarantee Agreement

*687. SHRI RAM SINGH KASHWAN:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken initiatives to reach an Investment Guarantee Agreement with Germany;

(b) if so, the details of the discussions held and views expressed by both the countries on this subject; and

(c) the time by which an agreement is likely to be reached in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Two rounds of discussions have been held hitherto with the German Government, commencing January, 1994. Considerable progress has been achieved in converging towards an agreement.

[English]

Unorganised Labour

*688. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission on Rural Labour recommended Rs. 2,700 crore social security package for the masses of unorganised rural labour; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) The National Commission on Rural Labour has made the following recommendations relating to Social Security :-

1. *Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923:*

Amendment of the definition of 'workman' to cover all the rural workers.

2. *Old age pension :*

Old age pension at Rs. 100 per month be paid to all males and females above age of 60 subject to income limits prescribed. Destitutes and handicapped persons, even if below the age of 60 are eligible at present for old age pension in several states. This may be continued. While it is appreciated that it may not be feasible to withdraw the relaxation given to widows/deserted wives, the Commission is of the view that they should be enabled to earn their livelihood and for this purpose, a suitable rehabilitation and training programme should be evolved.

3. *Personal Accident Insurance:*

The coverage under Personal Accident Insurance and Social Security Schemes operated by GIC should be enlarged. In

addition, in so far as unorganised workers are concerned, Group Life Insurance Scheme should be considered with the premium met by the State.

4. *Maternity Benefit :*

All rural women above the age of 18 and belonging to families whose total annual income does not exceed Rs. 6,400 at 1990-91 prices will be entitled, up to a maximum of two live births, maternity benefit for a period of 12 weeks for each birth and the amount of benefit will be at the daily minimum wage rate for unskilled labour in agriculture.

5. *Disability benefit :*

Disability benefit in respect of all cases of loss of earning capacity of 70% or more, and not necessarily occupational or employment related, must be available, on par with old age pension and subject to the same income criterion, to all the eligible persons between the age group of 18 and 60 years. The existing efforts for rehabilitation of the disabled will have to be considerably strengthened. An expert group may examine the questions relating to the manner of determining the extent of disability and incapacity to work as well as the support scheme needed for them.

6. *Sickness benefit :*

A scheme of sickness benefit

to compensate for loss of earnings arising out of illness is recommended under which all rural persons within the age group 18 to 60 will, on hospitalisation in recognised hospital, be entitled to the benefit for a maximum of 90 days, at the rate of the daily minimum wage rate for unskilled labour in agriculture. The benefit will be restricted to those from families whose annual income is less than Rs. 6,400 at 1990-91 prices.

7. *Crop Insurance Scheme :*

The comprehensive Crops Insurance Scheme must cover all States and all crops. The restriction in the scheme covering only those who take loans from Co-operatives, commercial banks and regional rural banks should be done away with. A system of differential premium rates for the existing clientele at lower level and for those who do not take recourse to cooperatives etc. for their credit needs at slightly higher level could be fixed.

The Commission estimated that this may nearly cost Rs. 2700 crores annually. However, the Commission itself added that a precise calculation as to the amount of funds required for implementation of these recommendations was not easy. It was even more difficult to indicate the total and state-

wise cost for say each of the next 10 years or so. The latter will depend on several factors including demographic. The formulation of insurance type of schemes or liability schemes is not easy and many a time not feasible for rural unorganised sector due to factors including low earnings and uncertainty and changing nature of employment and employers.

The specific recommendations of the National Commission on Rural Labour were discussed in the Labour Ministers' Conference held in August 1992 which constituted a committee of 13 State Labour Ministers under the Chairmanship of the Labour Minister of Maharashtra to examine these recommendations relating to social security. As a preparatory step, Government of Maharashtra is requesting the State Governments of Maharashtra is requesting the State Governments for their comments in the matter.

Recovery of Bank Loans

*689. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the percentage of recovery in respect of bank loans disbursed under various schemes like self-employment to educated unemployed Youth (SEEUY), Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and other loans given for agriculture purposes during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : The percentage of recovery to demand in respect of direct agricultural advances extended by public sector banks for the years ended June 1990, 1991 and 1992 (latest available) was 48.8, 58.0 and 54.1 respectively. The State-wise details are given in statement -I.

The percentage of recovery to demand in respect of loans extended by public sector banks under Integrated rural Development Programme (IRDP) for the years ended June 1990, 1991 and 1992 (latest available) was 30.8, 41.4 and 31.8 respectively. State-wise

details for the years ended June 1990, June 1991 and June 1992 are given in statement -II.

The percentage of recovery to demand in respect of loans extended by public sector banks under the Scheme for providing Self-Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) for the years ended June 1990, 1991 and 1992 (latest available) was 20.82, 21.90 and 23.92 respectively. Statewise details for recoveries under the above scheme are not readily available. The same are being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT-I

STATE-WISE PERCENTAGE OF RECOVERY TO DEMAND IN RESPECT OF AGRICULTURAL
ADVANCES (DIRECT FINANCE) EXTENDED BY PUBLIC SECTOR BANKS.

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and	
		June 1990	June 1991
1.	Northern Region	51.2	57.4
2.	Haryana	48.7	58.1
3.	Himachal Pradesh	37.3	48.9
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	37.8	40.9
5.	Punjab	64.0	63.7
6.	Rajasthan	38.0	50.5
7.	Chandigarh	24.8	45.0
8.	Delhi	31.6	42.6
9.	North-Eastern Region	21.9	49.4
10.	Assam	24.1	45.0

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and		
		June 1990	June 1991	June 1992
11.	Manipur	9.4	40.4	17.7
12.	Meghalaya	18.2	58.5	16.7
13.	Nagaland	19.7	52.9	18.7
14.	Tripura	16.5	54.9	25.5
15.	Arunachal Pradesh	56.2	66.9	33.6
16.	Mizoram	20.9	42.4	13.6
17.	Sikkim	35.1	84.8	45.1
18.	Eastern Region	40.3	60.0	43.1
19.	Bihar	42.5	59.7	42.0
20.	Orissa	37.0	57.0	45.0
21.	West Bengal	40.7	62.9	43.3
22.	Andaman & Nicobar	17.1	53.2	15.5

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and		
		June 1990	June 1991	June 1992
23.	Central Region	46.2	57.3	53.7
24.	Madhya Pradesh	42.5	51.2	44.9
25.	Uttar Pradesh	48.5	61.1	59.2
26.	Western Region	45.6	55.8	47.7
27.	Gujarat	48.0	59.1	54.3
28.	Maharashtra	43.8	54.0	43.6
29.	Daman & Diu	45.8	53.2	27.2
30.	Goa	48.3	45.2	50.2
31.	Southern Region	52.3	59.5	57.8
32.	Andhra Pradesh	48.3	56.2	56.6
33.	Karnataka	42.9	51.1	44.2
34.	Kerala	57.6	64.8	64.4

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and		
		June 1990	June 1991	June 1992
35.	Tamil Nadu	61.4	69.4	66.6
36.	Pondicherry	51.5	59.7	57.7
	All India	48.8	58.1	54.1

STATEMENT - II

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and		
		June 1990	June 1991	June 1992
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31.67	41.89	28.29
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	22.73	40.48	20.00
3.	Assam	18.64	42.25	22.59
4.	Bihar	29.76	39.23	21.63
5.	Goa	53.98	43.14	43.00
6.	Gujarat	37.33	52.55	34.08
7.	Haryana	27.93	39.31	29.30
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45.51	46.18	42.12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	10.34	44.51	28.00
10.	Karnataka	19.53	44.52	21.50
11.	Kerala	39.18	49.30	34.67

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and		
		June 1990	June 1991	June 1992
12.	Madhya Pradesh	24.12	32.62	24.71
13.	Maharashtra	29.69	38.64	28.26
14.	Manipur	13.46	32.14	42.00
15.	Meghalaya	13.33	32.08	12.00
16.	Mizoram	15.79	36.36	15.00
17.	Nagaland	20.73	43.66	18.00
18.	Orissa	16.49	27.21	19.92
19.	Punjab	41.48	44.71	32.00
20.	Rajasthan	19.06	38.39	27.92
21.	Sikkim	42.86	50.00	36.33
22.	Tamil Nadu	36.51	34.69	25.33
23.	Tripura	11.15	47.10	12.33

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Percentage of Recovery to Dem and		
		June 1990	June 1991	June 1992
24.	Uttar Pradesh	35.45	46.78	41.36
25.	West Bengal	37.64	43.43	31.33
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	39.39	33.33	19.00
27.	Chandigarh	14.29	61.54	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	38.46	41.38	28.00
29.	Delhi	31.98	45.61	—
30.	Daman & Diu	53.85	42.42	36.00
31.	Lakshdweep	47.62	32.00	42.85
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	41.43
	All India	30.8	41.4	31.8

Foreign Trade Barriers

*690. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the US annual report on Foreign Trade Barriers pointing out the need for further removing and reducing tariffs and quantitative restrictions under negative list of imports and other impediments in Indo-US trade;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Trade Estimates Report of Foreign Trade Barriers for 1994 was released by the USTR on 31 March. In the Chapter on India the policies/practices, listed for negative mention, are continuing high tariffs on imports, quantitative restrictions, lack of effective and adequate patent protection, restrictive trade mark practices, lack of access to the domestic, insurance market, limited access to foreign banks and government procurement practices.

(c) It has consistently been the policy of Government that there should not be unilateral judgement or action on trade matters and that these should be resolved multilaterally.

Jute Policy

*691. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since formulated or cotemplate to formulate a comprehensive jute policy keeping in view the growing demand for jute articles including jute bags in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are specific provisions for compulsory use of jute bags in case of number of articles ;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether those provisions are being adhered to by all concerned;

(f) if not, the specific action taken against the instances of violation of the aforesaid provisions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) The approach of the Government towards the growth of Jute Industry is to accelerate pace of modernisation, technological upgradation and diversification for taking advantage of potential increase in international demand for value-added and diversified items of jute goods in view of their eco-friendly properties. Policy support measures for achieving objectives of modernisation and diversification include emphasis on increase in exports through product development, market assistance and human resource development.

(c) to (f). In terms of the Orders issued under Jute Packaging Materials Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities Act, 1987, packing of foodgrains, sugar and urea in jute bags has been made compulsory in respect

of their entire production and supply within the country while in the case of cement stipulated percentage is 70% of production and despatch except in case of cement units located beyond 1200 kms. away from Calcutta for which the specified percentage is 65%.

While foodgrains and sugar sectors are satisfactorily abiding by this provision there has been violation by cement sector and area manufacturing units during last two years. The matter has been taken up with the concerned Ministries with a view to implement the orders effectively.

[Translation]

Pencil and Slate Industry

*692. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labourers engaged in the industry manufacturing slate and pencil from silica stone;

(b) whether the dust of silica stone badly affects the lungs of these labourers and they suffer from silicosis;

(c) whether child labourers are also engaged in the industry; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d) As per information available in the Ministry of Labour, 2469 labourers are employed in the industry manufacturing slates and slate pencils. Inhalation of fine particles of free silica in the

dust can cause silicosis to worker. Child labourers are also engaged in Slate and Slate Pencil Industry.

2. The responsibility to comply with the provisions of the Factories Act 1948 lies with the occupier of the Factory and it is the concerned State Govt./ U.T. Administration which enforces the provisions of the said Act.
3. Child labour is prohibited. *inter alia*, in the manufacture of Slate Pencil (including packing) under the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986. Child Labour is also prohibited under various other Labour Laws including Mines Act, 1952. Under the National Child Labour Policy, two projects have been taken up, one at Mandsaur in Madhya Pradesh and the other at Markapur in Andhra Pradesh to re-habilitate the child labour employed in this industry.

[English]

Airport Charges

*693. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to increase landing charges, airport terminal taxes and air-field take off charges on every international flight to Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras, Ahmedabad and Thiruvananthapuram;

(b) if so, whether all these charges are proposed to be included in every international passenger ticket;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the likely impact thereof on international flights and tourists inflow; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Women ITIs

*694. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of I.T.Is proposed to be opened for women under the world Bank Project, State and Union territory - wise;

(b) the number of women to whom employment has been provided so far after imparting training under this special scheme ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take during the current year to provide employment to these trained women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The number of ITIs proposed to be opened for women under World Bank Project are as follows : Andhra Pradesh 13, Assam - 3; Gujarat - 4; Haryana - 5; Kerala - 5; Madhya Pradesh - 10; Uttar Pradesh - 9; West Bengal - 4; Maharashtra -

9; Bihar - 8; Karnataka - 10; Tamil Nadu - 5; Rajasthan - 4; Orissa - 6 and Punjab - 5.

The trainees after completion of training from the ITIs are to secure employment themselves in terms of wage employment or self employment consistent with the skills they acquire. Under the scheme Government are not committed to provide employment for those who receive training.

[English]

Newsprint

*695. SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to liberalise import of newsprint;

(b) if so, whether this has caused any decline in offtake of newsprint produced in public sector;

(c) whether there has been allegations of dumping of newsprint in India by newsprint exporting countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir. There is no change in the existing policy for the import of Newsprint.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No allegation of dumping of newsprint in India has been received by the Designated Authority in the Ministry of Commerce.

[Translation]

Cotton Yarn

*696. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be
pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of handlooms
and powerlooms are closing down gradually
due to non-availability of cotton yarn at
reasonable prices;

(b) if so, the total number of such units
closed down in the country as on date;

(c) whether the Government have
announced relaxation in the import of cotton
yarn in view of shortage thereof in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons for which the export
of cotton yarn was not banned by the
Government; and

(e) the total value of the cotton yarn
exported from the country from August, 1993
to March, 1994 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT
SWAMY) : (a) and (b) Prices of yarn had
registered an increase during the last few
months. However, since middle of April, 1994
there has been a downward movement in the
prices of yarn. While there is no large scale
unemployment on account of increase in yarn
prices, some reports regarding closure of
looms from some parts of the country had
also come.

(c) and (d) Though there are reports of
yarn price fluctuations and shortage of certain
counts at certain time, there is no overall

shortage of yarn. As export of cotton yarn
constitute only about 11% of total cotton yarn
production, banning of export of yarn is not
likely to have a significant effect on cotton
yarn prices.

(e) Export of cotton Yarn during the
period August, 1993 to March, 1994 was
117.21 ml./kg. valued at Rs. 1065.66 crores.

[English]

Pre-Emptive Purchase of Properties

*697. PROF. UMMAREDDY
VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have
brought several cities under the ambit of pre-
emptive purchase of immovable properties
scheme;

(b) if so, the names of these cities;

(c) whether the Government propose to
raise the existing limit of Rs. ten lakh for the
applicability of the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.
CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and
(b) The scheme of pre-emptive purchase of
immovable properties applies to 28 cities in
all as per the list given in the attached
statement.

(c) and (d) Several representations have
been received by the Government with a
plea for raising of the existing limit of Rs. 10
lakhs of apparent consideration for the
applicability of the scheme. These are under

consideration of the Government.

(e) In view of (c) and (d) above, does not arise.

List of cities wher the scheme the scheme of per-emptive purchase of immovable properties is presently applicable.

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Cities.</i>
1.	Delhi
2.	Bombay
3.	Calcutta
4.	Madras
5.	Bangalore
6.	Ahmedabad
7.	Chandigarh
8.	Jaipur
9.	Pune
10.	Nagpur
11.	Bhubneshwar
12.	Cuttack
13.	Kanpur
14.	Coimbatore
15.	Madurai
16.	Trivendrum
17.	Cochin (including Ernakulam and Metendchary)

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Cities.</i>
18.	Hyderabad.
19.	Surat
20.	Indore
21.	Bhopal
22.	Lucknow
23.	Pātna.
24.	Gurgaon
25.	Faridabad
26.	Ghaziabad
27.	Noida.
28.	Boroda.

Third Party Insurance Scheme

*698. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA
URS: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be
pleased to state:

(a) the average number of vehicles
covered by third party insurance in the country
at present;

(b) whether the Insurance Corporations
are incurring losses due to third party insurance
scheme;

(c) if so, whether the Government
propose to discontinue the above insurance
scheme and insure vehicle by a
comprehensive insurance scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The General Insurance Corporation (GIC) have reported that the estimated number of vehicles covered by Third Party Insurance in the country is approximately 91 lakhs in the year 1992-93.

(b) Yes Sir.

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

(d) Does not arise.

Insurance Claims

*699. SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether final report of the Police Department is necessary for the settlement of the cases of Insurance claim (theft of vehicles or other compensation);

(b) whether consumer courts have given a judgement that insurance claims may be filed within a period of sixty days of occurrence of the accident even if the final report is not submitted by the Police department;

(c) whether thousands of insurance claims in the country have been lying pending for long due to non-submission of final report by the Police department;

(d) whether the Government propose to issue necessary instructions in this regard to the Insurance Companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) have reported that final report of the Police is necessary for settlement of either theft claims of the entire vehicle or claims of burglary of cash and valuables. In the case of privately owned passenger vehicles, wherever insurance companies have definite proof of loss, final police report is not insisted upon. Other compensation claims such as theft of accessories or damages to vehicle are processed and settled on receipt of First Information Report and other relevant documents. Final report of the Police is not insisted upon in such cases.

(b) The GIC have reported that no such specific judgement came to their notice.

(c) The GIC have reported that the number of claims pending for long due to non-receipt of Final Report from the Police constitutes a small percentage of overall pending claims.

(d) and (e) No Sir. There is no proposal to issue any instructions in this regard.

[Translation]

ILO Recommendations

*700. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has adopted any conventions and recommendations to control risks to labour in India;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof;

(c) whether any team of I.L.O. had visited

India during the one year; and

(d) if so, the number of recommendations made by ILO which have been accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has *inter-alia* adopted a number of Conventions and Recommendations to safeguard the safety and health of workers world wide. The thrust of these Conventions and Recommendations is on the following :

- (i) to adopt a national policy to prevent accidents and injury to health and minimising the causes of hazards inherent in the working environment.
- (ii) to maintain, by means of a preventive service, a safe healthy and well adapted working environment to promote the physical and mental health of all workers.
- (iii) to protect workers against specific risks emanating from the use of toxic substances, agents and machinery; maximum weight; air pollution, noise and vibration.
- (iv) to protect workers in given branches of economic activity i.e. building industry, ports and dock work, commerce and offices.

(c) ILO Officials visit India from time to time to discuss labour related issues. No ILO team visited India during the last one year for discussions on controlling risks to labour.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Reference of Sick Companies to BIFR

7449. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms laid down for referring sick companies to the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(b) whether the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction propose to revise these norms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) A sick industrial company as defined in the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) is an industrial company (being a company registered for not less than five years) which has at the end of any financial year accumulated losses equal to or exceeding its entire network.

Under the recent amendment to SICA in 1993, the number of years of incorporation of a sick company was reduced from seven to five years and the earlier condition regarding cash losses deleted.

World Bank Report of Earthquake Affected Areas

7450. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study group of the World Bank surveyed the earthquake affected area in Maharashtra recently;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have received any report from the World Bank in this regard; and

(c) if so, the salient features of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) A World Bank supervision mission visited the earthquake affected area in Maharashtra from April 22 to May 7, 1994 to review project-related arrangements, progress and other actions required to be taken with regard to the implementation of World Bank-assisted Maharashtra Emergency Earthquake Rehabilitation Project. Salient features of the supervision report will be known only on receipt of the mission's aidememoire.

[Translation]

Effects of GATT on Agriculture

7451. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:
DR. P.R. GANGWAR:
SHRI R. ANBARASU:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI PARASRAM
BHARDWAJ:

Will the minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the effects of GATT agreement on the Indian agriculture Policy; and

(b) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture does not affect India's freedom and flexibility to follow

its own agricultural policies and programmes.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Buffer Stock of Rubber

7452. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a consequence of GATT treaty, the Government have stopped of propose to stop the system of keeping buffer stock of rubber;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Government propose to stop declaration of benchmark price for natural rubber;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the scheme to save of rubber farmer when price of rubber falls down steeply?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A Buffer Stocking Scheme is in operation since 1986 with a view to ensure remunerative prices to the rubber growers and making available natural rubber to the user industry at a reasonable price. This scheme also provides for market intervention by the Government agencies at appropriate time to ensure the above objectives. There is no proposal to immediately withdraw the scheme.

[Translation]

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Development of Handloom Sector in Gujarat

7453. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the scheme - wise details of the Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes introduced by the Union Government for the development of hadloom sector and welfare of weavers during 1991-92 including the schemes for which no financial assistance/ grant was provided in Gujarat particularly in backward and tribal areas of the State;

(b) the details of the amount and assistance provided in each case, scheme-wise;

(c) whether any proposals have been submitted by the Government of Gujarat or concerned State bodies for the year 1992-93; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Apart from the ongoing Schemes three new Schemes, namely, Margin Money for Destitute Weavers, Project Package Scheme and Integrated handloom village Development Scheme were introduced in 1991-92. The ongoing Schemes of Workshed-cum-Housing and Thrift Fund were also modified.

(b) The following amount was released to the State Government of Gujarat during 1991-92.

i) Janta Cloth Scheme.	118.12
ii) MDA/Rebate Scheme.	23.72
Total:	141.84

(c) and (d) On the basis of proposals received from the State Government of Gujarat, the amount released during the year 1992-93 is as under :-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

(i) Share Capital Assistance to Primary Weavers Coop. Societies.	9.00
(ii) Janata Subsidy.	165.03
Total:	174.03

Loan to Formers in Rajasthan

7454. PROF. RASASINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loans disbursed under various categories to farmers in Rajasthan through NABARD during each of the last three years, separately;

(b) the number of farmers benefited by the advancement of crop loans during this period;

(c) the progress with regard to recovery of above loans;

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to implement NABARD's activities more effectively; and

(e) the schemes being formulated by

NABARD in Rajasthan and the amount earmarked therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it provides refinance assistance to banks under schematic lending. The amount of such refinance disbursed by NABARD during

the last three years (purpose-wise) is given in the Statement-I. The data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for separately regarding farmers benefitted under crop loan.

(c) The details of demand, recovery and the percentage of recovery to demand in regard to Rajasthan for the year ended June 1991 and 1992 (latest available) are indicated below :

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>			
<i>Year</i>	<i>Demand</i>	<i>Recovery</i>	<i>% of recovery to demand</i>
June 1991	405.78	201.38	49.63
June 1992	452.01	193.37	42.78

(d) and (e) NABARD has launched the District Rural Industries project for intensive development of rural non-farm sector in five selected districts of Rajasthan. It has earmarked an outlay of Rs. 25 crores in each district over a five year period. NABARD has also sanctioned an amount of Rs. 60 lakhs (Rs. 36 lakhs as grant and Rs. 24 lakhs as

interest free loan) to Rajasthan State Cooperative Bank for computerisation from its Cooperative Development Fund.

The purpose-wise allocation proposed by NABARD to provide refinance under schematic lending for the State of Rajasthan in the year 1994-95 is given in Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

The amount of refinance disbursed by NABARD in Rajasthan State for the last 3 years viz. 1991-92 to 1993-94, purpose wise

(Schematic lending)

(Rs. in lakhs)

Purpose	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Minor Irrigation	3021	3237	3553
Land Development	13	11	20
Farm Mechanisation	2586	3641	5300
Plantation/Horticulture	34	9	15
Poultry/Sheep/Piggery	156	71	29
Fisheries	2	8	8
Dairy Development	136	194	424
Storage and Market Yards	299	503	207
Forestry	-	-	1

Purpose	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Gobar Gas Plant	1	1	1
Non-Farm Sector	599	1185	1385
IRDP	3493	3932	1202
Others	51	60	49
Total	10361	12852	14195

Refinance proposed to be Provided by yabasd under scuevatic leading to the state of Rajasthan during 1994-95 (purpose-wise)

(Rs. in crores)

Purpose	Allocation
Minor Irrigation	27.15
REC/SPA	3.76
Land Development	0.39
Form Mechanisation	54.10
Plantation/Uorticulture	0.59
Dairy Development	3.61
Fisheries	0.17
Storegs/Market Yards	4.90
Forestry	0.10
Poultry Farving	0.94
Sheep/Coat/Piggery	0.44
IRDP	16.55
Non-Farm Sector	18.00
Other	1.34
Total	132.22

[English]

Assistance to Industrial Units in Gujarat

7455. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned by the financial institutions to the industrial units located in backward areas of Gujarat during the last three years and the current year so far; and

(b) the amount actually disbursed to these units during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY: (a) and (b) The industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the amount of assistance sanctioned and disbursed by all India financial and Investment Institutions namely, IDBI, Industrial Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (IFCI), Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Ltd. (ICICI), Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India (IRBI), Technology Development and Information Company of India Ltd. (TDICI), Risk Capital and Technology Finance Corporation Ltd. (RCTC), Shipping Credit and Investment Corporation of India (SCICI), Tourism Finance Corporation of India Ltd. (TFCI), Unit Trust of India (UTI), Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and General Insurance Insurance Corporation of India (GIC) to industries in backward areas of Gujarat during 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93 was as under:

(Rs. Crore)

	Sanctions	Disbursement
1990-91	870.5	269.4
1991-92	533.9	499.2
1992-93	1062.2	745.3

Data for 1993-94 are not available with IDBI.

Foreign Equity Participation in Civil Aviation

7456. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed foreign equity participation in the field of civil aviation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the detail of such proposals cleared so far ;

(d) the details of proposals in this regard which are under consideration of the Government; and

(e) the present position of each of these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Foreign equity participation has been allowed by the Government in the following three cases :-

(i) M/s Jet Airways Pvt. Ltd.

(ii) M/s Indo-Canadian Airways Ltd.

(iii) M/s Aeolus Aviation Pvt. Ltd.

(c) The details are as follows:

(i) M/s Jet Airways Pvt. Ltd.: M/s Jet Airways Pvt. Ltd. an air taxi operator had proposed that it may be owned by Tailwind Ltd., a company incorporated in the Isle of Man in which two foreign airlines would hold equity share upto 40%.

(ii) M/s Indo-Canadian Airways Ltd.: M/s Indo-Canadian Airways Ltd. had proposed to start an air taxi service. The paid up capital of the company shall be Rs. 2127.50 lakhs out of which NRI's are contributing to the extent of 26.5% and foreign nationals 13.5%.

(iii) M/s Aeolus Aviation Pvt. Ltd. : M/s Aeolus Aviation Pvt. Ltd. had proposed to set up an Air Pilot's Academy/Air Charter Services/ Courier Services Company. The proposed capital outlay is Rs. 600 lakhs of which 75% will be foreign holding.

The above proposals for foreign Equity participation have been cleared by foreign Investment Promotion Board.

(d) and (e) No other proposals are under consideration of this Ministry.

Export Facility Under E.P.C.G.

7457. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Confederation of the Indian Industry has urged the Government to consider extending the deemed export facility under the Export Promotion Capital Goods scheme to the capital goods sector also; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme permits the imports of capital goods at the concessional rate of

customs duty of 15% linked with the Export Obligation as specified. EPCG licence holders have the option to source the relevant capital goods from the domestic manufacturers who have also been extended the facility to import requisite components at concessional rate of customs duty of 15%. Such domestic suppliers have not been extended the benefits of deemed exports as it will amount to supply of capital goods at zero duty which is against the basic concept of the Scheme.

Loan to Central Government Undertakings

7458 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines laid down by the Reserve Bank of India and his Ministry for the classification of loans given by the State Bank of India and other nationalised banks to the Central Government Undertakings and others as sub-standard;

(b) the details of such loans outstanding as on April 1, 1994;

(c) whether the Union Government stand guarantee for the SBI and other banks to cover exposure of the Central Government Undertakings; and

(d) if so, the details of such cases where the Government have bailed out the SBI and other nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) that advances guaranteed by Government of India/State Governments though 'past due' should not be treated as

non-performing assets (NPA), i.e. sub-standard, doubtful or loss assets.

A sub-standard asset is one which has been classified as non-performing for a period not exceeding two years. A non-performing asset (NPA) is one in which interest has remained 'past due' for a period of 3 quarters for the year ended 31st March, 1994 and 2 quarters for the year ending 31st March, 1995 and onwards. Loans to Central Government Undertakings are also covered by this definition and there are no separate norms for these advances.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the Rules.

(c) and (d) Guarantees are given on a case by case basis by the administrative Ministries concerned either under the delegated powers or after obtaining approval of the Ministry of Finance. Follow up action on guarantees is also taken by the respective administrative Ministries.

Time and labour involved in collecting the information relating to bank guarantees given to State Bank of India and other nationalized Banks in respect of Central Government Undertakings may not be commensurate with the results to be achieved.

Procurement of Aircraft

7459. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have been considering to procure small aircraft for the feeder and other routes with thin traffic, especially to replace the outdated aircraft of the Vayudoot;

(b) is so, the details of the proposal in this regard;

(c) the particulars of firms with which negotiations are on in this regard and the types of aircraft in respect of which such negotiations are being held; and

(d) the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Air Services

7460. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures taken by the Government during the last two years to lay emphasis on the passenger air services, better utilisation of the aircraft fleet, maintenance of aircraft and to improve the operation of air services;

(b) the amount allocated by the Government for these jobs in the current year; and

(c) the details of improvement made in the income-expenditure position in the aviation sector and also the Government's estimates in this regard during the next three years, as a result of the execution of these jobs?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI

AZAD) : (a) Some of the important measures taken by Air India and Indian Airlines for improvement in services and better aircraft utilisation, during the past two years are listed below:-

- (1) Induction of new Boeing 747-400 aircraft by Air India (Three aircraft already inducted and one more will join the fleet in June, 1994)
- (2) Operation of Air India to new stations like Johannesburg, Durban, Dar-es-Salam and Jakarta;
- (3) Operation of Indian Airlines to Sharjah, Dubai, Abu-Dhabi and Muscat.
- (4) Improvement in services, including ground service, meal service and inflight service by Air India and Indian Airlines.
- (5) Hub and spoke operations to connect Ahmedabad, Hyderabad and Amritsar for providing convenient connections for international journeys.
- (6) Better utilisation of aircraft and flight crew by Indian Airlines.

(b) Improvement in the performance of the airlines is a continuous process and no specific amount has been allocated for this purpose.

(c) No long term projections of income and expenditure of the airlines can be made at this stage in view of the large number of variables like fuel prices, internal situation, state of the economy, competition from other

carriers etc. Which could affect the financial performance of Air India and Indian Airlines.

[English]

Exploitation of Child Labour

7461. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether 109 Nobel laureates have formed a forum to end child abuse-both employment and exploitation as reported in 'Economic Times' dated April 15, 1994;

(b) whether the Government have any time bound plans in the matter;

(c) whether the Government proposed to set up an independent commission to safeguard children's right including Right to adequate nutrition to which Government of India is a party under the UN conventions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the press report regarding formation of a forum of Nobel laureates to end child abuse. Government is also aware of the socio-economic complexities leading to the prevalence of child labour and believes that progressive elimination of child labour is a pragmatic and practicable approach. This is sought to be done through enforcement of the legislative provisions, preventive steps and welfare measures. Since action in respect of these mainly lies with the State Govts., they are being encouraged and assisted to formulate and implement time bound action plans for elimination of child labour where feasible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

IMF Observations Regarding Fiscal Policy

7462. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund has shown its concern over the weakening of fiscal policy of the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Correction of slippage in the fiscal deficit that has occurred in 1993-94 was stated by the FM to be one of the major task which has been addressed by the budget proposals of 1994-95. The IMF in its Article IV Report on India finalised in March 1994 has also observed that strengthening of fiscal policy is necessary.

(b) The budget proposals for 1994-95 primarily aim at providing a growth impetus to the economy and steering it towards a turn around in industrial production. The efforts at fiscal correction would derive support from the economic recovery and will also be addressed through the package of tax reforms measures announced in the Budget.

Development of Handloom Sector in Madhya Pradesh

7463. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have

received any proposal from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for development of handloom sector in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the basis of proposals received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Central Government has released funds to the tune of Rs. 755.00 lakhs during 1993-94 for different handloom schemes as below:

STATEMENT

Name of the Scheme		Amount Released (Rs. in Lakhs)
NON-PLAN		
i)	Special Rebate/MDA on sale of handloom cloth.	103.70
ii)	Subsidy on Janata Cloth	579.20
PLAN		
iii)	Scheme for Grant of Margin Money to Destitute Weavers.	0.50
iv)	Integrated Handloom Village Development	11.60
v)	handloom Development Centre	20.00
vi)	Grant for Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for Handloom Weavers.	40.00
Total		755.00

Complaints Received From Foreign Buyers

7464. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received during the last three years by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) from foreign buyers regarding supplies from India;

(b) the details thereof indicating *inter-alia* nature of complaints and the channel through which the complaints were received, year-wise;

(c) whether the DGFT has set up Regional Standing Committee to investigate these complaints;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether representatives of the Bureau of Indian Standards have also been associated with these Committees; and

(f) the time by which the Regional Committees are likely to complete their investigation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHARJEE): (a) From the year 1991-92 upto 31.3.94, a total number of 371 complaints were received in Trade Dispute Cell set up in DGFT Office.

(b) The complaints cover the areas of quality, quantity, price, delay and related claims, non-performance/non-fulfilment of agreement, non-payment/delays payment of agency commission, complaints from foreign tourists regarding purchases made in India etc. Information regarding trade complaints and disputes are being received directly and also from various organisations/departments

such as - Indian Missions abroad, Ministry of Commerce, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards, Export Inspection Council and Export Inspection Agencies, Directorate General, Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, Reserve Bank of India etc. In the year 1991-92, 71 complaints, in the year 1992-93, 131 complaints and in the year 1993-94 upto 31.3.94, 169 complaints were received in Trade Dispute Cell.

(c) to (e) : Yes, Sir. Regional Standing Committees on Quality Complaints have been set up at Bombay, Calcutta, Cochin, Delhi, Madras, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kanpur, Ludhiana and Hyderabad. These Committees are chaired by the respective Joint Director General of Foreign Trade with Members from the Bureau of Indian Standards, Office of Agricultural Marketing Advisor, Small Industries Service Institute, RBI, Invitees from EPC/Commodity Board/Trade Association and Export Inspection Agency as Member Secretary.

(f) The Regional Committees are required to investigate and make efforts to settle the disputes amicably within three months of the receipt of complaint.

Plantation Labour Act, 1952

7465. SHRI DWARKA NATH DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a Bill in the House to amend the Plantation Labour Act, 1952 to raise the wage-ceiling to an appropriate stage and to meet the present price index; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cochin Export Processing Zone

7466. PROF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Units set up under Thrikkakara-Cochin Export Processing Zone have started its production and exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which these units are likely to start its production and exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) to (d) A total of 31 units effected exports amounting to Rs. 83.81 crores in 1993-94.

Tobacco Auction Centres Platforms

7467. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places where the Government have provided facility of Tobacco Auction Centres/Platforms, state-wise;

(b) the names of places where such Tobacco Auction Centres/platforms for Tobacco growers are proposed to be provided as on March 31, 1994;

(c) the names of qualities of tobacco being purchased by the Tobacco Centres as on March 31, 1994;

(d) the names of qualities of tobacco being produced in India but not being purchased by these auction centres;

(e) the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Andhra Pradesh - 19 platforms (1994 auctions), Kamataka - 7 platforms (1993-94 auctions)

(b) Number and place of auction platforms are decided before the commencement of each Virginia Tobacco Marketing Season based on the crop-size and number of registered growers. As on 31-3-94 the following auction platform were operating in Andhra Pradesh:

1.	Bhodrachalam
2.	Nandigama
3.	Kanchikacherla
4.	Guntur
5.	Thorredu
6.	Kapavaram
7.	Deverapalli
8.	J.R. Gudem
9.	Vellampalli
10.	Orgole-I
11.	Ongole-II
12.	Podili
13.	Tangutur-I

14. Tangutur-II

15. Kandukur

16. Kaligiri

17. D.C.Palli

18. Koyyalagudem

19. Chilakaluripet.

(c) Flue cured virginia Tobacco.

(d) Bdi, Burley, HDBG, Sub-cured country (Natu), Hookah, Cigar & Chercot, Snuff tobaccos.

(e) and (f) At Present, Tobacco Board Act, 1975 provides for purchase of only virginia tobacco on the auction platforms established by the Tobacco Board.

Export of Blades

7468. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the share of India in the World for export for blades;

(b) whether the Government have prepared any plans for encouraging exports of blades; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) India's export of razor blades in 1991-92, 92-93 and April December, 1993 amounted to Rs. 23.65 crores, Rs. 25.62 crores and Rs. 31.81 crores respectively. India's export of engineering goods, including those of blades, accounted for 0.11% of world trade in 1986-87.

(b) and (c) Promotion of exports including those of blades, has been the constant endeavour of the Government Making available inputs for export production at international prices, allowing import of capital goods for export production at concessional import duty in lieu of export obligation, exemption of income derived from export from levy of income tax, full convertibility of export earnings at market rate of exchange, assistance from Market Development Fund to promote exports and making available deferred credit and line of credit to facilitate exports are some of the important constituents of Government's strategy to encourage exports including those of blades.

Staff Cars

7469. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether exclusive use of staff cars can not be extended to senior managers/executives of public enterprises, except for full time directors whose non-duty journey should not exceed 500 kms. per month;

(b) the details of chauffeur-driven staff cars/staff cars which are in use in the India Tourism Development Corporation and his Ministry during the last three years;

(c) whether some cases of use of the staff cars/chauffeur driven staff cars, in violation of the Government directives have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in each case?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) As per guidelines issued by the Department of Public Enterprises, full time Directors are entitled to the exclusive use of staff car including its private use upto 1000 kms p.m. in Delhi/Bombay and 750 kms p.m. in other cities. Other senior executives are not entitled for exclusive use of staff cars. However, key officials like General Managers/ incharge of constituent units can be allowed facility of staff cars for official purposes.

(b) ITDC has been operating 27 cars for the last 3 years.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Garment Export Quota

7470. SHARIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 4, 1994 to Unstarred Question No. 1586 and state :

(a) whether the C.B.I. enquiry report has since been received by the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) The C.B.I. has reported that prima facie no anti-corruption angle is involved in the matter and has requested the Ministry to take further necessary action. The Ministry has thereupon decided to get another enquiry conducted by its own officials, the results of which are awaited.

Claims Against ITDC

7471. SHRI VISHWANATH SHASTRI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of contingent liabilities for claims against the India Tourism Development Corporation not acknowledged as debts during the past three years;

(b) whether any provision has been made by the I.T.D.C. to meet these contingencies on materialisation;

(c) if so, the financial break up of all such liabilities for which provisions have not been made;

(d) whether responsibility has been fixed on the I.T.D.C. officials for incidence of such liabilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The cumulative amount of contingent liabilities at the year end has been as under :

<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
As on 31.3.1991	43.71
As on 31.3.1992	52.89
As on 31.3.1993	66.41

(b) No, Sir. As per accounting principles, no provision is required to be made in the books of accounts for such claims. However, ITDC has disclosed these liabilities by way of a note in the annual accounts.

(c) Break-up of such liabilities is given as under :-

<i>Nature of contingent liabilities</i>		<i>(Rs. in Crores)</i>
1.	Property Tax	47.09
2.	Claims in respect of tax ESI, Provident Fund, Customs Duty, Rent, Licence Fee including the disputed claim in respect of Samrat Hotel Land.	5.76
3.	Personal injury claim of a hotel guest in respect of erstwhile Akbar Hotel	3.00
4.	Disputed claims of contractors and suppliers including legal cases.	10.56
Total		66.41

(d) and (e) The contingent liabilities have arisen by virtue of nature of activities and incidence of business transactions and it may not be attributed to the negligence/connivance of officials.

Direct Foreign Investment

7472. SHRI SYED. SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up a monitoring mechanism to review periodically the actual progress of Foreign Direct Investment projects;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to separate the annual inflow into fresh projects and inflow for ongoing projects initiated in earlier years;

(c) if so, there is any proposal to break up the inflow during 1993 into the two

components; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Investment of NABARD in Tamil Nadu

7473. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of investment made in Tamil Nadu by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development during the last three years; and

(b) the details of schemes launched by the above Bank during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has disbursed refinance in Tamil Nadu under schematic lending covering various purposes, to the extent of Rs. 136.42 crores, Rs. 168.76 crores and Rs. 215.07 crores during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively. It has also sanctioned short-term credit limits for seasonal agricultural operations to the Tamil Nadu State Cooperative Bank to the tune of 200.60 crores, Rs. 220.90 crores and Rs. 253.05 crores, respectively, during the same period.

(b) The Schemes launched by NABARD during the above period are :

- (i) Setting up of a cooperative development fund to provide development assistance for promoting rural non-farm sector;
- (ii) Preparation of district potential linked credit plans for all the districts of Tamil Nadu;
- (iii) Linking up of self-help groups with banks; and
- (iv) Making available funds to major commercial banks for financing high-tech projects from NABARD's venture capital fund.

Pay Scale of Assistants/Stenographers in Autonomous Bodies

7474. DR. SUDHIR RAY :
SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to revise the pay scales of Assistants/Stenographers of some autonomous offices including ICMR while reviewing the report of Committee of Secretaries on this issue;

(b) if so, the autonomous/subordinate offices for which this revision is applicable; and

(c) the reasons for not giving revised scale to the Assistants and Stenographers in all the autonomous and subordinate offices on the same pattern?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) The Government have decided to revise the pay scale of Assistants/Stenographers in ICMR.

(c) The Department of Personnel & Training's orders revising the pay scales of Assistants/Stenographers in CSS/CSSS are not applicable to autonomous organisations. As regards the Assistants/Stenographers in the subordinate Offices of the Government of India, the demand for higher pay scale will be considered by the Fifth Pay Commission.

Foreign Banks

7475 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present number of foreign banks functioning in India;

(b) whether the foreign banks in India are earning much profit as compared to that of the State Bank of India;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the comparative figures of profit/loss of these banks vis-a-vis State Bank of India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) At present 23 foreign banks are operating in India with 145 branches.

(b) None of the foreign banks individually have earned more profit than State Bank of India during the last three years.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The profits/losses of foreign banks vis-a-vis State Bank of India during the last three years are given in the Statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

Net Profit for the years

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	1991	1992	1993
1.	Americian Express Bank Ltd.	22.42	46.40	38.35
2.	ABN Amro Bank	5.50	14.94	16.05
3.	ABU Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	0.31	1.21	4.56
4.	ANZ Grindlays Bank	34.10	92.01	33.04
5.	Bank of America NT and SA (Profit before tax)	22.08	136.10	129.46
6.	British Bank of the Middle East	5.42	7.29	13.67
7.	Bank of Tokyo Ltd.	6.06	9.62	14.92
8.	Banque National De Paris	1.93	9.36	11.85
9.	Meshre Bank P.S.C.	0.60	1.53	0.25
10.	Banue Indo-Suez	2.76	7.92	6.80
11.	Bank of Nova Scotia	1.72	1.58	3.15

Sl.No.	Name of the Bank	1991	1992	1993
12.	Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait B.S.C.	1.50	2.80	3.39
13.	Citibank N.A.	58.61	139.12	80.72
14.	Credit Lyonnais	4.46	6.62	9.94
15.	Deutsche Bank	6.67	15.48	0.22
16.	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	14.67	38.27	53.58
17.	The Sakura Bank Ltd.	2.56	3.85	5.33
18.	Oman Intl. Bank Sao	2.84	3.11	1.83
19.	Societe Generale	1.87	3.72	6.47
20.	Standard Chartered Bank	31.18	(-158.70)	(-1281.84)
21.	Sonali Bank	0.31	0.29	0.15
22.	Barclays Bank PLC	(-0.81)	1.81	2.40
23.	Sanwa Bank Ltd.	0.19	2.64	3.25
24.	State Bank of India	107.01	175.05	212.04

Import of Cloves and Cassia

7476. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued advance licences for import of cloves and cassia for the year 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total quantity of cloves and cassia imported by advance licences and other wise alongwith the value during 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far, item-wise; and

(d) the countries from which these have been imported ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

(b) Under the EXIM Policy the item-wise and country-wise import details are not maintained by DGFT.

