

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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Third Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Friday, April 28, 2000/Vaisakha 8, 1922 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Burgeoning NPAs of Public Sector Banks

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*481. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some public sector banks have decided to take proactive steps to prevent burgeoning of NPAs and also to upgrade the existing substandard assets into standard assets;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not taking such steps by all public sector banks;

(d) whether NPAs of each of the public sector banks as on March 31, 2000 have been worked out; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, bank-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) & (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) In order to prevent standard assets from becoming sub-standard assets, some public sector banks have taken pro-active steps. These include putting account under special watch if the accounts is irregular at the end of one quarter, credit audit and scanning of the economic environment to look at likely sector related causes for possible slippage of accounts into non-performing assets. These steps are being taken by an increasing number of banks. The steps taken by Public Sector Banks, Reserve Bank of India and Government of India, not only to recover Non Performing Assets (NPAs) but also to check the fresh incidence of NPAs include inter-alia the preparation of a documented loan recovery policy, upgrading credit appraisal skills of the officers by imparting training, etc; strengthening post-sanction follow up and monitoring of performance of

accounts at all levels, reduction through negotiated settlement ensuring maximum recovery at minimum cost, strengthening and effectively utilizing the debt recovery tribunal mechanism, setting up of Settlement Advisory Committees headed by a retired Judge of High Court in some banks for settling accounts of large and medium industrial borrowers, Settlement Advisory Committees of executives for settling loans and focusing on recovery by setting up recovery cells at Head Offices, etc.

(d) and (e) NPAs of public sector banks as on 31.3.1999 (latest available) were Rs. 51710.50 crore constituting 15.89% of the gross advances, whereas net NPAs were Rs. 24211-49 crore representing 8.13% of the net advances.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Minister for giving detailed replies to my questions, but I regret to say that his replies beg the question.

The matter of concern is that, in his reply, the hon. Minister has indicated the figure of the non-performing bank assets as 'Rs. 31,000 crore'. I would just like to make a small correction that the figure is not Rs. 31,000 crore but it is Rs. 38,000 crore and that is without the interest.

Further on, what I would like to ask from the hon. Minister is this. What is the total amount outstanding against them and what is the amount that each of them owes? Why can the list of defaulters not be disclosed? How are the secrecy laws good if they protect the defaulters? The corporate interests have been protected and genuine interests have not been protected.

I would like to know why a default in repayment of the bank loans cannot be made into a criminal offence. This could be treated as a case also of misappropriation or cheating.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You ask the question.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: This is what the question is. Sir, Rs. 31,000 crore, 38,000 crore and the interest thereon will work out to almost Rs. 100,000 crore which is the deficit our country is running. Also, in the present scenario of drought conditions prevailing in the country, there are four major States which are facing drought conditions. Could this amount of money not be utilised in a better method than blocking it? Sir, Rs. 1,000 crore are being blocked in the non-performing assets in the banks in India.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, the details sought for by the hon. Member have already been given in the answer to parts (b) and (e) of the question. Actually, we

have given the details like the total non-performing assets, so far as the public sector banks are concerned, as Rs. 51,000 crore.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Rs. 58,000 crore.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUJMAR: Sir, Rs. 58,000 crore pertain to all the banks. So far as the public sector banks are concerned, the amount is 'Rs. 51,000 crore'.

We share the anxiety of the hon. Member in saying that all the borrowers, may it be corporate or individuals, should be treated alike. We do not differentiate between a corporate borrower and an individual. Whenever the account becomes a non-performing asset, we take steps against the corporate sector as well as the individuals.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Sir, I have to rush through the whole thing because I have a lot of questions to ask. This is a very important subject and there are short sentences which I will place before you. But I would like the hon. Minister to inform the House exactly the right position of what the non-performing assets in this country are all about.

I would straightaway come to the question that the defaulters' names could easily be placed on the floor of the House. Who are the defaulters? They are the people who owed money to the banks for the last 10, 15 or 20 years. They are very eminent personalities. They may be our financiers in elections in the years to come and for other purposes.

Now, these defaulters' names have to be mentioned on the floor of the House. You cannot go on in a rigmarole circle by giving us answers and then just letting them go scot-free. Sir, I will just tell you that the banks are running into deficit to the extent of Rs. 58000 crore, which includes interest taken by the corporate bodies to the extent of Rs. 35000 crore. Their names have to be brought out and they must be punished. . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: you are repeating the same question.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Just a minute, Sir.

Secondly, these cases cannot be made into civil cases with the result are go scot-free. These cases have to be converted into criminal cases. They are liable for prosecution in case they do not pay the debt. The right position should be told to the House.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): The Member's anxiety well taken, it can be well understood. As my colleague has mentioned just now, a figure which is a published figure, a figure which we have shared repeatedly with this House, with Parliament, is that the total amount involved in Non-Performing Assets (PNAs) up to 31.03.1999 was around Rs. 51000 crore for the public sector banks, and another Rs. 7000 crore for the other scheduled commercial banks institutions. So, the total is Rs. 58000 crore for the banking sectors.

The other point which I would like to make is that the banking sector started taking care of and started bothering about Non-Performing Assets from 1992 when we took up financial sector reforms in this country. Then, in 1992, the then Government laid down that the NPAs will be worked out on a certain basis. We had the standard account, sub-standard account; we had the loss account, etc. These NPAs were then classified very clearly, and from 1993-94 we started maintaining clear accounts of the bank NPAs and we have the annual figures, Sir, which we have also shared with Parliament. It is not that this Rs. 58000 crore has accumulated now, it is a legacy which has been coming from the past. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Please name the defaulters . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen to the Minister. He is replying.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I am coming to that.

So, this has been continuing. How serious is the problem is something which we have explained on earlier occasions also. The percentage of NPAs of the banks has been consistently coming down as a result of the steps taken by a number of Governments and the direction is right.

Now, the point is this. Can we disclose the names before this House? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why can't? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, please listen to him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Can we take criminal action, as the hon. Member has mentioned? As I said, Sir, there are clear categorisation of NPAs. There are, in all the banking laws, certain existing provisions, which protect the confidentiality between the client and the bank. This is the existing law. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Not in the case of defaulters.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let the Minister complete his reply.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You just let me complete my reply. It has been a long question which has been asked. I must take the House into confidence and give a detailed reply so that many of the doubts of the hon. Members can be settled at this point of time.

Now, there are two things which had happened. Firstly, all those cases where we are proceeding against the defaulters in the DRTS and all cases where dues are paid beyond Rs. 10 lakh, they can be hauled up before DRTS, not the small amounts. All those cases where we are proceeding against the defaulters having default of Rs. 100 lacs and above under the DRTs, that list is compiled on an annual basis and placed in the Library of Parliament. That is not confidential.

Secondly, well before all this have started, in October last year, the RBI had issued instructions, Sir, that anyone who is now coming to ask for a loan from the bank will give a voluntary undertaking that in case of default, his information could be made public.

This is a voluntary arrangement in which people are entering but as long as the existing laws – those laws have not been made by me – remain on the Statute Book, apart from these two types of information, it is not possible for us to share information.

I would also like to make one point clear. I have the figures here about the various categories in which the various amounts are outstanding. The feeling that most of us have is that this total amount of Rs. 58,000 crore is the NPA only in regard to certain Corporates. It is not a correct feeling because I have the figures to suggest that according to our arrangement, 40 per cent of the total bank advances have to be given to the priority sector, 43 per cent of the NPAs today belong to the priority sector which consists of agriculture, small scale industry and others, and 53 per cent of the NPAs belong to the non-priority sector. But, unfortunately as per the existing laws, I came to this House and amended the Debt Recovery Tribunal. We have now given more powers to the Debt Recovery Tribunal so that we can take action. I have the figures to show the action taken so far.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many

of the NPAs, which have been added, are ten years old? It has been stated that Rs. 51,710 crore have to be recovered but when I visit my constituency I find that the farmers found guilty of not repaying small amount of loan are sent to jails in tehsils while no action is taken against those rich people who are guilty of not paying back huge amount of loans. Just now, the hon. Member has suggested to initiate cases against them under the criminal procedure code. A humble farmer is sent to the lock up for not paying back a petty amount of one thousand or five hundred while the rich people are safe even after not paying big loans. What action is being taken by the Government in this regard?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this question has been raised with this concept in mind that all the rich people and industrialists have taken loans. I would like to present the figures in regard to it before the House.

[English]

The large industrial sector has an NPA of Rs. 10,485 crore which constitutes 20.28 per cent of the NPAs. The medium industry has an NPA of Rs. 9,804 crore, that is, 18.96 per cent of the NPAs. Under the priority sector, the NPAs of agriculture comes to Rs. 7,095 crore which amounts to 13.72 per cent, the NPAs of small scale sector is Rs. 9,887 crore amounting to 19.12 per cent and the NPAs for others is Rs. 5,624 crore amounting to 10.87 per cent. This is the general distribution of NPAs.

[Translation]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have stated earlier also that we are trying as hard as possible to recover the bad debts and the debt recovery tribunal has been especially constituted to deal with such recovery cases. We approved an amendment in the present Act to expedite recovery which has now become a law. In future strong action, shall be taken under this Act.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think Q. No. 497 can also be clubbed with this Question.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Yes Sir.

Non-Performing Assets

+

*497. COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bankers want the Government to clarify certain matters in relation to the recovery of non-performing assets (NPAs) during a recently concluded annual meeting on January 12, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of issues bankers wanted the Government to clarify;

(c) the Government's response thereto;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up an Authority to deal with non-performing assets of banks; and

(e) if so, the details of the functions of the Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Recovery of amounts due to the banks and presently classified as non-performing assets is the responsibility of the banks concerned. Some issues relating to recovery of dues to banks were discussed at a meeting of the Finance Minister with the chief executives of public sector banks on January 12, 2000. The issues discussed included the setting up of the Asset Reconstruction Company/s, the strengthening of Settlement Advisory Committees, the setting up of Credit Information Bureau and improvements in the legislative framework to expedite the process of recovery of dues to banks.

(c) to (e) The proposal to set up an Asset Reconstruction Company is under examination. Efforts are also under way to strengthen recovery mechanisms and set up credit information bureau. The recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 has been amended recently to improve the process and pace of recovery.

COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister a pointed question. What exactly would be the role of the Assets Reconstruction Company which comes directly under the supervisory control of the RBI?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Sir, as far as the asset reconstruction concept is concerned, I had talked about the asset reconstruction company in my Budget last year. The matter is under examination of the RBI. As soon as we get expert advice

about the functioning and the total concept of asset reconstruction company, we will make a move in that direction.

COL. (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL: Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I would like the hon. Minister to clarify whether any power has been given to the Authority which has been set up, as has been replied to an earlier Question No.481 asked by the hon. Member. If yes, what functions are being visualised that this Authority will perform, so that these non-performing assets are dealt with properly?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: As far as the Authority is concerned, the hon. Member will recall that I have talked about a financial restructuring authority in my Budget this year. The purpose of the financial restructuring authority is to be able to help the weak banks managerially so that they can get out of their current problems. But that will perhaps call for an amendment of the Banking Regulation Act. At the appropriate time, I will come to the House with such an amendment.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, we have been asking the hon. Minister to lay the names of the defaulters on the Table of the House and we have been receiving the same reply from the hon. Finance Minister that because of the confidentiality clause in the Act, this cannot be done. As there is a demand both inside and outside the House about the publication of names of defaulters who are about one hundred and more in number and who owe more than Rs.10 lakh, I would like to know whether the Government will bring a Bill to amend the confidentiality clause of the Banking Act.

Sir, we were told that the Government has started taking action in regard to NPAs since 1992. I would like to know what was the percentage of NPAs in 1992 and what is the percentage of NPAs today.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, I would again like to inform the hon. Member that the list of suit filed cases of defaulters, who owe more than Rs. 100 lakh, is periodically being placed in the Parliament Library.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, that list contains the names of those against whom action is taken. We are asking for the entire list of defaulters to be placed.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, per se the banks are obliged to initiate action against the persistent defaulters. The moment a borrower is classified as a defaulter and the list is placed in the Parliament Library, invariably the recovery action is initiated.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, they do not place the entire list. They publish the names of those defaulters against whom action is initiated and not the entire list. I would like to know why cannot the Government place the entire list.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, I have already submitted that a periodic update of the list is being done. We are placing the list in the Parliament Library that includes the names of the defaulters.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is asking for the entire list of defaulters.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, the hon. Minister is misleading the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Acharia, no running commentary please.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, the hon. Member, Shri Acharia, has made a suggestion for action. A number of Acts will have to be amended. It is a suggestion for action and we have taken a note of it.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: What about the answer to part (b) of my question. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: As far as the answer to part (b) of your question is concerned, the total gross NPAs— we started keeping figures in the Government from 1993— were Rs. 39,253 crore and the total gross advances was 23.2 per cent, today, it is Rs. 51,710 crore, which is 15.9 per cent of the total advances. This is the point that I was making. It is consistently coming down.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister to part (d) and part (e) of the Question says: "NPAs of public sector banks as on 31.3.1999 (latest available) were Rs.51,770.50 crore constituting 15.89 per cent of the gross advances, whereas net NPAs were Rs.24,211.49 crore representing 8.13 per cent of the net advances. Why is this difference? What is the reason?"

The Finance Minister and the Finance Ministry have to pay attention to this aspect. If the advances are better managed, and if the governance is done in a better fashion, it will be possible for us to reduce the deficit and it will not be necessary for us to reduce subsidies given or increase the taxes or to disinvest in a manner which is not profitable or in a manner which does not fetch the market price. Why is this difference? Why are we not paying attention to these aspects?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The hon. Member has

enlarged the scope of the Question. This is dealing with banks. This is the balance sheet of the banks. This is not the balance sheet of the Government. This does not get reflected in the fiscal deficit of the Government of India one way or the other. So, let us be clear about that.

On the general question, when the country was being governed better, I suppose, in 1993 it was Rs.39,253 crore; went up in 1994 to Rs.41,041 crore; came down to Rs.38,385 crore in 1995; and went up in 1996 to Rs.51,661 crore. In absolute number, because the total volume of bank transactions, bank advances have been going up in the economy, the total amount has no doubt been going up year after year but in terms of the percentage, it has been coming down. This is the point which I have made that it has come down from 23.2 per cent to 15.9 per cent. This is the gross, and then we have the net. There is no difference. There is a question of definition of 'gross' and 'net', which explains the difference.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in this country, all the political parties are talking about transparency and access to information. Whatever be the Non-Performing Assets, it is public money. The depositors have deposited their money in the banks. There are many laws. According to these laws, they have to maintain secrecy. Now, we are going in for reforms. What is the problem in amending these laws in this ensuing Session? All the political parties are interested in access to information and transparency. The people should know as to who are taking money and not repaying it, and who are diverting it for acquiring sources and all these things. In the villages, you know that if small people are not repaying their loan amount, then the local banks are not giving further credit to them.

At this juncture, we have NPAs to the tune of Rs.51,000 crore. I would like to know from the Government as to what is the hitch in amending the laws.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I have already tried to explain that in all countries of the world, the relationship between a client and a bank is considered confidential.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Why?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You go and ask the world why it is so. The point is it is not merely banking. . . . (Interruptions)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Can we not change the rules? . . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let him answer.

(Interruptions)

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Do not ask us to ask the world. We are asking for the country. You are the Minister for this country. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: As far as NPA is concerned, the All India Bank Employees Association has given the amount as Rs.53,000 crore. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The point I was making was that this is considered to be a confidential relationship between the bank and the client. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Why can we not change it? (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He had already said that.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: At which stage this relationship should be made public is the issue here. We are not saying that if anyone goes to the bank and deposits a certain amount of money, under the laws of transparency, that should be made public. That is not the case. I suppose the case is, the case which Shri Yerrannaidu and other Members of the House had made is that when an account goes into default, then immediately we should come out and transparently tell the world what it is. Now, this is the point I am trying to make in all humility that we have various categories of NPAs. For instance, we have a category of sub-standard asset. A sub-standard asset of a bank is defined as sub-standard the moment an account goes into default for two quarters, six months, and the default is only one month. After it becomes due if somebody has defaulted in repayment for one month, it becomes a sub-standard asset and is treated as an NPA. Now, there are many cases and it is quite possible that such an asset will be revived. There have been cases where they have been revived. I suppose that the intention of the hon. Members is that where there is a wilful default, there somebody has indulged in a fraud, in cheating, somebody has diverted the money, those are the cases where we should expose those people before society, and it was in that context that I said that we and the RBI have already taken steps.

Under the DRTA, we are taking action against all such people. Once action is taken under the DRTA, these cases become public.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Who are the people?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: So, it is not that we are or that the previous Governments were interested in protecting some people. It is the question of protecting the confidentiality of a client and the bank. So, we will have to be very careful. Otherwise, in trying to deal with the

situation, we might be throwing the baby out with the bath water. We have to be careful. This is the point I am making.

[Translation]

Poor Reception of Doordarshan at Jammu and Kashmir

*482. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints that Pakistan T.V. telecast in Jammu and Kashmir is more clear than Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether taking advantage of it, Pakistan T.V. indulges in more and more vicious campaign day by day; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to make Doordarshan telecast more clear in Jammu and Kashmir?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Complaints about Pakistan TV signals being stronger than Doordarshan signals in certain parts of Jammu and Kashmir have been received from time to time from the public representatives.

(c) Despite India's manifest desire for peace and friendship with Pakistan to develop a comprehensive structure of cooperation for the benefit of the two people, Pakistan has continued with its aggressive approach and hostile policies towards India. Regardless of the quality of the signals, Pakistan TV continues to indulge in anti-India propaganda.

(d) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to strengthen the transmission networks of Doordarshan in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, specially all along the border to enhance quality of coverage. For expansion of Doordarshan and All India Radio coverage in Jammu and Kashmir, a Special Plan involving an outlay

of Rs.430.07 crores is under implementation. It is expected that once the projects under this Special Plan are completed, Doordarshan programmes will be available to about 95% of the population of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, approximately three and a half years ago, I had visited the border areas of Rajouri and Poonch. I myself witnessed that the transmission of radio and T.V. programmes of India was very weak as against the transmission of Pakistani radio and T.V. programme which was extremely clear. My submission is that the transmission of Pakistan T.V. is very clear in several areas there and taking advantage of it, anti India propaganda on Kashmir issue is launched just after the Prime Time news on Pakistan television and the claims are made to annex the entire area of Kashmir at any cost. This malicious campaign has not only gained momentum after the hijack of Indian Airlines aeroplane but attacks from all the quarters are being launched against India. The Government of India and its Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have prepared several action plans to combat it. I have no hesitation to admit that a lot of scandals have taken place in the utilisation of money allocated to combat the anti-India propaganda and payment have been made against many such persons whom whereabouts are not known. I don't want to go into past events. I am of the opinion that the Government have once again started trying to give fitting reply to nullify the aggressive and venomous campaign launched by Pakistan. Though I consider it to be a defensive measure, but right now, as the hon. Minister has told in his reply that a special plan involving an outlay of Rs.430.07 crore has been drafted and in view of the capability firmness and willpower of the hon. Minister, I believe that this plan will not remain on paper only, as has happened in earlier cases but will be implemented keeping in mind and giving top priority to the National interest for we are aware that Jammu and Kashmir is on the top of priority of the Ministry headed by hon. Minister and the Ministry of Home Affairs. So taking it up on top priority like the above said plan, we have to counter the proxy war launched by Pakistan which is going on two fronts—one by sending the trained weapon-equipped terrorists in our territory and the other on the information front. Pakistan radio is trying to spread the Pakistani influence in a large territory of Kashmir by transmitting and broadcasting its own programmes. This way, on one hand we have to fight against the Pakistan sponsored terrorism, on the other we have to counter the anti-India campaign being launched through Pakistan television. The reply I want to get for the operative part of my pin-pointed question is as to how much territory of Jammu & Kashmir will be covered under the plan

formulated by your Ministry and to what extent the transmission made by you will cover the territory of J&K after the completion of the plan?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, two kinds of schemes are going on with regard to Kashmir—one under which the expansion of Doordarshan network is taking place under the Ninth Five Year Plan and secondly we had started a new special package for Jammu & Kashmir last year. Jammu and Kashmir is tormented by terrorism and secondly most of its area is hilly and sparsely populated where the population is concentrated in very few places and at some places, the people live as a scattered lot. These two schemes are being implemented with great speed. I would like to tell the hon. Member that the terrestrial transmission can reach up to 87.9 percent population of the country. It is for the first time that we are implementing both the schemes simultaneously despite the problems coming in our way and though these schemes are yet to be completed, terrestrial transmission has reached upto 91.7 percent population of Kashmir. Once the J&K package is fully implemented, 95 percent population of J&K will be covered under terrestrial transmission. Besides, we have started a special channel on Doordarshan for Jammu & Kashmir from January 26 to publicise those special programmes which are telecast on DD-I and DD-II. Till now the transmission of these programmes was done from Kashmir channel but it was a low power transmission and was confined to Srinagar and the areas in its vicinity. Now, the high power transmitter has also been installed there. We will make it operational in the month of May and approximately 60 percent of the valley will be covered under it.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: My second question is that our transmission reaches upto Pakistan and similarly transmission from Pakistan is received in India. Our transmission in Kashmir is done in Kashmiri and Urdu. Similarly, Punjabi is spoken in a large part of Pakistan and Jammu & Kashmir. My submission is that like Urdu and Kashmiri, Punjabi too should be used as a language of transmission, so that your message could reach the Punjabi speaking people. What steps are being contemplated by your Ministry in this regard?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Our transmission is made from two places, Jammu and Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir. The transmission from Srinagar is mostly done in Urdu and Kashmiri. The transmission made on Kashmiri Channel is available in many languages. The transmission on the channel operating from Jammu is being done in languages like Dogri, Hindi, Urdu etc. The share of Punjabi in both these transmission is less but in order to give a greater

share to Punjabi for transmission and to increase its coverage, we have been trying that a Punjabi Channel could be started by mid year almost on the same lines as other regional channels have been started which are also received in other countries as satellite channels.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, not only Jammu and Kashmir but other border areas especially Barmer and Jaisalmer the largest border areas of Rajasthan extending upto Run of Kutch in Gujarat are contiguous to Pakistan. I have myself been a Minister of I.B. We had prepared a plan to install high power transmitter in these areas. I have first finished a tour of Barmer and Jaisalmer. The work of installing high power transmitter has not been completed where the work started in 1991-92. Besides, the project for installing a high powered transmitter in Jamnagar on the border of Gujarat has not been completed. Thirdly, it was decided to set up regional studios so that the programmes could be made in the language of border areas besides reflecting the local culture and we could implement these programmes for border areas. Seven to eight years have passed since this decision was taken but not a single regional studio has been prepared. Hence, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what does the Government intend to do regarding the installation of high power transmitters and setting up of regional studios?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, besides, Jammu and Kashmir, the transmission from three more states i.e. Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat is received in Pakistan. In Punjab it goes from Amritsar and Fazilka, in Rajasthan it is Jaisalmer and Barmer and in Gujarat it is Bhuj from where the transmission goes to Pakistan. I agree with this suggestion of hon. Member that the number of transmission should be increased in the border areas where the population is less and the efforts in this regard are going on. As far as your question regarding the regional telecasting of programmes is concerned, I would like to tell you that Prasar Bharati has started such a scheme. During the last few months, a lot of effort has been made to increase the regional telecast especially in regional languages. Seven regional channels have been started since 1st January. Earlier transmission of very limited duration was done but now they run for 24 hours except channel of Kashmir which runs for 16 hours. The efforts to start channels in other regional languages are also going on. We will surely consider the suggestion of expansion given by hon. Member.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS: What do you want to say about high-power transmitters?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I surely would pay attention towards it.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the regions like Jalore, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur and Ganganagar are contiguous to Pakistan. Whenever I visit Jaisalmer, I have seen no transmission other than one being made by Pakistan. Whether the Government would make such an arrangement that only the programmes of Doordarshan of India could be transmitted in the border areas of Rajasthan contiguous to Pakistan?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the main question is related to Kashmir. As the question related to border areas has been asked, I would like to say, as I have told earlier that the expansion programme for transmission is going on very speedily. Nearly seven to eight new transmitters are ready to be commissioned in the next one to one and a half months. We are trying to make them operational soon and they could be transmitted on Doordarshan as well as D.D. Metro channel. The schemes have been launched in other states also. We are taking special action in border areas.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has still to give reply to my main question. He has asked as to how much area will be covered under transmission? The question is very relevant. The transmission of Indian Television is not clear in Kashmir while that of Pakistan is very clear. No reply in this regard has been given by the hon. Minister. I don't deny that the machinery for high power transmission might have surely been bought on paper but I cannot say whether it is sub-standard or of any other type but Pakistan is able to launch its propaganda through the television which it cannot do by any other means as its transmission is more clear. I don't say it in context of Kashmir only but even in Delhi our transmission is not very clear. The hon. Minister should give reply in this regard. Along with it, I would also like to ask as to why our Doordarshan cannot give a fitting reply to the propaganda launched by Pakistan against our country. I have myself heard it that Qutubminar, constructed by Qutub-ud-din Aibak was, in fact, constructed by Prithvi Raj Chauhan. Doordarshan is trying to distort the history. Instead of nullifying the Pakistani propaganda, we are indulging in distortion of history and our transmission is weak.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: The hon. Member has asked the question in three parts. Are our signals clearly received in Kashmir? Our transmission in Kashmir is direct terrestrial one for the cable network is less there. However quite clear direct terrestrial signals are received in Kashmir and their

number has also increased due to expansion. It is true that in some areas signals are not received and if received the reception is not clear and this is happening in such areas which are either hilly areas or where the number of inhabitants is very less. We have not been able to expand this facility to these areas so far. As far your question as to why no clear signals are received in Delhi is concerned, I would like to say clearly that such kinds of complaints have been received from many parts of the country. The signals of Doordarshan from Signals technology point of view are available in digital as well as analogue mode at present. There are so many cable operators who even today, transmit in analogue mode instead of digital mode because doing so is less expensive. The transmission of analogue signals is not very clear. The cable operators who are using digital mode signals, are able to give very clear transmission. This is the problem. We are thinking in terms of bringing an amendment in the law so that the people may enjoy clear transmission.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the transmission of Pakistan television is received in our country and a vanomous anti-Indian propaganda is launched through it. I would only like to know as to what steps have been taken to check it? If so, whether we have achieved success to certain extent in this regard? What steps are being taken to stop it in the near future? The reply given here is not proper but whether or not we can do anything to check the ongoing malacious propaganda?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: As far as television is concerned, no technology can stop the transmission of Satellite channels as its transmission is received across the borders. The signals of our transmission also are sent to many other places in the world, hence it cannot be checked through technology. The answer to the malacious campaign can only be given by speaking truth. Hon. Member, Shri Rashid Alvi also had asked the same question. My reply in this regard is only this that the anti-India propaganda being done by Pakistan can only be checked by the clear and effective presentation of facts by our channels. It is the only proper reply for it.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has mentioned about the expansion involving an amount of Rs.4320 crore. I would like to ask him that the programmes generally shown in border areas lack in the patriotic content. You very well know that the title songs of Punjabi programmes telecast from Lahore towards which attention has been drawn by Madan Lal Khuranaji are so appealing that they still linger in our memories. I would like to exemplify—'Musalma ke Lahoo Mein hai, Salika Dilvami ka'. Alongwith it other programmes like 'Jinke hothon per hasin, Paon mein chhale honge, Han, ve log hame Doondhne wale Honge.' They telecast such

beautiful programmes. We will have to admit that the standard of their dramas is much better just like the standard of our movies. I would like to submit to you that however good our programmes may be, we should try to inject such sentiment into them that the people could be inspired of patriotism through these programmes.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: The hon. Member has given a very good suggestion. I would only like to say that all the three channels i.e. DD-I, DD-II and Kashmiri channel telecast such kinds of programmes on patriotism, current affairs, entertainment, and music in border areas. I have an entire list of such programmes with me and I can give the same to those hon. Members who want it.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: I would like to tell that the Suficulture dominates both the Punjabs in 70 percent of their population and areas. You should give more emphasis in your programmes.

[English]

Growth Centres

+
*483. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :
SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Growth Centres functioning at present in the country; Statewise;
- (b) the number of Growth Centres sanctioned during the Ninth Plan, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Growth Centres sanctioned during Eighth Plan and at the beginning of Ninth Five Year Plan have been established;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the locations where these centres are likely to be established;
- (f) whether the financial assistance is being released by the Union Government to these Centres; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) A State-wise list of 26 functioning Growth Centres where industrial plot allotment has commenced is enclosed at Annex-I.

(b) A list of 46 growth centres sanctioned during Eighth and Ninth Plan (upto 31-3-2000) is enclosed at Annex-II.

(c) and (d) 28 Growth Centres were sanctioned in Eighth Plan and 18 Growth Centres during the Ninth Plan (upto 31-3-2000). 10 of these growth centres are functional/established where plot allotment to industries has commenced. The objective of Growth Centre Scheme is to create industrial infrastructure in backward areas. This involves long gestation period because of problems of site selection and land acquisition. The remaining growth centres are at various stages of implementation.

(e) The location of these 28 Growth Centres is given in Annex-II.

(f) and (g) The Central Government provides equity of Rs. 10 crores (Rs. 15 crores for North East) which is released on the basis of physical and financial progress made by the State Government in the implementation of the Growth Centre Project. The State Government is responsible for sourcing the balance funds and implement the project. So far Rs. 298.71 crores have been released by the Central Government on the above basis.

Annexure-I

State-wise list of Functioning Growth Centres where Industrial Plots have been allotted

Sl.No.	Name of the State, Growth Centre/District
1	2
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH Hindupur (Anantpur)
2.	GOA Electronic-City (Verna-Plateau)
3.	GUJARAT Vagra (Bharuch)
4.	HARYANA Bawal (Rewari)
5.	HIMACHAL PRADESH Kangra (Kangra)
6.	JAMMU & KASHMIR Samba (Jammu)
7.	KARNATAKA Dharwad (Dharwad)
8.	Raichur (Raichur)

1	2
9.	Hassan (Hassan)
10.	MADHYA PRADESH Borai (Durg)
11.	Chainpura (Guna)
12.	Ghirongi (Bhind)
13.	Kheda (Dhar)
14.	Siltara (Raipur)
15.	MAHARASHTRA Akola (Akola)
16.	Nanded (Nanded)
17.	PUNJAB Bathinda (Bathinda)
18.	Pathankot (Gurdaspur)
19.	RAJASTHAN Abu-Road (Sirohi)
20.	Khara (Bikaner)
21.	Dholpur (Dholpur)
22.	Jhalawar (Jhalawar)
23.	TAMIL NADU Erode (Periyar)
24.	TRIPURA Bodhjangnagar (West Tripura)
25.	UTTAR PRADESH Banthara (Shahajahanpur)
26.	Satharia (Jaunpur)

Annexure-II

Number of growth centres sanctioned during the Eighth Plan & Ninth Plan (upto 31-3-2000)

Sl. No.	Year	Name of the State, Growth Centre/District
1	2	3
Eighth Plan :-		
1.	1992-93	ANDHARA PRADESH Khammam (Khammam)

1	2	3
2.		GOA Electronic-City (Verna-Plateau)*
3.		GUJARAT Gandhidham (Kutch)
4.		Palanpur (Banaskantha)
5.		Vagra (Bharauch)*
6.		MADHYA PRADESH Satlapur (Raisen)
7.		RAJASTHAN Dholpur (Dholpur)*
8.		Jhalawar (Jhalawar)*
9.		TAMIL NADU Erode (Periyar)*
10.		UTTAR PRADESH Bijauli (Jhansi)
11.		Banthara (Shahjahanpur)*
12.		Chaudharpur (Moradabad)
13.		Khurja (Bulandshahr)
14.		Satharia (Jaunpur)*
15.		Shajanwa (Gorakhpur)
16.	1993-94	KERALA Kannur-Kozhikode (Kannur-Kozhikode)
17.		Alappuzha-Malappuram (Alappuzha-Malappuram)
	1994-95	NIL
18.	1995-96	BIHAR Begusarai (Begusarai)
19.		Hazaribagh (Hazaribagh)
20.	1996-97	Bhagalpur (Bhagalpur)
21.		Chhapra (Chhapra)
22.		Muzaffarpur (Muzaffarpur)
23.		HIMACHAL PRADESH Kangra (Kangra)*
24.		ORISSA Chhatrapur (Ganjam)

1	2	3
25.		Kalinganagar-Duburi (Cuttack)
26.		WEST BENGAL Bolpur (Birbhum)
27.		Jalpaiguri (Jalpaiguri)
28.		Malda (Malda)
	Ninth Plan :-	
29.	1997-98	ARUNACHAL PRADESH Niklok-Ngorlung (East Siang)
30.		ASSAM Matia (Goalpara)
31.		Chariduar (Sonitpur)
32.		BIHAR Darbhanga (Darbhanga)
33.		HARYANA Saha (Ambala)
34.		JAMMU & KASHMIR Ompora-Lassipora (Budgam-Pulwama)
35.		MAHARASHTRA Nanded (Nanded)*
36.		MANIPUR Lamlai - Napet (Imphal)
37.		MEGHALAYA Mendhipattar (East Garo Hills)
38.		MIZORAM Luangmual (Aizawl)
39.		NAGALAND Ganeshnagar (Kohima)
40.		ORISSA Jharsuguda (Jharsuguda)
41.		PONDICHERRY Polagam-Karaikal (Karaikal)
42.		RAJASTHAN Bhilwara (Bhilwara)
43.		TRIPURA Bodhjangnagar (West Tripura)*

1	2	3
44.		UTTAR PRADESH Dibiapur (Auraiya)
45. 1998-99		ORISSA Kesinga (Kalahandi)
46. 1999-2000		TAMIL NADU Oragadam (Kancheepuram)

*Note :- Functional Growth Centres.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: There should be industrial development in the areas where it has not taken place. For this purpose, the government had decided to start Industrial Development Centres during the Eight and Ninth five year plans. My question is, that what was the target of government under the ninth five year plan and whether the government are contemplating of starting an Industrial Development Center in the tribal undeveloped areas of Thane, Dhulia, Garhchirauli and Nasik areas of Maharashtra.

DR. RAMAN: I would like to tell about the extent of success achieve with regard to potential of Growth Centres especially in Maharashtra. We have to develop an infrastructure regarding the concept of growth centres in selected areas as also regarding the Industrial structure of backward areas. The agencies of states should encourage the growth of Industries. The central government gives an aid of Rs. 10 crores and in north eastern region Rs. 15 crores for development of infrastructure. The reason for delay in these plans is the role of state government. Hon'ble Minister has specially mentioned about Maharashtra where 68 growth centres are working so far, 71 growth centres were sanctioned before the eighth and ninth five year plans. In this regard a committee for statewide growth of centres was also constituted. The Committee identified 71 such growth centres and we are now developing them. I am not talking about the matter of approving new growth centres afresh in the backward areas, I simply want to give information regarding the old growth centres running in Maharashtra. There are five growth centres viz first in Akola, second in Chandrapur, third in Dhule, fourth in Nanded and fifth in Ratnagiri. The first growth centres were opened in 1992, second also in 1992 and rest of the growth centres were started in 1997 and 1992. We have given the share of central government uptill now in the ninth five year plan. We have given Rs. 9 crore fifty lacs till the eighth of this month. We have given funds in all areas of Maharashtra viz Chandrapur etc. In all, there are five

growth centres and central government gives funds for development of these centres as per the demand of state governments.

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Sir, my question has not been answered properly. My question was whether the central government are going to open Growth centres or Industrial development centres in the tribal areas of Maharashtra? Hon'ble Minister replied that state government gives share in this, but all over India, there are 16 places, where hundred per cent financial assistance has been given by the central government. My question to the hon'ble Minister is that whether the government would think about opening of new growth centres with the financial assistance of the government.

DR. RAMAN: Sir, the first requirement under the concept of growth centre is there should be 400 to 500 acres of land. The Central Government gives a financial assistance of Rs. 10 crore and in the north east this amount is Rs. 15 crore.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon'ble Minister has asked as to whether there is any scheme of the Central government to provide funds in the backward areas of Maharashtra.

DR. RAMAN: Sir, the central government gives financial assistance to those identified growth centres, which I have mentioned. Proposal for Developing new growth centres afresh is not presently under consideration of the government.

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Sir, I would like to ask the hon'ble Minister that whether both the centre and the governments have collectively made development in the four growth centres. Foreign companies are rapidly establishing their industries in our country. This is not right. . . (Interruptions) We are new members. I would like to know through you that whether the state as well as the central government are collectively making any master plan in our country in the near future. For example, there is a need to establish food industry in Maharashtra. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra has declared my constituency - Ahmednagar, as a cyber city, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that what is his opinion in this regard?

DR. RAMAN: Hon'ble Member has expressed his concern specially for Maharashtra. This question relates to the growth centres and at present there are 71 growth centres and 68 out of them are functioning presently and are funded by the government. So, at present, there is no new plan related to the growth centre, but if any new plan

with regard to development of infrastructure or any other such plan is sent by the state government to the central government, then it can be considered. The question of growth centre is an additional question . . . (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, setting up of Growth Centres was a noble idea in the Eighth Plan and Ninth Plan. There was a plan to set up more than 50 such Centres in different parts of our country for providing infrastructure facilities in the backward areas of our country. But if you see the answer, the performance of these Growth Centres is dismal. Sir, the Central Government is not releasing the money and the State Governments are not providing the land, as a result of this, these Growth Centres are not able to function properly. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you Sir, whether the Government will review the whole set up of the Growth Centres to make them more effective so that we can be able to provide industrial infrastructure in the rural and backward areas.

[Translation]

DR. RAMAN: Hon'ble Member has told that the performance of growth centre is not good. Mr. Speaker, Sir, this plan is for such areas where there are certain problems in establishing industries. We selected such areas, where there was regional imbalance. This plan has been initiated only to remove such an imbalance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: His question is that whether there are some hinderances in acquiring the land or receiving funds and whether the government is contemplating upon reviewing these plans?

DR. RAMAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, not even a single day is wasted by the central government in releasing the funds. In this regard our contribution of Rs. 10 crore and that of Rs. 15 crore for the north east is immediately released. As soon as we receive the monthly or quarterly report of state government we immediately release the money and do not make and unnecessary delay.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister the present status of growth centre approved in village Shah of my constituency—Ambala. Whether funds have been released for this purpose and whether land has been acquired for this. I have heard that it is being changed. The number of this growth centre stands third in the ninth five year plan. I would like to know from hon'ble Minister about its present status.

DR. RAMAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, hon'ble member is concerned about the growth centre and funds. When the project report from the state government is received and when they acquire the land, we immediately release the money. We release fifty percent of money in advance after acquiring land. I would like to assure hon'ble member that if the state government would have furnished the project report, then there is no question of delay from our side in this regard. But even then, I assure hon'ble member that I would get this matter looked into.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Q. No. 484, Shri A.P. Abdullakutty.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, I have made a request to you before 11 o'clock that I had a very important question to ask. I have been sitting here since then waiting for an opportunity.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now that I have called the Question, let it be taken up.

Training Centres for Design Makers

*484. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have explored the possibility of associating Indian Silk Export Promotion Council with SERIFED in conducting training and promotion of silk export;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to arrange training centres for upcoming design makers;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the assistance given to the textile industry in Kannur which is one of the most famous and oldest textile centres in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC) has associated with SERIFED, Andhra Pradesh and SERIFED, Kerala in its activities relating to marketing and export of silk goods..

(b) SERIFED, Andhra Pradesh has associated with Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai (ISEPC) in

the Development of Exportable Products for Marketing (DEPM) Project sponsored by the Development Commissioner (Handlooms). SERIFED, Andhra Pradesh developed Dupion Silk Fabric Samples and participated in Heimtextil Fair, Frankfurt in January, 2000.

SERIFED, Kerala associated with ISEPC, when it conducted a seminar in September 1998 jointly with Central Silk Board (CSB) and Institute of Handlooms Textile Technology (IHTT). The seminar related to Silk Export Awareness.

(c) and (d) Training to upcoming design makers in provided through National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) and twenty four (24) Weavers' Service Centres of the office of Development Commissioner (Handlooms).

(e) There is a Weavers' Service Centre at Kannur. In addition, the CSB has conducted a Technology Upgradation Programme and a Silk Export Awareness Programme in September, 1998 and deputed its technical experts in 1998-99 to help Co-operative Societies at Kannur in designing and loom modifications for silk weaving and development of silk products like furnishings, dress material, sarees etc.

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my constituency Cannanore is one of the famous and oldest textile centres in the country. Our handlooms sector is facing problems.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is not much time left. You ask your question.

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware of the urgent need for setting up a silk processing unit at Cannanore, and whether a proposal for setting up a centralised silk processing unit is pending with the Silk Board.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Sir, there is no proposal for setting up a processing unit in Cannanore area. But there is one Weavers' Service Centre there. There is a proposal with the Government in regard to what is suggested by the hon. Member. Under the Weavers' Service Centre, the Government is going to start a Computer-Aided Design facility with CAD/CAM systems. We can provide the design facilities there for the weavers.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Why not include silk also in it?

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Considering the need for comprehensive promotion of silk sector, does the Government have any plan to provide rebate to the sector?

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Sir, the Government of India is launching various schemes through the Central Silk Board under which our silk weavers and realers are getting benefited.

12.00 hrs.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): While answering part (c) of the question, the hon. Minister has said that training would be given in the National Institute of Fashion Technology for the people working in this sector. But it is very expensive. My question is whether the Government is envisaging any schemes to give short-term training to those who are working in the societies dealing with silk manufacture.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister may send the reply to the hon. Member.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Fake Bank Demand Drafts

*485. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidents of siphoning off money through fake demand drafts are on the increase;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during each of the last three years and the amount involved therein indicating the details of bank employees involved therein;

(c) whether there is any proposal to change the present system of issuing bank drafts including changing the paper used for making drafts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the number of cases of stolen demand drafts/cheques (Rupees One lac and above) in public sector banks was 188, 188 and 215 in the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 respectively. As reported by RBI, specific information in respect of frauds relating to fake demand drafts is not readily available. The present data reporting system of RBI does not generate information relating to action taken against the bank employees for their involvement in encashment of fake demand drafts. However, departmental action has been taken against 1207, 1486 and 1795 employees of public sector banks for their involvement in frauds (including cases of encashment of fake demand drafts) during the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 respectively.

A proposal for using draft forms of different colours and codes for different amounts was considered by RBI in consultation with Indian Banks' Association (IBA) but was not found acceptable.

[Translation]

Export of Agricultural Products

*486. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the share of India in the export of agricultural products in the World Market;

(b) whether the total quantum of agricultural export is still quite low;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the details of the exported items; and

(d) the measures taken to promote agricultural export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The share of India in the exports of agricultural products in the world market is still low and is about 1%.

(c) and (d) Exports of agricultural products are dependent on a number of factors such as domestic production and consumption, exportable surpluses, consumer preferences, varieties traded, quality, domestic and international prices, availability of infrastructure to store, process, transport and despatch.

The major agro items exported from India are Rice—both Basmati and non-Basmati, Spices, Cashew, Oilcake/meals, and Tobacco. There is a growing business of export of fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers, processed foods and vegetables, meat and meat products, sugar, shellac, niger seed, guar gum and ground nut seed and other seeds.

Some of the steps taken/proposed to be taken specifically for enhancement of agricultural exports are:

1. Providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries for production of good quality planting material, upgradation of technical knowhow of farmers through demonstrations, trainings and publicity, rejuvenation of old orchards, area expansion, supply of minikits for vegetables, improving productivity and training of farmers.
2. Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control and modernization of processing units.

3. Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for eliminating pest incubation in the product especially in the mangoes for gaining access to overseas markets.
4. Grant of Air Freight Subsidy for exports of floricultural items and selected fresh fruits and vegetables and fruits.
5. Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.
6. Setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International airports for handling export of perishable items such as fresh fruits and vegetables.
7. Providing assistance in development of data base and dissemination of market information.
8. Providing assistance for setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, lack of contamination & ensuring freedom from bacteria & fungi.

[English]

Action against Mauritius based Foreign Institutional investors

*487. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have suspended action against Mauritius based Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs);

(b) if so, the details there of including the companies against which action has been suspended and also of those companies against which action has been completed so far;

(c) the reasons for suspending the action; and

(d) the likely effect on the Indian economy as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) Under the Double Taxation Avoidance Convention between India and Mauritius, residents of Mauritius are eligible to the tax benefits incorporated in the Convention.

For the assessment year 1997-98 the Assessing Officers denied these benefits to 24 companies in orders passed in March 2000. Since this related to the interpretation of the provisions of the bilateral treaty between two countries, and in view of the uncertainties that these orders created, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) examined the matter and issued a clarificatory circular removing the confusion in this regard. Action had been temporarily suspended pending this examination.

(d) Since the clarificatory circular of CBDT has settled the doubts that had arisen following the assessment orders, it will have a positive effect.

Import of Edible Oil under OGL

*488. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quantity of arecanut and edible oil imported under Open General License during 1999-2000 and proposed to be imported during 2000-2001;

(b) whether the Government have assessed the import on this import on the domestic farmers; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to stop importing arecanut and edible oil to save the farmers particularly of Karnataka and Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Import of all edible oils excepting coconut oil as classified under chapter 15 of ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items, 1997-2002, is presently free. Import of all refined edible oil excluding coconut oil, Palm kernel oil, RBD palm oil and RBD palm stearin was made free prior to 01.04.95. Import of various crude edible oils and Palm kernel oil, RBD palm oil and RBD palm stearin was made free on 31.03.99. Import of crude edible oil was made free to provide for proper utilisation of the indigenous processing and refining capacities.

Import of arecanut was restricted upto 31.03.2000. In the amendments to Export and Import Policy announced on 31.03.2000, this item has been allowed to be imported against surrender of Special Import Licence (SIL). Import of this item has been free from SAARC countries since 01.08.98.

Import of these two items since 95-96 is as follows:

Year	Vegetable oil (Edible)		Arecanut	
	Qty. (in tons)	Value (in Rs. Crores)	Qty. (in tons)	Value (in Rs. Crores)
1995-96	1061988	2261.9	137	0.32
1996-97	1415794	2929.1	34	0.11
1997-98	1265753	2764.6	18	0.07
1998-99	2378566	7131.4	4777	14.24
1999-2000 (April-January)	3671232	7099.7	2231	6.79

(Figures are provisional)

[Source: DGCI & S, Calcutta]

Imports of any commodity in the country depend on the domestic demand and supply situation. Thus it is difficult to predict the import of these items in the year 2000-2001.

Import of arecanut constitutes less than 1% of the total production of this item in the country. Import of this item is subject to total custom duty of 44.04%. At this level of duty the domestic farmers are unlikely to be affected.

Import duty on edible oils has been recently rationalised to provide adequate protection to the domestic oil seed producers. Besides, the Government also provides protection to the farmers through the mechanism of guaranteed purchase at minimum support prices.

Domestic and Foreign Loan

*489. SHRI ANIL BASU:

SHRI PRAVIN RASTRAPAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the burden of external as well as domestic debt has increased abnormally;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in external/ domestic debt during last three years;

(c) the amount of external/domestic loan obtained during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000, till date, country-wise and institution-wise, separately;

(d) the amount of interest and service charges being paid on these loans annually;

(e) the details of projects being funded with these loans;

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to reduce the external borrowings;

(g) whether the Government propose to change the procedure for obtaining foreign loans; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) to (c) Net external debt/domestic loan on Government account during each of the three years from 1996-97 was as follows :

	1996-97	1997-98	%age increase	1998-99	%age increase	1999-2000 (RE)	%age increase
External debt on Govt. account at historical rate of exchange.	2987	1091	(-) 63	1920	76	906	(-) 53
Market Loans on Govt. Account	20012	32499	62	68988	112	77065	12

(Rs. crore)

The borrowing requirements of the Government are increasing since the growth in Government expenditure (Interest, Defence, Subsidies, Internal Security, Salaries, Pensions, assistance to States and development expenditure, etc.) has outpaced the growth in Governments' revenues and other non-debt receipts.

The Government accounts are maintained on the basis of instruments of borrowings, not lender-wise, as far as domestic loans are concerned. The lender-wise break-up of external debt is given in the enclosed statement.

(d) The details of debt servicing are as under:-

	(Rs. crore)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (RE)
Debt servicing			
Repayment of External Debt	6768	8095	8710
Interest on above	4110	4364	4393
Repayment of domestic loan	10891	14765	16353
Interest on above	22170	28362	36081
Total Debt Servicing	43939	55586	65537

(e) The details of projects funded with external loans are incorporated in the External Assistance Brochure published every year. The latest publication 'External Assistance Brochure, 1998-99' has since been circulated amongst Hon'ble Members of Parliament.

(f) The external financing of Government Budget is already very low. For example, out of the total fiscal deficit

of Rs. 108898 crore in RE 1999-2000, only Rs. 906 crore was financed through net external assistance.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Statement

Source-wise Utilisation of External Loans

(Rs. in crores)				
Sl. No.	Name of the country/Institution	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
MULTILATERAL				
1.	A.D.B	741.10	1326.12	1263.04
2.	I.B.R.D.	1279.91	1319.89	1882.30
3.	I.D.A.	3063.67	3646.54	3630.34
4.	I.F.A.D.	59.80	51.84	42.60
5.	O.P.E.C.	11.12	20.41	34.29
TOTAL		5155.60	6364.80	6852.57
BILATERAL				
6.	Australia	3.94	0.84	0.00
7.	Austria	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Belgium	0.00	0.00	0.00
9.	Canada	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
10. Reps. of Czech & Slovak	0.00	0.00	0.00	
11. Denmark	14.23	0.00	0.00	
12. France	209.22	48.81	65.41	
13. Germany	176.03	163.49	116.99	
14. Italy	0.00	0.00	0.00	
15. Japan	2004.22	2364.59	2859.04	
16. Kuwait Fund	8.97	2.73	2.67	
17. Netherlands	0.00	77.55	49.52	
18. Saudi Fund	4.88	6.65	6.21	
19. Spain	0.00	0.00	0.00	
20. Sweden	0.00	0.00	0.00	
21. Switzerland	0.00	0.00	0.00	
22. U.S.A.	0.00	0.00	0.00	
23. Russian Federation	0.00	0.00	27.45	
24. United Kingdom	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total	2421.49	2664.66	3125.29	
Grand Total	7577.09	9029.46	9977.86	

Resources Raised by Financial Institutions

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

(a) whether public financial institutions have been raising resources in excess of their requirements;

(b) if so, whether RBI has pointed out such lapses of excess in raising of resources by IDBI, IFCI and ICICI;

(c) whether there are no guidelines on the issue of raising resources by the financial institutions;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of action proposed by the Government to curb the tendency of financial institutions to raise excess resources and create imbalances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Financial institutions (FIs) raise resources by way of augmenting capital and/or borrowings. While determining the amount

of resources to be raised, various factors such as Capital Adequacy Ratio, projections of business growth, additional resources required, recoveries against loans extended earlier and market conditions are taken into consideration. Projections regarding business growth, recoveries, and demand on funds may undergo change on account of a number of factors including change in industrial climate. Consequently, the resources raised may be in excess of or less than the requirement.

(b) The Inspection Reports of RBI normally comment on the funds management by FIs covering the cost of funds raised vis-a-vis earnings which has direct bearing on the profitability.

(c) RBI has issued guidelines on certain aspects relating to raising resources namely tenure and rate of interest for raising resources by way of bonds/debentures and money market instruments. In respect of funds raised by way of money market instruments (term money borrowings, certificate of deposits, term deposits and inter corporate deposits), an umbrella limit equivalent to one time of owned funds has been fixed by the RBI. In respect of funds to be raised by way of Bonds and Debentures, RBI has issued guidelines in respect of tenure of such debentures and interest payable on them.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) RBI has reported that in view of Asset Liability Management guidelines issued by them, no further action is considered necessary at this stage.

Closure of Mills

*491. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the closure of textile mills during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(c) the details of steps taken to adopt modern cotton technology; and

(d) the details of steps taken by the Government to reduce the cost of production in the cotton mills, particularly in NTC mills to face competition with the private entrepreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) Yes Sir. The details are given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The state-wise details of cotton/man made fibre textile mills (non SSI) closed as on 29.2.2000 are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) Government of India has launched the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) and the Technology Mission on Cotton with a view to adopting modern technology.

(d) The mills taken over by the Government and entrusted to NTC were amongst the weakest in the industry and were lying closed in most of the cases before take over. The Government has spent so far an amount of Rs. 512 crores towards modernisation, renovation and other statutory requirements. This has helped NTC mills to maintain production activities. However, this investment has not been sufficient to reduce the cost of production in NTC mills to face competition from private mills.

Statement-I

Closure of Cotton/Man Made Fibre Textile Mills

Year/Month End	Number of Mills
1996-97	209
1997-98	220
1998-99	313
February 2000	342

Statement-II

(b) The State-wise details of 342 cotton/manmade fibre textile mills (Non SSI) closed as on 29.2.2000 are given below:-

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Cotton/Manmade fibre textile mills (Non SSI) closed as on 29.2.2000
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	31
2	Assam	4
3	Bihar	4
4	Gujarat	77
5	Haryana	10
6	Karnataka	20
7	Kerala	3
8	Madhya Pradesh	10

1	2	3
9	Maharashtra	34
10	Orissa	6
11	Punjab	5
12	Rajasthan	10
13	Tamil Nadu	85
14	Uttar Pradesh	26
15	West Bengal	15
16	Delhi	1
17	Pondicherry	1
TOTAL		342

Outstanding Income Tax

*492. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH :
SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the first one hundred persons, institutions, big business houses, film personalities and MNCs against whom maximum amount of Income Tax is outstanding;

(b) the details of outstanding Income Tax due against film personalities in the country, as on date;

(c) the details of period from which the Income Tax is outstanding against the above mentioned persons/MNCs etc;

(d) the reasons for not recovering these dues; and

(e) the action the Government have taken or propose to take to recover such dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The details of the first one hundred persons, institutions, big business houses, film personalities and MNCs against whom maximum outstanding Income Tax is due as on 31.12.99 is given in the enclosed statement-I.

(b) The details of film personalities against whom outstanding Income Tax over Rs. 10 lakhs is due as on 31.12.99 is given in enclosed statement-II to this statement.

(c) The reported aggregate demand in Part (a) and (b) consists of demands of many years and under various

heads like tax, interest, fine, penalty, etc. All this is further subject to continuous modifications owing to possible rectifications, appeal effects, revisions, etc. It would, therefore, not be possible to give the exact period since when the demands are outstanding.

(d) and (e) Most of these demands are disputed in appeals and the appeals are pending before various appellate authorities and courts. Some of the demands are also stayed by courts and appellate authorities. Some demand are not recoverable due to pendency with Settlement Commission and B.I. F.R. A sizable amount is held up due to pendency in Special Courts (TORTS) relating to bank scam cases. The recovery of tax, however, is a continuous process involving the use of various statutory provisions. These include charging of interest, levy of penalty, attachment & sale of movable and immovable properties, etc. Periodical review and monitoring of cases involving high demands are made by higher authorities on a regular basis and necessary instructions are issued from time to time for effecting the recovery of taxes.