Cooperative Spinning Mills

7477. PROF. M. KAMSON : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cooperative textile mills in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the number of showrooms set up by these mills owners under the Market Development Assistance Scheme during the year 1993-94, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As on 31.8.1993, there were 121 Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills in the Cooperative Sector in the country.

Statement indicating State-wise number of Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills in Cooperative sector is attached.

(b) No Market Development Assistance is provided to cooperative spinning mills for setting up of showrooms.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Number of Units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	3
4.	Haryana	1
5.	Karnataka	9
6.	Kerala	4
7.	Maharashtra	40
8.	Madhya Pradesh	2
9.	Orissa	6
10.	Punjab	6
11.	Rajasthan	3
12.	Tamil Nadu	19
13.	Uttar Pradesh	11
14.	West Bengal	1
15.	Posndicherry	1
16.	Gujarat	5
Total :		121

Sale of Gold and Silver by MMTC

7478. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has drawn up any scheme to sell gold and silver;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) MMTC has been authorised to import gold and silver for supply to manufacturing exporters.

MMTC is also sourcing gold from Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. for sale in the domestic market. These activities are a part of the commercial operations of MMTC.

Ban on Export of Beef

7479. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from the companies which export beef to other countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to ban this trade ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Export of beef is already prohibited as per Part I of the Negative List of Exports. Hence the question of receiving complaints from beef exporting

companies does not arise.

Conference of Wool Growers

7480. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether over 400 wool growers, manufacturers and exporters from all over the world held an international conference in the month of March, 1994;

(b) if so, the number of countries participated in the conference;

(c) the main points discussed in the conference; and

(d) the decisions arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) : Indian Wollen Mills' Federation, Bombay organised the 63rd International Wool Textiles Conference at New Delhi in the month of March, 1994. It was attended by over 400 delegates.

(b) 26 countries participated in the conference.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from IWMTF the following subjects were discussed :

1. Wool marketing policy of the grower countries like Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Argentina, Uruguay and the United Kingdom.
2. Raw wool specifications and

physical and chemical aspects of processing of wool.

3. Primary Processors Group covering scouring and combing.
4. Production and trading in yarn and fabrics on a global basis.
5. Contracts and commercial regulations.
6. Statistics for the world woollen industry.

Export of Textiles

7481. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn towards news-item captioned. "Europiye Sangh Dwara Asiaie Textile Aayat Ki Janch" appearing in "Nai-Duniya" dated January 22, 1994;

(b) if so, whether the above investigation has been found to be correct according to the foreign trade policy;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps to be taken by the Union Government to tackle it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d) The European Commission announced initiation of antidumping proceedings on 20 January, 1994 concerning imports originating, *inter-alia*, in India, of cotton fabric and synthetic staple fibre fabric, followed by a notice of initiation of proceedings on 25 January, 1994

concerning imports of bed-linen. The agreement on implementation of Article 6 of GATT (known popularly as the anti-dumping code) states that an investigation to determine the existence, degree and effect of any alleged dumping shall normally be initiated upon a written request by or on behalf of the industry affected. The European Commission decided to initiate proceedings against some of the principal textile exporting countries of cotton and synthetic fabric and bed-linen, including India, following a written request received from Eurocotton, the concerned European textile manufacturers association. The proceedings are expected to be concluded by end 1994 or early 1995. It is too early to predict the outcome or the effect of the proceedings. Government have remained in touch on this issue with the Indian industry, as also with the European Commission through the Permanent Mission of India to the European Communities.

Smuggling of Arms

7482. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRI TARA SINGH :

Will the Minister FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Pakistan's ISI hand is involved in smuggling of arms and ammunitions in the country;

(b) whether a large quantity of such arms has been seized at Kandla port recently;

(c) if so, the details of the suspected agencies involved in such smugglings; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to check smuggling of arms in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No specific instance of involvement of Pakistan's ISI in smuggling of arms and ammunition has come to notice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Anti-smuggling drive has been intensified. Preventive formations have been equipped with vessels, vehicles, fire arms and night vision binoculars. Telecommunication network has also been provided where considered necessary. Hundred per cent examination of suspect import cargo is carried out. Close coordination is being maintained amongst all the Central and State agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling including smuggling of arms.

Heroin Trade

7483. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :
SHRI MOHAN SINGH
(DEORIA) :
SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that U.S. State Department and Bureau of International Narcotic Matters described India as a "money-laundering and money movement centre for heroin trade";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report of Bureau of International Narcotic Matters for the year 1993 of the U.S. Department of State on 'Money Laundering', *inter alia*, stated that "While India has taken a number of actions such as criminalizing money laundering related to narcotics trafficking, requiring records to be kept by banks on large currency transactions, and securing training for enforcement officers, asset forfeiture laws are largely ineffective, the court system is inefficient, and an otherwise liberalized banking system is weakened by methods of accounting and settlement which are decades out of date."

(c) The Government is of the view that the observations of BINM of U.S. Department of State are of a very general nature and exaggerated. The Govt. is seized of the potential of money laundering. The NDPS Act provides for seizures and forfeitures of property and Government has already moved for making suitable amendments in the law to make it more effective.

Printing of Currency Notes

7484. PROF. M. KAMSON : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some norms/guidelines exists for Reserve Bank of India to print new currency notes of all denomination;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether some norms/guidelines also exist for Reserve Bank of India for minting of

new coins;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) whether R.B.I. propose to print new currency notes of some denomination's or to mint coins of new series and designs during 1994; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The denominations in which currency/ bank notes can be issued by Reserve Bank of India are specified in Section 24 of the RBI Act.

(c) and (d) Coins are issued by the Government of India and not by the Reserve Bank of India.

(e) and (f) The Reserve Bank of India is considering a proposal for bringing out new series of notes. The designs of those new series of notes are under finalisation.

Loan to Farmers

7485. SHRI BOLLA BULLI
RAMAIAH:
SHRI M. V. S. MURTHY :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have underlined the need to accelerate the flow of credit towards agricultural production and re-emphasised that commercial banks should ensure to meet their priority sector lending target of 40%;

(b) if so, whether all the nationalised and scheduled commercial banks and NABARD have been urged to provide adequate loans to the farmers;

(c) if so, the details of the directives issued to the banks in this regard; and

(d) the response of the above banks thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) In terms of instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) all public sector banks are required to lend to priority sector 40 per cent of their net credit and the sub-target of 18 per cent has been prescribed for direct agricultural lending. However, since October, 1993 the lending under "direct" and "indirect" categories of agricultural advances has been clubbed together for the purpose of computing the target of 18 per cent. To ensure that the focus of the banks on the direct category of agricultural advances does not get diluted instructions have been issued that agricultural lending under indirect finance should not exceed 4.5 percent of net bank credit in computing the performance for the purpose of the sub-target of 18 percent.

The performance of banks in lending to priority sector including agriculture is being continuously monitored by RBI and Government. RBI vide its circular dated 21.10.1993 had advised banks to make every effort to achieve the stipulated target and sub-targets. Banks have been cautioned that failure on their part to achieve the stipulated target and sub-targets could invite bank-specific policy measures which could include raising of reserve requirements or withdrawal of refinance facility or such other measures deemed necessary by RBI. According to the latest available data furnished by RBI relating

to performance of public sector banks in respect of priority sector/agriculture as at the end of December 1993 is as under:

<i>Balance Outstanding (Rs. in crores)</i>	
(i) Net Bank credit	136771.59
(ii) Total priority sector advances	49321.85
(iii) Total agriculture (Direct and Indirect)	20513.41

Farm Development

7486. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Kerala Government for implementing an extensive farm development scheme with OPEC aid in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal has been received from the Kerala Government for a project on rainfed farming development. The project is the initial phase of a programme designed to achieve the most efficient use of rainwater for farming purposes, generation of more employment and integration of other land-based income generating activities to supplement the income of farmers in some districts in the State of Kerala.

(c) Government has signed a loan agreement for US \$ 10 million with the OPEC Fund on 27.6.1991 for the project.

Peerless Finance and General Investment Company Limited

7487. SHRI VILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of the "Peerless Finance and General Investment Company Limited" has made a request to the Union Government for its nationalisation;

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

(c) whether of Government also propose to nationalise some other financial companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Government have not received, in the recent past, any request for nationalisation from the employees of Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Pending Cases Under NDPS

7488. SHRI C. SREENIVAASAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS) are pending in Delhi High Court;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether similar cases are also pending in the High Court of Madras;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for speedy disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e) The cases registered under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 come for trial before the Special Courts constituted under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 and if no Special Courts are constituted for a particular area, before the Sessions Courts. Only appeals lie to the High Courts. As per the available information, 7754 cases in Delhi and 2389 cases in Tamilnadu are pending trial as on 31.3.1994. Such huge pendency is due to absence of adequate number of Special Courts/Sessions Courts.

The State Govts. have been repeatedly requested to set up adequate number of Special Courts. The State Govts. have also been asked to request courts and prosecutors to take steps for early disposal of cases.

Prime Minister Rojgar Yojana

7489. SHRI RAM BADAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed youths of Uttar Pradesh to whom loans upto one lakh rupees has been provided or likely to be provided under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during the year 1994-95; and

(b) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for the educated unemployed youth, a target of 27,400 beneficiaries has been fixed for the State of Uttar Pradesh for the financial year 1994-95. This target is to be achieved by 31st March 1995. The salient features of the PMRY scheme are as under:

- (i) All educated unemployed youth between the age of 18 and 35 belonging to families having total income of less than Rs. 24,000 per annum from all sources would be eligible for assistance under the scheme.
- (ii) These educated unemployed entrepreneurs would be given a subsidy of 15% subject to a ceiling of Rs. 7,500/- each for starting the micro enterprises.
- (iii) They would be required to bring in 5% of the project cost as margin money.
- (iv) Each entrepreneur will be eligible for a loan upto a ceiling of Rs. 1 lakh and this loan would not require a collateral guarantee.
- (v) The entrepreneur selected under the scheme would be provided training before the loan is disbursed.
- (vi) Matric (passed or failed) students, ITI passed youth and all persons who have undergone Government

sponsored technical courses for a minimum duration of 6 months will be eligible for assistance under the scheme.

(vii) Reputed Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) would also be associated in the implementation of the scheme.

(viii) A reservation of 22.5% for SC/ST and 27% for other backward classes (OBCs) has been provided.

Trade with Other Countries

7490. SHRI B. DEVA RAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of India's exports to and imports from Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Australia and New Zealand during the last three years; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) The quantum of India's exports to and import from the countries mentioned, in terms of their value, is indicated in the Statement annexed. However, the details called for are voluminous and are available in Volume I of the Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India (Annual Numbers for 1990-91, 1991-92 and 1992-93) published by the DGCI&S, Calcutta. These publications are made available to the Lok Sabha Library.

(Value in US\$ Million)

Country	Exports			Imports		
	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93	1990-91	1991-92	1992-93
Japan	1693.9	1641.9	1433.88	1808.3	1367.1	1409.05
Indonesia	108.9	147.3	138.00	80.7	65.4	59.0
Malaysia	149.22	201.36	187.04	556.71	389.23	405.23
Singapore	378.46	387.28	587.00	797.23	690.46	629.00
Philippines	27.38	64.25	54.65	5.55	31.34	9.77
Australia	179.05	201.60	232.57	815.67	584.03	832.54
New Zealand	22.33	24.00	30.77	66.43	68.00	59.45

(Based on DGCI&S Statistics)

Newsprint Stocks

7491. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the workers' pool has imposed a seizure on the newsprint stock at

Kantanpur and Mayehat godowns of STC in Calcutta; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI

PRANAB MUKHERJEE : (a) No, Sir.

some of these stars; and

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Income Tax Dues

7492. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the film stars against whom maximum amount of income tax is outstanding and the demand outstanding against each of them;

(b) whether the Government have waived off the amount outstanding against

(c) if so, the names of the stars against whom the income tax worth rupees ten lakhs or more has been waived off during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) List of film stars against whom outstanding tax demand exceeds Rs. 10 lakhs is given in the attached Statement.

(b) and (c) No proposal regarding writing off of arrears in respect of film stars is under consideration.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Outstanding Demand as on 31.12.1993 (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1.	Miss G. Madhavi	18.75
2.	Late Shri Amjad Khan	35.88
3.	Late Shri Kishore Kumar	19.75
4.	Shri Rajesh Khanna	100.30
5.	Mr. Govinda Ahuja	23.39
6.	Mr. Nasurddin Shah	19.45
7.	Mrs. Hema Malini	11.60
8.	Shri Akbar Ali Khan	25.82
9.	Shri Amitabh Bachchan	318.52
10.	Smt. R. Jayapradha	214.96
11.	Ms. A. Sreedeevei	52.16
12.	Sri R. Rajanikanth	13.34
13.	Smt. E. V. Saroja	12.01
14.	Sri Kamalahassan	12.00
15.	Ms. Smitha	13.84
16.	Late Prem Nazir	10.35
17.	Smt. Chandrakleha	13.40
18.	A. Vijaykant	13.33
19.	K. S. Dattatreya	289.34

Child Labour

7493. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of child labourers in the country is comparatively higher than that of other developing countries of the world;

(b) if so, the place of India in the world in respect of the number of child labourers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) 'Yes' Sir.

(b) As reported by the World Labour Report 1992, published by ILO India has probably the largest number of working children. However, in India, the percentage of children to the total labour force was 5.03 as per 1981 census, whereas the ILO Report mentions that several Asian & African countries have child workers accounting for upto 17% of their labour force.

(c) Legislative, enforcement and rehabilitation measures as envisaged in the National Policy on Child Labour, 1987 are being taken to address the problem. Specific steps taken are indicated in Chapter 9, (paras 9.3 to 9.15) of the Annual Report 1993-94 of Ministry of Labour.

[English]

Textile Markets to U.S.

7494. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States had demanded India to open her textile markets to U.S. businesses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a threat has been held of using Super 301 provisions against India to compel India to buy American textiles; and

(d) if so, the manners in which the Government propose to deal with the American demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (d) In the market access negotiations of the Uruguay Round, the U.S.A. had been requesting India to provide access to its textiles and clothing products in the Indian market. India and the U.S.A. had negotiations on this subject during March 94, at Geneva taking into account the desire of both the countries for increased market access. However, no agreement was reached during these negotiations. The negotiations in this regard are expected to be resumed shortly at the official level with a view to explore the possibility of finding a mutually acceptable arrangement.

Profit/Loss of Public Sector Banks

[Translation]

7495. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI :
SHRI HARISH NARAYAN
PRABHU ZANTYE :
SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of public sector banks identified as loss making as on March 31, 1994, bank-wise;

(b) the amount of loss incurred by these branches during 1993-94, bank-wise;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check the losses and make these banks profitable; and

(e) the details of public sector banks which have earned profit during 1993-94 alongwith the amount of profit, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e) Public sector banks are yet to finalise their annual accounts for the year ending March, 1994. In view of this, the desired information is not available.

[English]

Garment Export Quota

7496. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce open garment quota system under the first come first served dispensation for fastmoving categories; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) and (b) The export quota of readymade garments are allocated as per the provisions of the Garment Export Entitlement Allotment Policy (Quota Policy). The Policy for 1994—96 stipulates that the

quantities that become available from time to time on account of surrenders, flexibilities or otherwise shall be allocated under the First-Come-First-Served System.

Vayudoot Employees

7497. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Vayudoot employees absorbed in the Indian Airlines;

(b) the number of Vayudoot employees still to be absorbed in the Indian Airlines and the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(c) the time by which all the Vayudoot employees are likely to be absorbed in the Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No employee has been absorbed in Indian Airlines so far.

(b) No formal decision has yet been taken about the number of employees to be absorbed in Indian Airlines.

(c) No firm date can be indicated at this stage.

ESCAP

7498. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of resources estimated to be required for meeting the infrastructure deficiencies in the development of ESCAP regions; and

(b) the sources contemplated to be

tapped for meeting those resources?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) and (b) A study has been conducted on assessment of the quantum of resources required for meeting infrastructural deficiencies in the development of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) region by the ESCAP Secretariat. The estimated total funding required up to the year 2000 for the ESCAP region countries as a whole for identified additional infrastructure is approximately \$1,425 billion, of which up to \$ 507 billion have been identified as available or already committed. The financial resource gap therefore may amount to approximately \$918 billion. ESCAP Secretariat has suggested various sources for meeting these resources. Firstly, they have suggested public sector financing which envisages greater fiscal efforts i.e., increased taxation to generate more Central Government revenue. Secondly, self financing approach has been suggested which suggests that the financial viability of development and maintenance programmes for overhead Capital can be enhanced by charging national prices and levies on pertinent facilities and services. Thirdly, Foreign financing in the form of FDI, commercial loans and Official Development Assistance (ODA) has been suggested. Lastly, Private sector financing has been suggested by way of private sector investment in forms of sale of bonds, management contracts, leasing, franchising BOT, Joint ventures, Equity participation and privatisation.

The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970

7499. SHRI HARI LAL NANJI PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Proposal to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 is under active consideration of the Government.

Diamond Parks

7500. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where diamond parks have been set up along with locations thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more diamond parks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The Diamond & Gem Development Corporation (DGDC), a private company has been promoting diamond parks on its own at Sachin in Gujarat, Jaipur in Rajasthan, Haldwani in Uttar Pradesh and Trichi in Tamil Nadu.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Backlog of Unemployment

7501. SHRI ANKUSHARAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of

LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the backlog of unemployment at the end of March 1990 and March 1993;

(b) the extent up to which structural reforms measures effected employment growth; and

(c) the details of employment-generated by public and private sectors during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SINGMA) : (a) As per the estimate made by the Planning Commission the backlog of unemployment at the end of March 1990 & March 1993 were around 12.7 million & 17.8 million respectively.

(b) The on going structural reforms may entail a slow down in the growth rate of employment during the initial one or two years but as they are expected to lead to a substantial higher and broad based growth in the medium term, the effect on employment growth would become positive.

(c) The latest available data on employment in the organised sector (public & private) is as under :-

(in millions)

<i>As on 31st March of the year</i>	<i>Public</i>	<i>Private</i>
1990	18.8	7.6
1991	19.0	7.7
1992	19.2	7.8

Loan by IDBI to Textile Industries

7502. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has disbursed loan to textile industries without securing its lien on the assets of the industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) the norms laid down by the Government for disbursement of the above loan;

(d) whether there was any violation of the guidelines by IDBI during the above period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that the term loan provided by it are usually secured by way of equitable mortgage/hypothecation of fixed asset/movable asset acquired/to be acquired by industrial concerns as well as their existing assets, if any. Further, IDBI also takes suitable personal and other guarantees wherever required for securing assistance. To facilitate implementation of projects in time, IDBI sometimes disburse part of the loan by way of interim/bridge loan pending creation of final stipulated security. The security in such cases is created in due course.

IDBI has further reported that with a view to deploy profitably its short-term surplus funds, IDBI have introduced on an

experimental basis a scheme of unsecured short-term deposits in July, 1993 under which assistance from Rs. one crore to a maximum of Rs. ten crore is provided to a well-run company in the form of unsecured short-term deposits for a period of six months to one year. The assistance is provided for meeting the requirement of margin money for working capital to the extent of not more than 25% of a company's gross working capital requirement. Under the scheme, IDBI has not sanctioned any loan during 1992-93 to textile companies. During 1993-94 assistances of Rs. 27 crore was sanctioned to seven such companies.

(c) Government have not issued any guidelines to IDBI relating to the norms for disbursement of loans.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Child Labour

7503. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether some developed countries have expressed their desire to inspect India's production facilities in the presence of child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government of USA has been attempting to impose sanctions to prevent the import of products with child labour content like apparels and carpets; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government have taken to resist these pressures from the developed nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.

SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

However Government is aware that a private members' Bill proposing ban on import of products made by child labour has been introduced in the U. S. Senate. The bill is of a general nature and is neither country specific nor product specific.

De-Pooling System in Coffee Industry

7504. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move to introduce de-pooling system in Coffee Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact of GATT agreement on the export and import of coffee ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture envisages (i) the "tarification" of all non-tariff border measures, a target reduction of 36% in the resulting tariffs and existing customs duties, and a binding of all agricultural duties at the new levels; (ii) a 20% reduction in domestic support measures (expressed in the form of an aggregate measurement of support); and (iii) reduction of 36% in budgetary outlays on export subsidies and reduction by 21% in the quantity of subsidized exports. Adoption of these measures will enhance market access

opportunities for agricultural commodities. Including coffee in all countries, both developed and developing.

[Translation]

Per Capita Bank Loan in Gujarat

7505. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita bank loan in Gujarat and average per capita bank loan in the country during the last three years;

(b) the efforts made by the Government to raise the per capita bank loan in Gujarat; and

(c) the success achieved by the Government therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The estimated per capita credit by all scheduled commercial bank in Gujarat and average per capita credit for the country as a whole, based on provisional population figures for 1991 for the last three years ending March 1991, 1992 and 1993 are given below :

As on	Per Capita Credit (Rs.) Gujarat	All India
March 1991	1703	1569
March 1992	1987	1684
March 1993	2059	1964

(b) and (c) The per capita credit in Gujarat is well above the national average during the last three years. However, the credit deployment depends upon the credit

absorption capacity of the area which is related to availability of infrastructure like power, marketing network, communication etc. The issues relating to credit deployment in the States are discussed regularly at State level Bankers' Committee Meetings.

[English]

Production of Hank Yarn

7506. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the annual requirements of cotton hank yarn for handloom sector as per decision of the Supreme Court of India in March, 1993;

(b) the estimated production of cotton hank yarn during 1993-94; and

(c) the data in regard to use of hank yarn by powerloom sector and other users of hank yarn during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) As per the decision of March 1993 of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the annual requirement of cotton hank yarn for handloom sector at the end of VIII Five Year Plan would be 561 million kgs to achieve the ragged production.

(b) The estimated delivery of cotton hank yarn during the year 1993-94 is 370 million kgs.

(c) While there is reported use of hank yarn, particularly cross reeld hank yarn, to powerlooms, data regarding the quantity of hank yarn used by powerloom sector is not available.

R.E.P. Licences

7507. DR. P. R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of theft of R.E.P. licences exim-scrips and issue of fake exim-scrips detected by the Government during 1993-94;

(b) the number of persons found involved in such cases; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against such persons?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The required information is being collected from the Regional Licensing Offices and will be laid on the Table of the House.

National Trade Estimate Report

7508. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the National Trade Estimate Report, 1994 on foreign trade barriers released here by the office of the U.S. Trade Representatives expressed concern to India's unwillingness to give market access for textile products from around the world;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The annual

report by the U.S. Trade Representative on Foreign Trade Barriers takes note of the liberalisation of economic policy in India since 1991. However, it also mentions that India still restricts imports of consumer goods, including textiles and apparel, and still has relatively high rates of tariffs.

In the recent past, the United States of America and India have been engaging themselves in negotiations on the issue of market access in the textiles sector taking into account the desire of both the countries for increased market access. The negotiations are being resumed at official level shortly.

[Translation]

World Bank Loan

7509. PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loan provided by the World Bank to the country during 1993-94;

(b) the names of the projects for which these loans have been given and the details of the terms and conditions of the loans;

(c) whether the entire amount of loans provided by the World Bank has been utilised;

(d) if not, the amount which has not been utilised and the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have received complaints to the effect that the amount has not been utilised for the scheduled projects;

(f) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(g) whether the amount of loans has been increased in 1993-94 as compared to 1992-93; and

(h) if so, the extent thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) The total amount of loans signed with the World Bank during 1993-94 is US\$ 1104.10 million.

(b) Details of the projects are given in the attached Statement. The IBRD loans are repayable over 20 years inclusive of 5 years grace period with an interest of 7.43%. IDA credits are interest free soft loans which are repayable over 30 years with a moratorium of 5 years.

(c) and (d) Utilisation of loans is spread over the time frame of individual projects, and the rate of utilisation therefore depends on the time profile of each project. However, total unutilised balance in respect of World Bank aided projects as on 31.3.94 was US\$ 1084.508 million.

(e) and (f) Govt. has taken several steps such as, passing on of 100% of additional central assistance to states, release of advance central assistance, establishment of Project Monitoring Unit and appointment of nodal officers to look after different sectors and States, to streamline disbursements of loans.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

STATEMENT

LIST OF WORLD BANK PROJECT APPROVED IN 1993-94

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency	Loan/Credit	Amount utilized	Undrawn Balance as on 31.3.94
1.	Karnataka Water Supply & Env. Sanit.	IDA	92.00	5.259	86.741
2.	UP Sodic Land Recl.	IDA	54.70	2.676	52.024
3.	UP Basic Education	IDA	165.00	8.157	156.843
4.	Rubber Project	IDA	92.00	—	92.00
5.	Jharia Mine Fire Control	IDA	12.00	0.50	11.50
6.	NTPC Power Gener.	IBRD	400.00	—	400.00
7.	Leprosy Elimination	IDA	85.00	3.00	82.00
8.	Family Welfare (Urban Slums)	IDA	79.00	—	79.00
9.	AP Forestry	IDA	77.40	—	77.40
10.	Forest Research Edu. Extension (FREE)	IDA	47.00	—	47.00

MMTC

7510. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI HARCHAND SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state :

(a) the exports made by MMTC during
1993-94; and

(b) the details of the profits/losses
incurred by it during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI
PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Exports made
by MMTC during 1993-94 are of the order of
Rs. 1309.81 crores.

(b) The profit before tax for the year
1993-94 is provisionally estimated at Rs.
70.23 cores.

[English]

Registered Recruiting Agents

7511. SHRI HARIN PATHAK :
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased
to state :

(a) the number of registered recruiting
agents, State and Union territory-wise;

(b) whether the Government have
received any complaints regarding the
alleged frauds committed by these recruiting
agents;

(c) if so, the details of the complaints
registered during the last two years, State
and Union territory-wise; and

(d) the action taken by the Government

thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.
SANGMA): (a) The number of recruiting
agents registered with the Ministry of Labour
as on 12.5.94, State & Union territory-wise is
shown at Statement attached.

(b) to (d) Complaints are received from
time to time regarding violation of different
provisions of the Emigration Act, 1983 and
the Rules framed thereunder against the
recruiting agents. As and when complaints
are received against registered recruiting
agents, these are enquired into with the help
of police and the concerned Indian Missions
abroad depending upon the nature of the
complaint. Registration Certificates of 16
recruiting agents were suspended during the
years 1992 and 1993. These agents were
not allowed to carry on the business of
recruitment for overseas employment during
the period of suspension.

The details of the complaints registered
during the last two years, State and Union
Territory-wise is being complied and will be
laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

State and Union Territory-wise
number of Recruiting Agents registered
with the Ministry of Labour as on
12.5.1994.

	<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>No. of Recruiting Agents</i>
1.	Maharashtra	1199
2.	Delhi	489
3.	Tamil Nadu	116
4.	Punjab	72

	<i>State/Union Territory</i>	<i>No. of Recruiting Agents</i>
5.	Kerala	87
6.	Andhra Pradesh	52
7.	Chandigarh	47
8.	Uttar Pradesh	31
9.	Rajasthan	23
10.	Haryana	13
11.	Karnataka	22
12.	Goa	11
13.	Gujarat	10
14.	West Bengal	9
15.	Orissa	5
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	5
17.	Bihar	3
18.	Madhya Pradesh	2
19.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
	Total	2197

Euro-Issues by Airlines

7212. DR. LAL BHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have permitted private and public sector airlines to raise their funds through Euro-issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these issues are likely to be floated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of Textile

7513. DR. ASIMBALA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the position of textile export of the country in the international market;

(b) the items kept for export in textiles; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned from textile export during the last three years, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) As per currently available GATT data, India accounts for about 2% of the world textile and clothing exports.

(b) All the items of textiles and clothing viz. yarn, fabrics, made-ups and readymade garments can be exported.

(c) The item-wise exports of textiles and clothing during the last three years were as follows:

Million US Dollars

	<i>1991-92</i>	<i>1992-93</i>	<i>1993-94 (upto Feb. '94) Provisional</i>
1. Cotton Textiles	1542.40	1681.03	1808.86

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94 (upto Feb. '94) Provisional
2. Woollen Textiles	100.74	146.00	173.84
3. Silk Textiles	270.78	248.60	178.54
4. Manmade Fibre Textiles	441.98	488.00	520.27
5. Readymade Garments	2525.07	3052.62	3335.74
Total	4880.97	5616.25	6017.25

Source : Export Promotion Councils

Manpower Planning for Civil Aviation Personnel

7514. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the manpower planning for various categories of personnel for civil aviation in the next ten years;

(b) whether the Tata Committee or any other committee had also conducted a study in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of recommendations thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government to each of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No comprehensive study has been undertaken in the recent past to assess the requirements of different categories of personnel for Civil Aviation for the next ten years.

(b) to (d) A Planning Group on Civil Aviation headed by late J.B.D. Tata Constituted in 1985 by a Steering Committee

set up by the Planning Commission for preparation of a long term plan for transport development in the perspective 2000 AD, in its report on Civil Aviation at the turn of the century had assessed the manpower requirements of the civil aviation sector. The report of the Planning Group is in the nature of inputs in the work of the Steering Committee.

Trade Agreements with Foreign Countries

7515. SHRI HAR CHAND SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trade agreements signed with foreign countries by the Union Government during 1993-94;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated increase in export of Indian goods due to these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) During 1993-94, India has signed Trade agreements with the following countries:

1. Belarus on 14.5.93
2. Slovak Republic on 14.5.93
3. Uzbekistan on 24.5.93
4. Sultanate of Oman on 15.6.93
5. Lithuania on 2.7.93
6. Latvia on 18.9.93
7. Estonia on 15.10.1993
8. Slovenia on 7.12.93
9. Myanmar on 21.1.94
10. Indo-EC Co-operation Agreement on 20.12.93.

All the agreements except Indo-Myanmar are signed for 5 years. Indo-Myanmar agreement is signed for 2 years.

(c) No trade targets have been fixed under the agreements. Increase in export of Indian goods due to these agreements, therefore, is not quantifiable in advance.

Functioning of Bhubaneshwar Stock Exchange

7516. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government and SEBI have received numerous complaints from Members and the public about the irregular functioning of the Bhubaneshwar Stock Exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken initiatives to regularise the functioning of the stock exchange;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) A complaint from the All Orissa Investors' Forum, Bhubaneshwar was received in the Government containing certain allegations of irregularities in a particular settlement of transactions in the Bhubaneshwar Stock Exchange and requesting for cancellation of transactions in that settlement.

(c) and (d) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has informed that the Stock Exchange has declared 11 members as defaulters because of their failure to honour their commitments in the Exchange. In addition, the Stock Exchange has since evolved a stringent margin-levy system and has also introduced a weekly settlement cycle for minimising risks in the stock market.

(e) Does not arise.

Joint Ventures Between India and Poland

7517. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up joint ventures in the third world countries in collaboration with Poland; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Government does not presently have any specific proposals to set up joint ventures in the third world countries in collaboration with Poland. However, during the fifth meeting of

the Indo-Polish Joint Business Council in Warsaw on October, 7, 1993 it was decided to promote Joint ventures both in India and Poland and also for cooperation in third countries i.e., countries other than Poland & India.

Assistance by Kuwait

7518. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have requested the Government of Kuwait to finance some more projects in the infrastructural sector of the country;

(b) if so, the projects likely to be funded by Kuwait in the infrastructural sector; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of Kuwait thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) During their visit in April, 1994, a Kuwaiti delegation indicated Kuwait Fund's desire to finance projects pertaining to infrastructure sector. No specific projects have been identified so far.

Upgradation of Technology

7519. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technology available in the country is not adequate to cater to the

demands of the new market in the European Union;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to upgrade technology to cope up the demand of the European Union; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) Indian exports to the European Union have maintained an upward trend in the last two years. Initiatives in the Import and Export and Industrial Policies and in the recent Union Budget are *inter-alia* aimed at facilitating upgradation of technology, accelerating production and boosting exports.

India-Mexico Trade Ties

7520. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast scope to increase trade with Mexico;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The trade between the two countries is not of a very high order. However, Indian exports to Mexico have increased substantially in recent years as may be seen from the table below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Exp.	Imp.	Total
1991-92	68.85	155.03	223.88
1992-93	124.65	140.72	265.37
1993-94 (Apr. -Jan.)	140.35	125.79	266.14

(c) Continuous efforts are being made to increase bilateral trade with Mexico. The promotional measures include, *inter-alia*, meets, visits, by specialised delegations from various sectors for creating market awareness. Besides, there exists an Indo-Mexican Joint Commission which meets from time to time to discuss and suggest measures for boosting bilateral trade.

[Translation]

Branches of LIC in Gujarat

7521. SHRI N. J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new branches of Life Insurance Corporation of India proposed to be opened in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) the locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) The LIC have reported that opening of new branches is an annual exercise undertaken by them every year, taking into account the business potential, the servicing needs and other related factors. It is therefore not possible to indicate the number of branches proposed to be opened in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan Period. During the Eighth Five Year Plan period, the LIC has so far opened 16 new branches in Gujarat during the two financial years 1992-93 and 1993-94.

(b) The locations of the new branch offices so far opened during the Eighth Five Year Plan period are given in the Statement attached.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF THE BRANCHES AND LOCATIONS OPENED IN GUJARAT BY THE
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA DURING 1992-93 AND 1993-94

Sl.No.	Name of the Branch	Location/District	Division	Year of opening
1.	Sanand	Ahmedabad City	Ahmedabad	1992-93
2.	Sabarmati	Ahmedabad City	Ahmedabad	"
3.	Chandkheda	Gandhinagar	Gandhinagar	"
4.	Channi	Vadodara	Vadodara	"
5.	Limbkheda	Panchmahal	Vadodara	"
6.	Raiya Road	Rajkot	Rajkot	"
7.	Chitra	Bhavnagar	Bhavnagar	"
8.	Jambusar	Bharuch	Surat	"
9.	Isanpur	Ahmedabad City	Ahmedabad	1993-94
10.	Dhanera	Palanpur	Gandhinagar	"
11.	Balesinor	Kheda	Nadiad	"

Sl.No.	Name of the Branch	Location/District	Division	Year of opening
12.	Gotri Road	Vadodara City	Vadodara	"
13.	Una	Junagadh	Rajkot	"
14.	Junagadh II	Junagadh	Rajkot	"
15.	Limboi	Surendranagar	Bhavnagar	"
16.	Sanjan	Valsad	Surat	

Smuggling of Narcotics

7522. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT :
With the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the smuggling of narcotics in the country is going on at a fast pace;

(b) if so the major areas where various narcotic items were seized by various officials during the last four months and the value thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check illegal production of narcotics and psychotropic drugs;

(d) the details of the disposal of seized narcotics drugs;

(e) the number of drug smugglers arrested on Rajasthan borders during the last 4 months; and

(f) the details of the incentives being provided to the officers/employees for apprehension of drug smugglers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Since the smuggling of narcotics is a clandestine activity, it can not be said definitely whether it is going on at a fast pace in the country or otherwise. The major areas where various narcotic items were seized by various officials during the last 4 months is given in the statement annexed.

Valuation of narcotic drugs, which are often of indeterminate chemical strength and composition and are liable for destruction is not easily feasible.

(c) Acetic Anhydride, a precursor chemical for manufacture of heroin, has been declared as a 'Controlled substances' under the NDPS Act and a regulation order has been issued to regulate the manufacture, distribution, sale, imports, exports and consumption of Acetic Anhydride. Controls have been imposed on the movement of the chemical within 50 Kms of Indo-Pak border and 100 Kms of Indo-Myanmar Border under the Customs Act.

Instructions have been issued to all enforcement agencies to maintain the utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in the various Acts. Training is being imparted to officers. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided. A part of the border with Pakistan has been fenced.

(d) As per the available information, 25 Kgs of Heroin, 33 Kgs of Ganja and 614 Kgs of Hashish were destroyed during the first four months of 1994.

(e) 6 persons (5 Indians & 1 Pakistani) were arrested for smuggling of drugs on Rajasthan border during the last four months.

(f) Reward scheme for enforcement officers has been reactivated.

[English]

Venugopal Reddy Committee

7523. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the main recommendations made by Dr. Y. Venugopal Reddy Committee set up to suggest reforms on import and export procedures; and

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken to implement the recommendations of the said committee?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The recommendations of the Committee covered Exim Policy Procedures/Customs & Excise Procedures/Banking procedures relating to Exchange Control, Commercial Banking and Export-Import Documentation matters. The Govt. has announced the new Exim Policy on 1.4.1994 incorporating many of the recommendations made by the Committee.

Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme

7524. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any village has been selected or identified in Madhya Pradesh under the Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the work done so far in such villages under the scheme?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIG. VENKAT

SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Village "Dhoti" in District Chhindwara and village "Beni" in District Balaghat are identified and selected for implementation of Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme in Madhya Pradesh with the outlay of Rs. 25.00 lakhs and Rs. 23.20 lakhs respectively. So far Rs. 10.00 lakhs and Rs. 11.30 lakhs respectively have been released to State Government for implementation of the Scheme in these two village.

Default in Payment of PF and ESI Dues by Employers

7525. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of industrialists have been arrested in Calcutta during April, 1994 for alleged default of provident fund dues worth lakhs of rupees of employees of jute mills;

(b) whether similar irregularities have also been detected by the Employees State Insurance Corporation in regard to ESI dues of employees by employers;

(c) if so, whether any raids have been conducted by PF and ESI authorities and joint strategy chalked out in this regard;

(d) if so, whether any investigations have been conducted and completed in this regard by the concerned authorities;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether similar defaults in regard to PF and ESI dues of employees by employers from other parts of the country have also come to the notice of the Government;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the details of the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for preventing misappropriation of PF and ESI dues of employees by employers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (h) According to the available information out of the amount of Rs. 42.86 crores outstanding on account of ESI dues in the jute sector Rs. 39.80 crores pertain to various Jute Mills in West Bengal. Similarly in the jute sector out of Rs. 83.98 crores EPF dues Rs. 79.40 crores pertain to the Jute Mills in West Bengal. The remaining amounts pertain to other parts of the country. The ESI Corporation and the EPF Organisation have not conducted any raid jointly. However for the recovery of the outstanding dues the ESI and EPF authorities are levying damages and filing prosecution cases wherever necessary as prescribed under the respective Acts.

Export of Darjeeling Tea

7526. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of Darjeeling tea exported to Russia during 1993-94;

(b) whether some quantity of above tea has been returned back to India due to unhygienic packing of the aforesaid tea;

(c) is so, the details thereof;

(d) the action taken against the persons/

companies who were found responsible for this; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) It may not be possible to quantify share of tea produced in Darjeeling in overall exports of tea to Russia during 1993-94 as in most cases tea is exported in blended form.

(b) to (e) Govt. have no information about teas exported to Russia having been returned. However, complaints have been received by the Tea Board against a few Indian exporters for exports of sub-standard and inferior quality tea to Russia and CIS countries. These complaints have been looked into by the Tea Board and action has been taken under provisions of tea (Distribution & Export) Control Order, 1957 against such exporters. As part of confidence building measures, representative of Tea Board's office has been meeting buyers for resolving their problems and assuring them of the quality and reliability of Indian tea. In addition to this, promotional campaigns for Indian tea through media (Press and Television), tea sampling demonstration, participation in consumer exhibitions etc. have also been planned by Tea Board's Moscow office.

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in ITDC

7527. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of decline in wage bill of the India Tourism Development Corporation due to introduction of voluntary retirement scheme, reduction of staff as a result of death, desertion, retirement, termination of

services during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have given any grant/compensation or any other budgetary support to the ITDC towards introducing voluntary retirement scheme in the past three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, year-wise Division-wise/Activity-wise and unit-wise, if any?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Consequent upon introduction of Voluntary Retirement Scheme in ITDC, the decline in wage bill is as under :-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1992-93 (July '92 to March '93)	290.00
1993-94	390.00

The impact of reduction in the wage bill as a result of death, desertion, retirement, termination of services gets neutralised to a great extent due to replacement of personnel in their place.

(b) and (c) Government of India, as a whole, reimbursed a sum of Rs. 864.30 lakhs on account of retirement of 973 employees in various units of ITDC under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme.

Balance of Payments

7528. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the estimated balance of payments, trade balance, balance from invisible trade, balance of current account and the estimated foreign exchange reserves as on March 31,

1994 and the percentage change over last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : The foreign exchange reserves (including gold and SDRs) of the country increased from US\$ 9832 million at the end of March 1993 to US\$ 19254 million as at the end of March 1994 representing an increase of around 96 per cent. According to Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S) data, the trade deficit during 1993-94 is provisionally estimated at US\$ 1039 million which is less than one-third of the trade deficit of US\$ 3305 million during 1992-93. The balance of payments estimates of invisibles trade and balance on current account for 1993-94 has not been compiled by the Reserve Bank of India.

Housing Finance in Tamil Nadu

7529. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Commercial Banks have made very little headway under housing finance in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to remedy this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The housing loans made by all banks in Tamil Nadu during the last three years are as under :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of accounts</i>	<i>Amount (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1991	797	588.95
1992	1537	1604.87
1993	770	790.00

There is no State-wise target for housing finance. The slow progress in the achievement of housing finance throughout the country including the State of Tamilnadu may be attributed to the competition of private housing finance companies, employees getting housing finance through their own establishments, restriction on quantum of finance due to application of 30% norms (i.e. total instalment payment not to exceed 30% of the income), restrictions on the repayment period to 15 years in the case of commercial banks as compared to 20 years allowed in the case of other housing finance agencies etc.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have issued instructions to all the scheduled commercial banks to extend housing finance to individuals, groups of persons, housing boards etc. Since 1989-90 the annual housing finance targets of these banks have been fixed at 1.5% of their individual incremental deposits during the previous years. The banks have also been permitted to exceed their individual housing finance targets to a reasonable level having regard to their resources position and compliance with the statutory reserve requirements.

Calicut Airport

7530. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide better facilities for minor and major repairs on aircraft at the Calicut airport, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of domestic and international flights being operated to and from the Calicut airport at present;

(c) whether hangars are proposed to be built at the Calicut airport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM: (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir. all facilities needed for line maintenance of Indian Airlines aircraft at Calicut airport have been provided.

(b) 19 International and 33 domestic flights per week are being operated to/from Calicut airport.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Conversion of Historical Buildings into Hotels

7531. PROF. M. KAMSON : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether some historical buildings have been converted into hotels; and

(b) if so, the names of such historical buildings, State and Union Territory-wise with amount spent on each such project?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) The Government has introduced a voluntary scheme whereby buildings constructed prior to 1950 such as forts, palaces, castles, havelis, etc. if converted into hotels can be classified as heritage hotels, thereby providing a new dimension to tourism to the country. So far 22 hotels have been classified under the heritage category. [A State-wise list (Statement) is enclosed].

STATEMENT

LIST OF CLASSIFIED HOTELS UNDER HERITAGE HOTEL CATEGORY

State	Sr.No.	Name of Heritage Hotel	No. of Rooms
Rajasthan	1.	Ajit Bhawan Palace Hotel, Jodhpur	50
	2.	Welcomgroup Royal Castle, Khimsar	15
	3.	Narain Niwas Palace Hotel, Jaipur	22
	4.	The Ramgarh Lodge, Jaipur	11
	5.	Rajmahal Place, Jaipur	11
	6.	Samode Haveli, Jaipur	20
	7.	Castle Mandawa, Mandawa	35
	8.	Shiv Niwas Palace, Udaipur	31
	9.	Hotel Samode Palace, Samode	30
	10.	Hotel Rohet Garh, Rohet Garh	17
	11.	Neemrana Fort Palace, Neemrana	18
	12.	Palace Hotel, Mt. Abu	38

State	Sr. No.	Name of Heritage Hotel	No. of Rooms
Madhya Pradesh	13.	Sawai Madhopur Lodge, Sawai Modhopur	16
	14.	Hotel Lalgarh Palace, Bikaner	41
	15.	Hotel Sariska Palace, Sariska	32
Uttar Pradesh	16.	Jehan Numa Palace Hotel, Bhopal	60
	17.	Usha Kiram Palace Hotel, Gwalior	28
	18.	Savoy Hotel, Mussoorie	121
Himachal Pradesh	19.	Taragarh Palace Hotel, Taragarh	15
	20.	Chapslee Hotel, Shimla	4
Jammu & Kashmir	21.	Hari Niwas Palace Hotel, Jammu Tawi	18
West Bengal	22.	Windamere Hotel, Darjeeling	37-

Payment to Tobacco Farmers

7532. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has initiated any action to ensure prompt payment to tobacco farmers by traders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Tobacco Board is considering any other strategy to ensure higher prices and better economic gains for farmers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The auction system introduced by the Tobacco Board in 1984 in Karnataka and in 1985 in Andhra Pradesh has ensured prompt payment to tobacco farmers by traders. It has also helped to a very large extent to eliminate exploitation of the farmers by the traders. The system has created an element of competition among buyers which was not there before. Apart from better return for his produce the farmer is now sure of his sale proceeds, unlike in the past, when on many occasions he did not receive the money for his produce.