Statement-I

List of First One Hundred Persons, Institutions, Big Houses etc. in whose case Income Tax is due as on 31.12.99

Sl. No.	Name	Outstanding demand as on 3.12.99 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Harshad S. Mehta	242324
2.	Hiten P. Dalal	140375
3.	Bhupendra C. Dalal	74545
4.	The Peerless General Finance & Inv. Co. Ltd.	66093
5.	Oil & Natural Gas Commission	64486
6.	Ashwin S. Mehta	63775
7.	S. Ramaswamy	56489
8.	Jyoti H. Mehta	55278
9.	A.D. Narottam	55074
10.	Sahara India Mutual Benefit Co. Ltd	54353

1	2	3
11.	Surendra M. Khandar	42217
12.	Growmore Research & Assets Management Ltd.	28085
13.	Rolex Holding Ltd.	27168
14.	Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	24158
15.	Sudhir S. Mehta	23849
16.	Maha Nagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	20877
17.	GTC Industries Ltd.	19021
18.	Ganapati Combines Ltd.	18040
19.	Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd. (IPCL)	17025
20.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.	16697
21.	East West Travel & Trade Links Ltd.	16292
22.	South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	16086
23.	Cascade Holding P. Ltd.	16017
24.	Mideast India Ltd.	15561
25.	Dhanraj Mills P. Ltd.	15510
26.	Harshad S. Mehta (W.T.)	14873
27.	Shaw Wallace & Co. Ltd.	14849
28.	Kedia Castle Delion Industries Ltd.	14776
29.	Essar Steels Ltd.	14365
30.	Tata Sons Ltd.	13973
31.	Bajaj Auto Ltd.	13656
32.	R.E.P.L. Engg. Ltd.	13571
33.	Tata Chemicals Ltd.	13521
34.	J.P. Gandhi	12947
35.	Niranjan J. Shah	12722
36.	Sabre Group	12632
37.	Sahara India (Firm)	12552

1	2	3
38.	Growmore Leasing & Invest. Private Ltd.	12285
39.	Pallav S. Sheth	10931
40.	N.E.P.C. Micon Ltd.	10122
41.	Arvind Mills Ltd.	10036
42.	Metropolition Co-op. Bank Ltd.	9464
43.	C.R.B. Capital Market Co. Ltd.	8631
44.	Shirish C. Shah	8595
45.	Subroto Roy	8520
46.	Bombay Burmah Trading Corpn. Ltd.	8412
47.	Kalpesh L. Thakkar	8313
48.	The Premier Automobiles Ltd.	8300
49.	Gujarat State Fertilizer Co. Ltd.	8114
50.	S.K. Jain (Director of B.E.C. Ltd.)	7985
51.	Wood Crafts Products Ltd.	7840
52.	Bank of America NT & SA	7488
53.	Orson Electronics Ltd.	7476
54.	Spectrum Power Generation Ltd.	7360
55.	Rushabh Capital & Finance Ltd.	7323
56.	Industrial Credit & Dev. Syndi. Ltd. (ICDS Ltd.)	7292
57.	State Bank of Saurashtra (H.Q.)	7122
58.	Bimal S. Gandhi	6901
59.	Pratima H. Mehta	6316
60.	I.D.B.I.	6251
61.	Board of Control for Cricket in India	6238
62.	Kedia Distilleries	6224
63.	Fairgrowth Financial Services Ltd.	6205
64.	American Express Bank Ltd.	6126
65.	Lt. Col. Bhawani Singh & Others (INDL.) W.T.	6117

1	2	3
66.	ICICI Ltd./SCICI/ITC Classic Fin. Ltd.	6071
67.	Indian Hotel Co. Ltd.	6041
68.	Chinar Cigarrattes P. Ltd.	5925
69.	Amadeus Marketing	5807
70.	Deepika A. Mehta (Smt.)	5790
71.	Apollo Tubes & Steel Industries Ltd.	5640
72.	Pathija Forgings & Auto Parts Mfg. Co. Ltd.	5546
73.	Hitesh S. Mehta	5438
74.	Mardia Steel Ltd.	5409
75.	Ganapati Exports Ltd.	5245
76.	Essar Projects Ltd.	4932
77.	Rasila S. Mehta	4814
78.	K.C.T. & Bros (CS) Ltd.	4613
79.	Vysya Bank Ltd.	4605
80.	Sahara India Airlines Ltd.	4588
81.	K.G. Bhagat (Late)	4374
82.	Gujarat Lease Financing Ltd.	4343
83.	Apama Ashram	4323
84.	Galileo International	4320
85.	Genesis Capital Mkt. Ltd.	4291
86.	Federal Bank Ltd.	4188
87.	Dawood Ibrahim Kaskar	4187
88.	Asea Brown Boveri Ltd.	4175
89.	Balaji Distilleries Ltd.	4175
90.	Mohammed Ahmed Umer Dossa	4084
91.	Hansraj N. Thakkar	4033
92.	Sanchaita Investments	4025
93.	Jai Hind Sahakari Charnopadak Sangh Ltd.	4016

1	2	3
94.	M.S. Ramaiah	3989
95.	J.V.G. Leasing Ltd.	3944
96.	Topaz Holding P. Ltd.	3905
97.	Suman Motels P. Ltd.	3860
98.	M. Vishvasaraya Industrial Re. & Dev. Centre	3848
99.	A.P. State Civil Supplies Corporation	3842
100.	Go-cool Frenchise P. Ltd.	3803
Total (Rs. in lakhs)		1738008

Statement-II

*List of Film Personalities in whose cases Income Tax
over Rs.10 Lakhs is due as on 31.12.1999*

Sl. No.	Name S/Shri	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	A. KOTHANDARAMIAH	21.36
2.	A.S. IBRAHIM ROWTHER	20.46
3.	A. SREEDEVI (SMT.)	22.07
4.	A. VIJAYAKANTH	29.29
5.	B. SUNDARI BAI	21.54
6.	G. GOPAL RAO	37.67
7.	G. HANUMANTHA RAO	27.80
8.	G. VENKATESWARAN	42.63
9.	K. BALA SUBRAMANIAN	26.30
10.	K. GOUNDAMANI	15.66
11.	K.J. YESUDAS	13.06
12.	KHUSHBOO ● NAKHATH KHAN (Ms.)	33.79
13.	MURALI KANTHAN	24.33
14.	NAGOOR BABU	11.35
15.	P.P. KANNIAH	23.40
16.	P. SOUNDRYA (Ms.)	14.93

1	2	3
17.	R.B. CHOWDHURY	16.74
18.	R.D. BASKER	14.40
19.	R. JAYAPRADHA (Mrs.)	288.63
20.	R. RAJBABU	13.84
21.	R. VIJAYACHANDRAN	33.29
22.	RAMYA KRISHNAN (Ms.)	12.72
23.	S. PRABHUDEVA	18.14
24.	S. VIJAYASHANTHI	21.44
25.	T. KRANTHI KUMAR	10.93
26.	V. ADINARAYANA REDDY	17.11
27.	V.C. GANESAN	27.75
28.	FRANCIS JOSEPH	53.59
29.	GULSHAN KUMAR	18.48
30.	KRISHAN KUMAR	25.00
31.	A.G. NADIAD WALA	77.76
32.	AJAY DEVGUN	37.15
33.	AMITABH BACHHAN	1109.06
34.	JAYA BACHCHAN (Mrs.)	311.02
35.	MAHESH BHATT	23.53
36.	MUKESH BHATT	566.48
37.	N.C. CINE SERVICES	15.73
38.	NAND KUMAR TOLANI	31.11
39.	POOJA BHATT	11.01
40.	PREMA V. SHETTY (Smt.)	21.61
41.	SHARUKH KHAN	179.28
42.	SONI MAHESH BHATT (Smt.)	18.85
43.	SUBHASH GHAI	93.30
44.	SUNIL S. SHETTY	41.04
45.	VEERU DEVGUN	20.55
46.	VERAPPA SHETTY	18.27
47.	A. NAGARJUNA RAO	32.70

1	2	3
48.	A. NAGESWARA RAO	14.63
49.	A.V. NARAYANA RAO	32.73
50.	RAMGOPAL VERMA	36.14
51.	V.S. LAMBA	11.84
52.	AJAY SINGH DEOL	13.40
53.	AMRISH SHAH	13.01
54.	BHAGWAN S.C.	22.15
55.	DARASINGH RANDHAWA	18.62
56.	FAROOQ AHMED A. FAROOQUI	13.88
57.	GAUTAM BERRY	29.91
58.	GULAB M. GULABANI	43.07
59.	JAGJIT SINGH	19.25
60.	KISHORE KUMAR GANGULI	42.75
61.	L.R. MIRCHANDANI	13.83
62.	M.C. BOKADIA	69.05
63.	MUKESH DUGGAL	20.92
64.	O.P. RALHAN	67.48
65.	RAJBABBAR	10.43
66.	RAJAN R. SIPPY	51.14
67.	SATRAM ROHRA	40.09
68.	SUYASH (CHUNKY) PANDAY	11.67
69.	S. KAMAL HASSAN	113.88
Total (Rs. in lakhs)		4276.02

Industrial Progress

*493. DR. NITISH SENGUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the report of a study recently undertaken by the Centre for Indian Economy, Bombay, indicating the industrial progress made by various States in the recent years;

(b) if so, the reasons given by the study for the imbalance in industrial progress among different States;

(c) the position of West Bengal in this regard; and

(d) the reasons for slow-down in industrial development in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) Centre for Monitoring of Indian Economy (CMIE). Bombay, have informed that they have not done any study on industrial progress made by various States in the country.

(d) The de-licensing of Industries in the country has reduced the role of the Government in directing industrial investment to any particular location/region in the country. Industrial investment, in the present situation is guided by the perception of the investor about opportunities of profitable investment.

According to the Annual Survey of Industries, the ranking of West Bengal, according to net value added has risen to 6 during 1997-98 from 8 in 1994-95.

According to Government of West Bengal the industrial scenario has shown a steady improvement in the last few years both in terms of production and labour relations. Growth in industrial production has improved from 2.8% in 1993-94 to 11% in 1996-97 and investment from Rs. 2.5 billion (USD 72.7 million) in the period 1977-81 to Rs. 67.3 billion (USD 1.9 billion) in the period 1992-97. 1540 projects with a total investment of Rs. 426.5 billion (USD 12.2 billion) were approved in the period 1991-97 (upto March 1997).

Disinvestment in IPCL

*494. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have disinvested the shares of IPCL;

(b) if so, the number of shares of IPCL so far sold, till date, particularly by UTI during 1998-99, till April, 1999 and the rate at which these were sold;

(c) whether the shares disposed of so far were at a very much lower rate than the market value;

(d) if so, the reasons therefore indicating the market rate of shares of IPCL during that period;

(e) whether the Government propose to conduct any inquiry in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (f) The Government, on the recommendations of the disinvestment Commission, decided in December, 1998 to disinvest 25% equity in IPCL alongwith transfer of management control in favour of a strategic buyer through global Competitive Bids. Pursuant to that decision, the process of disinvestment was taken up and has not been completed. No share of the Government in IPCL has been sold consequent to the decision of disinvestment. The sale of shares by UTI is not part of the process of disinvestment.

Wage Revision of Regional Rural Bank Employees

*495. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees and officers of Regional Rural Banks of Rajasthan had staged a demonstration recently for implementation of wage revision; and

(b) If so, the reaction of the Government with regard to implementation of Sixth and Seventh bipartite wage revision settlement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The employees of Regional Rural Banks, including those of Rajasthan have been agitating for sometime demanding parity in their pay scales with that of employees of commercial banks. The matter is pending before Supreme Court. Final Decision is yet to be taken.

Insurance Cover to Aids Victims

*496. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL;
DR. C. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Life Insurance Corporation is refusing the policies of those who are suffering from HIV/AIDS;

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

(c) the number of cases refused by LIC to settle the claims of AIDS victims during the last three years;

(d) whether the Health Ministry have approached the LIC to take suitable decision on the issue;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government to provide insurance coverage to AIDS patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has informed that the life insurance business is organised on commercial lines which provides for financial relief to the family on the death of the life insured. LIC follows the general principles of underwriting of insurance, which is accepted all over the world and therefore insurance cover is not granted to certain category of persons including AIDS/HIV affected persons when they apply for life insurance cover. However, LIC does not withdraw the insurance cover given to a person who is already having a life insurance policy and who subsequently contracts HIV/AIDS.

(c) The Life Insurance Corporation of India has informed that they have not denied to settle any claims of AIDS Victims who were having a policy.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Government do not have any proposal in this behalf.

[Translation]

Changes in the Labour Law

*498. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring some changes in the labour laws or to amend the laws applicable to the labourers working in the units of special economic zones to be set up under the newly announced Exim Policy;

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

(c) whether the labour unions have been taken into confidence before bringing such changes; and

(d) if so, the response of the labour unions thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) The Government

has not finalised its views in regard to changes in labour laws applicable to units in Special Economic Zones (SEZs), recently announced in the Exim Policy.

Non-operational Coal Mines

*499. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are still a large number of coal mines in the country where coal mining work is not being done;

(b) if so, the details and location of such coal mines, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to the coal deposits in these coal mines and if so, the quantum of coal deposits therein;

(d) the number of underground and open cast mines out of the said mines; and

(e) the steps taken to start work in those mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND MINERALS (SHRI P.R. KUMARMANGLAM): (a) to (c) As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), there are 141 coal mines in the country where coal mining is not being done at present. The distribution of such coal mines, state-wise and type-wise is given below:-

State	Number of CIL mines where mining is not being done at present.	Number of Under-ground mines	Number of Open-cast mines
West Bengal	59	46	13
Bihar	31	21	10
Madhya Pradesh	38	31	7
Maharashtra	13	6	7
Total	141	104	37

These coal mines were closed on account of exhaustion of reserves, adverse geominig conditions, incidents of fire and inundation, unsafe mining conditions and other techno-economic unviabilities. As such, it is not possible to reopen such mines. The quantity of coal deposits left in 18 of these mines which were closed on the grounds other than exhaustion of reserves was 78.46 million tonnes on the respective dates of closure.

[English]

Lifting of Ban on World Bank Loan

*500. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the recent visit of US President to New Delhi, the Government had stressed the need for immediate end to the ban on World Bank Development loans;

(b) if so, the response of the US President thereto;

(c) the extent of World Bank Development Loans needed this year and the details of the loans withheld which have already been in the pipe-line;

(d) whether the World Bank has now agreed to continue its lending programme to India;

(e) if so, the time by which the lending programme is likely to be start; and

(f) the amount likely to be provided by the World Bank to India during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) Government uses every bilateral opportunity, including during the visit of President Clinton to India, to convey to the US that all unilateral restrictions against India are unjustified & counter-productive and should be completely lifted.

(b) The US has lifted a number of restrictions it imposed on India after the nuclear tests of May 1998. The US has not indicated the time-frame for lifting the remaining restrictions.

(c) to (f) After May 1998, the Executive Board of the Bank has not been supporting the projects not perceived as coming under the "basic human needs" category. However, loan disbursements in the case of all on-going projects continued.

Four projects viz. Powergrid III, IREDA Renewable Energy, Haryana State Highway & State Highway (Gujarat), with a total aggregate commitment of US \$ 1236 millions, which were negotiated prior to May 98, have not so far been approved by the Board.

Due to the efforts of the Government of India, AP Power Restructuring Project was approved by the World Bank in February 1999. IFC (an arm of World Bank) Board

has also approved loans to Integrated Coal Mining Pvt Ltd. in Feb 99, M/s Carraro India Ltd. in March 99, M/s Moser Baer India Ltd. in April 99, M/s Astha Power Corp. Pvt Ltd. in Sept 99, Sundaram Home Finance Ltd. in Dec 99 and Henkel Spic Ltd. in Dec 99.

On 25.4.2000, the Bank Board approved the UP Fiscal Reforms and UP Power Sector Restructuring Loans. These are cases of projects in non-basic human needs category approved by the World Bank and its affiliates after May 98.

The aggregate Bank commitment for this Fiscal Year is expected to be approx. US \$ 1.6 billions. This excludes the commitment of US \$ 1.2 billion relating to 4 road, power and renewable energy projects referred to above.

Finance Minister met World Bank President Mr. Wolfensohn at Washington on 15.4.2000. Mr. Wolfensohn indicated that in view of the improved climate created by President Clinton's visit to India, Bank would take steps to consider all pending projects expeditiously.

The World Bank commitment has generally been in the range of US \$ 1.1 to 2 billion per year and the likely commitment for 2000-2001 is expected to be at the same level.

[Translation]

Advertisement Issued by Jodhpur Office

5252.SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has laid down any policy to give advertisements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of advertisements issued by the offices at Jodhpur during each of the last six months and the amount paid, month-wise, in this regard, Office-wise;

(d) whether any irregularities have been found in this regard;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action against the erring officers; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Textiles has no separate policy for issuing advertisements other than the general policy of the Government.

(c) Details of advertisements issued by the Central Wool Development Board, Jodhpur during the last six months are as follows:-

Month	No. of Advertisements	Expenditure Incurred
October' 99	Nil	Nil
November' 99	04	Rs. 20,837.00
December' 99	Nil	Nil
January' 2000	13	Rs. 48,555.50
February' 2000	Nil	Nil
March' 2000	Nil	Nil

(d) No complaint has been received in the Ministry.

(e) and (f) Does not arise.

Scheme for Export of Goods

5253.SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for export of the goods produced by the weavers in the country particularly of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the same would be considered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The development of exportable products and their marketing Scheme formulated by the Government of India aims at building up production capabilities for exports, development of exportable products, publicity for the products and thereafter marketing it. As far as Madhya Pradesh State is concerned, the Office of DC (Handlooms) has so far released a sum of Rs. 42.25 lakhs as central grant under the scheme.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Vizag Steel Plant

5254.SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vizag Steel Plant is under the proposal for disinvestment;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any negotiations have been conducted with the private sector/foreign company in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Income Tax on Schools

5255.SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI R.S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some leading schools of Delhi such as St. Columba's, Modern, D.P.S. and Ramjas, R.K. Puram do not include certain perquisites received by their principals and vice-principal in their Income Tax returns;

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

(c) whether these schools have also been served 'show cause' notice by Income Tax Department;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to detect tax evasion cases by such high profile schools and their Principals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Enquiry letters have been issued to St. Columba's, Modern, D.P.S. and Ramjas schools to ascertain details of perquisites and tax deduction thereon.

(e) Necessary action will be taken as per law on completion of enquiries.

[Translation]

Sick Units

5256.SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the location-wise details of the industrial units in Gujarat which are lying closed or on the verge of closure;

(b) since when these units have been lying closed or on the verge of closure alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to revive these units;

(d) the number of employees and workers rendered jobless on account of closure of these units; and

(e) the details of financial assistance provided to the labourers of these units by the Central/State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (e) According to the available information units closed in Gujarat under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and workers affected due to closure were as below:-

Year	Units closed	Workers affected
1997	21	848
1998	34	1067
1999	11	221

Data on sick industrial units assisted by the banks in the country is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). There were 223 non-SSI sick/weak units and 4170 sick SSI units in Gujarat as at the end of March, 1999.

According to the RBI report, a number of causes, both internal and external, often operating in combination, have been responsible for industrial sickness. The main causes include deficiencies in planning, management, marketing etc.

The Government has taken a number of steps for revival of sick industrial units which, inter-alia, include, guidelines of the RBI to banks, amalgamation of sick units with healthy units, setting up of Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, National Equity Fund etc. Financial assistance has also been made available to the Mahatma Gandhi Labour Institute, Ahmadabad for counselling, retraining and redeployment of workers rationalised from organised sector in Gujarat.

[English]

Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks

5257. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been decline in the credit deposit ratio and customer service of public and private sector banks;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the number of instances that have come to light where banks have refused advances to the middle and lower middle class people in public and private sector banks; and

(d) the action the Government propose to take against such banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the credit deposit (CD) ratio of scheduled commercial banks was 57.3 per cent in March 1997, 55.5 per cent in March 1998 and 55.49 per cent in March 1999. The decline in the CD ratio is mainly due to the larger increase in deposits as compared to the increase in credit. The other reasons for declining CD ratio are low credit absorption capacity of some of the States, lack of adequate infrastructural facilities and low recovery of the banks.

As regards customer service of banks, there is no information about its decline. However, banks are advised by Reserve Bank of India from time to time to maintain good customer service.

(c) and (d) RBI have reported that they do not have any information regarding refusal of banks to provide advances to middle and lower-middle class people.

Bar Coding of Goods

5258. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make Bar Coding mandatory for certain goods;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the other measures stipulated to eliminate duplicating the products and enforce provisions for indicating sale price of goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is the endeavour of the Government to enhance export competitiveness of Indian products and to promote compliance with prevalent International best practices including adoption of bar-coding using international Symbolologies/Numbering Systems. The revised Exim Policy (Revised Edition: March, 2000) provides for the adoption of barcoding for export goods. All export products of finished and packaged items meant for retail sale shall incorporate barcodes following International Symbolologies/ Numbering Systems from a date to be notified by DGFT. In addition, exports at carton/consignment levels in the sectors of readymade garments, engineering products, food products, pharmaceuticals, leather goods, sports goods, plastic goods and handicrafts shall adopt bar coding. DGFT issue a separate notification specifying the exports item for each of these sectors with their dates of implementation.

(c) The Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 Provides for the protection of registered trademarks. The remedies available under the Act relate to the protection of the Intellectual Property Rights inherent in a trademark and provide both civil and criminal remedies for registered trademark owners. It also contains provisions under Section 76, 77, 78 and 79 of the said Trade and Merchandise Marks Act to prevent the falsifying or the false application of trademarks, false trade descriptions, etc. Action against piracy of products of registered brands, resulting in infringement of rights has to be prosecuted in the appropriate courts for securing civil and criminal remedies.

The Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules 1977 contain provisions for mandatory declaration of retail sale price on pre-packed commodities. The implementation of the provisions of the said Rules is done by the enforcement officials of the States/UT. Whenever violations are detected, action is initiated as per the provisions.

[Translation]

Bauxite Mining on Lease Hold in M.P.

5259. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the acres of land given on lease for exploration of bauxite in Madhya Pradesh, particularly in Satna district by the Government alongwith the names of persons and the period for which it was awarded;

(b) whether such lease has been provided for exploration in forest land also; and

(c) if so, the names of persons alongwith the time-limit for which lease has been given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, no prospecting licence for exploration of bauxite has been granted in the State of Madhya Pradesh. However, 69 mining leases for exploitation of bauxite mineral have been granted in Satna district by the State Government over an area of around 1930 acres. Names of the mining lease holders to whom mining leases have been granted along-with area in acres and period of grant is appended in the given statement. The details of mining operations in these 6 mining leases are as follows :-

- | | | |
|-----|--|----|
| (a) | Mining leases sanctioned in forest areas, mining operations in which have been discontinued in pursuance of the Order of the Supreme Court dated 12.12.96. | 37 |
| (b) | Mining leases granted in the forest areas in which mining operations are continuing in the light of Court Stay/diversion of forest land. | 05 |
| (c) | Mining leases sanctioned partly in forest land and partly in revenue land in which mining operations are continuing in revenue land and discontinued in forest land. | 08 |
| (d) | Mining leases functioning in revenue land. | 19 |

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of lease holder	Area in acres	Period of lease
1	2	3	4
I. Mining Leases			
1.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	43.70	31.3.85 to 30.3.2005
2.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	40.00	17.7.82 to 16.7.2002
3.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	100.98	26.9.78 to 25.9.1998
4.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	20.00	13.8.85 to 12.8.2005
5.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	40.00	14.4.88 to 13.4.1998
6.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	31.31	17.7.72 to 16.7.1992

1	2	3	4
7.	M/s. Jailal Bharatlal	27.00	4.11.75 to 3.11.1995
8.	Rakesh Agency	37.00	13.5.81 to 12.5.2001
9.	Rakesh Agency	16.13	22.5.82 to 21.5.2002
10.	Rakesh Agency	40.00	17.7.82 to 16.7.2002
11.	Rakesh Agency	27.50	28.3.83 to 27.3.2003
12.	Rakesh Agency	6.25	23.3.83 to 22.3.1993
13.	Rakesh Agency	30.00	18.12.88 to 17.12.1998
14.	Rakesh Agency	20.00	13.8.85 to 12.8.2005
15.	Rakesh Agency	23.21	13.5.81 to 12.5.1991
16.	Rakesh Agency	12.00	02.9.93 to 01.9.2013
17.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	9.20	06.10.92 to 5.10.2002
18.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	4.15	17.7.82 to 16.7.1992
19.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	13.43	6.10.82 to 05.10.1992
20.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	11.84	7.8.85 to 6.8.1995
21.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	26.25	18.1.86 to 17.1.2006
22.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	07.90	18.1.86 to 17.1.2006
23.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	23.70	1.10.85 to 30.9.2005
24.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	4.75	6.10.82 to 5.10.2002
25.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	19.70	18.1.86 to 17.1.2002
26.	M/s. M.P. Mineral Supply Co.	17.00	1.10.85 to 30.9.2005
27.	M/s. Bansal Khanij Udhyog	4.50	9.10.74 to 8.10.2004
28.	M/s. Bansal Khanij Udhyog	35.45	23.3.83 to 22.3.2003
29.	Shri Ram Chand Bansal	17.30	18.8.76 to 17.8.1996

1	2	3	4
30. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	27.00	13.11.79 to 12.11.89	
31. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	35.00	1.7.81 to 30.6.2001	
32. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	6.21	2.7.83 to 1.7.1993	
33. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	26.00	20.7.77 to 19.7.1997	
34. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	10.77	20.6.81 to 19.6.2001	
35. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	22.65	17.7.82 to 16.7.2002	
36. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	23.75	6.10.82 to 5.10.2002	
37. Shri Ram Chand Bansal	4.25	2.7.83 to 1.7.1993	
38. Hiralal Rameshwar Prasad	40.00	10.9.85 to 9.9.2005	
39. Hiralal Rameshwar Prasad	40.00	23.3.74 to 22.3.1994	
40. Shri Shiv Kumar Agarwal	39.85	28.3.73 to 27.3.1993	
41. Shri Shiv Kumar Agarwal	40.00	5.10.78 to 4.10.1998	
42. M/s. Gulab Chand & Brothers	29.00	12.5.74 to 13.5.1994	
43. M/s. Shivratan Lal Gulab Chand Agarwal	63.34	14.11.73 to 13.11.1993	
44. M/s. Shivratan Lal Gulab Chand Agarwal	40.00	22.9.78 to 21.9.1988	
45. M/s. Shivratan Lal Gulab Chand Agarwal	5.30	25.6.81 to 24.6.2001	
46. M/s. Shivratan Lal Gulab Chand Agarwal	20.00	25.10.85 to 24.10.2005	
47. M/s. Lal & Sons & Company	40.00	29.12.78 to 28.12.1998	
48. M/s. Lal & Sons & Company	76.29	4.12.77 to 3.12.1997	

1	2	3	4
49. Shri Gopal Sharan Singh	22.00	15.12.86 to 14.12.1996	
50. Shri Rajender Kumar Agarwal	40.00	31.10.85 to 30.10.2005	
51. Shri Rajender Kumar Agarwal	35.00	27.11.86 to 26.11.2006	
52. Shri Rajender Kumar Agarwal	40.00	27.11.86 to 26.11.2006	
53. Shri Krishan Das Tikaram	6.00	17.9.73 to 16.9.1993	
54. Esmail & Sons	62.25	27.7.70 to 26.7.2000	
55. Esmail & Sons	20.00	21.7.70 to 20.7.2000	
56. Ghayatri Devi Bansal	40.00	19.8.88 to 18.8.1998	
57. Chhote Lal Chaurasia	40.00	30.7.73 to 29.7.1993	
58. Moti Lal Chaurasia	40.00	30.7.73 to 29.7.1993	
59. Mukhtiyar Ahmed Siddiqi	26.00	10.1.85 to 9.1.2005	
60. Hira Lal Sunder Lal	20.00	28.12.81 to 27.12.1991	
61. Harish Minerals	17.00	14.12.92 to 13.12.2002	
62. Shiv Kumar Agarwal	40.00	7.10.74 to 6.10.1994	
63. Gulab Chand Agarwal	17.00	25.6.81 to 24.6.2001	
64. R.P. Agarwal	22.00	31.12.72 to 30.12.1992	
65. M/s. Mekal Minerals	5.30	6.9.94 to 5.9.2004	
66. Shanta Ram Mahesh Prasad	5.30	5.3.1981 to 4.3.2001	
67. Madhyabharat Mineral Pvt. Ltd.	5.00	6.3.91 to 5.3.2001	
68. Harish Minerals Jaitwara	85.00	8.10.76 to 7.10.1996	
69. M/s Niyogi & Sons Jaitwara	42.53	16.9.80 to 15.9.2000	
II. Prospecting Licences			
1. Shri Ram Autar Aggarwal	0.445 Hects.	6.6.98 to 5.6.2000	
2. M/s Jeevan Lime Chemicals	11.00 Hects.	17.4.98 to 16.4.2000	

Closures of Industries

5260. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of newly set up and closed down industries during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the reasons therefor and the extent to which the Government policies have been responsible for closure of these industries; and

(c) the number of employees rendered jobless due to closure of these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) 205 Industrial Licenses have been granted and 1207 Industrial Entrepreneurs Memoranda (IEMs) have been implemented during the last three years i.e., from 1997 to 1999. Closure of 441 industrial units has been reported from 1997 to 1999. State-wise details are given in the statements I and II. As a result of closure of 441 industrial units, 38,577 workers have been affected.

Labour, Bureau, Shimla, under the Ministry of Labour collects information on closure and reasons thereof. According to the Bureau, the main reasons for closing down of industries were financial stringency, shortage of power, lack of demand for products, shortage of raw material and break-down of machinery.

Statement-I**State-wise Details of Industries Established during 1997-1999**

Name of the State	CIL granted	IEMs implemented
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	24	99
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
Assam	0	8
Bihar	4	11
Goa	1	15
Gujarat	16	258
Haryana	11	81
Himachal Pradesh	0	7
Jammu & Kashmir	0	4

1	2	3
Karnataka	10	34
Kerala	4	24
Madhya Pradesh	5	83
Maharashtra	27	159
Manipur	0	0
Meghalaya	0	1
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	0	0
Orissa	0	5
Punjab	13	53
Rajasthan	1	87
Sikkim	0	0
Tripura	0	0
Tamil Nadu	57	68
Uttar Pradesh	23	96
West Bengal	4	66
Andaman & Nicobar	0	0
Chandigarh	0	2
Dadar & N. Haveli	1	19
Delhi	0	2
Daman & Diu	1	19
Lakshadweep	0	0
Pondicherry	2	6
More than One State	1	0
Total	205	1207

Statement-II**State-wise Number of Closures during 1997 to 1999**

Name of the State	1997 (P)	1998 (P)	1999 (P)	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	1	—	2	3
Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
Assam		—	1	1
Bihar		4	3	9
Goa		2	4	8
Gujarat		34	11	66
Haryana	—	2	—	2
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—
Karnataka	2	3	3	8
Kerala	3	—	6	9
Madhya Pradesh	2	4	3	9
Maharashtra	7	1	—	8
Manipur	—	—	—	—
Meghalaya	—	—	—	—
Mizoram	—	—	—	—
Nagaland	—	—	—	—
Orissa	4	14	4	21
Punjab			51	53
Rajasthan	—	1	2	11
Sikkim		—	—	—
Tamil Nadu	2	7	1	10
Tripura	55	42	15	112
Uttar Pradesh	22	38	3	63
West Bengal	—	—	—	—
Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—
Chandigarh	—	—	3	3
Dadar & N. Haveli	—	—	—	—
Delhi	2	2	—	4
Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—
Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—
Pondicherry	20	21	—	41
Grand Total	154	175	112	441

(P)=Provisional.

Source : Labour Bureau, Shimla.

[English]

Cultivation of Spices

5761. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope of growing spices in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the possibility explored in this direction and the areas brought under spices cultivation so far in the state; and

(c) the details of spices proposed to be grown in the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) There is immense potential for growing various spices in Karnataka.

(b) In order to exploit the potential for development of spices in Karnataka a Centrally sponsored programme for development of spices has been implemented in the State since 8th Five Year Plan. The measures implemented under the Scheme for development of spices in Karnataka include the following:-

- (i) Production and distribution of quality planting material of high yielding varieties of pepper, ginger, turmeric, chillies and tree spices.
- (ii) Establishment of demonstration plots of black pepper, ginger, tree spices, chillies and seed spices.
- (iii) Popularisation of integrated pests and disease management for black pepper, ginger and chillies.
- (iv) Area expansion programme for pepper, ginger and chillies.
- (v) Distribution of minikit of seed spices.

For implementation of the above programmes central assistance of Rs. 671.20 lakhs in the 8th Plan and Rs. 782.70 lakhs in the first three years of the 9th Plan was provided to Karnataka.

The area brought under various spices in Karnataka is given below:-

Spices crops	Area ('000 ha)
Pepper	4.35
Ginger	3.94
Chillies	178.40
Turmeric	4.60
Coriander	17.30
Garlic	4.10
Cardamom	21.23

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(c) At present the important spices grown in the State are black pepper, cardamom, chillies, ginger, turmeric and tree spices.

Foreign Investment In Tobacco Industries

5262.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITC, a tobacco giant of India has represented not to allow FDI for MNCs, as reported in "The Economic Times" dated November 30, 1999;

(b) whether the domestic cigarette industry faces the threat of takeover by MNCs by virtue of their money power and ability to sustain initial setback, can go to any extent to kill domestic industry and monopolies the market;

(c) if so, whether the representations have been made by the Nation building Forum and other organisations against entry of MNCs for their dubious role of killing and/or forcing Bharatiya organisations to sell their operations; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to safeguard the domestic tobacco industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) M/s. ITC Limited had submitted a representation in October, 1999 but later withdrew the same on the ground that the report in The Economic Times might give rise to mis-interpretation of their views on the subject.

(b) to (d) There are safeguards for the domestic industry, including cigarette industry, against hostile takeovers in the regulations notified by SEBI. There is also the requirement of Board Resolution before shares can be

acquired in an Indian company. Further, the cigarette industry is a licensable industry under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951.

Agricultural Exports

5263.SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the growth of agricultural exports during 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) whether the targets fixed have been achieved; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to boost agricultural export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Performance of the previous year serves as a benchmark target for export of agricultural products. Since international trade in agricultural commodities is dependent on domestic supply matched with international demand, prevailing consumer preferences, traded varieties and quality concerned, targets set are essentially an indication of intent. Total agro exports including tea, coffee, marine, castor oil and cotton during the year 1997-98 were at Rs. 24626.16 crores and during the year 1998-99 were at Rs. 25224.63 crores.

(c) Some of the steps taken to boost export of agricultural products include:-

- (i) Providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries for production of good quality planting material, upgradation of technical knowhow of farmers through demonstration, trainings and publicity, rejuvenation of old orchards, area expansion, supply of minikits for vegetables, improving productivity and training of farmers under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Development of Tropical, Temperate and Arid Zone fruits;
- (ii) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging and strengthening of quality control including adoption of quality systems such as ISO 9000/HACCP at export units;
- (iii) Grant of air freight subsidy for export of selected fresh vegetables and fresh fruits;
- (iv) Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for improving the acceptability of the product especially mangoes in overseas markets,

Research efforts are on for the use of modern technologies such as Controlled/Modified Atmosphere technologies in transportation for increasing the shelf life of perishable products such as mangoes and lychees;

- (v) Arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions;
- (vi) Setting up of integrated cargo handling and cold storage facilities at various International Airports for handling export of perishable items such as fresh fruits and vegetables; and
- (vii) Providing technical advisory services and other support services to trade and industry including training of farmers for export production, quality control, packaging, transport etc.

Companies Suspended by Various Stock Exchanges

5264. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBHA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the companies suspended by various stock exchanges during the months from November 1, 1999 to January 31, 2000;
- (b) the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is the only penalty which can be imposed by the Government;
- (d) the number of small investors affected thereafter alongwith money involved therein;
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of small investors;

(f) whether any instructions have been issued to such Companies to revoke the suspension;

(g) if so, the details thereof company-wise;

(h) if not the reasons therefor; and

(i) the time by which the said companies are likely to be listed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The names of companies suspended by various stock exchanges alongwith reasons therefor during 1st November, 1999 to 31st January, 2000 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) to (e) The stock exchanges can suspend trading of scrips of a company for any violation of listing agreement by the company or in cases of withdrawal of dealings by the company, amalgamation, liquidation etc. Delisting of securities is the other alternative which can be imposed by stock exchanges.

The listing agreement contains some clauses which the companies undertake to comply with. Some of these stipulations relate to dissemination of information to the market and corporate discipline. In absence of this information, investment decisions to be taken by investors in scrips of such companies may not be prudent. The suspension of trading of scrips may not leave an exit route for existing investors. However, fresh investors are protected from investing in these scrips.

(f) to (i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that suspension is revoked if companies comply with listing requirements.

Statement

Name of Exchange	Names of Companies Suspended by the Exchanges from November 1999 to January 2000	Reasons for Suspension
1	2	3
Ahmedabad	1. Ankush Finstock Ltd. 2. Arrow Securities Ltd. 3. Dhruva Makkhan India Ltd. 4. Nalsargik Agritech Ltd. 5. Shree Surgovind Tradelink Ltd. 6. Shreeji Dye Chem Ltd. 7. Growth Agro Ind. Ltd.	All these companies have been identified as vanishing companies

1	2	3
	8. Spil France Ltd.	
	9. Girish Hotels & Resorts & Health Farm Ltd.	
	10. Hitech Winding Systems Ltd.	
	11. Kesar Green Field International Ltd.	
	12. Kome On Communication Ltd.	
	13. Shivam Apparels Ltd.	
	14. Shree Mahalaxmi Agri. Dev. Ltd.	
	15. Amiganga Infrastructure Ltd.	
	16. Mobile Telecommunications Ltd.	
	17. Integrated Amusement Ltd.	
	18. Interactive Financial Services	
	19. Frontline Financial Ser. Ltd.	
Calcutta	1. Tulsipur Sagar Co. Ltd.	1. Amalgamation
	2. berger Paints-NCD	2. Final Redemption
	3. Motorola (India) Ltd.	3. Liquidation
	4. Coverly Software Engineering	4. Suspended by BSE
	5. Medio Video	-do-
	6. Trillanium Technology	-do-
Delhi	1. Asian Consolidated Ind. Ltd.	1. Non-Redressal of investors grievances
	2. Padmini Polymers	-do-
	3. Cauvery Software	3. Suspended by BSE
	4. Usha India	4. Non-compliance with Listing Agreement
	5. Media Video	5. Indefinite Suspension by BSE
Ludhiana	1. Punjab Wireless System	1. Non-compliance with Listing Agreement & Non-Redressal of investor grievances.
	2. Arthant Industries Ltd.	-do-
Madras	1. Coffee Lands Ltd.	1. Amalgamation with consolidated Coffee Ltd.
	2. Rajshree Poly	2. Merged with Century Enka Ltd.
	3. Micam Leather Exports Ltd.	3. Official Liquidator appointed.

1	2	3
	4. Amigo Exports Ltd.	4. Debarred from Capital Market Activities
	5. Kuchermala Plantations Ltd.	5. Substantial Acquisition
	6. Besta Vision Ltd.	6. Suspended by BSF
	7. ICNET Ltd.	7. Official Liquidator appointed.
	8. Kaveri Engineering Co. Ltd.	-do-
National Stock Exchange	1. Consortex Karl Doelitzsch (India) Ltd.	1. Non Compliance of Listing agreement.
	2. Motorola (I) Ltd.	-do-
	3. Premier Automobiles Ltd.	-do-
	4. Rajdarshan Industries Ltd.	-do-
	5. Rinki Petrochemicals & Industries Limited	-do-
	6. SRG Infotech (India) Ltd.	-do-
	7. Vatsa Corporations Ltd.	-do-
	8. Xedd Telecom Limited	-do-
	9. Escorts Ltd.	9. Part Redemption.
	10. Nicholas Piramal India Ltd.	10. Exercise of option to convert into equity shares.
	11. Alpha Drug (I) Ltd.	11. Withdrawal of dealings.
	12. Amtrex Hitachi Appliances Ltd.	-do-
	13. Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd.	-do-
	14. Ashok Organic Industries Ltd.	-do-
	15. Aurangabad Paper Mills Limited	-do-
	16. Dunlop (I) Ltd.	-do-
	17. Empee Sugars and Chemicals Ltd.	-do-
	18. Ferro Alloys Corporation Ltd.	-do-
	19. Indo Zinc Ltd.	-do-
	20. JK Dairy And Foods Ltd.	-do-
	21. Kirlskar Investments & Finance Ltd.	-do-
	22. Madhusudan Industries Ltd.	-do-
	23. Narmada Chematur Petrochem Ltd.	-do-
	24. PSM Spinning Mills Ltd.	-do-

1	2	3
25. Pal Credit & Capital Ltd.		25. Withdrawal of dealings.
26. Parasrampuriah Synthetics Ltd.		-do-
27. Pennar Patterson Securities Ltd.		-do-
28. Premier Vinyl Flooring Ltd.		-do-
29. Raasi Cement Ltd.		29. Amalgamation with India Cements Limited
30. Sayaji Hotels Ltd.		30. Withdrawal of dealings
31. Shaw Wallace & Co. Ltd.		-do-
32. Sriman Organic Chemical Industries Ltd.		-do-
33. TTK Prestige Ltd.		-do-
34. Thapar Ispat Ltd.		-do-
35. Cauvery Software Engineering Systems Ltd.		35. Pending investigation for suspected price manipulation on BSE (As per SEBI directive)
36. Rama Petrochemicals Ltd.		36. Withdrawal of dealings.
37. Punjab Wireless Systems Ltd.		-do-
38. Man Industries (India) Ltd.		-do-
39. Eastern Mining & Allied Ltd.		-do-
40. Netvista Information Technology Ltd.		40. Non compliance with provisions of listing agreement.
41. BIL Industries Ltd.		-do-
42. Electrex (I) Ltd.		42. Withdrawal of dealings.
43. Rank Industries Ltd.		-do-
44. DSJ Communications Ltd.		44. Non compliance with provisions of listing agreement.
45. Indo Asahi Glass Co. Ltd.		45. Withdrawal of dealings.
46. Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.		46. Redemption.
47. Reliance Petroleum Ltd.		47. Early Redemption.
48. Reliance Industries Ltd.		48. Redemption
49. Flex Engineering Ltd.		49. Conversion into equity shares.
50. Reliance Industries Ltd.		-do-
51. PNB Mutual Fund Premium Plus 91		51. Redemption.

1	2	3
The Stock Exchange, Mumbai	1. Jay Tuhshin Ltd. 2. Kedia Chemical Industries Ltd. 3. Konar Organics Ltd. 4. Malanpur Leathers Ltd. 5. Mansukh Industries Ltd. 6. Medi-Caps Ltd. 7. Oregon Commercials Ltd. 8. Panchwati Holiday Resorts Ltd. 9. Pasupati Technofab Ltd. 10. Praman Capital Market Services Ltd. 11. Precious Trading & Invt. Ltd. 12. Raghuvir Synthetics Ltd. 13. Sand Plast (India) Ltd. 14. Skyline Leather Industries Ltd. 15. Sri Chakra Cements Ltd. 16. Vedvyas Cement Ltd. 17. Vidhi Industries Ltd. 18. Asiacorp Securities Ltd. 19. Asian Vegpro Industries Ltd. 20. Asiatic Infrastructure & Shelters Ltd. 21. Auto Pins (India) Ltd. 22. Avikem Resins Limited 23. BMB Music & Magnetism Ltd. 24. Bafna Spinning Mills & Exports Ltd. 25. Bagwe Udyog Ltd. 26. Banas Finance Limited. 27. Baroda Polypast Ltd. 28. Basil Chemicals & Additives Ltd. 29. Belenje Investments & Trading Co. Ltd. 30. Best Board Ltd. 31. Beta Corporation Ltd.	These companies have been suspended due to non-compliance of listing agreement.

1	2	3
	32. Beta Napthol Limited	
	33. Bhakra Industries Ltd.	
	34. Blossom Industries Ltd.	
	35. Blue Chip Leasing & Finance Ltd.	
	36. Bombay Silk Mills Ltd.	
	37. Brassco Extrusions Ltd.	
	38. Brindavan Gardens Ltd.	
	39. Ideal Hotels & Industries Ltd.	
	40. Ideal Optics Ltd.	
	41. Malabar Trading Company Ltd.	
	42. Frontier Information Technologies Ltd.	
	43. Rishabh Agro Industries Ltd.	
	44. Shree Neelachal Laboratories Ltd.	
	45. Shree Synthetics Ltd.	
	46. Siddhartha Tubes Limited	
	47. Som Phytopharma (I) Ltd.	
	48. Ucal Power Systems Ltd.	
	49. Uma Fabrics Ltd.	
	50. Unity Agrotech Industries Ltd.	
	51. Universal Credit & Securities Ltd.	
	52. VGR Construction Ltd.	
	53. Vibrant Investment & Properties Ltd.	
	54. Vipul Dye-Chem Ltd.	
	55. Viral Filaments Ltd.	
	56. Viral Syntex Ltd.	
	57. Visakha Aqua Farms Ltd.	
	58. Vishal Agri-tech Ltd.	
	59. Wires & Fabriks (SA) Ltd.	
	60. Ami Computers (I) Ltd.	
	61. Bestavision Electronics Ltd.	
	62. Bubna Major Biotech Ltd.	
	63. Caldyn Aircon Ltd.	

1	2	3
	64. Canopy Securities & Finance Ltd.	
	65. Ceeta Industries Ltd.	
	66. Coastal Trawlers Ltd.	
	67. GSL Securities Ltd.	
	68. Mardia Extrusions Ltd.	
	69. Monotonu Securities Limited	
	70. Pearl Organics Ltd.	
	71. Anjani Portland Cement Ltd.	
	72. SGN Cable Industries Ltd.	
	73. SKS Ltd., (formerly Shri Kris. Str.)	
	74. Saha Koil Ltd.	
	75. Sakura Seimitsu India Ltd.	
	76. Samarth International Finlease Ltd.	
	77. Sampada Chemicals. Ltd.	
	78. Sanmac Motor Finance Ltd.	
	79. Sarang Chemicals Ltd.	
	80. Sarthak Securities Ltd.	
	81. Sarvatra Builders Limited	
	82. Searsole Chemicals Ltd.	
	83. Seax Leather Exports Ltd.	
	84. Shatex Industries Ltd.	
	85. Sheth Plastomers Ltd.	
	86. Shiva Sutex Ltd.	
	87. T.C.M. Limited	
	88. Talavadi Rock & Mineral Products Ltd.	
	89. Tariff Cine & Finance Ltd.	
	90. Tarunkumar Trade and Export Ltd.	
	91. Teem Laboratories Ltd.	
	92. Thapar Oils & Fats Ltd.	
	93. Tina Electronics Ltd.	
	94. Toheal Pharmachem Ltd.	
	95. Trans Financial Resources Ltd.	

1	2	3
	96. Trywell International Limited	
	97. Aakruti Holdings Ltd.	
	98. Anil Glass Industries Ltd.	
	99. BSI Ltd.	
	100. Citric India Ltd.	
	101. Dunlop India Ltd.	
	102. Dynavox Industries Ltd.	
	103. Enrich Industries Ltd.	
	104. Gujarat Fun'N Water Part Ltd.	
	105. Khaitan Overseas & Finance Ltd.	
	106. Madan Financial Services Ltd.	
	107. Moongipa Capital Finance Ltd.	
	108. Pharmaceuticals Products of India Ltd.	
	• 109. Shakti Pumps (India) Ltd.	
	110. Sunstar Softwar Systems Ltd.	
	111. Transoceanic Properties Ltd.	
	112. Vishal Chairs Ltd.	
	113. Vital Foods Ltd.	
	114. Vizar Agrochemicals Ltd.	
	115. Vybra Automat Ltd.	
	116. Wall Street Construction Ltd.	
	117. Welterman International Ltd.	
	118. Western Fruits & Vegetables Ltd.	
	119. Western India Industries Ltd.	
	120. Wildon India Ltd.	
	121. Windsor Capital Market Ltd.	
	122. Y.S. Porcelain Tubes Ind. Limited	
	123. Zillion Medicare (Exports) Ltd.	
	124. Zillion Pharmachem Ltd.	
	125. A.P.R. Ltd.	
	126. A.P.T. Yarns Ltd.	

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127. ALP Exports Ltd.
 128. Aachal Alloys Ltd.
 129. Abhishek Cements Ltd.
 130. Aditya Leasing Ltd.
 131. Aesculapius Remedies Ltd.
 132. Aesculapius Remedies Ltd.
 133. Agri Marine Exports Ltd.
 134. Agritech Hatcheries & Foods Ltd.
 135. Akhileshwar Texports Ltd.
 136. Alang Industrial Gases Ltd.
 137. Alliance Capital & Financial Services Ltd.
 138. Amex Carbonates & Chemicals Ltd.
 139. Mihijam Vanaspati Ltd.
 140. Rock Land Leasing Ltd.
 141. Rockland Thermionics Ltd.
 142. Rossel Finance Ltd.
 143. Rotoflex Industries Ltd.
 144. Rubra Medicaments Ltd.
 145. Rutron International Ltd.
 146. Amrit Cellulose Ltd.
 147. Anasuya Spinners Ltd.
 148. Andhra Cement Ltd.
 149. Ankit Yarns Limited
 150. Arhant Suedes Ltd.
 151. Armaan Electric Ltd.
 152. Arochem Silvassa Ltd.
 153. Arpan Leasing Limited
 154. Arrow Coated Products Ltd.
 155. Atash Industries Ltd.
 156. Manoj Surgical Industries Ltd.
-

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	1. Asia Refinery Ltd.	These companies have been suspended due to non-compliance of listing agreement and non-redressal of investor grievances
	2. Ambe Hotels & Resorts Ltd	
	3. Cans India Ltd.	
	4. Hazi Manzoor Alam Ltd.	
	5. Lunar Diamonds Ltd.	
	6. Mesco Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	
	7. Rich Capital & Finance Services Ltd.	
	8. Solarson Industries Ltd.	
	9. Trimurti Fertilisers Limited	
	10. Vidiani Agrotech Industries Ltd.	
	11. Vidiani Engineers Limited	
	12. Vinoyoga Clothex Ltd.	
Bangalore	Nil	
Bhubaneshwar	Nil	
Cochin	Nil	
Coimbatore	Nil	
Hyderabad	Nil	
Inter Connected	Nil	
Jaipur	Nil	
Madhya Pradesh	Nil	
Magadh	Nil	
Mangalore	Nil	
OTCEI	Nil	
Pune	Nil	
Saurashtra Kutch	Nil	
Gauhati	Nil	
Vadodara	Nil	

Encouragement to Spinning Mills

5265. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to encourage small spinning units in the country, particularly of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) Union Government acts as facilitator for development of Textile industry, including spinning units, in the country, including Uttar Pradesh. However, the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for Textile and Jute Industries which is in operation since 01.04.1999 for a period of 5 years, i.e., upto 31.03.2004. Any eligible textile/jute unit can avail of funds within the framework of the aforesaid scheme and normal financial norms of the concerned financial institution/bank. It is an open-ended scheme depending on the capacity of the industry to absorb funds in bankable and techno-economically feasible proposals. Government funding is limited to reimbursement of interest at 5% point on the interest charged by the lending agency on a project of technology upgradation in conformity with the scheme.

MoU for Metallurgical Sector with China

5266.SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether after signing a pact on W.T.O. India and China also signed a MoU for setting up of a Joint Working Group (J.W.G.) to increase cooperation in metallurgical sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) During the visit of the Commerce and Industry Minister to China in February, 2000, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed to further increase cooperation in the Metallurgy sector. The MoU *inter alia* provides for setting up a Working Group on Ferrous Metallurgy to be co-chaired at Vice-Minister level, supporting and encouraging steel companies in mutual trade and cooperation, promoting increase in export of iron ore and Manganese Ore to China, promoting increase in the export of Coking Coal and Metallurgical Coke from China to India, promoting exchange and transfer of improved iron and steel making technologies, considering the possibility of Chinese participation in modernisation of Indian iron and steel company, exchange of information, etc.

LIC Branch Office In Quilon

5267.SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up a LIC Branch Office at Kadakkal in Quilon district of Kerala,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) LIC have reported that they have received a proposal to set up a Branch Office at Kadakkal in Quilon district of Kerala. Proposal is being examined by them and decision will be taken keeping in view the viability of proposal in the light of business potential of the area, insurance coverage and availability of relevant resources.

Committee for Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring

5268.SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the Committee on Industrial Sickness and Corporate Restructuring;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations accepted by the Government; and

(c) the details of recommendations not accepted and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) In April, 1993 a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Omkar Goswami was constituted to review and examine the various aspects of industrial sickness and corporate restructuring. The Committee submitted its report in July 1993 wherein it made wide range of recommendations starting from a change in definition of sickness to converting the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) into a fast track facilitator. The recommendations of Goswami Committee were taken into consideration while drafting a comprehensive new Legislation to deal with sick industrial companies. Consequently, Government introduced a new Bill namely the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Bill, 1997 in the Parliament on 16th May, 1997. However, the Bill lapsed due to dissolution of the 11th Lok Sabha in December, 1997. Government is presently evaluating functioning of BIFR and operation of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) with a view to find out ways to tackle the problem of industrial sickness in a more effective manner.

Sub-Centre of AIR in Assam

5269.SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there was a proposal to set up a sub-centre of the All India Radio at Tezpur in Assam;
- (b) if so, the steps taken and the installations made so far;
- (c) the expenditure incurred thereon;
- (d) whether these equipments and installations are lying unused;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the steps being taken to complete the project; and
- (g) the time by which this project is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) A Radio Station at an expenditure of Rs. 3.67 crores, with 20 KW MW Tr., Multi Purpose Studio & staff quarters has been set up at Tezpur in Assam.

(d) to (g) The project at AIR Tezpur is technically ready since February. 2000. The project will be commissioned by Prasara Bharati shortly by redeployment of staff, action for which has already been initiated.

Cut In Strength of Government Employees

5270.SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:
SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have every now and then been harping on reducing the Government expenditure and have issued a number of circulars in this regard including cut in the strength of the Government employees at all levels;
- (b) whether instead of bringing down the size of strength of employees, including those of Joint Secretaries, the strength has been adding by no less than 81,000 more to its rolls during this fiscal year; and

(c) the reasons for increase in the strength of Government employees than bringing them down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) As part of the austerity measures undertaken by the Government, an exercise to reduce posts by 10% was initiated in 1992 in pursuance of an announcement made by the then Prime Minister in the NDC. According to the information available in this Ministry, so far around 1.60 lakh posts have been abolished in various Ministries/ Departments, including 130 posts at the level of JS. The estimated increase of 81,000 in the staff strength in the Central Govt. pertains to the year 1999-2000. During this fiscal year (2000-2001), the estimated increase is 28,883 and not 81,000. This is only indicative and not actual increase. The actual strength as on 1.3.98 was 37,86,865, whereas the same as on 1.3.99 was 37,45,664, showing a net reduction of 41,201 and not increase in the strength.

ADB Report on Disinvestment

5271.SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "China-India should liberalize cautiously" appearing in The Hindustan Times dated March 18, 2000;

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

(c) the other precautions suggested by Asian Development Bank in its report in regard to disinvestment by India; and

(d) the Government's stand in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Appropriate decision will be taken on receipt of the Report.

Foreign Consultancy Firms

5272. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of foreign consultancy firms operating in India with their names and their country origin;

(b) the amount of earning exported out of India by these companies;

(c) whether the operation of these companies has adversely affected Indian Consultancy firms; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Tobacco Board

5273. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tobacco Board has decided to impose a crop holiday for the 2000-2001 season in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) Tobacco Board has decided not to undertake any fresh registration of tobacco growers in Andhra Pradesh for the time being in the current year. This has been done with a view to help the tobacco growers in distress as a result of excess crop production in the recent past. Government has decided to induct State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) to enter the market to instil a competition in the marketing operation of FCV tobacco.

Coverage by DD Channel

5274. SHRI RASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "DD gets licked again" appearing in The Pioneer dated March 26, 2000;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected from Prasar Bharati and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production of CCI

5275. SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:
DR. MANDA JAGANNATH:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of cement in the units of Cement Corporation of India have crashed in the current year as compared to the last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government in regard to the payment of salaries to the employees of CCI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) The total physical production of cement in various units of CCI during the year 1999-2000 was around 6.55 lakh MT (prov.) as compared to the production of 9.47 lakh MT during the previous year, 1998-99.

(b) The decline in production was mainly due to liquidity crunch and other related factors.

(c) The Government has been providing non-plan support to the Company for meeting part of its cash losses including on account of the salary and wages of employees.

Pending Mega Projects

5276. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mega Projects costing more than Rs. 100 crore with PSUs and Research Institutions namely NALCO, BALCO, HZL, HCL, MECL, BGML, Sikkim Mining Corporation, Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre, Nagpur, National Institute of Rock Mechanics, Kolar and National Institute of Miners' Health, Kolar;

(b) the number of projects out of these have not yet been started, completed upto 33% in physical and financial dimensions and completed upto 67% in physical and financial dimensions, separately; and

(c) the programme of the Government to complete these Mega Projects in reasonable time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) There are three mega projects costing more than Rs. 100 crores presently under implementation. National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) is implementing two mega projects, namely, expansion of Bauxite Mines & Aluminium Refinery (M & R) at Damanjodi, Orissa and expansion of Aluminium Smelter and Captive Power Plant (S & CPP) at Angul, Orissa. Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) is implementing one mega project, namely, New Cold Rolling Mill (NCRM) at Korba, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) All the three above named mega projects have been started. (i) M & R project of NALCO at Damanjodi, Orissa: Physical progress-81.40%; Financial progress-47.40%, (ii) S & CPP project of NALCO at Angul, Orissa: Physical progress-11.20%; Financial progress-5.50% and (iii) NCRM project of BALCO at Korba, Madhya Pradesh: Physical progress-44.00%; Financial progress-80.00%.

(c) M & R and S & CPP projects of NALCO are likely to be completed by March 2001 and May 2002 respectively. NCRM project of BALCO is likely to be completed by November 2000.

Expansion on HNL, Velloor

5277. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the expansion of Hindustan Newsprint Limited, Velloor, Kottayam, Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present for expansion of Hindustan Newsprint Limited (subsidiary of Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.). However, Hindustan Newsprint Limited has submitted a proposal to set up a 100 Tonnes Per Day (TPD) Deinking Plant at their existing mill at Newsprint Nagar, Kottayam District, Kerala at an estimated cost of Rs. 52.20 crore.

Disinvestment Target

5278. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disinvestment of 51% shares in the Indian Airlines and 74% in the Modern Food Industries will enable the Government to meet the disinvestment target of Rs. 10,000 crores proposed in this year's budget; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) Disinvestment in Modern Foods Industries was completed in the Financial year 1999-2000. The disinvestment in Indian Airlines will help in partially achieving the target of Rs. 10,000 crores during the year 2000-2001.

Decline in Trade

5279. SHRI RAJESH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether trade in the developing countries including India has declined from 30 to 20%; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASUJ MARAN) : (a) No, Sir. However, most developing economies have shown negative export growth rate during 1998-99.

(b) Export Promotion Measures are continuously being taken by the Government to increase the exports. These measures include, multilateral and bilateral initiatives and identification of thrust sectors and focus regions to bridge the gap in trade balance as well as simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in Exim Policy. The amendments to the Exim Policy for the current year focus on improvement of export competitiveness and minimising the transaction costs and delays.

Liberalisation Policy

5280. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ongoing liberalisation policy of the Union Government have got our country's economy upto the expectations of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The on-going liberalisation policies initiated in the last few years have had a favourable impact in terms of

acceleration in overall growth of the economy, build up of a comfortable foreign exchange reserve position, lower rate of inflation and substantial flow of foreign capital.

Foreign Exchange Earned from Films

5281.SHRI P. MOHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the incoming outgoing foreign exchange on account of Indian films shown in abroad and foreign films shown in India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : Cinema in India is in the private sector and as such statistical information regarding its earnings is not maintained by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. However, the amount of foreign exchange earned from export of Indian films abroad for the last three years as ascertained from the Film Federation of India is as follows :-

Year	Foreign Exchange Earnings (in Rs. crores)
1997	250
1998	300
1999	400

According to information received from the Motion Picture Association of America, who are the major importers of foreign films into India, the aggregate remittances in US\$ made by all MPA Member Companies is as follows:

Year	Aggregate Remittances (US\$)
1997	2136797.45
1998	2520808.77
1999	1986155.26

LPT Ballapal

5282.SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the LPT at Baliapal, Orissa is lying redundant after inauguration of the HPT at Balasore in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to transmit DD2 from Baliapal LPT; and

(c) if so, the time by which the DD2 proposed to be telecast from Baliapal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Telecast of DD-2 service from LPT, Baliapal is expected to commence by the middle of the current year.

Fraudulent Claims of Export Incentives

5283.SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C.B.I. has unearthed an alleged multicore racket in fraudulent claims of export incentives in Mumbai in the month of March, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of the firms alongwith the money involved in the fraud; and

(c) the modus-operandi of the fraud with the further action likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The C.B.I. has registered a case in this regard wherein the firm involved has over invoiced exports with dishonest intention to avail undue export incentives.

(b) The name of the firm involved is M/s Krishna Filaments Ltd. The total amount of money involved has not been quantified so far as the investigation is in progress.

(c) The firm was indulging in large scale over invoicing of their exports to obtain unduly high customs related benefits, to obtain export credit at concessional rate from banks and to show higher profit for inducing the public financial institutions/banks to sanction credit facilities to the company and to invest in their public issue of Optionally Fully Convertible Discounted Debentures. It also appears that the firm made false purchases of machinery to avoid Income Tax and to siphon off funds sanctioned by public financial institutions/banks.

The case is in a preliminary stage of investigation. Action will be taken by the Government on completion of investigation as per law.

Import of Coal

5284.SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the coal imported by various sectors during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the imported quality of coal was not available in indigenous mines;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government have allowed relaxation in import duty and railway transportation charges for the imports, contrary to the increase in railway transportation charges of indigenous coal; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) In the year 1998-99, 15.64 million tonnes of coal were imported into the country out of which 9.64 million tonnes were coking coal and 6.00 million tonnes were non-coking coal. Similarly, in 1999-2000, 8.65 million tonnes (provisional) of coking coal and 6.50 million tonnes (provisional) of non-coking coal were imported.

(b) and (c) Coking coal of the required quality is not adequately available in the country, while there is sufficient reserve of non-coking coal. Coal is, therefore, imported primarily to bridge the gap between Indigenous availability and the required quality. Some import of non-coking coal is also made as the present level of customs duty and railway freight make such imports cost competitive per unit of calorific value on certain locations.

(d) and (e) The basic import duty for coal has been brought down from the level of 85% in 1993-94 to 10% in 1997-98 and it remained there till 1998-99. It was again revised to 15% in 1999-2000. It comes to 21.16%, after addition of surcharge and special additional duty.

The Ministry of Railways had earlier allowed 10% rebate on movement of imported coal from ports to upcountry destinations. However, they have withdrawn this concessional freight with effect from 1.4.2000.

Royalty on Coal

5285.SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 856 on December 3, 1999 and state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to revise the royalty rate of coal during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c)

On account of the challenge from the imported coal and the critical financial position of the State Electricity Boards, power corporations and steel industry and cement sector, it has been decided to continue with the existing royalty rates on coal so as to keep the domestic coal competitively priced. The coal companies receive only about 40-45% of the landed price of coal on an average. The larger proportion of this price is on account of cost of railway freight and the various levies such as royalty, excise duty, cess and sales tax. As a consequence, Indian coal is getting priced out in several locations and consequently there is a sharp increase in the import of coal. The State Electricity Boards and the State Government Power Companies/Corporations are also struggling hard to make both ends meet. The steel industry is yet to get out of the depression. Any increase in royalty on coal at this stage may well deepen the crisis for the power sector, steel sector and the domestic coal sector. Therefore, a decision has been taken not to enhance the existing royalty rates on coal at this stage.

[Translation]

Millennium Talks Under WTO

5286.SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is participating in the Millennium talks under the World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to present its case before the World Trade Organisation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) India had participated in the Third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO), sometimes also referred to as the 'Millennium talks', held at Seattle during 30th November-3rd December 1999. The Conference ended inconclusively without any Ministerial Declaration.

(c) Government have throughout been proactively projecting India's own priorities before the World Trade Organisation (WTO). India has, inter alia, alongwith 11 other like minded group of countries, highlighted the urgent need to address the implementation issues under the following three broad categories: (i) the existing imbalances and asymmetries in the existing WTO, agreements as have been experienced since the coming into existence of WTO; (ii) lack of sincere implementation of the existing WTO Agreements in their proper spirit by the developed

countries; and (iii) the need for effective operationalisation of the Special and Differential Treatment provisions for developing countries in the WTO Agreements by making them contractual binding obligations. India is specifically opposing the inclusion of any non-trade related issues like linkage of trade with core labour standards in the agenda of the WTO.

India is also projecting its interests and concerns in the mandated negotiations under the Agreement on Agriculture and the General Agreement in Trade in Services, which have commenced on 1.1.2000 and also in the mandated reviews of the various WTO agreements such as those relating to Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), Dispute Settlement Understanding, Trade Related Investment Measures (TRIMs), Subsidies and Countervailing Duties, Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures (SPS) etc.

[English]

Technical Development Fund Scheme

5287. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be please to state :

(a) whether the Union Govt. have provided funds under the Technical Development Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the names of the States, particularly Madhya Pradesh which have been given financial assistance together with the amount given during last three years under the above scheme;

(c) whether the Union Government have been supervising the projects being covered under this Technical Development Fund Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) In order to promote technological upgradation and modernisation of industry. Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been operating Technical Development Fund Scheme (TDF) since 1976. The TDF has a loan component of US \$ 100 million sanctioned by World Bank.

(b) Under this scheme, no approval have been granted during the last three years.

(c) and (d) For the scheme, central monitoring agency is Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI). IDBI monitors the project and centralises all documentation to lodge claims through Ministry of Finance to the World Bank for reimbursement.

[English]

Guidelines for Contract Employees in PSUs

5288. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued/formulated guidelines regarding regularisation of services of contract employees in various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs);

(b) if so, the complete details of these guidelines;

(c) whether the Government are aware that in some PSUs the services of technical and non-technical contract employees are terminated after serving for more than 3 to 5 years; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/contemplating to take by the Government to ensure that contract employees are absorbed in the PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (d) Regularisation of services of contract employees in various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) is governed by the provisions of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.

The Act does not provide for absorption of contract labour on regular basis. However, in the light of the judgement of the Supreme Court of India in the case pertaining to Air India Statutory Corporations and others versus United Labour Unions and others, establishments engaging contract labour are under statutory obligation to absorb them on regular basis wherever the 'appropriate Government' have prohibited employment of contract labour in any job, work or process in that establishment. The criteria adopted for absorption of such contract labour on regular basis as per the judgement will be the duration of work, number of employees working on the job etc. In case of retrenchment due to excess staff, the principle of 'last come', 'first go' will be applied. The Ministry of Labour has issued directives to the enforcement agencies to strictly implement the judgement.

[Translation]

Consolidated Fund of India

5289. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount from the Consolidated Fund of India has been released for the development programmes of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details of amount released during the last three years year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Central

Assistance for development plans of the States is released by Finance Ministry as per allocation made by the Planning Commission under the States' Annual Plans.

(b) Central Assistance released to Government of Bihar during the last three years is as follows:-

				(Rs. in crores)
Sl.No.	Items	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	Normal Central Assistance including additional Central assistance	835.78	1384.66	1489.45
2.	Central Assistance for Basic Minimum Services and Slum Development Scheme	382.25	407.57	445.72
3.	Central Loan Assistance for AIBP	14.04	47.83	144.04
4.	Additional Central Assistance for EAPs	132.26	112.78	130.41
5.	Special Central Assistance under Border Area Development	—	—	7.00
Total		1364.33	1952.84	2216.62

World Bank Assistance to UP

5290.SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has assured recently to extend financial assistance to the projects of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the financial assistance likely to be received by the Uttar Pradesh Government from the World Bank and the projects on which this amount is likely to be spent; and

(c) the terms and conditions on which this financial assistance has been assured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The World Bank Board on 25th April 2000 Approved the following projects to be implemented in UP:-

US \$ (in millions)

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Amount
1	UP Health Systems Development	110
2	UP Fiscal Reform & Public Sector Restructuring	251.3
3	UP Power Sector Restructuring	150
Total		511.3

(c) As per the normal terms and conditions applicable to other loans of the World Bank. Government of India will be the borrower and will on-lend to Government of U.P. under standard Additional Central Assistance terms.

[English]

Production of Cement

5291.SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the production of cement;

(b) the target fixed for cement production during 1999-2000 and the achievements made;

(c) whether the Government proposes to set up some new cement plants in the country during 2000-2001; and

(d) if so, the details of the places selected for setting up of cement plants, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Cement industry is de-licensed and de-controlled. Initiatives taken by Government like increasing investment in infrastructure

sector, promoting housing activities by providing suitable incentives and reduction of interest rate on loans, are aimed at improving performance of economy in general and construction activities in particular. Cement industry has been reacting positively to these initiatives by increasing production to meet the growing needs of the economy.

(b) Against the production target of 94 million tonnes, the cement industry achieved a production of 100.25 million tonnes in 1999-2000.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Andhra Bank

5292.SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to inject fresh capital into Andhra Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of branches of the bank operating in Andhra Pradesh at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b) While there is no proposal for the Government of India to provide any further capital to Andhra Bank, the bank has a proposal to raise Rs. 187.50 crores by way of a public issue of shares.

(c) As reported by the bank, 786 branches of Andhra Bank are functioning in Andhra Pradesh as on 31.3.2000.

Production and Export of Spices

5293.SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:

SHRI GEORGE EDEN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of various spices during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the total export of spices during the above period; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the export of spices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The state-wise production of various spices in India for the years 1996-97 to

1998-99 is given below. The production of spices for the year 1999-2000 is incomplete.

Production in '000 tonnes			
State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Andhra Pradesh	888.56	647.37	746.47
Arunachal Pradesh	27.04	34.68	33.79
Assam	16.80	16.50	16.70
Bihar	89.33	88.79	88.78
Gujarat	137.12	168.58	167.64
Haryana	10.01	8.41	5.91
Himachal Pradesh	0.99	1.04	1.17
Jammu & Kashmir	0.40	2.80	1.00
Karnataka	202.76	169.41	180.74
Kerala	119.71	122.01	131.76
Madhya Pradesh	230.06	269.24	277.47
Maharashtra	144.41	114.69	111.61
Manipur	5.52	5.43	6.27
Meghalaya	53.68	53.46	57.16
Mizoram	28.69	29.08	27.40
Nagaland	11.00	9.40	16.29
Orissa	134.06	215.66	226.81
Punjab	17.10	18.00	18.00
Rajasthan	369.82	435.28	384.85
Sikkim	9.59	8.02	7.00
Tamil Nadu	164.59	187.89	203.73
Tripura	5.55	5.89	6.40
Uttar Pradesh	65.43	57.74	59.74
West Bengal	90.87	98.80	92.33
Pondicherry	0.01	0.01	0.01
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1.29	1.29	1.30
All India	2794.39	2767.47	2870.33

Source: Directorate of Economics & Statistics, New Delhi & State Agricultural Departments.

(b) The total export of spices from India from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 (April-February) is given below:

Year	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. crores)
1996-97	225295.00	1230.72
1997-98	242070.75	1466.82
1998-99*	231389.51	1758.02
1999-2000 (April-February)	178690.00	1623.83

* Provisional.

Source: Spices Board.

(c) Beside the general trade policy reforms, some of the steps taken to enhance exports of spices include rationalisation of cess on export of spices @ 0.5% to make them price competitive in the overseas market, implementation of brand promotion schemes like "Logo Promotion", grant of "Spices House Certificate" as a recognition of processor/exporter of quality products, setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, technology transfer, process upgradation and product development.

[Translation]

Handloom Exhibitions/Fairs

5294. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) The number of handloom Exhibitions/fairs organised under various schemes in the last three years alongwith the details of places where these were organised;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon and whether

any officer was deputed by the Government to certify the expenditure and inspect the exhibition;

(c) if so, whether it was reported by any officer about any exhibition that it was on papers only;

(d) if so, the action taken by the Govt. thereon; and

(e) the action being taken by the Govt. to check such practice of organising Handloom exhibitions/fairs on papers only?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Details of the number of exhibitions/fairs organised by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms during the last three years is given in the attached statement.

(b) Yes, Sir. The inspection of fairs and exhibitions are done by the concerned Director of Handlooms and their authorised agencies in the States and the officials of the concerned Weavers Service Centre (s) from time to time. However, the accounts relating to such exhibitions/fairs are always prepared by the Coordinating Agencies verified by the concerned Director incharge of Handlooms and certified by the concerned Registrar/Chartered Accountants. The expenditure incurred on exhibitions organised by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms is given in the attached statement.

(c) No, Sir. No such report has been received by the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms during the last three years.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of National Handloom Expos/Special Expos organised during 1997-98

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Period	Place	Expenditure incurred by G.O.I
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Special Expo (Silk Fab.)	16.10.97 to 27.10.97	Delhi	Rs. 16,55,724.00
2.	National Handloom Expo	08.11.97 to 30.11.97	Hyderabad	Rs. 34,09,694.00
3.	National Handloom Expo	12.11.97 to 26.11.97	Jammu	Rs. 17,60,000.00
4.	Special Expo (Woollen)	14.11.97 to 30.11.97	Lucknow	Rs. 3,06,865.00
5.	National Handloom Expo	01.12.97 to 25.12.97	Indore	* Rs. 25,33,000.00

1	2	3	4	5
6.	National Handloom Expo	12.12.97 to 27.12.97	Gangtok	Rs. 16,37,958.00
7.	National Handloom Expo	20.12.97 to 09.01.98	Delhi	*Rs. 24,00,000.00
8.	Special Expo	07.01.98 to 22.01.98	Gwalior	Rs. 10,71,804.00
9.	National Handloom Expo	27.01.98 to 19.02.98	Mumbai	Rs. 38,00,000.00
10.	National Handloom Expo	20.02.98 to 08.03.98	Jodhpur	Rs. 13,76,677.00
11.	National Handloom Expo	10.01.98 to 26.01.98	Dimapur	Rs. 16,90,000.00
12.	National Handloom Expo	09.03.98 to 29.03.98	Jorhat	Rs. 13,00,000.00
13.	National Handloom Expo	14.03.98 to 06.04.98	Kanpur	* Rs. 24,66,000.00
14.	National Handloom Expo	31.03.98 to 23.04.98	Patna	Rs. 29,56,638.00

* This is advance payment, the full and final payment yet to be released.

Details of National Handloom Expos/Special Expos were organised during 1998-99

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Period	Place	Expenditure incurred by G.O.I.
1.	Special Expo (Home Furnishing)	20.05.98 to 07.06.98	Bhopal	Rs. 22,59,192.00
2.	Special Expo (Resham India)	16.09.98 to 30.09.98	Calcutta	Rs. 17,02,060.00
3.	National Handloom Expo	21.09.98 to 14.10.98	Ahmedabad	Rs. 33,04,158.00
4.	National Handloom Expo	27.09.98 to 17.10.98	Agra	Rs. 10,45,646.00
5.	Silk Expo (Silk Fab.)	03.10.98 to 14.10.98	Delhi	Rs. 19,23,172.00
6.	National Handloom Expo	19.11.98 to 09.12.98	Vijayawada	Rs. 13,20,311.00
7.	National Handloom Expo	14.11.98 to 06.12.98	Lucknow	* Rs. 23,93,000.00
8.	National Handloom Expo	02.12.98 to 16.12.98	Agartala	* Rs. 10,80,000.00
9.	National Handloom Expo	07.12.98 to 30.12.98	Bhubneshwar	*Rs. 8,06,250.00
10.	Special Expo (Woollen)	16.12.98 to 30.12.98	Chandigarh	Rs. 4,92,924.00
11.	National Handloom Expo	14.12.98 to 05.01.99	Jaipur	* Rs. 15,85,000.00
12.	National Handloom Expo	15.01.99 to 31.01.99	Delhi	Rs. 28,17,807.00
13.	National Handloom Expo	22.01.99 to 14.02.99	Mumbai	Rs. 38,00,000.00
14.	National Handloom Expo	27.02.99 to 21.03.99	Guwahati	Rs. 9,00,000.00
15.	National Handloom Expo	01.03.99 to 15.03.99	Chennai	** Rs. -

* This is advance payment, the full and final payment yet to be released.

** No advance payment was released, full and final payment yet to be released.

*Details of National Handloom Expos/Special Expos
were organised during 1999-2000*

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Period	Place	Expenditure incurred by G.O.I.
1.	Special Expo (Dilli Haat)	10.10.99 to 31.10.99	Delhi	Rs. 15,77,840.00
2.	National Handloom Expo	10.10.99 to 02.11.99	Bhopal	* Rs. 18,50,000.00
3.	Special Expo (Silk Fab.)	23.10.99 to 03.11.99	Delhi	* Rs. 10,00,000.00
4.	Special Expo (IITF)	14.11.99 to 27.11.99	Delhi	Rs. 5,00,000.00
5.	National Handloom Expo	07.12.99 to 09.01.2000	Mumbai	Rs. 38,00,000.00
6.	National Handloom Expo	27.12.99 to 13.01.2000	Jammu	* Rs. 9,00,000.00
7.	National Handloom Expo	11.02.2000 to 05.03.2000	Calcutta	* Rs. 19,00,000.00
8.	National Handloom Expo	23.03.2000 to 16.04.2000	Kanpur	* Rs. 18,00,000.00

* This is advance payment, the full and final payment yet to be released.

Details of District Level Fair/Festivals were organised during 1997-98

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Period	Place	Expenditure incurred by G.O.I.
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
01.	Chenetha Sourabham	29.12.97 to 07.01.98	East Godavari	1,06,564.60
02.	Chenetha Singrulu	02.01.98 to 12.01.98	Guntur	1,63,900.40
03.	Chenetha Vasandham	02.01.98 to 12.01.98	Warangal	1,24,790.20
04.	Chenetha Neerajanam	01.01.98 to 10.01.98	Nalgonda	1,24,627.73
05.	Chenetha Kala Sampada	20.03.98 to 26.03.98	West Godavari	61,208.81
06.	Chenetha Ramya Haram	07.03.98 to 13.03.98	Nellore	70,595.00
07.	Glimpses into APHL	02.01.98 to 12.01.98	Ananthapur	1,06,564.60
08.	Chenetha Singralu	02.04.98 to 14.04.98	Ananthapur	1,83,073.20
09.	Chenetha Utchava	20.03.98 to 27.03.98	Rajahmundry	1,05,750.00
10.	Aptex Textile Mela	30.08.97 to 05.09.97	Vijaywada	* 1,50,000.00
11.	Aptex Textile Mela	10.10.97 to 29.10.97	Kurnool	* 1,50,000.00
12.	Aptex Textile Mela	10.10.97 to 29.10.97	Hyderabad	* 1,50,000.00
13.	Aptex Textile Mela	05.01.98 to 12.01.98	Nellore	* 1,50,000.00
14.	Aptex Textile Mela	29.09.97 to 08.10.97	Visakhapatnam	* 1,50,000.00
ASSAM				
15.	Annual Convention of Drama Conference	22.06.97 to 25.06.97	Dibrugarh	1,99,975.00

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Durgapuja Mela	08.10.97 to 11.10.97	Darrang	2,00,000.00
17.	Netaji Mela	10.01.98 to 16.01.98	Karimganj	2,00,000.00
18.	Sat Bihu Mela	14.01.98 to 20.01.98	Sibsagar	1,99,659.00
19.	Alialigang Missing Festival	08.02.98 to 14.02.98	North Lakhimpur	1,99,982.00
20.	Makhibhar Sabha	27.02.98 to 03.03.98	Nalbari	2,00,000.00
21.	Sri Krishna Dol Jatra	13.03.98 to 16.03.98	Barpeta	2,00,000.00
BIHAR				
22.	World Fam Harihar Kshetra	14.11.97 to 15.12.97	Saran	1,91,000.00
23.	Ramrekha Mela	15.12.97 to 25.12.97	Simdega	1,91,000.00
24.	Hizla Mela	05.02.98 to 15.02.98	Dumka	2,00,000.00
25.	Basant Panchmi Mela	20.01.98 to 15.02.98	Hazaribagh	2,00,000.00
26.	Ramraj Mela	25.02.98 to 05.03.98	Bokaro	2,00,000.00
27.	Kamdera Mela	10.03.98 to 20.03.98	Gumla	2,00,000.00
DELHI				
28.	Srikrishna Janmastmi Fair	22.08.97 to 31.08.97	Nangloi	1,96,725.00
GUJARAT				
29.	Janmastmi Fair	22.08.97 to 27.08.97	Rajkot	1,97,579.00
30.	Tarnetar	05.09.97 to 08.09.97	Surendranagar	1,99,265.00
31.	Navratri	02.10.97 to 10.10.97	Banaskantha	1,90,219.00
32.	Shahalam Urse Fair	24.10.97 to 28.10.97	Ahmedabad	2,00,000.00
33.	Gadadhar Fair	11.11.97 to 16.11.97	Sabarkantha	1,99,863.00
34.	Mahashivratri	21.02.98 to 25.02.98	Junagadh	1,88,733.00
HARYANA				
35.	Navratra Mela (Mata Mansa)	02.10.97 to 10.10.97	Panchkula	21,298.00
36.	Kopal Mochan Mela	12.11.97 to 14.11.97	Yamunanagar	9,435.00
37.	Geeta Jayanti Mahotsav	01.12.97 to 10.12.97	Kurukshetra	7,530.00
JAMMU & KASHMIR				
38.	Amar Nath Yatra	15.07.97 to 20.08.97	Pahalgam	4,00,000.00
39.	Diwali Festival	20.10.97 to 27.10.97	Jammu	2,00,000.00
40.	Hemis Gumpa Mela	14.07.97 to 17.07.97	Leh	2,00,000.00
41.	Id-I-Milad-UI-Nabi	16.07.97 to 22.07.97	Hazratbal	2,00,000.00

1	2	3	4	5
42.	Urs Sheikh Noor-Udin Sahib	27.10.97 to 31.10.97	Shrine	2,00,000.00
43.	Id-UI-Fiter	February, 98	Srinagar	* 1,50,000.00
44.	Nouror Fair	19.03.98 to 23.03.98	Srinagar	* 1,50,000.00
45.	Budh Amar Nath	16.08.97 to 21.08.97	Mandi	* 1,50,000.00
46.	Maha Navmi	08.10.97 to 12.10.97	Katra	* 1,50,000.00
47.	Navratra Festival	27.03.98 to 04.04.98	Katra	* 1,50,000.00
48.	Mahashivratri Parva	22.02.98 to 27.02.98	Akhnoor	* 1,50,000.00
49.	Mahashivratri Jathra Festival	22.02.98 to 28.02.98	Dharmasthala	1,48,824.00
50.	Amreshwara Jathra	12.03.98 to 17.03.98	Lingasugur	1,95,905.00
51.	Lord Narsimha Festival	31.03.98 to 08.04.98	Melkote	1,59,230.00
MADHYA PRADESH				
52.	Jagar Utsav	01.02.98 to 11.02.98	Raipur	2,00,000.00
53.	Guru Nanak Jayanti	14.11.97 to 05.12.97	Jabalpur	2,00,000.00
54.	Mahashivratri Mela	25.12.97 to 05.01.98	Bhopal	2,00,000.00
55.	Malwa Utsav	06.02.98 to 15.02.98	Indore	2,00,000.00
56.	Gwalior Mela	01.03.98 to 10.03.98	Gwalior	2,00,000.00
57.	Navratri Mela	03.10.97 to 13.10.97	Jagdulpur	1,94,051.00
58.	Kataighat Mela	14.11.97 to 20.11.97	Katni	1,04,142.00
59.	Malhar Mela	20.02.98 to 21.03.98	Bilaspur	* 1,50,000.00
60.	Barman Mela	14.01.98 to 30.01.98	Narshingpur	* 1,50,000.00
61.	Pachmadhi Mela	14.01.98 to 14.03.98	Hoshangabad	* 1,50,000.00
62.	Kalika Mata Mela	Dec., 97-Jan., 98	Ratlam	* 1,50,000.00
63.	Advasi Mela	04.02.98 to 10.02.98	Ratanpur	* 1,50,000.00
MANIPUR				
64.	Ningol Chakkouba	23.10.97 to 01.11.97	Thoubal	1,75,208.00
65.	Kali Pujah Jiribam-Sub-Division	05.11.97 to 11.11.97	Jiribam	1,81,343.00
66.	Christmas (X-Mas)	18.12.97 to 24.12.97	Senapati	1,80,392.00
67.	Luingaini (Naga Festival)	09.02.98 to 15.02.98	Ukhrul	1,59,295.00
NAGALAND				
68.	Ahuna (Sema Tribe)	14.11.97 to 24.11.97	Akuluto Town	2,00,000.00
69.	Aga-Ngai (Zeliang Tribe)	09.12.97 to 19.12.97	Peren	2,00,000.00

1	2	3	4	5
70.	Turhuncye (Chakhensang)	10.12.97 to 20.12.97	Pfutsaro	2,00,000.00
71.	Mimkut (Kuki)	17.01.98 to 27.01.98	Medziphema	2,00,000.00
72.	Sekrenyi (Angami)	23.02.98 to 28.02.98	Kohima	2,00,000.00
RAJASTHAN				
73.	Craft Ind, 97	19.10.97 to 28.10.97	Jaipur	2,00,000.00
74.	Uttaranchal Hastshilp Mela	25.12.97 to 04.01.98	Sriganganagar	1,77,771.00
75.	Udyog Vyaper & Khadi Mela	22.02.98 to 28.02.98	Udaipur	1,81,505.00
76.	Udyog Hastshilp Mela	02.01.98 to 11.01.98	Jodhpur	2,00,000.00
77.	Hadoti Udyog Mela	04.03.98 to 10.03.98	Kota	2,00,000.00
78.	Mewar Udyog Utsav, 97	22.12.97 to 31.12.97	Chittorgarh	2,00,000.00
79.	Udyog Hastshilp Utsav, 97	17.12.97 to 21.12.97	Bhilwara	1,78,744.00
TRIPURA				
80.	Saradiya Bastra Mela	29.09.97 to 06.10.97	Agartala	1,98,434.00
UTTAR PRADESH				
81.	Nauchandi Mela	08.05.97 to 16.05.97	Meerut	1,95,009.00
82.	Devi Patan Mela	03.10.97 to 12.09.97	Tulsipurghonda	1,91,080.00
83.	Sawan Jhula Mela	08.08.97 to 17.08.97	Ayodhya	1,90,645.00
84.	Govind Sahab Mela	05.12.97 to 14.12.97	Ambedkarnagar	1,78,470.00
85.	Autumn Festival	05.10.97 to 12.10.97	Nainital	1,87,529.00
86.	Sri Krishna Janmastmi	05.09.97 to 15.09.97	Mathura	1,91,948.00
87.	Dauji Mela	09.09.97 to 18.09.97	Hathras	1,92,728.00
88.	Numaish Mela	10.03.98 to 17.03.98	Hardoi	* 1,50,000.00
89.	Holi Mela	10.03.98 to 17.03.98	Buland Sahar	* 1,50,000.00
WEST BENGAL				
90.	Tant Bastra Pradarshni	21.09.97 to 27.09.97	Midnapur	—
91.	Sharadiya Bastra Mela	20.09.97 to 02.10.97	Hooghly	2,00,000.00
92.	Bishnupur Mela	23.12.97 to 27.12.97	Bankura	—

* This is advance payment, balance yet to be released.

— No advance was released, actual amount will be released.

Details of District Level Fair/Festivals were organised during the year 1998/99.

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Period	Place	Expenditure incurred by G.O.I.
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
01.	Chenetha Dasara Saradalu	20-27/09/98	Warangal	1,23,880.00
02.	Chenetha Kala Sourabhalu	-do-	Cuddapah	1,27,406.00
03.	Wonderful World of AP Handlooms	16-25/3/99	Hyderabad	1,77,098.00
04.	Chenetha Sourabham (Rajahmundry)	28.2-09/3/99	Rajahmundry	96,704.00
ASSAM				
05.	Christmas Festival	18-24.12.98	Shillong	2,00,000.00
06.	Kali Puja Mela	30.10-02.11.98	Digboi	2,00,000.00
07.	Durga Puja Festival	18-24.11.98	Naugaon	2,00,000.00
08.	Rash Jatra Mela	20.11-03.12.98	Tihu	2,00,000.00
09.	Raner Sabha	19-23.01.99	Bamakhata	2,00,000.00
10.	Makhibahar Sabha	26.02-04.03.99	Makhiba	2,00,000.00
11.	Sri Krishna Dol Jatra	15-20.03.99	Barpeta	2,00,000.00
12.	Bodo Sahitya Sabha	26-28.02.99	Bongaigaon	1,99,591.00
13.	Rash Jatra Mela	20.11-03.12.98	Nalbari	1,99,056.00
14.	Ali-Ai-Ligang	18-29.02.99	Lakhimpur	1,99,880.00
15.	Assam Sahitya Sabha	16-21.01.99	Hajo	1,99,925.00
16.	Shivaratri Mela	05-10.03.99	Sibsagar	1,99,817.00
BIHAR				
17.	Jharkhand Mela	09-13.10.98	Ranchi	-
GUJARAT				
18.	Navratri Mela	16-24.09.98	Baroda	1,94,947.00
19.	Tarnetar	25-28.08.98	Tarnetar	1,97,500.00
20.	Janmastmi	13-18.08.98	Rajkot	1,82,147.00
21.	Mahashivratri	10-14.02.99	Junagadh	1,87,228.00
22.	Chaitri Navratri	19-24.03.99	Ambaji	1,87,937.00
23.	Urse Festival	19-24.11.98	Ahmedabad	2,00,000.00
HARYANA				
24.	Kartik Cultural Festival	15-21.11.98	Ballabgarh	2,00,000.00

1	2	3	4	5
HIMACHAL PRADESH				
25.	Kullu Dussehra	30.9-08.10.98	Kullu	** 1,98,640.00
26.	Rampur Lavi Fair	11-14.11.98	Shimla	** 1,11,775.00
27.	Shivratri Fair	Phalgun Month	Mandi	** 1,95,229.00
28.	Christmas/New Year	24.12-02.01.99	Shimla	** 1,71,215.00
JAMMU & KASHMIR				
29.	Amar Nath Yatra	01-08.08.98	Sonmarg	2,00,000.00
30.	Diwali Mela	12-18.10.98	Jammu	2,00,000.00
31.	Tourist Mela	20-27.10.98	Baramulla	2,00,000.00
32.	Religious Mela	20-27.02.99	Udampur	2,00,000.00
MADHYA PRADESH				
33.	Durga Puja Parva	20.09-11.10.99	Bhilai	1,00,002.00
34.	Chhattisgarhi Advasi	12-21.02.99	Mandsour	2,00,000.00
35.	Mahashivratri	25.12.98-5.1.99	Bhopal	2,00,000.00
36.	Jagar Utsav	31.01-09.02.99	Raipur	2,00,000.00
37.	Khajuraho Utsav	05-16.03.99	Khajuraho	2,00,000.00
38.	Padlya Mata Mela	22.01-08.02.99	Sarangpur	1,02,524.00
39.	Krismas Day (New Year)	23.12.98-6.1.99	Sarguja	1,27,230.00
MANIPUR				
40.	Doljatra Festive Fair	23.02-01.03.99	Bishnupur	** 87,064.00
41.	Vth National Games Festive Fair	14-24.02.99	Moirang	** 89,680.00
42.	Doljatra Festive Fair	22-28.02.99	Imphal	** 94,200.00
43.	Doljatra Festive Fair	24.02-02.03.99	Thoubal	** 95,694.00
44.	National Game Fair	13-21.02.99	Imphal	** 66,940.00
NAGALAND				
45.	Moatsu (AO)	01-09.09.98	Mokokchung	2,00,000.00
46.	Chega (Zelliang)	22-31.10.98	Jalukie	2,00,000.00
47.	Terhunya (Chekhesang)	02-11.11.98	Dimapur	2,00,000.00
48.	Ngada (Rengma)	25.11-04.12.98	Tsemenyu	2,00,000.00
49.	Aoling (Konyak)	01-10.03.99	Mon Town	2,00,000.00
SIKKIM				
50.	Phanglhapsol Festival	05-09.09.98	Legship	1,90,461.00

1	2	3	4	5
51.	Gangtok Craft Mela	07-12.12.98	Gangtok	2,00,000.00
52.	Namprikdang Lossong	19-25.12.98	Dzongu	1,98,855.00
53.	Maghey Mela	13-18.01.99	Jorethang	1,99,470.00
TRIPURA				
54.	Saradiya Bastra Mela	16-25.09.98	Agartala	1,77,407.00
55.	Year ending Bastra Mela	06-12.04.98	Agartala	1,85,240.00
UTTAR PRADESH				
56.	Mahadeva Mela	17-23.03.99	Barabanki	1,97,886.00
57.	Sharad Kaleen Mela	12-19.01.99	Lucknow	1,97,291.00
58.	Numaish Mela	20-28.02.99	Hardoi	1,98,243.00
59.	Mahothey Rani Ka Mela	10-15.04.99	Kamalpur	1,97,174.00
60.	Distt. Level Exhib.	01-10.02.99	Varanasi	1,98,768.00
WEST BENGAL				
61.	Sardia Bastra Mela	09-20.09.98	Hooghly	2,00,000.00
62.	Tant Bastra Pradarsani	11-20.09.98	Midnapore,	1,63,475.00

** No advance was released, actual amount will be released during this year as mentioned above.

Details of District Level Fair/Festivals were organised during the year 1999-2000.

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Period	Place	Expenditure incurred by G.O.I.
1	2	3	4	5
ANDHRA PRADESH				
01.	Chenetha Sambaram	06-19.10.99	Hyderabad	* 1,00,000.00
02.	Chenetha Sandadi	06-10.10.99	Vijaywada	* 1,00,000.00
ARUNACHAL PRADESH				
03.	Republic Day	26-28.01.2000	Itanagar	* 1,00,000.00
ASSAM				
04.	Durga Puja Mela	16-21.10.99	Darrang	* 1,00,000.00
05.	Mali Puja Festival	06-09.11.99	Tinsukia	2,00,000.00
06.	Christmas Sale	03-12.12.99	Shillong	2,00,000.00
07.	Maghi Sale	03-12.01.2000	Agartala	2,00,000.00
08.	Ek-Jagaran	18-27.02.2000	Itanagar	2,00,000.00

1	2	3	4	5
09.	Ek-Jagaran-Handwoven	20-29.12.99	Guwahati	4,00,000.00
10.	Doul Utsav	19-22.03.2000	Tezpur	* 1,00,000.00
11.	Bodo-Sahitya Sabha	25-27.02.2000	Kokrajhar	—
	DELHI			
12.	Dussehra Festival	16-27.10.99	Laxmi Nagar	2,00,000.00
13.	Deepavali Festival	27.10.99 to 07.11.99	Madhuvan Chowk	2,00,000.00
	GUJARAT			
14.	Navratri Utsav	02-10.10.99	Baroda	* 1,00,000.00
15.	Dipawali Utsav	29.10-04.11.99	Ahmedabad	* 1,00,000.00
16.	Mahashivratri	March, 2000	Junagadh	* 1,00,000.00
	HARYANA			
17.	Durga Ashtmi (Mansa Devi)	10-18.10.99	Panchkula	1,61,202.00
18.	Kartik Cultural Festival	15-21.11.99	Ballabgarh	* 1,00,000.00
	HIMACHAL PRADESH			
19.	Renukaji Fair	08-08.11.99	Sirmour	* 1,00,000.00
20.	Lavi Fair	11-16.11.99	Shimla	—
21.	Christmas/New Year	24.12.99 to 02.01.2000	Shimla	—
22.	Navratra Mela	10-19.10.99	Jawallaji	—
	JAMMU & KASHMIR			
23.	Amar Nath Ji Yatra	19-26.08.99	Batal (Srinagar)	1,98,120.00
	KARNATAKA			
24.	Sri Kollur Mookambika Devi Jathra	07-12.03.2000	Dakshina Kannada	* 1,00,000.00
25.	Lord Narasimha Jathra	25.03-03.4.2000	Mandya Distt.	* 1,00,000.00
	MADHYA PRADESH			
26.	Mahashivratri Mela	25.12.99 to 06.01.2000	Bhopal	* 1,00,000.00
27.	Jagar Utsav	30.01-10.02.2000	Raipur	* 1,00,000.00
28.	Durga Mela	02-10.12.99	Durg	* 1,00,000.00
	MAHARASHTRA			
29.	Distt. Level Exhib.	06-15.12.99	Pune	* 1,00,000.00
	MANIPUR			
30.	Khongjom Day Festive Fair (Thoubal)	22-30.04.99	Thoubal	1,81,763.00

1	2	3	4	5
	MEGHALAYA			
31.	Handloom Exhibition	02-06.12.99	Tura (Meghalaya)	* 1,00,000.00
	NAGALAND			
32.	Sekrenyi (Angami)	15-24.03.2000	Kohima Town	—
	ORISSA			
33.	Shital Sasthi Festival	09-18.06.99	Sambalur	—
34.	'X' Mass Fair	30.12.99 to 08.01.2000	Puri	—
	PUNJAB			
35.	Maghi Mela	11-14.01.2000	Mukatsar	* 1,00,000.00
	RAJASTHAN			
36.	Craft Ind' 99	25.10-03.11.99	Jaipur	* 1,00,000.00
	SIKKIM			
37.	Gangtok Craft Fair	14-20.11.99	Gangtok	1,99,470.00
	TRIPURA			
38.	Handicrafts Fair	05-14.10.99	Agartala	* 1,00,000.00
39.	Handloom Fair (Bastra Mela)	08-14.12.99	Dharmanagar	—
	UTTAR PRADESH			
40.	Disit. Level Exhib.	21.10-05.11.99	Obera (Varanasi)	* 1,00,000.00
41.	Lucknow Mahotsav	Oct/Nov., 1999	Lucknow	* 1,00,000.00
42.	Numaish Mela	February, 2000	Hardoi	* 1,00,000.00
	WEST BENGAL			
43.	Sharadiya Bastra Mela	28.09-12.10.99	Chinsurah (Hooghly)	1,00,000.00
44.	Basantika Tant Bastra Pradarshni	03-12.04.99	Contai (Midnapore)	—

* This is advance payment, balance yet to be released.

— No advance was released, actual payment yet to be released.

Amount released for the Craft Melas during last three years .

Sl. No.	Name of Events	Place	Duration	Amount released Rupees
1	2	3	4	5
01.	Surajkund Craft Mela	Faridabad, Haryana	1.2.98 to 15.2.98	10,00,000.00
02.	Shilpgram Craft Mela	Udaipur, Rajasthan	1.12.98 to 10.12.98	3,00,000.00
03.	Taj Mahotsav Craft Mela	Agra, U.P.	18.2.98 to 27.2.98	3,00,000.00

1	2	3	4	5
04.	Shilparamam Craft Mela	Hyderabad, Andhra Pd.	1.3.98 to 15.3.98	8,25,000.00
01.	Suraj Kund Craft Mela	Faridabad, Haryana	1.2.99 to 15.2.99	10,00,000.00
02.	Shilpgram Craft Mela	Udaipur, Rajasthan	1.12.99 to 10.12.99	—
03.	Taj Mahotsav Craft Mela	Agra, U.P.	18.2.99 to 27.2.99	3,00,000.00
04.	Shilparamam Craft Mela	Hyderabad, Andhra Pd.	1.3.99 to 15.3.99	8,25,000.00
01.	Surajkund Craft Mela	Faridabad, Haryana	1.2.2000 to 15.2.2000	10,00,000.00
02.	Shilpgram Craft Mela	Udaipur, Rajasthan	24.12.99 to 02.1.2000	—
03.	Taj Mahotsav Craft Mela	Agra, U.P.	18.02.2000 to 27.02.2000	—
04.	Shilpgramam Craft Mela	Hyderabad, Andhra Pd.	1.3.2000 to 15.3.2000	—

*Proposal for reimbursement of the expenditure incurred has been received and being pursued.

Bank Loans to Poor People of Jamnagar

5295.SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of loans sanctioned and disbursed by various nationalised banks and other financial institutions to women, youths, unemployed, disabled poor and needy persons of Gujarat, particularly in Jamnagar district since January 1, 1999, till date, for various purposes; and

(b) the details of target fixed by above banks and

financial institutions to provide assistance and loan during the year 2000 and 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) As per the information furnished by the State Bank of Saurashtra, the lead Bank of State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC) for the District Jamnagar, the details of amount sanctioned and disbursed by all Public Sector Banks in the Jamnagar District including Women, Youths, disabled and poor persons under various schemes for the period January to December, 1999 are as under:

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Name of scheme/programme	Sanctions		Disbursements	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5
Annual Credit Plan (ACP)	—	—	267133	25263.30
Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)	582	86.68	630	72.22
Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana	410	209.59	419	211.52
District Industries Centre (DIC)—Bankable.	1588	891.21	1588	891.21
Gujarat Scheduled Cast Economic Development Corporation (GSCEDC)	556	75.44	556	75.44
Gujarat Backward Class Development Corporation (GBCDC)	41	8.21	41	8.21
Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SLRS)	99	19.21	99	19.21
Gujarat Women Economic Development Corporation (GWEDC)	162	—	162	—

1	2	3	4	5
Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)	143	*	143	*
Vajpayee Yuva Rozgar Yojana #	348	261.13	348	261.13

② Includes carry over of last year.

* Performance is reviewed at District fora unit-wise only.

This programme is implemented by Urban Cooperative Bank only.

(b) As per the information furnished by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Target for Service Area Credit plan for the Jamnagar District for the year 1999-2000 is as under:

(Amount Rs. In Lakh)

Year	Name of the Sector			Total
1999-2000	Agriculture	Industries	Territory	
Target	18679	2211	2110	23000

The Service Area Credit Plan for Jamnagar District for the year 2000-2001 are yet to be finalised.

[English]

BIFR

5296. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has directed the Dunlop India Limited to finalise a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with all workers' unions to restart its operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Dunlop India Limited thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Board for industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that in a hearing held on 18th January 2000, BIFR has directed M/s Dunlop India Ltd. to finalise Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with all the unions within a month covering unpaid wages, sacrifices, if any, to be made by the workers and any future conditionalities at least for a period of three years with a view to start the factory with their co-operation.

[Translation]

Bank Drafts

5297. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in 'Dainik Jagran' dated January 27, 2000 captioned "Kharid Dilli Men Aur Bhugtan Drafton Ke Jarriye Jamnagar Men";

(b) if so, whether the Government are also aware that drafts amounting to Rs. 9990/- are being prepared by banks on cash payment;

(c) if so, whether the Government consider such transactions as lawful;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the action the Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Reserve Bank of India have reported that the issuance, against cash, of drafts, for Rs. 9990/- each does not violate any instructions issued by the RBI.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Piracy of Products

5298. SHRI RAMJEE MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is piracy of the products of reputed brands in the market thereby cheating the innocent consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have inquired into the matter and taken any steps; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (d) The Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 provides for the protection of registered trademarks. It also contains provisions to prevent the falsifying or the false application of trademarks, false trade descriptions, etc. under Section 76, 77, 78 and 79 of the said Act. The remedies available under the Act relate to the protection of the Intellectual Property Rights inherent in a trademark and provide both civil and criminal remedies for registered trademark owners. Action against piracy of products of registered brands, resulting in infringement of rights has to be prosecuted in the appropriate courts for securing civil and criminal remedies.

The Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 is proposed to be replaced by the Trade Marks Act, 1999 under which the penal provisions for infringement of trademarks rights have been enhanced. Sections 101 to 105 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999 provide for necessary penalties for counterfeiting. Offences under Section 103, 104 and 105 have been made cognizable and the period of imprisonment provided is to be not less than six months with a maximum of three years with a minimum fine of Rs. 50,000/- which may extend to Rs. 2,00,000/-

[Translation]

Upliftment of the SC/ST Weavers

5299.SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for the upliftment of weavers at the level of Gram Panchayat in backward rural areas of Madhya Pradesh where there are majority of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) For the upliftment of handloom weavers, including rural SC/ST weavers, various handloom Development Schemes are being implemented in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The Scheme include Handloom Development Centre/ Quality Dyeing Unit, Project Package, Integrated Handloom Village Development, Expo, Distt. Level Fairs and Exhibitions, Workshop-cum-Housing, Insurance, Health Package, etc.

Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises

5300.DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons provided assistance through bank under the scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises of Nehru Rozgar Yojana during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) the number of applications pending and the reasons for their pendency;

(c) the criteria adopted for granting loans; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government for speedy clearance of pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The Scheme for Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME) under Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) was launched in October, 1989 and this Scheme has been replaced by Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) with effect from 1st December, 1997. As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the total number of persons provided assistance through banks under the new scheme viz. SJSRY during the years 1998-99 & 1999-2000 are as under:

Year	Loan Sanctioned No.	Loan Disbursed No.
1998-99	73270	41755
1999-2000*	32592	20521

*Upto December, 1999.

(b) to (d) Banks have been advised to consider the applications pending as at the end of the year in the following year. Similarly, cases sanctioned but pending at disbursement level would not lapse and would be considered for disbursement in the following year. Applicants whose annual family income does not exceed Rs. 11850/- and who have been living in the area for at least 3 years are eligible to get the benefit under the scheme. There is no minimum or maximum age limit or educational qualification prescribed under the Scheme. RBI have issued guidelines that applications for sanction of loans up to Rs. 25,000/- should be disposed of by the banks within a fortnight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks.

[English]

Damodar River Rail Diversion Project

5301.SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the implementation of the Damodar River Rail Diversion Project under Central Coalfields Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the initially estimated cost of the Damodar River Rail Diversion Project has been increased;

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

(e) whether the government propose to complete this project within the fixed time bound plan; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) to (f) The mines in Bokaro - Kargali area of Central Coalfields Limited were being worked for extraction of medium coking coal for supply to steel plants. The dip-side (South) boundary of the Bokaro opencast mine was, however, limited by the Eastern Railway's Barkakana-Gomoh main line and further south by the Damodar River. In order to sustain coal production to meet the requirement of washed coal to steel plants, the diversion of railway line and Damodar river was contemplated.

A Committee of Experts was set up by the Govt. of India, Department of Coal in October, 1975 to make a preliminary study of the different alternatives of winning the medium coking coal locked up beneath the railway line and the Damodar river. The Committee submitted its report in October, 1976, recommending diversion of the river as well as the railway line. The latter was to be diverted first.

A scheme for diversion of railway line between Jarandih and Phusro railway station of Eastern Railway in Bokaro-Kargali area of CCL was sanctioned by the Govt., Department of Coal in February, 1982 at a capital cost of Rs. 15.93 crores. The diversion work was being executed by the Eastern Railway on "deposit work" basis. As per the sanction, the diversion work was scheduled to be completed by March, 1985. The commencement of the work, however, got delayed owing to delay in acquisition of land and associated rehabilitation problems. The cost estimates of the above Jarandih-Phusro rail diversion project were revised to Rs. 48.78 crores in March, 1991 by Coal India Limited under their delegated powers. This project is anticipated to be completed by December, 2000 against the scheduled date of completion i.e. June, 1997. This project is being monitored by the Govt. on quarterly basis.

Meanwhile, action for diversion of Damodar river was also being taken up. Project Report for Damodar river diversion has not yet been sanctioned. However, an Advance Action proposal for this project is already sanctioned and the same is anticipated to be completed by March, 2001.

Memorandum by Staff Union of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

5302.SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

DR. (SMT.) C. SUGUNA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Staff Union of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. has submitted a Memorandum urging for opening of 16 new coalmines and allow certain exemptions to the SCCL under the New Coal Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not resolving the coalmine workers' Sixth Wage Board Agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The workers have submitted memorandum relating to clearance of pending projects, early finalisation of National Coal Wage Agreement (NCWA)-VI and new coal policy.

(c) Joint Bi-partite Committee of the Coal Industry (JBCCI)-VI was constituted on 3.4.1997 to negotiate and finalise the National Coal Wage Agreement-VI. However, the package on pay/wage revision offered by the managements of coal companies has not been accepted by the workers Unions. Besides this, the unions have not accepted the periodicity of 10 years for future wage revision as prescribed by the Department of Public Enterprises. The negotiations are still going on in JBCCI to finalise the wage agreement (NCWA-VI). Pending finalisation of NCWA-VI, interim relief @ 12% of basic+Fixed Dearness Allowance (FDA) as on 30.6.1996 has already been paid to the workers.

[Translation]

Setting up of Cloth Carpet or Jute Mattresses Manufacturing Mill

5303.SHRI RAJESH RANJAN PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation Mill at Mokama in Bihar is operational and only a little amount

of production is being made with a purpose to provide employment to the workers;

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

(c) whether there is any scheme for modernisation of these mills;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a mill to manufacture cloth carpets mattresses from Jute fibre; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) As per available information the National Textile Corporation mills at Mokama in Bihar is operational and is working partially on job work basis.

(b) The details of job work undertaken by the mill for the last three years is given below:-

Year	Production of Yarn (L. Kgs)
1997-98	0.07
1998-1999	1.13
1999-2000 (April-Dec.99)	0.15

(c) to (e) On the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norms of net worth turning positive within the stipulated period.

(f) and (g) No, Sir.

[English]

RBI's Guidelines to Deal with Counterfeit Currency

5304.SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: With the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India propose to issue certain guidelines to deal with counterfeit currency seized besides designating banks to accept such notes so that they are thrown out of circulation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor keeping in view the mass circulation of counterfeit currency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) All Reserve Bank of India offices, branches of State Bank of India (SBI) and Associates banks of SBI/as also branches of nationalised banks have standing instructions to impound all fake notes detected at their end and forward them to police authorities for necessary investigation.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sale of Cloth

5305.MOHAMMAD ANWARUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the textile manufacturing companies of the country only inscribe the name of the company on the clothes but never mention per meter price, as a result thereof the same cloth is being sold at different arbitrary prices in various places; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to protect consumer interest under the Textiles (Consumer Protection) Regulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) As per the provisions contained in Textiles (Consumer Protection) Regulation 1988, the following markings are required to be made on finished fabric:-

1. Face-plait markings

- (a) Name and address of the manufacturer
- (b) Description of cloth (dhoti, saree, suiting, shirting, etc.)
- (c) Length/width
- (d) Fast to Normal Washing or Not Fast to Normal Washing.
- (e) Seconds/Defective/damaged
- (f) Spun x Spun or Filament x Filament or Spun x Filament etc.
- (g) Month and year of packing
- (h) Fibre composition.

2. **Selvage markings**

On every alternative metre of cloth, the markings mentioned at (h) and (e) above, are required to be stamped.

3. **Marketings on bales/packages**

- (a) Name of the manufacturer
- (b) Month and year of packing
- (c) The word Grey or Bleached or Coloured fabric, as the case may be.

The Textiles (Consumer Protection) Regulation, 1988 does not make provision for the stamping of price on tops, yarn and cloth/fabric.

In order to make textile consumers (be it finished product consumer or industrial consumer) aware of the regulations and their rights, as well as recourse for redressal of grievance, the office of the Textile Commissioner through its regional offices and the regional offices of the Textiles Committee regularly conduct consumer awareness programmes in various parts of the country.

Advertisement Through Foreign Media

5306.DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the companies/institutions of the country are advertising their products through foreign media due to Information revolution and expansion of Satellite T.V.;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed for getting such advertisements published by the companies/institutions of the country through foreign media, including foreign magazines and foreign T.V. channels and the role of his Ministry in fixing the advertisement rates and issuing them;

(c) the rules/provisions for giving advertisements by the Government departments/undertakings/institutions to foreign channels and the amount spent on the Government advertisements given to foreign electronic and print media during 1999-2000, till February 15, 2000; and

(d) whether any cases have brought to the notice of Government wherein the advertisements were given to foreign electronic/print media to give them benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF

STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Companies/institutions in the private sector are free to advertise their products in the media of their choice and at rates determined by them. Government does not exercise any control in regard to issue of such advertisement or in regard to rates applicable to such advertisements.

(c) Directorate of advertising and Visual Publicity is the designated Government agency to undertake publicity jobs for various Ministries/Departments of the Government. Except for one case mentioned hereafter, DAVP has not spent any amount on Government advertisements given to foreign electronic and print media during 1999-2000. One-page advertisement, on April 13, 2000 in a French daily, Le Monde, projecting India as a potential investment destination in the special supplement of that newspaper has been released in 1999-2000 but the amount is yet to be released.

(d) No such case is in the knowledge of this Ministry.

[English]

Trade Marks Act

5307.SHRI RAJAJIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Trade Marks Act, 1999 provides for a Delhi-based Appellate Board;

(b) if so, whether an aggrieved person will have to come down to Delhi to file special leave petition; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to do away with such undue expenses and delays?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) The Trade Marks Act, 1999, provides for establishment of an Appellate Board known as the Intellectual Property Appellate Board to hear appeals against the decision of the Registrar. The Act also provides for setting up Benches in different locations. No decision about the location of the Appellate Board and its Benches has been taken by the Government. Since the Benches shall sit at such places as the Government may notify in the Official Gazette, there will be no undue expenses and delay for the litigants.

Stealing of Cheque Books, Bank Drafts of Banks

5308.SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases one after the other of stealing the cheque books, bank drafts from the banks have been taking place;

(b) if so, the reasons for the documents to be easily accessible to outsiders;

(c) whether one such case took place at Maholi in Bihar in the Bank of Baroda's branch as reported in 'Dainik Jaganan' of December 13, 1999;

(d) if so, whether the case has been enquired into; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof alongwith action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the number of cases of stolen demand drafts/cheques (Rupees One lac and above) in public sector banks was 188, 188 and 215 in the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 respectively. The reasons for accessibility to documents by outsiders/unauthorized persons may be due to non-adherence/laxity by banks in following guidelines issued by RBI regarding safe custody of demand drafts/cheques etc.

(c) to (e) Bank of Baroda has reported that twenty demand draft books meant for Mahuli (Bihar) branch were sent by their Madras Security Printers to the Regional Office, Patna in 1998 through Courier Service. The consignment was not received and these demand drafts were reported lost in transit. On receipt of information of the loss, the bank issued circular cautioning its branches. Complaints have been lodged by the bank at Patna with local Police and by M/s. Madras Security Printers with local Police at Chennai.

Schemes Funded by NABARD

5309.SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether irrigation schemes like installation of shallow power pumps are being funded in Assam by NABARD;

(b) if so, the loan/assistance given by NABARD to Assam, particularly to Nalbari, Barpeta and Bongaigaon districts of the State during the last three years; and

(c) the details of other scheme funded by the Central Government for development of agriculture sector in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Bank of Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that they are providing loan to Government of Assam for one lakh shallow tubewells (STWs) under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF)-V. NABARD has sanctioned Rs. 138 crore during 1999-2000 for the implementation of the above project. Under Phase-I of the project, 30,000 STWs in 18 districts were sanctioned and these have been reported to be installed. An amount of Rs. 35.39 crore has been released by NABARD to the State Government in respect of 25831 STWs. Under Phase-II of the project, 70,000 STWs with RIDF loan of Rs. 96.60 Crore have been sanctioned and the same are likely to be implemented during the current financial year. The details of the loan sanctioned and released for installation to STWs in Barpeta, Bongaigaon and Nalbari districts are given below:

(Rs. Crore)			
Sl. No.	District	No. of STWs sanctioned	RIDF loan sanctioned RIDF loan released (1999-2000)
1.	Barpeta	6,600	9.10 2.74
2.	Bongaigaon	6,200	8.56 1.73
3.	Nalbari	2,000	8.97 1.83

NABARD has reported that prior to the above sanctions in 1999-2000, there were no sanctions in earlier years.