(c) and (d) In order to ensure that the tobacco growers get fair and remunerative prices for their produce the strategy that the Tobacco Board has been following is to limit the crop size in line with the assessed demand. In this context the Tobacco Board has also to enforce strict compliance of the provisions of the Tobacco Board Act so as to minimise the possibilities of a mis-match between demand and supply, particularly in a situation of global over-supply. The Tobacco

Board has also stepped up its support for aggressive marketing for tobacco and tobacco products in the overseas markets.

Fraud in Bank of Baroda

7533. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a massive fraud involving crores of rupees has been detected at the Bank of Baroda as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated March 27, 1994;

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

(c) the amount of fraud and the industrialists whose amounts are involved in the fraud;

(d) the details of persons including bank officials involved in the fraud; and

(e) the action taken or proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (e) Reserve Bank of India has reported that in Walkeshwar branch of Bank of Baroda, irregular pre-mature payments of certain short-term deposits in the name of various companies and individuals was allowed without obtaining discharge receipts from the original beneficiaries. The proceeds of these pre-mature withdrawals used to be credited in the account of another constituent of the branch and his associate concerns. The total amount involved in such irregular transactions aggregated to approximately Rs. 59 crores during March to December, 1993. Two Chief Managers, three officers and one clerical staff found involved in the fraud have been placed under suspension. The bank has filed a criminal complaint with CBI.

APEDA Role on Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides in Horticulture

7534. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) is discouraging the common farmers to use fertilisers and pesticides for the production of fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether increasing production of fruits and vegetables in the country is likely to be hampered by this step of the authority and the development of the country is likely to be stalled; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon and the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) These questions do not arise.

Winding up of PSUs

7535. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has concluded winding up of certain Public Sector Undertakings and have deferred final hearing at the instance of concerned administrative Ministries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Section 20 (1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) provides that where the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) after making an enquiry under Section 16 of SICA and after consideration of all the relevant facts and circumstances and after giving an opportunity of being heard to all concerned parties, is of opinion that a sick industrial company is not likely to make its network exceed its accumulated losses within a reasonable time while meeting all its financial obligations and that the company as a result thereof is not likely to become viable in future and that it is just and equitable that the company should be wound up, it may record and forward its opinion to the concerned High Court.

BIFR has reported that they have, as on 31.03.1994, recommended to the concerned High Courts winding up of four public sector companies viz. M/s. National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd., A. P. Scooter Ltd., Karnataka Implement and Machinery Company Ltd. and Shaydri Glass Works Ltd. under Section 20(1) of SICA.

Agreement Among SAARC Countries Regarding Narcotic Drugs

7536. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any agreement among SAARC countries regarding suppression of narcotic drugs has been made;

(b) whether the cases of smuggling of narcotic drugs in Punjab and Kashmir have come to the notice of the Government; and

(c) If so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir. However, a Convention namely 'SAARC Convention On Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances' was signed by the SAARC countries in 1990.

(b) Yes, Sir. The available information about the quantity of drugs seized and also the number of cases detected in Punjab and Jammu & Kashmir during 1992 and 1993 is given below:

<i>Drugs</i>	<i>1992</i>	<i>1993</i>
<i>(Quantity in Kgs)</i>		
<i>Punjab</i>		
Opium	134.000	612.000
Heroin	45.000	18.000
Ganja	14.000
Hashish	9.000	78.000
No. of Cases	103	401
<i>Jammu & Kashmir</i>		
Opium	1.000	4.000
Heroin	4.000	13.000
Ganja	116.000	11.000
No. of Cases	41	36

(c) Strict instructions have been issued to all law enforcement agencies to maintain

utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts under the stringent provisions contained in various Acts. Training is being imparted to officers to improve their effectiveness. A part of Indo-Pak border has been fenced. Vehicles and communication equipments have been provided to the enforcement agencies. Field level contact points in all Central and State Government enforcement agencies have been established to promote inter-agency cooperation in enforcement work.

Export of Leaves

7537. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great demand for leaves of tree in the foreign countries;

(b) if so, the names of those countries; and

(c) the extent of to which leaves of Neem has been exported during each of the last two years along with the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As the item Neem leaves are not separately codified in the Indian Trade Classification (Harmonised System) details of its exports are not available.

Asian Development Bank's Good Governance Plan

7538. PROF. UMMAREDDY

VENKATESWARU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India abstained from vote on ADB Good Governance Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government to the proposals of ADB's Good Governance Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) India alongwith some other developing member countries of the Asian Development Bank had abstained during the voting of the draft resolution considered by the Board of Directors of Asian Development Bank on 30.3.94 on the Fourth General Capital Increase (GCI-IV) to oppose the linking of non-economic policy issues including 'good governance' with the GCI-IV. However, the resolution was passed by a majority of votes of developed countries and transmitted to the Board of Governors for seeking their votes by 22nd May, 1994. India has always been supportive of the largest possible timely increase of GCI-IV but opposed the aforesaid linkage of the non-economic conditionalities with GCI-IV.

[Translation]

Import of Coal from Australia

7539. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval to the Mineral and Metal Trading Corporation to import one lakh tonne of coal from Australia;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the grounds on which approval was given; and

(c) the purpose achieved from this import?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Trade with U. K.

7540. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been in improvement in trade with U.K. after Prime Minister's visit to that country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The Prime Minister's visit led to high level official and business contacts between India and U.K. creating a favourable climate for further improvements in bilateral trade.

Central Coalfields Limited

7541. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long pending industrial dispute between the management of M/s. Saunda 'D' Colliery, Bhurkhunda Colliery, Central Saunda Colliery and CCL Saunda of Central Coalfields Limited and their workmen;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not solving it so far; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

State Trading Corporation

7542. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation is without a head for a long time; and

(b) if so, the time by which the vacancy is proposed to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The post of Chairman and Managing Director, State Trading Corporation has been vacant since 3rd October, 1993. While necessary interim administrative arrangements have been made, selection of a regular incumbent for the post is presently being processed by the PESB (Public Enterprises Selection Board).

[Translation]

Joint Ventures Between India and South Africa

7543. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :
SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA :
PROF. PREM DHUMAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the former President of the Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) alongwith a delegation visited South Africa to sign joint venture agreements on export of new products and transfer of technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which India's export is likely to increase as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) The former President of FIEO led a 103 member business delegation to South Africa from 23.1.94 to 1.2.94 to establish contacts with South African businessmen, to promote bilateral trade, third country exports and transfer of technology between the two countries. No joint venture agreement was signed with any South African entrepreneur.

According to the estimate of FIEO, the two way trade worth over US\$ 32 Mn was negotiated during the visit and is expected to subsequently increase significantly.

Production of Handloom Textiles

7544. DR. SAKSHIJI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted a scheme to the Union Government for increase in production of handloom textiles and welfare of weavers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Funds to the tune of Rs. 3921.64 lakhs, were released to the Government of Uttar Pradesh during the year 1993-94 under different schemes for

the development and welfare of the handloom weavers on the basis of proposals received from the State Govt. Scheme-wise details of funds released are given below:

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Scheme	Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Margin Money to Destitute Weavers.	21.64
2.	Project Package Scheme	119.25
3.	Integrated Handloom Village Development Scheme	32.50
4.	National Silk Yarn Bank Scheme.	54.00
5.	Health Package Scheme	56.50
6.	Group Insurance Scheme	8.00
7.	Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme	182.00
8.	Setting up of Enforcement Machinery in the States.	15.14
Total (Plan):		489.03
9.	Market Development Assistance/Rebate.	496.51
10.	Janata Cloth Subsidy.	2936.10
Total (Non-Plan):		3432.61
Total: Plan + Non-Plan:		3921.64

[English]

**Restrictions on Outsiders
Employment**

7545. SHRI ANANTRAO
DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of LABOUR
be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of the States
which have imposed restrictions on
employment of outsiders;

(b) the steps taken by the Government
to withdraw such restrictions; and

(c) the achievements made in the matter
so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.
SANGMA): (a) to (c) The information is being
collected and will be laid on the table of the
House.

**Development Projects in Andhra
Pradesh**

7546. DR. K. V. R. CHOWDARY :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Government have any

proposal to establish new projects in Andhra
Pradesh with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount incurred on the
existing projects with foreign assistance in
the state;

(d) whether some of these projects have
suffered due to non-availability of funds;

(e) if so, the names of such projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V.
CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and
(b) Details of Pipeline Projects for Andhra
Pradesh with foreign assistance is at
Statement-I

(c) Details of externally aided ongoing
Projects in Andhra Pradesh is at Statement-
II

(d) to (f) State Govts. are required to
make adequate funds available for
implementation of state Sector externally
aided projects. However, utilisation of funds
and implementation varies from project to
project depending on the time profile and
nature of each project.

STATEMENT - I

LIST OF PIPELINE PROJECTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency
1.	AP Rural Supply-Krishna Dist.	Netherlands
2.	Drinking Water Supply-Nalgonda Dist.	-do-
3.	AP Rural Water Supply-Prakasam Dist.	-do-
4.	AP Tubewell Project	-do-
5.	Surface Water Lift Irrigation Scheme	-do-
6.	Drinking Water Supply-Anantapur	-do-
7.	Nizam Sagar Hydro Rehabilitation Proj. (R & M) Work	-do-
8.	AP State Electricity Board (Vizag) Urban Dis.	-do-
9.	AP State Electricity Board (Khammam) Rural Dist.	-do-
10.	AP State Electricity Board (Mahabubnagar)	-do-
11.	AP State Electricity Board (Nalgonda)	-do-
12.	Hyderabad Distribution SCADA	-do-

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency
13.	Somasila Hydel Retrofit	-do-
14.	AP Irrigation -III	World Bank
15.	AP ADP	-do-
16.	Agricultural Human Resources Dev. Project	-do-
17.	Singur Hyudro Electric Scheme	Germany
18.	Nagarjun Sagar Tail Pond Dam Power House	-do-
19.	Mass Rail Transport System-Hyderabad	France
20.	Andhra Pradesh State Road Project	World Bank
21.	Water Supply in Hyderabad & Secunderabad	-do-
22.	Improvement of Rural Roads & Reconstruction of Weak Bridges	OECD
23.	Life Ext. of Kothagundam Thermal Power Station	-do-
24.	Modernisation of Kurnool-Cuddapat Canal (MOST)	-do-
25.	Visakh-Vijayawada Pipeline, HPC	-do-

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency
26.	Srisailem Left Bank Power House (Gen.) of APSEB	-do-
27.	Srisailem Left Bank Power Houe (Trans) of APSEB	-do-
28.	Rayalaseema TPP St.II	ABD

STATEMENT - II

LIST OF EXTERNALLY AIDED ONGOING PROJECTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

(in Million)

(as on 31.3.94)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Loan/Grant	Donor Agency	Utilisation
1.	Shrimp and Fish Culture (M-State)	US\$ 85.00	IDA	5.399
2.	AP Forestry	US\$ 77.40	IDA	0.000
3.	AP Irrigation -II	US\$ 174.11	IDA	154.977
4.	National Water Management (Multistate)	US\$ 127.27	IDA	101.728
5.	Technician Education -II (Multistate)	US\$ 307.10	IDA	39.994
6.	Population-VI (Multistate)	US\$ 75.30	IDA	37.838
7.	ICDS-I (Multistate)	US\$ 96.00	IDA	27.559
8.	National Sericulture (M.State)	US\$ 141.40	IDA	74.876
9.	Hyderabad Water Supply & Sanit.	US\$ 79.00	IDA	37.915
10.	Road Improvement (Multistate)	US\$ 198.00	ADB	57.570

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Loan/Grant	Donor Agency	Utilisation
11.	Ilind Ports (Multistate)	US\$ 250.00	ADB	32.464
12.	ilind Ports (Multistate)	US\$ 129.00	ADB	120.810
13.	Rayalaseema TPP	us\$ 230.00	ADB	120.810
14.	AP Tribal Development	US\$ 20.00	IFAD	4.133
15.	Srisaillam Left Bank Power St.	YEN 26.101	OECE	6076.7
16.	Srisaillam Power Trans. System	YEN 3806	OECE	0.0
17.	AP Coal Project	PDS 11.25	UK	10.671
18.	AP School Building Ph-III	PDS 27.90	UK	19.476
19.	AP School Health	PDS 6.69	UK	0.193
20.	Hyderabad Habitat Imp. Ph. III	PDS 14.94	UK	10.106
21.	Vijaywada Slum Improvement	PDS 16.25	UK	6.217
22.	Visakhapatnam Habitat Project	PDS 9.19	UK	9.217
23.	Chinagadiii Area Improvement	PDS 1.500	UK	1.424

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Loan/Grant	Donor Agency	Utilisation
24.	AP Training of Women in Agri.	DFL 3.358	Netherlands	0.00
25.	AP Rural Water Supply-Karnool	DFL 11.00	-do-	8.219
26.	AP Rural Water Supply-Prakasam	DFL 11.00	-do-	8.530
27.	AP Rural Water Supply-Madak	LFL 9.50	-do-	7.778
28.	AP Rural Water Supply-M.Nagar	DFL 11.30	-do-	9.360
29.	AP Rural Water Supply-DarjiExt.	DFL	7.20	-do- 5.861
30.	Environmental Pollution Training and) Research Inst. (EPTRI	SEK 50.00	Sweden	5.000
31.	Cattle Breeding & Fodder Prod.	Rs. 4.48	Switzerland Budget	Not throgth
32.	Nagarjun Sagar Project	PDS 12.93	UK	12.930
33.	Vocational Training (Multistate	US\$ 250.00	IDA	64.101

Deposit Collectors

[Translation]

7547. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the public sector banks have discontinued the services of deposit collectors; and

(b) if so, the details of such banks and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Trade of the House.

[English]

Printing Press

7548. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI SRIKANTA JEENA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :
SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI :

will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposed two note printing presses, Mysore in Karnataka and Salbani in West Bengal have virtually come to standstill;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the aid programme of certain countries has become uncertain due to delay

in finalising the global tender by the Government;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the time by which these presses are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Initial line of production is expected to become operational in 18 months after placement of order for the main plant and equipment and the entire press will come on stream in 39 months after placement of the order.

[Translation]

Seizure of Poppy Powder

7549. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan from where poppy powder has been seized by the Narcotics Department during the last four months indicating the value thereof;

(b) whether the Government propose of hand-over the licence of poppy powder trade to NAFED; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) The Central Bureau of Narcotics seized poppy husk powder valuing approximately Rs. 60 lakhs at Bagar By-pass Aklera-Patan Road, Tehsil Jahalarapatan, District Jhalawar (Rajasthan) and Kota-Rawat Bhata Road, Kota (Rajasthan) during the period from January to April, 1994. Sale and purchase of poppy husk powder is regulated by the rules made by the State Governments concerned under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.

Units Under Export Processing Zones

7550. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether various facilities are being provided to 100 per cent export oriented units set up under export processing zones;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these units are not exporting their cent per cent production in spite of availing of these facilities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether these units have imported goods of more value than the exported goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The facilities enjoyed by EPZ Units, *inter-alia* include duty free import of capital goods, raw materials, consumables etc.

exemption from payment of Central Excise duty on capital goods and inputs procured from domestic tariff area (DTA), reimbursement of Central Sales Tax paid on purchase from outside the State, 5 year tax holiday, concessional lease rent on industrial plots and sheds, simplified approval procedures and liberalised DTA access.

(c) and (d) These units are effecting exports as per the provisions of the EPZ scheme which enjoins them to export their entire production except rejects and permissible sale in the DTA.

(e) As per data for 1993-94 total exports effected exceed the cumulative imports.

[English]

Export Oriented Units

7551. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to expedite relief for the 100 per cent Export Oriented Units (EOUs) especially on the rationalisation of duty structure on domestic tariff area, sale of finished goods and simplification of procedures on customs/excise fronts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The need to effect improvements in the EOU Scheme is periodically reviewed. Some recent initiatives in this direction include rationalisation of duty on sale of finished goods in the domestic market, reduction in duty chargeable on the disposal of scrap and waste material, simplification of custom/excise procedures such as expeditious

clearance and movement of imported goods and enhancement of warehousing period from 1 year to 5 years. The question of further adjustment of duty structure on sale of finished products in the domestic market has been taken up with Department of Revenue.

Accident of Boeing 737 Aircraft

7552. SHRI RAM KAPSE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether on July 27, 1993 or thereabout, the control room of Madras Airport had received an SOS message regarding the accident to one Boeing 737 aircraft flying over Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any enquiry into the reported accident; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Regional Office of the International Civil Aviation Organisation and Flight Information Centre at Kuala Lumpur confirmed that there was no involvement of any aircraft and the message was a hoax. In view of this, enquiry was not considered necessary.

Reduction in Luxury Tax on Hotels

7553. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have advised the State Governments to reduce luxury tax and sales tax on hotels; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) : Yes Sir.

(b) States of Kerala and Meghalaya have proposed reduction Luxury Tax to 10% in their budgets. Efforts are on to persuade State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Assam to reduce Luxury Tax to 10% or below. West Bengal has proposed to reduce Sales Tax on foods and beverages from 17.5% to 15% in the budget proposals.

EPZ, Visakhapatnam

7554. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Export Processing Zone, Visakhapatnam, had urged the Union Government to provide more funds to implement the development schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allotted during 1993-94;

(d) the amount utilised and the new projects undertaken during 1993-94; and

(e) the new projects to be undertaken during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (e) No funds have been sought in addition to the sum of Rs. 17 crores earmarked for the development of the 1st phase of the Visakhapatnam EPZ. Keeping in mind the availability of resources, an annual allocation of funds is made on the basis of a phased development programme. The budget allocation of Rs. 5.75 crores in 1993-94 has been utilised for undertaking developmental works such as construction of a standard design factory (SDF) building, service centre-cum-administrative block, provision of sewerage system and construction of internal roads. Funds provided in 1994-95 will be utilised for completing ongoing works.

Overdues of Agricultural Credit

7555. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHE TOPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is serious problem of overdues of agricultural credit;

(b) whether this problem has adversely affected the credit expansion and economic viability of lending institutions especially cooperatives and the Regional Rural Banks; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The major problem affecting the flow of agricultural credit is the mounting trend of overdues in all the credit agencies, namely, commercial banks, cooperatives, and Regional Rural Banks. The quantum of overdues increased during the last ten years not only in absolute terms but also in relation

to the demand, particularly in the Regional Rural Banks and cooperative credit structure. The mounting trend of overdues not only chokes up the smooth flow of credit and its expansion but eventually threatens the viability of the lending institutions.

(c) Government monitors on regular basis the recovery position of direct agricultural advances extended by public sector banks. Various guidelines have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) to the banks of minimise the amount of overdues and to improve their recovery performance.

The State Governments have been advised to extend all possible help by designating officials at District/Block levels to coordinate with bank officials in improving recovery. Convenors of State Level Bankers Committees/District Coordination Committees/Block Level Bankers Committees have also been advised to follow up with the concerned State Government for enacting legislation to facilitate recovery.

[Translation]

Ranchi Airport

7556. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to erect fencing at the Ranchi Airport and also to repair air-strip there;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION

AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Fencing has already been provided at Ranchi airport. Strengthening of runway is in progress and expected to be completed by October, 1994.

[English]

Child Labour in Carpet Industry

7557. SHRI RABIRAY : Will the minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a voluntary Code of Conduct adopted by the Carpet Export Promotion Council to eradicate the child labour in that industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the industry has implemented the Code of Conduct; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Code of Conduct enjoins on the members, the responsibility to ensure that children are not employed on looms on which the members' carpets are being woven and that the member would agree for the penal clause of being deregistered on violation of the code.

(c) and (d) To facilitate enforcement of the Code, looms are being registered. Registration cum-membership of CEPC is compulsory for export. 57,000 looms have been registered.

Reimbursement Scheme for Engineering Goods.

7558. SHRI M. V. V. S. MURTHY :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI :

Will the MINISTER OF COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international price reimbursement scheme for engineering goods export has been scrapped from April 1, 1994;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the time by which the exporters may get transferable import licence; and

(d) the measures taken to settle the pending claims of the exporters?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) International Price Reimbursement Scheme (IPRS) was being financed within the steel sector from Engineering Goods Exporters Assistance Fund (EGEAF) cess levied on pig iron and certain varieties of steel produced by integrated steel plants. These collections from cess become inadequate to meet the increasing requirement of funds for financing IPRS. IPRS has to be withdrawn as no viable mechanism of funding the Scheme could be found.

(c) Exporters already have the facility of duty free import of inputs for export production under the duty exemption scheme.

(d) To supplement cess collections, Govt. has made available in 1993-94 Rs. 200 crores to clear pending IPRS claims of the exporters.

Funds for Textile Sector

(Rs. in crores)

7559. DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH
SHAKYA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

1992-93 1993-94
(amount released)

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased
to state :

Handlooms	29.81	50.35
Powerlooms	0.66	2.82

[Translation]

(a) whether the Government have
prepared any action plan for development of
textile sector during the Eighth Plan;

**Upgradation of India's Trade with
Singapore**

7560. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Will the
Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(b) if so, the details thereof and funds
earmarked for the purpose for handloom
sector and powerloom sector, separately;
and

(a) whether any discussions were held
between the Trading Distribution Centre of
India and the Singapore Manufacturing
Association (SMA) recently on development,
upgrading and management of India's Trade;
and

(c) the amount spent so far for both
sectors, separately?

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT
SWAMY) : (a) and (b) During the 8th Five
Year Plan Government has schemes for the
development of Textile Sector. A sum of Rs.
300 crores has been provided for Handlooms
and Rs. 18 crores for powerlooms during the
8th plan. Apart from this, Government have
also decided to set up 3000 Handloom
Development Centres through-out the
country to upgrade skills in the Handloom
Sector with a total outlay of Rs. 849 crores.
For this an additional amount of Rs. 321
crores have been provided in the 8th Five
Year Plan. The balance amount would be
available as credit from financial institutions.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI
PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Government
are not aware of any such discussions.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Agreements with Germany

7561. DR. AMRIT LAL KALIDAS
PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(c) The amount spent so far for the
Powerloom and Handloom Sectors during
the year 1992-93 and 1993-94, IS AS
FOLLOWS :

(a) whether the Government of India
and Germany have signed three different
agreements of financial cooperations
involving amount of Rs. 870 crores; and]

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Agreement of Financial

Cooperation 93 was signed with F.R.G. on 14.2.94 comprising of Loan amounting to DM 230.2 M at 0.75% per annum to be repayed over 40 years, including 10 years moratorium and Grant amount of DM 150.0 million. The projects to be benefited out of this are :

<i>Loans :</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Amount (in DM million)</i>
	1. NABARD-VI	30.0
	2. F-SAL	60.0
	3. FERTILISER III	60.0
	4. RSP Modernisation	27.3
	5. NIC-I Expansion	37.7
	6. DIDBI-II	15.2
	Total	230.2

<i>Grants :</i>	<i>Project/programme</i>	<i>Amount (in DM million)</i>
	1. Primary Health, Maharashtra	20.0
	2. Social Marketing	15.0
	3. Low Cost Housing of HUDCO	35.0
	4. Rural Water Supply, Rajasthan	55.0
	5. Erosion Control in Maharashtra (Watershed Maharashtra)	25.0
	Total	150.0

The Second Agreement provides a grant financing housing for Weaker Section of DM 25 million (approx. Rs. 50 Cr.) for Scheme of HUDCO.

The Third Agreement is for Low Cost Housing Scheme of HDFC for DM 30 million (Rs. 60 Cr.). The three agreements total to a financial assistance of approximately Rs. 870 crores.

E. P. F.

7562. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that in Karnataka, separate shops are being floated to avoid contribution to Employees Provident Scheme by the employers;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during 1993-94 in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) No specific complaint about floating of a separate shop in Karnataka to avoid coverage under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act appears to have come to the notice of the EPF Organisation. The Act is applicable to factories/establishments employing 20 or more persons. The EPF Organisation taken action to cover the shops and other establishments even by resorting to clubbing of such establishments if necessary and permissible under the Scheme.

Export Target

7563. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government contemplate to reach a level of export worth

Rs. 20,000 crores, during the current year;

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

(c) the extent of the success achieved as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Exports during 1993-94 are provisionally estimated at about Rs. 69,547 crores (about US\$22,173 million). Export target for 1994-95 is yet to be fixed.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

RBI Directions to Financial Institutions

7564. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India have directed the financial institutions to give banks the second charge on assets mortgaged to them by borrowers, thereby stemming the flow of credit to trade and industry;

(b) if so, whether the financial institutions are following the above directions;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had advised the Financial Institutions in 1986 to allow second charge on assets mortgaged to them by borrowers in favour of banks subject to the banks agreeing to certain stipulations aimed at protecting the interests

of the first charge holders. The Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) has reported that financial institutions are following these instructions of RBI.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Private Airlines

7565. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL :
SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL :
SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA
PATIL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the introduction of private airlines has boosted the revenue of the Government;

(b) if so, the amount received by the National Airports Authority and the

International Airports Authority of India during the last two years from each airlines in public and private sectors; and

(c) the facilities and infrastructure developed for the air taxi operators at each Airport during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI
AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount received by the National Airports Authority and the International airports Authority of India during the last two years from each airlines in public and private sectors is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No separate facilities and infrastructure have been developed for the air taxi operators. However, the required need-based counter/office space has been provided in the existing terminal buildings. Wherever possible, additional hangar space is being created to accommodate the air taxi operators.

STATEMENT

REVENUE EARNED DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS FROM EACH AIRLINES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS BY NATIONAL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY AND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Sl.No.	Name of Airlines	(Rs. in crores)			
		National Airports Authority		International Airports Authority of India	
		1992-93	1993-94 (prov.)	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Air India	10.47	12.07	38.95	39.78
2.	Indian Airlines	33.23	48.09	34.37	38.09
3.	Vayudoot	1.07	2.00	0.37	0.20
4.	Delhi-Gulf	0.01	-	-	0.008
5.	India International	0.01	-	0.03	0.056
6.	Trans-Bharat Aviation	0.01	-	0.018	0.018
7.	Continental Aviation	0.36	-	0.134	0.056

Sl.No.	Name of Airlines	National Airports Authority		International Airports Authority of India	
		Revenue Earned		Revenue Earned	
		1992-93	1993-94 (provm.)	1992-93	1993-94
8.	Jagson Airlines	0.05	0.01	0.031	0.025
9.	East-West Airlines	2.95	9.56	2.745	6.097
10.	City Link Airway	0.28	-	0.215	0.158
11.	Damania Airways	0.02	1.89	0.112	2.363
12.	Archana Airways	-	0.08	-	0.046
13.	Jet Air Ways	-	6.03	0.001	3.795
14.	Raj Air	-	0.02	-	0.079
15.	Shahra Airlines	-	0.10	-	0.496
16.	Saraya Aviation	-	-	0.014	0.004
17.	Modiluft	-	-	-	0.160
18.	Cosmos Airways	-	-	-	0.004

Sl.No.	Name of Airlines	National Airports Authority		International Airports Authority of India	
		Revenue Earned		Revenue Earned	
		1992-93	1993-94 (provn.)	1992-93	1993-94
19.	Baron Air	-	-	-	0.003
20.	Oriental Airlines	-	-	-	0.004
21.	N.E.P.C. Airlines	-	-	-	0.009
22.	Aerial Services	-	-	0.001	0.008

Import of Consumer Goods

7566. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the limit on quantity of alcoholic drinks, perfumes and toiletries permitted to be imported has been prescribed marginally lower than the international market;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to revise the limit according to the international standards to prevent the harassment of passengers by the customs officials in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) There is no standard quantity prescribed for import by the different countries for alcoholic drinks, perfumes and toiletries as passengers baggage. Each country has prescribed quantity restriction as per their requirement. As far as our baggage rules are concerned, under the Baggage Rules, 1994, there is no quantity restriction on the import of perfumes and toiletries so long as the quantity imported constitutes bonafide baggage of the passenger. However, alcoholic liquor in excess of one liter is not allowed.

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

Premium Notices

7567. DR. R. MALLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints from policy holders regarding delay in issuing premium notices by the Insurance corporations and non-cooperation of the officials and agents of these corporations with the policy holders;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) Premium notices are issued only by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). As on 31.3.1993, there were 566.13 lakhs life insurance policies in force. Premium notices are issued by the LIC for the policies for which premium is payable yearly, half-yearly or quarterly. Therefore, crores of premium notices are required to be issued by them each year out of which a few might not have been received by the policyholders. As per the information furnished by the LIC, 1,319 complaints in the year 1992-93 and 1,314 complaints in 1993-94 were received by them regarding adjustment of premiums and delay in issuing premium notices. The State-wise details are given in the statement enclosed. The LIC have reported that Policyholders Grievance Redressal Cells are in operation at Branch, divisions, Zonal and Central Office levels. The designated grievance redressal officer in each of these offices meets the policyholders regularly to hear their complaints and redress their grievances.

Complaints regarding Adjustment of Premiums and delay in issuing premium notices during the Period 1992-93 and 1993-94.

STATEMENT

COMPLAINTS REGARDING ADJUSTMENT OF PREMIUMS AND DELAY IN ISSUING PREMIUM NOTICES
DURING THE PERIOD 1992-93 AND 1993-94

Sl.No.	States	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20	24
2.	Assam	56	25
3.	Bihar	53	59
4.	Goa	-	4
5.	Gujarat	8	40
6.	Haryana	21	10
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-
9.	Karnataka	20	23

Sl.No.	States	1992-93	1993-94
10.	Kerala	7	10
11.	Madhya Pradesh	110	93
12.	Maharashtra	250	285
13.	Orissa	8	13
14.	Punjab	9	14
15.	Rajasthan	113	103
16.	Tamil Nadu	22	33
17.	Uttar Pradesh	340	343
18.	West Bengal	78	99

Sl.No.	States	1992-93	1993-94
	Union Territories		
19.	Chandigarh	19	11
20.	Delhi	183	125
	Total	1319	1314

Trade with Turkey

7568. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Govt. propose to increase trade with Turkey;

(b) if so, the possibilities explored in that direction; and

(c) the steps taken to expand Indo-Turkey trade relations ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) It is the constant endeavour of Government to enhance trade with all its partners including Turkey. Besides, bilateral exchange of delegations and participation in trade fairs, an Indo-Turkish Joint Economic Committee at Ministerial level is functioning to oversee developments on economic cooperation between the two countries which last met in Ankara in January 1992. A Joint business Cooperation Committee was also established at the same time between representatives of Indian and Turkish businessmen.

Space at Airports for Airlines

7569. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total space made available to the Indian Airlines at various airports in comparison to the private airlines and the actual space occupied by each airline during the last two years;

(b) the details of requests received from each airlines in this regard, alongwith the actual space requested for, during the above period; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Export of Computer Hardware.

7570. SHRI HARCHAND SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of computer hardware exported during each of the last three years alongwith the value thereof;

(b) the target set for export in the current year alongwith the value thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to boost up its export further ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The estimated export of computer hardware, peripherals and related items during the last three years is given below :-

(Rs. Crores)		
1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
262.00	294.39	427.00

The target set for export during 1994-95 is Rs. 481 crores.

SOURCE : Electronics & Computer Software EPC.

(c) The various steps proposed to be taken by the Government for boosting computer hardware exports further include

participation is exclusive Indian Electronic Shows, participation in international exhibitions, sponsoring of market surveys etc. In addition the general measures taken to boost exports include introduction of Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme, enhanced domestic Tariff Area (DTA) sale for electronic hardware products manufactured by Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in Export Processing Zones (EPZ), directions to banks to increase availability of credit to export sectors, reduction in interest rate on rupee-credit, reduction in tariff level on import of machinery and rendering of marketing assistance by Indian Missions.

Bilateral Trade with Bahrain

7571. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand bilateral trade with Bahrain; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Government will continue efforts to expand and diversify our trade with Bahrain. These include discussions at Govt. level, facilitating direct contacts between Indian companies and their counter-parts in Bahrain, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, measures to overcome problems faced by Indian businessmen etc.

Branches of Bank of Maharashtra

7572. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no branch of the bank of Maharashtra in Orissa and Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up branches of the above bank in these States during the current Plan period ;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the places identified in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY) : (a) One branch of Bank of Maharashtra is functioning in Bihar as on 30.6.1993 (latest available position). Bank of Maharashtra has no branch in Orissa.

(b) to (d) Under the Branch Expansion Policy 1990-95, public sector banks have been allotted urban centres as per the localities identified by the Working Groups and keeping in view the preference indicated by banks. As regards expansion in semi-urban area, the banks have been permitted to open branches at the centres of their choice within the quota allotted to them on All India basis and no State-wise quota has been allotted for the purpose. Under the policy, individual banks may identify rural centres within their Service Area. The proposals relating to identified centres are required to be routed through the Directorate of Institutional Finance of the State Government to Reserve Bank of India for consideration. RBI has not allotted any centres to Bank of Maharashtra for opening branch in Orissa and Bihar under the extant Policy.

[Translation]

Export of Cotton

7573. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of cotton exported from Gujarat during last three years and in the current year so far; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to explore new markets for the export of

cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) The quantity of cotton exported from Gujarat during the last three years and during the current year is as follows :-

Qty. in lakh bales.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Gujarat Federation.</i>	<i>CCI</i>	<i>Private Trade</i>	<i>Total</i>
1990-91	0.40	0.1178	0.3209	0.8387
1991-92	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1992-93	0.671	0.583	Nil	1.254
1993-94	Nil	0.0305	Nil	0.0305

(b) Government's endeavour has been to promote the export of value-added items such as, yarn, fabrics, made-ups and readymade garments. While releasing the exportable surplus of cotton for export the objectives of the Government have been stabilisation of prices in the domestic market, provision of remunerative prices to the cotton growers and to maintain India's presence in the international market as a stable supplier of cotton. The allottees of export quotas viz. CCI, State federations and the Private Trade have been exploring markets for exporting the quantities allotted to them.

[English]

Appointment of SCs/STs and OBCs

7574. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Tourism Development Corporation is fully complying

with the specific directives on reservations in appointment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes at the executive level posts;

(b) if so, the details of strength of executives, unit-wise and also at Headquarters *vis-a-vis* strength of SCs/STs and OBCs appointments as well as in position strength as on March 31, 1994 made in accordance with the Government directives;

(c) whether the ITDC has flouted the directives deliberately at the senior level appointments resulting in a number of complaints; and

(d) if so, the details of each complaint from Members of Parliament, Unions and officers, date of receipt of complaint, action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requisite information is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Details of Total executive strength in Position and SC/ST Amongst them as on 31.3.1994.

	Total Executive strength in position	SC/ST amongst them		OBC
		SC	ST	
Hotel Executives	400	43	06	Nil
Hqrs Executives including Ashok Travel and Tours, Duty Free Shops and other Service Division of Hqrs	330	38	07	Nil

Foreign Airlines

7575. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of foreign Airlines operating through the country overflying the country as on April 1, 1994, with the country of registration;

(b) the names of those countries included in (a) above in which the Air India or the Indian Airlines enjoy reciprocal rights;

(c) whether the Air India or the Indian Airlines are not in a position to utilise their reciprocal rights in full because of limited number of aircraft at their disposal ;

(d) whether, due to limited operations, the Air India and the Indian Airlines are losing revenue; and

(e) If so, the net profit/loss made by the Air India during the last three years and the steps taken by the Government to augment

the fleet of the Air India ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The requisite information is furnished in the statement enclosed.

(b) Reciprocal rights are available to Indian designated carriers in all cases.

(c) and (d) Services to foreign destinations are perated by national carriers keeping in view the commercial viability of operations. If national carriers are not able to undertake operations due to constraints of aircraft capacity or other reasons. unilateral operations by the foreign carriers are normally allowed subject to a commercial arrangement providing for payment of compensation to the Indian designated carrier. The interests of national carrirs are, therefore, fully protected.

(e) The profit figures of Air India are as follows:-

1991-92	1992-93 (Rs. in Crores)	1993-94 (Provisional)
145.89	333.14	186.00

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	Country of Registration	Sl.No.	Name of Airlines
NORTHAMERICA			
1.	Canada	1.	Air Canada
2.	USA	2.	Delta
EUROPE			
3.	Austria	3.	Lauda Air
4.	Bulgaria	4.	Balkan Airlines
5.	Czechoslovakia	5.	CSA
6.	France	6.	Air France
7.	Germany	7.	Lufthansa
		8.	LTU International Airlines
8.	Italy	9.	Alitalia
9.	Netherlands	10.	KLM

Sl.No.	Country of Registration	Sl.No.	Name of Airlines
10.	Polan	12.	Lot Polish
11.	Romania	13.	Tarom
12.	Switzerland	14.	Swissair
13.	Sweden	15.	SAS
14.	Spain	16.	Air Europe
15.	U.K.	17.	British Airways
16.	Russia	18.	Virgin Atlantic Airways
17.	Finland	19.	Aeroflot
		20.	Finnair
		GULF AND MIDDLE EAST	
18.	Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE (Excluding Dubai)	21.	Gulf Air,
19.	UAE (Dubai)	22.	Emirates
20.	Oman	23.	Oman Air

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Country of Registration</i>	<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of Airlines</i>
21.	Iran	24.	Iran Air
22.	Lebanon	25.	TMA
23.	Jordan	26.	Royal Jordanian
24.	Kuwait	27.	Kuwait Airways
25.	Saudia Arabia	28.	Saudia
26.	Syria	29.	Syrian Airlines
27.	Turkey	30.	Turkish Airlines.
28.	Yemen Arab Republic	31.	Yemenia
29.	Peoples Dr Yemen	32.	Alyemda
30.	Israel	33.	El-Al
31.	Greece	34.	Olympic Airways
		ASIA AND PACIFIC	
32.	Afghanistan	35.	Ariana

Sl.No.	Country of Registration	Sl.No.	Name of Airlines
33.	Australia	36.	antas
34.	Bangladesh	37.	Biman Bangladesh
35.	Bhutan	38.	Druk Air.
36.	Hong Kong (U.K.)	39.	Cathay Pacific
		40.	Dragon Air.
37.	Indonesia	41.	Garuda
38.	Malaysia	42.	Malaysian Airline
39.	Nepal	43.	Royal Nepal Airlines
40.	Pakistan	44.	PIA
41.	Philippines	45.	Philippine Airline
42.	Republic of Korea	46.	Korean Air.
43.	Singapore	47.	Singapore Airlines
44.	Sri Lanka	48.	Air Lanka

Sl.No.	Country of Registration	Sl.No.	Name of Airlines
45.	Thailand	40.	Thai Airways
46.	Uzbekistan	50.	Uzbekistan Airways
47.	Vietnam	51.	Vietnam Airlines
AFRICA			
48.	Egypt	52.	Egypt Air.
49.	Ethiopia	53.	Ethiopian Airlines
50.	Kenya	54.	Kenya Airways.
51.	Mauritius	55.	Air Mauritius
52.	Zambia	56.	Zambia Airways.

**Projects Funded by International Fund
for Agricultural Development**

7576. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of the projects/ schemes funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) during the last three years;

(b) the Criteria laid down by the IFAD for extending financial assistance to countries;

(c) whether any discussions has been held during March, 1994 with the President of IFAD for the projects which are likely to be

funded by IFAD in near future; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V.CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) :

(a) Details are given in the statement annexed.

(b) IFAD is a specialised agency of the U.N. established to assist in increasing food production, reduction of malnutrition and alleviation of poverty.

(c) and (d) During the recent visit of IFAD President, it was reiterated that more IFAD assisted projects could be taken up in the country.

Details of Projects funded by IFAD during the Last Three Years

SL. No.	Name of Project	Date of Approval Signing	Date of Closing	Credit Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh Tribal Development Project	15.5.91	31.3.1999	US \$ 20 ml.
2.	Maharashtra Rural Credit Project	1.6.93	30.9.2000	US \$ 29.2 ml.
3.	A.P. Participatory Tribal Development Project	Negotiations Completed	31.3. 2002	US \$ 26.5 ml.

Austerity Measures in Banks

577. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government/Reserve Bank of India has issued any directives to nationalised banks regarding adoption of

austerity measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the banks, particularly the banks incurring heavy loss adopt such measures ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) Instructions have been issued to public sector banks to minimise expenditure on POL, furniture, entertainment and travelling allowances etc. Further, all nationalised banks have recently entered into agreements with the Reserve Bank of India in terms of which commitments have been obtained from each bank relating to their performance in key areas which include :

- (i) Improvement in the organisational set up;
- (ii) Improving productivity levels;
- (iii) Improving house-keeping and internal control;
- (iv) Profit planning and improvement in profit levels;
- (v) Reduction in overhead expenditure;
- (vi) Reduction in non-performing assets; and
- (vii) Restriction on capital expenditure.

Tobacco Mission

7578. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is considering to establish a Tobacco Mission for formulating a Tobacco Policy in a programmatic manner; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration to establish a Tobacco Mission.

(b) Does not arise.

Foreign Liabilities of Corporate Sector

7579. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether long term foreign liabilities of the Corporate Sector are on the rise;

(b) if so, whether such liabilities are going to show a quantum jump in future due to the effort to tap Euro - currency markets to raise additional funds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Yes, Sir, with long term foreign liabilities being defined to include both debt and equity of the Indian corporate sector held overseas.

(b) and (c) As foreign equity related issuance by the corporate sector in the Euro issues market has reduced the reliance on pure debt instruments, the burden of servicing external sector debt is correspondingly reduced. Further, as equity related issuance by the corporate sector in the Euro-issues market is at a considerable premium to the face value of the underlying domestic share, and as the interest rates on convertible bonds are typically lower than those on pure debt, debt servicing of aggregate external liabilities is not expected to show a quantum jump.

India Trade Promotion Organisation

7580. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of cities in foreign countries where India Trade Promotion organisation has its offices;

(b) the amount spent by the Government on these offices during each of the last three years;

(c) the purpose of keeping these offices there;

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to close down these offices; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) has foreign offices in New York, Frankfurt, Dubai and Tokyo.

(b) The expenditure incurred in maintaining these offices for the last three years is as follows :-

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in Lakhs)
1991-92	272.36
1992-93	303.17
1994-95	349.70 (estimated)

(c) These offices perform promotional functions like generating live enquiries, assisting and fixing appointments, and business meetings, assistance in product

development, procurement of market intelligence and sponsoring buying missions to India, organising India promotions in Departmental store chains, and dissemination of trade information directly and through head office.

(d) and (e) There is no general decision to close down all foreign offices of ITPO. ITPO has, however, been advised to undertake an assessment whether these offices are being run in a cost-efficient manner.

Management of Airport

7581. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to hand over management of some of the airports to the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Airports Authority (NAA) has a proposal to hand over thirty two uneconomical airports to the State Governments. NAA has recently written to the Chief Secretaries of the concerned State Governments. The reaction of the State Government is awaited.

Mango - Pulp

7582. DR. K.V.R. CHOWDARY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of Mango-pulp exported during the last three years; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by

the Government to increase its export ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The quantity of Mango-pulp exported during the last three years was as follow :-

(Qty. in Metric tonnes)

1991-92	23212
1992-93	27506
1993-94* (Apr.—Dec.)	19978

*Provisional (Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta).

(b) The Government have taken the following steps to increase the export of mango-pulp :

- (i) Increased outlays for development of mango and mango products during the 8th Plan period to increase production, productivity, improved post harvest handling, improved packaging etc.
- (ii) Aggressive marketing strategy adopted by the Agriculture and Processed Food products Export Development Authority (APEDA) by way of participations in foreign fairs / exhibitions for providing maximum exposure to exporters to generate the demand for agriculture and other items including mango-pulp.
- (iii) APEDA provides international trade information to exporters

to enable them to frame a suitable export strategy.

Textiles Import from European Countries

7583. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the American and European textile industry are unhappy at not being allowed to sell their products in India and are planning retaliatory action against what they call unidirectional flow of textiles into their countries;

(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 TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, while it is a fact that textile industry representatives in the European Union and the US are unhappy about what they perceive to be India's inadequate response to their request for market access for their textile products, it is not for them to plan or implement retaliatory action in this regard. Export of Indian textiles and clothing products to the European Union and the U.S.A. are governed by the provisions by the and ndo-EC and the Indo-US Textiles Agreements respectively.

India will be resuming negotiations with the United States of America and the European Union on the question of market access in the textile sector shortly at the official level.

[Translation]

Committee to Strengthen Trade Relations

7584. DR. LAXMINARAYAN
PANDEYA :
DR. RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exporters of Poland and Hungary have given assurance to the Government of India to extend all possible help in promoting bilateral trade;

(b) whether India has received such assurances from other countries too; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) There is no formal assurance given by the exporters of Poland and Hungary of which the Government of India are aware. However, there is a general understanding of co-operation in all respects for promotion of bilateral trade between the two sides in respect of both Poland and Hungary.

(b) No such formal assurance has been received by the Government of India from other countries too;

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Recovery of Bank Loans

7585. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA
RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to stated:

(a) whether all the State Governments have considered the advice of his Ministry to help the district level bank branches to recover the loans;

(b) if so, whether any concrete formula has been evolved in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action initiated by State Governments in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHRA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) Recovery of bank loans is of great importance for recycling of bank funds. Several measures have been taken by Reserve Bank of India for strengthening the recovery system by the banks. Banks have been advised to strengthen and gear up their organisational structure, both at the controlling offices and at the field level, adopt schematic approach of lending in facilitating supervision, tone up pre-lending appraisal system and post lending follow up, arrange recovery drives to coincide with harvests and organise block-wise recovery campaigns in association with the concerned State Government Officers. Banks were also advised to create separate recovery cell for cluster of branches where overdues, exceeds 50% of demand and agricultural advances are sizeable. Banks have been advised to observe one day in a week as non-banking working day for their rural branches and branch Managers have to ensure that harvesting seasons are effectively used for recovery of dues. Lead Banks have also been advised to effectively utilised the forums of State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC), State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) etc. for discussing the problems of recovery/overdues at these meetings, Time and again State Governments have been emphasised upon

by the Central Government about the imperative and urgent need to improve the recovery of bank loans. Some of the State Governments are assisting Commercial Banks to recover their dues treating them as arrears of land revenue. In a few states special recovery machinery has been set up in certain area by State Governments exclusively for recovery of bank dues. Some more States are proposing to set up such special machinery for recovery in their States. Based on the recommendations of an expert Group on State enactments having a bearing on commercial banks lending to agriculture (Talwar Committee) 16 States. Namely Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, have already enacted legislation for recovery of banks dues.

Bank Loan in Andhra Pradesh

7586. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of total loans given at concessional rate of interest to the people in Andhra Pradesh where property was destroyed in riots in 1989; and

(b) the amount of the loan disbursed in this regard by the Andhra Bank during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) standing guidelines relating to relief in persons affected by natural calamities issued in August 1984 which were made applicable to the people affected in riots in Andhra Pradesh do not

provide concession in the rate of interest. Andhra Bank, the Convenor, State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC), Andhra Pradesh has reported that an amount of Rs. 227.73 lakhs in 1242 borrowal accounts was advanced by various banks in 4 coastal districts e.g. East Godavari, Guntur, Krishna and West Godavari which were affected by riots during 1989.

(b) The amount of loans disbursed in this regard by Andhra Bank during the last three years was Rs. 53.52 lakhs in 304 accounts.

Export Processing Regions

7587. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA :
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether seven export processing regions have been established in the country;

(b) if so, the number of industrial units set up in them;

(c) the number of sick units out of them and the total amount invested therein by the financial institutions;

(d) whether the Government have identified the reasons for their sickness;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make these units viable ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) There are seven Export Processing Zones in the country at Kandla (Gujarat) Santacruz (Maharashtra), Cochin (Kerala), Madras

(Tamil Nadu), Falta (West Bengal), Noida (U.P.) and Visakhapatnam (A.P.) and at present 442 units are in operation in these zones.

(c) The latest position regarding sick units is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. However, details like investments by financial institutions in the units are not maintained.

(d) to (f) Some of the reasons for sickness are technological obsolescence, fluctuations in the international market, financial management problems and dislocation of exports to the erstwhile Soviet Union. Certain steps taken to improve the performance of EPZ units include simplification of policy framework, reduction of duty on domestic sale, higher access to the local market for electronics and agro-based products and delegation of powers to Development Commissioner of EPZs.

[Translations]

Civil Aviation Schemes in Gujarat

7588. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the schemes implemented for the development of civil aviation in Gujarat during the Seventh five year Plan; and

(b) the amount provided by the Union Government to the State for development of Civil Aviation and Tourism so far during the Eighth Five Year Plan Scheme-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The details of the schemes

implemented for development of Civil Aviation in Gujarat during Seventh Five Year Plan are given in the Statement -I attached; and

(b) Scheme-wise details of the funds released by Union Government for development of tourism in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan are given in the Statement -II, attached.

STATEMENT

Details of the schemes implemented for development of Civil Aviation in Gujarat during Seventh Five Year Plan

NATIONAL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY

AHMEDABAD

1. Provision of Roof over Baggage Area.
 2. Air Conditioning of Departure Holding
 3. Acquisition of land for extension of runway
 4. Strengthening of runway, taxi-way & apron.
 5. Construction of new International Block.
 6. Extension of runway by 1500ft.
 7. Installation of Instrument Landing System (ILS)
 8. Inter Tower Single Side Band (SSBO communication).
 9. SSB High Frequency Radio Telephony (HFRT) for Air/
-

Ground communication.

10. Distance Measuring Equipment Co-located with Instrument Landing system (ILS).

BHAVNAGAR

1. Construction of approach road.
2. Crash Fire Tender, TATRA T-815 provided.
3. Inter Tower Single Side Band (SSBI) Communication.
4. Single Side Band (SSB) High Frequency Radio Telephony (HFRT) Air/Ground Communication.
5. Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) co-located with very High Frequency Omni Range (VOR).

KANDLA

1. Inter Tower Single Side Band (SSB) Communication.
2. Crash Fire Tender TATRA T-815.

Keshod

Resurfacing of Runway.
Palanpur (Deesa)

Development of airfield for Vayudoot operations.

PORBANDAR

1. Resurfacing of runway.
2. Augmentation of power supply.
3. Inter Tower single Side Band (SSB) Communication.

RAJKOT

1. Crash Fire Tender, TATRA T-815 provided.
2. Inter Tower Single Side Band (SSB) Communication.

INDIAN AIRLINES

1. Construction/Renovation of Booking Office
2. Construction of Staff Quarters
3. Creation of Ground support, Data Communication Equipment and Miscellaneous Assets

STATEMENT-II

Scheme wise details of the funds released by Union Government for development of Tourism in Gujarat during the Eighth Five Year Plan

S. No.	Schema/Projects	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)
1992-93		
1.	Comping equipment for Tametar	8.00

1993-94

1.	Tourist Complex at Nalsarover	10.00
2.	Cafeteria at Porbandar	7.50
3.	Floodlighting of Somnath Temple	8.00
4.	Two units of Sprit Type land-sailing Yacht	4.48
5.	Navratri festival	1.00
6.	Tarnetar fair	1.50
7.	Publicity Support	3.00
Total		35.48

[English]

Analysis of Indian Airlines

7589. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have mooted the idea that an external agency could conduct an indepth SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) analysis of the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the name of the management consultancy firm hired to collate micro-level inputs and put them together in the form of a coherent prescription;

(c) the remuneration likely to be paid to that firm; and

(d) the reasons for not conducting similar study into the working of the Air-India in its various spheres, administrative,

management, operational, commercial, financial, trade unionism and other cognate matters ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Government is alive to the necessity of making an indepth study of Indian Airlines with a view to improve the system and provide better service to passengers and to meet the future challenges in the domestic air market. However, no external agency to conduct such a study has been indentified so far.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Conducting a similar study in the case of Air India is not ruled out.

[Translation]

Loan to Farmers in U.P.

7590. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be

pleased to state :

(a) whether the farmers in Uttar Pradesh have taken loans from various financial institutions for the construction of water channels in various irrigation schemes under the Land Development Programme;

(b) if so, the amount of loans payable to these financial institution outstanding against them;

(c) whether previously, such loans were waived off in various States;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have received any representation from the State Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon and if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and to the extent possible will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Import of Copper

7591. SHRI HARCHAND SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of copper imported during each of the last three years along with the value thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken to meet the shortage of copper in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI

PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Data showing import of various items (including copper) are published in the 'Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade of India Vol. II (Imports)' brought out by Directorate General of commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, Copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. Latest issue of this publication pertains to June, 1993.

(b) Under the Current EXIM Policy, Copper is freely importable, Free Importability would help in bridging the gap between demand and supply in the country.

Fake Bank Drafts

7592. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a country-wide racket indulging in faking bank drafts in many cities in the country has recently been busted by the Crimes Branch of Delhi Police as reported in the 'Indian Express' (Delhi edition) dated April 9, 1994;

(b) if so, the factual details thereof indicating *inter alia* the particulars of the banks involved in the racket, the amount defrauded; the number of bank employees involved, *modus operandi* of the racket, etc.;

(c) whether the Government have ordered any enquiry into the matter;

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

(e) the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken to plug the loop-holes that enabled the culprits including the bank employees to indulge in the faking of bank drafts; and

(f) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the erring bank staff ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) to (f) The Delhi Police has reported that a country-wide racket of cheating banks and individuals through faks and forged drafts has been busted by it following a complaint made by the Regional Manager of Dena Bank. Eight persons were arrested and the crime branch has so far indentified 41 fake Demand Drafts purported to have been issued by various branches of Dena Bank in different States aggregating over Rs. 30 lakhs. The accused persons had entered into a criminal conspiracy to cheat innocent persons by presenting to them fake Demand Drafts made from blocks prepared from a sample draft. The Delhi Police has further reported that no bank employee has been found to be involved in this racket.

While the precautions to be observed for the issue/safe custody/payment of cheque books/drafts are incorporated in the manuals/books of instructions of banks, Reserve Bank of India also advises the banks from time to time regarding precautions to be taken in this regard. The Ghosh Committee has, in its report, also made a number of recommendations/suggestions and the banks have been advised to implement these recommendations. The Banks have been mainly advised :

- (i) to exercise due caution for verification of the drawer's signatures, custody of specimen signature cards, supervision over issue of cheque books and control over custody of blank cheque books/leaves;

- (ii) to introduce a practice of examining cheques/drafts for large amounts under ultra violet ray lamps;
- (iii) to treat bank draft and mail transfer form as security items and usual precautions for such instruments should be exercised in regard to their custody and issue.
- (iv) that amount on drafts, mail transfer may be written by protectograph machines or pin point typewriters or similar other suitable device to minimise the chances of their being chemically altered. At smaller branches where the drafts are written in hand, reverse carbon should be used on the reverse of the instruments.

Grants by NABARD

7593. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has been giving grants to different States for various farm and non - farm activities;

(b) if so, the amount of grants sanctioned by NABARD for such activities in Orissa during the last three years; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c) The National Bank for Agriculture and

Rural Development (NABARD) is providing grant assistance from its Research and Development (R&D) Fund for undertaking applied research and conducting research studies, seminars, etc. in the areas of interest to NABARD which include both farm and non-farm sectors. While providing assistance by way of grants, the focus is not on State-wise/region-wise allocation. The grant is given to reputed research institutions and universities which have required competence to conduct such studies. Further, NABARD also provides assistance under R & D Fund for setting up/strengthening of Technical, Monitoring and Evaluation (TME) Cells in State Land Development Banks, State Cooperative Banks, District Central

Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks to tune up their staff capabilities in formulation/appraisal/monitoring of projects relating to farm and non-farm activities. The details of grant assistance sanctioned from R&D Fund of NABARD for the State of Orissa during in the last three years are given in *Statement - I*.

NABARD has also been providing grant assistance for promotional programme on an experimental basis for development and promotion of non-farm activities being implemented through voluntary agencies/ Non-Government Organisations (NGOs). The details of such assistance provided in Orissa State are given in *Statement -II*.

STATEMENT - I

GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM R & D FUND OF NABARD FOR THE STATE OF ORISSA

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Sponsoring Agency	Date of Sanction	Amount of Grant Sanctioned
				(Rs. in lakhs)
		PROJECTS		
	1991-92			
1.	Proposal for development flow through system for industrial agriculture	Central Institute of Fresh Water Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar	29.5.1990 (project commenced w.e.f. 27.9.92)	23.34
	1992-93			
		NIL		
	1993-94			
1.	Farmers' adoption/ application of Straw/treatment with urea in Puri district	Puri District Coop. Milk Producers' Union Ltd.	07.02.1994	2.67

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Sponsoring Agency	Date of Sanction	Amount of Grant Sanctioned
SEMINARS/CONFERENCES				
	1991-92			
1.	National Workshop on Aquaculture Economics	Central Institute of Fresh Water Aquaculture, Bhubaneswar	09.10.1991	0.10
	1992-93			
1.	Seventh National Convention of Agricultural Engineers	Institute of Engineers, Bhubaneswar	07.11.1992	0.05
	1993-94			
1.	Silver Jubilee Conference of Orissa Economics Association	Orissa Economic Association	11.05.1993	0.10
2.	Energy Shop '94	Regional Research Laboratory, Bhubaneswar	19.10.1993	0.25

Sl.No.	Name of the project	Sponsoring Agency	Date of Sanction	Amount of Grant Sanctioned
		TME CEELS		
	1991-92	NIL		
	1992-93	NIL		
	1993-94			
1.	Puri Gramin Bank TME Cells		26.06.1993	1.00 (per annum for 5 years)

STATEMENT - II

NABARD'S ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES/NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF NON-FARM ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OF ORISSA

Sl.No.	Type of Programme	Name of the beneficiary	(Rs. in lakhs)				Grant released during the year ended
			1	2	3	4	
						31.3.92	31.3.94
			1	2	3	4	5
							6
1.	Training-cum-production Centre	National Institute of Social Work and Social Sciences (NISWASS)				0.77	—
2.	Entrepreneurship Development Programme	(a) Orissa Industrial and Technical Consultancy Organisation Limited.				2.34	—
		(b) Organisation for Social change and Rural Development (OSCARD)				—	0.80

Sl.No.	Type of Programme	Name of the beneficiary.	Grant released during the year ended			
			31.3.92	231.3.93	31.3.94	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
3.	Technical Monitoring and Evaluation Cell TME (NFS) Cells	Dhenkanal Gramya	0.68	0.85	0.63**	

** Claims upto quarter ending December, 1993.

Night Halting Facilities to Air Taxi Operators

7594. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether some air taxi operators have sought permission for night halting at the Bangalore airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the permission has been given ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (d) M/s U.B. AIR had been given permission for night halting at Bangalore airport which is their operations base but they are not operating at present. Till now no other Air Taxi Operator has requested for night halting at Bangalore airport.

Export of Gems and Jewellery

7595. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total foreign exchange earned by the Government by exporting gems and jewellery during 1993-94;

(b) the names of the countries which are the main buyer of gems and jewellery from Indian;

(c) whether the targets fixed for the export of gems and Jewellery during 1993-94 have been achieved;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government for increasing the export of gem and jewellery ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) The export of gems and jewellery & foreign exchange earned therefrom during 1993-94 is Rs. 12941.98 crores (Provisional).

(b) U.S.A., Hongkong, Belgium, Japan, Thailand and U.A.E. are among the main buyers of gems and jewellery from India.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details are given under :-

(Rs. in crores)		
Years	Target	Exports
1993-94	10834.88	12941.98

(e) The Government provides the exporters of Gems and Jewellery access to imported raw - materials under various schemes notified in Chapter VIII of the Export-Import Policy 1992-97.

Deposits Credits of Scheduled Banks

7596. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the aggregate deposit and the gross bank credit of the scheduled banks as on December 31, 1993, banks-wise;

(b) the names of top 100 centres according to the size of the deposit;

(c) the names of the top 100 centres

according to the size of the bank credit;

(d) the break-up of the deposit and credit between national banks and foreign banks and between urban and rural sector; and

(e) the inter-annual rate of growth of deposit and bank credit, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY) : (a) The amount of aggregate deposits and net bank credit outstanding of all scheduled commercial banks as on the last fortnight of December, 1993 (i.e. 24th December, 1993) was Rs. 299876/- crores and Rs. 158340

crores respectively. Bank-wise details are not readily available. The same are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The names of top 100 centres according to size of deposits and credit as on the last Friday of June, 1993 (latest available) are given in Statement inclosed.

(d) The aggregate deposits and gross bank credit of Public Sector Banks and Foreign Banks and also in respect of their rural and Urban/Metropolitan branches as on the last Friday of June, 1993 (latest available) are given below :-

(Rs. in Crores)

	<i>Public Sector Banks</i>		<i>Foreign Banks</i>	
	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Credit</i>	<i>Deposits</i>	<i>Credit</i>
Rural Branches	34554	18497	-	-
Urban/Metropolitan Branches	153115	106877	21597	10711
Total	237110	146620	21630	10705

(e) The information is being collected

and will be laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

THE POSITION OF DEPOSITS AND CREDIT OF TOP 100 CENTRES ACCORDING TO SIZE AS ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF JUNE 1993 (LATEST AVAILABLE)

		(Rs. in crores)			
Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
1.	Bombay	51123	1.	Bombay	34861
2.	Delhi	24288	2.	Delhi	21617
3.	Calcutta	15733	3.	Calcutta	9433
4.	Madras	8777	4.	Madras	8879
5.	Bangalore	6153	5.	Bangalore	4947
6.	Hyderabad	4063	6.	Hyderabad	4072
7.	Ahmedabad	3646	7.	Chandigarh	2729
8.	Pune	2524	8.	Ahmedabad	115
9.	Lucknow	2339	9.	Pune	1478
10.	Chandigarh	1902	10.	Kanpur	1063

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
11.	Kanpur	1835	11.	Kochi	1054
12.	Vadodare	1676	12.	Vedodara	1052
13.	Jaipur	1565	13.	Coimbatore	1038
14.	Patna	1494	14.	Ludhiana	1025
15.	Ludhiana	1406	15.	Jaipur	1022
16.	Jullundar	1356	16.	Lucknow	967
17.	Surat	1334	17.	Indore	846
18.	Cochi	1276	18.	Srinagar	783
19.	Bhopal	1141	19.	Bhopal	733
20.	Amritsar	1138	20.	Doraha	677
21.	Thiruvananthapuram	1108	21.	Nagpur	606
22.	Colombatore	1095	22.	Anand	604
23.	Nagpur	1088	23.	Surat	527

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
24.	Indore	1046	24.	Kolam	522
25.	Varanasi	940	25.	Bhuvneshwar	502
26.	Dehra Dun	844	26.	Vishakhapatnam	499
27.	Allahabad	831	27.	Thiruvananthapuram	494
28.	Gauhati	798	28.	Jabulpur	478
29.	Vidhskhapatnam	797	29.	Patna	478
30.	Bhuvneshwar	749	30.	Gauhati	422
31.	Agra	736	31.	Madurai	422
32.	Mangalore	734	32.	Trippur	415
33.	Jammu	687	33.	Amritsar	408
34.	Rajkot	653	34.	Mangalore	403
35.	Srinagar	640	35.	Jullundur	482
36.	Meerut	612	36.	Meerut	375

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
37.	Jamshedpur	604	37.	Dehradun	362
38.	Thane	596	38.	Faridabad	360
39.	Patiala	583	39.	Mysore	343
40.	Ghaziabad	581	40.	Guntur	328
41.	Ranchi	567	41.	Vijayawada	287
42.	Mysore	556	42.	Agra	286
43.	Anand	552	43.	Koyali	282
44.	Howrah	535	44.	Ghaziabad	279
45.	Kalyan	533	45.	Allahabad	265
46.	Jabalpur	530	46.	Gwalior	260
47.	Madurai	525	47.	Bhavanagar	241
48.	Faridabad	507	48.	Varanasi	241
49.	Vaijayawada	486	49.	Rajkot	234

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
50.	Gwalior	465	50.	Thane	232
51.	Thrissur	428	51.	Aurangabad	222
52.	Jhodpur	424	52.	Udaipur	222
53.	Gorakhpur	412	53.	Gandhinaga	217
54.	Nayasari	408	54.	Tiruchirapalli	210
55.	Hubli Dharwar	407	55.	Raipur	201
56.	Paraji	399	56.	Panaji	208
57.	Margoa	399	57.	Salem	207
58.	Guntur	398	58.	Cuttack	206
59.	Calicut	398	59.	Pimpri-Chinchwad	205
60.	Jamnagar	386	60.	Kota	204
61.	Bareilly	385	61.	Ranchi	203
62.	Tiruchirapalli	382	62.	Calicut	198

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
63.	Moradabad	366	63.	Jamshedpur	193
64.	Phagwara	361	64.	Hubli-Dharwar	
65.	Nasik	353	65.	Nasik	190
66.	Dhanbad	342	66.	Jhodpur	176
67.	Belgaum	338	67.	Moradabad	176
68.	Udaipur	336	68.	Bhadoli	170
69.	Tiruppur	332	69.	Kolhapur	169
70.	Simla	325	70.	Thissur	168
71.	Pondicheery	324	71.	Patiala	163
72.	Durgapur	322	72.	Durgapur	161
73.	Ajmer	319	73.	Bhillainagar	155
74.	Kottayam	315	74.	Jammu	150
75.	Aligarh	311	75.	Panipat	149

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
76.	Salem	310	76.	Hatia	145
77.	Raipur	308	78.	Belgaum	143
78.	Hoshbrpur	308	78.	Belgaum	143
79.	Bhavnagar	306	79.	Pondicherry	139
80.	Shillong	304	80.	Kattayam	138
81.	Portbunder	298	81.	New Bombay	137
82.	Thiruvalla	293	82.	Kukatpelly	137
83.	Bhilsinagar	290	83.	Howrah	131
84.	Kollam	286	84.	Kakinada	128
85.	Kota	285	85.	Erode	127
86.	Cuttack	283	86.	Hissar	127
87.	Mapusa	274	87.	Bareilly	127

Rank	Name of the Centre	Deposits	Rank	Name of the Centre	Credit
88.	Aurangabad	257	88.	Muzaffarnagar	125
89.	New Bombay	257	89.	Bharuch	125
90.	Bhuj	254	90.	Modinagar	122
91.	Kolhapur	252	91.	Ujjain	121
92.	Rohtak	251	92.	Gorakhpur	120
93.	Gurgaon	247	93.	Solapur	119
94.	Ujjain	247	94.	Kalyan	117
95.	Saharanpur	244	95.	Jamnagar	110
96.	Muzaffarpur	241	96.	Yamunanagar	109
97.	Asansol	239	97.	Bhatinda	109
98.	Rourkela	237	98.	Rourkela	108
99.	Warangal	234	99.	Bhilwara	108
100.	Gandhinagar	233	100.	Aluva	107

Production and Export of Silk

7597. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY

: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is the second largest purchaser of silk in the world;

(b) if so, the demand for the Indian silk during the last three years in domestic and foreign markets;

(c) whether demand high potential, the production and export of silk lag far behind the demand for the same;

(d) if so, the present silk production in the country and the targetted silk production and export by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) the reasons for low production and

the major obstacles in achieving the high yield as identified by experts at the seminar on processing of pure silk organised by the man-made Textile Research Association held at Surat in February, 1994; and

(f) The measures, taken or proposed to be taken to remove the obstacles in the production, modernisation of silk industry and boosting the production and export of silk to meet the growing demand for Indian silk in the domestic and foreign markets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) No, Sir. India is the second largest producer of silk in the World.

(b) to (d) The following quantities of raw silk produced indigenously and imported during the last 3 years were utilised for meeting the demand of both domestic and export sectors :-

(in metric tonnes)

Year	Production	Import	Total
1991-92	11863	2115	13978
1992-93	14169	2918	17087
1993-94 (up to Dec., 93)	10037	3350	13387

While the production of silk in the country has steadily improved over the years, the demand both for the domestic as well as the export sector have also increased and continue to outpace the supplies.

The targets at the end of the VIIIth plan period for the annual production and export of silk are 21400 metric tonnes and Rs. 3074 crores respectively.

(e) and (f) The information published on the details of the seminar on 'processing of pure silk' organised by the Man Made Textile Research Association at Surat in Feb., 1994 does not make any specific mention of the "Reasons for low productivity and major obstacles in achieving high yield". However, in order to increase the production of quality silk in the country, the Central Silk Board has intensified research activities towards

evolving suitable high yielding and disease resistant food plants/silk worm races for different agroclimatic conditions. Besides, a World Bank/Swiss assisted National Sericulture Project is being implemented in the country to create modern infrastructural facilities for increasing production of quality silk, which is likely to also help boost the exports of silk products from the country.

[*Translisation*]

Welfare Schemes

7598. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to implement some welfare schemes for the children of labourers working in various industries including the facility of education for them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.V. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Government have set five separate Welfare Funds through specific enactments for labourers working in Beedi industry, in the mines (mica, lime-stone, dolomite, iron ore, manganese ore and chrome ore mines) and for the cine workers. Through these Funds various welfare facilities are extended to the workers and their families including children. The facilities are mainly in the areas of education, health care, housing, recreation and water supply.

[*English*]

UNDP Assistance for Flower Cultivation

7599. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to

state :

(a) whether the Union Govt. have sought financial assistance from UNDP for the development of cultivation of flower for export;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any areas have been selected in Andhra Pradesh for encouraging floriculture with this assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Government of India have signed on 12.4.94 a document with UNDP for enhancing production and export of floriculture. This Project will be implemented over a period of three years i.e. 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 by the Ministry of Commerce through Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority. The total UNDP assistance to be received in kind is worth US \$ 6 lakhs. The Government of India's contribution (in kind) is worth Rs. 40 lakhs.

(c) and (d) The Project Steering Committee to oversee the project implementation has been constituted and it will identify the potentially suitable areas for floriculture production.

Compensation to Casualties

7600. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to enhance the relief amount for the families of workers suffering fatal and other injuries in the course of employment;

(b) if so, whether any final decision has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The Government have decided *inter-alia* to enhance :

- (i) the minimum amount of compensation payable under the workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- in the case of death and from Rs. 24,000/- to Rs. 60,000/- in the case of permanent total disablement;
- (ii) the rates of compensation from 40% of the monthly wage to 50% of the monthly wage in the case of death and from 50% of the monthly wage to 60% of the monthly wage in the case of permanent total disablement multiplied by the relevant factor.

Import of Gold and Silver

7601. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the limit of import of gold and silver under the NRI Gold and Silver Import Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Bonded Labour

7602. SHRI SHRAVANKUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Committee in August last year to re-define bonded labour;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has since submitted its report;

(c) if so, the main observations and recommendation of the Committee; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) A Committee was appointed in April, 1993 to draw up a workable definition of 'Bonded Labour'.

(b) The Committee has not yet submitted its final report.

(c) and (d) In view of (b) does not arise.

Projection of Indian Tobacco

7603. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the details of the step taken by the Government to utilise the services of trade commissioners of our Government in foreign countries to obtain better and wider market acceptability for Indian tobacco ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : The Commercial representatives in our overseas Missions

have an important role in promoting India's exports.

Their services are utilised for a larger market share through (i) collection and transmission of information, (ii) handling trade and investment enquiries, (iii) assisting trade delegations, (iv) advising importers/exporters on new products and market promotion etc. (v) taking up export issues with the concerned Governments or buying organisation as and when necessary etc.

[Translation]

Labour Productivity

7604. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the labour productivity in the country during the last four decades;

(b) the percentage of labour productivity increased from 1950 till the end of 1990;

(c) whether the percentage of increase in the labour productivity is very low in comparison to the other developing countries of the world;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether major contribution for increasing the labour productivity is the spread of education among them;

(f) if so, the assessment about the productivity of the educated labour and the uneducated labour separately; and

(g) the concrete measures taken by the Government to increase the labour productivity in the country during the last three years indicating the locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Labour productivity has been defined as the net value added per employee per year. According to a study undertaken by National Productivity Council covering the period from 1950-51 to 1988-89, the productivity of labour (at 1980-81 prices) in various sectors of the Indian Economy has gone up from Rs. 2898/- per worker in 1950-51 to RS. 6169/- per worker in 1988-89.

(b) Based on the above mentioned study, during the period in question labour productivity in the economy has increased at a simple rate of growth of about 1.58% per annum.

(c) and (d) No comparative study on labour productivity is available in the developing countries covering the period from 1950-51 to 1990-91. Based on a study carried out by the Asian Productivity Organisation (Tokyo) the National Productivity Council has tabulated the rates of growth of labour productivity in different Asian Countries during the 80's, as follows :

Country	Percentage Growth
India	3.18
Bangladesh	2.27
Pakistan	3.52
Srilanka	2.75
Thailand	5.47
Korea	9.54
Japan	4.04

(e) and (f) No such information is maintained.

(g) The Ministry of Labour is formulating a new Industrial Relations Law with the objective of increasing productivity, generating employment growth and establishing harmonious industrial relations. Some of the other measures for productivity improvement are;

- encouraging workers' participation in management,
- ensuring workers' safety & health,
- promoting harmonious industrial relations enunciating a Wage Policy linked to productivity, etc.

[English]

WB/IMF Comments on Budget, 1994-95

7605. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI TARA SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of reports received recently by the Union Government from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund commenting on the Indian Budget for 1994-95;

(b) whether appraisals have indicated towards deficit adversely;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (c)-The 1994 Article IV Report of the IMF on India finalised in March 1994 observes that the Budget proposals for 1994-95 contain a

number of important initiatives particularly in the area of tax reform. The progress in tax reform represented by the proposal is substantial and should lay the basis for a more revenue-elastic tax system. The steps taken to liberalise the exchange system are also commendable. However, greater fiscal correction is required to ensure a sound and sustainable budgetary position.

Export Status

7606. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have granted deemed export status to suppliers of inputs to exporters;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the overall impact thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) supply of inputs to the following categories of exporters are covered under deemed export:

- (i) Supply of goods against licences issued under the duty Exemption Scheme;
- (ii) Supply of goods to units located in Export Processing Zones (EPZs) or Export Oriented Units (EOUs) or Electronic Hardware Technology Parks (EHTPs).

(c) (i) It facilitates saving of foreign exchange to a certain extent.

(ii) It enables the Indigenous Industry to modernise & update its plant and machinery and

fuller utilisation of its capacity.

- (iii) It also gives a chance to manufacturers to manufacture materials of International Standards to make it globally competitive.
- (iv) It is an instrument of Import substitution.
- (v) It provides an exporter an easy access to the inputs required for export production.
- (vi) It generates employment opportunities.

Business Ties Between India and Canada

7607. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a vast potential for strengthening economic and business ties between India and Canada ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to boost Indo-Canadian ties ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Continuous efforts are being made to increase bilateral trade with Canada. The promotional measures include, *inter alia*, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions, holding of buyer-seller meets, visits by specialised delegations from various sectors for creating market awareness. Besides, there exists a Joint Business Council in which representatives of the industries of both the countries periodically exchange view for

expanding trade.

Enhancing the Production Target of Tobacco for Karnataka

7608. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for tobacco production for Karnataka during 1994-95;

(b) whether Government propose to enhance the production target for the State particularly in view of goods soil, seasonal and rainfed conditions; and

(c) if not, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) 20.10 M.kgs of FCV tobacco.

(b) and (c) it is not proposed to enhance the production target of FCV tobacco for 1994-95 Karnataka crop for the following reasons :

- (1) Glut situation in world markets.
- (2) Large carryover stocks with Indian traders.
- (3) Near stagnant domestic demand.
- (4) Crop size is fixed on supply demand parameters.

Japanese Securities Firms in Indian Financial Market

7609. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foreign securities firms require the permission of the Union Government - Reserve Bank of India before entering the financial market establishing their regional offices or subsidiaries and getting the status of brokers in the Indian financial market;

(b) if so, whether the Japanese Securities firms have sought such permission and the permission has been accorded;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether some of these firms have already established their regional offices in India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAMURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) M/s. Nemura Securities Company Ltd., Japan has been permitted to open a liaison office in India for collecting information on financial and capital markets, rendering assistance for the development of the securities market in India and assisting Japanese and foreign corporations to invest in India.

Sea-Food

7610. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the French Govt. has banned the import of Sea Food from India;

(b) of so, the details thereof along with reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the French Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) On account of protest from their fishermen against import of cheap fish from Russia, U.K. etc. French Government had recently put a ban on import of sea food from all sources other than those conforming to European Community Standards.

(c) and (d) India had also been hit by the ban. Govt. of India recently took up the matter with the concerned French authorities. The ban has since been lifted.

Bonded Labour

7611. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centrally sponsored scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour has been drawn up for implementation under the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the progress made in its implementation so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government, a Centrally Sponsored scheme for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers was launched in 1978-79 under which financial assistance on matching grant (50:50) basis upto a ceiling limit of Rs. 6250/- per head is provided for the rehabilitation of identified

and released bonded labourers. The pattern of assistance may be land-based, non-land based or skill/craft based depending upon the aptitude/skill and preference of the beneficiary.

(c) An amount of Rs. 337.54 lakhs had been released to State Governments as Central share of assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme during 1992-93 and 1993-94.

New Markets for Tobacco

7612. SHRI S.M. LALJANBASHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has made efforts to secure new markets for tobacco in foreign countries during 1994-95;

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

(c) whether foreign tobacco product manufacturers have offered to set up units in India to lift Indian tobacco; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Continuous interaction with potential new markets like Morocco, Tunisia, Spain, Philippines, France, Indonesia, Malaysia etc. was made through visit of trade delegations and exchange of information of Indian tobacco.

(c) and (d) M/s R.J. Reynolds Tobacco International has made a foreign investment proposal in collaboration with MODIPON for tobacco processing and cigarette manufacturing. The foreign investment is to the tune of US \$7 million and will create a demand of 22700 tons of Indian tobacco in

the manufacturing facilities to be set up by them. The foreign Investment board has approved the proposal.

Primary Education for Eradication of Child Labour

7613. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the abuse of children as labour can be minimised by attaining the goal of universal primary education ;

(b) whether the Government also agree that universal primary education was necessary for all-round social and economic development and also the most important strategy for eradicating child labour;

(c) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Under the National Policy on Education, 1986 comprehensive Programmes for achieving universal primary education have been initiated. Accessibility to primary school within one km. walking distance has been provided to 94% of the population. Tuition fee has been abolished in Govt. schools at least upto upper primary level. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Operation Black Board has so far provided, additional teacher and facilities to 4.71 lakh primary schools. The Non Formal Education Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 704 crores for

the Eighth Plan, is in operation in 19 States/UTs covering 63.75 lakh children who could not for various reasons go to formal schools. Fourteen States & four UTs have enacted legislation to make education compulsory.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Loan by Nationalised Banks in Gujarat

7614. SHRI N.J. RATHVA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loan provided by the different branches of nationalised banks in Gujarat particularly in tribal areas for construction of houses, setting up industries, grain trading and for purchasing vehicles during the last three years;

(b) whether the amount of loan has been recovered;

(c) if not, the reasons there for; and

(d) the steps taken to recover it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) The data reporting system does not generate the information in the manner asked for. However, the outstanding amount of advances extended to Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat by all scheduled commercial banks as at the end of March 1990, 1991 and 1992 for housing loans, setting up of industrial estates, retail trade and to small road and water transport operators was as under :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Amount Outstanding

	March 1990	March 1991	March 1992
1. Housing Loan	883.71	797.55	890.64
2. Setting up of Industrial Estates	0.18	—	0.29
3. Retail Trade	556.04	615.58	774.92
4. Advances to Small Road and Water Transportations.	1280.57	1316.67	1445.98

The category-wise/State-wise information regarding recovery of above advances is not generated by the data reporting system. However, various steps have been taken by Reserve Bank of India to reduce the amount of overdues and also to improve the recovery performance of the

commercial banks in respect of their advances to various sectors. Some of the important steps are also follow :

1. Banks have been impressed upon to institute a viable recovery system with a view to

help recycling the scarce resources of the banks to the needy and productive sectors of the economy on the one hand and to improve the profitability and viability of the lending banks on the other.

2. Introduction of a comprehensive and uniform grading system to indicate the health of individual advances for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up.
3. To keep a watch on the recovery of top sticky accounts;
4. Taking corrective action where advances are found to have become sticky.

In addition to above, in the Memorandum of Understanding signed recently by the Nationalised Banks with the Reserve Bank of India, the recovery of non-performing assets by constituting a 'recovery cell' has been agreed to. The Cell is to be constituted at the Head Office which shall be under the charge of one of the General Managers. Branch-wise targets shall be fixed for recovery and reduction in non-performing assets and performance of different branches in recovery shall be monitored at Head Office level at periodic intervals by the chief executive.

[English]

Legislation on anti-Tobacco.

7615. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI RAMCHANDRA
VEERAPPA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received proposals from Ministry of Health regarding restriction on tobacco products and its advertisements ;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether the Government have received representations against the puritive clauses in the proposed legislation on anti-tobacco;

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

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of small and marginal tobacco producers ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (f) In view of the health hazards of tobacco use, the Health Ministry proposes to enact a legislation providing for restrictions on sale of tobacco and products, in certain specified areas and also ban smoking in identified public places. Government have received several representations for and against the proposed legislation. Government would take balanced view of all interests and concerns while finalising the proposed legislation.

The incentives provided for export of cigarettes and tobacco have been continued to benefit the tobacco growers.

Post Dunkel World Trading System

7616. SHRI TARA SINGH :
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD :
SHRI LOKANATH
CHOUDHURY :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Chambers of Commerce has urged the Government for a comprehensive policy package for India to establish itself in the post Dunkel World trading system;

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

(c) whether the global exports is likely to increase as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A post Uruguay Round exercise will be to identify and work on realizing the opportunities created by the Final Act. A conservative estimate has put the increase in world trade at approximately \$ 240 billion per annum. The gains for India in terms of additional exports are estimated to be of the magnitude of \$ 1.2—2 billion per annum.

GATT and Super 301

7617. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Japan attacks US over 301; GATT talks conclude "appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 15, 1994;

(b) whether the Government have received any proper message from Japan about its reservation on US attitude; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Tobacco in Karnataka

7618. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of tobacco in Kgs being grown for single barren in Karnataka; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase the production per barren in Karnataka ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Tobacco Board has authorised Karnataka FCV tobacco growers to produce 1150 kgs per simplex barn during 1994 crop season.

(b) There is no proposal to increase the production quota per barn in Karnataka for the 1994 crop season.

Container Concealing Bombs

7619. SHRI TARA SINGH :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI KRIKANTA JENA :
SHRI B. DEVARAJAN :
DR. R. MALLU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a container with about one hundred live bombs is awaiting disposal at Tughlakabad as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 12, 1994;

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

(c) the reasons for keeping these bombs here without any action; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for safe disposal or removal of these bombs immediately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) to (d) During the month of December, 1993, 283 old and rusted artillery shells were detected in two consignments of heavy melting scrap imported by two Ludhiana based parties from the United Arab Emirates at the Inland Container Depot (ICD), Tughlakabad. On 8.4. 1994, 195 shells loaded in a truck under the Army Escort were taken to the Kot Firing Range for disposal. During the ensuing operations an accident took place which resulted in the death of an Army personnel and injuries to two others.

The remaining shells have been removed from the ICD, Tughlakabad on 18.4.1994. Therefore, as on date, no container with live, bomb shells is lying at the ICD, Tughlakabad. All the shells have been removed to the Kot Firing Range for disposal by the Army experts.

Unshipped Tobacco

7620. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Tobacco Association has represented recently for

clearing the 8.7 million kilograms of unshipped tobacco;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government have already taken up the matter with the Russian authorities through our Embassy for early opening of Letter of Credit for the balance contracted quantity of 8777.3 tons.

Export quota for Textiles to US

7621. SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether export of Indian textiles to U.S. and East European countries is facing ban threat despite GATT negotiations on phasing out textile quota arrangements;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor stating the implications involved; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of Textiles and Cloth to USA under GATT

7622. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has protested to Uruguay Rounds Trade negotiations Committee that USA injecting a head-note allowing Washington to pick and choose the kind of market it wants for different countries;

(b) whether this note is an unilateral interception of certain provisions of the agreement on textile and clothing;

(c) if so, the extent by which India's demand has been accepted; and

(d) the other steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) The USA included a note in part (i) Section II of its Tariff Schedule linking the concessions in the schedule on textiles and clothing products to the provisions of effective market access. In our statement at the TNC meeting on March 30, 1994 we pointed out that the note is a unilateral interpretation of certain provisions of the agreement on Textiles and Clothing and that India does not accept this interpretation.

Inflow of funds through Euro Issues

7623. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has taken any steps to check the inflow of funds through the Euro-issues;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to set-up a separate offshore market in Bombay for tapping foreign Institutional Investor (FII) funds;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) the impact of developing an offshore debt market on the price of rupee *vis-a-vis* dollar and outflow and inflow of foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Imports and Exports

7624. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the latest available value of exports and imports by the country during 1993-94 in terms of rupees and dollars;

(b) the actual figures for 1992-93;

(c) the percentage of increase or decrease in terms of rupees and dollars over the last year;

(d) the names of Countries to which exports have risen by a percentage higher than a average rise; and

(e) the names of countries with which we have a negative balance of payment with the country's balance as a percentage of the total negative balance of trade ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (c) India's exports and imports in 1993-94, estimates of which are presently available on provisional basis. comparable data for 1992-93 and percentage variations therein are given below :

Rs. Crores

	1992-93	1993-94	Percentage Variation
Exports	53351	67547	+30.4
Imports	62923	72806	+15.7

US \$ Million

	1992-93	1993-94	Percentage Variation
Exports	18420	22173	+20.4
Imports	21726	23212	+ 6.8

(d) As per the disaggregated trade data for April - January, 1993-94, the latest period for which such data are available, the major countries to which our exports are at levels higher than the average increase of 21.6% in dollar terms, over the corresponding period in 1992-93, are :

Bangladesh, Belgium, Greece, Hong Kong, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Netherland, Singapore and Thailand.

(e) Countrywise balance of payments statistics for 1993-94 are not available. The major countries with which we have a negative balance of trade accounting for major percentage share of the country's negative trade balance include, Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, Iran, Nigeria, Republic of Korea and U.K.

National Securities Depository System

7625. SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Securities Depository System has been implemented;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken for implementation of the above system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir. Government has taken no decision to set up a National Securities Depository System. The Finance Minister has, however, announced in his budget speech for 1994-95 that Government intends to enact legislation for the establishment of depositories.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Rackets in Offer of Employment Abroad

7626. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of rackets pretending to offer employment in foreign countries and preparation of bogus passports

reported to the Union Government during the last three years;

(b) the steps taken by the Government in the matter;

(c) whether there has been continuous increase in cheating in the case of offer of employment abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof the steps being taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Sick Shipping Companies

7627. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of Government funds locked up in the sick shipping companies industry, Company-wise as on April 1, 1994;

(b) whether the SCICI Ltd., the major institutional lender to the shipping, has worked out a scheme to recover the Government funds;

(c) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(d) the manner in which it is proposed to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY) : (a) Government of India's debt amounting to RS. 827.12 crores is outstanding, as on 31st march, 1994m against 18 sick shipping companies. It comprises of Rs. 377.36 crores disbursed as loans, Rs. 239.28 crores on account of Promissory Notes issued by Government to discharge its obligations in lieu of guarantees/counter guarantees given by erstwhile shipping Development fund Committee/Government due to non-payment of loans by shipping companies and Rs. 210.48 crores on account of interest. Company wise position is given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) to (d) Rehabilitation schemes were sanctioned by Government for three sick but potentially viable shipping companies in 1987.