(c) In addition to the above, NABARD has provided refinance facilities to banks in the State of Assam for their lending under farm sector and non-farm sector activities including Government sponsored schemes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (renamed as Swarnajayanthi Gram Swarojgar Yojana), Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY), SC/ST Action Plan, etc. The details of the refinance assistance provided by NABARD during the last three years for these programmes are given below:

(Rs. in Lakh)			
Year	IRDP (SGSY)	PMRY	SC/ST Action Plan
1997-98	1777.16	4622.61	156.53
1998-99	2684.84	5836.25	108.74
1999-2000	1507.68	3523.20	69.27

Joint Venture in Food Processing Industry

5310. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects for setting up of 100 per cent export oriented units and joint ventures in the food processing industries have so far been approved by the Government during the post liberalised period and during the last two years;

(b) the total investment incurred on these projects and the share of foreign investment therein;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up the said units during 2000-2001 in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Since liberalisation in July, 1991 till Dec, 1999, Government has approved 1120 proposals for setting up of 100% export oriented units, joint ventures and industrial licence units in the processed food sector envisaging an investment of Rs. 19100 crores approximately including foreign investment of Rs. 9100 crores. Since April, 1998 and till December, 1999, 49 such proposals envisaging an investment of Rs. 451 crores including foreign investment of Rs. 344 crores have been approved.

(b) Out of the above proposals, 248 envisaging an investment of Rs. 4225 crores have already been implemented. Actual inflow of foreign investment in these proposals till December, 1999 is over Rs. 2299 crores.

(c) and (d) The Government do not set up any food processing unit directly. However under its plan schemes the Government provide necessary assistance to State Government Organisations etc for setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing units.

North-Eastern Development and Finance Corporation

5311. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established North-Eastern Development and Finance Corporation;

(b) if so, the date on which it was established;

(c) the main objectives behind establishing the said Corporation;

(d) whether the objectives have been achieved; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi) was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 on 09.08.1995 with its registered office at Guwahati. It was formally established on 23.2.1996 and became operational on 1st April 1996.

(c) NEDFi was set up with the objective to catalyse the economic development of North-East by providing finance and other facilities for promotion, expansion and modernisation of Industrial and Infrastructure projects in the Region. It was also expected to encourage first generation entrepreneurs in the region by providing specific schemes suitable to them.

(d) and (e) NEDFi by its operations endeavoured as the prime financial institution in the region, to suit the needs of the region. It has also amended the Memorandum & Articles of Association to include in its charter, "promotion of agri-horticulture, plantation, medicinal plantation, sericulture Plantation, aquaculture, poultry, dairy and animal husbandry development" to suit the needs of the region. NEDFi, in addition to normal lending operation, has started providing finance through Micro credit, Working Capital term Loan, created North East Equity Fund and other activities. In a short span of time, it has been able to create a hope amongst the entrepreneurial people of the region. In its four years of operation, NEDFi sanctioned about Rs. 89 crores for 109 projects, of which 60 were sanctioned in the last financial year 1999-2000.

Approval of Schemes by NABARD

5312. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes sent by the Government of Kerala pending for approval of NABARD alongwith the details of the schemes for which funds has been sanctioned;

(b) the details of the ongoing NABARD funded schemes in the State, particularly in rural areas of Kottayam and Emakulam district of the State; and

(c) the time by which the remaining schemes are likely to be sanctioned by NABARD?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Global Advisors for Disinvestment

5313. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to appoint global advisors to carry out disinvestment; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) For the purpose of obtaining professional advice while implementing the decisions of the Government in regard to disinvestment, merchant bankers/consultants are appointed by the Government in accordance with the requirements of the transaction on a case to case basis.

Liberalisation of Industry

5314. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the action taken in the context of liberalisation of industry and globalisation of trade; and

(b) the details of amendments in articles under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) During recent years the economic reforms being pursued in India lay more emphasis on liberalisation and operation of market forces, as compared to the policies being followed earlier. This process of reforms is a continuous and ongoing process and specific steps are taken in consultation with industry and trade as and when required. The Government has taken a number of initiatives to promote industry and trade which, inter alia, include the following:-

- (i) The scope of delicensing has been widened. Barring six industries, the rest are exempt from industrial licensing.
- (ii) Industries that do not require an industrial licence only have to submit an Industrial

Entrepreneur Memorandum (IEM) to the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance (SIA) in the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. Amendments to IEM proposals have been allowed with effect from 1.7.1998.

- (iii) In the process of review of laws, regulations and simplifications of procedures, a draft Industries Act, 2000 has been formulated.
- (iv) More thrust has been given to attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to supplement domestic investment by expanding the list of priority industries eligible for automatic approval.
- (v) Procedures have been simplified and the time limit for consideration of FDI proposals has been reduced from six weeks to thirty days.
- (vi) India has signed the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on 15th April, 1994 and WTO was formally established on 1st January, 1995. India as a member of the WTO seeks to achieve better market access with greater certainty and transparency of the multilateral trading system.
- (vii) Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) for balance of payment reasons have been removed on 714 tariff lines during this year. QRs on the remaining items will be removed next year. Existing export promotion schemes have been rationalised and procedural simplifications have been made.
- (viii) The Government has established the Directorate of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties and the Directorate of Safeguards. While the former militates against attempts by foreign suppliers to undercut the indigenous industry by recourse to unfair trade practices, the latter protects the domestic industries from a sudden surge in imports.

Drug Trafficking

5315. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any concrete steps to check the drug trafficking through the country, between Golden Crescent and Golden Triangle;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified major centres of drug trafficking in the country;

(d) if so, the steps being taken to contain in these areas in the past;

(e) whether the Government are aware about the illegal production of opium, hashish, marijuana in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the number of cases detected by the enforcement agencies during the last three years;

(h) whether the Government propose to review its policy towards drug trafficking in the country; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Government of India has already taken a number of significant steps to prevent drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug law enforcement agencies to maintain utmost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training to officers, fencing of Indo-Pak border, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under the Customs Act, quarterly coordination meetings by NCB, holding of quarterly border meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies as a part of the border meetings of BSF and Pak-rangers and holding of operational level meetings with Myanmar officials.

(c) and (d) Areas and routes sensitive to drug trafficking are identified. Cases of drug trafficking have been detected in various parts of the country. The steps taken to contain the drug trafficking are as mentioned in reply to part (a) and (b) above.

(e) and (f) Government is aware of the illicit production of opium and cannabis within the country. The plant known as cannabis sativa is the source of hashish as well as Marijuana. The details of illicit opium and cannabis cultivation, identified and destroyed by the drug law enforcement agencies during the last three years, are given below:

	1997	1998	1999
Poppy Cultivation (in acres)	72	333	729
Cannabis (in acres)	222	627	66

(g) Number of cases detected by various Central and State enforcement agencies and reported to the Bureau during the last three years are as under:

	1997	1998	1999
No. of cases	13958	12446	13029

(h) Government continuously engages in the review of legal and administrative measures to counter drug trafficking.

(i) A Bill to amend the NDPS Act, 1985 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 9th July, 1998. The Standing Committee on Finance has examined the Bill and has submitted its recommendations.

Jute Development Programme

5316.SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether special Jute Development Programme has been implemented by the Government in major jute growing States in the country including West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details of Central allocation made under the scheme to each of these States during the last three years; and

(c) the details of the outcome of the implementation of the programme in the country particularly in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The government has implemented a National Jute Development Programme (NJDP) funded from a corpus of Special Jute Development Fund and under assistance from UNDP. Under this programme various projects have been undertaken towards development and diversification of jute goods by several organisations. The total funds released to various organisations, yearwise, during the last three years under NJDP is as under:

	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
SJDF	663.19	895.41	122.00

(c) The various projects taken up under the National Jute Development Programme have helped the jute based products to make successful inroads in the textiles markets by useful application of jute in handlooms, handicraft, packaging, decorative and geo-jute. Several Research and Development initiatives have been undertaken to develop

jute based fabrics/cloths for furnishings, upholstery, carpets, blankets and other home textiles including apparels. Eco-friendly hydrocarbon free jute bags have been developed for meeting international specification for packaging of food grade materials.

Redundant Departments and Surplus Personnel

5317. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made a comprehensive list of redundant departments and surplus personnel;

(b) if so, whether the Government have set a deadline for pruning them and saving the nation's millions of rupees that may be used fruitfully elsewhere; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) The Department of Industrial Development has been merged with the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion. Appropriate decision would be taken to abolish redundant posts, if any, having regard to all relevant factors.

As per the information given by the Deptt. of Personnel & Training, 234 surplus employees as on 1.4.2000 on the rolls of Surplus Cell are awaiting redeployment.

[Translation]

Privatisation of Industrial Units

5318. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some industrial units are being privatised as per the decision of the Government;

(b) if so, the names of such industrial units;

(c) whether most of these units are running in loss; and

(d) if no, the reasons for the privatisation of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) The disinvestment in PSUs is being done as per the declared policy of Government in this regard. There is no separate policy with

regard to the methodology of disinvestment in sick PSUs. It is worked out on case to case basis, based on several criteria.

[English]

Development of Kandla Free Port

5319. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to develop the Kandla Free Port on the pattern of Singapore;

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

(c) the amount likely to be spent there on; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) There is no proposal to set up a Free Port at Kandla.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Insurance of Vehicles Damaged by Terrorists

5320. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide insurance cover to the vehicles damaged by terrorists in the wake of Supreme Court judgement;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Cover against terrorism is already available as an in-built provision under motor insurance policies w.e.f. 1.4.1990. Before this date terrorism cover was optional under motor insurance policies.

(c) Does not arise.

Disinvestment of RCFL

5321. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to disinvest the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith time limit prescribed for implementation of this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited was considered by the Disinvestment Commission in the 12th report of August 1999. The Govt. has not taken any decision on this recommendation of Disinvestment Commission so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Patent Rights

5322.KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering for compulsory licensing of patent rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) The provisions relating to compulsory licensing of patents are contained in Chapter XVI of the Patents Act, 1970. In the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999, these provisions are proposed to be aligned with India's international obligations.

(c) Does not arise.

Government Employees in Orissa

5323.SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees working in various Union Government Offices in Orissa, grade-wise;

(b) the number of vacant posts in these offices, grade-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fill-up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) State-wise information about number of employees working in various Union Government offices and vacancies in these offices is not collected and compiled by this Ministry. However as per the "Quarterly Employment Review" Jan-March 1998 of the Ministry of Labour, the total number of Employees working in various Union Government Offices in Orissa as on 31.3.98 was 81.6 thousand. (This

however does not give grade-wise number of employees or number of vacant posts in various Union Government Offices in Orissa.)

Coal Mines in Madhya Pradesh

5324.SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of coal mines operating presently in Madhya Pradesh, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to open some new Coal Mines in the State;

(c) if so, whether the Government have conducted or propose to conduct a survey for this purpose in the State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) The details of the coal mines operating presently in Madhya Pradesh are given in the attached statement-I district-wise.

(b) Yes, Sir. There are proposals to open new coal mines in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Exploration has already been started for opening new mines and drilling operation is still continuing. In case of Northern Coalfields Limited, a study of the coalfield was done under Singrauli Master Plan by the erstwhile National Coal Development Corporation (NCDC) and it is being continuously updated by detailed drilling.

(d) As an outcome of such exploration a large number of new projects have either been taken up or proposed to be taken up in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The list of these projects are given in the attached statement-II.

Statement-I

Name of Coal Mines Operating in Madhya Pradesh			
Company	Project	District	Status
1	2	3	4
Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	Pathakhara I UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Pathakhara II UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Sattura-II UG	Betul	Working

1	2	3	4
WCL	Sabhapur UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Sami UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Tawa UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Chhatarpur-I UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Chhatarpur-I UG	Betul	Working
WCL	Neharia UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Mathani UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Thesgore UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Haranbhatta OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Shivpuri UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Kukurmunda OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Vishnupuri-I UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Vishnupuri-II UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	New Sethia OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Chhinda OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	P'Khas, P. East OC+UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Rawanwara OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Ganpati UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Mahadebpuri UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Gajando UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	E.D. Chickly UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Chandametta UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Mohan UG+OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Ambara UG+OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Ghorawari UG+OC	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Damua UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Banshi UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Nandan-I UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Nandan-II UG	Chhindwara	Working
WCL	Tandshi UG	Chhindwara	Working

1	2	3	4
Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)	Amlohri OC	Sidhi	Working
NCL	Nigahi OC	Sidhi	Working
NCL	Jayant OC	Sidhi	Working
NCL	Jhingurda OC	Sidhi	Working
NCL	Dudhichua OC	Sidhi	Working
NCL	Khadia OC	Sidhi	Working
South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)	Dhanpuri OC+UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Subhas UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Navgaon UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Rajendra UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Amlai OC+UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	New Amlai OC+UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Chachai UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Bangwar UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Sarda OC	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Jamuna 1&2, 9&10, 11&12 UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Govindo UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Meera UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Kotma West UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Bhadra UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Harad UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Bartarai UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Jamuna OC	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Kotma OC	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Rajnagar UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Rajnagar RO UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Jhimar UG	Shahdol	Working

1	2	3	4
SECL	Malga UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Bijuri UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Somna UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Behraband UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Kurja UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Kapildhara UG	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Rajnagar OC	Shahdol	Working
SECL	Birsingpur UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Pali UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Nowrozabad (W) UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Nowrozabad (E) UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Pinoura UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Bindhya UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Umaria UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	Piparia UG	Umaria	Working
SECL	S. Jhagarakhand UG	Korea	Working
SECL	West. Jhagarakhand UG	Korea	Working
SECL	B. Seam UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Palkimara UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Chirimari OC+UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Dumanhill UG	Korea	Working
SECL	North Chirimiri UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Sonawani UG	Korea	Working
SECL	NCPH (old) UG	Korea	Working
SECL	NCPH (new) UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Kurasia UG+OC	Korea	Working
SECL	Korea UG+OC	Korea	Working
SECL	West Chirimiri UG+OC	Korea	Working
SECL	Chirimiri OC	Korea	Working
SECL	Churcha UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Churcha (W) UG	Korea	Working

1	2	3	4
SECL	Katkona 1&2, 3&4 UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Pandavpara UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Jhilimili UG	Korea	Working
SECL	Kumda 1&2, 7&8 UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Balarampur UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Jaynagar 3&4, 5&6 UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Bisrampur OC	Surguja	Working
SECL	Bhatgaon UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Mahamaya UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Kalyani UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Shiwani UG	Surguja	Working
SECL	Dugga OC	Surguja	Working
SECL	Rehar UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Rajgamar UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Pawan UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Surakachar Main UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Surakachar 3&4, 5&6 UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Banki UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Banki 9&10 UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Dhelwadi UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Singhali UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Balgi UG	Korba	Working
SECL	Manikpur OC	Korba	Working
SECL	Kusmunda OC	Korba	Working
SECL	Lakshman OC	Korba	Working
SECL	Gevra OC	Korba	Working
SECL	Dipka OC	Korba	Working
SECL	Dipka Aug. OC	Korba	Working
SECL	Chnal UG	Raigarh	Working
SECL	Dharam UG	Raigarh	Working
SECL	Baroud OC	Raigarh	Working

Statement-II***New and Proposed Projects in Madhya Pradesh***

Company	Project	District	Status
1	2	3	4
Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)	Urdhan OC	Chhindwara	Pending with Ministry
WCL	Mandla South UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Chhattarpur-III	Betul	Proposed projects
WCL	Tawa-I Expn.	Betul	Proposed projects
WCL	Tawa-II Expn.	Betul	Proposed projects
WCL	Dhankasa UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Jamuniya UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Magrahi UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Rawanware East UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Thesgore, B, C, UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Bhakra UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Dhau North, South	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Koyalwari UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	New Chikalmau UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Rakhinallah UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Tambia UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Tandshi-III UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Tatarwara UG	Chhindwara	Proposed projects
WCL	Gandhi gram UG	Betul	Proposed projects
WCL	Saktigarh UG	Betul	Proposed projects
Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)	Block-B OC	Sidhi	New Projects already taken up
South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL)	Gayatri UG	Sarguja	New Projects already taken up
SECL	Bagdeba UG	Korba	New Projects already taken up
SECL	Bhaskarpara UG	Korba	New Projects already taken up
SECL	Rani-Alari UG	Korba	New Projects already taken up
SECL	Nawpara UG	Sarguja	New Projects already taken up

1	2	3	4
SECL	Amadand UG	Shahdol	New Projects already taken up
SECL	Mahan OC	Sarguja	New Projects already taken up
SECL	Dammni UG	Shahdol	Proposed Projects
SECL	Karkati UG	Shahdol	Proposed Projects
SECL	Gevra OC Expn.	Korba	Proposed projects
SECL	Dipka OC Expn.	Korba	Proposed projects
SECL	Kusmunda OC Expn.	Korba	Proposed projects
SECL	Khaira UG	Shahdol	Proposed projects
SECL	Amadand OC	Shahdol	Proposed projects
SECL	Kanchan OC	Urmara	Proposed projects
SECL	Amera OC	Sarguja	Proposed projects
SECL	Badauli/Amba UG	Sarguja	Proposed projects
SECL	Mahan - II OC	Sarguja	Proposed projects

The Corporation Bank

5325. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for restructuring and recapitalisation the Corporation Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Documentaries on River

5326. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of documentaries produced on the rivers by the Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) the number of such other documentaries proposed to be produced and the number of those which are under consideration; and

(c) the details of efforts proposed to be made to produce such documentaries on other Indian rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Tea Companies of Assam

5327. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the major Tea Companies of Assam have been under pressure from the State Government to shift their corporate headquarters;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any representation from such companies; and

(c) if so, reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No representation on the subject has been received from any of the major Tea Companies regarding any pressure from the State Government of Assam to shift their Corporate Headquarters.

(c) Does not arise.

Import of Textiles

5328.SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the varieties of textiles being imported;
- (b) the reasons for import of these textiles;
- (c) the variety, quantity and value of textiles imported during each of the last three years and the current year, till date;
- (d) the amount of foreign exchange spent on such imports during the above period, year-wise and value-wise; and

(e) the details of programmes for the production of the said textiles in the country and the time by which the imports of these textiles are likely to be stopped to save foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The varieties of textiles being imported are Silk, Wool, Cotton, Flax/Jute, Man-made fibre/Yarn/Fabrics, Pile fabrics of cotton & man-made fibre, Readymade garment's and made ups.

(b) The imports take place due to a variety of reasons, mainly due to commercial factors.

(c) and (d) The details of imports during the last three years are given below:-

Year	Value in Rs. Crores
1996-97	2639.87
1997-98	3012.68
1998-99	3297.29
1999-2000 (Apr.-Jan)	1614.41

Source: DGCIS, Calcutta.

The variety wise imports of textiles are as below:-

(In million kgs.)

Item	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99 Provisional
Cotton Fabrics	3.67	4.68	5.20
Man-made/Blended Fabrics	5.95	8.84	11.48
Woolen Fabrics	0.16	0.32	0.20
Silk Fabrics	0.30	0.38	0.23

(e) In the atmosphere of liberalisation, the imports are governed by market forces subject to export-import policy in force from time to time. Steps are being taken by Government to modernize and upgrade the technology, e.g., Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFs) so that local production of quality products is encouraged. To protect local industry from any injurious effects of imports, action under anti-dumping, subsidies and countervailing measures etc. of WTO could be taken if necessary.

[Translation]

Export by SSIs

5329.SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate any policy to boost the exports by Small Scale Industries (SSIs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of those items produced by Small Scale Industries which are likely to be included in the export list under the said policy?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Government has taken several measures to help the Small Scale Industry (SSI) in becoming globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technological upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modern management practices, use of IT, marketing etc. Further, to meet the challenges of globalization and liberalization, the office of the Development Commissioner (DC), SSI helps the small scale industry to participate in the International fairs and exhibitions by displaying their products in the exhibitions. Through the network of its field offices this organisation also conducts training programmes on packaging of export products in various parts of the country with a view to acquainting them with the latest techniques of packaging. For marketing of items reserved for SSI sector, additional weightage is given for exports of such items manufactured by units in this sector for the grant of recognition as Export House, Trading House, Star Trading House and Super Star Trading House. The Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme has been liberalised to include SSI sector, which can now import capital goods required for export production at the concessional duty rate of 5%.

[English]

Excise Duty on Paper Mills

5330.DR. SANJAY PASWAN:

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference between wood based and non-wood based paper mill products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is different excise duty on both the items;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to mix the excise duty on both items; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The wood based paper and paper products have high tearing resistance, whereas the paper produced from straw and bagasse have low tearing resistance but their properties are similar to those obtained from hard wood pulps. Paper produced from, other non-wood based raw material such as kenaf, jute, cotton, hemp and certain reeds and grasses, have high tear resistance. However, by properly selecting the appropriate mixture of various non-wood fibers and by appropriate pulping processes, any grade of papers or paper boards can be produced even without the addition of any wood pulp.

(c) The excise duty rate on wood based as well as non-wood base paper mill products is 16% (CENVAT). However, in case of non-wood based paper, first clearances of 2500 MT in a financial year are fully exempt from excise duty.

(d) Does not arise. The general rate of excise duty is same on both the items.

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

Raids Conducted by Director of Enforcement, Mumbai

5331.SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three senior officers of the Mumbai zone of the Directorate of Enforcement including an

Assistant Director transferred for conducting unjustified raids;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the further steps taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No senior officer of the Mumbai Zonal Office of the Enforcement Directorate, has so far been transferred because of any of the raids conducted by that office. However, one Assistant Enforcement Officer has been transferred out of Mumbai and two other officers (one Chief Enforcement Officer and one Assistant Enforcement Officer) stand assigned non-sensitive desks.

(c) to (e) Preliminary fact-finding inquiries carried out by the Enforcement Directorate did bring forth some shortcomings. The Directorate has taken steps to remedy those shortcomings.

Budgetary Resources

5332.SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission is in favour of single point management of budgetary resources by defining the plan and non-plan expenditure;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) No such proposal for single point management of budgetary resources has been mooted by Planning Commission.

Schemes for Development of Jute Sector

5333.SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some schemes have been implemented for Special Jute Development Fund Programmes, Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme, UNDP Aided Jute Development projects, Market Assistance Scheme through JMDC and Constitution of National Centre for Jute Diversification;

(b) if so, the details of amount released during the last three years for each programme, year-wise, State-wise;

(c) the details for achievements made by implementing these schemes.

(d) whether the Government propose to introduce some more effective schemes for better quality and productivity of jute; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The government has implemented a number of schemes under the Special Jute Development Fund Programme, Jute Modernisation Fund Scheme, UNDP aided Jute Development Projects, Market Assistance Scheme, National Centre for Jute Diversification schemes, for promoting modernisation and revitalisation of the Jute Industry, to increase productivity and efficiency on the one hand and diversification of the use of jute fibre on the other. The details of amounts released for implementation of these schemes/programmes during the last 3 years is as under:

		(Rs. in lakhs)		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
(i)	SJDF (including funds for the UNDP jute programme)	663.19	895.41	122.00
(ii)	JMFS: (scheme discontinued after 31.3.96, cumulative disbursement Rs. 51.73 Cr.)			
(iii)	EMA:	2695.25	2158.42	2249.83
(iv)	NCJD:	500.00	500.00	400.00

The funds under the SJDF, JMFS and EMA schemes are released to the organisation concerned and there is no statewide allocation under the schemes. In respect of NCJD, statewide allocation for its main schemes is indicated at given statement I & II.

(c) The Jute diversification programme taken up under these schemes has helped the jute based products to make successful inroads in the textiles markets by useful application of jute in handlooms, handicrafts, packaging, decorative and geo-jute. Several Research and Development initiatives have been undertaken to develop jute based fabrics/cloths for furnishings, upholstery, carpets, blankets and other home textiles including apparels. Eco-friendly hydrocarbon free jute bags have been developed for meeting international specification for packaging of food grade materials.

The schemes being implemented by National Centre for Jute Diversification have helped in arranging technical, financial and infrastructural support to the entrepreneurs, especially in the decentralised sector in order to encourage them take up the production and marketing of jute diversified products.

The EMA scheme implemented by Jute Manufacture Development Council has provided a major thrust for export of various jute products.

(d) and (e) The govt. proposes to continue the ongoing schemes as stated above, for improving the quality and productivity of jute. Some new schemes are also being introduced by NCJD and under the CCF-I programme in the 9th Plan funded from SJDF to address newer areas like bio-technological research in jute, energy resource management, jute machinery development, development of eco-friendly jute products etc.

Statement-I

Jute Entrepreneur Assistance Scheme

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Fund disbursed by NCJD (Rs. in lacs)			Expected Achievements	
		Financial Year			Employment Generation	Installed Capacity
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	213.65	189.89	20	700	30063 MT
2.	West Bengal	125.07	55.658	102.4825	820	13720 MT
3.	Assam	66	4.184	0	250	4100 MT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Orissa	0	76.58	5.211	90	2780 MT
5.	Punjab	16.7	0	0	25	435 MT
6.	Tamil Nadu	0	11.2	0	15	200 MT
7.	Bihar	3.22	0	0	35	400 MT
8.	Haryana	30	0.95	0	315	10850 MT
9.	Pondichery	0	0	7.50	60	600 MT

Statement-II**NGO Grant**

Sl. No.	State	Fund disbursed by NCJD (Rs. in lacs)		
		Financial Year		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	West Bengal	12.00	42.30	4.25
2.	Manipur	2.00	1.00	0
3.	Tripura	0	1.15	0
4.	Orissa	6.00	3.00	3.00
5.	Rajasthan	0	0	1.80
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3.90	0	0
7.	Tamilnadu	3.94	7.92	0
8.	Haryana	7.41	4.06	0
9.	Uttar Pradesh	11.99	9.60	0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	7.90	0	0
11.	Delhi	5.04	1.96	0
12.	Assam	7.65	15.12	0
13.	Andhra Pradesh	3.70	4.00	0
14.	Kerala	0	0	0.60
15.	Bihar	1.80	0	2.00
Total		73.33	89.11	11.65

Achievement

Total of 150 projects have been provided, thereby about 6000 women have been engaged in various capacities through this effort.

The scheme has enabled jute activities to spread to several non-jute growing areas of the country. Similarly market for jute products specially handicraft, handloom and smaller products have expanded. Use and application of jute has also gained widespread acceptance. Awareness of jute products and its uses have risen appreciably.

Benefit to Exporters

5334.SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exporters are availing export benefits under Exemption Passbook Scheme and the Duty Drawback Scheme;

(b) if so, the number of cases came to light where these have been claimed illegally during the last three years alongwith the details thereof, exporter-wise and year-wise;

(c) how much loss has been caused to the exchequer in these illegal transactions; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the exporter for illegal benefits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Exporters are availing export benefits like Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme and Duty Drawback Scheme.

(b) and (c) The number of cases that have come to light where these benefits have been claimed illegally scheme wise during the last three years alongwith the amount involved is given below.

Scheme	Year	Number of cases	Total amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
Drawback Scheme	1997-98	50	6320.16
	1998-99	111	16345.54
	1999-2000	132	3870.64
Duty entitlement	1997-98	6	692.14
Pass Book Scheme	1998-99	35	over Rs. 4980.91 lakhs
	1999-2000	46	4995.00

Compilation of information exporter-wise would not be commensurate with the object of seeking information.

(d) In all the cases, after investigation, show cause are issued as per law to recover the benefit illegally availed, to levy penalties and to confiscate the goods attempted to be exported illegally. In appropriate cases, arrest and preventive detention under Cofeposa is also undertaken and criminal prosecution is also launched.

[Translation]

Recession in Industry

5335. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the announcement of 5 per cent reduction in plan expenditure by the Government is likely to result in recession in the industry as apprehended by the industry;

(b) if so, the likely effects thereof on the domestic industry and economic growth; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to avert the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) and (b) According to Planning Commissions 5 per cent reduction in Annual Plan (1999-2000) outlays has not resulted in recession in industry and economic growth during the year 1999-2000. The Government have taken a number of measures like privatization, liberalization of foreign direct investment, de-licensing and reduction in rate of interest to attract private investment.

(c) Do not arise in view of answer in (a) and (b) above.

Officers Posted Abroad

5336. SHRI GANJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers and employees of Doordarshan and AIR posted in the foreign countries;

(b) the names of places where the said officers and employees are posted alongwith the time since when they have been working there;

(c) the additional expenditure borne by the Government on deputing these officers and employees in the foreign countries; and

(d) the manner in which the review of the performance of these officers and employees posted in foreign countries is conducted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) At present, there are 7 posts of Special Correspondents at Dubai, Kathmandu, Brussels, Washington, Hong Kong, Colombo and Dhaka. Orders for posting of officers to all these places have been issued in December, 1999. Officers posted at Dubai, Kathmandu and Brussels joined their duties in February, March and April, 2000 respectively. Officers at other places would also join their duties as soon as they are relieved from their present assignment.

(c) The expenditure towards salary and other allowances in respect of the 3 officers who have already joined duty abroad is Rs. 5.85 lakhs (approximately) per month.

(d) The performance of the officers posted abroad is monitored on the basis of news items, despatches, scripts for commentaries and spotlights, contributed by them. Their contributions are also monitored by the officer designated to look after reporting at Prasar Bharati Headquarters and at the editorial meetings by the Director General (News).

Publishing of Books

5337. PROF. DHUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number books published by the Department of Publications in Hindi, English, Urdu and other Indian languages during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of the titles of these books, separately,

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon, language-wise; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the publication of books in the Indian languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The number of books published by the Publications Division in English, Hindi, Urdu and other Indian languages is as below:

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Hindi	81	71	43
English	38	26	32
Urdu	5	7	5
Other Languages	26	44	70

(b) The details of the books published yearwise are attached statements-I, II and III.

(c) The details are given at statement-IV.

(d) Publications Division in laying increasing emphasis on bringing out more books on Regional Languages. Eminent authors in Regional Languages are being contacted for writing for Publications Division.

Statement-I

Books Published during 1997-98

ENGLISH

New Titles

Sl.No.	Title
1	2
1.	Indian Press Since 1955
2.	Cities of India - Bangalore
3.	Quotable Quoted: Aurobindo
4.	Meghnad Saha

1	2
5.	India 1996: A Reference Annual
6.	Common Man's Guide to Rights and Facilities
7.	Communication, Technology and Development
8.	Citizens and the Constitution
9.	Science: Nature's Copycat
10.	Indian in Orbit
11.	States of our Union: Mizoram
12.	States of our Union: Orissa
13.	Freedom Fighters Remember (Deluxe)
14.	States of our Union: Maharashtra
15.	Cities of India: Hyderabad (Deluxe)
16.	States of our Union: Himachal Pradesh
17.	Life & Environment: A Photo Album (Deluxe)
18.	Nagendra Singh - A many Splendoured Life
19.	India 1996: A Reference Annual (Additional Copies)
20.	India 1998: A Reference Annual
21.	Freedom Fighter's Remember.
	Reprints
22.	History of Indian Journalism
23.	2500 Years of Buddhism
24.	1857: A Pictorial Presentation
25.	Adventures of a Space Craft
26.	Children's History of India
27.	The Gazetteer of India Vol. II
28.	Gospel of Buddha
29.	A New Approach to Iqbal
30-35	Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi Volumes 91, 94, 95, 96, 97, 100 (Deluxe) each
36.	Common Mans Guide to Rights and Facilities
37.	Press in India 1996
38.	Publications Division - Diary 1998

HINDI

New Titles

Sl.No.	Title
1	2
1.	Acharya Vinoba Bhave (BMI)
2.	Shantidoot Gandhi
3.	Amar Shaheed Ramprasad Bismil
4.	Kaun Hansa
5.	Sikkim Sanskriti Aur Janjivan
6.	Bhartiya Janjatiyan Atit Ke Jharoke Se
7.	Vipin Chandra Pal (BMI)
8.	Bhartiya Chitrakala Mein Sangeet Tatva (Del.)
9.	Sadhumat aur Lokmat
10.	Bharat Ka Sankshipt Itihas
11.	Uttar Madhya Kshetra Ki Lok Sanskriti
12.	Swatantra Senaniyon Ki Yadon Ke Jharoke
13.	Yaad Kar Lena Kabhi (Shaheedon Ke Khat)
14.	Bharat 1996
15.	Lok Geeton Mein Krantikari Chetna
16-17.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya - Vol. 6 & 8
18.	Hindi Rashtrabhasha Se Rajbhasha Tak
19.	Indira Gandhi (BMI)
20.	Swatantrata Senaniyon Ki Yadon Ke Jharoke
21.	Hansne Wala Kutta (Del.) (Pop.)
22.	Pamu Ka Ghar
23.	Bagh Ki Talash (Del.) (Pop.)
24.	Bharat 1996 (Additional Copies)
25.	Bhartiya Jahaajrani
26.	Bagwani Kaisa Karen
27.	Hamari Jheelen Aur Nadian
28-29.	CWMG - Vol. 84, 85,
30.	Bharat Ke Samachar Patra 1996

1

2

Reprints

1-5.	C.W.M.G. Vol. 2, 11, 13, 28, 71
6.	Mazhrul Huq (BMI)
7.	Boudh Dharm Ke 2500 Varsh
8.	Bhartiya Swatantrata Andolan Ka Itihas (Vol.I)
9.	Bhartiya Swatantrata Andolan Ka Itihas (Vol.4)
10.	Ek Din Ka Mehman
11.	Awadh Ki Lok Kathain
12.	Chittranjan Dass
13.	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
14.	Bachchon Ke Liye Bharat Ka Itihas
15.	Sarojini Naidu (BMI)
16.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya - Vol. I
17.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya - Vol. II
18.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya - Vol. III
19.	Uttar Pradesh Ki Lok Kathaein
20.	Jawaharlal Nehru Ke Bhashan - Vol. I
21.	Jawaharlal Nehru Ke Bhashan - Vol. III
22.	Swami Vivekanand (BMI)
23.	Kabhu Rani
24.	Rajasthan Ke Nari Ratna
25.	Abhyaranya
26.	Videshi Yatriyon Ki Nazar Mein Bharat
27.	Vishwa Ki Shresth Lok Kathain - Part 4
28.	Hamare Scout Guide
29.	Bharat Ke Prachin Smarak
30.	Bharat Ke Mahan Shiksha Shastri
31.	Jhalkari Bai
32.	Pouranik Bal Kathaein
33.	Betal Kathaein
34.	Carbon Copiyon Ki Karamat

1	2
35.	Ginatilal Ki Chhinik
36.	Krantikariyon Ka Bachpan
37.	Hamare Bahadur Bachche
38.	Hamare Paramvir.
39.	Computer Sabke Liye
40.	Paigambaron Ki Kathaein
41.	Rochak Etahasik Kahanian (Part II)
42.	Maharathi Karn
43.	Sanskritik Ekta Ka Guldusta
44.	Laksdeep Ki Samudri Kathaein
45.	Rochak Etahasik Kahanian (Part I)
46.	Bas Pach Minute
47.	Shradh Ki Dakshina Tatha Anya Hasya Kathaein
48.	Bharat Ke Lokgatha Geet - Part 2
49.	Bharatiya Sanskriti Ki Jhanki
50.	Vishwa Ki Shrestha Lok Kathaein - Vol. 2

OTHER LANGUAGES

Sl.No.	Title
1	2
URDU	
1.	Badruddin Tyabji (BMI)
2.	Mazrul Haq (BMI)
3.	Jawarharlal Nehru (BMI)
4.	Safina-E-Ghalib
5.	Mukhtar Ahmed Ansari
BENGALI	
6.	An Outline History of Indian People
MARATHI	
7.	Great Classics Retold
8.	An Outline History of Indian People
9.	Stories of Tagore (Bal Kahanian)
10.	R.N. Tagore (BMI)

1	2
11.	Dr. N.S. Hardikar (BMI)
TAMIL	
12.	An Outline History of Indian People
13.	Quotable Quotes: Subramanian Bharti
TELGU	
14.	Great Classics
GUJARATI	
15.	Social Philosophers
16.	Ek Din Ka Mehman
17.	Dhanua Raja
18.	Great Classics
19.	Kalidas Ni Kahani
20.	Bhamasho No Bijjo Fero
21.	Muthi Bhulni Puja
22.	Akkal No Ejaro
23.	Muthi Uchchera Bakako
24.	Megh Dhanush
25.	Pruthvi Ni Parakamma
26.	An Outline History of Indian People
27.	Madam Bhikaji Rustam Cama (BMI)
28.	Devotional Poets of Mystic Pt. II (Santo Kavi)
29.	Swami Dayanand Saraswati. (BMI)
30.	Biography of Thakkar Bapa (BMI)
31.	A Guide to Home Gardening (Anganbari Margdarshika)

Total No. of titles released during the year 1997-98:

English	38
Hindi	81
Regional Languages	31
Total :	150

Language Break-up

Urdu	5
Bengali	1
Marathi	5
Tamil	2
Telugu	1
Gujarati	17

Statement-II*Book Published during 1998-99***ENGLISH****New Titles**

Sl.No.	Title
1	2
1.	Children in Quotes
2.	Indian Calendric System
3.	Press in India 1997
4.	Letters of Martyrs (Shaheedon ke Khat)
5.	Sardar Panikkar - His Life & Times (BMI)
6.	Indian Cinema: A Visual Voyage
7.	India 1999: A Reference Annual
8.	Human Right & Working Women
9.	Beyond Data: Science & Technology Communication
10.	Bengali Theatre 200 Years
Reprints	
11.	Indian Classical Dance
12.	Sri Aurobindo
13-16.	Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi Vols. 1, 14-16
17.	Children's Panchatantra
18.	Children's Ramayana
19.	Children's Mahabharata
20.	Once Upon a Time (Folk Tales of Punjab)

1

2

21. Folk Tales of India
22. Story of Eight Saint Reformers
23. Indo-Islamic Architecture
24. States of our Union: Himachal Pradesh
25. Inscriptions of Ashoka
26. Musical Instruments of India

HINDI**New Titles**

27. Young Pravartak Avishkar
28. Bharat Ki Vaigyanik Vibhutan
29. Trekking
30. Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 5)
- 31-32 Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 7&8)
33. 1857 Ka Swanantara Sangram
34. Lo Gubbare
35. Bharat 1998
36. Sarvadharm Sambhav
37. Press in India 1997
38. Azadi Ki Ladai Ke Zaptshuda Tarane
39. Dhanua Raja
40. Aatpat Nagar Ki Kahaniyan
41. Bihari Satsai
42. Shabd Sanskriti
43. Raj Bhasa Hindi
44. Hasrat Mohani
45. Hamara Rashtriya Dhvaj
46. Hakim Ajmal Khan (BMI)
47. Krantikari Mahilayen
48. Bharat Mein Sharirik Shiksha
49. Rauf Checha Ka Gagha
50. Simha

1	2
51.	Bharat 99
52-54.	Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi (Vols. 88-90)
55.	Purvottar Ke Swantrantata Senani
	Reprints
56.	Amar Shaheed Bhagat Singh
57.	Hamare Tyohar
58.	Asali Jimakade
59.	Amir Khusro
60.	Tendua Aur Cheetah
61.	Pahelian
62.	Anjane Mein Huye Awishkar
63.	Kokkas Ka Udan Khatola
64-69.	Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi (Vols. 12, 15-17, 27, 29)
70.	Bharat Ke Nari Ratna
71.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. I)
72-73.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vols. 2&4)
74.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 3)
75.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 5)
76.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 6)
77-78.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 7&9)
79.	Netaji Sampurna Vangmaya (Vol. 8)
80.	Trekking
81.	Bharat Ke Pakshi
82.	Hasne Wala Kutta
83.	Hamare Bahadur Bachche
84.	Bachchon Ke Liye Bharat Ka Itihas
85.	Swami Vivekanand (BMI)
86.	Acharya Vinobha Bhave (BMI)
87.	Hindi Rashtabhasha Se Rajbhasha Tak
88.	Rabindra Nath Thakur (BMI)

1	2
89.	Hamare Tyohar
90.	Mehnat Ka Mehak
91-95.	Bharat Ke Gaurav (Parts III, IV, V, VI & VII)
96.	Bharat Ke Gaurav (Part II)
97.	Ghalib Kavi Aur Manav
OTHER LANGUAGES	
Sl.No.	Title
1	2
GUJARATI	
1.	Smit Nu Mulya
2.	Rang Aur Sugandh
3.	Varta Namnu Nagar
4.	Khagol Yatri
5.	Virat Bibutyo
6.	Mot No Mukablo
7.	Prerna Na Piyush
8.	Sukh No Suraj
9.	Vaddada Ni Vate
10.	Kalana Jyotidharo
11.	Jungle Mein Mor Nachayo
12.	Ramayana, Mahabharata & Bhagawata Writers
13.	Santo Bhakto Kavi Part-1
14.	Indian Tribes through Ages
15.	Saudarya Meemansko (Aestheticians)
16.	Founders of Philosophy
17.	Philosophers & Religious Leaders (Darshinko)
18.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
19.	Our National Flag
URDU	
20.	Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
21.	Mohd. Quli Qutab Shah

1	2
22.	Hakim Ajmal Khan
23.	Sarojini Naidu
24.	Mahatma Buddha Ki Hekayten
25.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
26.	Our National Flag
	TAMIL
27.	Together We Marched
28.	Quit India Movement
29.	Story of Kalidas
30.	Indian Folk Tales
31.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
32.	Our National Flag
	KANNADA
33.	Madan Mohan Malviya
34.	Great Men Great Deeds
35.	Valmiki and Vyasa
36.	Our National Flag
	TELUGU
37.	Children's Mahabharata
38.	Children's Panchatantra
39.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
40.	Our National Flag
	BENGALI
41.	Shilpa Shiksha
42.	Our National Flag
	ASSAMESE
43.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
44.	Our National Flag
	MARATHI
45.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
46.	Our National Flag

1	2
	PUNJABI
47.	Indian Folk Tales
48.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
49.	Our National Flag
	MALAYALAM
50.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
51.	Our National Flag

Total Number of titles released from April 1998 to March 1999 :

English	26
Hindi	71
Regional Language	51
Total :	148

In addition to 148 books, the Division also published 13 publications including Catalogue, Annual Reports and Performance Budget etc.

Statement-III

Books Published During

ENGLISH

New Titles

Sl.No.	Title
1	2
1.	Press in India-1998
2.	Mass Media in India-1998-99
3.	Indian Classics-Malayalam
4.	Indian Classics-Telugu
5.	Cops Turn to Science
6.	Dance Legacy of Pataliputra
7.	Great Lives, Great Words : Sri Aurobindo
8.	India 2000-A Reference Annual
9.	Mass Media 2000
10.	Radiant Himalayas

1	2
11-19	Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi Volumes 1 to 9
	Reprints
20.	Tribal Freedom Fighters of India
21.	Peacock Our National Bird
22.	A Panaroma of Indian Culture
23.	Great Men and Women of India
24.	This India
25.	Sri Aurobindo (BMI)
26.	INDIA—Early History
27.	INDIA—A Physical Geography
28.	INDIA—Art and Architecture
29.	INDIA—Government and Economic Life in Ancient
30.	INDIA—Society Religion and Literature in Ancient Medieval Periods
31.	Inventions that Made History
32.	India Crafts Tradition
	HINDI
	New Titles
1.	Koyale Ki Kahani
2.	Bharat Ke Samachar Patra-1998
3.	Gond Janjati
4.	Mother Teresa
5.	Koshika Mein Karigari
6.	Jungle Ka Nyay
7.	Bharat 2000
8.	Baraf Ka Dulha
9.	Megnad Saha
10.	Prakriti Se Maitri
	Reprints
11.	Gainda
12.	Ghalib Ke Patra
13.	Mahilaen Aur Swarajya
14.	Bharat Ke Gaurav (Part 1)
15.	Bharat Ke Gaurav (Part 4)

1	2
16.	Bharat Ke Gaurav (Part 9)
17.	Geet Bharati
18.	Eshap Ki Geet Kathaen—Part 1
19.	Eshap Ki Geet Kathaen—Part 2
20.	Sant Ravidas
21.	Bharatendu Harischandra
22.	Mor Hamara Rashtriya Pakshi
23.	Khoji Patrakarita
24.	Vishwa Ki Sharestha Lok Kathaen—Part 3
25.	Uttar Pradesh Ki Lok Kathaen
26.	Yug Pravartak Avishkar
27.	Hamari Jheelein Aur Nadiyan
28.	Uttar Madhya Kshetra Ki Lok Sanskriti
29.	Lok Geeton Mein Krantikari Chetna
30.	Anjane Mein Huye Avishkar
31.	Yeh Bharat
32.	Bharat Ke Durg
33.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
34.	Bodh Kathaen
35.	Mehnat Ki Mehak
36.	Gyani Chuha
37.	Chetak Aur Pratap
38.	Ek Din Ka Mehman
39.	Kamal Aur Ketki
40.	Desh Videsh Ki Kahaniyan
41.	Kaun Hansa
42.	Dhanua Raja
43.	Tendua Aur Chitah
	REGIONAL LANGUAGES
	TAMIL
1.	Pauranik Bal Kathaen (Rep.)
2.	Vishwa Ki Shrestha Lok Kathaen (Rep.)

1	2
3.	Snake Worship
4.	No Time to Fear
5.	Folk Tales of Tamil Nadu (Rep.)
6.	The Tail of Tailor Bird
7.	Riddles (Rep.)
8.	Jatak Kathaen
9.	Mahatma Gandhi
10.	Gospel of Buddha
11.	National Parks of India
12.	This India (Rep.) Dx.
	TELEGU
13.	The Story of Vivekananda (Rep.)
14.	Yugpurush Ambedkar
15.	Ankahi Shourya Gadhaen
16.	Children's Ramayana (Rep.)
17.	Pyagambaron Ki Kathaen
18.	Annie Besant
19.	Bahadur Bachche
20.	Madan Mohan Malviya
21.	Ayodhya Janapada Kathalu
22.	Veer Nari Begum Hazarat Mahal
23.	Vishwa Ki Shrestha Lok Kathaen (Rep.)
24.	Chetak Aur Pratap
25.	Freedom Struggle
26.	Great Men Great Deeds
	KANNADA
27.	Ancient India
28.	Lajpat Rai (BMI)
29.	This India (Rep.) Dx.
	MALAYALAM
30.	Great Classics
31.	This India (Rep.) Dx.

1	2
	URDU
32.	Freedom Fighters Remember
33.	Mahatma Gandhi
34.	Ajkal Aur Adab Ke Pachas Saal
35.	Ajkal Aur Iqbal
36.	Ajkal Ke Mazameen
	PUNJABI
37.	Krantikarion Ke Bachpan
38.	Bharat Ke Pracheen Samarak
39.	Hriday Rog Se Cancer Tak
40.	Dayal Singh Majithia
41.	Fidu Falugar
42.	Vaigyanion Ki Jeevan Kathaen
43.	Bharat Ke Gaurav Granth
44.	Rabindranath Thakur Dian Bal Kahanian
	BENGALI
45.	Trekking in Himalayas
46.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
	MARATHI
47.	Kakashaheb Kalelkar
48.	Desh Videshchya Ke Lok Kathaen
49.	Geet Ramayana (Rep.)
50.	G.V. Mavalankar
51.	This India (Rep.) Dx.
	GUJARATI
52.	Shaheedon Ke Khat (Rep.)
53.	Maro Bharat Desh (Rep.)
54.	Aapna Rashtriya Dhvaj (Rep.)
55.	Apno Rashtriya Geet (Rep.)
56.	Azadi Na Amrut Putro (Rep.)
57.	Phulda Ni Forum (Rep.)
58.	Mutthi Uchcherra Balak (Rep.)

1	2
59.	Bhamasa No Bizo Fero (Rep.)
60.	Pruthvi Ni Parikarma (Rep.)
61.	Khagol Yatri (Rep.)
62.	Bijo Parodh (Rep.)
63.	Composers
64.	Kakasaheb Kalelkar
65.	Gujarataman Jagruti Ni Lahero
66.	Viral Vibhutiya
67.	Smit Na Mulya
68.	Aapna Rashtriya Dhvaj
69.	Kala Na Jyotidhare
70.	Meghdhanush
71.	Akkal Na Ezaro
72.	Azadi Na Amrut Putro
73.	Muthi Dhul Ni Puja
74.	Khagol Yatri
	ORIYA
75.	Shaheedon Ke Khat
Total number of titles released from April 1999 to	
English	32
Hindi	43
Regional Languages	75
	150
Language-wise break up of the books produced:	
English	32
Hindi	43
Urdu	5
Punjabi	8
Gujarati	23
Marathi	5
Bengali	2
Tamil	12
Telugu	14

Malayalam	2
Kannada	3
Oriya	1
	150

In addition to 150 books, the Division also publish including catalogue, Annual Reports and Performance.

Statement-IV

Expenditure on Printing of Books				
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
English	28,77,358	28,10,868	22,07,272	78,95,498
Hindi	29,14,911	33,48,413	17,42,722	80,06,046
Urdu	67,783	1,22,894	34,245	2,24,922
Bengali	21,350	81,483	64,440	1,67,273
Marathi	1,29,041	65,783	68,260	2,63,084
Tamil	41,050	1,70,455	1,91,524	4,03,029
Telugu	12,555	62,033	92,187	1,66,775
Gujarati	3,12,367	3,69,083	7,16,483	13,97,933
Assamese	—	63,525	—	63,525
Punjabi	—	61,939	79,732	1,41,671
Malayalam	—	64,708	13,859	78,671
Kannada	—	—	—	—
Oriya	—	—	—	—
Total	63,76,415	72,21,184	52,10,724	1,88,08,323

[English]

Export of Onion

5338.SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have agreed to allow additional one lakh tonne of onion export in the wake of good production in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether this is in addition to the one lakh tonne of onion exported in the month of December, 1999;

(c) if so, the production of onion in the country; and

(d) the extent to which it has helped in earning the foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, The Government permitted the export of 100,000 MTs of all varieties of onions during the period 9.2.2000 till 31.3.2000.

(c) The total production of onion in the country during 1999-2000 is estimated at 47.5 lakh MTs.

(d) The country has able to earn foreign exchange of about Rs. 150 crores through export of onion permitted by the Government for the period 9.2.2000 to 31.3.2000.

[Translation]

Licences to Start Insurance Business

5339. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT :
SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :
SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft regulations for IRDA have been finalised;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and by when it is likely to come into force;

(c) whether the applications for obtaining licences to start insurance business have been received;

(d) is so, the names of commercial banks and other domestic and foreign agencies which have applied in this regard and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) whether any mandatory provision for crop insurance or doing business in rural areas have been included as a condition for giving licence; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) IRDA Act, 1999 empowers the Authority to specify the percentage of life insurance business and

general insurance business to be undertaken by insurer in the rural or social sector.

[English]

Customs Duty on Ball Bearings

5340. KUNWAR SARV RAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reason of reducing the Custom duty on ball bearing from Rs. 150/Kg.+15% of the price of one Kg. ball bearing to 35% of the price of 1 Kg. ball bearing; and

(b) the loss incurred in the revenue to the Government as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The duty rate on ball and roller bearings has been fixed taking into account the WTO bound rate for this item.

(b) It is too early to say whether the change in the rate structure would lead to a loss in revenue.

[Translation]

Issue of Licences

5341. SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have simplified the procedure for issuing licence for domestic consumer goods in the process of decontrolling the domestic consumer goods from the control of States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the Government have facilitated the import-export control by giving concession on home made goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) At present consumer goods industry except (a) Distillation and brewing of alcoholic drinks (b) Cigars and Cigarettes of tobacco and manufacture tobacco substitutes (c) drugs and pharmaceuticals (according to modified Drug Policy, 1994 as amended in 1999) is free from compulsory licensing under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, subject to locational policy. Entrepreneurs intending to set up industries do not require an industrial license but only have to submit an Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum (IEM) to the Secretariat for Industrial Assistance (SIA) in the Deptt. of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

Since 1991, Government has been following the policy of liberalisation of import restrictions. Accordingly import restriction on many of the manufactured consumer goods have been removed. However, all imports shall be subject to applicable rate of Custom duties and shall also be subject to all the domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environmental and safety norms as applicable to domestically produced goods. This should provide adequate protection to the domestic industry.

There is no restriction on export of manufactured consumer goods. The Government is trying to facilitate export of these goods through various measures like:

- (a) Exemption from payment of income tax to the extent of 80% of export income.
- (b) Refund of indirect taxes paid on inputs required for manufacture of export goods through various schemes like Duty Exemption/Remission Schemes and Duty Draw back Scheme.

Permitting import of Capital Goods required for export production at a concessional duty of 5% through Export Promotion Capital Goods.

Import Substitution Scheme

5342.DR. GIRIJA VYAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are promoting import substitution scheme;
- (b) the items proposed to be included by the Government under the above scheme in a bid to tilt the foreign trade in its favour during the last three years and till date;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the aspects being taken into account, particularly for taking necessary action to boost exports and to discourage imports?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) Import substitution is not being pursued by the Government as a Policy. However, with a view to providing level playing field to domestic manufacturer, the Government has granted deemed export status under the EXIM Policy to supplies effected within India to certain projects/sectors where the projects/sectors are otherwise entitled to import at zero or 5% Basic Customs Duty. Such categories of deemed exports are eligible for (a) duty free imports of inputs required for manufacturing of the resultant product (b)

deemed exports drawback, and (c) refund of Terminal Excise Duty.

For boosting exports, various schemes have been formulated by Government for making capital goods and raw materials available to the domestic manufacturers duty free at International prices. The Customs tariffs are meant to provide protection to the domestic industry by making imports costlier.

[English]

Titles of Periodicals Registered with RNI

5343.SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the titles of dailies and periodicals of different languages registered with the Registrar of Newspapers of India are kept confidential;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to publish the registered titles in the respective vernacular media to avoid harassment to the people who seek registration; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The State-wise list of titles have been supplied to the District Magistrates for easy reference.

[Translation]

Air and Doordarshan Network

5344.SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI:

SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIISI:

SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO:

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

- (a) the total area covered by AIR and Doordarshan network in the country during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the number of HPT and LPT installed and put into operation by the Government during the above period, State-wise;

(c) the number of LPT converted into HPT during the same period;

(d) whether the Government have set any target due to cover the whole population of the country by AIR and Doordarshan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The area and population coverage of AIR is 90% and 97.3% respectively. Most of the uncovered area is either un-inhabited or sparsely populated. Therefore, there has been no significant increase in the area covered by AIR during the last three years though quality of broadcast in areas already covered has improved. The estimated additional area covered by Doordarshan during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000 is 6332.8 sq. km., 34830.4 sq. km. and 60161.6 sq. km. respectively.

(b) The details of Low Power and High Power Transmitters of AIR and Doordarshan commissioned during last three years are given in the attached statement.

(c) 5 Low Power Transmitters of AIR and 8 of Doordarshan have been upgraded to High Power Transmitters during the said period. Satellite channels of DD provide coverage to the whole population of the country.

(d) and (e) The improvement/expansion of Terrestrial Radio/TV coverage in the country is being carried out in a phased manner depending upon availability of resources.

Statement

Sr.No.	State/UT	Doordarshan	AIR
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	2
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	—
3.	Assam	3	2
4.	Bihar	4	2
5.	Gujarat	18	—
6.	Haryana	1	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	2

1	2	3	4
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	1
9.	Karnataka	5	2
10.	Kerala	1	2
11.	Maharashtra	11	—
12.	Manipur	—	—
13.	Mizoram	1	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	7	3
15.	Nagaland	—	—
16.	Orissa	10	2
17.	Pondicherry	1	1
18.	Punjab	2	1
19.	Rajasthan	5	2
20.	Sikkim	—	—
21.	Tamil Nadu	2	2
22.	Tripura	3	—
23.	Uttar Pradesh	9	6
24.	West Bengal	—	5
25.	Delhi	—	4
26.	Chandigarh	—	1

Expenditures of Public Sector Undertakings

5345.SHRI MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the advertising expenses alongwith the Budget an Expenditure during the last three years of the major Public Sector Undertakings, particularly of Navratna Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) the details of the expenditure incurred during the last three years for the community development by the above undertakings, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for spending less amount on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Patent Right

5346. SHRI AKHILESH YADAV:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
DR. SANJAY PASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to secure patent right from U.S.A. where various vegetables, fruits and basmati rice and other items of Indian origin have already been patented;

(b) if so, the efforts made so far for getting the patent right from the U.S.A., item-wise;

(c) whether the Government have secured the patent right of basmati rice from the United States;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the derivations patented in United States could be challenged legally;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (g) Patents are granted under the sovereign prerogative of countries according to their respective Patent Laws and have territorial effect, that is, they are effective only in the country of grant. However, as and when information is received about patents being obtained on certain items which are not considered patentable and which affect Indian interests, steps are taken to assess whether the grant of such patent can be challenged under the patent laws of the country concerned.

Earlier a patent granted in the United States of America on the use of turmeric in wound healing was challenged. The said patent was also cancelled.

It has now been decided to challenge limited claims of the patent on Basmati Ricelines and grains granted in the United States of America.

In order to protect bio-resources, the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill 1999, contains provisions for mandatory disclosure of source and geographical origin of the biological material used in the invention while applying for patents in India. Provisions have also been incorporated to include the non-disclosure or wrongful disclosure of the same as grounds for opposition and for revocation of the patent, if granted. Provisions in this regard are contained in clauses 8, 17 and 28 of the said Bill.