In respect of remaining 15 companies action has been initiated by Government / SCICI Ltd., as designated person of Government, under Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986 and / or Colonial Courts of admiralty Act, 1890 to recover Government's dues.

STATEMENT

DETAILS OF AMOUNT LOCKED UP IN SICK SHIPPING COMPANIES

(Rs. in Crores)		
Sl.No.	Name of the Company	Amount
1.	Damodar Bulk Carriers Ltd.	41.92
2.	Dempo Steamships Ltd.	88.83
3.	Indoceanic Shipping Co. Ltd.	30.22
4.	Nilhat Shipping Co. Ltd.	25.76
5.	R.A.J. Lines Ltd.	2.34
6.	Seven Seas Transportation Ltd.	17.32
7.	Sujwala Shipping Co. Ltd.	2.44
8.	Thakur Shipping Co. Ltd.	11.93
9.	Deccan Shipping Co. Ltd.	3.58
10.	Panchsheel Shipping Co. Ltd.	21.67
11.	Scindia Steam navigation Co. Ltd.	207.54
12.	mangla Bulk Carriers Ltd.	4.56
13.	Streamline Shipping Co. Ltd.	3.31

MAY 13, 1994

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Amount</i>
14.	Hede Navigation Co. Ltd.	47.72
15.	Nirvan Shipping Co. Ltd.	5.54
17.	India Steamship Co. Ltd.	166.70
18.	Surrendra Overseas Ltd.	87.34
Total		827.12

12.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Basudeb Acharya.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, what about the discussion on GATT that was like going to take place here? The House is going to be adjourned today. Discussion on GATT is not included in the List of Business. We want to know what happened to that ?

MR. SPEAKER : We can take up this discussion tonight after the List of Business is over, only if you are willing.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : MR. Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise a very very important and urgent issue. It relates to the present position of the wagon manufacturing units in this country. There are ten units, five of which are in the public sector and five are in the private sector. But the position is such that this year so far no order has been placed on them by the Railways. These wagon manufacturing units are completely sitting idle. Thousands and thousands of workers have no job. Already, the payments due for the last three or four months are in arrears. Any day they are apprehending a lay-off or a lock out. Even TEXMACO, which is in the private sector is facing difficulties.

Yesterday also I received a pathetic telegram asking us to do something, to talk to the Ministers, to the Prime Minister because no orders have been placed so far. Four

thousand five hundred people are involved. They are facing an immediate closure of these units.

I do not know what the Government is doing,. They have reduced the number of wagons required for this year. They are going to rely on the private sector also. That came out in the Report of the Standing Committee on Railways also. Orders have not been placed on even those private sector undertakings also, far less on the public sector undertakings. Thousands of workers are facing this situation.

Apart from the fact that wagons are absolutely necessary for our Railways, when we are stressing on earning more and more money through the carriage of freight, if wagons are not allowed to be manufactured this will recoil on the functioning of the Railways, recoil on its earning capacity plus ten wagon manufacturing units and their thousands of workmen are facing a serious problem.

Therefore, through you, I request the hon. Ministers to do something in the matter. Though the Railway Minister is not here, the finance Minister is here, the Commerce Minister and so many Cabinet Ministers are here. I think it is the obligation of the Government as a whole to see that this industry does not die out, that the workers, *bona fide* citizens of this country who are not claiming anything more than what are their wages and nothing else have at least minimum survival wherewithal.

I had requested you, if you could exercise your good offices with the Ministers to respond. The Railway Minister is not here. I had requested Shri Vidyacharan Shukla also. Everyday we are receiving telegrams, letters and telephone calls. I want something to be done, so that instead of raising it here, we

should be able to tell them that something is being done, that the Government is responding.

Last year also we had to go on pleading with them, every quarter and quarterwise, on our pressure, some orders were placed. But this year so far nothing has been done for the last quarter. I am sure that this is an issue which will cut across the party lines because every section of the House will be concerned and is concerned.

Therefore, I hope that the Minister will kindly respond to this. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (BANKURA) : Sir, a very serious situation is developing in wagon manufacturing units in West Bengal. (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum) : Already TEXMACO had issued a notice saying that by 15th of May, they will retrench 1300 persons. And by first of June, the total number will be only 4,000. This kind of a situation calls for urgent reaction from the Government. Today is 13th May and by 15th May, they are going to retrench 1300 persons. So, the Government should act immediately. It is TEXMACO, which is doing this, Sir, kindly ask the Government to act promptly. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, 30,000 workers will face a similar situation, which the workers of TEXMACO are facing today. The Government should respond to this Matter. Sir, kindly ask the Government to respond. (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister is agreeable to respond to this matter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know that. Kindly ask your Members to sit down first.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Shri Shuklaji, not usual consideration' (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARANSHUKLA) : Sir, as you know, the Railway Minister is leading a Haj delegation to Haj. He is not here. We will certainly bring this matter to the notice of the Railway Minister. The Labour Minister is also here. We will definitely take a very sympathetic view on this matter. (Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Sir, the Railway Minister has already said that they will do nothing.

MR. SPEAKER : The Parliamentary Affairs Minister has said that they will take a sympathetic view on this matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Sir, the Railway Minister has already made a statement in the House, where he has said : "If I do not have money, where am I going to buy the wagons ? If I do not need the wagons, why am I going to buy them?". He has indicated very categorically that he has no plans or schemes to see that these factories are kept going. So, what is this assurance ?

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Shri Manjay Lal.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Only Shri Manjay Lal's statement will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MANJAV LAL (Samastipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Rameshwar Jute Mill has been running for years in Muktapur which comes under the jurisdiction of Samastipur district of Bihar. On May 6, 1994 there was a skirmish between the Manager and the workers of the mill. The Management of the mill had already made up its mind of locking the mill. On the morning of May 6, 1994, the management walked away after locking the mill. About 5000 workers work in this mill. Yesterday, on May 11, 1994, negotiations between the management and the workers' representatives took place in the presence of the Labour Commissioner of the Government of Bihar but the management was not ready to operate the mill. As a result of this, 5000 workers of the mill along with their families are starving.

Therefore, I urge upon the Central Government to take initiative in the matter and revive the Rameshwar Jute Mill forth with so as to save the mill's 5000 workers and their families from starvation deaths.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Today is the last day of this Session. I would request the Members sitting on the front benches and the Members who have been participating in the question hour and other discussions to allow the other Members to raise their issues. Today I am inclined to give little more time.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a perpetual problem of electricity in Ranchi and the entire Chhotra Nagpur area despite the fact that a lions' share of revenue is

collected from Chhota Nagpur area of Bihar. People of Ranchi and Chhota Nagpur have been agitating for the problems of water and electricity but the Government of Bihar is paying no heed to it. As a result of this, thousands of industries have been closed and many are on the verge of closure.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This matter is related to the State Government.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Udaipur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the statement of an hon. Minister of the Government of Madhya Pradesh and its selected group of Government officials. Sir, the incidents of rape are rampant in India and this is an open secret. Recently, an 18 year old girl was raped in Madhya Pradesh. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. SPEAKER : This question was raised and discussed yesterday.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Sir, it should be discussed today as well .. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Shall it be debated everyday ?

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Sir, it is a burning topic, such rape incidents take place daily .. (Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I thought you were going to raise some other issue.

[Translation]

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Some decision should be taken on it.

MR. SPEAKER : What decision shall be

taken when this House is not competent to take one on it. The state legislature or the Court alone have jurisdiction over it.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS : The feelings of the House should be carried there.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, it is a serious matter; our opinion is that whosoever is competent to decide on it should take a well thought out decision.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (Domariaganj) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important matter.

My constituency district Siddarth Nagar situated on Indo-Nepal border is replete with rivers and streams and is prone to devastating floods every year by which lakhs of people are rendered homeless and there is a heavy loss of life and property. This year, too heavy floods swept through it and assistance of army was taken for rescue and relief operations. It is not connected with a broad gauge railway line and as such, there are no industries here. Approval for setting up a sugar mill there was given in 1990 but it has not been set up as yet. The process of setting up a 132 KVA power sub-station was started in Domariaganj in 1989 but it has not been completed as yet.

Therefore, I would request the Central Government to make a master-plan for protecting this district from floods, convert Gorakhpur - Gounda meter - gauge line into broad-gauge line and set up new industries in the area so that this backward area develops.

SHRI MANIKRAO HOLDLYA GAVIT (Nandarbar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my constituency, Nandarbar is in Maharashtra. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India has given

approval to the setting up of a Navodaya Vidyalaya in a village of Tehsil Akklua and the National Building Construction Corporation, Delhi has taken up the construction of the Vidyalaya building under Government scheme in 1990; its estimated expenditure is Rs. 127 lakh and Rs. 97 lakh have been spent on it till date but the construction of not a single building has been completed as yet. On 2.2.1994, I inspected the construction work and after talking to the engineer found that work was not being carried out satisfactorily. The wall-plaster had been removed at many spots and on asking the engineer about it, I found his response uncivilised and irresponsible. An inquiry should be conducted into the construction work and it should be taken over from the corporation and action be taken against the persons found guilty.

MR. SPEAKER : You are making a complaint against an officer in the Parliament. This can't be done.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur) : Sir, the other day in the House, the hon. Home Minister confessed that there had been negligence in respect of the State of Manipur. Now, I am bringing an instance of negligence of the State before the House. A long standing proposal of the State Government for a project, namely, Loktak Down Stream hydro electric project remains with the Central Government without giving clearance. It is now with the hon. Minister of Environment and forests. I have met him in his Office some time back. He assured me that he would take up the matter and give clearance as early as possible. But, until now, clearance has not been given. Since then two years have passed.

So, I urge upon the Government through

you, Sir, fortaking it up as a special case and give clearance to this project. It will provide employment to a great number of people in the State.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI (Darbhanga) : People from othe feilds are also included to enter in it. But no Lok Sabha Member has been included in the delegation.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Fatmi, it does not look nice for you to raise this point.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, now I am coming to the actual point, please listen to me. No representative from the Opposition has been elected . Sir, Shri Atal Bihari may go to Geneva, if so required. But, Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of regret that only one person has been elected from the opposition from both the houses.**

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : It is not becoming for the Member of the House to raise such matters on the floor of the House.

[Translation]

It is not a controversial matter not only in Muslim community, but would create a bad impression outside the country, this is not good.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I thought you were speaking for others but it appears that you are speaking for yourself.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT (Balaghat) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, people of the naxalite infested areas like Baster, Balaghat, Mandla and Rajanadgaon of madhya Pradesh have been terrified for the last four years. The Government of Madhya Pradesh have taken an initiative to check the naxalite activities in those areas. As long as initiative is not taken for the development and to realise the fundamental needs and aspirations of the people of these, naxalite activities cannot be checked. Due to lack of education, health, transport and irrigation facilities the tribal people are provoked induced, and instigated. Therefore, it is to provide these facilities that the Government of Madhya Pradesh have sought financial aid fromn the Central Government under a special scheme. Though you, I would like to urge the Government to provide special financial aid for the development of naxalite affected areas, so that these activities can be totally put to an end. (Interruptions)

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. speaker, Sir the government of Japa: have provided a financial aid fof Rs. 21 . crores for the development of tourism. In this context particularly I would like to urge upon the Government to provide incentive funds under Both circuit so as to put an end to the naxalite activities. (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, with regard to the financial aid of Rs. 219 crores provided by

the Japanese Government, I would like to submit that special funds should be provided for the development of tourism under Both Circuit particularly for the progress of Rajgir and Both Gaya .. (*Interruptions*)..

MR. SPEAKER : A question on this subject was raised a short while ago, you were not present at that moment.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : I had raised my hand ... (*Interruptions*). It is my constituency.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, this question need not to be raised, it has already been raised.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : I should have been given an opportunity to speak particularly with regard to this question.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, please be brief.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : My submission is that Bakhtiyarpur-Rajgir railway line should be extended to Both Gaya with a view to attract more tourists in that region.

[*English*]

SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA (Keonjhar) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I draw your kind attention and the attention of the House to a grave problem. There are several PCOs set up in my constituency and in other constituencies also, but all the telephones installed in these PCOs are not functioning; all of them are defunct. I do not know what is the reason for this. Therefore, I urge upon the Government of India, through you, to check up these telephones to see why they are not working, and also to make them function efficiently.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to your notice a light comment made by our Railway Minister in response to our request for adequate release of Cauvery Water. He has said that people of Tamil Nadu are welcome to Mysore in Karnataka travelling by the newly introduced Trains that run between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to have Cauvery water. This comment hurts the feelings of six crores of Tamils living in Tamil Nadu which faces acute water shortage. Water scarcity is rampant there. Drinking water needs have to be attended to with a concerted approach.

welcome the agreement reached in Delhi at the talks initiated by the Chief Ministers of Delhi and Haryana in sharing Yamuna water between five neighbouring states. In the lines of Yamuna Water Board an effective body should be set up by the Centre to facilitate all the riparian states of river Cauvery in sharing the water. We are not getting water as per the Tribunal Award and hence I request the Water Resource Minister through you to find an early solution to solve water problem.

I request you to impress upon the Railway Minister to take back the supposedly made remark in lighter vein about our pleading for Cauvery Water and tender apology in this House.

I would also like to bring to your notice the need to have a fitting memorial to our great leader late Shri Kamaraj who was a Member of this august House. He was a selfless parliamentarian who made other to perform better in Parliament. Though he spoke less he was the decision maker in choosing

two Prime Ministers of India after the demise of Nehruji. Thrice he had contributed to this choice of two Prime Ministers. I welcome the erecting of statue in memory of Late Y. B. Chavan. Likewise a fitting memorial should be there for our great leader Karmaraj in the precincts of Parliament. Hon. Speaker may look into it. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI DWARAKA NATH DAS (Karimganj) : Sir, deforestation is going on unabated in Assam, particularly in Barak Valley. If reckless felling of valuable trees like Sal, Segum, Sundi, Gamair, Champ etc. continues for another two years, I fear Assam will no longer be said to be a State with rich forest resources. It is surprising that truckloads of timber are smuggled out of the State in the dead of night, but the Forest Administration is not prompt enough to check this menace, and in this way Assam is drifting fast towards ecological imbalance endangering flora and fauna of this region. It has become almost a common affair that herds of elephants are attacking the human habitation demolishing the dwellings and sometimes killing the inhabitants therein because of dwindling of forest area. I have drawn the attention of the Central as well as State authorities in this regard, but till date the situation is not at all improved.

Under the circumstances, I urge upon the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, to take immediate suitable steps to save Assam from the grip of smugglers and thereby to preserve its evergreen forests.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission once again I would like to raise

an important issue. Textile mills in Bombay are going to be closed. The Hon. Minister of Textiles, shri G. Venket Swamy in response to a question of shri Ram Vilas Paswan whether textile mills are going to be closed by the Government, had stated that these mills are not going to be closed. In the meeting of the Committee also, the hon. Minister had stated that these mills will not be closed. However, in the reply given to me by the hon. Minister name of the Madhusudan Mills has been referred to which has a total land of 18.5 acres. He has stated that total land required after modernisation is nil. Which means the entire mill is going to be sold. Similar is the case of Sitarm Mills, Alvestil Mills, Kohinoor mills No.2 and No. 3. These mills are going to be closed down in the name of merger and surplus land. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether these mills are really going to be closed down? The Government has provided one crore rupees for repairs etc. and three hundred crore rupees for VRs to NTC i.e. money has been given for employees' voluntary retirement, but not for raw material. Though for modernisation, Rs. 877 crore has been provided but out of this Rs. 765 crore is going to be provided to private mills whereas not a single penny has been provided for NTC Mills located in Bombay. The mills I have mentioned are engaged in exports to. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to request you to direct the hon. Minister to say something in this regard.

MR. SPEAKER : There is some controversy in the matter. He is saying that mills are going to be closed due to merger, but you are saying that closure is not on the cards. Now, what have you to say?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : Issue was discussed at length in the Tripartite Committee that if modernisation

is to be done then not a single worker is to be retrenched. The Government has, therefore, decided that not a single worker will be retrenched. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, he should now assure that he will not commit self-immolation. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RASASINGH RAWAT (AJMER) : Many employees of National Textile Mill, Beawar, have been retrenched.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Rasa Singh ji, please do not disturb.

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : He has read out my reply here. Let him read it out again and if it is correct, then I will accept his assertion.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Bombay-South Central) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you allow me then I will read it out. The list was supplied to me by him.

MR. SPEAKER : Read out the relevant portion only.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will read out from the list supplied by him, the names of those mills only which are going to be merged.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale, please sit down. He wants to know whether merger means closure of some mills or not ?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Mr.

Speaker, Sir, if modernisation is to be done, then...

MR. SPEAKER : No, if two mills are to be merged ...

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am coming to this point. The report of the Textile Commissioner has been accepted by all and modernisation will take place as per that report.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : My question is whether you are going to close the mills or not ?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : I would like to state that no worker is going to be retrenched.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : My question is whether Mills are going to be closed or not ? Please do not misguide. Even documents in this regard have been provided.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rawale, merger does not mean closing down of one mill and starting of the other. He is stating that even after merger of various mills no employee is going to be retrenched.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Rawale, you should be satisfied now. Shri Umbrey may speak now.

SHRI LAETA UMBREY (Arunachal East) : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and the hon. House, through you, to a very important matter. Sir, 300 college and school students from Arunachal Pradesh—the eastern-most part of the country—have come to Delhi and they are sitting on a

Dharna in Jantar Mantar to press the Central Government to comply with the Supreme Court's orders. I would like to read out the reply given by the Home Ministry :

"The Chakma refugees from Arunachal Pradesh had moved the Guwahati High Court and subsequently filed a special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court. In its judgement; the Supreme Court quoted its earlier ruling in the case of Louis De Raedt Vs. Union of India, wherein it had, *inter alia*, ruled that '... the Fundamental Right of the foreigner is confined to Article 21 for 'life and liberty' and does not include the right to reside and settle in this country, as mentioned in Article 19(1) (e), which is applicable only to the citizens of this country."

Sir, this is the ruling of the Supreme Court and the Government of India has recognised the Chakma refugees who are residing, who are temporarily kept in Arunachal Pradesh till now. As you know, Arunachal Pradesh is a restricted area under Section 7 of the Bengal Eastern Frontier Act, 1873. No one who is not a resident of Arunachal Pradesh can possess land or driving licence. When the fellow India citizens are not allowed to possess these facilities, these Chakma refugees are enjoying these facilities and the Government of India is adamant and they are not carrying out the orders of the Supreme Court Judgement.

Sir, I seek your indulgence and the indulgence of the entire House that why the Government is shying and not carrying out the judgement of the Supreme Court. I urge upon suitable action.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL VARMA (Dhanduka) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, ship-breaking work of the entire country is done at Anant in Bhavnagar district of Gujarat. However, Trucks carry the iron there from all over the country. Therefore, rail line should be constructed from Bhavnagar to Anant to facilitate transport of iron from all over the country to Anant, So that the development work there which has come to halt may be completed.

At the time of the Railway Budget, I had urged the hon. Minister of Railways that if provision in the current Budget in this regard cannot be made, then in the next Budget a provision to this effect should be made. I hope this demand is seriously pondered over and a rail line from Bhavnagar to Anant is constructed.

SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL (Nanded) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the day the hon. Minister of Textiles had replied to Shri Mohan Rawale in the house that NTC Mills are not going to be closed. I was also present here. Nanded Textile Mill, known as NTC Mill, is famous all over the World for quality cloth, is now on the verge of closure. On being enquired, the hon. Minister of Textiles had assured me that in the Tripartite Committee, he is going to announce the release of funds for modernisation. However, gradually that Mill is being closed and two of its Departments have been fully closed. Whereas there is no scope for opening new Departments, even the old Departments are being closed. Condition of Mills of Bombay is none too different from the condition of Mills of Nanded. Shri Mohan Rawale could not get your protection but I will seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : You may talk about yourself only.

SHRIMATI SURYA KANTA PATIL : The Nanded Textile Mill regarding which the hon.

Minister of Textiles gave me an assurance has also been closed down and money has been disbursed by BIFR. Promise regarding modernisation of Mill has not been fulfilled by disbursing money.

MR. SPEAKER, Sir, I would request that the assurance given by the hon. Minister should be examined comprehensively.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA (Nabadwip) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I would like to bring to the notice of the Railway authorities, through you, that the Ranaght-Gade railway line of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway is neglected line. I have raised this issue many times. but not attention has been paid to this matter so far. Tomorrow morning, that is, on the 14th of this month the people of that area are going to stage a dharna, that is, "rail roko" agitation. The demands of the people of that are not being fulfilled and it is very unfair on the part of the Railway authorities. So, it is high time that the Railway authorities should pay serious attention to this matter and negotiate with the people of that area. The demands like immediate electrification of Ranaghat - Gade section, introduction of DMU coaches till the completion of electrification maintenance of proper time table for the existing trains., provision of amenities like fans and lights, provision of separate ladies' coaches in all the trains, conversion of all the halt stations into full-fledged stations, construction of one shed for passengers in the Down platform of Bagula station, arranging of electricity supply for Bagula and Harishnagar halts and construction of level crossing gate at Bagula beside the Railway cabin should be fulfilled immediately.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIA (Ujain

ji) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards the problem created by sinking of ground water level in 16 districts of Madhya Pradesh. During the last two- three years, the ground water level has gone down from 100 ft. to 150 ft. and due to this, all hand-pumps have dried up. It has been stated that there is no water crisis in Madhya Pradesh but the reality is that due to sinking of water level, the problem has become more serious. Today, Ujjain, Indore, Mandsaur, Khandwa, Khargon, Shivpuri, Sagar, Morena, Raipur, Hoshangabad, Betul, Balaghat and Baster districts have come under its grip. I would like to submit that measures should be taken to raise the level of ground water there and Narmada-Kshipra Link scheme should be implemented effectively. Keeping this problem in view, the Union Government should also take adequate measures.

SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV (Shanjahanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the problem of the people of Dabri, near Delhi. There, a unit of National Thermal Power Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking is located. In 1986, the land of the people of that area was acquired at the rate of Re. 1, Rs. 2, and Rs. 4 and Rs. 6 per. Sq. yard. but after two years the Department of Railways acquired the land at the rate of Rs. 120 and Rs. 130 per square yard. Now, about 2000 poor farmers have been sitting on dharna since March 7, 1994. They have been demanding adequate compensation. On 10th May, 1994 the jawans of Central Industrial Security Force along with local police went on the rampage and attacked the people by forcibly entering their houses. As a result, two people died. One of the deceased identified was Braham Singh and another was woman. It was also reported that police personnel dragged out even six months old babies from the houses and caused leg fracture to at least 50 persons. In

this incident, about 80-90 people were sent to jail and cases have been registered against 300-400 people. Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government that considering the seriousness of the matter, it should intervene and accept the main demands of the farmers. When the Department of Railways have given adequate compensation to the farmers, why is the Department of Power dragging its feet? The heap of ashes in the fields of the farmers have taken the form of a mountain. The farmers of the villages want the heap of ashes to be removed from their fields so that their crops may get not destroyed. Sir, I sought immediate intervention of the Union Government in this regard.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR (Hapur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmers of Dadri have been sitting on dharna at the gate of N.T.P.C., Dadri since 7th March for acceptance of their genuine demands. They demand adequate compensation for their lands acquired by N.T.P.C. While NTPC acquired the land at the rate of Rs. 4 per Sq. yard, on the other hand, Department of Railways acquired it at the rate of Rs. 130 per Sq. yard. They want that the compensation should be given on equal rates in both the cases.

MR. SPEAKER : The District Collector fixes the compensation, not the Central Government.

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR : Sir, I am going to tell you, what happened thereafter. Their second demand is that at least one person from each family, whose land has been acquired, should be given employment in that corporation. The third demand is that development of those villages, where land has been acquired, should be taken up. The fourth demand is that heavy pollution caused by N.T.P.C. unit should be

checked. Sir, the farmers were staging peaceful dharna but suddenly on 9th May, the General Manager of NTPC and CISF Commandant with the help of local administration and the police, lathi-charged the farmers.

When this did not satisfy them, they opened fire on the farmers. In the firing, one farmer named Braham Singh, belonging to backward class, died on the spot. The women were also beaten. Next day i.e. on 10 May one woman named Shanti Devi, belonging to scheduled caste and a resident of Rasoolpur village, died due to beating by the police. However, it was not enough for CISF personnel. Their barbarity continued to rise. In the evening, they barged into the houses of the people of Salahpur village and beat women, the old ones and the children. In this incident hundreds of people were injured. The atrocities of CISF personnel are still continuously rising. They, in connivance with the NTPC employees, have unleashed a reign of terror. The people of the villages have even decided not to pass through the route touching NTPC complex. I would request that genuine demands of the farmers should be accepted and simultaneously, a compensation amount of Rs. 5 lakh each to the family members of the deceased should be sanctioned. Further, one person each from the family of the deceased should be given employment. Sir, I also request that the General Manager, NTPC and the commandant of CISF should be initiated in the whole episode.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Saharasa) : Sir, Shri Laxmi Bhagat, who originally belongs to Saharasa district of Bihar, had been living for sometime in House No. 34, Sarai Peeparthala, New Azadpur of Shri Prakash Yadav. One day, the house owner asked him to vacate the house

immediately. He was even not given 15 days notice. When he could not vacate the House in the given time, the house-owner pushed his 5-6 years old child from the roof of the house. As a result, the child died on the spot. However, the House-owner was still not satisfied. He picked up another child of Laxmi Bhagat and kept him under lock for two days. After beating him mercilessly, he returned him to his parents.

MR. SPEAKER : Is any Government employee involved in this act ?

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Sir, this is a case of Delhi. No Government employee is involved in it. In this regard, I had written several letters to the hon. Home Minister as well as the commissioner of Police. However, a case was registered in the Police Station but no action in being taken on it. The house-owner is still at large. The child of a poor person has been killed...

MR. SPEAKER : You should go to the court.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You try to understand. This is all childishness.

SHRI KESRI LAL (Chatampur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Ghatampur, which comes under Kanpur rural district of U.P., sugar mills have been closed down before the crushing season could start. As a result, sugarcane crop is still standing on hundreds of acres of land of the farmers. The mill workers are facing unemployment and the farmers have crores of rupees outstanding against the mills. The farmers are, at present, facing a situation like starvation. They are forced to burn the crop and thus, losing crores of rupees. Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government to take steps of restart these sugar mills so that the farmers

could get some relief and the employees could earn their livelihood. Thank you.

SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN (Araria) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, during the regime of Janta Party Government in 1977, when late Lok Bandhu Rajnarain was the Health Minister, a Health scheme was launched. Under this scheme, one Health Guide each for 1000 persons, was appointed. He was to be paid Rs. 50 as honorarium and medicines worth Rs. 50. Since then their strength has not increased and the things, as they stand today, are before you all. In the past, we had drawn the attention of the Government in the House towards this subject several times but the increase in the amount of honorarium is still to be effected.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, thought five lakh health guide working under the scheme due to this reason staged demonstration at Boat Club in Delhi and also raised their demands yet the Government has not paid any attention in this regard. Sir, though you, I would like to request the Government to pay attention in this regard. Sir through you I would like to request the Government to pay attention towards this immensely useful scheme and also rise the monthly honorarium from Rs. 50 per month to Rs. 500 per month and make available medicines worth Rs. 500 to them too, so that the scheme functions effectively.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a result of the increasing unemployment by inserting large size advertisements, youth are being led astray and misguided. In the name of imparting computer training to solve the unemployment problem thousands of rupees are being extorted as fees and as a result, these unemployed youth somehow deposit fees in these Computer Training Centres. Though they get trained on the Government Computers yet due to the unrecognised

certificates awarded to them they fail to get jobs. On the one hand these youth are poor and unemployed, and on the other hand, deposit thousands of rupees of their parents as fees after being lured by the misleading and fake advertisements inserted by the Computer Training Centres.

Sir, though you, I would like to impress upon the Government and the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to ban all such activities. Not only ban should be imposed on these Computer Training Centres but persons running these Centres should be prosecuted too. Sir, through you, all these submission I am making to the Government.

MR. SPEAKER : The Government must see to it if anything can be done in this regard by them.

SHRI MOHAN S. KELKAR (Dadra and Nagar Haveli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a very important issue. Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli is predominately inhabited by the tribals. There 80 per cent of the population is tribal. In predominately tribal areas they cultivate their own lands. In league with the Government of India and local Administration, some persons are out to displace the tribals for the sugar mill project, proposed to be set up in the Union Territory. If this project comes up there then a large number of tribals will have to be displaced from their roots. Tribals of Dadra and Nagar Haveli many times have staged demonstrations and the apex body of the Union Territory Council has also unanimously passed a resolution in this regard, which was forwarded to the Government of India too to apprise the latter of various ramifications, especially that the project will not be viable. Sugarcane production in the area is not adequate and the tribals will bear tremendous losses as a result of the project. Tribals will

be uprooted from their roots and that's why it is being opposed. Even an association with the nomenclature 'Adivasi Vikas Sangathan' has threatened to launch the agitation. Therefore, I would like to urge the Government of India to examine the resolution passed by the Union.

Territory Council and immediately act on it to stop the project. An inquiry Committee should be constituted by the Government of India and Sugar Mill project should be shelved immediately.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the notice of the Central Government an issue of urgent public importance. Housing Board, Race Course constructs residential units for the Department or Defence, Air Force and Navy. Labourers working in the project are not being governed by the laid down terms and conditions of service and nor are being paid minimum recommended wage rates. This way labourers are moving the courts for justice and nor are being paid wages after dismissal as per the laid down terms and conditions service. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Government to look into these issues as great injustice is being done to the workers.

In some of the projects started by the aforementioned Housing Board in Sectors 21 and 25 of NOIDA, the Government of India has not even paid the minimum wage rate of Rs 750 per month fixed in 1989, but instead Rs. 650 per month. Further Technical Supervisors instead of Rs. 864 per month are being paid Rs. 650 per month. We request the Government to inquire into all this and appropriate steps should be taken to safeguard the interests of the labourers.

[English]

DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU

SARODE (Jalgaon) : Sir, on 3rd May, 1994, Jalgaon police, during investigation of murder case, captured worth about Rs. three crores of brown sugar in Bhusawal city as well as a Bombay bomb blast culprit. He is one of the ten Bombay Bom Blast absconded-culprits and was residing with the since the ... * ... last five months.

I request the Government to investigate the whole matter in detail by CBI. Bhusawal is a sensitive city and important ammunition factories and power stations are situated nearby. I suspect a large amount of brown sugar as well as RDX explosive kept in the city of Bhusawal and around. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No, This is not going on record. Please understand it first.

[*Translation*]

The house will be thrown in great turmoil if names of the persons unable to personally defend themselves are mentioned. Do you know the entire facts ?

[*English*]

DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE : I suspect it.

MR. SPEAKER : You suspect it. But you do not know about it. That is why I will not allow it.

DR. GUNAVANT RAMBHAU SARODE : I request the Government to investigate this matter in detail.

MR. SPEAKER : Anybody can allege against you also in some other House. This should not be allowed. Please sit down. I will tell you how to go about it.

SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN (Amroha) : Hon. Speaker, Sir the future of

371 candidates selected by the State Bank of India as Probationary Officers is in dark because of the indifference and the indecision of Ministry of Finance. 386 candidates were finally selected as Probationary Officers by the State Bank of India in October 1992. 107 out of these were from Bihar alone. The Managing Director of State Bank of India suspected some irregularities and withheld the appointment letters. In the Meantime, the medical examinations of the selected candidates were conducted and the selected candidates were informed of the final selection by some State Bank of India Circle Offices in October 1992. In the informal enquiry it is found that is candidates were said to have indulged in irregularities in the examination. The management is agreeable to appoint 371 candidates and has referred the matter to the Finance Ministry which is dragging its feet over the appointment. All these selected candidates are awaiting anxiously for the appointment. Some of whom have resigned from their jobs. Besides this, they did not apply in subsequent exercise of recruitment in the next batch of Probationary officers by the State Bank of India in November 1992. At the same time, the selected candidates cannot take up any other job as they could be called upon to join the bank any time. The candidates are running from pillar to post to resolve the appointment issue pending for nearly two years.

I, therefore, demand the Minister of Finance to approve the appointment of the 371 candidates as recommended by the management of State Bank of India so that these candidates can get relief and they do not face a dark situation. The hon. Minister is here. He may like to clarify the position. This is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you in a position to respond ? Or, you may please look into it properly.

SHRI B. AKBER PASHA (Vellore) : Sir, three years back, the export of leather and leather products and electronic items were getting incentive from the Government which was later on replaced by exim scrip. Now, on the sale of exim scrip, the State Government of Tamil Nadu is insisting on collecting the sales tax retrospectively from 1987-88 onwards and these people are in a very bad shape. Some of the industries have become sick. Some of the people who are having dealings with the former Soviet Union face a big problem 25% of the goods were being sold to the former Soviet Union. That market is totally out now. Under these circumstances, these people are facing a very big problem and some of the industries have become sick. These people have to pay sales tax retrospectively from 1987-88 onwards on exim scrip and getting replenishment licence which is a very big problem for them.

I request the Government to come to the rescue to exempt them from payment of sales tax for this period. Apart from this, State Government have also proposed to have a provision of penalty of 150 per cent from 1992-93 onwards, which is also going to hit them very hardly. Therefore, I request the Government to come to the rescue in this regard also.

[Translation]

SHRI GAYA PRASAD KORI (Jalaun) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a unit of Hindustan Levers Ltd is functioning at Orile in my constituency, Jalaun. Nearly 350 employees of the unit are sitting on dharna in front of the office of the district magistrate to press their demands. Local Police and Management of the Company had removed the workers who were squatting there, sitting in protest, i.e. on dharna and sent them to jail. In jail, atrocities are being committed on these workers. Sir, through you, I could like to request the hon.

Minister, to get the atrocities on the workers stopped and to get them back on the rolls, immediately in view of their demands.

[English]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK (Phulbani) : Sir, I am thankful to the Minister of Surface Transport for giving clearance and necessary approval for the commencement of construction of a bridge project, Boudh-Sonepur in my parliamentary constituency. Due to the delay in flouting the tender, now the construction is not taking place. Rainy season is also approaching; and so, it is going to be delayed further. Therefore, it may require a revised estimate. Since the Government of India is a partner for giving major financial investments, I request the Government the hon. Minister is present here—to give necessary directions to float the tender and commence the construction. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI D.J. TANDEL (Daman and Diu) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thought the fishermen of Gujarat and Union Territory of Diu go into high sea for fishing along the Indo - Pak border yet the Government of Pakistan put in its jails a large number of Indian fishermen. Imprisoned fishermen remained in Pakistani jails for unduly very long periods. Thought the Coast Guard continue to patrol the marine waters yet no assistance is given to the fishermen. Recently five trawlers were seized by the Pakistani authorities. On a number of occasions, I drew the attention of the Government towards this with the idea that some arrangement will be made so that fishermen without fear catch fishes. Despite the assurance of the Government to this effect nothing is being done and as a result of it the entire business of fishing is under threat. Families of the jailed fishermen are

starving. In the event of seizure of trawlers no compensation is also paid by the Insurance Companies. Some arrangement should be made for drawing demarcation line in the sea, so that fishermen of both the countries go for fishing in their respective waters.

HRI RAJESH KUMAR (Gaya) Mr Speaker, Sir, on 4th May in Kondli village in Delhi statue of Dr B R Ambedkar was forcibly removed. Demonstration of the followers of Ambedkar agitating against it was lathi charged. Even women were not spared in the lathi charge. Ornaments of women were also snatched away. They were bereft of all their valuables. I demand reinstallation of the statue of Dr Ambedkar and strict action against the guilty Police Officers.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (Rosa) This subject pertains to DDA. The hon Minister is present in the House. Statue of Dr Ambedkar was disfigured in Delhi. This issue should be got investigated.

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR I have got submission to make because today is Friday. Minority Community considers Friday to be very auspicious. Therefore, the House should be adjourned for lunch at 1.00 O'clock i.e. 13.00 hours.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a serious issue. More than 50 per cent of India is facing potable water crisis. Earlier also I brought this issue to the notice of the Government. Around 25 districts in Uttar Pradesh are facing drinking water problem. Mr Speaker, Sir, unfortunately the country is known by the names 'Bharat and India'. Yesterday an extensive discussion was held in both the Houses of the Parliament regarding the water crisis being faced by Delhi and its adjoining

and then afterwards water was received by Delhi. In rural areas people are facing acute water crisis as the water level has drastically declined.

MR SPEAKER Now rural urban conflict will be raised.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA Mr Speaker, Sir, at the moment the country is facing acute water crisis. In rural areas ladies have to go for 3-4 kms to fetch a pal of water.

My second question is

MR SPEAKER In next session it will be discussed threadbare. I have given very good relief that in the next session it could be discussed.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR SPEAKER You should be happy about it.

[Translation]

Please sit down. Your State got more than its due share. Now take your seat.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BUTA SINGH (Jalore) Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to raise a very important matter. The important matter is the policy with regard to reservation for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes. It seems that we are very unfortunate that two departments of the Government of India are trying to settle scores between

themselves. The result is that lakhs and lakhs of youth belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes are paying heavily for the conflicts of the two departments of the Government of India. At times, it is between the State Governments and the Central Government.

The recent issue—it was raised the other day—is about giving age relaxation for one time to the backward classes youth. It has been declared by the Supreme Court that the Government of India is competent. One Ministry, that is social Welfare Ministry, has agreed. But the Personnel Department has stood in the way. These people in thousands and thousands are roaming around in the streets of Delhi. There is no way out.

You were very kind to suggest that there should be a meeting. Unfortunately we have been trying with the Government of India. But no clear-cut decision is available. I request you at the fag-end of this session kindly to intervene in this matter. Otherwise the situation will be out of hands. And there will be a law and order situation in the county. You must take up the matter of backward classes people who have suffered as a result of time-lag. Three years have passed from the time the Supreme Court Judgment was delivered till today. No decision has been taken. They must be given protection. You are the only custodian who can safeguard the interests of the backward classes people.

We will take up the rest of it later on. Everybody knows what happened to Baba Saheb Ambedkar Centenary. About a dozen projects were approved. Not three of them have been completed. Who is responsible? We are responsible. The Government is responsible. This is a pathetic situation of the welfare schemes relating to the SCs and STs and especially the backward classes. The Government of India must make up its mind

and come to the House before this session rises.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, issue of age relaxation for OBC was discussed in the House. You directed us to meet the hon. Minister since day before yesterday we have been seeking appointment. After lot of difficulties yesterday we met the hon. Prime Minister. When day before yesterday we met the State hon. Minister he failed to understand the issue. Yesterday when we met the Hon. Prime Minister he stated that he is going to USA and only after coming back and decision will be taken. However, in the meantime we have pointed out that rejection of applications because of being overage should immediately stop.

We would like to submit to you that though discussions were held yet no solution had been found out. We do not intend to waste the time of the House. However, at the least we would like to submit that an announcement should be made by the Department of Personnel to the effect that applications will not be rejected any more and a decision thereafter will also be taken to enable all to appear in the Civil Services (Preliminary) Examination. Today is the last day of the session. Therefore, we would like to submit that if the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions can make any announcements in the House then it will be very good. We urge you to at least spell out directions in this regard.

[English]

DR. RAMCHANDRA DOME (Birbhum) : Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House and through you particularly of the Health

Ministry. An important issue is causing concern to the whole nation. Particularly the women of this country are getting agitated for the last few weeks.

13.00 hrs.

Issue is, the proposed introduction of a new contraceptive device, that is a long term injectable product Depo-provera, which is being manufactured by an American multinational company, It is going to be marketed in this country by an agency...*

MR. SPEAKER : Advertising in favour or against a company is not allowed in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This cannot go on record. You please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The House cannot be used for advertising in favour or against a company. Please sit down. This is not going on record. This will be taken off from the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I would have allowed you if you had not mentioned the name of the company.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI (Sabarkantha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would speak the truth alone and nothing else. The issue I am going to raise...

MR. SPEAKER : It is only for today or forever ?

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI : Sir, at least for today I would speak truth. (Interruptions)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I swear that I would only speak the truth. I am raising this matter today when the House is going to be adjourned and it is already too late. Better if it is raised when the House assembles again, The matter concerns the inconvenience caused due to lack of railway facilities in my constituency. About 16 years ago the foundation stone for Nadiad-Kanpadganj - Modasa railway line project was laid, but the work to this effect has not been completed so far. (Interruptions) After a gap of 14 years the work regarding the construction of railway line from Nadiad to Kapadganj was completed whereas that regarding the laying of railway line from Kapadganj to Modasa has not been completed so far. That area is inhabited by scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and tribal people. Injustice is being done to them. Similarly there is 120 long small gauge from Ahmedabad Khaidbrahma this distance of 120 km is covered at the speed of 20 km. per hour to Sabarkantha constituency. I request the hon. Minister that this line may be broad gauged. I already have requested the hon. Minister of railways several times. I already have requested the hon. Minister of railways several times and seek your assistance in this regard. Just now Shri Buta Singh stated that we do not have a greater custodian than the one in you. I would again urge the hon. Minister to get the Nadiad-Kapadganj railway line project in Sabarkantha Constituency be completed as early as possible.

**SHRI RUP CHAND MURMU (Jhargram) : Hon'ble Speaker, Sir, I would

* Not Recorded.

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

like to make very shall demand to the Government of India. The demand may be very small but it is very important and significant to me and for the people of Kharagpur. The new Rajdhani Express between Bhubaneswar and New Delhi introduced recently does not stop at Kharagpur. But, Sir, Kharagpur is a very important place. We have the famous I.I.T. College. The Vidya Sagar University is situated in Midnapore district. Besides many people from Kharagpur and Midnapore travel to Bhubaneswar for business purpose. Likewise a large number of people from Bhubaneswar also come to Kharagpur and Midnapore for the purpose of business. So, Sir, my earnest request to the Government is that there must be stoppage of this important train at Kharagpur so that the people travelling for and from Kharagpur may be benefitted. Thank you,

[English]

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK (Bolangir)
: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very serious matter before the House. The Central assistance which has been allotted to the Government of Orissa, especially for the backward districts of Orissa, has not been properly used in some of the backward districts like, Bolangir and Kalahandi. The people backward areas are leaving their villages and are migrating to the neighbouring States to earn their livelihood. They are working in the States like the Andhra Pradesh as labourers and are getting only Rs.10 or so. The Leader of Opposition, Vajpayeeji also visited that area. Shri Chandra Shekhar, former Prime Minister and other leaders also visited that area.

I request you to send an all-Party delegation to that area to see whether the

funds allocated to the State Government are utilized properly or not.

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR
JANARTHANAN (Tirunneveli) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, tomorrow, that is the 14th of May, the ban on LTTE is going to come to an end. Therefore, I want a categorical statement from the hon. Home Minister today about extending the ban on LTTE for a further period of two years. There, the by-election, is going on, the condition is very serious. The whole country is waiting for this.

HRI P.G. NARAYANAN
(Gobichettipalayam) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Railway Minister, Mr. Jaffer Sharief, while flagging off the Shatabdi Express Train between Mysore and Madras, had made an ...*... I strongly condemn this utterance as this hurts the sentiments of the people of Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Narayanan, did you check it up with the Minister ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI M.R. KADAMBUR
JANARTHANAN : He must express his apologies. He had insulted the people of Tamil Nadu. It is a very serious matter.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : Sir, it appeared in 'The Hindu'. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You should not depend on the newspaper reports. You could have checked it up with the Minister.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN : He should apologise before the people of Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER : You check it up with

the Minister whether he had made that statement and then we will take it up.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: He had made an insulting and a damaging remark...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know who has said what, and what is his stand. I do not think that the Minister would have made that kind of a statement, yet, you speak to him and find out whether he had made that statement. Then the relief in the matter can be considered.

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN: Sir, the people of Tamil Nadu are agitated over it.

SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN (Vishnupur): Sir I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for communications. Mr. Sukh Ram, through you, Sir, on the launching of new Telecom Sub-Division at Vishnupur in West Bengal.

Respected Sir, on behalf of the telephone users of Vishnupur and its adjacent areas I would like to bring to your kind notice the following demand for your kind consideration and approval.

Sir, Bankura Telecom Sub-Division of West Bengal Telecom Circle consists of 28 telephone exchanges and more than 2,650 telephone connections. Taking into account the departmental norms, as well as the high load and long areal jurisdiction of one Telecom Sub-Division, it appears to be justified to launch another Telecom Sub-Division at Vishnupur which is not only the Headquarters of Vishnupur Administrative Sub-Division of State Government but it had also been declared a 'C' class city.

Please note that 773 telephone connections are already in operation and

208 connections are in the waiting list. The radius that will be covered by these exchanges comes to nearly 70 kms.

A statement showing the exchange-wise position of telephone connections at the end of June, 1993 had already been sent to the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: The time allotted for unlisted items was half-an-hour. It was extended to one hour and ten minutes. I think it should be over now.

13.08 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notification under Aircraft Act 1934 and Review on the working of and Annual Report of Pawan Hans Limited. New Delhi for 1992-93 etc.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM) (SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR) On behalf of Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Aircraft (Third Amendment) rules, 1994 (Hindi and English Versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 323 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 1994 under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 together with an Explanatory Note.
[placed in Library See No L T - 5953/94]
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English

versions) undersub-section (1) of section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Pawan Hans Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93;
- (ii) Annual Report of the Pawan Hans Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [placed in Library See No L T - 5954/94]

Annual Report and Review on the working of Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council, New Delhi, for 1992-93 and Statement for delay in Laying these Papers.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : I beg to lay on the Table;

- (1) (i) A COPY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT (HINDI AND ENGLISH VERSIONS) OF THE BUILDING MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION COUNCIL, NEW DELHI, FOR THE

YEAR 1992-93, ALONGWITH AUDITED ACCOUNTS.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [placed in Library See No L T - 5955/94]

Audit Report on the Pool Fund Accounts of the Coffee Board, Bangalore for the priod from 1-1-1992, to 31.12.1992 and Statement for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : On behalf of Shri Pranab Mukherjee I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Audit Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Pool Fund Accounts of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for the period from the 1st January, 1992 to the 31st December, 1992.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers

mentioned at (1) above.
[placed in Libray See No L T -
5956/94]

**Notification under Employees,
Provident Funds and Miscellaneous
Provisions Act, 1952.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A.
SANGMA) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

A copy of the Employees' Deposit Linked
Insurance (amedment) Scheme, 1994 (Hindi
and English versions) published in
Notification No. G.S.R. 153 in Gazette of
India dated 26.3.1994 under sub-section (2)
of section 7 of the Employees' provident
Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act,
1952.

[placed in Libray See No L T - 5957/94]

**Review on the working of and Annual
Report of Cochin Shipyard Limited,
Cochin for 1992-93, etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : I beg to lay on
the Table -

- (1) A copy each of the following
papers (Hindi and English
versions) undersub-section (1)
of section 619 A of the
Companies Act, 1956 :-

- (i) Review by the Govern-
ment on the working of
the Cochin Shipyard
Limited, Cochin for the
year 1992-93.

- (ii) Annual Report (Hindi and
English versions) of the
Cochin Shipyard Limited,

Cochin, for the year 1992-
93, alongwith Audited
Accounts and comments
of the Comptroller and
Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English
versions) showing reasons for
delay in laying the papers
mentioned at (1) above.
[placed in Libray See No L T -
5958/94]

**Annual Report and Review on the
working of Indian Council of Forestry
Research and Education, Dehradun for
1992-93 etc.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : I beg to
lay the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual
Report (Hindi and English
versions) of the Indian
Council of Forestry
Research and Education,
Dehra Dun, for the year
1992-93, along with
audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi
and English Version) by
the Government on the
working of the Indian
Council of Forestry
Research and Education,
Dehra Dun, for the year
1992-93.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English
versions) showing reasons for
delay in laying the papers

mentioned at (1) above.
[placed in Libray See No L T -
5959/94]

Annual Reports and Reviews on the working of Carpet Export Promotion Council, Noida for 1992-93 and apparel Export Promotion Council New Delhi for 1992-93 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK) on behalf of Shri G. Venkat Swamy : I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Carpet Export Promotion Council, Noida for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Carpet Export Promotion Council, Noida, for the year 1992-93.
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5960/94]
- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi

and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5961/94]

Annual Report and Review on the working of National Cooperative Tobacco Growers' Federation Limited, Anand for 1992-93 and Statement for delay in laying these papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Cooperative Tobacco Growers' Federation Limited, Anand, for the year 1992-93, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Cooperative Tobacco Growers' Federation Limited, Anand, for the year 1992-93.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for

delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[placed in Libray See No L T - 5962/94]

Notifications under Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Ordinances 1993 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Debt recovery Tribunal (procedure) Rules, 1993 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 564 (E) Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 1993 under sub-section (3) of section 36 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Ordinance, 1993. [placed in Libray See No L T - 5963/94]
- (2) A copy of the Order (Hindi and English version) regarding relaxation in the requirement of sub-section (5) of section 32 AB with regard to filing of audit report alongwith the return of income issued under clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 119 of the Income Tax Act, 1961. [placed in Libray See No L T - 5964/94]
- (3) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 317 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 1994 together with an

explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 355/86 - CE, dated the 24th June, 1986 so as to provide set-off procedure for cut-tobacco under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944. [placed in Libray See No L T - 5965/94]

- (4) A copy of Notification No. 5 (12) E-III/93 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 1994 regarding appointment of Fifth Central Pay Commission. [placed in Libray See No L T - 5966/94]
- (5)
 - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Development Bank of India, Bombay together with Audited Accounts of the General Fund for the year 1992-93, under sub-section (5) of section and sub-section (5) of section 23 of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Industrial Development Bank of India, Bombay for the year 1992-93. [placed in Libray See No L T - 5967/94]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year 1992-93, along with a statement of Assets and Liabilities and Profit and Loss Accounts of the Corporation, under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year 1992-93.
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5968/94]
- (7) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the Year 1992-93, together with Auditors, report thereof :-
- (i) Ellaquai Dehati Bank, Srinagar (J.K.).
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (ii) Malaprabha Grameena Bak, Dharwad (Karnataka).
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (iii) Thar Aanchalik Gramin Bank, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (iv) Raebareli Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Raebareli (U.P.)
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (v) Cachar Gramin Bank Silchar, (Assam)
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (vi) Panchmahal Vadodara Gramin Bank, Godhra (Gujarat)
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (vii) Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Etawah (U.P.)
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (viii) Vaishali Kshetriya Gramin Bank, Muzaffarpur (Bihar)
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5969/94]
- (8) A copy of the report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Union Government (No. 2 of 1994) - (Civil) for the year ended the 31st March, 1993 under article 151 (1) of the Constitution.
[placed in Libray See No L T - 5977/94]
- (9) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 issued by the President in relation to the

State of Jammu and Kashmir:-

- (i) Finance Accounts of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for the year 1989-90.

[placed in Library See No L T - 5978/94]

- (ii) Appropriation Accounts of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and the Year 1989 - 90 .

[placed in Library See No L T - 5979/94]

- (10) A copy of the report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Government of Jammu and Kashmir) for the year ended the 31st March, 1990 under article 151(2) of the Constitution read with clause (c) (iv) of the Proclamation dated the 18th July, 1990 issued by the President in relation of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. [placed in Library See No L T - 5980/94]

National Telecom Policy, 1994

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : I beg to lay on the Table of the House a paper titled National Telecom Policy, 1994. (*Interruption*)

[placed in Library See No L T - 5982/94]

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES (Muzaffarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in this regard I would like to submit that this policy has been

the topic of discussion for the last several months in the country the employees of the department, several experts and also the officials of the concerned Ministry, at an individual level as well as collectively presented their views in this regard. We knew it well that the policy would be presented just before the Prime Minister's visit to America, and today it is at the last moment, when hardly one hour is there to commence with the Private Members, Business that the policy has been presented in the House, and that too not in the order paper. We did not expect so. My submission is that as long as policy presented in the House is not discussed threadbarely and extensively, it should not be implemented.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : He had spoken to him in the morning.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support what Shri George Fernandes has spoken. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government should have taken a prior decision to enlist it in today's agenda. A separate agenda had to be issued for the purpose. What is the need to give a separate statement if the Government can wait. Mr. Speaker, I request you not to allow it. You should use your rights with full authority at least occasionally.

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa) : The Prime Minister is going to USA and there he will be meeting the owners of the Telecom Industry in USA. Before that, this kind of changes are taking place against which there are lot of reservation and protests in the country saying that it is anti-democratic.

What Shri George Fernandes has demanded, we give our full support by saying that it should not be implemented before full discussion has taken place in the house.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FARNEDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a question of the security of the country, and not only pecuniary matter; Sir, you may please give your ruling in this regard. As long as the policy is not discussed in the House, it should not be implemented.

MR. SPEAKER : Look, I cannot give my ruling on every matter. What you speak is equally effective.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Who is there to listen to us, our views carry no weight. When the report of Joint Parliamentary Committee is not allowed to be discussed or implemented, who will pay attention to our views. Mr. Speaker, Sir it is a question of security of the country. Let me make it clear that if the Government tries to implement it forcibly we would strongly oppose it.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI BAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir I have raised the question of propriety, I am not going into the merits or demerits of it. We would have to discuss it in detail I would like to know what loss we are likely to suffer if this policy statement is not given in the House today or if the House is not furnished the details of the new policy.

SHRI SUKH RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir since it was approved in the Cabinet meeting today at 10.00 A.M., therefore it could not be presented in the order paper. I apologised for it to you and made available about 450 copies. Had it been approved yesterday, it would have been presented in the order paper today. Since today is the last day of

the Session of this august House and I do know the dignity of it, that is why I have paced the policy on the Table of the House. So that the hon. Members get the detailed information. Had it been postponed till tomorrow then also it would have been implemented without seeking the opinion of the House. In that condition the Government would not have waited for the next session. The hon. Members may please go through this policy. It does not endanger the security or defence of the country, if the country has to be taken ahead, expansion would have to be made. I would request the hon. Members to go through the policy. They should not consider the news-papers news as authentic, because they are not reliable. Rather these documents contain the testimony supported authentic information. The hon. Member may please go through the policy. Keeping in view the dignity and honour of the House, it has been placed on the Table of the House. I would certainly clear the doubts of the hon. Members whenever I get the opportunity.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Ulberia) : He has announced that it will be implemented and the discussion will take place after three months. Some of them have already been implemented. This is the attitude of the Government.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : You were saying something, Sir;

MR. SPEAKER : You are interested in yourself speaking.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY : We are ready to hear you.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Members

should realise that it is not always compulsory to present the policy in the House before it is implemented. When Bills and Budget are passed in the House, the policy can be implemented even without formally presenting it in the House. Had the Final decision in this regard been taken two days onwards, it would have been implemented without presenting it in the House. The presiding officer and not the hon. Minister would have been responsible to give reply with regard to the clarification sought by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. It would be better if the hon. Members avoid such attitude when paper are laid on the last moment.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : I do agree with you to some extent.

MR. SPEAKER : Do you mean that it should not be implemented ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : You have stated that the Government may change the policy whenever they desire, I am not willing and ready to agree to it. There are some matters regarding which age old policies are being followed. It is necessary to seek opinion with regard to policies framed by this House.

MR. SPEAKER : They were all framed only after passing motion to that effect.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : In this regard my submission is that these matters are related to telecommunications. The policy to this effect was framed with the approval of the nation and the house. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I did not go into details.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Neither you nor we have been able to see it. It is the

version of the hon. Minister that 450 copies have been circulated but even a single we have not seen. (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : This policy, instead of being presented as a policy, should be presented as a draft to be discussed later by the Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : I would only say that the Government would act according to the law and the convention.

(Interruptions)

Annual Report and Review on the working of for Advancement of Peoples Action and Rural Technology for 1992-93 and Statement of delay in Laying these Papers.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI HARJIBHAI PATEL) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93 alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding review by the

Government on the working of the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology, New Delhi, for the year 1992-93.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library see No. LT-5981/94]

13.18 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :-

- (1) I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 10th May, 1994 adopted the following motion in regard to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit :-

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do elect two members of the Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit and resolves that the House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, two members from among the members of the House to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies

caused by the retirement of S/Shri Subramanian Swamy and Shiv Pratap Mishra from the membership of Rajya Sabha."

- (2) I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Joint Committee :-

1. Shri Makhan Lal Fotedar
2. Shri Digvijay Singh

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 11th May, 1994 agreed without any amendment to the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Amendment Bill, 1994 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th May, 1994."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th May, 1994, agreed to the following amendments made by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th May,

1994, in the payment of gratuity
 (Amendment) Bill 1993" :-

seventh to Thirty-second sittings of the
 Committee on Private Members' Bills and
 Resolutions held during the current sessions.

Enacting Formula

That at page 1, line 1,-

For "Forty-fourth" Substitute "Forty-fifth".

(1)

Clause -1— Short—Title

That at page 1, line 4, -

For "1993" substitute "1994". (2)

13.19 hrs.

Assent to Bills

[English]

SECRETARY - GENERAL : Sir, I lay on
 the Table the following two Bills passed by
 the Houses of Parliament during the current
 session and assented to since a report was
 last made to the House on the 2nd May,
 1994:-

(1) The Appropriation (Railways)
 No. 2 Bill, 1994

(2) The Appropriation (Railways)
 No. 3 Bill, 1994

13.19-1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Minutes

[English]

SHRI S. MALLIKARJUNAIAH (Tumkur)
 : SIR, I Beg to lay on the Table the Minutes
 (Hindi and English versions) : Of the Twenty-

13.20 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Minutes

[English]

SHRI P.G. NARAYANAN
 (Gobichettipalayam) : Sir, I beg to lay on the
 Table of the House the Minutes (Hindi and
 English versions) of the First to Fourth,
 Sixth, Eighth to Tenth, Twelfth to Eighteenth,
 Twentieth to Twenty Fourth, Twenty Sixth,
 Twenty Ninth and Thirtieth sitting of the
 Committee on Petitions.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Should we take up
 Matters Under Rule 377 after the recess ?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY
 (Katwa) : Yes Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : What is
 the hon. Minister of Law, Justice and Company
 Affairs doing—has not been stated in the
 agenda.

[English]

13.21 hrs.

RE : WITH DRAWAL OF CONSTITUTION
 (SEVENTY FIRST, AMENDMENT BILL
 AND REPRESENTATION OF THE
 PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL PENDING
 BEFORE THE HOUSE.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R.
BHARDWAJ) : Sir, I need your permission to
say something.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : You will appreciate that after the deliberations of all the leaders of Opposition, we had come to certain consensus on the matter of electoral reforms. Thereafter I made my move to withdraw the pending Bill. According to the directions of the hon. Speaker, sufficient time was required to circulate those and to give time to Members. I have to wait to withdraw those Bill. You will appreciate that the matter is urgent.

The new Bills can not to introduced unless I am allowed by this honourable House to withdraw the earlier two Bills, namely, the Constitution (Seventy-first) Amendment Bill and the Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill, 1993 which are pending.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you on the withdrawal of the earlier Bills or are you on withdrawal of the earlier Bills as well as introduction of the new Bills ?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : I want to introduce the new Bills also. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will hear you.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : I will just take one more minute. Because it was the concern of the House to proceed with the electoral reforms, we have gone ahead. But I do appreciate that we have to go by the parliamentary laws and procedure. That is why I gave sufficient time, My motions are pending now for sufficient time. I request you to kindly get the sense of the House to allow me to withdraw the old Bills and introduce the

new Bills.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Chittoragh) : The hon. Minister for law, Justice and Company in his request that he has made to the House, amongst other things has added a great many things. He has suggested that in the consultations that you very kindly arranged there came into existence a consensus thought no such unanimity or consensus come into being.

Secondly, he has suggested that he has circulated the Government's request for withdrawal of the pending Bills. I do not know to whom he has circulated this request and we are not going to act on what has happened in the other House.

Thirdly, this particular issue about withdrawal of pending legislation is not featured in today's List of Business. It is not even a Supplementary List of Business which belated courtesy at least the Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications — despite it being an irregularity — displayed to the House. This is not even a supplementary List of Business. I do not know which procedure or adherence to which procedure the hon. Minister is suggesting. He is very faithful. When it is not even the supplementary List of Business, it is not part of any consensus, we are not aware of any requesting move by the Minister or the Government for withdrawal of legislation. We are not clear in our minds as to why they wish to withdraw. The Government has not so far explained why they wish to withdraw. Under these circumstances, before going to the substance of our objection to the withdrawal proper this preliminary objection that I have, on the Government's request as such must be dealt with before we can proceed further. I certainly, on behalf of my party, request you not to accept the Government's request for withdrawal of pending legislation unless all these aspects

are fully satisfied.

[Translation]

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister of Law has presented two Bills and the permission should be granted to withdraw both the bills. Besides it he should be allowed to bring some other new Bills. There is no mention of these Bills in today's List of Business and the revised list has not been circulated by the office till now. Likewise if any hon. Member or Minister seeks permission to raise an issue in the House due to some special reasons, he should not be granted permission in writing, and the merits and demerits should be discussed here and he should not be given the opportunity to take the decision at his own. There are two provisions in Chapter 5 under 19-A and 15-B of the directions issued by you at various times in which it is clearly stated :

[English]

"19(A)(1) A Minister desiring to move for leave to introduce a Bill shall give notice in writing of his intention to do so.

(2) The period of notice of a motion for leave to introduce a Bill under this direction shall be seven days unless the Speaker allows the motion to be made at shorter notice."

[Translation]

Sir, thereafter it is stated in directions issued under 19-B

[English]

"No Bill shall be included for introduction in the List of Business

for a day until after copies thereof have two days before the day on which the Bill is proposed to be introduced :

" Provided that Appropriation Bills, Finance Bills, and such Secret Bills as are not put down in the list of business may be introduced without prior circulation of copies to Members:

Provided further that in other cases, where the Minister desires that the Bill may be introduced earlier than two days after the circulation of copies or even without prior circulation, he shall give full reasons in a memorandum for the consideration of the Speaker explaining as to why the Bill is sought to be introduced without making available to Members copies thereof in advance, and if the Speaker gives permission, the Bill shall be included in the list of business for the day on which the Bill is proposed to be introduced".

Kindly note the words "he shall " used here. It is mandatory.

[Translation]

Sir, now the question arises what were the specific reasons which compelled him to take up the issue of amendment in this session in our constitution, without giving a notice of 7 days without informing you and without circulating it before two days while the precedents under the rules are before you. Even today the specific reasons have not been mentioned. Under these circumstances, I would like to know from you that how the hon. Minister expects to seek

your permission on such an important issue in such a casual manner without mentioning the amendment to be done in the People Representative act and without mentioning the Bill and its clauses. My submission to you is that you should not grant permission in this regard and you should make it clear to the House that the issue of amendment in the Constitution is very serious. If the Government feels need of amendment in the constitution, then it can be taken it should be done as per rules and the law of the land and it can be up in the next session or a special session can be called for this purpose. If the Government feels that there is a dire need of it then as per the rules the question of withdrawal will come up and it would be like the birth of a child before marriage, then how will it be? Till now the engagement has not been solemnised and Bhardwaj Sahib wants everything before it.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants divorce before marriage and the wants to withdraw the Bill and bring another one.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA : He is seeking divorce and going for remarriage after if but before all this the hon. Minister is willing to give birth to children and in this way opposing the Family Planning scheme. Therefore my submission to you is that you know the rules and regulations and not only this House but the whole nation is looting towards you. The Government is flouting all the rules and the constitution to bring an end to it since it has happened first in emergency now again your permission can be sought. My submission is that permission should not be granted and ask the hon. Minister to abide by the rules and it should be brought next time.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my submission is that it is like

making mockery not only of House but of the Constitution also. You should not allow it.

Mr. Speaker : Instead of suggesting me what to do and what not to do, just tell me what can be done and what can not be done?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Just tell him that he should leave the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Please tell me what can be done as per the rule.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : The way he come here and the way he moved upto this place, it appeared from it as if we are doing something wrong. We do admit that electoral reforms are must. We may be sitting many side of the House but we have been suggesting about electoral reforms since long. But the way, the Government wants to bring this Bill, is neither liked by the House nor by the nation. It appears as if something wrong is going to take place. The last effort of the hon. Minister of Law to give it final shape seal should not be successful. The rules are at their own place. I know that you have the privilege of suspending all the rules but before it is circumstances should also be taken into consideration specially when there is not one but two things. First there is the rule of withdrawal and secondly the rule of notice when both these are surpassed then, my submission is that, nothing wrong will take place in the country and everything will be as it is. Moreover nothing wrong is going to happen in two months or so. Therefore, this Bill should not be brought in any case. I would not like to go into the details whether there is unanimity on it or not. Once again my submission to you is that to maintain the dignity of the House and the constitution you should utilise your powers.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHURY (Katwa): Sir, actually we have been surprised to see that no mention is there in the Order Paper of today. Even it was not there yesterday that the Electoral Reforms Bill will be introduced by the Minister for consideration of the House.

For long, we have been discussing this matter and many meetings have been called of the Leaders of different political parties. This matter is very urgent matter. Many critical situation arose in the past in respect of certain decisions taken by the Election Commission and we had to pass general laws for the Multi-member Election Commission. Now, we have been demanding to bring forward a Bill. We have been pressing the Government so that constitutional status can be given for the crisis that is there and to remove that. But we do not know. They have been delaying so much.

Now I understand that today it is a matter of technicality. The rule sare also very important and at times are sacrosant. But in the past, we have done this also We feel that it is urgent and necessary to enact certain laws to amend the constitution for democratisation of the Election Commission which conducts elections in the country and about which unseemly controversy is taking place. Two Election Commissioners are there and they are not given an entry into the Election Commission. We do not understand the situation. But the question is who will put the mind to remove this kind of stalemate, I want to know about it. Then, what will be their answer to the people ?

In the headlines, it come that the Bill will be placed and certain things will be done. Are we responsible Member or not ? If it is a matter of technicality we should uphold it at

any cost, Do not introduce it at the cost of democracy. But I feel for the sake of democracy, this Bill must be introduced. And before that, withdrawal permission should be given.

MR. SPEAKER : If you are a little less ambiguous, it will help me.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, I seek your indulgence because this whole matter came up so suddenly that in the initial permission that was granted to me, there were one or two aspects which I was not able to highlight sufficiently. I am not on the point of the Chief Election Commissioner or I am not on the merits of the intended legislation. I am, at the present moment, only on the procedure of withdrawal. I am not even on introduction because introduction generates in its vagueness altogether certain queries. So far as withdrawal is concerned, I wish to draw you attention to two Rules, namely Rule Nos. 110 and 111.

I submit that one of the pieces of legislation for which a request has been made for withdrawal, such a request, in addition to suffering from the deficiency, which is not purely technical, or not being listed in the List of Business, Supplementary List, etc., etc., suffers from two additional deficiencies. Rule 110 says:

"Provided that where a Bill is under consideration by a Select Committee of the House or a Joint Committee of the Houses. as the comes may be, notice of any motion for the withdrawal of the Bill shall automatically stand referred to the Committee..."

I will not read the entire rule. Let me just elaborate the first point. So far as the Constitution amendment Bill on Delimitation

Commission is concerned, that Bill was first passed by the other House. Having been passed by the other House, it come here. At the stage of consideration itself, the House in its wisdom said no stop, let it go to a select Committee of this House. Now, the Select Committee of this House has deliberated over it. It has submitted a report, but the report has not been taken up. I submit that till such time the fate of the report of that Select Committee...

MR. SPEAKER : No, please do not go into that. The rule is very clear on this. It says: If it is under consideration of the committee. That consideration stage is over. As far as the withdrawal is concerned, if the Bill is introduced in the other House and having been passed there, if it comes here, we have to pass a resolution and sent it there. The Select Committee does not come into picture.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : No, Sir, let me place it before you. You can rule it out.

MR. SPEAKER : I have ruled it out on the Standing Committee now.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, even if you take into account the fact that the Standing Committee's recommendations have not even been considered by the House... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : If the matter is with the Standing Committee and the process of consideration is going on, then this procedure has to be adopted. Now that they have considered it and sent the report to us, that procedure is not applicable.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Sir, since the report has not been considered by the House, it is my submission to you that the consideration by the Committee is not over. If the report of the Standing Committee is not

considered and if the Committee is made null and void by a withdrawal motion, then comes my second objection. If you rule it out, then comes my second objection which is that if a Bill originates in the Council of States, we can only send a motion that we concur to such a withdrawal. And until we concur, the other House cannot do it. Now look at the practical difficulty. I do not understand - though, of course, it is yet another example of the great confusion that prevails in this Government, but without meaning any individual disrespect to the very capable Minister for Parliamentary Affairs - the manner in which Parliamentary affairs are being handled, the utter casualness with which the House is being treated... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : His difficulty is in carrying everybody with him. If it is on his own, then he can do anything.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I realise, Sir, but that is the challenge of the parliamentary affairs. The very challenge of parliamentary affairs is to carry the maximum number. If we have been consulting with each other for the past so many days, surely all the necessary attendance steps that needed to be taken, could have been anticipated. The Member could have been informed that procedurally we will be required to withdraw these Bills, but not on the last day, not at the last minute when for the first time - which otherwise they are all most punctilious about - the House has not been adjourned for lunch break for Namaz. Normally every Friday this punctiliousness is unexceptionably maintained. Today the confusion in the Treasury Benches is so profound that even this great symbol of secularism has been placed aside and we are being asked to say: No all these things are now unnecessary

MR. SPEAKER : I hope, in future he will stick to it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : He will stick to the rules. I again appeal to you that I see no merit in this request. This request is born of confusion, not out of a desire for electoral reforms or greater democratisation.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you. Yes, Mr. Bansal.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum) : Sir, Just I want to say something.

MR. SPEAKER : You need not speak on this. On economic issues I shall hear you.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : On the rules issue also, you hear me, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please, I will allow you on economic issues.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I want to speak on rules also. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : Sir, hon. shri Jaswant Singh referred to Rule 110. I am not referring to the first proviso. The second one deals with the bills which originate in the Council of State. I do not know whether he has scared to see as to really the motion is sought to be moved by the Minister. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Bansalji, to make the long story short, the only point he is trying to make is: What is the justification for justification for doing it at this point of time ?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : With utmost respect I would like to say the rules do not stipulate that this has to be brought in the List of Business. That is how they were trying to make it. They say since it has not been included in the List of Business, something is being done hurriedly at the last moment. the

rule says:

"The Member in charge of Bill, may, at any stage of the Bill, move for leave to withdraw the Bill on the ground that subsequently he intends to move a fresh one".

And 'subsequently' has been interpreted by the hon. Speakers earlier to mean 'immediately thereafter' also.

The second part of what the hon. Minister is wanting to do today is the introduction after the withdrawal and nothing more than that. Why should we be objecting to it ? It is not that he is saying that we should discuss the Bill and it should be taken up for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER : The justification for having a list and the agenda is to see that every Member is informed in advance.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : There are as many as eleven cases where even introduction has been permitted.

MR. SPEAKER : We have done it with the consensus of everybody in the House. That is what is what we are trying to do now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is the justification for doing it now ? If you are on that, please speak.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I do not need help.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, I want to seek one clarification from you.

MR. SPEAKER : You should know that you cannot ask clarifications or reasons from

the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

Sir, on the basis of a rule I am asking. The rule exclusively says about the Bill being controlled.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will hear Shri Srikanta Jena.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

Sir, allow me for half - a - minute.

MR. SPEAKER : Your rely upon my understanding.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

I will and shall certainly do so. I will make my position explicit. Under Rule 31 it is stated that in case anything is not listed, then it shall be transacted at any sitting with the permission of the Speaker. The only question relevant about the list, therefore, to me is whether the permission has been given by the Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you questioning me ?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

Sir, if you are referring to conventions I will not say, It has already been referred to.

MR. SPEAKER : Please do sit down. You have to read - to understand these things - the entire rules.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE :

This is what I am trying to do.

MR. SPEAKER : There are ample powers given to the Speaker to see that the business is transacted in the House. There are inherent powers.

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA : (Madhubani)

: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak on behalf of Communist Party of India.

MR. SPEAKER : No, no it is not the question of Communist Party. It is concerned with law.

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Communist Party is constituted under the law and it is not as per of anyone's wish.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Let me have the Communist interpretation of the rules..

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI BHOGENDRAJHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are two aspects of this issue. The one of regarding the withdrawal of the old Bill and the hon. Minister has said that under the rules it can not be done and that is why the permission of the House has been sought. During my five terms in Lok Sabha, it has happened more than a dozen times that the rules have been set aside and the important business have been taken up. Therefore, there is nothing new in it. Dozens of such examples, I can cite. Therefore, the issue of withdrawal should be taken up separately. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point of discussion is that the old bill has made the matter worse. Issues were raised about the Election Commission. Then the criticism came that it has been brought late and Mr. Speaker, Sir,

it is right that when we try to take every one with us the complications come up but a solution to those is also found. Therefore, under these circumstances this Bill should neither be discussed and nor it should be passed. Therefore, my submission is that the unanimous decision of all the hon. Members regarding its withdrawal is right. and apart from that the permission of discussion on it should be given a second thought so that the complications may not go a long way since we all are participant in the progress of our democracy.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not go into the details of the rules because you are the competent authority to decide about the rules. The point is the Government should have or could have given the notice of 48 hours. The application of waiver is purely in your discretion and whether you will apply it or not, that also purely depends on you.

Sir, it was discussed in the meeting of the leaders and it was decided not on the technicality, but on the merit of the Bill. There is a difference between the BJP and other parties of the House. As far as the content of the Bill is concerned, we support the Multi - Member Election Commission giving equal powers to all the Election Commissioners with a condition that the mode of appointment of the Election Commissioners has to be done according to the recommendations of Goswami Committee. We have stated this position very categorically in the meeting itself to the Government. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is the difficulty. You agree on something and you do not agree on some other thing.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : Sir, we have

been demanding that the Representation of People Act has to be amended. There are many issues like the State funding of elections etc., and we have been supporting the Government on those issues. We had an apprehension that the Government is delaying this matter. If 48 hours notice had been given earlier, then this issue would not have come to the House. But the question is about the urgency of the matter. We treat this matter as very urgent. We feel that the Government is not at all sincere on this Bill. We can understand the stand of the BJP. They are saying that they are for electoral reforms, but they are opposed to this Bill. (Interruptions). The question of technicality is different matter. Therefore, we feel that this issue is an urgent matter and it could have come earlier. We have also clarified that we are prepared to sit two more days also and pass this Bill with this rider.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH (Jalandhar) : Mr. Speaker. Sir, I want to make a small submission.

R. SPEAKER : Please do not burden me. I will get confused.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a very simple matter and I am grateful that I have been enlightened by the submissions of the hon. Members. The normal rule is that the period of notice required to introduce a Bill is seven days. But Direction 19 B of the hon. Speaker says :

"No Bill shall be included for introduction in the list of business for a day until after copies thereof have been made available for the use of Members for at least two days before the day on which the Bill is proposed

Ministry concerned sufficiently in advance of the date on which the motion for withdrawal is sought to be made."

It is not two days.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : He has gone himself out of the court. Thank you for drawing the attention of this provision. (Interruptions)

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : I am just meeting a few points. "Sufficiently in advance" will be interpreted by the Chair whether I have been able to give sufficient notice.

I have circulated the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : I just want to know, for withdrawal also reasons are to be given ; are they circulated to the Members.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : We have to give the reasons. They were given along with the copies of the Bill. Memorandum of reasons is always given with the Bill. My statement has also been circulated. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : If you keep quiet, it will help a lot.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : My statement giving reasons was also circulated along with the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER : There are two things. You want to withdraw some Bill and you want to introduce some other Bill. For withdrawal also, you have to give reasons.

Have you circulated those reasons ?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : Yes, I have circulated.

SHRI SUIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY (Katwa) : We got it yesterday.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : Rule 110 is precisely the rule which enables me to withdraw when it is pending before this House. The conditions are, no Bill is before any Committee.

MR. SPEAKER : That I have already decided.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : As the hon. Member has made it clear, I am in your hands and in the hands of the House. If you will be gracious enough to allow me to introduce the Bill, I will be very happy.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am very grateful to you for permitting me to intervene again.

I am very grateful to the hon. Minister for Law indeed for having drawn attention to a provision which I have personally overlooked, that is, the provision of Direction 36 which says that when the withdrawal is to be effected, that withdrawal must be accompanied with a detailed statement by the Government, which statement ought to be with the Member sufficiently well in advance.

I am not yet at the introduction and the requirement of introduction. If you permit me to say, firstly, the conditions of the House, the requirements of the House for withdrawal must be impeccably fulfilled before we can take up consideration of introduction.

I submit that the conditions attendant upon, precedent upon or required for withdrawal have not been met. If those have

not been met, I appeal to you not to grant permission to the Government for withdrawal of the pending Bill.

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ : This statement, whether it is adequate or not, it is for this House. But I have given the reasons in my statement.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : I shall distinguish between withdrawal and subsequent introduction.

MR. SPEAKER : That is already clear.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : The reasons has only to be given in the case of withdrawal. Rule 110 says:

The member in charge of a Bill may at any stage of the Bill move for leave to withdraw the Bill on the ground that —

MR. SPEAKER : There is no need to quote that rule.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : The Bill is to be replaced. That is not withdrawn. The first and the second conditions, laid down under the Rule, for withdrawal of the Bill are separate and different. The First condition is that the legislative proposal contained in the Bill is to be dropped. The second condition is entirely different.

The second condition is that the Bill is to be replaced subsequently by a new Bill which substantially alters the provisions contained therein.

A new Bill is now brought in place of the previous Bill and the Bill is pending. The note and the reasons for bringing the new Bill are given.

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please

sympathise with me ? I do not need all those things. I am clear in my mind.

SHRI UMRAO SINGH : Subsequent Bill has also been introduced and has been circulated.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI (Garhwal) : For introduction of the Bill, two clear days should be given before the day of introduction. Today is 13th. Two clear days before the day of introduction should be there. So, it cannot be introduced today. It can be introduced only tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER : I allow this matter to come before the House even though it was not on the Agenda because I knew that some members are very much interested in passing this Bill and some Members do not totally agree with the Bill and some Members are against the Bill. I thought the matter could be decided on the floor of the House as we did in past cases. I did not want to decide it in my Chamber. I wanted to decide it in the House because in many cases with consensus, with agreement between the members, we have passed the Bill. In this case, there are two things. One, the withdrawal of the Bill and two, the introduction of the Bill.

As far as the withdrawal is concerned, it has to be done in a particular manner. But the manner in which it has to be done is simpler than the manner in which the Bill has to be introduced. The Bill was passed in the other House. It has been sent to this House and then here it is sought to be withdrawn. The procedure which is to be followed is that the Resolution goes to the other house. the other House agrees with the Resolution because the other House has passed the Bill and then, if it is agreed to by the other House, it is brought here and then it is withdrawn. But in case of withdrawal also, the reasons have

to be given and what kind of reasons can be there for withdrawal is also laid down in the rule. Whether the reasons are sufficient or whether the reasons are not sufficient is an issue on which there can be differences of opinion between the Members. Whether sufficient time was given for the Members to study the reasons given is question which has to be decided. Here on the floor of the House, I am told that the reasons were given to the Secretariat along with the Bill. I am told by some Members that they have not received the reasons. But some other members said that they have received the reasons. So, here this point is not very clear, what is the sufficient time that should be given to the Members to study the reasons ? That is the question. Here the Rules are very clear, It is not said that two days or 48 hours is the sufficient time. It is only said "sufficient time". Less than two days time cannot be sufficient time.

As far as withdrawal is concerned, there should not be great difficulty.

But as far as introduction is concerned, there are very-very valid points, Seven days notice is to be given to the Secretariat. Not only that. Before the Bill is introduced on the floor of the House, 48 hours notice should have been given to the members to study the Bill and to form their own opinion whether the Bill should be introduced here or not. I am afraid because of the difficulties faced by all of you here, seven days notice has certainly not been given in this matter.

14.00 hrs.

I am afraid that two days time, that is, 48 hours' time, is also not given to that Members to study the Memorandum and the Bill which is circulated to the Members. This is about electoral reforms. This involves amendment to the Constitution. People have very sharp

division of opinion on these points. In such cases, I am afraid it may not look proper for all of us to allow the introduction of the Bill and to consider it.

This is a technical issue, I do understand. People have strong opinion, I do understand. Even though it is a technical issue, we could have overcome it. We did overcome it. We have amended the Constitution. When I was sitting in the Chair, amendment to the Constitution was allowed because every Member in the House got up and said : " Let us do it". When all the Members agree, there is nothing which this House cannot do. If all the Members do not agree, the Speaker has to decide and the Speaker would be wise in deciding the matter according to the rules and according to the Constitution. Even when the rules give him the jurisdiction and the discretion to decide, that discretion has to be used in a judicious manner and not in an arbitrary manner. Many of the lawyers sitting here know what is the legal point on that. In view of this, I am finding it very difficult to go by the Government's decision.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMRNTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA) Sir, we do not want any suspension of the rules nor do we want to go against the rules. Whatever you have said is absolutely acceptable to us. We will comply with the rules and regulations. But we will have to request for the extension of the sitting of the House so that the rules can be complied with; sufficient notice could be given to the Members. They could study it. It could be before the House and in accordance with the rules it could be taken up for a decision by the House.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHAR VAJPAYEE

(Lucknow): Mr. Speaker, Sir the amazing items are presented before the House one after the other.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : There is no way except to ask about time. That is all. because, time has to be given, according to the rules.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today whether the session will come to an end or not, has been an issue of discussion since last week. I beg your pardon, if you talk of the consensuous then a conclusion had come up and it was decided that the duration of the session will not be extended.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : The hon. Members have gone to their respective Constituencies. Now there is no question of extending the session. whenever the Government wants, it extends the House brings any Bill and any time it can set aside the rules. The House can not be trifled in such a way. Mr. Speaker, Sir we are against extending the Session.

SHRI RAJVEER SINGH : (Aonla) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, today even you ad said that it is the last day. Therefore, you had given us an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA : All these matters can be considered by you in consultation with the leaders of the various

parties. I am not suggesting that it should be done on Monday or Tuesday. The date which is convenient to all the Members and to you could be considered. You can consider it. You can consult the various party Members and party leaders about the dates on which we could again assemble. We, in our anxiety to conform to the rules and regulations, would like to request you to consult the party leaders and then appropriate dates which will be convenient to everybody can be decided upon. That is the reason why I have got up and made this request.

MR. SPEAKER : I think it would be very difficult for the Members if we extend the House now because by and large we were discussing about it. In all fairness to the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, I must say that he was saying that maybe it may become necessary. But then in our wisdom we took a decision not to extend the House beyond 13th. This was agreed to by the Members also. They have their appointments.

As far as having the sitting of the House is concerned, it may not be on Monday or Tuesday or after sometime which is acceptable to all of us. I will certainly consult the Members and then we can decide about it before the House rises as to how and when we can meet if we have to meet for these purposes. But it will be done in consultation with others.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum dum): The announcement has to be made before the House rises. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will consult Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Well, I know that this is a very important issue and I know that the views are very strong on this point, on both

the sides of the House; and yet all the hon. Members have cooperated in a very—very understanding manner. I thank all the hon. Members for this cooperation.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : Sir, I am deeply obliged for your indulgence in permitting me.

MR. SPEAKER : Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again at 3.15 p.m.

1406 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till fifteen minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

1520 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then reassembled after lunch at Twenty Minutes past Fifteen of the Clock.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (i) **Need to Construct a National Highway Between Ranchi and Jaipur via Vilaspur and to Include it in Eighth Five Year Plan.**

[Translation]

SHRI KHELAN RAM JANGDE (Vilaspur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the former Prime Minister, Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had envisaged to highway between Ranchi and Jaipur via Vilaspur (M.P.) a proper survey was also conducted and the hon. Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had given it a top priority since this highway will play an

important role for the development of the Adivasi dominated area. This national highway is must for the social and economic development and for the exploitation of the minerals in this area. There is no railway facility in these areas.

Therefore, my submission to the Centre Government is that for the development of the Adivasi dominated area the construction of a national highway between Ranchi and Jaipur via Vilaspur should be included in the Eight Five Year Plan and it should be completed soon.

(ii) Need to take Measures for Electrification in Nizamabad District, Andhra Pradesh to Safeguard the Interests of Farmers under Nizam Sagar Project.

[English]

SHRI G. GANGA REDDY (Nizamabad): The electrification in Nizamabad district in Andhra Pradesh is very much needed to safeguard the farmers, particularly under Nizam Sagar Project. Due to water supply to Hyderabad from Singur Project for drinking purpose, there is a shortage of water in Nizamsagar. There is need for electrification in Nizamabad District through REC (Rural Electrification Corporation).

The farmers in the area are producing turmeric, sugarcane, paddy, vegetables, and selling these products in a large quantity to Nagpur and Bombay. They are also supplying agricultural seeds to North

India. They are cultivating through bore wells. So, there is a need of electrification in the area. The farmers of Nizamabad district are facing hardships due to failure of Nizamsagar. Now the only source of water for the farmers is to lift water from the bore wells and depend on lift irrigation schemes from Godavari and other sources. Recently the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned 12 lift irrigation schemes to safeguard the ayacut of Nizamsagar and submerged villages and also made proposal for 2 more lift irrigation schemes namely Alisagar and Gutpa balancing tanks of Nizam Sagar in the area. This will supply water for about 40 thousand acres of Nizamasagar ayacut for which we need electricity to run lift irrigation schemes smoothly.

I urge upon the Government to take measures for electrification in Nizambad district, Andhra Pradesh to safeguard the interests of farmers under Nizam Sagar Project through REC from OEC Funds.

(iii) Need to Formulate a Uniform Policy for the Welfare of Tribals in the Country

SHRI K. PRADHANI (Nowrangpur): The exploitation of tribals is going on despite Constitutional provisions and several central legislations to safeguard their interest. The tribal population in the country is about 70 million, which is the largest in the world. They are the original inhabitants of India, that is the indigenous people.

More than 40 per cent of the 20 million tribals area is affected due to various projects. Its is regrettable that these tribals are not given suitable compensation or employment. Besides, they are also not properly rehabilitated. Unless a uniform policy is introduced for the Scheduled Tribes, they will continue to suffer.

I request the Central Government that uniform tribal policy be framed for the entire nation to put an end to the exploitation of tribals.

(iv) Need to provide financial Assistance to Triveni structurals Limited at Allahabad, U.P.

[Translation]

SHRIMATISAROJ DUBEY (Allahabad): Sir, the Triveni structurals Limited (T.S.L.), situated at Allahabad is working as a subsidiary company to Bharat Yantra Nigam. It was set up in 1965 as a joint venture by the Government of India with the collaboration of the Government of Austria. T.S.L. has a workshop with modern machinery and equipments where around 2000 highly skilled workers and engineers are working. During the last 26 years T.S.L. has completed several big projects in the country and abroad. While utilising its full capacity and skill, T.S.L. has worked in various fields like power generation, Petrochemicals, fertilizer construction of bridges, cranes manufacturing, iron industry, cables, coal industry, television and in the field of space technology in the country and abroad. A large number of T.S.L. factories has mainly worked for Public Sector and its around Rs. 20 crore is outstanding against those Public Sector establishments. Due to delay on the part of BIFR in the disposal of cases of sick industries the T.S.L. is facing great difficulty and needs immediate financial assistance.

In view of the important role played by T.S.L. in the development of the country and future of around 2000 people working in it, I urge upon the Union Government to provide immediate financial assistance to T.S.L. at the earliest.

(v) Need for Early Revision of

Pay Scales of Teachers of Centrally Managed Schools

[English]

SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA (Nowgong) : Even a single recommendation made the Chattopadhyaya Commission regarding revision of pay scales of central teachers was not implemented by the Government during the last nine years. The Fourth Pay Commission did not recommend any revision in pay scales of school teachers of centrally managed schools, on the plea that the Chattopadhyaya Commission was already considering the matter. In the prevailing circumstances, it is very essential that another National Commission on school teachers is set up, without further loss of time. This will enable these teacher to get their dues. Moreover, it is also essential that the recommendations made are implemented immediately after they are made.

The revision of pay scales of these teachers is to be included in the terms of reference of Fifth Pay Commission if not done so far.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to set up the Second National Commission with due representation to the teachers thereon immediately.