In order to protect traditional knowledge from being patented, provisions have been incorporated in the Patents (Second Amendment) Bill, 1999, to include anticipation of invention by available local knowledge, including oral knowledge, as one of the grounds for opposition as also for revocation of patent. Provisions in this regard are contained in clauses 17 and 28 of the said Bill.

Apart from this Government has also initiated an exercise to develop a digital data base of traditional knowledge in the field of medicinal plants to avoid patenting of such knowledge.

Theft of Coal in WCL

5347. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases of theft of coal worth crores of rupees in coal belt of Western Coal Mines have been brought to the notice of the Government recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken against those involved in clandestine operation; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check smuggling and massive theft of coal in Western Coalfields Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), there was no loss due to pilferage of coal during 1997-98 and 1998-99 in Western Coalfields Limited (WCL), a subsidiary of CIL. However, a small quantity of 13 tonnes of coal amounting to Rs. 11,000 was lost due to pilferage in WCL in 1999-2000. The company lodged a First Information Report in this case with the Police Station, Wani on 16.1.2000. After police investigation, two persons were reportedly arrested by the police. The company management have blacklisted the truck involved in this case alongwith its driver from entering the Wani (North) Area. Moreover, the trucks of a coal transporter have also been stopped

from entering the area. The services of private security guard who was found to have connived with this theft case, have been terminated.

(c) The following steps are being taken continuously by the WCL to guard against theft of coal:-

- (i) At entry/exit points of all coal mines, check posts have been established which check all coal laden vehicles.
- (ii) Coal stock locations are guarded by security staff round the clock.
- (iii) Patrolling is done by the security staff round the clock.
- (iv) Liaison with local police at area level is done to check coal theft and maintain vigil in the area.
- (iv) Joint patrolling with local police is carried out.
- (v) Surprise checks/raids by the flying squad of the company are carried out.
- (vi) Surprise re-weighment of coal laden trucks at weighbridges is done.
- (vii) Coal sidings, weigh-bridges check posts are being provided with mobile wireless sets, for effective communication to prevent coal thefts.
- (viii) All-weigh-bridges are being converted into electronic weigh-bridges.
- (ix) Escorting coal rakes in coordination with Railway Production Force is being done till weighment is being organised.
- (x) In cases of coal thefts, First Information Reports are lodged with the local police and followed up for recovery of the stolen coal.

[Translation]

Procurement of Cotton by CCI

5348.SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton procured by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) in the country during 1999-2000, State-wise;

(b) the dues paid by the CCI and the amount outstanding in this regard;

(c) whether the CCI is in profit or loss in sale and purchase in this regard; and

(d) if in loss, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) State-wise quantity of cotton procured by Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI) during the current cotton season 1999-2000 (1.10.99 to 24.4.2000) is as under:-

State	Qty. of Cotton Procured (in bales of 170 kg. each)
Punjab	35593
Haryana	18620
Rajasthan	122492
Gujarat	94295
Madhya Pradesh	43913
Andhra Pradesh	117579
Larmatala	13000
Tamil Nadu	791
Meghalaya	1987
Orissa	2447
Total	450717

The CCI does not operate in Maharashtra due to the existence of the State Government's monopoly procurement scheme of cotton in the State. However, the CCI has purchased 25000 bales from Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers Marketing Federation having value of Rs. 19.76 crores approximately.

(b) The Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. has paid Rs. 400.70 crores towards procurement of Kapas (mentioned above) from farmers and there is no outstanding dues in this regard.

(c) The Cotton Corporation on India Ltd. would make marginal profit in this regard.

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

Kisan Credit Cards

5349.SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure adopted by the Union Government to issue Kisan Credit Cards to the farmers;

(b) the number of Kisan Credit Cards to be issued by a bank branch;

(c) whether complaints have been received with regard to non issuing of Credit Cards to the farmers by the branches of Punjab National Bank and Hindan Rural Bank Particularly in Buland Shahar district; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 1998-99, Reserve Bank of India had advised all scheduled commercial banks to formulate suitable Kisan Credit Card Scheme on the lines of the Model Scheme formulated by NABARD. The salient features of the Scheme is given below:-

- i. Scheme is to be implemented by commercial banks, regional rural banks and co-operative banks who have the discretion to adopt the same to suit location specific requirements;
- ii. The Scheme aims at adequate and timely support for the farmers for the cultivation needs including purchase of all inputs in a flexible and cost effective manner;
- iii. Under the Scheme banks would provide Kisan Credit Cards to farmers who are eligible for sanction of production credit of Rs. 5,000/- and above;
- iv. Beneficiaries are to be issued with a credit card and pass book or a credit card-cum-pass book with particulars of land holding, borrowing limit, validity period, etc. to facilitate recording of transactions on an ongoing basis;
- v. The Kisan Credit Card is normally valid for a period of 3 years subject to an annual review;
- vi. Rates of interest are to be charged as applicable to crop loans;
- vii. Security/margin norms should be in conformity with RBI/NABARD instructions from time to time.

(b) RBI has fixed bank-wise targets of Kisan Credit

cards to be issued. It is left for the respective banks to advise their branches in this regard.

(c) and (d) RBI has reported that no such specific complaints have been received.

[English]

Doordarshan Coverage in Uttaranchal

5350. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the coverage of Doordarshan, in terms of population and area, separately, for each of the three districts of Chamoli, Rudraprayag and Pauri Garhwal of Uttaranchal;

(b) whether the Government propose to bring this coverage to the level of National percentage;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the specific priority has been given by the Government in the three Districts mentioned above;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The estimated population-wise and area-wise coverage of terrestrial channel of Doordarshan are as follows:-

District	Area Coverage in %	Population Cover- age in %
Chamoli	11.5	15.2
Rudraprayag	22.6	29.3
Pauri Garhwal	86.5	86.3

However, the satellite channels of Doordarshan are available in the entire area of all the districts.

(b) to (f) Expansion of Doordarshan's terrestrial coverage in the country is being carried out in a phased manner depending on availability of resources. For further expansion of terrestrial coverage in the above mentioned districts, the following transmitter projects are under implementation:-

District	Transmitter
Chamoli	LPT Gopeshwar VLPT Chamoli VLPT Badrinath VLPT Aroli
Rudraprayag	VLPT Kedarnath
Pauri Garhwal	LPT Kalagarh VLPT Dogadda

Priority Sector Lending by Banks

5351. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks are manipulating their priority sector advance figures to avoid any action against them by the RBI;

(b) if so, the details of such banks; and

(c) the action taken by RBI against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of Onion

5352. SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received a representation from onion growers in Maharashtra seeking enhancement of export quota and protection against falling prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken to protect the interest onion growers;

(c) the details of onion export made during 1999-2000 in terms of quantity, export earnings and their comparison with the previous two years; and

(d) the details of fresh policy initiatives recently taken/under consideration for encouraging production of onion and various export potential?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from time to time from onion growers in Maharashtra as well as the Maharashtra Government for removal of restrictions on export of onion in the interest of farmers and exporters. The Government, after assessing the crop prospects of onion and considering the requests from farmers and traders, permitted, through

designated canalising agencies, exports of 100,000 MTs, of onions of all varieties during the period 1.12.99 till 31.1.2000 as also export of 100,000 MTs of onion of all varieties during the period 9.2.2000 till 31.3.2000. The Government has also permitted export of 50,000 MTs of onion of all varieties during the period April-May, 2000. Apart from this, the Central Government procured onion, under its Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in Maharashtra from 20.1.2000 to 29.2.2000 in association with the Government of Maharashtra.

(c) Exports of onion, both quantity and value during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 have been as follows:

Qty: MTs

Value: Rs. crores

Year	Exports	
	Qty.	Value
1997-98	333349.0	202.46
1998-99	215694.0	176.05
1999-2000*	98696.0	89.06
(April 1999-August 1999)		

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta.

*Provisional.

(d) There is no specific scheme for increasing production of vegetables to encourage export. However, the Government has approved a scheme on integrated development of vegetables including root and tuber crops for increasing production and productivity of vegetable crops both for domestic and export markets. The scheme includes programme on seed production, productivity improvement, integrated insect, pest and disease management, transfer of technology including training and visits, demonstration of technology, mechanisation and on-farm post-harvest handling.

In order to achieve a sustainable growth in exports of onions, Government is considering a long-export policy for onion that would ensure continuity in exports.

[Translation]

Problems Faced by Textile Sector Due to Implementation of T.U.F. Scheme

5353. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ :

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the problems are being faced in the implementation of the Technology Upgradation Fund (TUF) Scheme meant for the textile sector;

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

(c) whether the attitude of the financial institutions which are giving loan to the textile units under this scheme is not co-operative is also one of the main reasons; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government against these financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (d) Government have launched the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) which is in operation since 1.4.1999 for modernisation of textile/jute industry. IDBI, SIDBI & IFCI have been appointed as Nodal Agencies. They have also co-opted other financial organisations/banks to provide easy and wider to the industry. the implementation of the scheme is being reviewed and monitored by an Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee(IMSC) and Technical Advisory Committee(TAC) on a quarterly basis. Representatives of the Nodal Agencies are also member on the IMSC and TAC. On the basis of feed back received from various quarters, necessary modifications are made in the scheme to improve its performance further. As such, no major problems are being faced in the implementation to the TUFS and Nodal Agencies/Co-opted agencies are extending due co-operation.

Insurance Schemes for Poor People of Rural Areas

5354.SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the Hut Insurance Scheme and Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme being implemented by the Government for the benefit of poor people of rural areas; and

(b) the State-wise number of rural poor people benefitted through these schemes during the last three years, particularly in Vadodra district of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Hut Insurance Scheme provides a compensation of Rs. 1,000/- for hut and Rs. 500/- for belongings in the case of loss due to fire only to very poor families in rural areas with annual income from all sources not exceeding

Rs. 4,800/- per annum when their huts and/or belongings are destroyed by fire. The poor families are not required to pay any premium and the entire premium cost is borne by the Central Government. The scheme is implemented through General Insurance Corporation of India.

2. The Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme provided a sum of Rs. 5,000 on death of the rural poor in the age group 20-60 years. The entry age is restricted to 20-50 years. The annual premium is Rs. 60/- per member if he is 20 years or more but less than 40 years on the date of joining the scheme, and it is Rs. 70/- per member if he is 40 years or more but less than 50 years on the date of joining the scheme. There are two types of policies i.e. Subsidised and Non-subsidised (General). The General policy is available to all without any restriction on no. of policies on payment of full premium by the member. The subsidised policy is restricted to one policy per household to the family below the poverty line in the rural areas. In case of Subsidised policy the Central Government and State Government equally share 50% of premium and the balance 50% of premium is to be borne by the member. This scheme is implemented through the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC). The Insurance Cover ceases at the age of 60 years. To popularise the Scheme the LIC provides incentives to village level workers @ of Rs. 6 per member on enrolment of new member and Rs. 3 per member on renewal of insurance cover in the subsequent years on the life of existing member.

3. The No. of rural poor people benefitted during the last three years State-wise and particularly in Vadodara district of Gujarat through Hut Insurance Scheme as per the information furnished by General Insurance Corporation of India, is as per statement-I attached and through Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme as per the information furnished by Life Insurance Corporation of India as per statement-II attached.

Statement-I

State-wise No. of Rural People benefitted through Hut Insurance Scheme during Last Three Years

Sl.No.	State/District	Year		
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10841	9912	5374
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
3.	Assam	34	58	178
4.	Bihar	16223	10085	9871

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
6.	Delhi	0	0	0
7.	Goa	39	19	0
8.	Gujarat	9	6	1
9.	Haryana	3	7	1
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	1607	1119	678
13.	Kerala	1072	906	649
14.	Madhya Pradesh	219	13	9
15.	Maharashtra	96	9	21
16.	Manipur	105	408	146
17.	Meghalaya	1	0	0
18.	Nagaland	0	0	1531
19.	Orissa	1445	6987	2850
20.	Pondicherry	130	117	119
21.	Punjab	0	12	4
22.	Rajasthan	231	186	282
23.	Tamilnadu	2249	1854	1453
24.	Tripura	3	2	30
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1079	950	261
26.	West Bengal	5392	7825	4763
Total		40778	40475	28221

No. of People benefitted under the Hut Insurance Scheme in Vadodara District

1.	Vadodara	0	0	0
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Statement-II

State-wise No. of Rural People Insured, Through Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme during the Last Three Years

Sl.No.	State/District	Period			
		15.8.1996 14.8.1997	15.8.1997 14.8.1998	15.8.1998 14.8.1999	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Madhya Pradesh	915	0	0	

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Uttar Pradesh	200067	73536	38133
3.	Assam	547	0	0
4.	Manipur	1437	0	119
5.	Orissa	1941	2234	818
6.	Punjab	93	156	0
7.	Rajasthan	1006	3338	663
8.	Haryana	231	110	0
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1233	0	0
10.	Andhra Pradesh	20506	9504	859
11.	Karnataka	375368	255091	151072
12.	Maharashtra	31609	35175	16461
13.	Goa	236	213	136
14.	Gujarat	6525	3820	0
Total		641714	383177	208261

No. of People Insured, under the Rural Group Life Insurance Scheme in Vadodara District

1.	Vadodara	0	340	0
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Note:- The above information is in respect of total no. of new lives/members enrolled and the no. of existing lives who have opted for renewal of insurance cover under General (Non-Subsidised) and Subsidise Schemes.

Setting up of Doordarshan Kendra in Kanpur

5355.SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any proposal to set up a Doordarshan Kendra in Kanpur under the 1962 scheme to open Doordarshan studies in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing this scheme so far;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a Doordarshan Kendra in Kanpur in the near future; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) As per available records, no such proposal was approved by the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A High Power transmitter for DD-1 and a Low Power Transmitter for DD-2 are already functioning from Kanpur, and the studio at Lucknow caters to the needs of Kanpur also.

[English]

Promotion of Film Producers

5356.SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by the Government to encourage young film producers who are involved in the production of documentaries, shoot films, advertisement films on socio, economic, cultural and educational fields;

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilised for the Film Society of India and Children Film Society of India during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any schemes to promote the production of films of national interest and public importance or on any social cause; and

(d) if so, the details of the recipients of the such awards/financial assistance during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Films Division encourages film makers, particularly those graduated from the Film and Television Institute of India and other film schools, by assigning them films as and when worthwhile proposals on socio economic, cultural and educational subjects are received and approved.

(b) The details are given in Statement-I

(c) Films Division produces films of national and public interest of subjects like communal harmony, national integration, prohibition, family welfare, environment, agriculture, science and technology, current history, rural development, social welfare, industry, human and child welfare, defence etc. The National Film Development Corporation and Children's Film Society also produce films on social themes. Besides, the Directorate of Film Festivals organizes National Film Festival every year where awards are given in various categories

(d) The details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of funds allocated and utilized for the Federation of Film Societies of India (FFSI) and the Children's Film Society, India (CFSI)

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1. CFSI			
(a) Funds allocated/ Released	1,40,60,728.00	3,49,74,252.00	4,30,28,800.00
	1.	2.	3.
(b) Funds utilized	2,01,44,467.16	3,20,03,800.43	3,11,51,000.00

1. This included utilization of unspent balance of Rs. 60,84,487.49 carried forward from the previous year i.e., 1996-97. An unspent balance of Rs. 748.33 as on 31.3.1998 was carried forward to the financial year 1998-99.
2. Unutilised grant of Rs. 29,71,199.90 was carried forward to next financial year i.e., 1999-2000.
3. Unspent balance of Rs. 1,48,49,000.00 as on March 31, 2000 will be utilized during the financial year 2000-2001.

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
2. FFSI			
(a) Funds allocated/ released	4.00	4.00	4.00
(b) Funds utilized	4.00	4.00	4.00

Statement-II

Details of recipients of awards for films of national importance/films on social issues during the last three National Film Festivals (NFFs) are given below

44th National Film Festival-1997**AWARDS FOR NON-FEATURE FILMS :**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Best Arts/Cultural film | 1. Producer: JS (XP), Ministry of External Affairs |
| | 2. Producer: Ms. Saroj Satyanarayan |
| | 3. Director: Ms. Saroj Satyanarayan |
| 2. Best film on Social issues | 4. Producer: Jose Sebastian |
| | 5. Director: O.K. Johnny |
| 3. Best Educational/Motivational Instructional film | 6. Producer: Abraham Benhur |
| | 7. Director: Ali Akbar |
| 4. Best Film on Family Welfare | 8. Producer: Films Division |
| | 9. Producer: Deptt. of Welfare |
| | 10. Producer: K.R.G. Pictures Productions. |
| | 11. Director: Gul Bahar Singh |
| 5. Best Biographical film | 12. Producer: Digbijay Medhi |
| | 13. Director: Prabin Hazarika |

FEATURE FILMS

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 6. Best film on other Social issues | 1. Producer: Pooja Bhatt |
| | 2. Director: Mahesh Bhatt |
| 7. Best film on Family Welfare | 3. Producer: Robin Agarwal |
| | 4. Prabhat Roy |
| 8. Nargis Dutt Award for Best film on National Integration. | 5. Producer: P.V. Gangadharan |
| | 6. Director: Siby Malayil |

45th National Film Festival, 1998**NON-FEATURE FILM SECTION**

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----|---|
| 1. Best Arts/Cultural Film | NF | 1. Producer:
Director, National
Gallery of Modern Art |
| | NF | 2. Director:
Suhasini Mulay |
| | NF | 3. Director:
H.M. Gharekhan |

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|----|-----|---|
| 2. | Best Film on Social Issues | NF | 4. | Producer:
Anjana Ghosh Dastidar |
| | | NF | 5. | Director:
Debananda Sengupta |
| 3. | Best Educational Motivational
Instructional Film | NF | 6. | Producer: Shri Bankim, Films Division |
| | | NF | 7. | Producer: Deptt of Family Welfare. |
| | | NF | 8. | Producer: Sudesh Unni Raman |
| | | NF | 9. | Director: Venu Arora |
| 4. | Best Film on Family Welfare | NF | 10. | Producer: Shaila Paralkar |
| | | NF | 11. | Producer: Yash Chaudhary |
| | | NF | 12. | Producer: Department of Family Welfare |
| | | NF | 13. | Director: Shaila Paralkar |
| | | NF | 14. | Director: K.G. Das |
| 5. | Best Anthropological/Enthnographi
Film | NF | 15. | Producer: Director, Cultural Research
Institute, S.L., and T.W. Deptt. |
| | | NF | 16. | Director: Anjan Bose |
| | | NF | 17. | Director: Manas Kamal Chowdhari |
| 6. | Best Environment/Conservation/Preservation
Film | NF | 18. | Producer: Y.N. Engineer |
| | | NF | 19. | Director: Late P.C. Sharma |
| | | NF | 20. | Director: Shankar Patnaik |
| 7. | Best Agricultural Film | NF | 21. | Producer: Y.N. Engineer |
| | | NF | 22. | Director: V. Packirisamy |
| 8. | Best Historical Reconstruction/Compilation
Film | NF | 23. | Producer: P. Sasidharan |
| | | NF | 24. | Producer: A. Krishna |
| | | NF | 25. | Producer: R.S. Madhu |
| 9. | Best Exploration/Adventure Film | NF | 26. | Producer: Kuldeep Sinha |
| | | NF | 27. | Director: Raghu Krishna |
| 10. | Best Film on other Social Issues | F | 28. | Producer: Films Division |
| | | F | 29. | Director: Deepak Roy |
| 11. | Best Film on Family Welfare | F | 30. | Producer: S. Balachandra Menon |
| | | F | 31. | Director: S. Balachandra Menon |

12. Best Film on Environment Conservation/
Preservation

F

32. Producer: R. Mahadev Gowda

33. Director: Kesari Harvoo

34. Producer Dr. M.S. Reddy

F

35. Director: Gunasekhar

46th National Film Festival, 1999 - 2000

NON-FEATURE FILM SECTION

- | | | |
|---|----|---|
| 1. Best Arts/Cultural Film | NF | 1. Producer: Shri Bankim, Chief Producer, Films Division, Mumbai |
| 2. Best Film on Social Issues | NF | 2. Producer: P. Amirtham, Director, FTIT |
| 3. Best Educational/Motivational/Instructional Film | NF | 3. Producer: Messers Vivek Films (Rep. Shri Vikram K. Kumar) |
| 4. Best Film on Family Welfare | NF | 4. Producer: Shri Y.N. Engineer |
| 5. Best Anthropological/Enthnographic Film | NF | 5. Producer: Shri Sankar Rakshit |
| 6. Best Environment/Conservation/Preservation Film | NF | 6. Producer: Shri Dayakar Rao |
| 7. Best Historical Reconstruction/Compilation Film | NF | 7. Producer: P. Amirtham, Director, Tamilnadu Films Division |
| 8. Best Exploration/Adventure Film | NF | 8. Producer: Messers Neo Films (Rep. Shri Vivek Mohan) |
| 9. Best Film on Other Social Issues | F | 9. Producer: Shri C. Karunakaran |
| 10. Best Film on Family Welfare | F | 10. Producer: Messers Dhatri Films (Rep. Ms. Pronati Ballav) |
| 11. Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration | F | 11. Producer: Ms. Pooja Bhatt |
| 12. Best Film on Environment/Conservation/Preservation | F | 12. Producer: National Center of Films for Children and Young People (Rep. Ms. Sai Paranjpye) |

Strike by Staff of Singareni Coalmines Company

5357.DR. (SMT.) C. SUGUNA KUMARI: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of Singareni Coalmines Company Limited went on strike in the month of February, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of their demands and agreements made with the management before calling off the strike; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to avoid such strikes in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) The Singareni Collieries Workers' Union (SCWU), a recognised Union, organised a strike through out the Company from first shift of 09.02.2000 to 21.02.2000.

(b) Major demands of the Union were as under:-

- (1) Early finalisation of National Coal Wage Agreement-VI.

- (2) Payment of House Rent Allowance @10% of basic pay to the employees living in 3 'C' class towns.
- (3) Confirmation of 117 acting clerks as Clerks.
- (4) Providing alternative employment to the workmen declared unfit to their original job due to reasons other than mine accidents.
- (5) To stop introduction of 7 day week with staggering play day system.
- (6) To stop introduction of staggering shifts to the Coalfillers and Coal cutters in under ground mines.
- (7) Implementation of Cadre Schemes for Lamp room staff, EP Tradesmen in opencast projects and providing monthly grades to Tradesmen.
- (8) Finalisation of pending Cadre Schemes.
- (9) Revision of company allowances.
- (10) Demands pertaining to promotion to Overmen of Mining Staff, Civil, E&M, Diploma Holders Office Supdts., EDP. Assts., Stenographers to executive scales of pay.
- (11) Not to declare lock out to the monthly rated employees including mining staff and clerical staff in the event of illegal strikes by other section of workmen.
- (12) Change in the eligibility criteria for promotion to the post of Electrical Charge Hand Grade B.
- (13) Allotment of quarters to open cast project personnel adoption of Joint Bipartite Committee on Coal Industry cadre scheme for clerical staff.
- (14) To give one more opportunity to the dependants who were offered appointment as Badli filler but did not report for duty for one reason or other.
- (15) Regularisation of Badli Coalfillers as Coalfillers.
- (16) Reviewing the penalties imposed on certain employees.
- (17) Re-appointment of workmen dismissed on the grounds of absenteeism.
- (18) Providing uniform to the employees working in Longwalls/Blasting Gallery Panels, providing Excavation Plant grades to certain tradesmen working in Blasting Gallery Panel, Longwall workshops etc.
- (19) Re-appointment of 8 employees of Rama Krishna Puram-Mandamarri who have been dismissed on the fake medical unfit certificates; and
- (20) Not to change the existing practice in respect of Helpers to Tradesmen, Shift timings in Open cast projects as has been the practice in Coal India Limited and recovery of electricity charges from the workers residing in Company's quarters.

The Strike Notice was seized in conciliation by the Regional Labour Commissioner(Central), Hyderabad and conciliation proceedings were held by him on different dates commencing from 11.01.2000. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh convened a joint meeting with the representatives of Management and recognised Union on 21.02.2000. As a result of this meeting, a Memorandum of Settlement was arrived at between the management of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. and SCWU on 27 issues including almost all the above 20 demands before Regional Labour Commissioner(Central), Hyderabad on 21.02.2000. Consequent to signing of the above settlement the strike was called off by the Union from 22.02.2000.

(c) The Management has been holding periodic discussions with the Union to sort out the issues. It is being impressed upon the Union not to raise any issues beyond what is provided in National Coal Wage Agreements for the rest of the Coal Industry. It is also proposed to organise training classes to the managerial personnel and trade union leaders on the subject of Maintaining Harmonious Industrial Relations.

[Translation]

Upgradation of AIR/Doordarshan in Rajasthan

5358.PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to develop and upgrade the All India Radio and Doordarshan in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total cost involved, location-wise; and

(c) the time by which the development and upgradation works are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The location-wise details of All India Radio and Doordarshan development projects presently under implementation in Rajasthan alongwith the cost involved are given in the attached statement.

(c) The aforesaid projects are at different stages of implementation and are expected to be completed in phases during the 9th plan period.

Statement *

Sl. No.	Project	Approved Capital Cost (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
DOORDARSHAN		
1.	Studio Udaipur	362.00
2.	HPT Ajmer	858.60
3.	HPT Barmer	1720.58
4.	HPT Jaipur (DD2)	574.00
5.	HPT Jodhpur (DD2)	494.00
6.	LPT Bali	76.00
7.	LPT Bhinmal	76.00
8.	LPT Kishangarh	76.00
9.	LPT Kushalgarh	76.00
10.	LPT Makrana	100.70
11.	LPT Nagar	76.00
12.	LPT Nasirabad	76.00
13.	LPT Navalgarh	76.00
14.	LPT Pirawa	76.00

1	2	3
15.	LPT Sanchor	76.00
16.	LPT Sojat	76.00
17.	LPT Taranagar	76.00
18.	LPT Vijaynagar	96.00
19.	VLPT Laxmangarh	70.81
20.	VLPT Tibi	77.65
ALL INDIA RADIO		
1.	Jaipur-6 KW FM Tr. & Stereo play back facilities (Replacement of existing 1 KW MW Tr. for VBS)	285.30
2.	Jodhpur-300 KW MW Tr. (Replacement of existing 100 KW MW Tr.)	917.00
3.	Kota-20 KW MW Tr. (Replacement of existing 1 KW MW Tr.)	400.60

Non-Payment of Loans Under PMRY

5359. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received from Bihar regarding non-payment of loans approved under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojna (PMRY) by the nationalised banks during the last three years; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), 17 complaints were received from Bihar regarding non-payment of loans/difficulty in obtaining loans under PMRY by the nationalized/public sector banks during the last three years. The complaints received in Central Office, RBI are processed and forwarded to Regional Office, Patna for examination. Regional Office conducts inquiry at the concerned bank branch for examination of points raised in the complaints. The complaints are resolved suitably as per the extant PMRY guidelines. No fresh representation was received from any of the complaints thereafter.

[English]

Production and Export of Coffee

5360. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of coffee produced and exported during 1999-2000;
- (b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and
- (c) the steps taken to increase its production to earn more foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The quantum of coffee produced and exported during 1999-2000 is given below:-

Year	Production (in Tonnes)	Export (in Tonnes)	Foreign Exchange earned (Rs. in Crores)
1999-2000	2,82,000 (Estimated)	1,82,594(*)	1368(*)

(*)Provisional—Subject to revision.

(c) In order to increase the production of coffee, the Coffee Board has been operating several Plan programmes and developmental activities aimed at intensive cultivation, replanting, quality improvement and water augmentation. They have been also providing necessary support in the form of (a) agricultural research (b) extension, (c) arrangement of credit and finance and other necessary back up support like supply of seed coffee for planting purposes, etc.

Fiscal Discipline

5361. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are working towards framing a Fiscal Responsibility Act to create institutional mechanism for effective fiscal management;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the enactment is likely to be presented to Parliament; and
- (c) the further steps are proposed in order to ensure the credibility of the budget exercise and revive the fiscal discipline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government has set up a Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary (Economic Affairs) to go into various aspects of the matter concerning enactment of a 'Fiscal Responsibility Act' and recommend a draft legislation. The exercise is intended for medium-term management of the fiscal deficit with the support of a strong institutional mechanism embodied in a Fiscal Responsibility Act. As announced by the Finance Minister in the Budget Speech 2000-01, Government hopes to bring the necessary legislative proposals during the course of the year (vide para 11 *ibid*).

[Translation]

Insurance Policies

5362. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names and details of the policies introduced for children, youths and adults by the Life Insurance Corporation of India; and
- (b) the names of the policies introduced, separately, for the year 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) The Life Insurance Corporation of India have informed that they have introduced Plans for children, youths and adults as per statement-I. The details of these Plans are as per statement-II.

(b) The Life Insurance Corporation of India have not introduced any Plan separately for the year 2000-2001.

Statement-I

Names of Plans Introduced by Life Insurance Corporation of India for Children, Youths and Adults

1. CHILDREN PLANS

(Table Nos. 41, 50, 101, 102, 109, 113, 135)

- Children Deferred Assurance vesting at age 18 and 21
- Jeevan Balya
- Jeevan Kishore
- Jeevan Sukanya
- Money Back

- Bal Vidya
- 2. TOWARDS EDUCATION/MARRIAGE OF CHILDREN
(Table No. 90)
 - Marriage Endowment/Education annuity plan
- 3. EXCLUSIVELY FOR FEMALES
(Table Nos. 109, 128)
 - Jeevan Sukanya
 - Jeevan Sneha
- 4. HEALTH INSURANCE
(Table Nos. 121, 131)
 - Asha Deep - II
 - Jeevan Asha - II
- 5. PENSION/ANNUITY
(Table Nos. 44, 45, 60, 61, 96, 97, 115, 116, 117, 122)
 - Immediate Annuity and Deferred Annuity for life or for a given term
 - Jeevan Dhara, Jeevan Akshay
 - Immediate and Deferred Annuity with return of corpus
 - Jeevan Sarita
 - Jeevan Suraksha
- 6. MONEY BACK TYPE PLANS
(Table Nos. 75, 93, 103, 106, 107, 108, 123, 124, 125, 126, 128)
 - 20 and 25 years Money Back
 - Jeevan Chhaya
 - Jeevan Surabhi for 15, 20 and 25 years
 - Jeevan Sanchaya for 12, 15, 20 and 25 years
 - Jeevan Sneha
- 7. TERM ASSURANCE
(Table Nos. 43, 58, 94, 111)
 - Temporary assurance upto 2 years
 - Convertible Term Assurance
 - Bima Sandesh
- Bima Kiran
- 8. PLANS FOR HOUSING PURPOSE
(Table Nos. 52, 104, 105)
 - Mortgage Redemption Assurance
 - Jeevan Griha (Double and Triple cover)
- 9. JOINT LIFE PLANS
(Table Nos. 89, 117)
 - Jeevan Sathi
 - Jeevan Sarita
- 10. FOR HANDICAPPED DEPENDANTS
(Table Nos. 114, 136)
 - Jeevan Aadhar
 - Jeevan Vishwas
- 11. KEY MAN INSURANCE
(Table Nos. 112)
 - Jeevan Shree
- 12. SAVINGS PLAN
(Table No. 132)
 - Bima Nivesh
- 13. OTHER PLANS
(Table Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 27, 11, 14, 47, 48, 18, 88, 91, 95, 133)
 - The Whole Life
 - The Limited Payment Life
 - Convertible Whole Life
 - Endowment Assurances
 - Limited Payment Endowment Assurances
 - Double Endowment
 - Jeevan Mitra (Double Cover Endowment)
 - New Jan Raksha
 - Special Endowment
 - Jeevan Mitra (Triple Cover)

Statement-II

LIC'S Various Plans

The details of the various plans introduced by the Life Insurance Corporation of India for Children, Youths and Adults

1) Basic Life Insurance Plans

- a) **Whole Life Assurance Plan** : A low cost insurance plan where the Sum Assured is payable on the death of the life assured, whenever it occurs.
- b) **Endowment Assurance Plan** : The Sum Assured is payable on maturity or on death of the life assured during the term, if earlier.

2) Term Assurance Plans

- a) **Two Year Temporary Assurance Plan** : Term assurance for periods of upto 2 years is available under this plan. *The sum assured is payable only on death of the life assured during the policy term.*
- b) **Convertible Term Assurance Plan** : The plan provides for term assurance for 5 to 7 years with an option to purchase a new Limited Payment Whole Life Policy or an Endowment Assurance Policy at the end of the selected term provided the policy is in full force.
- c) **Bima Sandesh** : The sum assured is payable only on death of the life assured during the policy term and the return of premiums paid on the life assured surviving the policy term.
- d) **Bima Kiran** : In addition to benefits available under Bima Sandesh plan, this plan provides Loyalty Addition, In-built accident cover and Free Term Cover after maturity, provided the policy is then in full force.

3) Plans for Children:

Various Children's Deferred Assurance Plans are available, viz., CDA, Jeevan Balya and Jeevan Kishore. Jeevan Sukanya is a plan specially designed for girls. The Children's Money Back Assurance Plan is specially designed to provide for children's higher educational expenses with added attractions of Guaranteed Additions, Loyalty Additions and optional family benefit.

4) Pension Plans :

These Plans provide for immediate or deferred pension for life. The pension payments are made till

the death of the annuitant (unless the policy has provision of guaranteed period). Pension/Annuity plans like Jeevan Dhara, Jeevan Akshay, etc. provide return of the purchase price of death of the annuitant. Jeevan Suraksha Plan provides pension for the spouse also and presently premium paid under it upto Rs. 10,000/- during a year is fully exempted from Income-Tax under Section 80 CCC(1) of Income Tax Act, 1961. Jeevan Sarita – a Joint life last survivor Annuity-cum-Assurance Plan is available for the benefit of both husband and wife.

5) Other Plans

- 1) **Jeevan Griha (Double & Triple Cover)**: For people desirous of obtaining a housing loan with the policy acting as collateral security and to ensure repayment of the loan in the event of the premature death of the borrower.
- 2) **Mortgage Redemption** : Suitable for borrowers as it ensures that the outstanding loan is repaid in the event of the borrower's death.
- 3) **Bhavishya Jeevan**: A special Endowment plan ideally suited for professionals with a limited span of high income.
- 4) **New Jan Raksha**: This plan is ideal for people with no regular income. It provides for death cover for a period of 3 years from the first unpaid premium provided at least 2 full years' premiums have been paid.
- 5) **Double Endowment**: This is an Endowment Assurance plan with double the Sum Assured payable on maturity.
- 6) **Fixed Term (Marriage) Endowment/Educational Annuity**: A plan suitable for making provision for start in life, marriage or education of children.
- 7) **Convertible Whole Life**: The policy is issued as a Whole Life plan with an option to convert it into an Endowment Assurance at the end of 5 years. A plan suitable for those who cannot afford high premium in the initial years but have prospects of the increased income within a few years.
- 8) **Money Back Plan**: Besides providing life cover during the term of the policy, the maturity benefits are paid in instalments by way of survival benefits.

- 9) **Jeevan Surabhi:** A Money Back Plan where premiums are payable for a limited period, with periodical increase in insurance cover.
- 10) **Jeevan Sathi :** A double cover Joint Life Endowment Assurance plan for husband and wife.
- 11) **Jeevan Chhaya :** An ideal plan to provide for higher education of a child.
- 12) **Jeevan Mitra :** An Endowment Assurance plan with twice the sum assured payable on the death of the life assured during the policy term.
- 13) **Jeevan Shree:** A Limited Payment Endowment Assurance Plan with attractive Guaranteed Additions at the rate of Rs.75/- per thousand sum assured per annum and Loyalty Additions.
- 14) **Asha Deep II:** The plan provides, besides death and maturity payments, benefits in case the life assured suffers from any of the four defined ailments.
- 15) **Jeevan Aadhar:** Especially designs for handicapped dependants. This is a limited payment whole life policy with guaranteed additions at the rate of Rs. 100/- per thousand sum assured per annum where the claim amount is paid partly in lumpsum and partly in the form of an annuity. Income Tax relief under Section 80 DD is also available as per current IT Rules.
- 16) **Jeevan Sanchay:** This is a without-Profit Money Back type plan with provision for Guaranteed Additions at the rate of Rs. 70/- per thousand sum assured per annum and Loyalty Additions payable on maturity or earlier death.
- 17) **Jeevan Sneha:** A Money Back Plan exclusively for women. There is provision for Guaranteed Additions at the rate of Rs.70/- per thousand sum assured per annum and Loyalty Additions payable on maturity or earlier death.
- 18) **Blma Nivesh:** A single premium plan of assurance with compounding guaranteed additions at the rate of Rs. 85/- per thousand sum assured per annum for first 5 years and Rs. 90/- per thousand sum assured per annum for next 5 years. The same premium is payable for a given policy term, irrespective of age at entry.
- 19) **Jeevan Asha-II:** The Plan provides, besides death and maturity benefits, payment towards certain surgical procedures and periodical

survival benefit payments. There is also a provision for guaranteed additions at the rate of Rs.70/- per thousand sum assured per annum.

New Plans Introduced during the financial year 1999-2000:

1. Jeevan Mitra (Triple Cover) With Profit (Table 133)

- Endowment Assurance Plan with triple the sum assured payable on the death of the life assured during the policy term.

2. Bal Vidya (Table 135)

- It is a single premium plan for the benefit of children which provides monthly income and lumpsum payments to take care of school, college and professional education and also start-up of a career.

3. Jeevan Vishwas (Table 136)

- This plan enables to make provision for the mentally or physically handicapped dependents. Through this plan, one can make provision for dependents who can't be covered under Jeevan Aadhar plan because of Income-tax restrictions.

[English]

Route for Drug Mafia

5363. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Calcutta has turned into a major route for the international drug mafia during the past few years;

(b) if so, whether according to the Zonal Narcotics Bureau, the consignments not only from India but from Pakistan are being routed from Calcutta and its suburbs, taken to Bangladesh and then shipped to international market in Europe;

(c) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the details of narcotic drugs seized in this area during the last six months; and

(d) the preventive measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government of India has already taken a number of significant steps to prevent drug trafficking. These include instructions to all drug law enforcement agencies to maintain almost vigil and step up enforcement efforts, training of officers, fencing of Indo-Pak border, vesting of powers in BSF and Coast Guards under the Customs Act, quarterly coordination meetings held at NCB, New Delhi, holding of quarterly border meetings of Indian and Pakistani anti-narcotics agencies as a part of the border meetings of BSF and Pak-rangers, holding of operational level meetings with Myanmar officials. All the arrested persons are liable to be prosecuted and punished under the stringent laws of NDPS Act, 1985.

PSU'S in Aluminium Sector

5364. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any PSUs in the aluminium sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the investment, product-wise capacity employment generation and application of Government's policy with regard to PSUs in the aluminium sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VARMA) : (a) and (b) There are two PSUs in the aluminium sector, namely, Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) and National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO).

(c) BALCO:-

(i) *Equity* – Rs. 244.42 crores (100 per cent held by the Government.)

(ii) *Product-wise capacity* – BALCO has the capacity to produce one lakh tonnes of saleable aluminium from its integrated plant.

The capacity of different products is as follows:-

Rolled Products	–	40,000 tonnes.
Properzi Rods	–	42,000 tonnes.
Extrusions	–	7,000 tonnes.
Ingots & Others	–	balance.
Total	–	1,00,000 tonnes.

(iii) *Total number of employees* – 7134.

NALCO:-

(i) *Equity* – Rs 644.31 crores (87.15 per cent held by the Government.)

(ii) *Product-wise capacity*—NALCO has an integrated plant and is currently implementing two expansion projects of increasing the capacity of its Bauxite Mines and Alumina Refinery and also the Smelter Plant and Captive Power Plant. The existing capacity and the capacity after completion of expansion projects is given below:-

Product	Existing Capacity	Capacity After Expansion
Bauxite	24.00 lakh TPY	48.00 Lakh TPY
Alumina	8.00 Lakh TPY	15.75 Lakh TPY
Aluminium	2.30 Lakh TPY	3.45 Lakh TPY
Power	6x120 MW	7x120 MW

(iii) *Total Number of employees* – 6525.

The Government guidelines issued from time to time in respect of public sector companies are followed by these two public sector companies also.

[Translation]

FDI in Insurance Sector

5365. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the company-wise and sector-wise number of proposals cleared by the Government for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Insurance Sector during the last six months;

(b) the number-of-proposals of foreign direct investment received in this regard for approval;

(c) whether the multinational companies are attempting to set up their own companies without the participation of the Indian Insurance Companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Sir, during last six months no proposal has been cleared in Insurance Sector.

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

Shortage of Staff in LPT in Himachal Pradesh

5366.SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the LPT installed at Sundemagar in district Mandi, Himachal Pradesh has been telecasting partially due to shortage of staff;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken for the recruitment of sufficient staff; and

(c) the time by which this L.P.T. is likely to start telecasting whole time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir. LPT Sundernagar is relaying full transmission since 15.02.2000.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Production of Textiles by NTC Mills

5367.SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise details of production of textiles by the National Textiles Corporation Mills during the last three years;

(b) whether the production of textiles has declined during the above mentioned period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to enhance the production of textiles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to

(c) The production of cloth by the mills of National Textile Corporation during the last three years is given below:-

Year	Production of cloth: (Million Mtrs.)
1997-98	63.48
1998-99	43.77
1992-2000 (April-December, 1999)	35.05

(d) On the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norms of net worth turning positive within the stipulated period.

[English]

Trade with Soviet Union

5368.SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the annual trade between India and the erstwhile Soviet Union before its disintegration and during 1999-2000;

(b) whether it has decreased or increased;

(c) if decreased the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase trade with erstwhile Soviet Union?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The value of trade between India and erstwhile Soviet Union during 1990-91 was Rs. 7803 crores. For the year 1999-2000, the trade data is available only for the period April to December. During this period the total trade between India and the countries of erstwhile Soviet Union was Rs. 6301.33 crores. However, during the year 1998-99 the total trade between India and the countries of erstwhile Soviet Union was Rs. 6403.26 crores.

(b) and (c) The trade volume in the year 1998-99 as compared to 1990-91 has declined. The reasons for decline are economic decline in these countries, restrictions on repatriation of currency, inadequate banking facilities, lack of basic infrastructure; etc.

(d) The Government has initiated several measures for boosting trade with the countries of erstwhile Soviet Union. These measures include regular review of trade between India and these countries through meetings of

Joint Commissions, Working Groups and Joint business councils, encouraging consignment sales, broad – basing the basket of tradable goods, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions and exchange of delegations etc.

TV Channel for Kerala

5369.SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Government of Kerala to launch a TV channel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Violation of Trade Agreements

5370.SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Missions in foreign countries have received the complaints against the Government and Private companies of India regarding violation of trade agreements during the last three years;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The Indian Missions abroad have not reported any instances of complaints regarding the violation of Trade Agreements against the Indian Public and Private companies during the years 1996, 1997 and 1998. All the complaints received by them pertain to commercial disputes, including quality complaints between the importing and exporting companies.

(c) The details of the complaints regarding commercial/trade disputes, received from the Commercial Wings

of the Indian Missions abroad were forwarded to the office of DGFT. DGFT takes action against the exporters or importers concerned when it receives such complaints, in accordance with the provisions of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act 1992, the rules and orders made thereunder and the Export Import Policy. The office of the DGFT examines and investigates these complaints and after exhausting reconciliation efforts takes action to de-register/debar the defaulting exporters by issue of show-cause notice/hearing etc. and/or takes action as necessary, as per rules and regulations in force, including in appropriate cases legal action, depending upon the gravity of offences.

[English]

Ceramic Industry in Rajasthan

5371.SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a wide scope for the development of Ceramic Industry in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to allocate Natural Gas to Rajasthan for the development of a Ceramic Complex?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Although the State of Rajasthan has good deposits of important raw materials, yet the prospects of developing ceramic industry in Rajasthan has not been encouraging due to low per capita consumption of ceramic products and low market demand due to availability of natural stones. Presently, there is only one ceramic tile unit and one sanitaryware unit in organised sector in Rajasthan and bulk of their production is sold outside the State.

(b) As regards allocation of natural gas to Rajasthan for the development of a Ceramic Complex, the present and projected gas availability from the domestic sources has been fully allocated. As a result, it will not be possible for the present to consider allocation of gas for ceramic industry in Rajasthan.

Loans to Minorities

5372.SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the loans/advances/provided to specified minorities by the nationalised banks during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the banks have submitted their returns in this regard, regularly;

(c) if not, the particulars of those defaulting banks; and

(d) the action being taken by the Reserve Bank of India against the defaulting banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHR. V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) As per the latest data made available by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the loans/advances provided to specified Minority Communities under Priority Sector lending during the three years are as under:

(No. of Accounts in Lakhs)
(Amount Rupees in Crores)

Year ended	In 41 Identified districts		In all the districts in the country	
	No. of A/Cs	Amount O/s	No. of A/Cs	Amount O/s
1	2	3	4	5
March, 1996	12.71	1313.31	64.43	7916.23
March, 1997	13.23	1558.19	62.28	8670.85
March, 1998	13.02	1753.61	62.96	9858.26*

*Provisional.

(b) The Banks submit their returns to Reserve Bank of India regularly.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Production of Coal

5373. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for coal production during the current plan period;

(b) the extent to which the target has so far been achieved, till date; and

(c) the amount borne by the Union Government out of the total investment made in coal sector and also the

amount made available as foreign assistance for current plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) The target fixed for coal production during the current plan i.e. Annual Plan 1999-2000 and the achievement (provisional) thereof, till date, are given below:

(In million tonnes)

Target	Actual (Prov.)	Achievement(%)
298.90	300.05	100.38

(c) The amount borne by the Union Government out of the total investment made (at revised stage) in coal sector and also the amount made available as foreign assistance for current plan period i.e. Annual Plan 1999-2000 is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Amount borne by the Union Government	Amount of foreign assistance routed through Budget
384.40	160.61

Deduction from Salary for Pension

5374. SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any deduction is being made by the Coalfield India Limited from the salaries of its employees in various subsidiaries for the payment of pension;

(b) if so, whether pension is being paid to the retired employees regularly;

(c) is so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pension is being paid to the eligible retired employees who have applied for the same and whose applications have been found in order.

(c) and (d) Out of 4770 complete applications received in the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation, pension is being paid in 1929 cases. Claims of remaining eligible persons are under various stages of processing.

(e) The Government is alive to the problem of timely pension settlement and it has set a time bound programme for settlement of all pending pension cases.

[English]

Funds for Employment Generation

5375. SHRI P.R. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any funds for employment generation during 2000-2001 apart from the ongoing schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Budget 2000-01 provides, apart from ongoing, employment oriented schemes like Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana, funds for new schemes which have significant employment potential like Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana covering construction of rural roads, etc.

Developmental Programmes of Doordarshan and AIR in Maharashtra

5376. SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of developmental programmes planned for Doordarshan/All India Radio in Maharashtra and Gujarat, separately;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to give any consideration for the backward districts in Maharashtra and Gujarat with regard to the DD/AIR developmental programmes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) The details of developmental programmes of Doordarshan and AIR, being implemented in Gujarat and Maharashtra are given in the attached statement.

(b) and (c) While deciding the locations of AIR/TV Transmitters, various factors including backwardness/remoteness of the area are taken into consideration. Out of the projects presently under implementation, 4 AIR

projects, 2 each in Maharashtra and Gujarat are located in Tribal sub-plan districts. Similarly, 6 TV Transmitter projects in Maharashtra and 4 in Gujarat respectively are located in predominantly Tribal districts.

Statement

Details of Developmental Programmes in the State of Maharashtra and Gujarat being implemented during the 9th Five Year Plan

Sl.No.	Location	Scheme
1	2	3
MAHARASHTRA		
1.	Dras	LRS with 1 kW MW Tr.
2.	Amravati	LRS with 10 kW FM Tr.
3.	Ratnagiri	Replacement of 20 kW MW Tr. by 20 kW MW Tr.
4.	Nagpur	Replacement of 100 kW MW Tr. by 300 kW MW tr.
5.	Mumbai	5 kW FM Tr. (Second FM Channel)
GUJARAT		
1.	Himmatnagar	LRS with 1 kW MW Tr.
2.	Ahmedabad	Stereo playback facilities.
3.	Vadodara	Repl. of 1 kW MW Tr. by 10 kW FM Tr. and Stereo playback facilities.
4.	Bhuj	Replacement of 10 kW MW Tr. by 20 kW MW Tr.
5.	Rajkot	Replacement of 1 kW MW Tr. for VB 10 kW FM Tr. & Stereo studio facility.
6.	Rajkot	Replacement of 1000 kW MW Tr. by 1000 kW MW Tr.
7.	Junagarh	LRS with 5 kW FM Tr.

Doordarshan

MAHARASHTRA

HPT Chandrapur

HPT Jalgaon

HPT Ratnagiri

HPT Nagpur DD II

HPT Mumbai (Digital)

LPT Raver

LPT Khanapur

LPT Mangalwedha

LPT Akalkot

LPT Daryapur

LPT Dhadgaon

LPT Plultan

LPT Bhamragad

LPT Pulgaon

VLPT Ambet

VLPT Saloli

GUJARAT

HPT Vadodra

HPT Surat

LPT Vyara

Pending Patent Applications

5377.SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of patent applications are pending in patent offices;

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

(c) the steps taken for early disposal of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) and (b) Around 36,000 applications for patents are presently pending in the Patent Office. The pendency is the result of increased filling of patent applications, manual nature of operations in the Patent Office, inadequate number of examiners to deal with the workload, etc.

(c) Government has sanctioned a project for modernisation of Patent Office. As a part of this project,

Government intends to clear the backlog of patent applications in a time bound manner.

Applications for Patenting

5378.SHRI MOINUL HASSAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of any application submitted for patenting the indigenous knowledge of our country either directly or indirectly;

(b) whether Articles 7 and 8 of TRIPS does not empower the Government use its sovereign power to reject such applications;

(c) whether the Government have used such powers and rejected a number of applications; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Patents in India are granted as per the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970, to inventions which are new, involve an inventive step and are industrially applicable. This Act does not provide patenting of indigenous knowledge. Further, no application for patenting the indigenous knowledge is reported to have been filed with the Indian Patent Office.

(b) to (d) Articles 7 and 8 of the Agreement of Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) do not empower the Government to use its sovereign power to reject an application for patent on indigenous knowledge. Article 7 embodies the objectives of the TRIPs Agreement which inter-alia states that intellectual property rights should contribute to the promotion of technological innovation and to the transfer and dissemination of technology, to the mutual advantage of producers and users of technological knowledge and in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare, and to a balance of rights and obligations. These objectives are to be achieved by the intellectual property legislation, which are to be framed according to the provisions under the TRIPs Agreement. The power of the Government comes through the legislation enacted in respect of the intellectual property concerned.

Article 8 embodies the principles on which the TRIPs Agreement is based. It gives power to the member country to adopt measures necessary to protect public health and nutrition, and to promote the public interest in sectors of vital importance to their socio-economic and technological

development within the framework of the other provisions of the TRIPs Agreement. The TRIPs Agreement also provides power to adopt appropriate measures to prevent abuse of intellectual property rights. These principles can be incorporated as provisions for using the patent in national interest without authorization of the right holder.

[Translation]

Disparity in the Pay Scale of Employees of Prasar Bharati

5379. SHRI ARUN KUMAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any Memorandum from the United Forum of Prasar Bharati Employees regarding pay scales of employees of AIR and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any disparity in the pay scale of employees;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government on the Memorandum of the Forum alongwith the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The United Forum of Prasar Bharati Employees have submitted a Memorandum to the Government demanding pay-parity with subordinate Programme/Engineering Staff of Prasar Bharati.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Since neither the duties and responsibilities nor the pay scales of Members of the Forum are similar to the subordinate Programme/Engineering Staff of Prasar Bharati, the Government has not found it feasible to accept the demand of the Forum. Incidentally, two of the Member Associations of the United Forum of Prasar Bharati Employees have filed court cases seeking their pay parity with subordinate Programme/Engineering Staff of Prasar Bharati. As such, the matter is sub-judice.

[English]

Disinvestment of PSUs

5380. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN:
SHRI GEORGE EDEN:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating for recommending disinvestment of public sector units on the plea of making them more viable;

(b) if so, the details of viability from disinvestment;

(c) whether the Government are studying in depth for the reasons for sickness of the non-viable units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Disinvestment in PSUs is being done as per the declared policy of the Government for non-strategic PSUs.

(c) and (d) The analysis of reasons for sickness in PSUs is a continuous process and is part of overall performance-review undertaken by the respective administrative Ministries. Since the reasons for sickness vary from unit to unit, enterprise specific measures are taken by the administrative Ministries in Consultation with Management of PSUs and professionals/experts, wherever necessary. Further, sick industrial PSUs are referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction for formulating appropriate revival/rehabilitation packages.

Funds Invested by UTI

5381. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds invested and disinvested by UTI during 1999 in comparison to each of the last three years alongwith the details of equities of companies purchased and disposed of by the UTI during the above period;

(b) whether the Government have provided various incentives to UTI to write off the losses incurred before 1999;

(c) if so, the total profit earned by UTI as a result thereof during each of the last two years, particularly when the Government have announced the dividend in hand of investors and the income of Mutual Funds totally tax free; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of investors of UTI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The details of funds (equity) invested and disinvested by UTI for the last three years are given below:

(Rs. Crore)		
Year	Equities Purchased	Equities Disposed of
1997-98	4424.80	3039.83
1998-99	5875.47	5487.11
1999-2000*	10110.90	12262.50

*For the period 1.07.1999 to 31.03.2000.

(b) and (c) On the recommendation of the Deepak Parekh Committee, appointed by UTI in October 1998 to undertake a comprehensive review of the functioning of the Unit Scheme 1964, a Special Unit Scheme 99 (SUS 99) was created. The Government of India subscribed to the entire unit capital of Rs. 3300 crores of the scheme against which PSU holdings of US-64 were transferred as on 28th June 1999.

A number of tax reliefs were granted to mutual funds, including UTI, in the Budget for 1999-2000. The benefit of these measures has accrued to investors.

(d) To help investors make informed investment decisions, the market regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has framed regulations, which, *inter-alia* provide for disclosures on risk factors. All domestic schemes introduced by UTI after July 1, 1994 adhere to SEBI regulations.

New Quota Policy

5382.SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Textile Industry disappointed" appearing in "The Hindu" dated November 14, 1999;

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

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The news item covers reactions of a certain section of garment exporters to the New Garments and Knitwears Export Entitlement (Quota) Policy 2000-2004 announced by the Government on November 12, 1999.

The Government had set up a Task Force to make recommendations on the long term quota (export entitlement) distribution policies for a period of five years with effect from 1.1.2000 to 31.12.2004. The Task Force invited responses from Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), leading trade associations and federations on various aspects of the quota policies. The Task Force also conducted two Open House Sessions to interact with various exporters and the associations concerned at New Delhi and Mumbai. The Task Force considered the inputs from a wide range of sources before submitting the report. This report was taken into account while framing the New Quota Policy.

Some of the Important features of the new policy include, phased utilisation of quota; linking of quota for new investment with investment made in such new plant and machinery which meet the eligibility criterion of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme and making new investment quota entitlements non-transferable.

[Translation]

FDI

5383.DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to organise public exhibitions in various countries for disseminating information regarding investment opportunities in India so as to attract foreign direct investment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which these exhibitions are likely to be organised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to organise Investment Promotion Meetings in important 'FDI' targetted audiences in various countries, in association with Industry Associations like FICCI & CII. It has been tentatively decided to organise such events in countries like Australia, New Zealand, UK, USA, France, Japan, South Africa, Israel, Korea, Italy, Germany, etc. based on the recommendations and feed back received from various organisations like our Missions in the countries concerned, and the Industry Associations in the two countries. Two events have already been

organised in Australia and New Zealand in the month of April, 2000.

[English]

Outstanding Tax

5384. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2933 dated December 17, 1999 and state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to attach their properties and bank accounts to recover the dues from them;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) whether the action can be taken against the tax evaders by the Government under various acts of Parliament or rules/regulations;

(d) if so, the reasons for not resorting to them; and

(e) the details of the tax saving schemes at present available in the market and how much amount an individual can save in a year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Department resorts to attachment of properties and bank accounts of defaulting assesseees, when other modes of recovery fail. Attachment of properties and bank accounts has already been made in respect of a few cases relating to income tax, as per the statement attached.

(c) Yes, Sir. Action is taken against tax evaders under the relevant provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 and the Central Excise Act, 1944, for evasion of income tax and central excise duty, respectively.

(d) Action is taken in appropriate cases.

(e) Tax Savings schemes are available under various provisions of Section 88 of Income Tax Act, 1961. Under Clause (i) to Clause (xv) of this Section, a maximum saving of Rs. 60,000/- can be made, and the rebate available is to the tune of Rs. 12,000/- at the rate of 20% of the total savings. Investment in Clause (xvi) and (xvii) of Section 88, enables a person to save an additional amount of Rs. 10,000/-. In the case of authors, playwrights, artists, musicians, actors or sportsmen (including athletes), the upper limit is Rs. 70,000/- and rebate available is @ 25%, subject to overall ceiling of Rs. 17,500/-. In respect of income by way of interest, Government notifies tax-free bonds from time to time; income from these bonds are exempt from tax. Similarly, in respect of income by way of capital gains, the tax thereon can be saved if the gains are invested in the securities notified by the Government for this purpose.