(vi) Need to set up a Subsidiary of Rural Electrification Corporation in Vidisha Raisen and Sidhor Districts of Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CAHUHAN (Vidisha) : The Central Government has set up Rural Electrification Corporation for providing special facilities for less developed

areas. But no subsidiary unit of this corporation has been set up in Vidisha, Raisen and Sidhor districts of Madhya Pradesh. These districts have several hilly tribal areas and villages.

So, I request the Central Government to set up subsidiary units of Rural Electrification Corporation in these districts of Madhya Pradesh and allocate sufficient funds for rural electrification and all round development of this area.

(vii) Need for construction of an Over-Bridge on Railway crossing near Oswal Sugar Mill at Phagwara in Punjab

[English]

SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY (Phillaur) : Railway crossing near Oswal Sugar mill at Phagwara requires an over-bridge. It is a crowded area besides about 100 trains pass every day via this railway crossing. Several educational institutions, hospital, main market, district court, mills, bus stand and railway station are on the other side of the railway crossing. Several road accidents and traffic jams frequently occur at this busy railway crossing. Keeping in view these conditions, an over-bridge on this railway crossing is absolutely necessary.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to coordinate with the State Government and take immediate steps in this regard.

15.30 hrs.

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY
DELEGATION FROM EGYPT

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon'ble

Members, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon'ble Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency, Dr. Ahmed Fathi Sorour, Speaker of the People's National Assembly of Egypt and the Hon'ble Members of the Egyptian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble Members of the Delegation are :

1. Mr. Kamal El Shazli
2. Dr. Mohamed Abdellah
3. Mr. Khaled Moheiddin

The Delegation arrived Delhi early morning today. They are now seated in their special box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to His Excellency the President, the Parliament, the Government and the friendly people of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

15.32 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Thirty Second Report

[English]

SHRI SANT RAM SINGLA (Patiala) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to

*Educational Institutions**etc. for OBC*

the House on the 11th May, 1994."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Question is :

"That this House do agree with the Thirty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th May, 1994."

The motion was adopted

15.33 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE :
RESERVATION IN EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS, ETC. FOR OBC
(CONTD.)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House shall now take up further discussion on the resolution regarding reservation in educational institutions etc. for OBC, moved by Shri Ramamurthee, Shri Gangwar may please speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to thank and congratulate Shri Ramamurthy for moving this important resolution telling some major points about it. Several hon. Members have also mentioned it. As you also know that the issue regarding removal of shortcomings found, in the provision made for providing reservation for people belonging to backward castes, has been raised time and again throughout the session. Yesterday and today, in reply to this issue, it has been said that the Government will take decision on it.

It is correct that Central Government

has implemented the recommendations of Mandal Commission, which can be called the main chapter of Social Justice through a notification in September 1993, after making certain amendments into it.

Though, the referred notification was in accordance with the ruling of the Supreme Court. Yet, this debatable announcement has proved to be a matter of injustice to the whole backward community and a stumbling block in the way of creating uniformity in the Indian Society due to the disparities created by the Government.

The Government has been providing emotional protection like creating educational facilities for them and launching programmes to make them aware of these facilities etc. for essentially incarnating the concept of reservation. As these programmes take a long time to borne fruit and become victims of prejudiced thought of legal institutions, So in the form of urgent relief some other protectional relief like relaxation in age and chance, exemption from fee and relaxation in minimum educational qualification etc. are given. In the absence of these facilities it is really impossible to fill up the reserve vacancies for any class. Central Government has completely banned these facilities in the notification released for providing 27% reservation for backward classes.

In its notification, the Government has already excluded the affluent people of backward classes through the concept of creamy layer. The remaining people of this class are lacking in social, economic and educational sphere of life like Scheduled Castes. After 45 years of Independence, with all these facilities we are not able to fill up the quota fixed for Scheduled Castes, then how we can accept that this 27% quota fixed for other backward classes can be filled in the absence of these facilities. Due to their

poor social and economic background, the students belonging to backward classes, start education late and thus, they just complete their higher education at the age fixed for the competitive examinations. Then how they can be definite about their participation in these exams. Therefore candidates belonging to these classes should be given 5 years relaxation in age for Central Government services and provision for limited chances to take part in IAS exams should be abolished for this class.

Sir, the announcement regarding the implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations was made by the then National Front Government after August 13, 1990. But actually it was implemented after three years as it was under consideration with the Supreme Court.

Supreme Court has declared valid the announcement of 13.8.90, made by the then Government hence the candidates are rightfully eligible for reservation under discussion. Keeping in view the limited chances for competing in IAS and IFS exams, the Government should provide relaxation in age and chances for them and this reservation facility should be given in appointments and vacancies created during 13.8.90 to 7.9.93. In its decision regarding Mandal Commission (Indira Sahani *Versus* Government of India) the hon. Supreme Court has clearly mentioned in para 549 of the decision that candidates belonging to backward classes should be given relaxation in age limit, additional chances to take part in competitive exams, exemption from examination fees and additional training, and these facilities are the part of fundamental rights. Demonstrations are being organised at various stages in support of these demands and memorandas are given to this effect, so I request the Government to think over it again and because the Hon. Minister respects

the feelings of the House, hence announcement should be made in this regard. The month of June is approaching but the forms of people are being rejected on this basis. I request the Government to think over it. The main thing is that Government has provided reservation but where are the jobs? Today the Government is adopting the policy of privatisation and number of Public Undertakings is increasing then how people will get employment through the provision made for reservation. We will not be able to achieve the target unless arrangements for reservation is made in Public Undertakings also. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to increase the number of opportunities, give five years relaxation in age limit and announce that the Public Sector undertakings or the establishments of Central Government should fulfill the quota of 27 per cent reservation without fail. Then only we will achieve our targets of uniform development and upliftment of society. Therefore, as my friend has also pointed out, I would like to say that wholebody should get nourishment and not one part only. Otherwise, it will fall sick. The future of the country will not be well and healthy, if this 52 per cent will be segregated from the society. The development in the country will not be smooth and uniform and country can be moved in a correct direction. So I request the hon. Minister to accept the resolution moved by our colleague without hesitation. The issue has been debated for a long time and it will be good for our society. So I request you to make announcement that Government has accepted the resolution moved by Shri Ramamurthy. I thank you for allowing me to speak.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH (Buxar) :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support this resolution and would like to say that Constitution of India has a provision of reservation for social equality and not for economic equality the word economic has not been mentioned

anywhere in the Constitution for reservation in Article 14, 16, 340 or 332 and I do not know why the issue is being dragged when it is not mentioned in the constitution. People who framed our constitution had an intention of removing social disparity. In our society some people are not treated socially equal and thus reservation was given importance. It is correct also, social status of a person rises with the reservation given to him in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. If a person belonging to backward class gets a post of Collector and goes to some village he will not be maltreated by villages for his caste and everyone pays respect to him but on the other hand if a person belonging to backward caste, howsoever rich he is not be given equal social status, if he is not holding any post. Therefore, I support this provision of reservation and request for its earliest implementation. Reservation brings social equality in the society.

15.41 hrs.

(SHRIMATI SANTOSH CHOWDHARY *in the Chair*)

It is also essential to take care of its implementation because earlier also the Government had not implemented the provision made in the Constitution of India regarding reservation for certain classes of the society. After a much hue and cry throughout the country, V. P. Singh Government formulated a policy on this issue in 1990 and presented it in the House, which created a turmoil in the whole country. The matter was taken to Supreme Court later on. Now Supreme Court has issued an order in this regard. Whether we accept the order of the Supreme Court or not, that is a constitutional matter, but I demand of the Government to immediately implement the order issued by them. I feel, had this order

been implemented earlier, all the reserved vacancies would have been filled up by now. Though the Constitution ensures 22.5 per cent reservation for people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes yet I regret to say that in actuality if we scrutinize the official data we will find that after years of Independence only 13.6 per cent posts have been filled up by people belonging to the scheduled castes and the rest have been filled up by other castes who have no right to be appointed on these posts. It is shown in papers that scheduled caste adivasis are not available but I would like to say that a large number of youngsters belonging to scheduled castes having B. A., M. A. degrees, some even having honours' degree, are roaming around unemployed. I demand the Government to announce that all those adivasi youngsters having B. A., M. A. degrees etc. are only required to apply for the reserved vacancies, then, they will be given employment. At present they do not get employment even after applying for it. I demand of the Government to immediately fill up the 2.25 per cent quota reserved for adivasis.

So far as the filling up of other posts is concerned, these should also be filled up at the earliest. The people belonging to backward classes should be given 27 per cent reservation in employment when creamy layer is discussed here, I need to stress that this country does not require the creamy layer. Since this order has been issued by the Supreme Court, I do not oppose or criticize it but the intention behind the reservation fixed in the Constitution does not require the creamy layer for this country because this intention aims to do away with social inequality and does not advocate economic equality. Had it been for economic equality only, then, the question of creamy layer would have arisen and considered but the Constitution looks for social equality. Thus, according to

the provisions made in the Constitution, there is no need to select anybody on economic basis.

That is why, I would like to demand from the Government that the people belonging to backward classes should be given 27 per cent reservation in educational Institutions and other places on the basis of reservation provided for Harijans and Adivasis and all the vacancies must be filled up at the earliest. Besides, the people belonging to backward classes should be given five years' relaxation in age so that no seat remains vacant in the 27 per cent quota reserved for people belonging to scheduled castes and 22 per cent quota reserved for people belonging to scheduled tribes.

Madam Chairman, with these words I support this Bill and urge upon them to immediately fill up the reserved seats. I thank you for allowing me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI YAIMA SINGH YUMNAM (Inner Manipur): Madam, in response to the demand of the people and also in consideration of the recommendation of the Mandal Commission, the Central Government has now started implementing the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. It is in the interest of the nation. A section of the people has been classified as 'OBC', Other Backward Classes. This class is besides the classes of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. This class forms a great proportion of the population in this country. Giving approval to this class of people is largely in the interest of the nation because the nation as a whole must be made very healthy. By giving this special consideration for the welfare of this class of people, I think, the nation will be promoting its healthiness.

Now, I support the Resolution of Shri Ramaurtheji. His Resolution is in two parts. The first part deals with the reservation of 27 per cent in the academic institutions, in the institutions meant for education. Now the problem for getting admission in the academic institutions is very great. In many Central Schools, it is very difficult to get an admission and it is open to competitions, then the Other Backward Classes people are not getting their chances. So, it is very correct or purposeful to propose for the reservation of this 27 per cent also in respect of admissions in the institutions under the Central Government. It is very difficult for these OBC people to get the admission in the Central School. Not only that, for certain education, say technical education, medical education or engineering, it is very difficult for these people, who are classified as OBC, to get the admission. If certain quota or reservation is provided to these people, then for those reserved seats, they can compete among themselves and the better, according to the merit, can be admitted. If they are allowed to compete with the general category of people, then they are not getting their chances.

So, I support this Resolution wholeheartedly because it will provide good opportunity to the people of Other Backward Classes.

The second part deals with the relaxation of five years in the upper age-limit for employment in the services under the Central Government. It is also, I think, purposeful and in the interests of the nation. Moreover, it will give incentives to the people of Other Backward Classes.

Thirdly, I propose for the relaxation of five years for all the candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes for the examinations conducted by the UPSC. At the moment, it is not being considered. So, I

strongly recommend this proposal for consideration by the Government.

With these few words, I support the Resolution.

[Translation]

Dr. S. P. YADAV (Sambhal) : Madam Chairman, first of all, I would like to thank the hon. Members Shri Ramamurtheji for presenting this Private Members' Bill in the Parliament. We had been elected to Lok Sabha in 1989 and the then Prime Minister, Shri V. P. Singh had made an announcement on 7th August, 1990 to implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission.

The long-awaited justice provided under the constitution to the people belonging to the backward classes yet denied in actuality even after so many years of independence, was declared by the V. P. Singh Government. The above declaration caused a furore everywhere and several incidents took place but the Government remained adamant. The Janata Dal Government took the initiative of implementing the recommendations of Mandal Commission. The report of the Mandal Commission was hotly debated after its implementation but Shri V. P. Singh was not deterred.

Some opposition parties challenged the report of the Mandal Commission in the Supreme Court. They tried to prevent the implementation of the Mandal Commission report. But the Supreme Court upheld the order issued by Shri V. P. Singh on 7th August, 1990.

Now, the question arises that Mandal Commission was implemented by why was a new clause regarding creamy layers added? I would like to say that this clause should be

done away with. The provision should have been made to give a chance to the people belonging to backward classes for the next ten years after the implementation of Mandal Commission Report. Many people would not have got any opportunity and only those people would get chance who were yet to be qualified. That is why the Mandal Commission Report is yet to be fully implemented. A provision has been made for a period of five years. These people should get a reservation in educational Institutes, medical, engineering and other Institutes imparting technical education. A relaxation should be given for a period of five years. It has not been provided. Shri D. P. Yadav had raised this question in the House on the day before yesterday. I agree with him. The newspapers have also given it a wide coverage. I, therefore, demand of the Government to provide five years' relaxation in age limit to the students to enable them to receive technical education. These days very few people are able to receive it. Since the competition has become very tough, the people belonging to backward classes are not able to get admission.

I support this Resolution and thank Shri Ramamurthy that as a congressman he thought on these lines and supported Mandal Commission. He introduced a Private Member Bill in the House also to support it. With these words I conclude.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution introduced by Shri Ramamurthy. This Resolution ought to have been introduced very earlier. After the independence the Government should have considered the implication and implementation of this Bill. I hope that today the Government would take certain concrete measures to implement it.

I would like to raise one or two points here. The Government perhaps has

announced to provide 27 per cent quota for the OBC. Had the recommendations of the Mandal Commission been passed sooner after submitting the report before the Government, the educated youth belonging to the OBC would have got the jobs. Since the Government jobs have been partially banned, how can they be implemented now? The Finance Commission of Gujarat has also stated it categorically that henceforth these should be no fresh recruitment.

On the one hand the Government claims that it has provided 27 per cent reservation for the OBC candidates in Government jobs, on the other hand there is no vacancy at all. Dr. Yadav has stated that the then Prime Minister had made his utmost efforts to implement the Mandal Commission recommendation, I demand that the Government should take concrete steps to implement the 27 per cent reservation in Government services.

16.00 hrs.

It has been our experience that the Government has accepted the resolution for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Candidates but it is not being implemented properly and even today the educated youth belonging to be Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes do not get jobs in time. Besides this, they are subjected to gross humiliation while providing them jobs. They are well-qualified, well-educated, yet they do not get Government jobs.

I am afraid that if the 27 per cent reservation meant for the OBC is not implemented sincerely it will be a cruel mockery with the OBCs and they will be deeply hurt. Then the country will not utilise their capability and there is all likelihood of the diversion of their capability. The OBCs have been tolerating injustice for ages and

centuries and they do not get job even if they are well educated.

Therefore, for the prosperity of the country the Government should provide 27 per cent reservation for them. It should by all means be implemented properly in each and every states. A proper monitoring arrangement should be made therefor. I want that the hon. Minister must take certain concrete steps in this direction.

I would like to raise one more issue. As my predecessor has rightly stated that the OBC do not get proper study facilities immediately. Their domestic plight is so miserable that they have to start their studies late. Therefore, they should be provided relaxation in their upper age limit. I hold that the demand for age relaxation of five years must be fulfilled. When they do not get their job in time, they have to waste several years. When they set out in search for a job after doing their graduation or any other higher degrees, they do not get jobs immediately. As I have mentioned earlier, in spite of their goods capability, they spend many years in search of jobs. Therefore, they should be provided 5 years age-relaxation so that they may get benefit from the reservation announced by the Government easily. The candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes get benefit in promotion also. The people belonging to the OBC should also enjoy the similar facility in promotions. During the freedom struggle while calling the people to keep themselves ready, Gandhiji used to state that our country would certainly get freedom. He added that he wanted to free the country only because he would like to work first for those backward people who are back-benches and who do not have food or clothes. He told that it would become the first and foremost duty of the Government after the country becomes free. But the stance of the Government since the

Independence has been such as the condition of lot of those unprivileged people have not been ameliorated not at all. Moreover, their condition grew worse from bad. Madam Chairman, I would like to submit that the associates of Gandhiji in the freedom struggle had the intention that first of all the people belonging to the disprivileged class should be uplifted first. But the policy of the Government is such as it uplifts those people who have already been prosperous. The schemes are chalked out for the sake of those privileged people and they alone become the beneficiaries of these schemes. The under privileged people do not get any benefit. I, therefore, would like to state that the backward class people should get benefit from the Government schemes and they should be given top priority so that they may have an opportunity to uplift because injustice has been done to them and they have been oppressed from ages and centuries till now.

Shri Ramamurthi has introduced this Resolution with this very intent. If the 55 or 66 per cent population of the country is not provided 27 per cent reservation they would rise against the Government and it may have grim and dire repercussions. I, therefore, would like to submit the Government that it is a very good Resolution and I expect of the Government to implement the recommendations of the Mandal Commission. I would like to submit that nobody should hinder the process of the implementation of the reservation. The Governments should implement them in a determined manner.

I hope that the hon. Minister would be mindful to this issue and fulfil the demand for providing 27 per cent reservation and the giving facility of promotion and age relaxation. I hope the Government will discharge its duty of ameliorating the lot of backward class people. With these words I express my thanks and conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI NAVAL KISHORE RAI :
 (Sitamarhi): Madam, Chairman, I rise to support the resolution moved for consideration by Shri Rammurthi. Along with it, I would like to congratulate him and through you I would like to remind the Government about the assurance given by the hon. Minister of Welfare and today he is present here.

16.10 hrs.

(Shri Nitish Kumar in the Chair)

The assurance is not yet fulfilled. Later on this issue was raised many times in the House and the O.B.C. Students and youth organisations had led many agitations several times in Madras, Bombay, Allahabad and Delhi. They have also met the hon. Minister. As per the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, 27 per cent the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, 27 per cent reservation is to be given and notification has been issued in this regard. I am happy that this time the applications were invited for the I.A.S. and U.P.S.C. exams from O.B.C.s but I am sorry to say that this Government is not fair in respect of reservation. The intention of the Government is malafide. While it gives reservation on one hand it takes it back in another hand.

Sir, I would like to submit that the people of SC, ST and O.B.C. have been exploited for the last 500 years. There are so many such examples. I would like to quote a stanza:

"Shambuk Ved Padhey, Eklavya
 Shastra ka Gyata Ho, Ram-Drone
 Yah Sah Na Saka, Chahe
 Dwapar Ya Treta Ho."

Even during the Ramayan and Mahabharat period, those people who favour *status quo* in society exploited the S.C., S.T. people. Even Ram hatched the conspiracy to kill one who belongs to SC but read the Vedas, likewise, it is a historical fact that Dronacharya had asked for thumb from Eklavya who belonged to the most backward community, Dhiwar. After Independence, a provision of special opportunity was made in our Constitution for the S.C., S.T. people along with the persons belonging to backward classes. Kaka Kelekar had recommended 52 per cent reservation for them but those people who favour *status quo* in society are still trying to snatch their rights. We would like to thank the then Prime Minister Shri V. P. Singh for accepting the long standing demand and providing 27 per cent reservation to the backward classes on 13th August, 1990 but the people who believed in *status quo* tried to suppress them. Therefore, this matter was dragged to the court and again as per the verdict of the Supreme Court it was notified by the Government in 1993, but again the ifs and buts were raised.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit that a declaration to this effect was made on 13th August, 1990, at that time some students were to appear in U.P.S.C. exams and after they were kept hanging in abeyance for three years. Would it be justified that they are not being given age relaxation now? I would like to submit through you to the Government that those who were deprived of their rights for the last three years are leading the agitation on the roads today, therefore they should be granted permission to appear in the U.P.S.C. exams.

Sir, the hon. Minister had given assurance and we too urge upon him through you that the backward class people are being exploited for the last 5000 years. The hon. Minister should accept this resolution and

this House should create History by passing this resolution unanimously so that the students of O.B.C. may be given age relaxation by 5 years in U.P.S.C. and other examinations and they can be granted permission to avail three chances to appear in the U.P.S.C. and other examination as in the case of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students. We urge upon the hon. Minister through you that the hon. Minister should declare it today so that the students of O.B.C. may get the benefit of those declarations.

I would like to submit one thing regarding reservation in educational institutions. It is right that O.B.C. candidates have been given 27 per cent reservation in jobs but as long as these are not given reservation in medical, engineering, technical and non-technical educational institutions, how will they take advantage of reservation in jobs? How will they get special opportunities to have the right of equality in the society. So, if the Government want to give the benefit of Mandal Commission to the Backward class people, they should be provided the facility of reservation in nomination/ admission in technical and non-technical institutions. Otherwise the youth of the backward class in taking the path of agitation on today and the country and the Government will have to face an agitation. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to provide 27 per cent reservation in the admission in the educational institutions to the people of backward class community.

I would like to draw the attention of the House towards one more thing. These who believe in *status quo*, have exploited the OBC people continuously for the last 5000 years. When the question of providing special opportunities to these exploited people came up under our constitution, the report of Kaka Kalelkar was thrown to the dustbin. Later on the report of Mandal Commission was hushed

up for 12 years, Shri V.P. Singh, deserves our thanks, who after coming to the power implemented these recommendations, But today I would like to make it clear, what the Government is going to do. After accepting the recommendations of the Mandal Commission on one-hand the Government have given 27 per cent reservation in jobs to the people of OBC, and on the other hand the public sector is going to be privatised under the new economic policy, which will bring down the number of Government jobs. This is a sort of conspiracy by those who believe in *status-quo*. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to warn this House and the country through you that this new economic policy and the GATT agreement is against the SC, ST and OBC reservation policy. The hon. Minister is present here and he should declare here that in public sector, private sector as well as in the institutions of multinational companies the reservation of 27 percent shall be given. I would like to submit that the resolution of Shri K. Ramamurthy should be passed. With these words I conclude.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time fixed for this resolution is coming to an end therefore, one hour time should be extended.

MANY. HON. MEMBERS : Yes Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time for discussion on this resolution is extended by one hour.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will be very brief. At the outset, I would like to thank you for calling me to speak. I congratulate and also thank our friend Shri K. Ramamurthy Tindivanam for having brought forward this

Resolution which provides an opportunity to have a discussion on this matter.

Sir, there is a famous saying that when winter has come, can spring remain far behind. After the advent of the winter, spring is bound to follow. When the Mandal Committee report has been accepted and also acted upon by this Government providing for job reservation for the OBCs in addition to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, some other concessions as in the case of admission into the educational institutions etc. will naturally follow. This Resolution has two aspects. One is about age relaxation and the other one is about the admission into the educational institutions of children belonging to OBCs with a certain quota of reservations. It seems that this matter is under active consideration of the Government. Several times, it has been raised in the House in different forms. Today also was no exception to this. Today also, during the Zero Hours, it figured. I think Shri Srikanta Jena or some other Member was referring to a discussion. Some hon. Members had a talk with the Prime Minister also yesterday about it. So, this is under active consideration. In what form it will come, how it will come-these details are probably under examination.

It needs to be carefully gone through. India is a large reservoir of talents. We may be a poor country, but internationally, in the world, we have this credit of being a country possessed with scientific talents; technocrats are there in large number. Our scientists who could not find proper opportunities here, go abroad and shine there, inasmuch as, they discover new things; they become entitled to Noble Prizes. This is what is happening now. That is why we have to create new situations for them.

Let me make it very clear that we have

to fight back all sorts of inequalities. As far as possible, it should be a balanced society where opportunities are available for the weaker sections to build their fortune. I am very clear about it. Of course, I would have been very happy if we could work, strive for a classless society, a casteless society, a society free from exploitation, free from inequalities. But that is a far-fetched dream. Now a situation has arisen wherein caste system is going to be perpetuated; whether it is a good thing or a bad thing, only the future can tell us about it. But wherever poverty remains, we have to fight back; we have to fight back inequalities. It should be our endeavour to create a levelled play field.

Till now, only SC/ST castes were being recorded in the Census Report. Hence forward, everybody's caste will be recorded; whether it is a progressive step or a retrograde step, that is for everybody, not only in India but outside also, to watch. Anyway, poverty should not be there. Even the Commission appointed for this purpose was of the view that the "creamy layer" should be excluded from this. The Supreme Court, in their wisdom, differed from it or something like that anyway. I am not going to comment upon it.

So far as education is concerned, I would like to say one thing. Every child born in this country is entitled to receive education. It is a fundamental right although it is not included in Article 3 of the Fundamental Rights. The other Article dealing with the Directive Principles of State Policy makes some provision about it. But we have not been able to achieve that. There is a Declaration saying "Education for All by 2000 AD". It is time that we have to universalise our education: elementary as well as primary education. At the same time, we will have to vocationalise education at the secondary state. I believe and it is my firm opinion that

so far as higher education is concerned, it should not be free for all. I was in-charge of Education Department in Orissa for a certain time. What is happening today? As everybody knows, the type of examinations that we are having in this country is a matter of anxiety. It looks like *sainya chhawani*, with a large deployment of police force in the universities and colleges where they simply stand idle. But what is happening inside?

Violence has also been resorted to; teachers are being assaulted; they are holding out threats in many centres throughout the country. I could say that examination has become a farce.

MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): Please come to the subject.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes. This is the subject matter, very much, Sir. This is on education.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The subject is 'reservation in educational institutions' and not about the standard of education.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Yes. I need not be educated on this. I know, how this is coming from within.

Then, I would say that the higher education should be restricted; there should be an aptitude test right from the stage of class-2, where it should be vocationalised. There should be an aptitude test. Why I am saying this is, there should not be any wastage of talents. We have limited number of seats; and now, the question of reservation comes in. The talented people also should not suffer on account of this. Let the backward class people, neglected people get the entry; they get an opportunity to qualify themselves and get jobs meant for them or reserved for them. But, at the same time, the reputation that we

have of being one of the largest reserves of talents in the world, not vanish. Any wastage of talent will be a national wastage, I tell you Mr. Chairman.

Therefore, there should be a careful study about it and accordingly the seats should be increased and the capacity should be increased. I would say that the people belonging to other castes may not get jobs; but let them get the benefit of education and thereafter they will stand on their own legs. But, you cannot deny the opportunity to them. It may create certain reactions, that much I would say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please try to conclude. You have taken 12 minutes.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : The next point that I would like to say is that the present educational system needs reforms on priority. We all should address ourselves to this sort of changing situations and also necessary action should be taken in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you may be interested to know as to what is happening in Orissa today. Unfortunately, there are clashes between SCs and STs. It started over the entry into a temple by SCs. It was resisted by STs; and following the clashes, a large number of people have lost their lives in the districts of Phulbani and Nayagarh.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How is it related to the present subject?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : The State Government is callous and indifferent.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How is it related? You are just speaking for the sake of speaking.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : CBI

should enquire into this. I request the hon. Minister here to do this. It is not a good thing for social amity.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have no new points, please conclude.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : This is absolutely a new point, Sir, which is about social amity and social cohesion. They are the prime need in our society. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Minister, there, through you, Sir, not directly, but through you, Mr. Chairman, that...

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may urge upon the hon. Minister directly outside the House.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, we have the SC/ST Commission; it should go to the affected places in Orissa and make a study of the situation; let them also try for reconciliation. This confrontationist attitude must go; and SCs, STs, OBCs and other general people must live in peace and friendship among themselves. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the resolution moved by Shri Ramamurthiji in the House. After presentation of the Mandal Commission Report in 1980 it was made public in 1990. Even after the historical verdict of the Supreme Court in 1992, the 27 per cent reservation under Mandal Commission is not being given to the backward classes. Therefore, there is resentment among the backward class people.

Today, there is a provision of 27 per cent reservation in the educational institutions in this Bill. They do not get basic facilities since childhood and that is why they can not

compete in future. Therefore, more and more facilities should be given to the backward class people, so that they can compete to get jobs. Therefore, reservation in educational institution is of much importance. There are lot of backward classes people in Andhra Pradesh. One can find two or three backward class persons in I.A.S., and I.P.S. cadre. The main reason of it is that they do not have basic facilities to compete in I.A.S. exams. Therefore, the reservation facility should be provided to them. The States which have not conducted survey for identifying backward classes should be given direction to take up this task immediately. The backward classes have not been identified even in the states like Rajasthan and Delhi. The Kaka Kalelkar Commission had recommended 30 per cent reservation for the backward classes, but the Supreme Court made it 27 per cent, but on the issue of the number of backwards in our country, there is a dispute. The people claim it to be 52 per cent.

[English]

Fifty-two per cent is the population of the backward classes. That is the feeling of many sections of the people in the country. Now, even the reservation of 27 per cent has become a big problem for the BCs. That is why, first of all, you fix the entire population of the BCs. According to their population, you give the reservation to the BCs. Then only, the BCs will definitely get satisfied.

[Translation]

Unless the data are made clear, there will be resentment in the backward classes.

Just now, Ramamurthi had said that apart from the educational institutions, they should be given 5 years relaxation in age also. The Centre Government is not doing so but some State Governments have done so.

People are on agitation in many States and it is being done in Andhra Pradesh also. The Supreme Court in its judgement has made a mention of 5 years, relaxation to them under Mandal Commission. Why do the Government delay it? The Centre Government should come forward on it, and it should make it clear why it is not ready to give age relaxation of 5 years and why it is being delayed. We do admit that today this issue has been raised through a private resolution and we are discussing it. The point of relaxation in education standard has been raised and relaxation is not given to some B.C. and Tribal people in police, military and C.R.P.F. while we all are aware of the fact that in some of our states people do have short stature. Apart from reservation in recruitment they should be given exemption in height also, height should not be an obstacle in their way. I would like to submit that the Government should give 2-3 inches of exemption in height to the people of B.C. for the recruitment in Police, military and C.R.P.F. and this exemption should be given keeping in view, the condition of the States since each state has different physical standards. In some States people are short in height while in some States they are tall. If we have uniform recruitment rules in the whole country and if we fix 5 to 6 feet height then it will create problems. My submission is that the persons belonging to B.C. should be given exemption in height in recruitment to the police, military and C.R.P.F. If need be, the Act can be amended for it.

I would like to submit one more thing. The Supreme Court has made it clear in its verdict that the reservation should not exceed more than 50 per cent, a ceiling has been fixed which has given birth to so many problems before us. I would like to submit that the persons belonging to the other Backward classes have been given 27 per cent reservation in jobs and the candidates

belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have already been provided 22.5 per cent reservation. Thus the total quota amounts to be 49.5 per cent. Moreover, last time there was much talk about giving ten per cent reservation to the people belonging to economically weaker section also. Through you I would like to urge the Government, if necessary to bring about an amendment in the Constitution for this so that we may be able to exceed the limit beyond 50 per cent. If the Government brings any such amendment bill then it will not face any problem to get it passed in the House because today all the parties are unanimous on this issue. No political party has opposed the recommendations of the Mandal Commission.

[English]

All the political parties supported the Mandal Commission. Though we have differences in its implementation process but irrespective of their political ideologies, all the parties supported the Mandal Commission. All the political parties will support the Constitution (Amendment) Bill even if it seeks to increase the reservation beyond 50 per cent.

[Translation]

I, therefore, would like to request the Government to introduce a Constitution Amendment Bill immediately so that the ceiling on reservation prescribed by the Supreme Court may go beyond 50 per cent. Today, some of the States are not providing reservation to the other Backward classes in consistent with the verdict given by the Supreme Court.

I would also like to urge that the people belonging to the castes in the list of the Backward classes do not get loan from the

B.C. corporations even after paying them marginal money. Hurdles are being created on petty grounds to provide loans to these people. People are not given loans on the excuse of their social status. The hon. Prime Minister has assured to grant Rs. 220 crore for the Backward Corporations all over the country. Every State has backward Corporations and the number of unemployed youth is large. Some of the unemployed youth have applied seeking loan for opening a bicycle-shop, some other have applied for other purposes. They want to be self. Dependent and they do not want to depend on Government jobs only. I want that the Government should issue a circular to each and every Bank that the bank should provide loan to all these people who are paid margin money from the B.C. Corporations. The banks should come forward in this regard. I would like to urge the Government this also in particular that taking the 52 per cent population of the backward classes into consideration the amount given for the backward corporation should be raised from Rs. 200 crore to Rs. 2000 crore and necessary budgetary provision should be made therefor.

Lastly I would like to submit that the Congress M.P. Shri K. Ramamurthy who has brought the Bill has pointed out two main things in his Bill —

[English]

These are; exemption of age limit and providing educational facilities to the backward class people. We must immediately implement these two provisions of the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would like to thank Shri K. Ramamurthy for introducing such an important Bill here. This

Private Member's Resolution is a resolution of national importance. I do not understand what the hitch the Government is feeling to adopt this Resolution. Is the Resolution not in consistent with the Constitution? Is there no justification for this Resolution?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Resolution is not sufficient to unite the 52 per cent population of this country, I therefore, would like to urge upon the Government that it has been stated that our country had been enslaved for a period longer than any other country of the world only because people were not united here. I do not admit it. I understand that the main reason that our country remained slave for such a long period was the existing caste system here. The 52 per cent population of the country was deprived of their opportunity to come into the mainstream of the country. Therefore, the Resolution is of great national importance. Regarding the people who have been suppressed for thousands of years and who have been socially and educationally backward. It has been categorically stated in the Articles 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution that

16.47 hrs.

(SHRI P.C. CHACKO *in the Chair*)

The constitution of India has categorically expressed the theory of special opportunities for them. I have therefore, mentioned that this demand for upper age relaxation for five years to the persons belonging to other Backward classes in educational institutions is constitutionally justified. At present reservation is provided to 9 categories and age relaxation would also be provided to those categories then why not to tenth category? Why the other backward classes should be deprived of this benefit?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the facility of age relaxation has been given to the persons belonging to this category in our State services also. Then why this facility cannot be provided in Central Government Services? distressed to quote a great social thinker Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia who stated 20 years back that we had not established cordial relations with the backward classes, rather we had accumulated jealousy for them. But I do not appreciate this pessimistic outlook and rather I would like to appreciate the situation after 20 or 25 years when the backward castes will resort to bloody seuffle. There is no question of violence in it. The implication here is that the people belonging to the backward classes also should be given equal opportunity and they should enjoy the right to equality. This is what he meant to speak.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I mentioned here the condition of the 52 per cent people of this country. They are people associated with labour, land and agriculture. They work hard and feed the people all over the country. If they do not get their rights in the Constitution and do not participate in the Government, it is not justified. Even after 46 years of the Independence, they did not taste the fruit of independence. The provisions 15(4) and 16(4) of the constitution also manifest this concept.

Some people link this, issue with economic criteria. The creamy layer was just mentioned. I would like to refer to it because it is under the consideration of the Supreme Court. I think the people who work in fields cannot be said as socially advanced people.

I doubt the intention of the Government because it took a long time to settle the creamy layer issue. The recommendation if the Mandal Commission were announced to be implemented in this very august House on

August 7, 1990. There after the executive issued orders in this regard on 13th August, 1990. Then the case was referred to the Court and on November 16, 1992 the Court gave a verdict to provide 27 per cent reservation in the jobs.

Be it the U.P.S.C. examination or other competitive examinations, the Government did not provide age relaxation in Upper age limit.

I would like to state that the Government should make its intention clear on this Private Members Resoulution. I had raised a question in the House regarding creamy-layer. The hon. Welfare Minister gave an assurance. All the Members belonging to different parties once again supported it unanimously. I would like to say that it is the responsibility of the Government to fulfil the assurance given in the House. The Government should see that noobstacle should come in its way. If the notification is not amended appropriately and the orders of the Government fail, then an iron filter gate policy will have to be adopted this time.

Dr. Yadav had stated that this is just like giving by one hand and taking back by another hand. I agree with him. I would like to say that there should be relaxation of five years in the prescribed age limit.

The Civil Services Entrance Examinations are going to be held on 26th June, 1994. I would like to say that if this notification is not amended before this date, people belonging be backward classes will definitely be deprived of the benefit. At the time of filling up of froms, the High Court delivered a verdict that such candidates should be allowed to fill up the froms. But today, their forms are being rejected on the excuse of over-age. The candidates are getting rejection letters. In justice is being

meted out to them deliberately. The Supreme Court had issued directives to implement the verdict with immediate effect. This provision also exists in the constitution. The Supreme Court's verdict is always considered a law. Therefore, the Government should withdraw these letters and all the candidates should be allowed to appear in examinations.

As a matter of principle, I am of the opinion that there should not be any age-limit for giving employment or sitting in the examinations. The Government may fix the age of superannuation but there is no need to prescribe any age limit for seeking a job.

The new economic policy brought forward by the Government is likely to prove a danger to the present and the future of this country. The Government has brought the Dunkel proposals to keep Mandal at back seat. Today about 4600 castes come under Mandal Commission recommendations. Out of these, only four per cent people have been able to get Clas-I officers posts since independence. If they are not given any relaxation, the target of 27 per cent reservation quota cannot be achieved. The law also provides that there should be a certain limit for reservation. Reservation means—minimum and not maximum. They must get 27 Per cent reservation at the minimum. However, today the definition of reservation is being Misinterpreted in the country.

17.00 hrs.

Even 46 years after independence, the backward classes have got only four per cent participation. After signing the Dunkel agreement, All employment opportunities will be lost. That is why, I expressed my apprehension on your intention. If your intention is bona-fide, you should accept this Resolution sincerely. The rejection letters,

which were issued to the OBC candidates, should be withdrawn immediately so that these people could get the benefit of 27 per cent reservation. Further, relaxation in the age-limit for five years must also be given through this Resolution so that an egalitarian society could be established. It is our social responsibility to establish an egalitarian society. These people must have participation in power and the Government service. 52 per cent people of this country, who are socially and educationally backward, must get the benefit of reservation, special employment opportunities and relaxation in age-limit.

[English]

SHRI K.P. KEDDAIAH YADAV (Machhliapatnam) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must thank Shri K. Ramamurthee Tindivanam for having brought this Resolution before the House for the support of all the parties in the House.

Sir, now the nation has to come to general agreement for the implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations without any ambiguity. It is a historic necessity because after independence the unfortunate lot of the backward classes and the Muslims — these two major sections of the secity — were left out from the participation in the administration as well as the industrialisation of the country.

If we look at the situation, there are so many arguments why at the State level and at the Central level the reservation of 27 per cent for IAS and IPS officers, etc. has not been implemented. I want to bring to the notice of the House the plight of these unfortunate sections, that is, the Muslims and the backward classes.

In the first instance when we opted for the licensing raj that is, issuing of industrial

licences etc., the entire backward classes could not participate in the industrialisation of the country. The well-to-do people who could afford to come to Delhi, Hyderabad or Lucknow used to get all the licences and set up the industries. The backward classes lost those opportunities for all these 40 years.

In the matter of job reservation also in the administration nearly 60 to 70 per cent of the Budget allocation of the Central Government as also at the State level was being spent towards the salaries and the wage bill of the employees. Even though 60 to 70 per cent of the budget allocation was being spent on the employees, as the other hon. Member has mentioned, in Andhra Pradesh, there is not even a single IAS or IPS officer from the backward classes or the Muslims. Therefore, we had lost the share during all these 45 years. It has thus become a historic necessity now.

The Mandal Commission Report should be implemented without putting any obstacle. After independence, we have to implement the reservations for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the last ten years. Ten years after ten years we have been extending the reservations till the fifth round. During the implementation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes reservations, there were no pre-conditions. Therefore, likewise, I request this hon. House to implement the Mandal Commission reservations without any creamy layer condition, without allowing the age extension in the examinations and recruitment at least for the first ten years.

Now I would like to clear the doubts expressed by the hon. Members, who wanted to know the difference between socially and educationally backwardness. Sir, the son of bakward class person may be having Rs. ten crore of more but he may not be educationally

equal to other persons. But he may be having money. One thing I can agree. But the children of those backward class persons, who are lawyers or engineers or Class I officers, can be categorised as creamy layer. But because of the economic standards, they can never be put under 'creamy layer'. This is the distinction. We have to differentiate between the 'creamy layer' of a wealthy and an economically strong person and educationally advanced person. We have to remember this.

The hon. Members from Janata Dal have expressed one point. We are not denying any man for the last 40 or 45 years and he is trying to get the due share to the backward class people. Like that, Shri V.P. Singh had also tried and had done some contribution to the backward class people. We are not denying that. But the fact is that the present Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, by his able administration and statesmanship and ability, could be able to convince the nation and to implement the first Mandal reservation in this country. I agree that Shri V.P. Singh had tried to implement it. But, how? He had not involved the nation in the negotiation. And that is why, he entirely failed and put the country into flame. That is the difference between the Government headed by Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao and the Government headed by Shri V.P. Singh. Our Prime Minister, Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, is involving all sections of the society and democratically negotiating with all walks of life and he will definitely implement the Mandal Commission Report without any obstacle. I have got confidence on him. And there is no much resistance from the society.

Regarding the Census, during the Britishers' regime, there was a Backward Class Commission. And the Census figures were already available. If you look at the rate

of growth of backward class people or Muslim or Scheduled Castes or Forward Caste, the rate of growth is almost same. If you take the Census of the Britishers' regime, we can arrive as to what is the strength of the backward class people of the country. It is unfortunate to note that the backward class people are denied of their participation in the economic growth. And in the educational field, in the industrial field and on all fronts, they are left as it is. And these 52 per cent of the backward class people are the basic tools for the creation of the wealth in this country. And the wealth created in this country was cornered by a very few, one per cent of the upper strata of the society. This is the reality.

Now, the country is facing multi-faceted problems. In every corner, among the minorities and the backwardness, there is some sort of a feeling that they are not involved or they are not the partners in the administration of the country.

Therefore, that has to be removed to integrate the country. The gap between have and have nots in increasing and thereby integration is threatened. Therefore, this is the need of the hour. I am sure our hon. Prime Minister is working on these lines to minimise the gap between have and nots. He is trying his level best during all these years to minimise the gap between the rich and the poor.

Our hon. Member, Shri Nawal Kishore Rai has said that because of the acceptance of the Dunkel proposals by the Government, we are going to lose job opportunities. I can only say that this is a mistaken idea. They are only telling the theories. But they are not providing any alternative solutions. Technology is the only answer for all the problems in this country.

Sir, when I was ten year old, we used to prodece 10 bags of paddy per acre. But now we are producing 30 to 40 bags per acre with the same land. How is it possible ? I thank, it is possible only with the technological advancement So, unless we import technology, we cannot solve the problems in this country. So, I am asking my hon. Members to provide a solution. The land is the same, the irrigation facilities are same, the fertiilizer is some So, I think, the production will be the same. Now, the population is 90 crore and it may cross even 100 crore or 120 crore. Where is the solution? The solution lies with the technology deployment. We have to import technology and increase our production.

Lastly, I would like to say that on 8th May we had an All-India Backward Classes Convention at Vijayawada. I think, eight lakhs of people participated in the rally, They have unanimously resolved that Mandal Commission report should be implemented without any creamy layer insistence and allowing age exemption for examinations and recruitments. The same percentage of reservation in the educational institutions should also be provided.

With these few words, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to put my views within two minutes. I support this Resolution moved by our hon. Member Shri Ramamurthee. If we want India to be a united, strong, prospersous and all powerful country, we will have to take up a comprehensive and coordinated development of the people belonging to every class. It is with this view that the backward people should get reservation in educational

institutions as well as in Government services. I support the provision of five years relaxation in age-limit in Government services. These people can reap the benefit only when they will be given the facility of reservation in deducational institutions. From there, many of them would come out as engineers, doctors, technocrates and bureaucrates and thus they will be able to reach in higher posts. As they are educationally and socially backward, they must be given reservation in educational institutions. There should also be a provision for imparting pre-coaching or pre-training to those people who are appearing in IAS or IFS examinations, as is provided in the case of SC and ST candidates.

I want say one more thing. Some vested interests are trying to divide the country in the name of giving reservation to backward clases. It is not a good sign. Today, there is a need to unite the contry and nurture a feeling of egalitarianism in the society. Further, there is a need to bring harmony and create a feeling of affection among the people. It is only then India India can become a prosperous country. If we would think of the interests of only our own caste within the parochial approach of casteism and ignore the interests of other castes or try to spread the hatred, its repercussion will be far-reaching. India, which is known as a museum of castes, would thus disintegrate. Therefore, our party is of the opinion that alongwith SCs and STs, backward classes should also be given reservation. However, amelionation of dalits. exploited lot and poor should be given priority and they should be given equal opportunities. Simultaneously, under the provision of creamy-layer, puuer class people among backward classes should at least be given reservation in educational institutions. It would definitely help in producing new talents amongst 52 percent population of the country and they would work for uniting the society.