Statement

The details of attachment made in a few cases are as follows

Sl. No.	Name of Cases	Nature of attachment
1.	Shri Surendra M. Khandhar	Bank account attached.
2.	M/s. Rolex Holding Ltd.	Known assets and all bank accounts attached.
3.	M/s. Shaw Wallace & Co. Ltd.	Attachment notices issued u/s 226(3) of the I.T. Act, 1961.
4.	Shri Niranjana J. Shah	Prohibitory order u/s 226(3) issued to the concerned party for restraining and prohibiting any transfer of shares and remitting any dividends to the assessed.
5.	MTNL Ltd.	Bank account attached and part of the outstanding arrears realised.
6.	Bhupendra C. Dalal	Under the Special Courts (TORTS) Act, 1992, all the assets stand Attached in the custody of the Custodian.
7.	Ashwin S. Mehta	
8.	Harshad Mehta	
9.	A.D. Narottam	
10.	M/s. Growmore Research & Assets Management Ltd.	

Financial Assistance to Textile Mills of Maharashtra

5385. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of TEXTILE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have provided financial assistance of Rs. 61.71 crores to 18 Textile Mills of Tamil Nadu for adopting advanced technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the arrangements finalised for such assistance;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to provide similar financial assistance to textile mills of Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has launched a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) for Textile and Jute Industries which is in operation since 01.04.1999 for a period of 5 years, i.e., up to 31.03.2004. Any eligible textile/jute unit can avail of funds within the framework of the aforesaid scheme and normal financial norms of the concerned financial institution/bank. It is an open-ended scheme depending on the capacity of the industry to absorb funds in bankable and techno-economically feasible proposals. Government funding is limited to reimbursement of interest at 5% point on the interest charged by the lending agency on a project of technology upgradation in conformity with the scheme. The scheme is applicable for whole of the country and not for any particular state. As on 31.3.2000, approximately Rs. 2002 crore has been sanctioned by the Nodal Agencies to the 234 mills. Against this approximately an amount of Rs. 584 crore has been disbursed to 121 mills.

World Bank Loan to Haryana

5386. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether World Bank has suspended the release/payment of first tranche of loan of Rs. 2400 crores to Haryana for power sector reforms;
- (b) if so, whether the bank has also threatened to take legal action in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) The World Bank approved a loan of US \$ 60 million to the Haryana Power Sector Restructuring Project in January, 1998. In December 1999, the Bank stopped making any reimbursement or payments under any withdrawal application from the loan account.

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

Agricultural Loan

5387. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:
DR. M.P. JAISWAL
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise number of branches of each public sector bank functioning at present;
- (b) the total amount deposited in these banks during the last three years, bank-wise and State-wise;

(c) the amount of loan sanctioned by these banks in each State during the above period;

(d) the loan sanctioned and actually provided to farmers, particularly to small and marginal farmers during the said period alongwith the amount repaid by the farmers to banks; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to simplify the bank loan procedure for farmers to avoid the harassment cause to the farmers due to inordinate delay in sanctioning the loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) State-wise number of branches of each public sector bank as on March 31, 1999, is given in the attached statement-I

(b) and (c) State-wise and bank-wise deposit and credit of public sector banks for the last three years are given in the attached statement-II and III respectively.

(d) The details of disbursements made by public sector banks to agricultural sector including to small and marginal farmers for the last three years is given below:

	(Rs. in crore)		
	March 1997	March 1998	March 1999
Disbursements of Loans to Agricultural Sector	12782.53	14808.35	17787.63

The recovery position of agricultural loans for the last three years, as available, in respect of all scheduled commercial banks is given below:

	(In percent)		
	June 1996	June 1997	June 1998
Recovery position of agricultural loans	61.99	63.31	66.12

(e) A high level committee (R.V. Gupta Committee) was set up to suggest measures for improving credit delivery systems as well as simplification of procedures for agricultural credit. The committee in its report has suggested several procedural modifications in regards to agricultural advances which include simplification of procedures/forms in respect of applications, agreements etc. Banks have already implemented the majority of the recommendations which is expected to facilitate easy access to credit by farmers from banks, quicken the pace of flow of credit to agricultural sector, enhance quantum of credit to farmers besides enabling to get timely and adequate credit from banks.

State-wise and Bank-wise Branches of Public Sector Banks as on March 31, 2000

Sl.No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	State Bank of India	SB of Bikaner & Jaipur	SB of Hyderabad	SB of Indore	SB of Mysore	SB of Patiala	SB of Saurashtra	SB of Travancore	Allahabad Bank	Andhra Bank	Bank of Baroda	Bank of India	Bank of Maharashtra	Canara Bank	Central Bank of India	Corporation Bank	Dena Bank	Indian Bank	Indian Overseas Bank	Oriental Bank of Commerce	Punjab National Bank	Punjab & Sind Bank	Syndicate Bank	Union Bank of India	United Bank of India	Uco Bank	Vijaya Bank
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
1.	Andhra Pr.	816	5	523	2	18	4	3	7	23	735	69	73	28	175	103	66	18	207	116	15	53	4	305	129	12	43	80
2.	Arunachal Pr.	42													1										2	2	2	
3.	Assam	205	1							62	1	13	8		15	103		2	20	15	2	45	5	5	46	188	114	8
4.	Bihar	929	11				1			233	3	110	405	1	117	335	4	10	28	18	8	453	10	26	85	113	214	9
5.	Goa	49				3	1			1	1	28	30	9	23	23	31	16	6	12	1	5	1	18	14	2	5	5
6.	Gujarat	442	7	6	8	3	4	353	3	24	5	693	226	34	41	223	35	530	39	55	25	89	8	50	180	14	81	30
7.	Haryana	164	8	5	2		125		1	29	1	25	20	5	53	78	11	9	18	14	107	321	37	50	43	4	26	10
8.	Himachal Pr.	146					74		3	3		5	7		11	27	1		2	4	10	216	11	1	10	1	121	1
9.	J & K	120					3			3		3	4		7	11		2	1	2	7	66	10	2	5	1	13	2
10.	Karnataka	237	3	113	1	482	4	2	12	15	20	37	59	41	540	57	210	27	65	63	4	42	5	491	98	7	28	418
11.	Kerala	225	1	6		10		2	555	5	7	43	70	3	244	73	53	11	89	113	6	18	3	119	132	2	20	70
12.	Madhya Pr.	688	6	3	334	2	5	3	2	173	7	91	280	121	48	442	6	105	14	9	42	220	29	23	191	6	127	6
13.	Maharashtra	808	23	171	23	17	10	21	11	85	28	255	618	901	203	488	66	288	77	70	50	147	25	146	338	29	120	70
14.	Manipur	16								2		3				3				1		2	2			22	3	2

	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
15. Meghalaya	87								1			2	2	2	2	4			2	1	6		1	3	12	4	2	
16. Mizoram	25																										1	1
17. Nagaland	43								4		4					2			1				1		2	2	3	
18. NCT of Delhi	190	25	12	10	10	39	8	7	45	14	66	53	16	83	70	36	26	29	29	65	152	61	82	55	25	40	26	
19. Orissa	472	2	5		1			1	55	77	35	117	1	40	50	5	2	47	73	7	51	2		48	98	164	7	
20. Punjab	239	7	2			350			37	2	45	70	5	102	93	8	8	32	38	202	493	356	12	69	4	87	7	
21. Rajasthan	163	660	2	7	1	12	3	1	31	3	323	42	6	24	97	6	15	10	11	86	288	21	12	52	6	141	11	
22. Sikkim	26										1	1		1	10												2	1
23. Tamil Nadu	576	5	15	2	28	4	5	66	25	33	104	113	13	470	163	73	25	744	664	17	85	8	104	135	12	68	49	
24. Tripura	33								1		2	1		1	3			1	1		1		1	2	42	5	1	
25. Uttar Pr.	1382	21	5	8		54	3	3	624	9	511	222	9	209	427	18	38	32	74	221	902	126	218	472	42	124	35	
26. West Bengal	737	15	6	3	5	2	3	3	474	16	100	202	13	71	246	14	28	58	65	42	219	18	47	87	719	297	23	
27. A & N	18								1						1			1	1	1	1		5		1	1	1	
28. Chandigarh	26	1	1			23			3	2	5	7	1	14	7	2	1	6	3	9	27	18	2	7	1	7	3	
29. D & N	1										1			1			6											
30. Daman & Diu	3						4				1	1			1	1		1		1				1			1	
31. Lakshadweep																						9						
32. Pondicherry	12	1				1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	22	8	1	1		2	1	1	6	1	

Statement-II

State-wise Deposits and Credit of Public Sector Banks for the Last Three Years

(Rs. Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	March, 1997		March, 1998		March, 1999	
		Deposit	Credit	Deposit	Credit	Deposit	Credit
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3545240	2879591	4297266	3243134	5138526	3660377
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	70677	6950	73725	8727	87208	10797
3.	Assam	682649	230384	803229	258597	928788	286524
4.	Bihar	2846127	879080	3435445	969145	4123229	1051110
5.	Goa	475264	120165	562152	138250	668060	164856
6.	Gujarat	3633024	1941240	4317078	2240309	5075658	2656187
7.	Haryana	1292553	587572	1513588	694556	1775057	794953
8.	Himachal Pradesh	510246	121237	606271	132244	724713	159067
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	567889	202180	691750	237684	842923	300777
10.	Karnataka	3324584	2486508	3985105	2832707	4669708	3149248
11.	Kerala	3061355	1441096	3587870	1607433	4380571	1816679
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2500085	1379516	3197796	1746074	3756855	1900657
13.	Maharashtra	11885008	8262299	13660420	10424884	15848268	11898951
14.	Manipur	37989	18665	39918	20986	59042	21312
15.	Meghalaya	125786	18280	146618	22257	165266	27383
16.	Mizoram	49350	6302	34976	7895	50713	10515
17.	Nagaland	74156	17924	81286	15620	116784	17785
18.	NCT of Delhi	5868530	4368095	7364524	4728343	8877195	7534334
19.	Orissa	999288	500572	1231303	571244	1386473	593248
20.	Punjab	2904099	1201838	3454672	1397011	4098470	1659792
21.	Rajasthan	1939309	874249	2321876	1114007	2826390	1265984
22.	Sikkim	37612	6998	43418	8800	52511	10345
23.	Tamil Nadu	3929437	4066065	4682499	4648399	5467878	5235990
24.	Tripura	89668	32154	107448	35047	135825	38484
25.	Uttar Pradesh	6060027	1980455	7341399	2140787	8776913	2447010
26.	West Bengal	4498778	2350720	5450604	2665687	6428439	2950409
27.	Andaman & Nicobar	28150	4356	35605	5310	41503	6718

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
28	Chandigarh	522119	581076	620171	419146	648886	658586
29	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	10265	1942	12035	2693	15701	3381
30	Daman & Diu	35067	8077	41876	8911	49035	8567
31	Lakshadweep	3093	271	3224	319	5254	407
32	Pondicherry	103298	39163	120904	42838	143518	48605

Statement-III

Bank-wise Deposits and Credit of Public Sector Banks

(Rs. crore)

Sl. Name of Bank		March, 1997		March, 1998		March, 1999	
No.		Deposit	Credit	Deposit	Credit	Deposit	Credit
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	SB of India	100052.5	59685.7	119832.9	68567.7	155576.3	76743.5
2.	SB of B&J	5172	3129.2	6139.0	3620.1	7265.7	3965.9
3.	SB of Hyderabad	6497.7	4447.7	7744.3	4838.9	9673.3	5520.7
4.	SB of Indore	2645.3	1676.4	3149.8	1950.7	3750	2157.2
5.	SB of Mysore	4132.5	2758.8	4723.7	3033.2	5326.9	3473.5
6.	SB of Patiala	6894.2	3871.8	6679.5	4143.7	8153.9	4871.7
7.	SB of Saurashtra	3457.4	2037.8	3812.6	2410.6	4472.9	2819.6
8.	SB of Travancore	6130.5	3945.2	7042.9	4252.0	8235.9	4425.2
9.	Allahabad Bank	11040	5257	12856.0	6030.0	14792	7058
10.	Andhra Bank	6725.2	2976.9	7662.0	3336.1	9960.7	4536.4
11.	Bank of Baroda	26208	14867.2	31458.4	17794.8	35656.6	18340.3
12.	Bank of India	24673	14260.6	30213.8	16964.4	33937	18977.7
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	6873.3	3343.1	8572.5	3964.9	9684.8	4339.4
14.	Canara Bank	29839.4	15034.3	34805.1	17705.0	39382.4	19276.4
15.	Central Bank of India	22369.2	9900.3	25341.6	11614.1	29959.7	13834.3
16.	Corporation Bank	6310.4	2962.2	8945.4	4053.4	12974.8	5853.5
17.	Dena Bank	7665.4	4379.5	9538.6	5550.1	11523.8	6701.1
18.	Indian Bank	12486.9	6753.7	13725.1	7082.6	15110.3	7547.6
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	14361.3	6148.8	17428.1	7360.9	19998.8	8868.2
20.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	9666	4815.9	12751.0	6178.0	15693.9	7655.8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21. Punjab National Bank		30340.7	14510.3	34710.3	16554.2	39483.5	19246.4
22. Punjab & Sind Bank		6026.6	3048.4	7291.1	3400.9	8548.8	4260.1
23. Syndicate Bank		11532.1	4913.7	13734.7	5997.5	16639	8428.1
24. Union Bank of India		19716.5	9289.2	22606.0	10605.8	27369.5	11488.9
25. United Bank of India		9805.2	3796.9	11307.2	4146.8	13576	4826.8
26. Uco Bank		9885.6	4417.3	11580.5	5087.6	13506.1	5599.7
27. Vijaya Bank		6520.3	2692.4	7939.0	3430.9	9466.8	4221.1

Use of Computers in GIC

5388.SHRI BHERULAL MEENA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the General Insurance Corporation and its four subsidiaries have purchased computers in bulk for its offices throughout the country;

(b) if so, the number of computers purchased by GIC and each subsidiary company during the last three years and the total amount spent thereon, yearwise;

(c) whether Gynesis system has been introduced in each subsidiary company;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total amount spent thereon by each subsidiary company;

(e) whether there are complaints of improper functioning of the system in several offices of the subsidiaries of GIC; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, its success rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) GIC has informed that purchase of computers have been on need basis only, after duly satisfying requirements and with prior approval of respective Boards of GIC and subsidiaries from time to time.

(b) The details of purchase of computers during the last three years ending March, 2000 are:

Company	No. of Systems			Amount Spent (Rs. Lakhs)		
	97-98	98-99	99-00	97-98	98-99	99-00
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
GIC	71	2	64	52.29	151	50.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
National	Nil	Nil	22	Nil	Nil	71.20
United India	1315	99	Nil	1026.74	88.73	Nil
Oriental	734	1	10	604.39	1.30	17.26
New India	36	1579	2374	16.80	575.93	1764.75

(c) Companywise status is given below:

National : Discussions are in progress on identifying application gaps and extent of customisation needed.

United : Signed agreement with CMC Ltd. and is in process of implementation.

Oriental : Not implemented so far, discussions with CMC is in progress.

New India : Introduced in 300 offices as of now.

(d) Companywise status is given below:

National : Nil

United India : Paid Rs. 2.06 crores to M/s. CMC Ltd. towards first installment of Corporate Licence Fee and project implementation for 300 operating offices.

Oriental : Nil

New India : Rs. 10.45 crores on software licences and installation charges.

(e) Gynesis system is placed only in one subsidiary i.e. New India Assurance Co and the operation of system is generally satisfactory though the software requires regular upgradation.

(f) The New India Assurance Company where the system is operational has reported that there has been no major malfunctioning or complaint about the systems and its operation has been generally satisfactory so far.

[Translation]

Reservatoin of Jobs for Local People in Cement Industries of Madhya Pradesh

5389. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cement industries and other large industries in Rewa and Satna districts of Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) the number and percentage of local people working in labour category and administration category in each of these industries;

(c) whether the Government propose to fix a certain percentage of jobs reserved for local people in these industries;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) At present, there are two large cement plants in Rewa district and four large cement plants in Satna district. Information in respect of other large industries is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) This information is not maintained centrally.

(c) No Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

TV Relay Centres in Maharashtra

5390. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether T.V. relay Centres in Pandharkavda of Yavatmal district in Maharashtra is ready for functioning;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in its inauguration and operation;

(c) whether the Government have received any requests in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Low Power Transmitter at Pandharkavda is already functioning since 15.1.2000.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Some requests had been received for commissioning/inauguration of the Low Power Transmitter at Pandharkavda.

(d) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Interest Rates on Loans taken by Government Employees

5391. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring down the present rate of interest on the Government loans given to its employees on the same way as it has reduced the rate of interest on the G.P.F.;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Government of India has reduced the interest charged on conveyance and computer advances to the Government servants by 1 percent with effect from the current financial year.

[English]

Permanent Exhibition Ground in Goa

5392. SHRI SHRIPAD YASSO NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Goa to construct a permanent exhibition ground in Goa like Pragati Maidan in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) The Government of Goa had indicated their willingness to set up a

permanent exhibition complex in Goa. However, a site earlier suggested by them has been found to be too small for the project. The State Government is exploring the possibility of locating a suitable site within a radius of 20 kms. from Panaji for the proposed complex. The estimated expenditure and other details can only be worked out once a suitable site is selected.

Export of Coconut Items

5393. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any special efforts the coconut commodities viz; and

(b) if so, the total quantum of the coconuts products exported during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The total quantity and value of coconuts products exported during the last three years has been as under:-

Year	Quantity: In MTs Value: In Rs. Crores			
	Coconut products (Coconut desicated, fresh, dried, copra, coconut shell coconut (copra) crude refined oil & fractions oil cake and coconut shell charcoal)		Coir and coir products	
	quantity	Value	quantity	Value
1996-97	2615	8.67	46369	212.59
1997-98	2112	12.24	49850	238.93
1998-99	2481	9.95	55490	292.19

(Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta) (Source: Coir Board, Cochin)

Coir Board efforts to export coconut commodities (Coir and coir products) have been as under:-

- (i) Sponsoring of Market Development Delegations;
- (ii) Organising seminars in Foreign countries;
- (iii) Cooperative Publicity;
- (iv) Participation in important international trade fairs; and
- (v) Awards for best performance in exports.

Disinvestment of STC

5394. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of DIS-INVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of STC Employees Unions has opposed the Government's move to disinvest its equity in STC;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the memorandums given by STC Employees Unions;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the employees as a result of disinvestment of STC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Federation of State Trading Corporation Employee's Unions have submitted a representation against the move for disinvestment of STC, particularly on the ground that the Corporation is a profit making Organisation. The disinvestment proposal of STC would be processed within the framework of the Government's policy on the subject which inter-alia provides for protection of interests of workers in all cases.

Office of Coffee Board in Tamil Nadu

5395. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of coffee grown in large number at Kolli Hills in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up an office of Coffee Board at Kolli Hills;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The coffee is cultivated in over 400 ha. of area in Kolli Hills of Tamil Nadu by 350 coffee growers predominantly small growers.

(b) to (d) As the area under coffee in Kolli Hills is less than 500 ha. and the needs of the coffee growers in Kolli Hills are taken care of by the Coffee Board's offices situated at Yercaud and Coimbatore, opening of another office of the Board in Kolli Hills is not considered necessary.

Cooperative Credit Institutions

5396. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representation from the National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Limited seeking formulation of rehabilitation/revitalization/recapitalisation package which includes providing adequate assistance for the Short Term Cooperative Credit Institutions;

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

(c) whether the Government are also considering to set up a separate Cell for Cooperative Credit and Banking Institutions in the Banking Division; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The suggestions made by the National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Limited have been forwarded to the Task Force, appointed by Government to study the functioning of co-operative banks in the country and to suggest measures for their revival/restructuring. The report of the Task Force is in advance stage of finalisation. Further action will be taken after the report is submitted by the Task Force.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present to set up any separate Cell in the Banking Division for Cooperative Credit.

Jeypore AIR Station

5397. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jeypore AIR station of Orissa has become non-functional and completely defunct during the last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the representations received in this regard;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and

(d) the time by which the AIR station at Jeypore is expected to be recommissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Radio Station at Jeypore in Orissa is equipped with two High power Transmitters; viz; 100 KW MW Tr. & KW SW Transmitter. The 100 KW MW Tr. is functioning satisfactorily, but the 50 KW SW Tr. is not operational since October, 1999 due to sudden failure of transmitting valves. A representation from a resident of Jeypore has been received directly and through the Hon. Member of Parliament in this regard.

(c) and (d) Ali India Radio has already initiated procurement action to import the transmitting valves as spare valves are not available within AIR network. It is expected that valves will be available within six months. The transmitter will be made operational immediately on receipt of the transmitting valves.

NTC Mills

5398. SHRI BHAL CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment of the Government in sick textile mills, till date, unitwise;

(b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to make them viable, particularly in U.P.; and

(c) the policy of the Government to protect the interests of workers in these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) A capital expenditure of Rs. 512.02 crores including for modernisation has been incurred by the Government in the sick textile mills under NTC till now since nationalisation. The subsidiary-wise details are given in the statement attached.

(b) and (c) Government had approved a turn around strategy for NTC mills including the mills in U.P. in 1995 which included inter-alia, modernisation of 79 mills at an investment of Rs. 2005.72 crores. The funds for implementing this strategy were to be raised from sale of surplus land/assets of the mills, which did not materialise in the absence of permission of the concerned State Governments for sale of land.

On the basis of a unit-wise viability study made by NTC, Government is considering a revised turn around plan for the viable subsidiaries of NTC alongwith the viable mills under them keeping in view the BIFR norms of net worth turning positive within the stipulated period, Govt. has been providing budgetary support to NTC to meet the shortfall in wages and salaries. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

Statement**Summary of Subsidiary-wise Capital Expenditure
including Expenditure on Modernisation
upto 31.3.1999**

Sl. No.	Name of the Subsidiary	Approx. Amt. (Rs. in Crores)
1.	NTC (APKK&M) Ltd.	95.28
2.	NTC (DP&R) Ltd.	27.29
3.	NTC (Gujarat) Ltd.	40.37
4.	NTC (MN) Ltd.	52.69
5.	NTC (MP) Ltd.	29.78
6.	NTC (SM) Ltd.	57.93
7.	NTC (TN&P) Ltd	149.38
8.	NTC (UP) Ltd.	27.42
9.	NTC (WBAB&O) Ltd.	31.88
Grand Total		512.02

Share Certification to NRIs

5399.SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that many NRIs have not been issued Share Certificates by the Consultants to NRIs Share Division; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of NRIs and consultants during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Trade Talks with Japan

5400.SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any trade talks have been held between India and Japan recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of items for which trade agreement has been signed;

(c) if not, whether any talks are proposed to be held in the near future; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The 15th Round of Indo-Japan Bilateral Trade Talks are already due and would be held at a time agreed to by both sides.

[English]

Equity of Indian Bank, Chennai

5401.SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the equity capital of the Chennai based Indian Bank as on date;

(b) the Non-Performing Assets of the bank during the last three years;

(c) the total NPA recovered by the bank during the above period;

(d) whether there is any plan to restructure the management of the bank;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the other steps being taken by the Government to regulate the bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) to (c) As reported by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the equity capital of Indian Bank as on March 31, 1999 was Rs. 2,503.96 crores. The Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of the bank and total NPAs recovered by the bank during the last three years are furnished below:

	(Rs. in crore)		
	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
Gross NPAs	3303	3428	3709
Recoveries	482	347	164

(d) to (f) Action has been initiated on the recommendations of the Verma working Group on Weak Banks. The three identified weak public sector banks including Indian Bank have been requested to submit their draft restructuring plans.

Border Trade

5402. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are taking any steps to facilitate border trade in North-Eastern Region with neighbouring countries i.e. Bangladesh, China, Myanmar and Bhutan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Central Government evolves plans and policies to increase border trade on a continuous basis. The specific steps taken in this direction include :

- (i) The border townships of Moreh (Manipur), Dawki (Meghalaya), Zokhawthar (Mizoram) and Sutarkhandi (Assam) Land Customs Stations (LCSs) are proposed to be developed over the next two years at a total cost of Rs. 20.00 crores.
- (ii) Under the Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme so far 13 projects have been sanctioned for Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura. Rs. 16.4397 Crores have been sanctioned for these projects which cover development of roads, improvement of power supply to exporting units, installation of weighbridges at LCSs, construction of composite building and establishment of Trade Centre.
- (iii) NH 31 in Assam, NH Nos. 40, 51 and 62 in Meghalaya, NH 44 in Tripura and NH 39 in Manipur connecting neighboring countries are being maintained in a traffic worthy condition within the availability of funds. NH from Karimganj town to Sutarkhandi on Indo-Bangladesh border in Assam has been declared as NH 51.
- (iv) An Empowered Committee has been set up to examine the recommendations made by the Inter Ministerial Task Force on "Border Trade and Inter-Country Trade Issues in North East". Department of Commerce has commissioned a transport optimisation study in the North East region, through Rail India Technical and Economic Consultancy Services.

Trade Team of Britain in India

5403. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some British Companies engaged in the fields of agriculture, food and environment of friendly technology are coming to India to explore the national trade possibilities in these fields;

(b) whether these companies are likely to visit Haryana;

(c) if so, whether any negotiations have been held with these companies earlier for investment in Haryana and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Department of Trade & Industry of the U.K. Government have provisionally planned certain events during 2000 in course of which some British Companies dealing with the environment technology and water technology may visit India.

(b) Government is not aware of any forthcoming visits of British companies to Haryana.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Gopalpur Port

5404. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa had approached the Union Government to declare Gopalpur Port as a Port of Call for all commodities for facilitating port based industrial activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; .

(c) the reasons for delay in declaring the Gopalpur Port as a Port of Call; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be declared as a Port of Call?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) It has been decided to declare Gopalpur Port as Customs Port for all purposes under Customs Act, 1962. The relevant Notification is under issue.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons

5405. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the displaced persons of Lalmatia region have not yet been rehabilitated even after the commencement of mining work in the area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which all the displaced persons are likely to be rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) As reported by Coal India Limited, all displaced persons of Lalmatia region, where mining work has commenced, have been rehabilitated.

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

(c) Rehabilitation of displaced persons depends on the progress of the mining activities.

[English]

Export of Natural Rubber

5406.SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR :
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
SHRI T. GOVINDAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for exporting natural rubber;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have procured natural rubber through STC;

(d) if so, the quantity procured during the last year;

(e) whether the Government propose to declare the floor price for rubber; and

(f) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of Kerala had sought financial assistance for export of 50,000 Kgs. of natural rubber. However, in view of the heavy losses being incurred by the Government in the procurement of natural rubber by STC on Government account, it has not been found possible to finance the export of natural rubber by the Government of India. Export of natural rubber is already free in the EXIM Policy.

(c) and (d) During the year 1999-2000, STC has procured 8689 MTs of natural rubber.

(e) and (f) Price of rubber is determined by the market forces of demand and supply. Government of India is taking all possible measures to help the rubber growers to get a remunerative price for their produce. Therefore, fixation of floor price of rubber has not been considered necessary.

Growth of Industrial Production

5407.SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the growth of industrial production and its export during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the achievements have been made as per the target fixed;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to boost the industrial production its exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): (a) to (c) The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion does not fix targets for the growth of industrial production. Hence no targets have been fixed for 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

The export targets, fixed by Department of Commerce, for the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 and export performance during the same period is as under:

Year	Export targets (%)	Export Performance (%)
1998-99	20.00	3.7*
1999-2000	11.3**	11.12 (April-Feb.)

* The data is provisional and is compared with the provisional data for the same period in the previous year.

**Targets, excluding software.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to boost industrial production and its export, inter-alia, are reduction in interest rate, reduction in bank rate and cash reserve ratio, liberal rules governing Foreign Direct Investment, delicensing, privatisation, reduction in transaction cost to the export sector through decentralization, simplification of procedures and promotion of exports through multilateral

and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focused regions.

Cancellation of Regional Programmes in Kerala

5408.SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to cancel the regional programmes of prime-time slots from 8 P.M. onwards from Doordarshan, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala and to retain this slot for the National Network;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of regional programmes which are likely to be affected and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of sponsored programmes likely to be cut down as a result thereof;

(d) its effect on the T.V. producers, technicians and artistes;

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) whether there is considerable agitation against the decision; and

(g) if so, the reaction by the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has intimated that in the changed Media scenario, the National Channel of Doordarshan has been restructured recently with a view to enlarge viewership and improve quality of Doordarshan programmes. In the process, the format of Hindi Samachar and English News has also been restructured with the increased durations. With the restructuring of news format and resultant scheduling of English News between 8.00 p.m. and 8.30 p.m., this time slot, earlier utilised by Regional Kendras on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, has been taken for national news. On remaining days, this slot was already with national network.

Consequently, four sponsored programmes of 30 minutes duration have been affected every week due to cancellation of regional slot.

(d) to (g) Keeping in view the regional aspirations, six Regional Language Satellite Service channels, including Malayalam Channel, have been made round-the-clock and producers, technicians etc. of states would get more opportunities in the Regional Language Satellite Service.

Prasar Bharati has intimated that there was some reaction and the position has been explained to concerned persons.

[Translation]

Reservation of Posts in AIR/ Doordarshan in Bihar

5409.SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of approved number of posts of group 'A' to group "D" level officers and employees at Doordarshan and Akashwani Kendra located in Daltonganj of Bihar;

(b) the number of persons posted against the number of approved posts of group 'A' to group 'D';

(c) whether the rules for reservation has been adhered to in appointment of all groups;

(d) the number of posts of groups 'A' to 'D' are lying vacant meant for SCs and STs;

(e) whether the Government propose to launch a special recruitment drive for filling up the SC/ST posts lying vacant;

(f) if so, the time by which it is likely to be filled; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Details are given in the attached statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) There are no posts meant for SCs and STs are lying vacant for which the AIR Station/Doordarshan Kendra, Daltonganj is the appointing authority. These post basically pertain to Group 'D' and a few posts in Group 'C'. Other vacant posts in Group A, B and C are filled up either on all India basis or regional basis and reservation in these categories are not done station/kendra-wise.

(e) to (g) Do not arise.

Statement

Details of sanctioned posts and vancancy position at All India Radio/Doordarshan Kendra, Daltonganj

Group	Sanctioned Strength		In position		Posts Vacant	
	DDn	AIR	DDn	AIR	DDn	AIR
Group 'A'	4	2	3	2	1	Nil
Group 'B'	13	4	5	2	8	2
Group 'C'	40	19	38	14	2	5
Group 'D'	22	5	18	4	4	1
Total	79	30	64	22	15	8

[English]

Fund to Orissa

5410. SHRI ANADI SAHU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that under the provision of fireproof workshed house to accommodate improved looms for better production during 1999-2000, Rs. 210 lakh has still not been released to the Orissa Government;

(b) whether the Government are aware that the Orissa Government has requested for special sanction of Rs. 360 lakh keeping in view the damage to worksheds in the recent super-cyclone; and

(c) is so, the time by which the amount is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRA): (a) There is no Scheme under the Ministry of Textiles to provide fireproof Workshed House to accommodate improved looms.

(b) and (c) During 1999-2000 Government of India has sanctioned Rs. 360.00 lakh under the Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for construction of 2000 Workshed-cum-Houses in the cyclone affected area and an advance of Rs.180.00 lakh has been released to the State Government of Orissa. On receipt of utilisation certificate and physical progress report the balance would be released.

[Translation]

Licences to Sugar Mills of U.P.

5411. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of sugar mills which were issued licences in Uttar Pradesh during the Eighth Five Year Plan, Year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): During the Eighth Five Year Plan a total number of 52 licences were issued for the State of Uttar Pradesh for manufacture of sugar. The year-wise detail is as follows:

1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97
9	10	11	10	12

[English]

Scheme for Folk Dancers

5412. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have introduced any special schemes for upliftment of veteran folk dancers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of folk dancers benefited during 1999-2000, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have decided to organise a programme on Doordarshan in view of the increasing large number of folk dancers on District level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Doordarshan from time to time telecasts programmes, depending upon programme requirements, involving folk artists and folk dancers in its regional as well as national channels.

Acceptance of Cash by Commercial Banks

5413. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local branches of commercial banks, particularly the State Bank of India, having RBI chest in the branch are not accepting surplus cash in hand on daily basis from the State Co-operative Banks;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have received some complaints about non-acceptance of surplus cash by currency chest branches of commercial banks including SBI from no currency chest branches of commercial banks including cooperative banks. According to RBI, capacity constraints and non sorting of cash into reissuables and soiled notes might have led to non-acceptance of surplus cash on some occasions.

(c) The banks having currency chests have been advised by Reserve Bank of India to accept surplus cash from non-currency chest branches of banks including cooperative banks. The Reserve Bank has introduced a linkage scheme under which branches of commercial banks and cooperative banks not having currency chests have been linked to specific currency chests maintaining branches of commercial banks within a distance of 40 kms.

Committee to Improve Functioning of Prasar Bharati

5414. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the review committee on the functioning of Prasar Bharati has since submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee to improve the functioning of Prasar Bharati;

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to submit its report; and

(d) the time by which the vacancies in Prasar Bharati Board are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Committee is expected to submit its report by May, 15, 2000.

(d) As per Section 4(1) of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, the Chairman, whole-time Members and part-time members of Prasar Bharati Board are appointed on the recommendation of a Committee chaired by Hon'ble Vice-President of India. The Committee had desired certain clarifications on, inter-alia, the service conditions of the whole time members, including the Chief Executive Officer of the Prasar Bharati Board for the purpose of finalisation of selection. Rules relating to these are under final stages of formulation. However, no time frame can be laid down for filling up the vacancies.

Protection of Entertainment Sector

5415. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry regarding protection of entertainment sector;

(b) if so, the details, thereof;

(c) whether FICCI has suggested to provide stable legislation for issue of radio broadcasting licences; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) have brought out a report on "The Indian Entertainment Industry—Strategy and Vision" in association with M/s. Arthur Andersen India Pvt. Ltd. The report analyses the present status and future potential growth of various sectors of entertainment industry and suggests measures to realize the same.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government has already decided to issue licenses for private FM Radio Stations under the existing provisions of the Indian Telegraph Act.

[Translation]

Report of Secretaries on Disinvestment

5416. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the officers who are incharge of disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry, Ministry-wise.

(b) whether the proposals/reports for disinvestment of Public Sector Undertakings under various Union Ministries have been submitted;

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

(d) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which these are likely to be submitted, Ministry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Proposals for disinvestment are considered by the Department of Disinvestment in consultations with the concerned Ministries. Officials of the Department of Disinvestment and concerned ministries, at various levels, process the cases for decision and implement the decisions taken.

(b) to (d) The proposals for disinvestment in PSU are processed as per prescribed procedures, which involve inter-ministerial consultations at various levels. Such proposals are at different stages of consideration in the Department of Disinvestment and concerned Administrative Ministries. There is no delay in processing these cases.

[English]

Foreign Visits by Chairman Indian Investment Centre

5417.SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise foreign visits undertaken by the Chairman, Indian Investment Centre and Chief commissioner (Investment & NRIs) during 1999-2000, till date to attract NRI investment in India;

(b) the total amount incurred on the above visits, country-wise;

(c) the details of NRIs investment/proposals received for investment in India in pursuance of the above foreign visits;

(d) the amount of investment involved in such proposals; and

(e) the actual Foreign Direct Investment and NRIs investment received through Indian Investment Centre and Chief Commissioner (Inv. & NRIs) during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The country-wise foreign visits under taken by the Chairman Indian Investment Centre and Chief Commissioner (Investment & NRIs) during 1999-2000 at the invitation of International Agencies and for dissemination of information relating to investment facilities available in India for Foreign Investors including NRI investors are as follows:

Period of Visit	Country(ies) Visited	Expenditure (including Air Fare) (Rs.)
25-05-99 to 29-05-99	Geneva, Switzerland	2,20,854
29-09-99 to 03-10-99	Doha, Qatar, Dubai, UAE	1,26,854
21-10-99 to 26-10-99	Reunion Island, Mauritius	2,05,302
24-11-99 to 28-11-99	London, UK	2,42,075
9-2-2000 to 15-2-2000	Bangkok, Thailand. Melbourne and Sydney, Australia	3,24,140
7-3-2000 to 9-3-2000	Kuwait	1,04,134

(c) to (e) Of the visits undertaken by Chief Commissioner (Investment & NRIs) during 1999-2000, some were in the nature of investment promotion visits while others were for attending seminar/conferences of international investment promotion agencies. Though, quantification of investment flows directly attributable to any investment promotion visit is not possible, such visits are essential for promoting India as a destination for investment by foreign investors, including NRIs.

[Translation]

Cases against Coal-Mafia

5418.SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases registered by the CBI against the Coal-Mafia in Bihar during the last three years;

(b) the details of cases in which action has been taken followed by the results of the inquiry held into these cases during the above period;

(c) the details of the cases lying pending alongwith the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to check the increasing activities of Coal-Mafia alongwith the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the Central Bureau of Investigation and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Disinvestment of Indian Oil Corporation

5419.SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have shelved the proposal of disinvestment of 10% of its equity in the Indian Oil Corporation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) The implementation of the decision to disinvest 10% of the equity in Indian Oil Corporation has been deferred.

Role of Media

5420.SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to lay emphasis on the most effective ways in which the media can perform its democratic functions;

(b) if so, the details of plans chalked out in this regard;

(c) whether the coverage of parliamentary proceedings has been noticed as poor and the media has been urged to reflect upon its impact on parliamentary democracy;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to make media most effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a), (b) and (e) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to bring about quantitative and qualitative improvements in the working of various media units. Prasar Bharati Corporation has been set up as an autonomous body so that Doordarshan and All India Radio can function in a professional manner. All other media units give effective coverage to Government's programmes and policies and disseminate information relating to developmental activities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shunu Sen Committee on Marketing of DD and AIR Programmes

5421.SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of Shunu Sen Committee on the marketing of Doordarshan and All India Radios programmes;

(b) if so, the main recommendations alongwith the reaction of Government thereto: and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the commercial viability of DD and AIR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has looked into the recommendations of Shunu Sen Committee on the marketing of Doordarshan and All India Radio programmes. The Committee mainly recommended that Prasar Bharti should have full control on the contents and marketing of all programmes broadcast/telecast on its channels, should strengthen its marketing set up and should subscribe to the data of one of the Television Audience Measurement Systems. Actions on its recommendations are being taken by Prasar Bharti.

(c) Steps already taken by Prasar Bharti (Doordarshan) to improve its commercial viability include telecast of high quality programmes, rationalisation of rate card, digitalization of satellite channels, increasing the

duration of major channels to 24 hours and marketing of cricket events in the next five years. Prasar Bharti (All India Radio) plans to start some more commercial centres in the country and start commercial service for Gulf countries on Short Wave. Other steps contemplated by Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan) for improving its commercial viability include improvement of programming mix and signal quality, subscribing to the programme ratings by rating agencies and establishing a separate marketing set-up.

Enforcement Directorate to United Breweries

5422. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Enforcement Directorate at New Delhi has served notice to M/s. United Breweries for alleged Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA) violations to the tune of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that several liquor manufacturers in the country are grossly involved in FERA violations; and

(c) If so, the facts thereof and the action Government propose to take against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. No show cause notice has been issued to Messers United Breweries by the Enforcement Directorate for alleged violation of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. However, the Enforcement Directorate is investigating two cases against Messers United Breweries Limited.

(b) Apart from Messers United Breweries Limited, another liquor manufacturing company viz, Messers Seagram (India) (P) Limited, is also under investigation by the Enforcement Directorate under the provisions of FERA, 1973.

(c) So far as Messers United Breweries Limited, is concerned, one case pertains to entering into agreement with Messers Benetton Formula Limited, London for a particular business purpose and the second case pertains to running of a T.V. Channel by Shri Vijay Mallaya, Chairman of the Company for which transponder and uplinking charges were paid by a company at Singapore on behalf of United Breweries Limited.

In the case of Messers Seagram (India) (P) Limited, it is alleged that (i) a free Loan from Messers Seagram International BV, Netherlands has been taken; (ii) it has received share capital from Seagram International BV,

Netherlands and (iii) it has received some amount reportedly without permission from R.B.I., from Seagram International BV, Netherlands.

The Enforcement Directorate investigates the case which come to its notice and action is initiated if violation of FERA is found to have been committed.

Taxes on Petroleum Products

5423. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:

SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

SHRI SHANKAR SINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new taxes have been levied at various stages of production, import and sale of petroleum products in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the tax levied on it and the rate thereof;

(c) whether various surcharges and cess have also been levied in addition to these taxes;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the estimated average annual income earned through these taxes, cess and surcharges;

(f) whether the rates of such taxes, cess and surcharges are more than that of other countries in the world; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. No new customs duty on the import of petroleum products or excise duty on the production of petroleum products has been levied in the 2000-2001 Budget. Sales tax is a state subject and matter relating to its levy or concession are decided by the State Government.

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

(c) No new surcharges or cess has been levied by the Central Government this year.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply to (c) above.

(e) Does not arise since no new duties, cess or surcharge have been levied.

(f) and (g) Detailed information on the rate structure of indirect taxes on petroleum products, in other countries, is not available.

[Translation]

**Rubber Processing Centres in
Madhya Pradesh**

5424.SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Madhya Pradesh Government for setting up the rubber processing centres in the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Tenth Finance Commission

5425.SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that in pursuance of the Tenth Finance Commission's supportive measures, several schemes are being operated in the districts of State for water, sanitation, housing, electrification, etc.;

(b) if so, whether with a view to benefit the people, the Government has any proposal to take special initiatives to involve elected Members in such programmes; and

(c) if so, the steps taken so far in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The several schemes (for which the grants recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission have been given) are usually implemented by the State Governments through the concerned Departments. However, elected representatives are involved in the schemes implemented by the Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). The grants recommended by the Tenth Finance Commission to these local bodies are given only if they are elected local bodies, in cases where elections are mandatory under the Constitution.

[Translation]

Shortage of Staff

5426.SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Relay Centres in the Country which have shortage of staff, State-wise;

(b) whether the relay centres in the country have not been relaying their programmes satisfactorily due to shortage of staff;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to remove this shortage of staff; and

(e) if so, the time by which the required number of staff are likely to be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) 129 Doordarshan transmitters, out of a total of 1090, are presently relaying partial transmission due to shortage of staff in these centres. The State-wise details of the transmitters giving partial transmission are given in the statement attached.

(d) and (e) Action to post additional staff at the above mentioned transmitting stations by way of redeployment has been taken. Full transmission from these transmitters will commence as soon as the redeployed staff report duty in these centres.

Statement

Details of Doordarshan Transmitters giving partial transmission (as on 25.4.2000)

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of Transmitters giving partial transmission
1	2	3
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
2.	Assam	5
3.	Bihar	6
4.	Gujarat	14
5.	Haryana	5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1

1	2	3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	5
8.	Madhya Pradesh	15
9.	Maharashtra	19
10.	Orissa	20
11.	Punjab	1
12.	Rajasthan	18
13.	Tripura	3
14.	Uttar Pradesh	13
15.	West Bengal	1
16.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	1
17.	Daman & Diu	1

[English]

Bilateral Trade Agreement with China

5427. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have signed a bilateral Trade Agreement which would facilitate China's entry into World Trade Organisation and provide greater access for Indian export to the vast but restricted to Chinese market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the benefits are likely to be accrued to Indian Trade and Commerce from it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A bilateral agreement between India and the Peoples Republic of China was signed on 22nd February, 2000 as part of the process of China's accession to the World Trade Organisation. Under this agreement China agreed to grant India tariff concessions on a number of items of substantial trade interest to us in the Chinese market. Besides, it was also agreed to take steps to lift some of the non-tariff barriers to trade for products identified by us in the Chinese market. These concessions have been granted on a non-reciprocal basis and would become effective on the accession of China to the World Trade Organisation.

(c) The agreement, involving tariff concessions and steps to remove non-tariff barriers to trade, is expected to help increase bilateral trade. Enhanced bilateral cooperation and the entry of China to WTO are expected to have

positive impact on world trade flows in general, which may have implications for India's trade prospects as well.

Rubber Board

5428. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rubber Board have given financial assistance to rubber growers for improving rubber cultivation;

(b) whether the Rubber Board have formulated any scheme for promoting rubber cultivation;

(c) whether the small and marginal rubber growers are facing financial problem for rubber cultivation;

(d) whether the Rubber Board have conducted seminar, study class, awareness camp for rubber farmers for improving rubber cultivation; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) To mitigate the financial problems of the small and marginal rubber growers Rubber Board is providing them financial assistance for meeting part of the cost of cultivation and the remaining requirement is available as bank credit at rates approved by the NABARD.

(d) and (e) For improving rubber cultivation, Rubber Board has been conducting regular extension programmes for the rubber farmers. During the year 1999-2000, the Board has conducted 1308 seminars, 295 study classes on tapping and 2315 awareness camps.

[Translation]

New Scheme for Weavers

5429. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain new schemes for the weavers have been finalised in the country, particularly for Gujarat during the last two years;

(b) whether the Union Government have consulted the State Governments while finalising such schemes; and

(c) if so, the measures proposed to be taken for helping the weavers in the country particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) :

(a) to (c) No new scheme has been formulated during the last two years for the weavers in the country, including Gujarat. However, the Government is implementing the following schemes aimed at helping the weavers in the entire country, including Gujarat:

1. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme
2. Project Package Scheme
3. Group Insurance Scheme
4. Health Package Scheme
5. Thrift Fund Scheme
6. New Insurance Scheme
7. Scheme for Publicity and Exhibitions
8. Development of Exportable Products and their Marketing Scheme, etc.

In addition to the above, Government also proposes to launch a new integrated handloom promotion scheme with provision of basic inputs processing facilities, new design inputs to weavers and opening new avenues for marketing of handloom fabrics.

[English]

**Bharat Gold Mines and Private Companies
Refund to BIFR**

5430. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether BIFR has confirmed a prima facie opinion to wind up five private companies and State owned Bharat Gold Mines Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these companies or State Governments were asked for rehabilitation proposal;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the strategy chalked to rehabilitate or protect the interests of workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The names of the five private companies mentioned in part (a) of the question have not been specified. However, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that winding up notice has been issued by it with regard to M/s Bharat Goldmines Limited.

(c) and (d) A rehabilitation proposal estimated to cost Rs. 100 crores was submitted jointly by employees of the Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. The proposal envisaged reliefs, concessions and huge investments from Government of India and Government of Karnataka. As the promoters of the company of employees union of the company were not in a position to bring in required funds as promoters' contribution, BIFR directed that a show-cause notice for winding up of the company be issued to all concerned. Objections/suggestions to the showcause notice would be heard on 16.5.2000.

(e) The Rehabilitation of the companies referred to BIFR including protection of the interest of the workers are dealt with by BIFR in accordance with the well laid down provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

Anti-Dumping Cases

5431. SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of anti-dumping cases which have been filed with Anti-Dumping Directorate during each of the last three years;

(b) the country-wise break-up of the cases;

(c) the number of cases disposed off by the Directorate; and

(d) the details of the decisions taken by the Directorate thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Anti-dumping investigations are carried out in India under Sections 9A, 9B and 9C of the Customs Tariff (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-dumping duty on dumped articles for determination of injury) Rules.

The total number of anti-dumping cases filed during the last three years is 77 (1997 to date).

The year-wise and country-wise break-up of the cases filed is given at the attached statement-I

(c) and (d) The total number of cases upto 24th April' 2000 wherein the Designated Authority for Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties has recommended Anti-dumping duties, (definitive or provisional) or where investigations have been initiated are attached in statement-II(a), II(b) & II(c).

Statement-I*Petitions filed with Anti-Dumping Division Till Date*

Sl. No.	Product	Country
1	2	3
1997		
1.	Vitamin-C	Japan & China PR
2.	Magnesium	China PR
3.	Met Coke	China PR
4.	Polystyrene	Korea RP, Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia
5.	Hot Rolled Coils	Russia, Kazakhstan & Ukraine
6.	Lovastatin	China PR
7.	Sea Water Magnesia	China PR
8.	Pet Chip Bottle Grade	S. Arabia, Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia & Thailand
9.	Industrial Sewing Needles	Germany, Japan, Korea, China & Czech. RP
10.	Chloroquine Phosphate	China PR
11.	Tin Plates	Brazil, Germany, Japan, Korea & U.K.
12.	Black & White Picture Tubes	China PR
13.	Photographic Paper (old)	UK, France
1998		
14.	Ortho Chloro Benzaldehyde	China PR
15.	Acrylic Fibres	Italy, Spain, Portugal & Japan
16.	Calcium Carbide	China PR & Romania
17.	P Tert Butyl Catechol (PTBC)	France
18.	Citric Acid	China PR
19.	Industrial Sewing Needles	Japan, Korea, China
20.	EPDM	Japan
21.	SBR	Japan, Korea, Turkey, China, Taiwan, USA, Germany & France
22.	Acrylic Fibre	Mexico
23.	Hard Ferrite Ring Magnets	China PR
24.	Low Carbon Ferro Chrome (LCFC)	China, South Africa, Macedonia
25.	HR Coils	S. Korea, S. Africa & Turkey
26.	Float Glass	Indonesia
27.	HCFC	S. Africa, Russia, Kazakhstan

1	2	3
28.	Mono Methyl Aceto Acetamide and Methyl Aceto Acetate Ester	USA, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, Singapore, EEC
29.	Sucker Rod Pumps	China
30.	Carbendazim Techreal	China
31.	Zinc Sulphate	China
32.	Polystrene (Review)	Korea
33.	NDDDB	E.U.
	1999	
34.	PTFE	Russia
35.	PSF	Indonesia, Korea RP, Thailand & Taiwan
36.	Nylon Tyre Cord Fabric	Indonesia, Korea RP, Thailand & Taiwan
37.	NBR	Taiwan
38.	Thermal Sensitive Paper	European Union, Japan
39.	Sodium Cyanide	USA, EU, Korea & Czech Rep.
40.	Polystyrene	China, Hong Kong, Singapore & Thailand
41.	Barium Carbonate	China
42.	Acrylic Fibre	Turkey
43.	HR Coils	S. Korea, S. Africa, Japan, China, Australia
44.	Zinc Oxide	China
45.	Poly Oriented Yarn (POY)	Indonesia, Korea, Taiwan
46.	Skimmed Milk Powder	EU
47.	HCFC	S. Africa, Russia, Kazakhstan
48.	Plastic Ophthalmic Lenses	China, Hongkong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Brazil & Italy
49.	Sodium Ferrocyanide	EU including Germany & UK
50.	Aniline	EU
51.	Caustic Soda	USA, Japan Indonesia, France, Arabia & Iran
52.	Strontium Carbonate	China
53.	Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA)	Japan, Malaysia, Spain & Taiwan
54.	Seamless Tube	Romania, Austria, Russia, Ukraine & Czech Rep.
55.	Optical Fibre	S. Korea
56.	Soda Ash	China PR
57.	Acrylic Fibre	Taiwan

1	2	3
58.	Oxo Alcohols	S. Korea, S. Arabia, Indonesia and Russia
59.	Vitamin-C	Russia and EU
60.	Metronidazole	China
61.	Aniline	USA and Japan
62.	EPDM	Korea
63.	Pthalic Anhydride	Indonesia
64.	Sodium Nitrite	China PR
65.	Photographic Paper	U.K., France, Hungary & Czech RP
66.	Seamless Grade Alloy etc.	Russia, Ukraine & China
67.	NBR	Korea
	2000	
68.	Bisphenol-A	EU and Taiwan
69.	Hydroxy Amine Sulphate	USA, Japan, EU
70.	Polyester Film	Korea & Indonesia
71.	Trimetho Prim	China
72.	Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA)	USA, Singapore and Netherlands
73.	Hot Rolled Coils, Strips etc.	S. Korea, S. Africa, Japan, China and Australia
74.	Ferro Silicon	Russia, China, Iran, Ukraine and Kazakhstan
75.	Partially Oriented Yarn (POY)	Indonesia, S. Korea, Taiwan, Thailand & Malaysia
76.	Strontium Carbonate	China & Germany
77.	Aniline	EU

Statement-II (A)

Cases where Definitive (Final) Anti Dumping Duties recommended

Sl. No.	Product	Country	Date of Final Findings	Range of Duty Recommended (Rs. Per unit) (Final)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	PVC Resin	Brazil, Mexico, Korea RP, USA	30.7.93	Rs. 504 / MT - Rs. 2036 / MT
2.	Bisphenol A	Japan	18.02.94	Rs. 7477 / MT
3.	Potassium Permanganate	China PR	24.7.95	Rs. 5992 / MT
4.	Isobutyl Benzene (I BB)	China PR	27.07.95	Rs. 10634 / MT

1	2	3	4	5
5.	3,4,5 Trimethoxy Benzaldehyde (TMBA)	China PR	24.7.95	Rs. 237 per kg
6.	Theophylline Caffeine	China PR	26.07.95	Rs. 108 / KG Rs. 101 / KG
7.	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR)	Japan	19.10.95	Rs. 19036 / MT
8.	Bisphenol-A	Brazil, Russia	20.11.95	12582/MT - Rs. 13997/MT
9.	Sodium Ferrocyanide	China PR	10.10.96	Rs. 16358 / MT Rs. 20287 / MT
10.	Dead Burnt Magnesite (DBM)	China PR	12.11.96	Rs. 705/MT-Rs.1264/MT
11.	Low Carbon Ferro Chrome (LCFC)	Russia, Kazakhstan	03.12.96	Rs.10900 Rs. 18600/MT Rs.18500/MT
12.	8-Hydroxy quinoline	China PR	28.2.97	Rs.183-206/KG
13.	Bisphenol-A	USA	18.3.97	Rs.10,000/MT
14.	Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR)	Germany, Korea RP	17.7.97	Rs. 8316 PMT Rs. 13255 PMT
15.	Acrylic fibres	USA, Thailand, Korea RP	14.10.97	Rs. 6.30 to Rs. 42.93/Kg
16.	Catalysts	Denmark	05.01.98	Rs. 25.64 - Rs. 215.46/Ltr
17.	Newsprint	Canada, USA, Russia	19.03.98	Reference price for calculation of duties/Mt. Rs. 2513 to Rs. 6250
18.	Purified Terphthalic Acid (PTA)	Korea RP, Thailand & Indonesia	19.03.98	Rs. 1130-Rs. 3375/MT
19.	Graphite Electrodes	USA, China, Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Austria & France	27.03.98	Rs. 5517-30997 / MT
20.	Vitamin-C	Japan & China RP	25.05.98	Rs. 27.59-61.96/KG
21.	Magnesium	China PR	24.07.98	Rs. 157005 PMT reference price
22.	Met Coke	China PR	27.08.98	Rs. 4673 reference price subject to min. Rs. 692/MT
23.	Polystyrene	Korea RP, Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia	14.09.98	Rs. 1963-13493/MT
24.	Hot Rolled Coils	Russia, Kazakhstan & Ukraine	18.11.98	Rs. 14300/MT-Rs. 22000 / MT
25.	Lovastatin	China PR	18.12.98	Difference between Rs.191869/KG and landed value
26.	Ortho Chloro Benzaldehyde	China PR	18.12.98	Difference between Rs. 200.21/KG and landed value/KG

1	2	3	4	5
27. Acrylic Fibres	Italy, Spain, Portugal & Japan	24.12.98	Rs.2.69/KG-Rs. 82.00/KG	
28. Calcium Carbide	China PR & Roamania	22.01.99	Rs. 499-Rs. 873 / MT	
29. Sea Water Magnesia	China PR	02.2.99	Rs. 390/MT-Rs. 994 / MT	
30. P Tert Butyl Catechol (PTBC)	France	15.2.99	Rs. 48.03 per kg	
31. Citric Acid	China PR	15.3.99	Diff. Between Rs. 60324 PMT and landed value of imports PMT	
32. Industrial Sewing Needles	Japan, Korea, China	12.4.99	Withdrawl of Duty (Closed case)	
33. EPDM	Japan	14.5.99	Difference between Rs. 100644 to Rs. 104725 & landed price of imports/kgs	
34. SBR	Japan, Korea, Turkey, China Taiwan, USA, Germany & France	2.6.99	Rs. 48.20/kg. to Rs. 62.16/kg	
35. Acrylic Fibre	Mexico	25.6.99	Difference between Rs. 83.7 and landed value of imports Rs. 2.20/kg.	
36. Hard Ferrite Ring Magnets	China PR	12.7.99	Difference between Rs. 36/- & landed price of imports per kg.	
37. Low Carbon Ferro Chrome (LCFC)	China, South Africa, Macedonia	22.9.99	Rs. 911-Rs. 6512/MT	
38. PTFE	Russia	13.10.99	Rs. 5200/MT	
39. PSF	Indonesia, Korea RP, Thailand & Taiwan	21.1.2000	Rs. 46215-Rs.46607/MT	
40. Nylon Tyre Cord Fabric	Indonesia, Korea RP, Thailand & Taiwan	22.2.2000	Rs. 1.77 to Rs. 28.91/kg.	
41. NBR	Taiwan	23.2.2000	Rs. 6288/MT	
42. Thermal Sensitive Paper	Europeaon Union, Japan	3.3.2000	Rs. 1.61-Rs.1.84/sq.m.	
43. Sodium Cyanide	USA, EU, Korea & Czech. Rep.	6.3.2000	Rs. 68025	
44. Polystyrene	China, Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand	8.3.2000	Rs. 494-Rs. 9236	
45. Barium Carbonate	China	23.3.2000	US \$ 423.03/MT	
46. Acrylic Fibre	Turkey	24.3.2000	Rs. 9.6-Rs. 16.41/kg.	
47. Purified Terphthalic Acid (PTA)	Spain	20.4.2000	Rs. 521/MT	

Statement-II (B)*Cases where preliminary duty recommended and pending final duty recommendation*

Sl. Product No.	Country	Date of PFindings	Rates of Prov duties recommended
1. Seamless Tube	Romania, Austria, Russia, Ukraine & Czech Rep.	10.11.99	Rs. 1136-Rs. 13698/MT.
2. Optical Fibre	S.Korea	5.11.99	Rs. 122-Rs. 610.14 per kg.
3. Soda Ash	China PR	18.11.99	Rs. 391.27-Rs.1036/MT.
4. Acrylic Fibre	Taiwan	10.11.99	Rs. 3.37-Rs.10.25 per kg.
5. Oxo Alcohols	S.Korea, S. Arabia, Indonesia and Russia	3.12.99	Rs. 2825-Rs. 10728 per MT.
6. Vitamin - C	Russia and EU	17.1.2000	Rs. 85.35 - Rs. 150.49 per kg.
7. Metronidazole	China	21.2.2000	Rs. 519/kg.
8. Aniline	USA and Japan	8.3.2000	Rs. 3.43 - Rs. 7.88/kg.
9. EPDM	Korea	23.3.2000	US \$ 124/MT.
10. Pthalic Anhydride	Indonesia	31.3.2000	Rs. 786/MT.
11. Sodium Nitrite	China PR	6.4.2000	Rs. 22625/MT. & landed price of imports/MT.