I would like to say that today, we should discuss about reservation with broad-mindedness. Otherwise, in certain States, only some castes would reap the whole benefit in the name of politics and other backward classes will be left behind. This kind of practice will not augur well for the country. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Government that it should think about the welfare of all classes. The nation's interest in above all and its welfare is the welfare of all. Further, nation's development is our own development. as Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati had said that one should not be complacent with one's achievements. Rather, one should consider his achievements among the achievements of all. We have to think about the whole country, strengthening the whole society and amelioration of downtrodden people.

Sir, today is 'Akshya Tritiya' (Akha Teej). On this day, due to illiteracy among backward classes, lakhs of child marriages are performed in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Thus, the Child Marriage Restraint Act is openly violated. We should encourage social organisations to remove this backwardness. Further voluntary organisations should also come forward in this effort. the practice of exploiting dalits in the name of vote should not be allowed. I would also like that economically backward people among high castes should also be given reservation. Our party support the reservation to backward classes but simultaneously, we want that the poor, in some other classes should also get reservation facility. I would like to say one more thing that first of all, we are human-being and Indian later on. If Indian would become Indians in true sense, consider themselves the progeny of mother Indias, try to uplift the weaker sections and educate their breather, only then something can be expected. Therefore I say:

"Baha Do Prem Ki Ganga, Dilon Mein Prem Ka Sagar,
Hamein Apas Mein Miljul kar Prabhu
Rahana Sikha Dena."

We should inculcate such awareness and this will be possible only when they could be uplifted socially. Thank you.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The time allotted for this Bill is over.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : You extend the time, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will extend the time for this Bill up to 6 p.m. Two more hon. Members are to participate and then the Minister will intervene before the mover of the Motion replies.

[Translation]

DR. G.L. KANAUIA (Kheri) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am also thankful to Shri Ramamurthee for bringing this Bill in the House, in which he has sought reservation for backward classes in educational institutions and relaxation in age-limit.

Mr. Chariman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that 27 per cent reservation, recommended under Mandal Commission, in Government services is very low in comparison with their population. In this connection, I would like to inform the House that most of the Children of backward classes live in rural areas and their education starts comparatively 2-3 years later than their counterparts in Urban areas. In cities, a child is admitted in the school at the age of 3 years, whereas in rural areas, the child starts going to school at the age of 5 years. Thus

from the very beginning the difference of 2-3 years goes on. Moreover, in villages, education used to be imparted upto middle school level and it was considered sufficient. In this way, it is also one of the reasons for a big gap between the children of rural areas and urban areas.

Under these circumstances, I fully support this Bill and request that giving relaxation of 5 years in the age limit for the candidates of backward classes seeking Government jobs is very essential. The second point is that that is also essential that the children of backward classes should be given reservation in educational institutions. If the children of these classes, who comes from rural areas, are not given age relaxation in Government services, they would not be able to face competitions. When State Governments have accepted this demand, why cannot the Central Government accept this demand? If the Government wants to do justice to the people of backward classes, it would have to accept their genuine demands. I would also request that similar reservation facility should also be provided in private institutions and corporations etc.

With these words, I conclude and support this Bill.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. KHANGKA BALU) :— Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have heard with rapt attention the points made by the hon. Members of this august House. About 23 hon. Members of this House - 24 Members if we take Shri Ramamurthee also - have participated and I very much appreciate the sentiments expressed by the hon. Members and also the concern of them towards the welfare of the O.B.Cs.

As the House is aware, this Government, under the leadership of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, on the 8th of September, 1993, provided 27 per cent reservation of vacancies in civil services and posts under the Government of India for the O.B.Cs.

This is one of the historic achievements of this Government in this direction of other Backward Classes. Our Government have also notified the List of other Backward Classes for 14 States and is also taking steps to notify the List of Other Backward Classes for other States and Union Territories. Procedural instructions have been issued to all the concerned authorities for implementing the reservation policy. All Ministries, departments, public sector undertakings and financial institutions have been addressed for making necessary reservations and provisions for the reservation of the Other Backward Classes, in fulfilment of our order of 8th September, 1993.

Sir, this House is also aware that the Minister of Welfare took the lead in making the first appointment for other Backward Classes under the reserved category. On the 20th February, 1994, Shri Rajasekhara Achari joined the National Backward Classes Commission as Assistant Manager under the reserved category of Other Backward Classes as the first appointee.

In the forthcoming major examinations being conducted by the Union Public Service Commission such as Civil Services Examination and Forest Service Examination and examinations conducted by the Staff Selection Commission for appointment of Stenographers, Assistants etc., the reservation for Other Backward Classes have been provided. Thus, in the coming years the Other Backward Classes will be having their larger participation and an important

role to play in the Governance of the country and also in the process of nation building.

Sir, in this background, I would like to react to issues raised by the hon. Member Shri Ramamurthee and other colleagues on this Resolution. A point has been made that there should be reservation by the Central Government in its educational institutions. I am happy to inform the House that this matter is under the serious consideration of this Government.

The second point made by the hon. Member is the age relaxation for Other Backward Classes as in the case of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for the direct recruitment in the central Services. While the Other Backward Classes are to be given enough opportunities to make them at par with the other educationally and socially developed sections of the society, we should also bear in mind that there is no indetical equation between and position of Other Backward Classes and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The Scheduled Castes have suffered the stigma of untouchability. The Scheduled Tribes have an existence of isolation for several centuries. Hence, they have been given age relaxation up to five year. As I have already stated, the Other Backward Classes need to be given all the necessary facilities to ensure that they become at par with the already developed society. The Government is seized of this fact and hence all issues such as age relaxation to be given to the Other Backward Classes are under the consideration of this Government.

As the hon. Members are aware, in the case of SCs and STs, these relaxation and concessions were given over a period of time. I would assure this House that our examination of all pertinent issues with reference to OBCs would be done as

expeditiously as possible. All necessary measures for their upliftment will be taken very early.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like reiterate that this Government is committed to the cause of the upliftment of the weaker sections of the society including the OBCs. It is with this aim in mind that reservation in services have been provided to the OBCs. An exclusive Corporation for the Backward Classes, namely National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation has already been set up and is functioning for the past two years for promoting economic and developmental activities for the benefit of the Backward Classes. In 1992-93, this Corporation has sanctioned loans amounting to Rs. 34.40 crores. In 1993-94 this quantum of funds further increased to Rs. 105 crores. In 1994-95, we expect that around Rs. 200 crores would be disbursed to OBCs for their economic development.

The issue of improving the lot of the OBCs is a major task of social and economic revolution which can be achieved only by concerted efforts on the basis of a national consensus. We are moving towards the goal in a steady manner and we are sure that we will succeed in achieving the goal and carry all sections of the society along with us. I call upon all the hon. Members of this august House of help us in our great endeavour.

I am sure, the hon. Members are fully satisfied with action taken by the Government and will appreciate that we are making constant efforts with the cooperation of all the hon. Members of this august House and all others concerned for the welfare of weaker sections of the society, particularly OBCs.

I, therefore, request the hon. Member, Shri Ramamurthee to withdraw the Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :

Sir, the hon. Minister has said that positive approach is being taken in this regard and the Government is considering this issue. I would like to say that when the point of filling up the forms for preliminary examination of Civil Services was raised, the candidates of OBC had gone to the High Court. The High Court had directed that these candidates should be allowed to fill up the forms and the Government should take a decision till examinations start. Since then, two to three months have passed but the Government has not yet taken any decision in this regard. As a result thereof the Union Public Service Commission has issued rejection letters to about two hundred candidates belonging to backward classes. The Commission has taken the excuse of overage. However, this issue has been pending in the court for a long time. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that now he is examining the issue, he should certainly order for withdrawal of rejection letters and allow the candidates to sit in the examinations to be held on 26th June.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the honourable High Court, Madras has given a clear verdict and the honourable Minister has also assured to examine the case. Now the relaxation in the age limit should be given. It has also been said that it should have been implemented since 1990. There is no fault of the candidates. Rather it is a fault of the Government that it has delayed its decision. Therefore, through you, I would request the hon. Minister that he should make a declaration that the forms will not be rejected.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Mr.

Chairman, Sir, before the reply of the hon'ble Minister, the hon. Welfare Minister had also

admitted in this House that the demand for relaxation in age-limit and three opportunities for sitting in the examinations has been made. What Shri Yadav and Shri Gangwar have said, I support that. I would like to say that the hon. Prime Minister has declared during the time of issue of 13 August, 1990 notification that now it was the responsibility of the Government to implement it. At that time, as per the directive of the High Court, the candidates applied for the examinations to be held on 26th June. Now, I would like the hon. Minister to make a declaration that those candidates, who have applied for this examination, will not be deprived of sitting in this examination. Simultaneously, a demand for relaxation in age-limit and three opportunities has also been made. Recently, Shri Sita Ram Kesri has also assured in this regard but it is apprehended that it may not be get delayed. Therefore, I would like the Government to make a declaration in this regard immediately.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not repeat like this. All the three members raised the same question. Is there any other question ?

SHRI DATTATRAYABANDARU : I have got different question. All the parties, including the ruling party, have welcomed this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The mover of the Resolution has to reply. The discussion is still on.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : The Minister should give a categorical assurance. There are two points. About the reservation in educational institutions, he is saying that the Government is seriously considering it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If you have got any point of clarification to be put to the hon.

Minister, you can do that.

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Regarding the BC Corporation, the Minister has said that margin money is given by the BC Corporation. But the banks are not coming forward to give loans. A lot of unemployed youth are suffering in this regard. I would like to know whether the Minister will issue a circular to all the banks in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has noted your point.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE (Vijayawada) : Thank you for giving me this opportunity. I am seeking a clarification because I was not here. I want to have some clarification. The hon. Minister is here. I would like to know whether he is aware of the fact that in several University hostels, a lot of tension is brewing among some sections of the students because of the difference in the amount that is given as scholarship or hostel charges or mess charges. At that infant age, they do not tolerate any discrimination. I want to know whether the Government is aware of this fact and if it is so whether the Government will take a decision to make the level uniforms in respect of the Government's help to the poorer boys. The level of help should be the same to pursue education, to stay in the hostel.

The number of beneficiaries may be more from a particular section because the Government has got a definite obligation to spend 15 per cent of its total expenditure on some sections and 7 per cent of its total expenditure on certain other weaker sections. We do agree with that. But the quantum of amount that is being spent should be the same. Will the Government examine this aspect?

We are very happy that ultimately, after

several decades, this Mandal Commission Report has come into being and it is being implemented now. We want to know very categorically from the Minister whether the Government has any plans to see that these benefits go to the poorest of the poor.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That point has already been answered.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE : Even in our IRDP Schemes, in a village, when we select the beneficiaries, the benefit is expected to go to the poorest of the poor. In the same way, will the Government take necessary steps to see that these benefits also go to the poorest of the poor?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Would the Minister like to reply to these points now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKAGALU) : I have already replied to all the necessary points during my intervention. We are taking into consideration all the aspects of these issues which were raised by the hon. Members. We are considering them very seriously. We sincerely want to see that these issues are sorted out quickly. That is why, at various levels, we are taking up these matters to see that these issues are sorted out quickly. And in future, no member of the OBC community would be in trouble. One hon. Member was saying that the banks were not co-operating with the Corporation. In this regard, we have given special guidelines to all the banks and its Chairmen through the Finance Ministry. And if there are any specific instances where they are not cooperating, please let me know so that we will take up those issues and sort out the matters. The very purpose of this National Backward Class Finance Corporation is to help the poorest among the poor. Those people who are below the poverty line and

the down-trodden people are given importance, are given priority in their taking advantage of these loans. That is why, this section will not face any difficulty. I want to assure the House that if there is any problem anywhere, the hon. Members are having the right to inform us and we will do our best to sort out those issues.

[Translation]

SHRI G.L. KANAUIA : I call an assurance from the Government to instruct the UPSC to allow the students to appear at their examination and who have already been allowed by High Court. The examination is likely to commence on the 26th June...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur) : My question has not been replied to...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you going to repeat the same points ? What ever you have said have been very well understood by the House and also by the Minister. If you are not satisfied with the answer, it cannot be helped.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not repeat it. Your question was very clear and it was understood by the Minister. He has given his answer. Now you have to be satisfied with it.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seats.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :

My question was very simple that the Civil Services Preliminary examination is likely to commence on the 26th June. The candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes have already filled up their forms. While filling up the forms, as per the instructions it was stated that it was incumbent upon the Government to settle it in the meantime. But now the Government procrastinate its decision on this issue due to which the rejection letters are being issued from the UPSC. Would the Government like to deprive these students of the opportunities to appear at the examination or would he allow them to take their exams ? The Government is committing the contempt of the Court also. Justice Sawant has issued orders in this regard. Then why the orders are being violated ? why the hon. Minister is not giving any reply ? ... (interruptions)...

[English]

Mr. Chairman : For certain specific issues, you cannot extract an answer from the Minister in this form. You have made your well. The Minister may please note down the point. Mr. ramanurthee can speak.. (interruptions)...

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I would like to know whether those candidates will be deprived of their opportunity to appear at their examination. We seek your protection in this regard. But it seems that the hon. Minister is not understandingly taking stock of the seriousness of the situation.

SHRI NAVAL KISHORE RAI : Would the students be able to take their examination or would they be prevented from doing so in spite of the orders issued from the court?... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have made a genuine point. Please be satisfied with that.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, you hold the office of the judge of this august House. Please resolve this crisis. It is a very sensitive issue. The hon. Minister is not understanding its implications. Today thousands of people from Allahabad, Madras, Tamil Nadu etc. have come to demonstrate on the roads of this capital metropolis, here! The situation is very critical here. We must be given the Government protection. The Government must regulate to allow the students to appear at the examinations. Our delegation has met the hon. Prime Minister in this regard. The delegation consisted of Shri Nitish Kumar, Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members representatives of all the political parties were included in it....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not necessary to repeat all these things. This has been raised in the House many times. You have also raised this issue today. There is every right to raise this issue. But, please be satisfied with that. It is not possible to do it the way you like... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Now it is the property of the House. We thank Shri Ramanurthy for introducing this Bill; but

this private Members Bill has now become the property of the entire House and we are entitled to know about it. The hon. Minister is not replying satisfactorily. It appears that all those students will be prevented from taking their examination. What will be their future ? The Government does not understand this sentiment.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have got sufficient protection; you have got ample time in projecting your point. You have raised the issue and you should be satisfied with that. You cannot expect an answer like that. You are raising a very specific issue and you cannot expect an answer like that. You have made your point and you should be satisfied with that. Mr. Ramamurthee.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This will not go on record

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please be stated.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you please resume your seat ? I have allowed you to speak and I have given you enough time.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This will not go on record. Mr. Ramamurthee please.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your

seats. Nothing will go on record. Please understand that. Mr. Ramamurthee may start.

HRIK. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM (Tindivanam) : Sir, I am extremely thankful to all the 24 hon. Members of this august House who have taken the maximum interest and participated in the discussion on the Resolution of mine.

Sir, it is not only the case of 24 hon. Members of this House. Almost all the hon. Members belonging to all the States in India whether they are from the South or from the North or from the West or from the East or from the middle part of India, have shown considerable consideration on this particular Resolution. They have voiced their concern and their points of view.

Apart from this, cutting across party lines, I find that all the hon. Members have given their fullest support to this Resolution. Maybe, when they made their emotional support for this Resolution, the delay that has caused in implementing the Mandal Commission Report or the delay that has taken to arrive at this point, has necessitated them to have a look at it from a political view also.

That cannot be avoided. But beyond that, we could finally see the special interest. If we have a concern, let us remember this resolution.

I am further happy that the move which started several years back has taken several forms, several agitations. Several resolutions have been moved in this august House. And one or two amendments to the Constitution were brought in which resulted in today's resolution. Today, the Mandal Commission report has been implemented, it is because of the services that have been rendered to the upliftment of the backward classes by the

leaders of our nation, by the people who framed the Constitution and who wanted to see that the affected sections of the society are attended to.

Today, I am happy that the Minister has come forward to accept the resolution on principle. I want to say that I am fully satisfied with the reply given by the Minister. But still on principle, this house is able to impress upon the Minister concerned. This House is able to prevail upon the Minister concerned. They have expressed their anxiety to see that some of the points raised in the discussion are attended to.

The Minister has said in his own way that the reservation in educational institutions is under serious consideration of the Government. There are two ways of looking at the promise, I take it literally. As a member of the ruling party, I am thankful to the Minister for the assurance given. At the time, when the Government given an answer saying that it is under serious consideration, it takes years.

Now, I should impress upon the Minister that this is a time when the Government should very seriously attend to this problem because there is no section in this House which is against this resolution.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV :
What about age relaxation ?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Tindivanam) : I am coming to it. There is no section in this House which is not giving a helping hand for the implementation of this resolution and so also about the age relaxation. I felt sorry when the Minister equated this problem saying that there is a difference between the OBC and SC and ST reservation. The relaxation given to SCs and STs is from a different angle. I am sorry that the Minister

has misunderstood the very object because it is not as a rivalry that OBC exemption in age is being asked for. It is because of the way in which the backward classes are being treated in the society. That is why many of the Members belonging to the ruling party and to all the other political parties expressed the views that there are two standards of education in this country today. Can the Government deny that? What is the education that we are getting in the metropolitan cities? What is the education that we are getting in the municipal cities? What is the education that we are getting in the villages? Can it be equated? Where do the backward classes people and the backward communities live? Today, education is being officially sold, authoritatively sold. You have to pay for your children's education. According to your payment, you get the education. The Members may not mistake me if I reveal certain things. In Tamil Nadu, Hindi education is banned. But there are children who go to nursery schools. Even people which led the anti-Hindi agitation get Hindi education in the private schools by paying for it.

So also in the North, people who turn firmly against English, send their children to the nurseries where they are taught in the English language. And, when they come for competition, can the village students come on par with them? Is this the way to treat the children? What is the condition of the schools in villages? There are schools without teachers. My friend gave a detailed version of it. Under these circumstances, it has become necessary for us to ask for the age relaxation. If the Government is not in a position to comply with it, we may at least be told the difficulty in accepting this suggestion. I would request the Government not to colour it. Please do not give a different direction to it because indirectly this will result in the creation of another class of people between the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled

Tribes and OBCs which will be for their genuine cause. so, it should not be misconstrued that way.

I am happy that 25 Members took part in the debate. I am sorry I am not able to mention about all of them here. You must understand one thing that the people who have the rightful authority to ask for 52 per cent reservation are being given only 27 per cent reservation. At the same time there is a problem in the States where the percentage of population is not the same. There is no equal distribution of population in all the States throughout the country. In certain States the percentage of OBCs is much more than one can imagine. In certain other States the percentage of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes is much more than one can imagine. So, there is a wide variation among different States.

The Supreme Court has done two things. One is, when a boy went to the Supreme Court saying that he is unable to pay for his education as self-financing institutions are charging heavily, the Supreme Court gave the verdict by which an average student today is paying much more fees than he used to pay before the boy went to the courts. This is the Supreme Court's verdict.

About reservation in Tamil Nadu, it has taken a different turn. The backward classes' agitation is the result of about one-hundred years of work. Every leader of Tamil Nadu was involved in it. Every political party was involved in it. Today, there is 69 per cent reservation for the OBCs in Tamil Nadu. There is compartmentalisation; backward, most backward and others. There is a constitutional crisis today. The Supreme Court says that it should not be more than 50 per cent. The Government says that it has passed a Resolution in the Legislative Assembly saying that 61 per cent reservation

should be there and that the Government will implement it. So, this is the time when the Central Government and the State Government should discuss the matter and solve the problem, instead of being led to a crisis by which the admission of children will get spoiled. It is high time that the problem is solved fully. If necessary, the Centre can once again go to the Supreme Court with facts and make the reservation flexible according to the percentage of population of the State concerned.

My friend, Shri Panigrahi mentioned about the census and recording of different castes. We are not making a record of it today.

18.00 hrs.

Can any hon. Member tell me that the caste oppression is not there today ? Can any hon. Member tell me that Caste difference is not there today ? Can any hon. Member tell me that everyone is entering into inter-caste or inter-community or inter-religious marriages ? Everyone is nursing his community. Let us not be in fallacy. Let us not cheat ourselves that this will involve this and that.

So, Sir, a census should be conducted. Then only the Government can have an accurate figure of the backward classes in each and every State. If it is done then only the Government can do something to protect the interests of the backward classes.

I am happy and I am once again thankful to each and every Member, to each and every political party in this House who have participated and supported my Resolution. I am also thankful to the hon. Minister, Mr. Thangka Balu and our Prime Minister who had given him the strength for giving as assurance of this kind.

o, with the best hope, with the fond that the Government will take this into consideration seriously, I may be permitted to withdraw my Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government has not given any positive answer on such an important issue..(Interruptions)

[English]

R. CHAIRMAN : Now, I am allowing one of you to put forth your point clearly as to what exactly you want. Why all of you are standing like this ? As a special case, I am allowing one of you to put forth your point clearly. I have already given you sufficient time.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have a very simple question that the examination due to commence on the 26th June,...(Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please sit down. You have already raised that point.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : I have a very simple question that the examination due to commence on the 26th June...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHARIMAN : Please resume your seat. This is very unfortunate. We are

discussing a very basic issue in this House viz., the question of reservation. What you are raising is an issue which had happened very recently. The judgement of the Court is important. I am not saying that it is unimportant. This House, as a whole, is discussing the basic question of reservation and the attention of the whole country is on this issue. The basic question is that we all should be happy that they are doing something. I told you many times that you cannot extract an answer like this. So, now, I am allowing the Mover of the Resolution to withdraw his Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV : It has a direct bearing on future of the 52 per cent people of our country ... (Interruptions)...

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not going on record.

(Interruptions)*

18.03 hrs.

(Then Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav and Some other hon. Members left the house.)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : Sir, the time of the House may be extended till the disposal of the Resolution and also passage of the next Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That we have already done. Till the passage of this Resolution or till the adoption or negation of this Resolution,

the House will sit.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN : I am just seeking the permission of the House that the item of the House should be extended not only till the disposal of this resolution but also till the passage of the next Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

For this Resolution we had extended the time up to 6 o'clock. Now, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has raised a very important issue. I request all the hon. Members of the House to allow the extension of the time of the House. First let us dispose of this Resolution. After this Resolution, we may take up the Private Members Resolution of Mr. Kashiram Rana and then we will take up the next Bill.

It is the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri K. Ramamurthee Tindivanam be withdrawn ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : The assurance of the hon. Minister cannot be trusted. But since the mover himself has withdrawn the Bill, the hon. Minister should fulfill his assurance.

18.06 hrs

Motion Re : ALLOCATION OF GAS TO GUJARAT

[Translation]

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat) : Mr.

Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that "This House urges upon the Central Government to allocate sufficient quantity of gas for gas based power plants for industrial and domestic use in Gujarat."

18.061/2 hrs.

**COIR INDUSTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL
As passed by Rajya Sabha.**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Coir Industry Act, 1953 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

This Amendment Bill to the Coir Industry Act, 1953 is a simple amendment, Section 19 (1) of the coir Industry act, 1953 provides that the Coir Board shall submit to the Central Government a half-yearly Report and Annual Report on its activities and the working of the Board for the preceding six months and the year respectively. This practice of submitting half-yearly Report and then an annual Report to the Parliament has been considered as duplication of work. The Lok Sabha secretariat while examining laying of half-yearly Report of the Coir Board has shown concern about the duplicity of the work involved. In view of this background, amendment to Section 19 (1) of the Coir Industry Act, 1953 so as to do away with the requirement of submission of half-yearly Reports is being moved. I hope the House will agree that the presentation of both half-yearly Report and then the Annual Report is a duplication of work. If the half-yearly Report

is discontinued, it will result in saving of stationery, labour and time. The amendment was adopted in Rajya Sabha on 14th December, 1993.

If hon. Members have any other suggestions, they are welcome to come forward with their amendments. I request the House to adopt this amendment unanimously without any debate.

MR. CHAIRMAN : In view of the explanation given by the hon. Minister, is it necessary that discussion should be held on this amendment ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : No.

SHRI RAMESH CHENITHALA (Kottayam) : This coir industry is one of the traditional industries. It is very rare that we discuss this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Coir Industry Act, 1953, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU (Secunderabad) : It is a piecemeal legislation. The Board has already recommended that the whole Act should be amended. This is very old and has become outdated and obsolete. While I welcome the legislation, at the same time, I request the hon. Minister to see that a fullfledged, comprehensive (Amendment) Bill is to be brought forward in this House.

Coir industry is one of the most neglected indigenous enterprises which really enables the weakest of the weaker sections of the society to earn their livelihood in a hard way.

the plight of the coir industry workers, the plight of the cashew industry workers, the plight of the handloom weavers, the plight of the other traditional industries is totally dependent on these industries. The Government should make serious efforts to protect the traditional industry.

There are five lakh families depending on this coir industry. Thirty lakh people are dependent for their livelihood on this industry. They hardly get employment for more than .00 days.

Coir industry has tremendous unexploited potential. It is felt that timely action is needed for the protection of this industry.

It was felt that timely action was needed for the problem. The need of the hour is full exploitation of basic raw material. This is mostly a labour intensive industry. The production over the years has gone up. In 1988-89 it was 14,25,500 hectaers. Now in 1992-93 it has gone upto 16 lakh hectares. The annual production of the nuts has grown from 8,541 million to about 10,000 million. By 2,000 A.D. it is going to be 12,685 million, estimated by the Coir Board. There is an increase of 3 percent per annum and only 30 per cent of the husk is utilised by the coir industry. This is the most unfortunate thing because the infrastructural facilities like defibering machines are rotting. It is lacking in all these infrastructural facilities like fibre extracting, spinning and manufacturing. In andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu even most of the husk is thrown into garbage. That is the most unfortunate thing.

I appeal to the hon. Minister to consider setting up of cooperative societies in the coconut concentrated areas of Andhra Pradesh, particularly Konaseema and Amalapuram. Where thickly Coconut growing

areas is there. There are lot of coconut growing areas. I appeal once again to the hon. Minister for the setting up of cooperative societies in the coconut producing belts. In Andhra Pradesh, in Ichapuram a big coastal area is there. Lot of coconut husk is thrown into the garbage there.

The Minister has announced in Rajya Sabha for Rs. 44.24 crores coir development projects in Kerala. I hope he will also consider to announce a similar project in Andhra Pradesh because the agro-based industry is very much important and without wasting an inch of the fibre coconut industry can be utilised into the agro-based industry.

It is high time to improve the quality of the yarn and the fibre for this. We should go in for mechanisation because with manual extraction we cannot compete with other countries which are producing very sophisticated fibre. For that we have to go in for mechanisation. This will help in improving the quality of the fibre and we can get better fibre.

At the moment the fibre is soaked and as a result the colour of the fibre gets deteriorated and it becomes brown. It is not golden as in the case of Sri Lanka fibre. It costs same as the cost of Sri Lanka fibre. That is why our exports have come down. Hence I request the hon. Minister to see that the quality is improved and our exports grow. It should go for modernisation and sophistication.

Lastly, I would like to say that the coir products are exported to almost all European countries. The maximum products from Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh are exported to the African, European the other Asian countries. We are ~~at present~~ exporting to about 57 countries. ~~But our exports~~ have now come down.

In 1960, we have exported 75,000 tonnes; in 1961 it has come down to 25,000 tonnes; and in 1986 it has further come down to 23,214 tonnes. That is why I once again appeal to the hon. Minister to see that the quality of the fibre is improved with the introduction of sophisticated synthetic fibre so that our exports grow more. For this, this amending Bill is not enough and a comprehensive bill is needed, to improve the entire coir industry. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam) : I rise to support the Coir Industry (Amendment) Bill introduced by Shri M. Arunachalam. The coir industry is one of the traditional and indigenous industries in our country. This sector is completely neglected and workers who are engaged in this industry are in a very difficult situation. The Central and State Government are not giving adequate relief to the workers. They have not formulated enough projects for the revival of this coir industry.

The Coir Board is the agency which is monitoring the overall development of this industry. Actually speaking, this industry is dying. There is no proper scheme with the Coir Board to revive this traditional industry which has got a lot of potential. As Shri Dattatraya Bandaru rightly pointed out in the case of exports every year our performance is declining. For that we have to strengthen the Coir Board. The Coir Board has a research and development wing. But proper research and development is not taking place. I think money is not earmarked for them to strengthen their developmental activities.

Earlier, there was a strong opposition against mechanisation in this field because thousands of poor people are engaged in this coir industry. But now we see a change in the attitude of the workers also. The workers are also demanding mechanisation in certain

fields and taking that situation into account the Government should come forward to provide more financial support to the Coir Board so that they are able to strengthen the research and development activities and more mechanisation can be done in this field.

Shri Dattatraya Bandaru has rightly pointed out about Sri Lanka. Now Sri Lanka is producing yarn and we cannot compete with the Sri Lankan yarn and other products which they are producing. It is because of the lack of mechanisation and synthetic fibre which is made out of husk is not at all competitive. Therefore, we are losing our traditional markets also. So, the quality should be improved and we have to find out more markets so that we are able to compete with the other countries in this regard.

What is happening is certain countries are procuring coir yarn from India. It is sent to Europe and other countries and the finished products are produced there. Actually, this can be done in our country. But unfortunately the raw material is taken to other countries and the other countries are coming out with the finished products. They are taking advantage of the situation.

Earlier, there was a belief that synthetic yarn is an alternative to coir. But now after a lot of discussion and research the truth has come out. Coir is not at all an alternative to synthetic yarn, because coir absorbs water also. We find what even Government offices are using woolen carpets. But coir carpets are more cheap, durable and they can absorb water also, I suggest that if the government should issue an order to all Government departments and officers that coir carpets should be used instead of woolen carpets, as they are cheap and durable, it will be more helpful to coir industry. Unfortunately, what is happening is, this industry is completely

ignored and the workers are suffering a lot as they are not getting remunerative wages.

There is no welfare scheme for these labourers and the workers, who are toiling. Actually, they are completely neglected. In the coconut growing areas, especially in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, we cannot even properly procure the husk, which is the raw material. This husk is going as a waste. This is a national waste. In major areas, we can say that this husk is being properly preserved. And if we can properly procure the husk and make it into a fibre, then we can be able to boost our exports, we can also come out with different varieties and also we can be able to compete with the world markets. Unfortunately, there is no scheme for procuring the husk in the coconut growing areas and we are not properly processing it. We are not utilising the natural resource, which is available in our country. My request to the hon. Minister is that there should be a special scheme for the collection of this husk and also for proper processing. And the fibre should be given to the cooperative societies and other agencies so that they can come out with new products.

The price fixation is the most important thing. The price fixation is being done by the Government on the basis of the recommendations of the Coir Board. In this case, the labour component should be given more importance because the workers, who are engaged in this industry, as Shri Dattaraya has pointed out, are all poor people. These labourers, who are engaged in this industry, should get remunerative wages. They are not getting enough wages. When compared to other traditional and indigenous industries, which are existing in this country, the workers in the coir industry are not at all getting remunerative wages. So, while fixing the price, the Government should take into account the labour component. And even

the suggestion of the Coir Board is not being accepted by the Government when it is finalising the price. My request to the hon. Minister is that the Government should take into account the labour component while fixing the price so that the or and the downtrodden people, who are engaged in this industry, can get at least remunerative wages. This is most important.

There should be a special scheme. The Minister has already mentioned in the Rajya Sabha that a sum of Rs. 46 crore was given for a special project, through Coir Board, which is implementing it in the State of Kerala. The Government should give more importance to this sector. The Government should take enough care so that we would be able to improve our exports and catch more markets, which will benefit our economy and help our workers.

Streamlining of the Coir Board is needed. I do not want to go into the details. But total streamlining of the the Coir Board is necessary. Also strengthening of the Coir Board is necessary. The Coir workers should get a feeling that the Coir Board is not only taking care of the big exporters and those who are monopolising in this sector but also taking care of the problems of the coir workers. The Coir Board should give a signal to the workers and to the small people, who are engaged in this field, that Coir Board is taking care of their problems also. But, unfortunately what is happening now is that the Coir Board is only concentrating on the big exporters and those who are monopolising this field. They should take care of the tiny and small units. They should take ample care about the cooperative societies. They should take ample care about the poor workers, who are engaged in this field. I do not want to go into the details now.

I think, the Minister, in his reply, will give

a categorial assurance to this House that the Government will come forward with a comprehensive legislation without any further delay in order to strengthen the Coir Board and also to implement more projects in this field, which will benefit the poor and the downtrodden people, who are engaged in this industry.

SHRIG.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the Kerala Stae, Andhra Pradesh is the highest coconut producing State in the country. But, unfortunately, either from the State Government or from the Central Government, the coconut workers are not getting any support. In Andhra Pradesh, Coconut and Coir Boards are far away from the coconut farmers and the coconut workers because the entire crop is raised in the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh where these offices are situated in the State headquarters of Hyderabad nearer to ariport. I wish to point out that no help is provided from these offices either to the farmers or to the coconut workers. So, I request the hon. Minister to change those Boards to the coastal area immediately.

Andhra Pradesh is exporting more than Rs. 2000/- crore worth of coconut every year. In my Constituency, that is, Amalapuram, we are exporting nearly Rs. 1000 crore worth of coconut every year.

In this background I would like to bring to your kind notice that several lakhs of labourers are working in coconut sector. They harvest the coconuts from the trees, remove the outer jute and other related activities. Sometime these poor labourers who climb the trees to cut and bring down the coconuts fall and die. As things stand today, Accident insurance scheme does not cover these labourers, while the Todi Taper are covered under that scheme. The Government was good enough to introduce accident insurance

Scheme for the benefits to Todi Taper who die or receive serious injuries while they climb the trees. There is every justification for introduction of a similar scheme for the benefits of the coconut labourers. We wish to draw your immediate attention to the fact that India stands in the third place in the area under coconut cultivation as well as production of nuts. Coconuts are grown in 1.5 million hectares producing 11.3 thousand million nuts. Our country is able to produce 17.3 per cent of coconuts in the whole world. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh are important States from the point of view of coconut cultivation. In Andhra Pradesh coconut plantations are grown in 65 thousand hectares. The labourers working in the coconut sector are requesting the Government to introduce accident insurance scheme to help them and specially those who die or receive injuries while climbing the trees. We request you to immediately examine this important issue and take necessary steps in this regard.

Sir, I do not want to take a lot of time, But the farmers are facing a lot of problems particularly in the case of price fixation to the coconuts. Sometimes the price is increased to Rs. 4000/- per hundred nuts and sometimes it is coming down to Rs. 1500/- to Rs. 2,000/- per hundred nuts. So, I request the hon. Minister that there should be a supporting price to the coconut farmers.

Lastly, I would like to request the hon. Minister to make a fresh legislation for the benefit to coconut farmers and the workers.

With these few words, I thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very

simple Bill. It should be amended to provide that the Board should submit its report within a year and not within 6 months. I would like to say two or three things in this regard. The main places of this industry are in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. It is an indigenous industry in which lakhs of people are engaged in different places and they earn their livelihood there. The Board has suggested that in place of this Bill a comprehensive (Amendment) Bill should be brought. The hon. Minister should consider it and introduce a comprehensive Bill as suggested by the Board. The people working in this industry are not getting their wages properly. This industry should be equipped with new techniques the technologies and make it more effective.

At present it has neither financial resources nor infrastructure. Therefore, it has not become effective so far. Therefore, the people engaged in this industry do not full wages and therefore, there has been continuous sliding trend in its export. The Government should think over it. Earlier we used to to export goods worth Rs. 40 crore. But there is continuous fall in it. The Government should see as to what are the reasons behind it. It should see whether our industry does not have proper infrastructure, subsidy and techniques and whether we are not manufacturing goods according to the foreign countries, demands. The Government should flourish this industry so that the people engaged in this industry may earn their bread and butter, and this industry also progresses. Our goods are exported to France, European and African countries. These goods prove our identity. Therefore, the Government should make efforts to increase export and recruit workers in larger number and pay remunerative wages to them.

I would like to request the hon. Minister

to introduce a comprehensive Bill for providing all this and to protect people engaged in this industry and remove the hindrance in export.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (Bikramganj) : Mr. Charirman, Sir, this industry is related to villages. Especially the poor people are engaged in this industry. While enforcing this Act in 1953 it appeared that this will be very helpful in exports of the country. The poor people from Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh to earn their livelihood in this factory. It was expected that these poor people will get some support here. It progressed very well during the last some years. But it has been deteriorating continuously for some time. As Shri Pandeya suggested that it is a one line amendment Bill which envisages to change the time from six months to one year. It must be done. But it is general opinion that it must be equipped with latest techniques. We have adequate raw materials of coconut and coir. But we do not have new technologies and equipments to utilise the raw materials properly. For this sake we have to depend on foreign countries. Therefore, the workers do not get remunerative wages. They are obliged to leave the industry out of despair, and despondency. There is no provision for their life insurance and good salary. This is the reason for the continuous decline in export. I would like to submit to the Government that it is a good industry and provides employment for the Southern and eastern border people. If it progresses, the crores of people can get employment. Today employment is the greatest problem of the country. Therefore I want that this Bill should be passed. But the main issue is as to what is the Government going to do for the workers ? I do not want that the owners of the industry should not get profit. But the Government should pay more attention to the workers also. These poor people and their children suffer a great deal. Special provision should

be made for labourers in it. A master plan should be chalked out to encourage the labourers being retrenched from this industry and their interest should be cultivated. More over this industry should be indigenous one and research should be conducted. The raw materials are very costly. Industries should be set up there and they should be promoted so that it may enhance its production and export which has been declining. I believe that the export will prove profitable.

With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank the hon. Members who have participated in the discussion and for their valuable suggestions.

As you know—as a Member of the Coir Board—this industry is one of the important traditional industries, widely spread in the east and west coast of the country. Historically the industry has been concentrated in your State and now it has spread to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and Assam.

Coming to the points raised by most of the hon. Members, they have asked for a comprehensive legislation of this industry. Sir, as a member of the Coir Board you are aware that the Coir Board has already sent the proposal for amendment of the Act. We are seeking the views of the State Governments of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and other States. We are expecting the views from the State Governments. As soon as we get the views from the State Governments we will be going for a comprehensive legislation of this industry.

Coming to the export front, as you know,

we are exporting to about sixty countries in the world. Coir exports have been increasing year by year. I want to give some figures. In 1991-92 the exports were to the tune of Rs. 74.11 crore. In 1992-93 the exports increased to Rs. 95.95 crore. In 1993-94 we have exceeded our target, and have exported worth Rs. 127 crore. Therefore, there is no question of the industry going down or backward.

About the welfare schemes, the Government of Kerala has constituted a welfare fund. The Government of India is contributing its share. Last year we have given Rs. 25 lakh towards that labour welfare fund. This year also, so far, we have released Rs. 60 lakh towards that fund.

Coming to the Research and Development, as you know, we have two national research institutions in the country—one at Alleppey and one at Bangalore. Both are doing research and development works. So far they have developed technology to reduce the period of retting reduce the cost of bleaching of coir technology to develop composite coir pith as organic manure. In this way the Research and Development centres are doing extremely well.

Shri Ramesh Chennithala and others have raised other points. They have mentioned about coir pith. As you know, disposal of coir pith it is an environmental problem. The Research and Development wing of our coir industry is doing something towards making use of this waste as organic manure. Therefore, there is no question of not doing anything in this direction.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : What about streamlining of the Coir Board's activities ? (Interruptions) Hon. Chairman was the Minister of Industries there. He is well aware of the problem .

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : As it is there is no problem in the Coir Board. If there is anything, please bring it to my notice. We will streamline it. There is no problem.

With these few words, I request the house to pass the Bill.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Mr. Chairman I would like to seek a clarification. Is it a fact that in order to give publicity in foreign countries to the goods manufactured by the Coir Industry, the Government pay Rs. 50 lakh a year ? If so, does this practice continue even today ? Secondly, I would like to submit that the new economic policy is on anvil and our economy is going to be liberalised. Rs. 44 crore has been provided in the Eighth Five Year Plan for developing new technology to convert coir to husk rating and fibre extraction spinning manufacturing and then again defibring. What is this technology and how will the amount be spent ?

[English]

SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, recently we have developed technologies for the development of poly coir and have made progress in the sphere of automatic coir spinning machines. This is the extend of our progress in the field of research and development. We are not lagging behind.

SHRIG.M.C. BALAYOGI (Amalapuram) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, some insurance should be given to the coconut workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That does not come under this Bill. Please take your seat.

Now, the question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Coir Industry Act, 1953, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Motion was Adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up Clause - by Clause consideration of the Bill.

The Question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1 Short Tittle

AMENDMENT MADE :

Page 1, line 3,—

for "1993" substitute "1994" (2)

(SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That Clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

AMENDMENT MADE :

Page1, line 1, —

For "Forty-Fourth" Substitute
"Forty-Fifth" (1)

(SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Enacting formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was Adopted.

The Enacting formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Long title stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was Adopted.

The Long Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The Motion was adopted.

18.44 hrs.

INSTITUTES OF TECHNOLOGY
(AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We have some

more time. Actually the time allotted to this Bill is one hour, but we have taken only 40 minutes. So, if the House agrees, we can take up the Bill under item no. 21. In fact, this is a Bill passed by the Rajya Sabha.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister may now move the Bill.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

This Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 9-5-1994 and has been considered and passed on 1-5-1994. This is a very simple Bill. I request the House to pass it. I.I.T., Guwahati is an institution of national importance.

I request that this may be passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The whole House is satisfied with your explanation.

[Translation]

DR. L. MINARAYAN PANDEYA

(Mansaur) : This Bill deals with very simple issue. No provision worth discussion has been made here. There is no such point as it requires a marathon discussion. If all are enamoured, by discussing it here.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will take up clause - by - clause consideration.

The question is :

"Clauses 2 to 6 stand part of the Bill."

The Motion was adopted

Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"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.

KUMARI SELJA : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."

[Translation]

DR. G.L. KANAUIA (Kheri) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Bill introduced in the august House is related to Guwahati. We already have five IIT Centres at Kanpur, Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Kharagpur. (*Interruptions*)

I do not talk much and I rise to support this Bill introduced in the House which is related to Guwahati. I want that this Bill be passed.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is Third reading of the Bill. I have allowed the Members to speak.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI (Berhampur) : I would just want to bring to the attention of the august House as well as our uprightly hon. Minister the due need for making this vital technical education as career oriented. I want them to keep this aspect in mind. While formulating educational policies. My congratulations to the Union Government for setting up the I.I.T. at Guwahati in the North Western region as well.

SHRI KIRIP CHALIHA (Guwahati) : I must congratulate the Minister. The Northeast is totally devoid of any institution of higher technological studies.

In fact, we have a number of technological centres including the refineries. Oil exploration centres. But unfortunately we do not have the right kind of technical training institutions. There has been a lot of grievance of the local people that they are not in the technical job. I hope that in the new IIT that is coming up, the students of the North-East will get some kind of a preference. I must congratulate the Government for taking this step.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Does the hon. Minister want to react to the small observation made by Dr. G.L. Kanaujia ? Do you want to react ?

KUMARI SELJA : I thank the hon. members for welcoming this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All the other clauses have been adopted. The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs has gone to find out as to what is to be done and when will the House reassemble?

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Chair is not

informed by the Minister. I think we will adjourn now.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the hon. Members like, we can start the discussion on my Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, we cannot do that now.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I understand the sense of the House. The House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 13th of June, 1994 at 11 a.m.

18.52 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, June 13, 1994/ Jyaistha 23, 1916 (Saka).

© 1994 BY LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

PUBLISHED UNDER RULES 379 AND 382 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN LOK SABHA (SEVENTH EDITION) AND PRINTED BY S. NARAYANAN & SONS B-88, OKHLA INDUSTRIAL AREA, PHASE-II, NEW DELHI- 110 020.