Statement-II (C)*Cases under investigation*

Sl.No.	Product	Date of Initiation	Country
1.	Photographic Paper	27.8.99	U.K., France, Hungary & Czech RP
2.	Seamless Grade Alloy etc.	9.12.99	Russia, Ukraine & China
3.	Bisphenol - A	6.1.2000	EU and Taiwan
4.	Hydroxy Amine Sulphate	2.3.2000	USA, Japan, EU
5.	Polyester Film	29.3.2000	Korea & Indonesia

Decline in Tax-GDP

5432.SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
SHRI NIKHILANANDA SAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether decline in tax-GDP ratio contributed to the fiscal deficit; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) and (b)

Fiscal deficit is the borrowing requirement of the Government to finance its expenditure. Hence, a decline in tax-GDP ratio and consequent deceleration in the growth in tax revenue collection has an adverse impact on fiscal deficit.

Nominee Directors of the Board of Management of RRB

5433.SHRI P. MOHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development issued instructions for appointment of non-

political, non-official Director of the Board of Management of Regional Rural Bank;

(b) whether the list of such proposed nominee Directors has been submitted by NABARD and sponsored Banks as advised by the Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) As per provisions under Section 9(1)(a) of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976, two Directors, who are not officers of the Central Government, State Government, Reserve Bank of

India, National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), Sponsor Bank of any other banks are to be nominated by the Central Government on the Board of RRB. The directors so appointed are termed as Non-official Directors (NODs). Instructions have been issued by Government/Reserve Bank of India/NABARD from time to time to sponsor banks of RRBs to suggest suitable persons for appointment as NODs.

(b) and (c) The sponsoring banks have submitted panels for appointment of NODs. The details of panel submitted by sponsor banks is given in the attached statement.

Statement

*Panel Prepared by Sponsor Banks for Appointment of Non-Official Directors
on The Boards of Their Respective Regional Rural Banks*

Sl. No.	Name of Sponsor Banks	Number of RRBs Sponsored	Number of NODs to be Appointed by Central Government	Number of persons Recommended by Sponsor Bank
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Allahabad Bank	7	14	14
2.	Andhra Bank	3	6	6
3.	Bank of Baroda	19	38	40
4.	Bank of India	16	32	18
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	3	6	10
6.	Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	1	2	3
7.	Canara Bank	8	16	16
8.	Corporation Bank	1	2	3
9.	Central Bank of India	23	46	70
10.	Dena Bank	4	8	8
11.	Indian Bank	4	8	12
12.	Indian Overseas Bank	3	6	16
13.	Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.	2	4	9
14.	Punjab National Bank	19	38	39
15.	Punjab & Sind Bank	1	2	2
16.	Syndicate Bank	10	20	30
17.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	3	6	20

1	2	3	4	5
18.	State Bank of Hyderabad	4	8	24
19.	State Bank of India	30	60	29**
20.	State Bank of Indore	1	2	3
21.	State Bank of Mysore	2	4	6
22.	State Bank of Patiala	1	2	2
23.	State Bank of Saurashtra	3	6	7
24.	Union Bank of India	4	8	17
25.	United Bank of India	11	22	23
26.	UCO Bank	11	22	30
27.	U.P. Cooperative Bank Ltd.	1	2	2
28.	Vijaya Bank	1	2	3

*Panel received for 10 RRBs.

**Panel received for 8 RRBs.

Death of Miners

5434.SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of miners were killed and several trapped underground when an illegal coal pit caved on 27th January, 2000 at Benali incline of ECL;

(b) if so, whether the incident took place due to rampant illegal coal extraction in the abandoned mine;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of death toll in the said incident so far;

(e) whether the required precautionary measures were taken in the abandoned mine by ECL; and

(f) if not, the step being taken against the erring management of ECL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The subsidence took place due to illegal mining by making a number of well type pits in the out crop region and not through any abandoned incline or pit of ECL.

(c) An area about 15M X 18M east of ECL residential complex and Benali VTC subsided at about 9.30 A.M. on 26.1.2000. The spot was dozed in presence

of local police. Information of the incidence was sent to DGMS and other senior officers of local government administration.

(d) Nil.

(e) Immediately after abandonment of Benali incline precautionary measure in form of extensive dozing was done to seal exposed coal faces. FIRs on regular basis were lodged with the local police with information to district authorities whenever incidence of illegal mining came to light, dozing had been resorted thereafter.

(f) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Code of Conduct for Journalists

5435.SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to frame a code of conduct for the journalists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a meeting of experts is likely to be held before giving a final touch to the code of conduct; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF

STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[English]

No Industry Districts

5436. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the names of districts identified under the category 'No Industry District' to be covered during the Ninth Five Year Plan State-wise, particularly in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : With the introduction of the new Growth Centre Scheme in 1988, the old 'No Industry District' Scheme of 1983 was discontinued. Under the New Scheme six growth centre projects are being implemented at Borai (district Durg), Chainpura, (district Guna), Ghirongi (district Bhind), Kheda (district Dhar), Satlapur (district Raisen) and Siltara (district Raipur), during the 9th Plan.

Trade and Investment between India and Seychelles

5437. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government to boost the trade and investment between India and Seychelles?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): Sir, the following steps have been taken by the Government to boost the trade and investment between India and Seychelles:

- (i) India has signed bilateral Trade Agreement with Seychelles on 9th September, 1998. This Trade Agreement provides for setting up of a Joint Trade Committee to review the implementation of the provisions of Trade Agreement and to recommend to both the parties the steps to be taken for development and diversification of commercial exchanges.
- (ii) India and Seychelles have established a Joint Commission on bilateral cooperation. So far, four meetings of Joint Commission have taken place. The last one was held in Feb, 1998 in Seychelles, wherein it was decided to set up a Joint Business Council having private members' participation to overlook the question of trade and investment.

(iii) From time to time exchange of delegations/trade delegations take place and meetings are organised by FICCI etc. Buyers/Sellers meet are organised. A major private sector investment has been setting up of a telephone communication network in Seychelles by M/s Bharti Telecom of India. They have been able to capture more than 50% of the local mobile phone network and are shortly to launch their fixed line network and expect a good market response. They have been doing well against direct competition from the long established sole telecom service provider, the giant British Company, Cable and Wireless.

(iv) On the Government side a number of loans and credit lines have been extended to the Government of Seychelles over the years to facilitate exports from India. Seychelles is currently passing through an acute forex problem. On the request of Government of Seychelles, Government of India had recently extended a new credit line worth US\$ 2 million. The credit lines are items specific for out TATA buses. Government of India has also agreed to reschedule payment of past credits as a means of helping out Seychelles through the present crisis.

(v) With a view to provide export of Indian goods/ services a Credit Agreement has been signed on 24th February, 2000 for extension of a Government of India line of credit worth US\$ 2 million to the Government of Seychelles. The same is meant for export of capital goods, consumer durable and/or consultancy services of Indian manufacture/origin.

Loan under PMRY to SCs/STs

5438. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SCs/STs amongst the total entrepreneurs of the country, particularly in North Bengal sector of West Bengal, who have been provided loans under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the extent to which it is lower than the target fixed for this purpose; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Scheme of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)

provides for reservation of 22.5% for SC/STs. The details of loans provided to SC/STs during the year 1996-97, 1997-98 & 1998-99 (including West Bengal) is given in the enclosed statement. The data reporting system of RBI does not generate the sector-wise break-up in the States for loans provided, as sought in the question.

(c) The reasons for short fall in achievement of targets under SC/STs by banks, as revealed by the field study conducted by RBI during 1997 are as under:-

- (i) Concerned agencies were not sponsoring adequate number of applications of borrowers specially belonging to SC/STs.

- (ii) Many of the projects/activities sponsored to banks were not found viable.

- (iii) Lack of co-ordination between banks & sponsoring agencies. The RBI study further revealed that the percentage of recovery in West Bengal is low probably because of stay granted by the Calcutta High Court for recovery of bank dues in respect of State Government Employment Scheme for educated unemployed youth.

However, RBI at the instance of Government have advised the banks/agencies to make special efforts to sanction cases of applicants belonging to these categories in large numbers to ensure achievement of the sub-targets for them.

Statement

The target and the number of sanctions to SC/STs beneficiaries out of total loan sanctions, state-wise performance of Banks under PMRY during the last three years (year ending 31st March)

Name of the State/ Union Territory	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Target for SC/STs@ 22.5% of the total target	Loans to SC/STs out of total	Target for SC/STs@ 22.5% of the total target	Loans to SC/STs out of total	Target for SC/STs@ 22.5% of the total target	Loans to SC/STs out of total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	7178	4971	7695	4335	7695	3819
Arunachal Pradesh	101	81	68	62	101	54
Assam	3375	1310	3015	1479	3375	2152
Bihar	4984	2291	4838	2589	4613	2060
Gujarat	1913	1133	2835	2634	3285	2530
Goa	124	9	135	20	135	15
Haryana	1620	630	1418	587	1868	900
Himachal Pradesh	473	257	518	325	540	296
Jammu & Kashmir	788	86	788	238	1125	174
Karnataka	3983	1983	4950	2247	4928	2331
Kerala	3375	1381	3600	1270	4500	1447
Manipur	675	296	293	44	304	160
Maharashtra	8078	4604	9585	4991	9563	5792
Madhya Pradesh	6086	5292	7088	5065	7930	4943

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Meghalaya	186	109	124	115	124	158
Mizoram	84	34	90	34	79	28
Nagaland	101	97	101	118	56	57
Orissa	1856	839	2081	1241	2273	1052
Punjab	1935	1417	2025	1526	2025	1504
Rajasthan	2340	1500	3218	1932	3668	1845
Sikkim	45	25	23	19	34	52
Tamilnadu	4905	2114	6233	2268	4163	2170
Tripura	439	380	293	63	293	140
Uttar Pradesh	8058	3827	10170	6106	11610	6238
West Bengal	5153	898	5175	599	5175	526
NCT of Delhi	1024	152	1058	143	1058	94
A & N Islands	23	2	23	12	23	19
Chandigarh	34	8	45	10	23	8
Dadar & Nagar Haveli	34	7	11	22	11	9
Daman & Diu	23	—	11	3	11	3
Lakshadweep	12	36	11	47	11	33
Pondicherry	113	35	101	41	124	49
All India	69118	35804	77669	40185	79723	40658

Bank Accounts of Deceased Persons

5439. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 806, dated February 26, 1999 regarding bank accounts of deceased persons and state:

(a) the way and the purpose for which the unclaimed amount of Rs. 409.36 crores lying with scheduled commercial banks has been utilized;

(b) the action taken by the Government against the legal successors of depositors who do not inform the banks of the death of the depositors but keep on using that account; and

(c) the number of such cases came to light during the last three years in the public and private sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) The unclaimed amount lying with scheduled commercial banks is a part of the deposits with those banks and is utilized in the same manner as the rest of the deposits are used until such time as the amounts are claimed by those legitimately entitled to do so and such claims are honoured.

(b) Bank accounts can be operated only by persons in whose names the accounts stand. Therefore when a bank account is in the name of one individual who is no longer alive such account cannot be operated by any other person. However, if a bank account is a joint account to be operated by "either or survivor" the surviving joint account holder may operate the account, on the death of other joint account holder. Legal heirs of depositors are expected to inform the banks regarding the death of the account holders so that the amounts to the credit of those

accounts can be paid to those legitimately entitled to receive such amounts. No action is proposed to be taken by the Government against legal heirs who do not inform the banks of the death of the account holders.

(c) Information of this nature is not maintained by the Reserve Bank of India.

Indian Office at WTO Geneva

5440. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has a large representational office at the WTO in Geneva;

(b) if so, the strength of this office accredited to W.T.O.;

(c) whether the skewed and pliant advice is largely given by this Indian Office with regard to W.T.O.; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Permanent Mission of India at Geneva for WTO consists of following officers:

Ambassador-1

Counsellor/First Secretary/Second Secretary-4

Attache/Research Officer-1

(c) and (d) The PMI (WTO) Geneva constructively participates in different WTO bodies with a view to protect and project India's interests. The PMI's feedback on developments in WTO and inputs have been valuable in the formulation of national strategy.

Tea Auction Centre at Karachi

5441. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government are aware of the news item captioned "Proposed tea auction centre at Karachi upsets industry" appearing in the "Times of India" dated April 6, 2000;

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

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) During the visit of a tea delegation from Pakistan in November 1997, the Pakistan Tea Association had indicated a proposal to open a tea auction centre at Karachi. However no official information on the subject has been received.

(c) Government of India and Tea Board are closely watching the situation.

Financial Assistance to Kerala

5442. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted any memorandum seeking financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 79.5 crores for extending relief to the farmers affected by coconut mite attack on coconut trees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANAJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) In December, 1999, the State Government of Kerala had submitted a memorandum to the Union Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Co-operation) seeking Central Assistance to the tune of Rs. 79.56 crores from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) in the wake of the coconut mite attack. After examining the same in detail, the Union Ministry of Agriculture sent a reply to the State Government of Kerala in March, 2000 stating that the calamity could not prima facie be treated as one of rare severity to qualify for assistance from the NFCR.

Action Against Army Officer

5443. SHRI ANIL BASU:

SHRI R.L. BHATIA:

SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL:

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Narcotics Control Bureau had seize heroin bearing Pakistani marking worth crores of rupees from South Delhi;

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

(c) whether any investigation has been made in this matter;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) whether the Wing Commander had leaked air force secrets to the US agency for huge sums;

(f) if so, the other main allegations found against him;

(g) whether it is very serious and sensitive issue;

(h) whether keeping it in view the Government have handed over or propose to hand over this case to C.B.I.;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to maintain secrecy of the highly sensitive documents in the interest of the nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Narcotics Control Bureau had made the following seizures of heroin bearing Pakistani marking from South Delhi :-

- (1) On the intervening night of 21/22.12.99, officers of Narcotics Control Bureau, Delhi Zonal Unit intercepted a truck on National Highway No. 8 near Delhi. 77 packets containing 77 Kgs. of Heroin were recovered from the truck. The packets bore Pakistani markings. Two persons were apprehended at the spot. Three Indians, two Afghans and one Nigerian were arrested in this case.
- (2) On 30.7.99, officers of Narcotics Control Bureau, Delhi Zonal Unit seized 6 Kgs. of heroin out of which 1.6 Kg. was in powder form and 17.7 Kgs. was water mixed heroin (4.4 Kg. heroin) from a house in Vasant Vihar. A Nigerian National was arrested in this connection.
- (3) On 17.6.99, officers of Narcotics Control Bureau, Delhi Zonal Unit, on receiving information from Customs Authorities of Amritsar, searched a residential premises at Srinivaspuri, New Delhi. The search resulted in seizure of 750 gms. of heroin and Indian currency Rs. 3,46,000/-, US \$ 3400, Pak currency Rs. 328/- and Nepali currency Rs. 34/-. Four Nigerians including one woman were arrested.

(e) No Wing Commander is involved in the above mentioned cases.

(f) to (i) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (e) above.

(j) Government of India takes all precautions to maintain secrecy of the highly sensitive documents as per the security manual issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

[Translation]

Interview of Pak General on Doordarshan

5444.DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will The Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the interview of Pak military ruler, General Pervez Musharraf by a journalist was telecast on DD at 7.30 PM on February 7, 2000;

(b) if so, the rationale behind telecasting such interview on DD by the Government; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was felt by Prasar Bharati that an interview of General Pervez Musharraf, head of Pakistan Military regime, carried out by Doordarshan anchor would enable them to confront the General with the contradictions of the situations particularly in respect of restoration of democracy and legitimacy of his Government. The interview also sought to bring out the flimsiness of the basic Pakistan posture on their support to the terrorists.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

NIFT

5445.SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grant released by the Government to National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Delhi, during the last two years;

(b) whether the account of NIFT are audited;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the basis on which the Government's grant to NIFT is released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) The grants released by the Ministry of Textiles to National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) during 1997-98 and 1998-99 were as under:-

(Rs. in Crore)		
Year	Plan	Non-Plan
1997-98	7.70	1.83
1998-99	10.99	1.83

(b) and (c) NIFT's accounts are audited by the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The accounts of NIFT in respect of 1997-98 have already been audited and placed on the Table of the Lok/Rajya Sabha. The audit of the accounts of NIFT in respect of 1998-99 has been undertaken and the audited accounts are expected to be placed on the Table of Lok/Rajya Sabha in the near future.

(d) Government's grant to NIFT is dependent upon its various activities under the Plan and Non-Plan heads. It also takes into account own income generated by NIFT from projects and programmes and overall budgetary allocation for the Ministry.

[Translation]

Transfer Policy

5446.DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 1857 dated 10.12.1999 and state:

(a) whether the required information has since been obtained;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the information is likely to be collected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Majority of the officers working in the two subsidiary corporations viz. NTC (MN) Ltd. and NTC (SM) Ltd. located in Maharashtra, have rendered 1 to 5 years service in the same unit.

The details of officers are as under:-

Name of the Subsidiary Corporation	No. of officers working in the same unit for the last		
	1 to 5 years	Above 5 Yrs & upto 10 Yrs	Above 10 Yrs & upto 15 Yrs or more
NTC (SM) Ltd.	166	29	10
NTC (MN) Ltd.	147	4	—
Total	313	33	10

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Revamping of Postal Deposit Schemes

5447.SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revamp the Postal Deposit Schemes on the lines of Bank Deposit Schemes to make it commercially viable;

(b) if so, whether the Government have also set up a Committee of experts for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the time by which this Committee is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Government have set up a Committee of experts to, inter-alia, review the existing mandate of the Post Office Savings Bank and examine the feasibility of suitably enlarging it consistent with enhanced customer expectations and recent technological advancements. The Committee is required to submit its' Report by 30th June, 2000.

Export of Tobacco

5548.DR. MANDA JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tobacco Board has proposed to send a team to various countries like Egypt, China and Russia to boost the export of tobacco; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A delegation of 6 members visited Libya, Jordan, Egypt and Algeria in February, 2000 to promote Indian tobacco exports. Another Indian tobacco trade delegation including STC representatives, visited Russia to explore opportunities for tobacco export. Further a delegation will be visiting countries like China, Vietnam, South Korea and Taiwan to find new market for export of tobacco.

Harassment of Fishermen at Mumbai Port

5449. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that small fishermen are being harassed by the customs official at Mumbai Port;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any complaints in this regard;

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

(d) whether the customs authority has imposed some conditions on the issue of sanctioning the licences to fishermen and their families; and

(e) if so, the details and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Customs Department is not issuing any licence to fishermen and their families. Only seasonal passes are issued for mechanised fishing crafts for the period from 15th August or Narti Poonnima date, whichever is earlier, to 10th June of next year and for non-mechanised crafts, from 1st October to 30th September. For the intervening period, i.e. from 11th June-August, passes are not issued in respect of mechanised fishing crafts in view of ban imposed by the Government of Maharashtra under the 'Maharashtra Marine Fishing Regulations Act, 1981'.

Diversion of Opium to Illicit Market

5450. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWAL : :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to U.S. Drug Administrative Annual Report, Indian opium is diverted to illicit market;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) According to International Narcotics Control Strategy Report (INCSR) for 2000 of the US Government there has been some diversion of Indian Opium to the Illicit market.

(b) As per reports received from various Central & State Drug Law enforcement agencies for the year 1999-2000, the seizure of Opium sought to be diverted was 1.6 MT as against the total procurement of about 1000 MT of Opium during the crop year 1999. As per the INCSR, the US Government believes that India has taken exceptional steps to control diversion, and that these steps have held diversion down to levels which are not excessive.

(c) Steps taken by the Government of India to prevent the diversion of Opium to illicit channels include forewarning to cultivators to tender certain minimum yield to become eligible for Opium license in the following year, periodic increase in procurement price of Opium; intensification of preventive efforts by various enforcement agencies in/around Opium cultivation area; and provision of stringent punishment under the NDPS Act 1985.

Singareni Collieries Company Limited

5451. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government to help the domestic coal industry like Singareni Collieries from the threat of large scale import of coal at cheaper rate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) and (b) Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has written a letter dated 17.12.1999 to Union Minister of Labour in which a request has been made for amendments to notifications issued under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 for unhindered deployment of Contract Labour.

With reference to the above request, the current position as obtained from Ministry of Labour is reproduced below:

The Central Government has, vide notification no. SO 2063 dated 21.6.1988 prohibited the employment of contract labour in the following jobs in all coal mines in the country :-

- (i) Raising or raising-cum-selling of coal;
- (ii) Coal loading and unloading;
- (iii) Overburden removal and earth cutting;
- (iv) Soft coke manufacturing; and
- (v) Driving of stone drifts and miscellaneous stone cutting underground.

The notification, however, provides that it shall not apply to the following categories:-

- (a) Quarries in the North-east coal fields which can only be worked for a few month every year due to heavy rainfall in the area;
- (b) Quarries located by the side of the river in Pench valley and similar other patch deposits which can only be worked when the level of river has gone down and during non-rainy season;
- (c) Loading of coal when there is mechanical failure, failure of power or irregular supply of wagon by the railways; and
- (d) Cutting of stone drifts/faults which cannot be detected in advance and are of short duration say upto six months.

The Ministry of Labour has granted exemption, under section 31 of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, to Kasta and Kalidaspur areas of Eastern Coalfields Limited from the aforesaid notification for a period of 5 years from 20.5.1997.

The Central Government has also prohibited employment of contract labour in the jobs of sweeping, cleaning, dusting and watching of buildings owned or occupied by the establishments in respect of which the Central Government is the appropriate Government under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 vide notification No. S.O. 779(E) dated 9.12.1976.

The Supreme Court in the matter *Air India Statutory Corporation vs. United Labour Union and others* have laid down that having abolished the employment of contract labour, the Central Government is denuded of its power to go once over into the self same question. Hence, amendment to the notifications dated 21.6.88 and

9.12.1976 cannot be considered in the present circumstances. However, the management concerned can request for exemption, under section 31 of the Act, if the case so warrants.

Self Help Group Linkage Programme

5452. SHRI R.L. JALAPPA:

SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NABARD has been implementing a medium term strategic action plan under Refinance support under Self Help Group Linkage Programme in various States, particularly in Karnataka and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the State-wise names of banks sponsored by NABARD; and

(c) the achievements of the Scheme and the number of persons benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it has been implementing strategic action plan for linking Self-Help Groups (SHGs) with banks in all the States including Karnataka and Maharashtra. To effectively credit link SHGs with banks, NABARD has been adopting various strategies which include providing cent per cent refinance assistance to banks at an interest rate of 6.5 per cent per annum against their financing of SHGs, providing number of training and exposure programme, supporting Non-Government Organizations in forming, nurturing and monitoring SHGs, providing financial and technical support to micro finance partner institutions for promoting and credit linking of SHGs, providing encouragement to Regional Rural Banks and Cooperatives to take on the role of Self Help Promoting Institutions, etc. NABARD has reported that the bank-wise details of SHGs linked are not available. However, the details of the state-wise cumulative number of HSGs linked with banks and the cumulative bank loan provided as on 31st March, 2000 are indicated in the attached statement.

(c) As reported by NABARD, the cumulative number of SHGs financed by banks stood at 95,000 as on 31st March, 2000, covering about 16 lakh poor families with bank credit. It is expected that about 8 million persons have benefited under the programme.

Statement

Details of the State-wise cumulative number of Self Help Groups linked with banks and the cumulative bank loan provided by NABARD as on 31-3-2000

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cumulative No. of SHGs linked with banks	Cumulative Bank Loan provided by NABARD (Rs. lakhs)
1.	A & N Island	23	6.56
2.	Andhra Pradesh	48507	8658.58
3.	Assam	67	6.72
4.	Bihar	1910	178.82
5.	Goa	19	7.83
6.	Gujarat	3005	420.54
7.	Haryana	203	65.67
8.	Himachal Pradesh	963	122.72
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	11	1.53
10.	Karnataka	10610	2700.12
11.	Kerala	5551	856.44
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2308	410.17
13.	Maharashtra	4959	929.96
14.	Manipur	6	2.00
15.	Meghalaya	105	23.56
16.	Orissa	4088	343.65
17.	Pondicherry	188	105.07
18.	Punjab	40	10.47
19.	Rajasthan	1945	455.72
20.	Sikkim	1	0.12
21.	Tamil Nadu	13884	3489.67
22.	Tripura	5	3.15
23.	Uttar Pradesh	12933	922.28
24.	West Bengal	3397	257.86
	Total	114688	19287.24

Exemption of Power Equipments from Customs Duty

5453.SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested to the Union Government to exempt all categories of power equipments for power projects from custom duty; and

(b) if so, the response of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No Sir, the Government are not aware of any recent proposal of this nature.

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

Self Help Groups

5454.SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Self Help Groups covered by NABARD for poverty alleviation during 1999-2000 in West Bengal;

(b) whether the Government propose to cover more number of Self Help Groups during 2000-2001; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, West Bengal in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that during the year 1999-2000 it has disbursed refinance amounting to Rs. 169.62 lakhs in West Bengal for 2317 Self Help Groups (SHGs) in West Bengal.

(b) and (c) The Finance Minister has in his Budget Speech indicated that during the year 2000-2001, an additional one lakh SHGs would be covered/credit linked. Many of them are likely to be in West Bengal.

Trade with US

5455.SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the balance of trade (exports and imports) with US during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : The trade balance is in India's favour and details are given below:

(Rs. in crores)			
Year	Exports	Imports	Trade Balance
1997-98	25276.65	13813.69	(+) 11462.96
1998-99	30841.56	15319.25	(+) 15522.31
1999-2000 (P) (April-December)	26621.25	12607.52	(+) 14013.73

(P): Provisional Data.

Import of Tur Dal

5456. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- the quantum of Tur Dal imported during each of the last three years;
- the names of the countries from which imported; and
- the foreign exchange spent on its import?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) Information asked for is given in the statement below:

Import of Tur Dal

Year	Qty. (tons)	Value (Rs. Lakhs)	Names of Countries from which imported
1996-97	138723	19997.80	Chinese Taipei, Malawi, Myanmar, Mozambique, Russia, Singapore and USA
1997-98	172146	18377.82	Canada, Myanmar, Mozambique, Singapore and USA
1998-99	59247	9114.81	Kenya, Myanmar, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, UK and USA

Panel to Check Fake Currency

5457. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA:

SHRI SHIVAJI VITHAL RAO KAMBLE:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY:

SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- whether the Reserve Bank of India has set up a High level 'Technical Committee' to check fake currency in the country;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee;
- the details of fake currency seized by RBI during the last one year;
- whether the Government propose to introduce new kind of currency which is impossible for anyone to copy it;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the other steps likely to be taken by the Government to check circulation of fake currency in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A High Level Committee has been constituted with representation from the Department of Economic Affairs, Reserve Bank of India, Ministry of Home Affairs/National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) to go into the entire gamut of issues pertaining to the security dimension of Indian currency.

(c) The Committee is likely to submit its report by July, 2000.

(d) The fake currency notes detected at RBI offices during the calendar year 1999 are 44,467 pieces valued at Rs. 118.13 lakhs.

(e) and (f) Higher denomination notes with additional security features, will be issued shortly.

(g) The following additional steps have been taken to check circulation of fake currency in the country:-

- Currency and Coinage Division has also set up a six-member Fact Finding Committee comprising experts on note-printing/currency paper, etc. for examining the fake notes seized in the past in order to enable the Government to take remedial action vis-a-vis printing and security features.

(ii) RBI has been advised to go in for a publicity campaign about security features incorporated in the genuine notes so that the members of the public may distinguish between genuine and fake notes. Accordingly, the RBI has taken the following steps :-

- (a) The Security features of Rs. 500 deno. notes have been widely published in the print media to help the people to detect fake notes.
- (b) A film on security features of Rs. 500 deno. notes produced in English, Hindi and other regional languages is being telecast on Doordarshan.
- (c) For the benefit of public, a booklet has been brought out which *inter-alia*, describes the features of genuine notes. This booklet has been placed on the RBI's Website besides being available to the public for sale at RBI's issue offices.
- (iii) As counterfeiting of 500 rupee note has been noticed predominantly in the 1987 series, the RBI has issued instructions to its offices not to reissue these notes but to return them to RBI.
- (iv) All public sector banks and RBI offices have been instructed to provide Ultra Violet lamps at their branches to enable them to check the genuineness of the notes.

Sensex of BSE

5458. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sensex of NSE/BSE has come down during the first half of March, 2000 and again in the first half of April, 2000;

(b) if so, the sensex position during that period;

(c) the main reasons for plunging the sensex;

(d) whether any inquiry Committee has been set up in this regard;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by SEBI/Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) BSE Sensex index fell in the first half of March by 9.56% from 5642 on 1st March, 2000 to 5102 on 16th March, 2000. It fell by 3.4% in the first half of April from 5053 on 3rd April, 2000 to 4881 on 17th April, 2000. Similarly, NSE Nifty fell in the first half of March by 8.78% from 1713 on 1st March, 2000 to 1562 on 16th March, 2000. It fell by 5.94% in the first half of April from 1535 on 3rd April, 2000 to 1443 on 17th April, 2000. The closing figures of BSE Sensex from 1st March, 2000 to 24th April, 2000 are shown in the enclosed statement.

(c) Price fluctuations on stock markets are influenced by multiple factors, which include expectations of investors regarding the performance of the corporate sector and the economy in general, about economic policies of the Government, developments in international capital markets etc.

(d) to (f) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has intimated that SEBI has called for relevant data/details from the major stock exchanges and the analysis so far by SEBI, prima facie, does not indicate any concerted effort of design on the part of any market participant to bring down the Sensex. SEBI has taken various measures to ensure safety of the market and to curb excessive volatility. SEBI has put in place risk containment measures comprising capital adequacy, margining system, exposure controls and price bands. SEBI has been interacting with the stock exchanges regularly and the exchanges have been alerted to keep a close watch over the market and take appropriate action when required. The Exchanges have informed SEBI that they have initiated various actions including imposition of higher margins and curbing of excessive concentration by brokers. SEBI has cautioned investors, through press releases, to exercise caution while transacting in securities.

Statement

Date	Closing Figure of Sensex
1	2
1.3.2000	5642.13
2.3.2000	5528.31
3.3.2000	5378.27
6.3.2000	5520.69

1	2
7.3.2000	5589.85
8.3.2000	5511.42
9.3.2000	5328.79
10.3.2000	5301.78
13.3.2000	5129.22
14.3.2000	5175.71
15.3.2000	5249.76
16.3.2000	5102.41
21.3.2000	5133.24
22.3.2000	5201.87
23.3.2000	5115.02
24.3.2000	5141.42
27.3.2000	5146.30
28.3.2000	5156.12
29.3.2000	5102.46
30.3.2000	5041.08
31.3.2000	5001.28
3.4.2000	5052.94
4.4.2000	4691.46
5.4.2000	4757.06
6.4.2000	4866.73
7.4.2000	5219.20
10.4.2000	5442.86
11.4.2000	5541.54
12.4.2000	5426.82
13.4.2000	5172.13
17.4.2000	4880.71
18.4.2000	4745.47
19.4.2000	4665.81
20.4.2000	4657.42
24.4.2000	4511.05

Loan Recovery by Financial Institutions

5459. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Financial Institutions such as IDBI and ICICI have initiated loan recovery proceedings from the various companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total amount of IDBI and ICICI outstanding against the companies;

(d) whether several companies have claimed that due to delayed disbursement of funds by the financial institutions the implementation of their projects have been delayed which causes them defaulters in repayment; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the financial institutions thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Education Channel

5460. COL (RETD.) DR. DHANI RAM SHANDIL:
SHRI RAMSHAKAL:

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

(a) whether it is proposed to telecast 'Gyan Darshan' education channel, launched by Doordarshan recently without cable network so that people who do not have cable connection can be benefited;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be telecast; and

(c) the number of languages in which this channel is likely to be telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has intimated that, presently, there is no proposal to telecast 'Gyan Darshan' terrestrially.

(c) Prasar Bharati has also intimated that the programmes are presently telecast in English and Hindi on this channel.

[Translation]

Export Processing Zones

5461.DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of export from Export Processing Zones and Free Trade Zones set up specially to promote exports during the recent past is much less out of the total exports made from the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the percentage of exports made from the units set up in the said zones out of the total exports of the country during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(c) the assessment of the Government in regard to increase in exports from the Special Economic Zones created under the newly announced Exim Policy; and

(d) the assessment in regard to percentage of exports from these newly created zones out of total exports of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The percentage of exports from Export Processing Zones (EPZs) out of the total exports of the country, during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are given below:

Year	Exports from EPZs (Rs. Crores)	Percentage of EPZ exports in the total exports
1997-98	4817.30	3.70
1998-99	5252.48	3.71
1999-2000 (Apr-Feb)	5083.52 (P)	3.52

EPZs have limitations in contributing substantially to the country's exports owing to small area available and non-liberalisation of policy.

(c) and (d) No assessment has been made in regard to likely increase in exports from Special Economic Zones.

[English]

Removal of Control of Textiles

5462.SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from various quarters for the fixation of existing hank yarn obligation from 50% to 30% and removal of Control on Textiles; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Union Government have received a number of proposals from various quarters for continuance/modification in the hank yarn obligation. The proposals were given due consideration and it was decided to continue with the existing hank yarn obligation at present.

Removal of controls on textiles will be considered as and when it is necessary.

Chinese Accession to W.T.O.

5463.SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have signed an agreement on Chinese accession to World Trade Organisation;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement; and

(c) the manner in which it will help in boosting Indo-Chinese Trade and India's trade prospects in general?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A bilateral agreement between India and the Peoples Republic of China was signed on 22nd February, 2000 as part of the process of China's accession to the World Trade Organisation. Under this agreement China agreed to grant India tariff concessions on a number of items of substantial trade interest to us in the Chinese market. Besides, it was also agreed to take steps to lift some of the non-tariff barriers to trade for products identified by us in the Chinese market. These concessions have been granted on a non-reciprocal basis and would become effective on the accession of China to the World Trade Organisation.

(c) The agreement, involving tariff concessions and steps to remove non-tariff barriers to trade, is expected to help increase bilateral trade. Enhanced bilateral cooperation and the entry of China to WTO are expected to have positive impact on world trade flows in general, which may have implications for India's trade prospects as well.

[Translation]

Foreign Banks

5464. SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH RAJUKHEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of the foreign banks functioning in the country alongwith their names and the countries in which they are originally registered;

(b) the number of branches of the foreign banks in the country, state-wise;

(c) the details of the annual turnover of these banks, bank-wise;

(d) whether the account holders in these banks are required to sign in English only; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Information as reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) are given in the enclosed statements-I, II & III respectively.

(d) No such information is available with RBI.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement-I

*List of Foreign banks operating in India—
Position as on 31-03-2000*

S.No.	Name of the Bank	Country of Origin
1	2	3
1.	American Exp. Bank Ltd.	USA
2.	Bank of America NA	USA
3.	Citibank N.A.	USA
4.	Chase Manhattan Bank	USA
5.	Standard Chartered Bank	UK
6.	Barclays Bank	UK
7.	Banque Nationale de Paris	France
8.	Credit Agricole Indosuez	France
9.	Societe Generale	France
10.	Credit Lyonnais	France

1	2	3
11.	Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi Ltd.	Japan
12.	Sakura Bank Ltd.	Japan
13.	Sanwa Bank Ltd.	Japan
14.	Fuji Bank Ltd.	Japan
15.	Sumitomo Bank Limited	Japan
16.	Deutsche Bank	Germany
17.	Dresdner Bank AG	Germany
18.	Commerzbank	Germany
19.	ANZ Grindlays Bank	Australia
20.	Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp.	Hongkong
21.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	UAE
22.	Mashreq Bank	UAE
23.	Oman International Bank SAOG	Sultanate of Oman
24.	Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait B.S.C.	Bahrain
25.	Bank of Nova Scotia	Canada
26.	ABN Amro Bank N.V.	Netherland
27.	ING Bank	Netherland
28.	Sonali Bank	Bangladesh
29.	Arab Bangladesh Bank	-do-
30.	State Bank of Mauritius	Mauritius
31.	Development Bank of Singapore	Singapore
32.	Overseas-Chinese Banking Corporation	-do-
33.	Bank of Ceylon	Sri Lanka
34.	Siam Commercial Bank	Thailand
35.	Krung Thai Bank P.C.L.	-do-
36.	Bank International Indonesia	Indonesia
37.	China Trust Commercial Bank	Taiwan
38.	Cho Hung Bank	South Korea
39.	Toronto-Dominion Bank	Canada

1	2	3
40. Bank Muscat (SAOG)		Sultanate of Oman
41. Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York		USA
42. K.B.C. Bank N.V.		Belgium

Statement-II*Position as On 31-3-2000**State/Union Territory-wise presence of foreign bank's branches in India*

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Branches
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	1
3.	Chandigarh (UT)	1
4.	Delhi	34
5.	Gujarat	4
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Haryana	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
9.	Karnataka	10
10.	Kerala	4
11.	Maharashtra	63
12.	Punjab	1
13.	Tamil Nadu	18
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2
15.	West Bengal	33
Total		181

Statement-III*Total Assets of Foreign Banks as on 31-3-1999**(Rupees in crores)*

Name of Bank	1998-99
1	2
ABN AMRO BANK	3977.26

1	2
ABU DHABI COMMERCIAL BANK LTD.	672.92
AMERICAN EXPRESS BANK LTD.	3275.62
ANZ GRINDLAYS BANK PLC	11841.99
ARAB BANGLADESH BANK LTD.	61.95
BANK INTERNATIONAL INDONESIA	138.24
BANK OF AMERICA NT	7235.21
BANK OF BAHRAIN AND KUWAIT BSC	472.54
BANK OF CEYLON	120.02
BANK MUSCAT INTERANTIONAL SAOG	68.89
BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA	944.39
BANK OF TOKYO-MISUBISHI, LTD.	1224.19
BANQUE NATIONAL DE PARIS	2133.00
BARCLAYS BANK PLC	422.76
CHASE MANHATTAN BANK	113.64
CHINATRUST COMMERCIAL BANK	173.62
CHO HUNG BANK	143.34
CITI BANK NA	12887.87
COMMERZ BANK AG	493.05
CREDIT AGRICOLE INDOSUEZ	817.18
CREDIT LYONNAIS	904.43
DEUTSCHE BANK AG	4452.17
DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SINGAPORE	219.13
DRESDNER BANK AG	359.41
FUJI BANK LTD.	234.16
HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPN.*	10535.44
ING BANK N.V.	638.46
KBC BANK N.V.	58.88
KRUNG THAI BANK PUBLIC CO. LTD.	41.02
MASHREQ BANK PSC	358.02
MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST CO. OF N.Y.	292.1

1	2
OMAN INTERNATIONAL BANK SAOG	470.42
OVERSEA-CHINESE BANKING CORPN. LTD.	53.8
SAKURA BANK LTD.	686.64
SANWA BANK LTD.	278.22
SOCIETE GENERALE	708.01
SONALI BANK	36.75
STANDARD CHARTERED BANK	8157.16
STATE BANK OF MAURITIUS	316.59
THE SIAM COMMERCIAL BANK	135.49
THE SUMITOMO BANK, LTD.	379.36
THE TORONTO-DOMINION BANK	54.65
TOTAL	76585.99

*Includes figures of the British Bank of Middle East merged with Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation on 25 September 1999.

[Translation]

Branches of Private Banks in Rural Areas

5465. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of private banks which have completed more than three years since their inception;

(b) whether the above private banks have been opening their branches in rural and semi-urban areas laid down by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the action taken by the Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A statement I and II indicating names of private sector banks which have completed more than three years since their inception, alongwith the classification of their branches, is attached.

(c) and (d) Of the 24 Old Private Sector Banks, 21 have complied with the requirement of 25% of their branches in rural/semi urban areas. Development Credit Bank Limited which was a Cooperative bank before its conversion into a private sector commercial bank, has been given extension of time upto 31st March 2001 to comply with the norm of locating 25% of its total branches in rural/semi-urban centers. Bharat Overseas Bank Limited is also marginally falling short of locating 25% of the total branches in rural and semi-urban areas. SBI Commercial and International Bank Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary was formed in October 1993 to effectuate the take over the operations of erstwhile BCCI Bank. In view of the specific objective, the bank has only a limited number of 3 branches located in Mumbai. The new private sector banks have also by and large complied with the requirement of locating branches in rural/semi-urban centres. Two of the banks which are marginally short have been advised by the RBI to give priority in opening of marginal backlog of the branches in the rural/semi-urban areas with a view to strictly conforming to the stipulated norms on an ongoing basis. Fresh authorization are issued when the banks fulfil the norm of locating 25% of its total branches in rural/semi-urban areas.

Statement-I

Population Group-wise Classification of Branches of New/ Old Private Sector Banks as on 31-3-2000

Sl. No.	Old Private Banks	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban	Metro	Total	% Rural & Semi-Urban to Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Bank of Madura Ltd.	90	64	60	49	263	58.66
2	Bank of Rajasthan Ltd.	105	71	63	67	306	57.52
3	Benares State Bank Ltd.	15	39	38	13	105	51.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4.	Bharat Overseas Bank Ltd.	8	8	26	31	73	21.92
5.	Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	33	169	53	26	281	71.89
6.	City Union Bank Ltd.	32	32	28	17	109	58.72
7.	Development Credit Bank Ltd.	0	5	10	29	44	11.36
8.	Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.	24	80	30	15	149	69.80
9.	Federal Bank Ltd.	31	244	70	54	399	68.92
10.	Ganesh Bank of Kuruundwad Ltd.	8	11	7	2	28	67.86
11.	Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.	210	30	79	33	352	68.18
12.	Karnataka Bank Ltd.	95	88	96	64	343	53.35
13.	Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.	44	64	68	30	206	52.43
14.	Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd.	39	77	59	30	205	56.59
15.	Lord Krishna Bank Ltd.	12	45	14	4	75	76.00
16.	Nainital Bank Ltd.	16	13	11	9	49	59.18
17.	Nedungadi Bank Ltd.	8	90	47	19	164	59.76
18.	Ratnakar Bank Ltd.	22	22	16	9	69	63.77
19.	Sangli Bank Ltd.	51	45	46	39	181	53.04
20.	SBI Commercial & Intl. Bank Ltd.	0	0	0	3	3	0.00
21.	South Indian Bank Ltd.	72	186	56	46	362	71.82
22.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.	45	54		18	158	62.66
23.	United Western Bank Ltd.	49			53	211	51.18
24.	Vysya Bank Ltd.	114	82	98	69	363	53.99
Total		1123	1580	1066	729	4498	60.09

Statement-II

*Population Group-wise position of Branches of New Private Sector Banks as on 31-3-2000
and Percentage of their Rural and Semi-Urban branches to Total*

Sl. No.	New Private Banks	Rural	Semi-Urban	Urban	Metro	Total	% Rural & Semi-Urban to Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Bank of Punjab Ltd.	0	12	18	18	48	25.00
2	Centurian Bank Ltd.	0	8	6	18	32	25.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3	Global Trust Bank Ltd.	4	12	10	36	62	25.81
4	HDFC Bank Ltd.	6	19	14	64	103	24.27
5	ICICI Banking Corpn. Ltd.	2	21	19	37	79	29.11
6	IDBI Bank Ltd.	0	10	4	22	36	27.78
7	Indus Ind. Bank Ltd	0	6	3	47	26	23.08
8	UTI Bank Ltd.	0	13	7	29	49	26.55
Total		12	101	81	241	435	25.98

[English]

Export Growth

5466.SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been able to achieve the target of 11.3% growth in exports during the current financial year; despite the negative growth trend in January, 2000;

(b) if so, whether during the month of February and March, 2000 the export rate was extremely better;

(c) if so, whether any final assessment has been made in regard to the export target; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the export growth target further?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics provisional data the export growth for April-February, 2000 has been at 11.12% in US \$ terms over the provisional estimates of the same period last year against the export target growth of 11.3%. The monthly export growth for February, 2000 is estimated at 9.74% in US \$ terms as against a negative growth of (-) 2.33% during January, 2000.

(d) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote

exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

[Translation]

Programmes on TV

5467.SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States and Union Territories which have been linked with Delhi Channel by the Doordarshan under telecast of afternoon regional programmes on Doordarshan;

(b) whether the programmes in Hindi is telecast in every State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the programmes to seventeen States are being telecast on one band; and

(e) if so, the manner in which it is being telecast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Foreign Exchange Rate

5468.KUNWAR SARV RAJ SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to withdraw the present indirectly controlled foreign exchange rate because of non-existence of capital account convertibility

and only current account convertibility is in place at this time;

(b) if so, its effect on imports; and

(c) the approximate value of a US dollar be traded, if the exchange rates are not controlled (by only current account convertibility)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Indian Rupee is convertible on the current account of balance of payments. Substantial capital account convertibility also exists for foreign investors including NRIs and in respect of some other constituent elements of the capital account. Under this framework, the exchange rate of the rupee is broadly determined by market forces, and moves in both directions on a day-to-day basis depending upon the demand and supply conditions in the foreign exchange market. The Reserve Bank of India intervenes in the market from time to time, as a part of exchange rate policy, to even out lumpy demand and supply conditions in the relatively thin foreign exchange market, takes appropriate measures to reduce excessive volatility, prevent the emergence of destabilizing speculative activities, develop an orderly foreign exchange market conditions, and help maintain adequate level of foreign exchange reserves. The exchange rate of the rupee determined by the market was Rs. 43.645 per US dollar on April 20, 2000.

[Translation]

Mining in Karmatia Gold Reserve

5469.SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start mining in the Karmatia gold reserve in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of gold likely to be obtained on the basis of survey carried out in this regard; and

(d) the scheme under consideration of the Government for this gold reserve at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) to (d) The Geological Survey of India (GSI) had carried out investigation for gold at Karmatia area of Bihar during 1982-86 and 1995-96, and the Department of Mines and Geology of the Government of Bihar also carried out detailed investigation for gold. GSI has stated that the above investigation reports indicate that the Karmatia area has no definite zone of gold mineralisation and estimated

grade of ore appears to be of no economic significance. No proposal for grant of mining lease for gold in Karmatia area of Bihar has been received in the Central Government for prior concurrence under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.

Investment in Industries

5470.DR. GIRIJA VYAS Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount proposed to be invested in big, medium and small scale industries separately in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the extent to which the said amount is more than that provided during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount invested in big, medium and small scale industries during each of the last three years; and

(c) the amount proposed to be invested in the said sectors during the next three years, Sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Statement No. 1 regarding part (a):

Approved Plan outlay for VIIIth Plan
(1992-93 to 1996-97) and IXth Plan
(1997-98 to 2001-2002)

Name of Ministry/ Department	Approved plan outlay (Rs. in crores)		Difference (in crores)
	VIIIth Plan	IXth Plan	
SSI&ARI	1629.55	3786.85	+2175.3
Heavy Industries	2771.00	2027.00	-744
IPP	1162.00	1923.75	+761.75

Statement No. 2 regarding part (b):

Utilisation of Plan Outlay during the
Last 3 Years (1997-98 to 1999-2000)

Name of Ministry, Deptt.	(Rupees in crores)		
	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
SSI & ARI	634.50	584.60	505.00
Heavy Industries	233.00	294.00	274.47
IPP	430.72	537.27	277.43

Statement No. 3 regarding part©**Plan Allocation for the Remaining 2
Years of IX Plan Period**

(Rupees in crores)

Name of Ministry/Department	2000-01 to 2001-2002
SSI & ARI	2062.75
Heavy Industries	1225.53
IPP	678.33

*[English]***Export Growth**

5471.SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain commodities have registered negative export growth during the last two financial years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the export growth of such commodities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) The export growth of the Principal Commodities as per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics for the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and April-December, 1999-2000 over the estimates of the same period last year in US \$ terms is as under:-

US \$ million			
Items	1997-98	1998-99*	1999-2000* (April-Dec)
1	2	3	4
Ores and minerals	(-) 9.5	(-) 16.0	(-) 1.7
Sports goods	3.5	(-) 10.8	(-) 8.2
Chemical products	10.9	(-) 8.1	10.6
Engineering goods	9.4	(-) 14.2	22.3
Electronic hardware	(-) 3.1	(-) 34.3	19.7
Project goods	55.1	(-) 40.2	(-) 75.2
Petroleum products	(-) 26.8	(-) 74.6	(-) 65.3
Plantation	38.5	(-) 1.0	(-) 24.4

	1	2	3	4
Agriculture products	(-) 7.8	(-) 6.7	(-) 11.0	
Marine products	6.9	(-) 14.0	7.8	
Leather & manufactures	3.2	(-) 0.2	(-) 8.0	
Gems & jewellery	12.5	10.4	22.1	
Textiles	5.7	(-) 1.1	8.9	
Handicraft	10.6	19.0	7.8	
Carpets	(-) 7.6	(-) 2.0	21.1	
Cotton raw	(-) 50.1	(-) 75.9	(-) 61.6	

*The data are provisional.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to further enhance the export growth which include reduction in transaction cost through decentralisation, simplification of procedures and various other measures as enumerated in the Exim Policy. Steps have also been taken to promote exports through multilateral and bilateral initiatives, identification of thrust sectors and focus regions.

*[Translation]***Export to America**

5472.SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme to increase the quantum of exports to U.S.A.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of Indian trade with USA out of the total trade made with other countries during each of the last three years; and

(d) the percentage of trade likely to be made with USA during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has a plan for promotion of Indo-US trade. The Plan outlines the strategy for promoting India's exports to USA in general, and identifies products with good exports potential. Through targeting these sectors, the plan strives to exploit the untapped potential in bilateral trade. It also focuses on special efforts towards developing new and fast growing areas of cooperation, such as information technology and biotechnology. It lays emphasis

on promoting exports through participation in major trade shows and specific trade promotion events, apart from streamlining the information and data base of the Indian Embassy in USA to enable it to respond to trade enquiries in a timely and effective manner. The Action Plan also incorporates close monitoring of, as well as liaison with, the US authorities on important bilateral trade related issues.

To further buttress these efforts, the two sides have agreed to set up India-US Commercial Dialogue, which was signed on 23.3.2000. The framework aims to (a) facilitate trade (b) maximise investment opportunities across a broad range of economic sectors, including information technology, infrastructure, biotechnology, and services.

(c) The details are as given below:

	(Rs. in crores)		
Imports/Exports	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000-(P)* (Apl.-Dec.)
India's Total Imports	154176.29	176098.63	149087.17
India's Imports from USA	13813.69	15319.25	12607.52
% Share in India's total Imports	8.96	8.70	8.46
India's Total Exports	130105.98	141603.53	118638.40
India's total Exports to USA	25276.65	30841.56	26621.25
% Share in India's total Exports	19.42	21.78	22.44

(P)*-Provisional Data.

(d) The current financial year has just begun; therefore, it is too early to project its trend.

[English]

AIR/HPT/LPT/VLPT in Orissa

5473. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up AIR station and High Power/Low Power/Very Low Power TV Transmitters in Orissa;

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

(c) whether the existing AIR Station/TV Transmitters are proposed to be upgraded in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(e) whether existing LPTs in Orissa are functioning full time to their capacity;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to provide sufficient staff for these LPTs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) 2 AIR Stations and 11 TV Transmitter projects are presently under implementation in Orissa. Location-wise details are given at the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The existing 100 KW MW Transmitter at AIR Station Cuttack is being replaced by 300 KW MW Tr. Out of 11 TV transmitter projects under implementation, the following relate to upgradation of TV Transmitters in Orissa:-

- (i) HPT (10 KW) at Sambalpur in replacement of existing 1 KW Tr. for DD-I service.
- (ii) HPT (10 KW) at Sambalpur in replacement of existing LPT (DD-2).
- (iii) HPT (1 KW) at Berhampur in replacement of existing LPT for DD-I service.

(e) to (g) The LPTs in Orissa are generally functioning satisfactorily. However, certain LPTs are presently relaying partial transmission due to non availability of requisite staff. Action regarding posting of additional staff at such LPTs by way of redeployment has been initiated and it is the endeavour of the Prasar Bharati to relay full transmission from these LPTs at the earliest.

Statement

All India Radio

1. SORO
2. RAIRANGPUR

Doordarshan

HPTs

1. Sambalpur (10 KW)
2. Berhampur (1 KW)
3. Sambalpur (DD II) (10 KW)

Upgradation
Schemes.

LPTs

1. Tushara
2. Chikti

VLPTs

1. Machhkund
2. Kashipur
3. Lanjigarh
4. Jayapatna
5. Sukinda
6. Paikamal

Smuggling of Uranium

5774. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large quantity of uranium is being smuggled from Tamil Nadu to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of cases of smuggling of uranium booked during each of the last three years and current year so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir. There is no report/intelligence available with the Government about smuggling of Uranium from Tamil Nadu to Pakistan.

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

(d) All intelligence units and field formations under Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) are vigilant and alert to detect and prevent smuggling of all contraband goods including Uranium.

Foreign Proposals Approved by FIPB

5475. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the number of proposals of his Ministry approved by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) during 1999-2000, sector-wise;

(b) the amount of foreign investment involved therein;

(c) whether FIPB are entertaining fresh applications for foreign direct investment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the procedure followed in regard to the royalty taken by foreign companies from its 100% units;

(f) whether New Broadcasting Policy has been announced; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Non-Payment of Money of Investors by Financial Companies

5476. MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI:
DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of non-banking financial companies/plantation companies against whom complaints regarding non-payment of hard money of investors have been received or noticed by RBI/CLB during the last three years alongwith their locations;

(b) the number of complaints received so far against each company and the details of financial implications thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government against these companies;

(d) the time by which hard money of investors is likely to be refunded and the steps being taken in this regard;

(e) whether several such companies have changed their names or converted into Nidhi companies and still running their business with the permission of RBI;

(f) if so, whether enquiries by RBI are still going on against such companies; and

(g) if so, the reasons for permitting them to run their business by changing the names or to convert them into Nidhi companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) to (g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

WTO Agreements

5477. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Federation of Small and Medium Industries, Calcutta, against the implementation of Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) and TRIM in the present form of WTO agreements;

(b) if so, whether India and other developing nations have nothing to gain from WTO agreements as these are in favour of rich nations;

(c) if so, whether the Government are also aware that our export share is merely 0.64% at present in the world trade; and

(d) if so, the manner in which our export share in the world trade would do anything to alter the existing provisions under various WTO agreements ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) During a Workshop on "WTO sensitization for Small Scale Industries" held at Calcutta on 15th January 2000, the representative of the Federation of Small and Medium Industries, Calcutta had highlighted the various problems being faced in the implementation of WTO Agreements including inter-alia the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) and the Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMS) Agreements.

(b) WTO Agreements have benefitted India in as much as a rule based, transparent and predictable multilateral trading system is the sine qua non for getting effective market access for the exploitation of global trading opportunities especially for developing countries like India who are not a major force in the global market due to their insignificant market share. While all

provisions of all WTO Agreements may not be to the liking of all the Member countries, a rule based multilateral trading system is in the overall interests of developing countries like India as it protects Member countries from unilateral actions by the stronger trading partners.

(c) and (d) In WTO each Member country has an equal vote, irrespective of its share in the world trade and decisions are generally taken in WTO, on a consensus basis as per the earlier traditions of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Thus, in order to effect any modifications in the existing provisions under various WTO Agreements, the Member country desiring such a modification will have to seek the support of other member countries with a view to develop a consensus of the entire membership for effecting such a modification. India, with the support of other like minded developing countries, has taken up issues of her concern including those relating to implementation of some of the WTO Agreements, including the TRIPs and the TRIMS Agreements, in the WTO with a view to generate consensus for their redressal.

Amendment in Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973

5478. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:

SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL:

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to amend Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act to open coal mining sector for private sector;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal under consideration and its present status of final decision; and

(c) the justification for opening coal sector for FDI/ Private Sector investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA) : (a) to (c) The Government have decided to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 to allow the Indian companies to mine coal and lignite without the existing restriction of captive consumption and also to engage them in exploration of coal and lignite resources. The Committee on Integrated Coal Policy set up by the Planning Commission in April, 1995 to assess the demand of coal in the Ninth and Tenth Plan period concluded that the

supply-demand mismatch for coal in the country will become very serious unless measures for supply augmentation are vigorously pursued. The coal demand in the country is expected to increase severalfold within the next few years on account of the burgeoning demand from the power, steel and cement sectors. Even on a conservative estimate, the gap between demand and supply of coal in the terminal years of X and XI Plans is expected to be in the region of 73 million tonnes and 94 million tonnes respectively. It would be difficult for the nationalised coal companies and the existing captive coal mine companies to bridge this gap. Import of coal to meet the emerging shortage is not a sound step in the interest of national economy. Therefore, a decision has been taken to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 for participations of the Indian companies in non-captive coal and lignite mining and exploration of coal and lignite reserves in the country. Such Indian companies can do the mining and exploration of coal and lignite in case the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 is passed by the Parliament.

Externally Aided Projects

5479. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI SAHIB SINGH:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going externally aided projects in the country indicating their starting date, funds received, progress achieved, cost and time over-runs, State-wise;

(b) whether the share of Gujarat and Maharashtra out of the total externally aided projects approved between April, 1996 to March, 2000 was very low;

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

(d) whether the Government of Gujarat and Maharashtra have requested the Union Government to increase the share in approval of externally aided projects;

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

(f) whether there is any comprehensive integrated standard package and norms around which the entire business with International financial Institutes revolve;

(g) if not, whether the Government propose to pay more attention so that externally aided projects may not delay;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) the details of grants sanctioned by the World Bank to new projects in recent past?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) Statement is enclosed. The information regarding cost and time over-run is not complete. The remaining information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) Projects are considered for external assistance after the State Government forwards adequately prepared proposals to Govt. of India incorporating necessary clearances. Difference in the Number of on-going projects in different States is thus, due to differences in the number of projects posed by the State Government and the acceptance of these projects by the funding agencies. Government of India, however, encourages the donors to assist in all States.

(d) and (e) The Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to approve their proposals for externally aided projects (EAPs) as well as to move the concerned Multilateral Funding Agencies to favourably consider the proposals. The matter is being examined.

(f) to (h) The various bilateral/multilateral donors have their own policies and procedures for approval of externally aided projects. The Government of India also has some norms and conditions for posing and approval of the projects, and the States are aware of them. A booklet/manual for accessing external assistance from various institutions/countries is being prepared.

(i) An Australian Grant for District Poverty Initiative Projects was signed on 12.8.1999 with the World Bank for AUD 2,970,000 for: DPIP-Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Statement
State-wise Details of State Sector Externally Aided Projects

Sl. No.	Name of the project	Source	Date of Signing/ Approval	Terminal Date of Disb.	Currency	Loan/ Grant Amount	(as on 31.03.2000)	
							Cumul. Drawal in DC	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ANDHRA PRADESH								
1.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency Cyclone	IDA	9.7.97	31.7.2000	US \$	100	51.277	
2.	AP Hazard Mitigation & Emergency	IBRD	3.6.97	31.7.2000	US \$	50	0	
3.	Import of Irrigation Equipment for Rural Dev	Japan	3.11.98	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	195.6	195.6	
4.	UK/India Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihood	UK	23.7.99	31.7.2006	UK Pound	40.176	0	
5.	Integrated Agricultural Demand Side Mgmt	IBRD Nor. Gr.	23.6.99	31.12.2000	US \$	4.3	0	
6.	AP Forestry	IDA	9.3.94	30.9.2000	US \$	77.4	67.497	
7.	Import of Muriate of Potash & Services for EPTRI	Japan	3.11.98	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	1.1	1.1	
8.	Import of Acquiring Equipments for Monitoring	Japan	27.11.98	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	2.4	33.5	
9.	Andhra Pradesh Power Sector	IBRD	5.3.99	31.8.2003	US \$	210	55.396	
10.	Srisailem Power Transmission Sys	Japan	21.12.92	19.4.2000	Jap. Yen	3806	2612.5	
11.	Srisailem Left Bank Power Stn Pjt. II	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2001	Jap. Yen	22567	21122.6	
12.	Srisailem Power Trmn. Sys Pjt. II	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2001	Jap. Yen	9546	5732.5	
13.	Kothegudem A Thermal Power Stn. Rehabilitation	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2002	Jap. Yen	5292	3833.6	
14.	Simhadri and Vizag Trmn. System	Japan	12.12.97	19.2.2003	Jap. Yen	10629	59.8	
15.	Srisailem Left Bank Power Stn.	Japan	12.12.97	16.2.2003	Jap. Yen	14499	5820.4	
16.	AP Energy Efficiency	UK	15.11.93	31.12.2001	UK Pound	42.7	8.04	
17.	AP State Highway	IBRD	30.7.97	31.1.2003	US \$	350	62.866	
18.	AP Irrigation-III	IDA	3.6.97	31.1.2003	US \$	150	81.27	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19.	AP Irrigation	IBRD	3.6.97	31.1.2003	US \$	175	0	
20.	Kumool Cuddappah Canal	Japan	25.1.96	26.3.2003	Jap. Yen	16049	1487.9	
21.	AP Referral Health System	IDA	22.12.94	31.3.2002	US \$	133	75.444	
22.	3103-IN AP Economic Restructuring	IDA	4.2.99	31.3.2004	US \$	241.9	56.635	
23.	4360-IN AP Economic Restructuring	IBRD	4.2.99	31.3.2004	US \$	301.3	72.568	
24.	AP Tribal Development	IFAD	15.5.91	31.3.1999	US \$	21.933	18.16	
25.	AP Tribal Development	IFAD	5.5.91	31.3.1999	US \$	7	5.549	
26.	AP Participatory Tribal Development	IFAD	13.5.94	31.3.2002	US \$	26.71	10.073	
27.	UK/India AP Dist. Primary Education	UK	29.8.96	31.3.2003	UK Pound	42.5	11.105	
28.	AP Urban Services Improvement for Poor	UK	3.6.99	31.5.2006	UK Pound	68.086	0	
ASSAM								
1.	Assam Rural Infrastructure	IDA	6.6.95	31.12.2003	US \$	126	22.898	
2.	Imports of Spares and Transportation	Japan	30.07.99	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	175.5	155.3	
BIHAR								
1.	Bihar Plateau Development	IDA	7.12.92	30.6.2000	US \$	117	82.121	
2.	Cooperative Rural Storage Centres in Bihar	EEC Gr.	24.2.88	31.3.2000	Euro	21.2	7.622	
3.	DPEP-III	IDA	3.0.98	30.9.2003	US \$	152	20.946	
GUJARAT								
1.	Training Women in Agriculture-Gujarat Ph. II	Netherlands	9.12.97	30.6.2002	Dutch Gldr.	6.611	0.8	
2.	Environmental Management capacity Building	IDA	14.3.97	30.6.2003	US \$	50	5.638	
3.	Gujarat Forestry	Japan	25.1.96	26.3.2004	Jap. Yen	15760	10722.9	
4.	Ship Breaking Dev. At Pipavav	Japan	5.1.96	26.3.2003	Jap. Yen	7046	6295.2	
5.	Grant India 1996-06 Gogha Regional Water Sply	Netherlands	4.8.97	3.8.2002	Dutch Gldr	19.369	0	
6.	ORET Project for Gujarat Health Care	Netherlands	27.11.97	30.6.2002	Dutch Gldr	39.826	25.987	

7. Netherlands Grant	IDA Neth. Gr.	21.8.97	30.6.2003	US \$	25.8	9.766	TOR:1 year
8. Gujarat Public Sector Resource Management	ADB	20.12.96	31.12.1999	US \$	250	150	
HARYANA							
1. Mewat Area Development	IFAD	29.5.95	31.12.2003	US \$	15.08	3.826	
2. Rehabilitation of common lands in Aravalli Hills	EEC Gr.	7.3.90	31.10.1999	Euro	23.2	19.825	
3. Haryana Community Forestry	EEC Gr.	19.2.97	31.12.2004	Euro	23.3	0	
4. Haryana Power Restructuring	IBRD	16.1.98	31.12.2000	US \$	60	31.939	
5. Haryana Highway Upgrading	IBRD	28.9.93	30.6.2000	US \$	1.4	1.4	
6. Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	6.4.94	31.12.2000	US \$	258	143.628	
HIMACHAL PRADESH							
1. Pilot Project Trout farming in H.P.	Norway	21.1.1988	31.12.1995	Nor. Kronor	10	10.182	
2. HP Forestry Project	UK	8.9.1994	31.3.2000	UK Pound	3.03	2.797	
3. Import of Cable Psecusion Type Drilling	Japan	21.4.1998	31.3.1999	Jap. Yen	457.8	457.8	
4. Shimla Sewerage Project	OPEC	21.8.1997	31.12.2001	US \$	10	1.206	
5. Environment Programme	Norway	13.12.1994	31.3.1998	Nor. Kronor	12	12.056	
KARNATAKA							
1. Kamataka Watershed Development	Denmark	2.6.1997	2.6.2004	Danish Kr.	46.7	6.553	
2. Eastern Kamataka Afforestation	Japan	25.2.1997	29.5.2005	Jap. Yen	15968	5255	
3. Westerns Ghats Forestry	UK	8.10.1992	31.3.2000	UK Pound	18.074	17.249	
4. Kainadi Hydro Electric Pjt Stage-II	Kuwait Fund	12.2.1986	31.3.1999	Kuw. Dinar	7	6.479	
5. Mysore Paper Mills Modernisation & Renovation	Japan	15.12.1988	31.7.1999	Jap. Yen	2381	2373.9	
6. Kamataka Sec. Level Hospital Development	Germany	16.1.1997	30.12.2002	Deut. Mark	23	1.448	
7. Kamataka Rural Water Supply & Sanitation	IDA	4.6.1993	30.9.2000	US \$	92	89.828	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	Indo-Swiss Participative Watershed Development	Switzerland	19.6.1995	31.3.99	Indian Rs.	86,248	63,131	
9.	UK/India Karnataka Watershed Development	UK	23.5.97	31.3.2002	UK Pound	4,488	0	
10.	Karnataka Watershed Development	Germany	17.6.94	30.12.2002	Deut. Mark	20	1,396	
11.	Karnataka Water Supply Mgmt	IBRD	23.12.99	22.11.2000	US \$	1.5	0	
12.	Women & Youth Trg. Extn. Ph. II	Denmark	1.7.89	31.3.99	Danish Kr	48.5	24,676	
13.	Rural Water & Sanitation Phase-II Karnataka	Denmark	1.1.96	30.9.2000	Danish Kr	65.5	8,892	
14.	National Programme for Control of Blindness-II	Denmark	7.11.97	6.11.2002	Danish Kr	55	7,043	
15.	Raichur District Hospital	OPEC	6.6.91	31.12.99	US \$	9	4,346	COR: Rs.7.84 Cr. TOR: 5 years
16.	Bangalore Water Supply	Japan	25.1.96	26.3.2004	Jap. Yen	28,452	36,229	
17.	Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Dev.	ABD	10.5.96	30.6.2002	US \$	85	26,659	
KERALA								
1.	Kerala Rainfed farming Development	OPEC	27.6.91	31.6.99	US \$	10	2,697	COR: Rs.5.35 Cr. TOR: 4 Years
2.	Agriculture Markets in Kerala-Supply of fertilizer	EEC Gr.	30.3.89	31.12.97	Euro	18.65	18,003	
3.	Kerala Horticulture Development	EEC Gr.	17.1.92	31.12.99	Euro	28.7	14.57	
4.	Kerala Forestry	IDA	13.8.98	31.12.2002	US \$	39	8,661	
5.	Attapady Wasteland Development	Japan	25.1.96	26.3.2005	Jap.Yen	5112	123.6	
6.	Kerala Water Supply	Japan	25.2.97	3.6.2006	Jap. Yen	11,997	0	
7.	Kerala Minor Irrigation	EEC Gr.	21.5.92	31.12.2000	Euro	11.8	2.77	
8.	UK India-Cochin Urban Poverty Reduction	UK	1.5.97	30.9.2001	UK Pound	11,469	1,982	
MADHYA PRADESH								
1.	MP Women in Agriculture	Denmark	19.11.93	18.11.2000	Danish Kr.	12.61	8,807	
2.	Madhya Pradesh Forestry	IDA	11.4.95	31.12.99	US \$	58	53,402	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Lake Bhopal Conservation & Mgt.	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2002	Jap. Yen	7055	1797.5	
4.	Madhya Pradesh Sericulture	Japan	12.12.97	5.2.2005	Jap. Yen	2212	195.2	
5.	Rajghat Canal Irrigation	Japan	25.2.97	29.5.2006	Jap. Yen	13222	1428.2	
6.	Live Stock Development, Bastar	Denmark	5.12.96	4.12.2001	Danish Kr.	28.3	3.649	
7.	Watershed Dev. in Western MP	Denmark	12.3.97	11.3.2002	Danish Kr.	29.2	3.674	
8.	MP Basic Health Service Prog Ph. III	Denmark	15.11.1999	14.11.2004	Danish Kr.	79.3	3.12	
9.	Réwa Hospital	OPEC	8.2.89	30.6.2000	US \$	10	4.462	COR: Rs. 22.56 Cr. TOR: 7 Years
10.	MP Public Resources Management	ADB	14.12.1999	30.9.2002	US \$	250	100	
MAHARASHTRA								
1.	Saline Lands Reclamation	EEC Gr.	3.7.95	31.12.2001	Euro	15.5	0	
2.	Maharashtra Forestry	IDA	29.1.92	31.3.2000	US \$	107.82	81.979	
3.	Ghatghar Pumped Storage	Japan	15.12.88	20.1.2003	Jap. Yen	11414	1949.2	
4.	Maharashtra State Elec. Board. Uran	Germany	11.12.95	30.12.99	Deut. Mark	29.74	24.354	
5.	Private Infrastructure (ILOFS)	IDA	10.7.96	30.9.2001+F9	US \$	5	0.664	
6.	Grant for Infrastructure Financing	IBRD Jap.Gr.	22.4.97	30.3.2000	US \$	1.5	0.765	
7.	Maharashtra Rural Drinking Water Supply	UK	10.9.91	30.9.98	UK Pound	16.46	8.609	
8.	Watershed Maharashtra II (NABARD)	Germany	26.6.97	30.12.2005	Deut. Mark	25	0	
9.	Minor Irrigation	Germany	31.12.98	30.12.2006	Deut. Mark	45	0	
10.	Water Control System for Development of Coop.	EEC Gr.	25.10.88	31.10.98	Euro	15	11.708	
11.	Maharashtra Health System Dev.	IDA	14.1.99	31.3.2005	US \$	134	3.087	
12.	Maharashtra Rural Credit	IFAD	1.6.93	30.9.2000	US \$	29.442	13.328	
13.	AVERT	USA	15.9.1999	30.9.2006	US \$	42.5	0	
14.	Basic Health Maharashtra	Germany	23.7.96	30.12.2001	Deut. Mark	20	1.928	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15.	Bombay Resettlement & Rehabilitation- 29399-IN	IBRD Jap. Gr.	1.9.96	31.7.2000	Jap. Yen	67	52.8	
16.	Bombay Resettlement & Rehabilitation- 39300-IN	IBRD Jap. Gr.	4.9.96	31.7.2000	Jap. Yen	16.8	0	
17.	Bombay Sewage Disposal	IBRD	28.12.95	31.12.2002	US \$	167	62.418	
	MANIPUR							
1.	Manipur Sericulture	Japan	12.12.97	5.2.2003	Jap. Yen	3962	363	
	MEGHALAYA							
1.	Uniam Hydro Power Stn Renovation	Japan	25.2.97	10.6.2004	Jap. Yen	1700	15.7	
	ORISSA							
1.	Indo Danish Comp. Watershed Dev.	Denmark	5.10.92	5.10.99	Danish Kr.	46.3	16.664	
2.	Integrated Livestock Dev.	Denmark	22.12.92	31.3.99	Danish Kr.	19.9	10.37	
3.	TEWA Ph. II, Orissa	Denmark	1.7.95	30.6.2002	Danish Kr.	23.69	12.669	
4.	UK India Western Orissa Rural Livelihood	UK	23.7.99	31.7.2009	UK Pound	23	0	
5.	Orissa Environmental Programme	Norway	16.4.92	31.12.99	Nor. Kronor	40	27.555	
6.	Orissa Power Sector Restructuring	IBRD	10.7.96	31.12.2002	US \$	350	78.28	
7.	India Orissa Power Sector Reforms	UK	29.8.96	31.3.2001	UK Pound	42	25.058	
8.	Orissa Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	5.1.96	30.9.2002	US \$	290.9	133.742	
9.	Rengali Irrigation	Japan	12.12.97	5.2.2003	Jap. Yen	7760	1880.8	
10.	Lift Irrigation, Orissa	Germany	19.2.93	30.12.2000	Deut. Mark	55	37.884	
11.	Minor Irrigation in Orissa	EEC Gr.	3.7.95	31.12.2004	Euro	10.7	0.465	
12.	Orissa Health Systems Dev.	IDA	13.8.98	31.3.2004	US \$	76.4	4.24	
13.	Revised National T.B. Control Prg. Orissa Ph.I	Denmark	2.12.96	31.12.2001	Danish Kr.	54.8	2.124	
14.	Orissa Health & Fam Welfare, Ph.III	UK	21.8.97	31.10.2000	UK Pound	1.748	0.181	
15.	Multipurpose Cyclone Shelter, Orissa	Germany	10.5.96	31.12.99	Deut. Mark	5	4.708	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16.	UK/India Cuttack Urban Services Improvement	UK	20.10.97	31.3.2002	UK Pound	11.49	1,677	
PUNJAB								
1.	Punjab Afforestation	Japan	12.12.97	16.2.2003	Jap. Yen	6193	1450.2	
2.	Punjab Water Resources MG	IDA Jap.Gr	19.6.96	30.6.98	US \$	2,225	0.279	
RAJASTHAN								
1.	A.D.P. Rajasthan Agriculture Dev.	IDA	17.12.92	30.9.2000	US \$	106	88.647	
2.	PAWDI Project Rajasthan	Switzerland	23.7.96	30.6.99	Indian Re	77.84	18.05	
3.	Indira Gandhi Afforestation	Japan	23.1.91	5.2.2000	Jap. Yen	7869	3731.9	
4.	Afforestation Project Aravalli Hills	Japan	9.1.92	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	8095	7933.5	
5.	Rajasthan Forestry Development	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2002	Jap Yen	4219	3260	
6.	Rajasthan Power Sector Restr. (IBRD)	IBRD	10.2.94	30.6.2000	US \$	2	0.699	
7.	Rajasthan Agri. Drainage	Canada	13.3.90	31.12.99	Can. \$	14,988	9,344	
8.	Dungarpur Integrated Waterland Dev.	Sweden	4.3.92	30.9.99	Swedish Kr.	80	46.145	
9.	Rajasthan Minor Irrigation	Germany	29.4.87	31.12.98	Deut. Mark	2.7	1.786	
10.	EEC Sidhmukh & Nohar Irrigation	EEC Gr.	10.5.93	31.12.2000	Euro	45	32.74	
11.	Rajasthan District Primary Education	IDA	6.7.99	31.12.2004	US \$	81.9	3,475	
12.	Lok Jumbish Programme Phase II	Sweden	26.6.95	31.12.99	Swedish Kr.	140	136,053	
13.	Rajasthan Rural Water Supply Ph. I	Germany	17.6.94	30.12.2000	Deut. Mark	40	26,463	
14.	Rajasthan Rural Water Supply Ph. I	Germany	17.6.94	30.12.2000	Deut. Mark	95	50.89	
15.	Residential Schools Project Raj.	Germany	5.6.97	30.12.2003	Deut. Mark	18	1,557	
16.	Rajasthan Urban Infrastructure	ADB	1.12.99	30.6.2005	US \$	250	0	
TAMIL NADU								
1.	Tamilnadu Women in Agriculture TANWA Ph.II	Denmark	30.9.93	30.9.2000	Danish Kr.	58,051	33,598	
2.	Comprehensive Watershed Dev. Ramanathapuram	Denmark	19.11.93	19.4.99	Danish Kr.	26.42	16,802	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3.	Comprehensive Watershed Dev. Tirunelveli, Ph.II	Denmark	5.8.94	5.7.2001	Danish Kr.	68.47	36.927	
4.	Tamilnadu Afforestation	Japan	25.2.97	29.5.2005	Jap. Yen	13324	4646.1	
5.	NLC Study Expert	Germany		31.12.99	Deut. Mark	1.5	0.74	
6.	Second North Madras Thrml Power	ADB	6.12.90	30.6.2000	US \$	170	140.797	TOR = ½ years
7.	TN Water Resources Consolidation	IDA	22.9.95	31.3.2002	US \$	282.9	93.491	
8.	Second Madras Water Supply	IBRD	20.11.95	30.6.2002	US \$	86.5	49.788	
9.	Tank Irrigation System (Ph.II), TN	EEC Gr.	27.4.89	31.12.99	Euro	24.5	21.955	
10.	National Leprosy Eradication Ph.II	Denmark	17.9.91	15.11.98	Danish Kr.	70	13.101	
11.	Rural Water & Sanitation, Ph.II, TN	Denmark	1.10.96	30.9.2000	Danish Kr.	60	16.508	
12.	Health Care Project Ph.III, TN	Denmark	24.12.96	31.12.2001	Danish Kr.	102.5	33.877	
13.	Pudukottai Livestock Dev. Pjt. Ph.II	Denmark	31.01.97	31.1.2004	Danish Kr.	51.48	1.678	
14.	Imports of Raw Materials	Japan	11.5.98	31.12.98	Jap. Yen	115.4	501.8	
15.	I.C.D.S. Ph. II	Sweden	6.12.95	31.12.99	Swedish Kr.	60	54.529	
16.	Second Tamilnadu Urban Dev.	IBRD	14.7.99	30.11.2004	US \$	105	14.496	
17.	Chennai Sewerage Reno. & Funct. Improvement	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2001	Jap. Yen	17098	1158.3	
UTTAR PRADESH								
1.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation	IDA	24.6.93	31.3.2001	US \$	54.7	52.349	
2.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support	IDA	30.7.98	31.3.2004	US \$	50	11.089	
3.	UP Sodic Land Reclamation-II	IDA	4.2.99	30.9.2005	US \$	194.1	7.551	
4.	UP Diversified Agriculture Support	IBRD	30.7.98	31.3.2004	US \$	79.9	0	
5.	Uear Reclamation in UP - Grant India 1997-2003	Netherlands	7.7.98	30.9.2002	Dutch Gldr	5.639	0	
6.	Doon Valley Integrated Watershed Management	EEC Gr.	3.12.91	31.12.2001	Euro	22.5	10.115	
7.	Revine Stabilization in UP	EEC Gr.	17.4.97	16.4.2002	Euro	7.9	0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8.	UP Forestry	IDA	30.12.97	31.7.2002	US \$	52.94	14.11	
9.	Gomti River Pollution Control, Ph.I, Env Grant 93	UK	29.8.95	31.12.98	Uk Pound	2.133	0.362	
10.	Anpara 'B'	Japan	24.1.94	11.3.2001	Jap. Yen	17638	12951.4	
11.	Anpara Power Transmission - II	Japan	25.1.96	26.3.2000	Jap. Yen	12020	6816	
12.	UP Power Sector	IBRD	21.12.93	31.5.99	US \$	2	1.957	
13.	Supply of Fertilizer (Bhimtal int.)	EEC Gr.	3.5.90	31.12.98	Euro	4.4	4.311	
14.	UP Rural Water Supply & Env. San.	IBRD	22.7.96	31.5.2002	US \$	59.6	14.804	
15.	Grant India 1995-04, Bundelkhand Integ. Water	Netherlands	12.6.96	31.5.99	Dutch. Gldr	13.388	1.352	
16.	UP Primary Education	IDA	7.7.93	30.9.2000	US \$	165	154.294	
17.	UP Basic Education - IE	IDA	3.3.98	31.3.2000	US \$	59.4	44.319	
18.	Basti Diest. Hospital	OPEC	4.5.90	30.6.2000	US \$	6.5	5.39	COR : Rs.9.18 Cr. TOR : 5 years
WEST BENGAL								
1.	Industrial Pollution Control	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2001	Jap. Yen	1525	302.3	
2.	Teesta Canal HEP - IDP-40	Japan	18.12.86	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	8025	7882.5	
3.	Teesta Canal HEP - IDP-72	Japan	23.1.91	31.3.2000	Jap. Yen	6222	6120	
4.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Unit-3 Extension	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2001	Jap. Yen	8659	8336.7	
5.	Purulia Pumped Storage	Japan	28.2.95	12.4.2003	Jap. Yen	20520	1606.4	
6.	West Bengal Transmission System	Japan	25.2.97	29.5.2004	Jap. Yen	11087	803.9	
7.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Project-II	Japan	12.12.97	19.2.2003	Jap. Yen	34151	22565.4	
8.	Bakreshwar Thermal Power Station Unit-3	Japan	24.3.99	24.3.2004	Jap. Yen	11537	4300.6	
9.	Calcutta Transport Infrastructure	Japan	25.2.97	29.5.2004	Jap. Yen	10679	899.4	
10.	UK India West Bengal Primary Edn.	UK	16.5.97	31.3.2004	UK Pound	37.706	4.882	
11.	Rural Water Supply	Germany	5.7.96	30.12.2002	Deut. Mark	50	15.885	
12.	Procurement of Medical & Other Equipment	Germany	22.6.99	30.12.2006	Deut. Mark	60	0	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	13. Calcutta Skum Improvement	UK	23.5.91	31.3.2001	UK Pound	16.944	10.173	
	14. West Bengal Municipal Dev. TF-25472	IBRD Jap. Gr.	17.9.98	31.12.99	US \$	0.927	0	
	15. West Bengal Municipal Dev. TF-25573	IBRD Jap. Gr	17.9.98	31.12.99	US \$	0.469	0	
	16. Calcutta Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage	IBRD	23.7.99	31.7.2001	US \$	2.5	0	
	PONDICHERRY							
	1. Tank Rehabilitation Project	EC	21.2.97	31.12.2004	Euro	6.65	0	
	DELHI							
	1. Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System	Japan	25.2.97	21.10.2007	Jap. Yen	14760	1362.7	
	2. Delhi Water Supply & Sanitation	IBRD	20.4.99	30.6.2001	US \$	2.5	0	

NB: COR=cost over run

TOR=time over run

Multistate Projects

(as on 31.10.1999)

Sl. No.	Participating States	Name of the project	Source	Date of Signing/ Approval	Terminal Date of Disb.	Currency	Loan/ Grant Amount	Cumul. Drawal In DC	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	HP,JK, PUN,HAR	Integrated Water Shed Dev. (Hills)	IDA	11.1.91	31.3.1999	US \$	75	67.583	
2.	AP,BR,OR,UP,WB	Shrimp & Fish Culture	IDA	29.1.92	31.12.99	US \$	36.487	22.046	
3.	AP,HAR,TN	Agriculture & Human Resources	IDA	11.4.1995	31.12.2000	US \$	59.5	32.68	
4.		Integrated Water Shed Dev. Proj. (Hills)	IDA	14.7.99	13.3.2005	US \$	50.184	0	
5.	HP,JK	Indo Norwegian Environment Prog	Norway	13.11.97	13.11.2002	Nor. Kroner	24	9.311	
6.		DSM Planning In State Power-29705	IBRD Jap. G	18.9.98	30.9.2000	US \$	0.4	0.1	
7.		DSM Planning in State Power-25404	IBRD Jap. G	18.9.98	30.9.2000	US \$	0.4	0	
8.	HAR,OR,PUN,TN	Second National Highway	IDA	18.6.92	30.6.2001	US \$	163.631	160.34	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	AP,GUJ,HAR,RAJ,TN	Road Infra. Dev. Tech. Asstt. Pr.	IBRD	15.1.199	31.12.2001	US \$	51.5	29,815	
10.	AP,UP,OR,WB,RAJ, KTK,KER	Second Road Project-1041-IND	ADB	28.5.1991	31.12.1999	US \$	250	246,809	TOR: 3 ½ years
11.	MAH,MAN,WB	Mixed Project	France	25.1.98	30.6.2001	French Fr.	88,018	41,278	
12.	UP,RAJ,OR,TN,WB	Dam Safety Project (R.F.)	IDA	10.6.1991	30.9.99	US \$	92,973	85,707	
13.	AP,GUJ,HAR,MAH, KER,OR,TN	Hydrology in India	IDA	22.9.95	31.3.2002	US \$	142	42,318	
14.	AP,ASM,HAR,HP,MAH, WB,TN,PUN,PO	Tech Education-II (R.F.)-2223-IN	IDA		31.10.99	US \$	255,734	236,56	
15.	ASM,KTK,RAJ	Family Welfare	IDA	24.6.94	31.12.2001	US \$	88.6	42,426	
16.	ASM,GUJ,HAR,HP, KTK, KER,MAH,MP	Ind Distt. Primary Education	IDA	15.7.1996	30.6.2003	US \$	425.2	167,365	
17.	BR,GUJ,HAR,KTK, MP,UP	Rural Women's Development	IDA	14.9.98	31.12.2003	US \$	19.5	0	
18.	KER,RAJ,TN,UP,MAH	Women & Child Development	IDA	6.7.99	30.9.94	US \$	289.25	0	
19.	BR,GUJ,HAR,KTK, MP,UP	Rural Women's Dev. & Empower	IFAD	27.3.97	30.6.2000	US \$	18,437	0	
20.	ASM,MNPR,MEGH	North East. Reg. Community Res.	IFAD	20.5.97	31.12.2004	US \$	27,123	0	
21.		Ajanta Ellora Conservation & Tourism Dev.	Japan	9.1.92	30.3.2002	Jap. Yen	3745	2401.8	
22.	MP,MAH,RAJ	Social Marketing by PSS&PSI	UK	20.12.99	30.12.1998	Deut.Mark	15	0	
23.	GUJ,KTK,KER,MP, RAJ,WB,DEL	Eco.Dev.Project Global Envi. Fac	IDF Gr.	30.9.96	30.6.2002	US \$	20.0	5,784	
24.	OR,WB	Feasibility study for solid waste treatment	France	19.12.96	31.12.2000	Fren.France	3.3	0	

TOR=time over run

NB: COR=cost over run

Loans to Industrial Sector

5480. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed any norms for sanctioning of industrial loans by the nationalised banks, SIDBI, IDBI, EXIM banks and other Financial Institutions (FIs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of the loan disbursed by these banks/FIs to industrial sector during the last three years;

(d) the details of the non-payment of loans by industrial sector; and

(e) the efforts made by the Government for recovering the loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Banks/Financial Institutions formulate loan policy duly vetted by their respective board which should inter-alia cover exposure limit to individual or Group type of borrowers. Government of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) do not fix up specific norms for sanctioning of Industrial Loans by Banks/FIs.

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

(d) and (e) The gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) of Public Sector Banks for the last three years are as under :-

(Rs. Crore)		
End of March	Gross NPAs	% to Gross Advances
1997	43577	17.84
1998	45653	16.02
1999	51711	15.89

The Government of India and RBI have advised banks to take several steps for recovery of bank dues i.e. framing and implementation of Recovery Policy by banks, filing of suits with civil courts, filing cases with Debt Recovery Tribunals, compromise settlement through Settlement Advisory Committees and monitoring and follow up of non performing accounts.

[Translation]

Handloom Agency of Madhya Pradesh

5481. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount provided by the Union Government as grant for the apex handloom agency of Madhya Pradesh namely, 'Madhya Pradesh State Textiles Corporation' during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether paucity of funds with MPSTC is causing adverse effect on the production and marketing of handloom sector in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken to control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) Details of amount provided by the Union Government to State Apex Handloom Agency and State Textile Corporation during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as under:-

Sl.No.	Agency	Funds provided in lakhs of Rs.		
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1.	M.P. Apex Weavers Coop. Federation	88.77	—	61.35
2.	M.P. State Textile Corp.	73.43	77.01	24.84

(b) and (c) On the basis of viable proposals received from the State Government, funds are released under Handloom Development Schemes. The amendments have been made in store purchases rule by Govt. of Madhya Pradesh thereby making the purchase of cloth in all the Government Departments mandatory from handloom sector. The revolving fund of Rs. 1.00 crore has been provided to boost up production of handloom cloth to M.P. State Textile Corporation.

[English]

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARJUN JAITLEY): I beg to lay on the table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 26 of the Press Council Act, 1978:-

- (i) The Press Council (Procedure for Conduct of Meetings & Business) (Amendment) Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. F. 17/9/98-99-PCI in Gazette of India dated the 16th December, 1998.
- (ii) The Press Council of India (Grant of Certified copies) Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. Advt./III/IV/Exty 149/99 in Gazette of India dated the 15th November, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1732/2000]

- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1998-99, 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. LT 1733/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay following papers on the table:-

- (i) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between Bamar Lorry and Company Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1734/2000]

- (ii) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English version) between IBP

Company Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1735/2000]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): On behalf of Dr. Vallabh Bhai Ramjibhai Kathiria, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the HMT Limited and the Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industries, for the year 2000-01.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1736/2000]

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Cables Limited and the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, Department of Heavy Industries, for the year 2000-01.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1737/2000]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Cement Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Cement Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1738/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition

and Transfers of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:-

- (i) The UCO Bank General Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. 48 in Gazette of India dated the 27th November, 1999.
- (ii) The Oriental Bank of Commerce, General Regulations, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 54 In Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1739/2000]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-
 - (i) G.S.R. 146(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st February, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 64/95-C.E. dated the 16th March, 1995.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 217(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 6/2000-C.E. dated the 1st March, 2000.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 223(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 6/2000-C.E. dated the 1st March, 2000.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 267(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 32/99-C.E., dated the 8th July, 1999.
 - (v) G.S.R. 228(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 19/2000-C.E. dated the 1st March, 2000.
 - (vi) G.S.R. 289(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 6/2000-C.E. dated the 1st March, 2000.
 - (vii) G.S.R. 290(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with

an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 17/2000-CE, dated the 1st March, 2000.

- (viii) G.S.R. 291(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend certain Notifications mentioned therein.
- (ix) G.S.R. 292(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 67/95-CE, dated the 16th March, 1995.
- (x) G.S.R. 293(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 214/86-CE, dated the 25th March, 1986.
- (xi) G.S.R. 294(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. G.S.R. 440(E) dated the 1st August, 1997.
- (xii) G.S.R. 295(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification Nos. G.S.R. 402(E) and G.S.R. 208(E) dated the 3rd September, 1996 and the 1st March, 2000 respectively.
- (xiii) G.S.R. 296(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. G.S.R. 209(E) dated the 1st March, 2000.
- (xiv) The Hot-air Stenter Independent Textile Processors Annual Capacity Determination (Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 297(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xv) The Central Excise (Second Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 298(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xvi) G.S.R. 299(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with

an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide credit of duty paid on fibres, yarns, dyes and chemicals used in the manufacture of processed fabrics on a deemed basis.

- (xvii) G.S.R. 300(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to specify the deemed credit on the steel products manufactured by Hot Rolling Mills or in induction furnace units on which duty of excise has been paid, such deemed credit can be availed on the goods cleared upto the 30th April, 2000.
- (xviii) G.S.R. 301(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide for allowing credit of duty of Rupee One per square meter of the fabrics towards each of the duty of CE and additional duty of excise cleared by independent textile processors when used for manufacture of excisable goods on a deemed basis.
- (xix) The Central Excise (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 302(E) in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (xx) G.S.R. 303(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to provide deemed credit of Rs. 18 per Kg. in respect of texturised yarn of polyesters used in the manufacturing of specified fabrics manufactured by composite mills or for the manufacturing of woven piles.
- (xxi) G.S.R. 311(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th April, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification Nos. 67/95-CE dated the 16th March, 1995 and 214/86-CE, dated the 25 March, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1740/2000]

- (3) A copy of the notification No. G.S.R. 148(E) (Hindi and English versions) together with an explanatory memorandum published in Gazette

of India dated the 21st February, 2000 seeking to amend five notifications mentioned therein under sub-section 2 of Section 38 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1741/2000]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of Section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:-
 - (i) G.S.R. 246(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 14/99-Cus., dated the 5th February, 1999.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 247(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum imposing an anti-dumping duty as mentioned in the notification on Vitamin C originating in or exported from Russia and European Union and when exported by the exporters.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 250(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 46/99-Cus., dated the 29th April, 1999.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 325(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th April, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on Aniline originating in or exported from Japan and the USA, at the rates recommended by the designated authority.
 - (v) G.S.R. 263(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose a final anti-dumping duty on Nylon Tyre Cord Fabric originating in or exported from South Korea, Indonesia, Thailand or Taiwan at the specified rates mentioned therein.
 - (vi) G.S.R. 264(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind the Notification No. 124/99-Cus., dated the 9th November, 1999.
 - (vii) G.S.R. 316(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 2000 together with an

explanatory memorandum seeking to impose anti-dumping duty on Acrylonitrile Butadiene rubber originating in or exported from, Taiwan, and imported into India at the rates specified by the designated authority.

(viii) G.S.R. 317(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 120/99-Cus., dated the 2nd November, 1999.

(ix) G.S.R. 318(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose Anti-dumping duty on Thermal sensitive paper originating in or exported from, European Union and Japan, and imported into India at the rates specified by the Designated authority.

(x) G.S.R. 319(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th April, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 115/99-Cus., dated the 11th October, 1999.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1742/2000]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

(i) G.S.R. 224(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 16/2000/Cus., dated the 1st March, 2000.

(ii) G.S.R. 261(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 2000 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to amend Notification No. 16/2000/Cus., dated the 1st March, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1743/2000]

(6) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:-

(i) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Collective Investment Schemes) (Amend-

ment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 122(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 2000.

(ii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Debenture Trustees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 135(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th February, 2000.

(iii) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Portfolio Managers) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 146(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 2000.

(iv) The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Foreign Institutional Investors) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. S.O. 180(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th February, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1744/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH):
I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 34 of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985:-

(i) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Regulations, 1986 published in Notification No. F. Sec./AIR/02/93 in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 1994.

(ii) The Agricultural land Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (Amendment) Rule, 1998 published in Notification No. S.O. 806(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th September, 1998.

(iii) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Regulations, 1999 published in Notification No. F.-11/5/86-EP (Agri.-IV) in Gazette of India dated the 19th August, 1999.

(2) Three Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1745/2000]

- (3) A copy of the Spices Cess (Amendment) Rules, 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 333(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th April, 2000 under sub-section (3) of Section 5 of the Spices Cess Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1746/2000]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year, 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tea Board, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1747/2000]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts, under sub-section (3) of section 22 and sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Tobacco Board, Guntur for the year 1998-99.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1748/2000]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, Kochi, for the year 1998-99.

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1749/2000]

- (10) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the India Trade Promotion Organisation and the Department of Commerce for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1750/2000]

- (11) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the PEC Limited and the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1751/2000]

- (12) A copy of the Spices Board (Quality Marking) Amendment Regulations, 1999 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 643(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th September, 1999, under section 40 of the Spices Board Act, 1986.

- (13) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1752/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Thane, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Rubber Manufacturers Research Association, Thane, for the year 1998-99.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing for delay in laying papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1753/2000]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-

(i) S.O. 243(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 2000 notifying the Pragati Paper Industries Limited, Khairi, Tehsil Naham, District Sirmaur in the State of Himachal Pradesh as a mill producing newsprint.

(ii) S.O. 266(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 2000 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 445(E) dated the 18th May, 1995.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1754/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for Jute Diversifications, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Jute Diversification, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1755/2000]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Jute Manufacturers Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Jute Manufacturers Development Council, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1756/2000]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Jute Industries'

Research Association, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Jute Industries' Research Association, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1757/2000]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1998-99.

- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mention at (7) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1758/2000]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1759/2000]

- (11) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1760/2000]

- (12) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above.
- (13) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 327(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2000 containing Order directing amendments in earlier Order published in Notification No. S.O. 526(E) dated the 1st July, 1999 under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory use in Packaging Commodities) Act, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 1761/2000]

[English]

12.02 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Fourth report

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESHWARLU (Tenali): I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Estimates Committee on Ministry of finance (Department of Economic Affairs—Banking Division)—Role of Public Sector Banks in Self-Employment Schemes including PMRY.

12.02½ hrs.

The Report of the visits of Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

[Translation]

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA (Khunti) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the table a copy of the report (Hindi and English versions) of the visit of the committee on welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes in February, 2000.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now Shri Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa will make a statement regarding match fixing in Cricket.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): You were in the Chair yesterday when the subject regarding price rise was

discussed. I was also present. If you kindly read the newspaper today, you will find that Shri Madan Lal Khurana has made a statement that the price rise has been done on the pressure of United States. I did not hear it. Did the hon. Member say it? I read it today in the newspaper. Government has not clarified this matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me complete Papers Laid.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The hon. Member is sitting here now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me complete Papers Laid.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: You should clarify the position. The hon. Member says that it is done under United States pressure. He is a Party M.P.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, I am on my legs. Let me complete.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we are in the process of Papers Laid. Let it be completed. Then Zero Hour will start.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, you are the ex-Speaker of the Assembly in Kerala. Let me complete the Papers Laid.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given notice regarding the Report of Minority Commission. Priority be given to me to speak on this subject.....(Interruptions)

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk): M. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is water and electricity problem in Delhi. You are requested to give me a chance to speak on it.....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is neither electricity nor water in Delhi and the people of Delhi are disturbed. Lakhs of people are residing in slums and there is no arrangement of water for them. Earlier water was supplied by tankers.....(Interruptions) People are dying of thirst. Industries are being shut down.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Sir, I want to raise an important matter.....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will take up the 'Zero Hour' later.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Sir, Shri Madan Lal Khurana is here. He can clarify...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Papers are to be laid and hon. Members are not cooperating. How can I run the House?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shrimati Margaret Alva, I will allow you after the Papers are laid. After the Papers are laid on the Table, we will take up the 'Zero Hour.'

(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): You should allow us during the 'Zero Hour'...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I may be given a chance to speak...*(Interruptions)* There is acute shortage of electricity and water in Delhi.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first let the papers be laid, thereafter 'Zero-Hours' should be started.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Vijay Goel, please raise the problem of Delhi after laying of the papers when Zero Hour is started.

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Match Fixing In Cricket

THE MINISTER OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA): Sir, the issue of match fixing has been at the centre stage of media reporting for the last few weeks. It has also been debated in the two Houses of Parliament. I have already made statements in both the Houses of Parliament on this issue. In my statement, I had mentioned that the Government would not hesitate to initiate an inquiry in the matter of match fixing by any agency of the Government, as required. On the basis of several news items in prominent magazines and newspapers of the country, as also the statements of prominent cricket administrators and players, there is a need to inquire into the matter further.

The Government believes that those who are guilty must be punished, those who are innocent must not be slandered, those who have evidence must co-operate and shall be given adequate protection and those who make ill-founded allegations must be exposed.

Keeping in view the sentiments expressed by hon. Members in both Houses of Parliament, the sensitivity of the case and the complexities involved, as also the issue of jurisdiction, the Government has decided to entrust the matter to the CBI for appropriate inquiry and necessary action. During the discussions in Parliament on this issue, the predominant view was to entrust this matter to the CBI. It is hoped that this inquiry will clear the air of rumours and suspicion surrounding this subject.

The case already registered by the Delhi Police under FIR No. 111/2000 against Hansi Cronje and other will be pursued by the Delhi Police to its logical conclusion.

[English]

12.08 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing the 2nd May, 2000 will consist of:-

1. Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
2. Submission to the Vote of the House outstanding Demands for Grants in Respect of Budget (General) for 2000-2001 at 6 p.m. on Tuesday the 2nd May, 2000.
3. Consideration and passing of the Finance Bill, 2000.
4. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Sir, we have raised an important issue. The hon. Member is present here. Let him clarify the position.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rajesh Pilot, we have to complete the Submission now. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has announced the programme for the next week. Hon. Members have given notices to make their Submissions. That has to be taken up now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Consideration for providing appropriate protection to the small and cottage industries by the government that Indian economy could be streamlined.
2. Consideration for extending appropriate government to the traditional industries like glass industry of Firozabad, Lock industry of Aligarh, Brass ware industry of Moradabad and silk industry of Varanasi.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following items may be included in next week agenda:-

1. Important towns of Kishangarh and Beawar of Ajmer district which are of industrial and commercial significance are situated along the Delhi Ahmedabad via Jaipur Ajmer railway line. There is need to provide a two minutes stoppage of Ashram Express (superfast) and other long distance train at these places.
2. There is need to run Delhi Ajmer Shatabadi Express on Sunday also in place of any other day of the week keeping in view its necessity and utility.

[English]

SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO (Purulia): Sir, the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:-

'New monetary and credit policy of the Reserve Bank of India.'

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri): I would like to make a submission for the agenda for the next week.

"That a comprehensive legislation to the Central Haj Act should be introduced in the current Session to replace the redundant Central Haj Act, 1954."

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East) : I request you to include the following subjects in the Business of the next week:-

1. For 714 items quantitative restrictions are removed from April, 2000. Further 715 items will be opened from April 2001. Exim Policy, WTO

commitment must be discussed keeping in mind, the future of Indian industries, particularly small-scale industries.

2. Continuous fall of growth rate of agriculture production in the nineties compared to eighties must be discussed. Growth rate of agriculture production is coming down compared to population growth. The matter is of grave concern

[Translation]

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following items may be included in next week's agenda:-

1. Need to discuss the paucity of funds for the development of the state due to increase in the establishment expenditure in Madhya Pradesh.
2. Discussion on the crisis of drinking water due to the closure of schemes on account of lack of funds as a result of the handing over of the repairing and maintenance of rural water supply scheme of Madhya Pradesh to the Gram Panchayat by the state government.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, following items may be included in the next week's agenda :-

1. The future of the workers in H.E.C. Hatia Ranchi, which is called mother industry has become dark in the absence of work order. This department should be provided work order to the maximum extent possible from Defence, Railway and Coal Ministries etc. Displaced and widows and dependent families should be provided with jobs and electricity facility should be provided to the employees.
2. Ranchi town having population of nearly 15 lakh does not have a by-pass road on National Highway that leads to road accident and traffic jam. Therefore necessary action should be taken immediately for the construction of a by-pass road for Ranchi town.

DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA (Sirsa): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, shooting up of the economic cost of wheat of food corporation of India to Rs. 900 after purchasing the wheat at a cost of Rs. 550 per quintal cannot be regarded as justified. On the one hand while the wheat cultivators

[Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora]

are vexed on account of getting low cost due to the increased cost of expenditure of FCI, on the other hand consumers are compelled and aggrieved to purchase it at the increased cost. It is highly ironical that Canada, Brazil and Australia are selling wheat at a lower rates in the international market in spite of the low rate of production of wheat in comparison to India. Therefore a detailed discussion on the entire functioning of FCI is required regarding it.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have already called Prof. Premajam.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that today thousands of Anganvadi workers and helpers from all parts of India(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called her. This is not fair.

(Interruptions)

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: I was the first to give the notice. I may be permitted to speak....(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgur): You have called the hon. Member to speak and everybody is interrupting her....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please sit down? Will you please resume your seat? I am on my legs.

About 28 Members have given notices to speak. All of them will be getting a chance provided we have a peaceful atmosphere in the House. I have called Prof. Premajam. Let us hear her. I request the hon. Member to make a mention in brief.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Sir, before the hon. Member speaks, I have a submission to make. This is something to do with two women Members of this House who have already given a notice to move the privilege motion. They have written to me as Chairman of the Committee on Empowerment of Women, saying that they are being insulted in the course of their work in the district by the DM, who has told them that they are ignorant, they do not know what they are talking and they should not raise questions during the District Development Council's

meetings. Two of them have given notice of privilege. They have written to me

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They will be getting a chance to speak.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We want to know what is happening. When I am raising it now, there is no response.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If they have given notices, their names must be here in the list.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: No, Sir. They have given notice to move the privilege motion. No action has been taken. Two months have already passed....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me find it out from the Secretariat.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, the Member is a tribal woman and she has been told that she is a tribal and she does not know what she is talking about. She has been insulted....(Interruptions) Sir, she is present in the House. She has appealed to me as the Chairman of the Committee on Empowerment of Women....(Interruptions) She must be given a hearing and action must be taken against those officials....(Interruptions) This is a very serious matter. A woman Member of Parliament should not be insulted by the officials....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I understand from the Secretariat that the Privilege Motion has been received and it is under consideration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT (Dausa): Sir, the Member of Parliament is here in the House....(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Please allow her to speak. The House should know what has happened(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Please allow me to make a submission....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Madam, the notice is not in your name. It is in the name of Shrimati Vijaya Kumari.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am raising this matter as the Chairman of the Committee on Empowerment of Women....(Interruptions)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Please allow me to make a submission and then you can decide the issue(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. M.P. JAISWAL (Bettiah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he should be heard. *(Interruptions)*. You give him an opportunity to express his views. I don't know what IAS Officers think of themselves. *(Interruptions)* Who becomes District Magistrate, acts on his own. *(Interruptions)* It is a very serious matter *(Interruptions)* This matter will go to the privilege committee, but before that the house should be apprised of. *(Interruptions)* You may permit him to give a statement. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, allow me to make a submission and then you decide....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : On this issue a Member who has given notice, will have to be given a chance. I am sorry. Shri Madhavrao Scindia, please cooperate with me.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, you are not prepared to listen to me. You must listen to me*(Interruptions)*. You are not giving opportunity to me. You please listen to me and then if you ask me to sit, I will sit down. But please listen to me.....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, what I am trying to say is that Shrimati Alva has raised an issue which concerns the self-respect of the Members of Parliament in the discharge of their duties. Sir, this matter concerns a women Member of Parliament. This concerns a tribal Member of Parliament. Shrimati Alva is the Chairman of the Committee on Empowerment of Women. She has not given a notice for privilege motion. It is a separate issue and it should be dealt with separately*(Interruptions)*. Shrimati Alva is trying to make an important point. You should allow her. She is not a party to the privilege motion. That is something totally separate. She is raising a point as Chairman of the Committee on Empowerment of Women.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Scindia, I have already heard her. As you know, if any notice is given on any such incident, the veracity of information is checked.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You do not allow me to complete.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, she is not a party to the privilege notice....*(Interruptions)*. Sir, this concerns all the Members of Parliament.....*(Interruptions)*. How can DM behave in this fashion?.....*(Interruptions)* She is a lady Member of Parliament and she is an Adivasi Member of Parliament.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What do you want us to do now?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, the whole House wants that this should be heard.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Sir, a lady member of Parliament, who is a schedule tribe, has been insulted. *(Interruptions)* It is a matter of prestige *(Interruptions)* She was prevented from exercising her responsibility *(Interruptions)* That lady member of Parliament is a schedule tribe. *(Interruptions)* She should be heard. *(Interruptions)* The whole House wants this. . . .*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: She has not raised this matter. If she wants to say something, I would allow her.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the instances of insulting parliamentarians are taking place every others day. *(Interruptions)* This matter becomes more serious. We want that she should be heard. *(Interruptions)* The whole house wants that she should be given a chance to express her views. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is this Shri Chaturvedi?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Member concerned has not stood up and asked for it. But you are shouting at me.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, Shrimati Alva is raising this matter as the Chairman of the Committee on Empowerment of Women.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: She may be raising it. That is all right. But the Member concerned has not asked for this. She herself has to ask for this.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Where is the Member concerned? She is not keen to raise it. She does not want to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given my privilege motion four months ago. . . . (Interruptions) In that connection daily it is said that that is under consideration. . . . (Interruptions) I will raise this issue on Monday, therefore, you may verify it by then (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, Prof. Premajam would speak.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the Parliament March which is being staged by thousands of Anganvadi workers and helpers from all over the country. Sir, the ICDS scheme was started in 1975. This scheme is meant for the welfare of women and children of this country. It has become 25 years old now. The workers and helpers of these Anganwadis had been persistently putting forward certain minimum demands before the successive Government which fell on deaf ears. Their demand is that they should be recognised as Government servants and that there should be uniform law for governing their service – conditions, increment, etc.— in different States of India. They also want that the proposal which is coming from the Government to privatise this area should be given up.

They are giving a pittance of Rs. 460 per month to the workers and just Rs. 260 per month to the helpers. The Government of Kerala has enhanced their allowance, but at the national level nothing has been done. While the prices of all essential commodities are rising, this should be taken up by the Government and given a sympathetic consideration. This is my request through you to the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN (Rosera): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, My Parliamentary Constituency is Rosera, which is merged in Koshi, Kamla Balan. In that area, the remaining portion is of second grade where work has not been completed in 14 kms. Sir, through you I demand the hon'ble Minister to complete the work in remaining 14 kms..... (Interruptions) And it should be linked. You have given me an opportunity to speak therefore, I am grateful to you.

[English]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contal): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir. Through you, I would like to draw the

attention of this House to the explosive and unfortunate situation prevailing in certain pockets of Midnapore district in West Bengal where the constitutional machinery has totally broken down and where fundamental rights are being denied to citizens by a section of the CPI(M) cadre.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): What is he saying, Sir? A State subject is being raised here.

12.27 hours

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: This is not a State subject. It involves the Constitution of this country.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: The State law and order situations are not raised here. You should not allow this.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Everything is allowed if you can disturb the proceedings of the House for fifteen days. For us this is not just a State subject. It is a subject of the denial of fundamental rights to the citizens of this country. Murderous gangs of people, totally bloodthirsty people, property-grabbing people are moving around there..... (Interruptions)

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (Palghat): He should not be allowed to say all these things.

MR. SPEAKER: The Chair has permitted him. Please take your seat.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: How can the Chair permit such matters to be raised in the House?

MR. SPEAKER: You are also raising the State subjects.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Law and order is purely a State subject. It cannot be allowed to be raised here.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Then we should also raise every matter relating to the law and order in the States. Who will answer for the State here?

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that many times we are discussing the State subjects also in the House. The Chair has already permitted him.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I would like to know as to who will answer him. The State Government is not represented here. What is all this happening? How can he say all this?

MR. SPEAKER: The Chair has already permitted him.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: It is a question of denial of fundamental rights. No free elections will take place if such civil war conditions prevail in parts of the State....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Nitish Sengupta, it is not at all advisable to raise State matters in the House. You can mention the subject carefully.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: If there were a provision in the Constitution for declaring the President's rule in a part of the State, I should say Midnapore should be brought under the President's rule. Rights to life, free expression, free movement, liberty and property of the citizens are in danger there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is a dangerous demand being made on the floor of the House. President's rule is being demanded by a Member who has no sense of responsibility.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: You should advise your cadre to bid good-bye to the nuisance being created by them and to read Liu-Shao-qui's "How to be a Good Communist".

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You are the trouble makers. You went there to create trouble.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: They are creating the law and order problem there. Moreover, this is a State matter which should not be allowed to be raised here.

MR. SPEAKER: Then we will have to take a decision that no State matter will be raised in the House. It applies to all the hon. Members.

(Interruptions)

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Sir, you had allowed a circular issued by a State Government to be discussed for about two weeks on the floor of the House. I would say that there is a total misuse of the constitutional machinery there and people have not been allowed to enjoy their fundamental rights by ruthless, blood-thirsty section of the CPI (M) cadre in alliance with the local police forces.
... (Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, I strongly object to what he is saying. It is very unfortunate that he is raising State matters in this House.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramesh Chennithala.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If any Member is irresponsible and can do certain things with the permission of the Chair, then as a matter of right, I shall raise it.... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar): He is speaking with permission of the Chair.... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Sir, how can you allow him to speak on a State subject? I want your ruling on this point. What he has said about the State of West Bengal is a State subject. And matters pertaining to States should not be raised on the floor of this House. So, it should be deleted from the record.

MR. SPEAKER: I have called Shri Ramesh Chennithala to speak.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Apart from the fact that what he has said is false, he is trying to create a precedent which is dangerous because his Party has no foothold there.... (Interruptions)

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA: Sir, it is only because of the fact that their party is creating a law and order problem in the State of West Bengal.... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Sir, recently, the Central Government has given approval to increase the air fare to the Gulf countries, except Saudi Arabia. This is going to affect the poor labourers and people who are working in different Gulf countries. The IATA has taken a decision to increase the air fare. It is a bilateral decision which has been agreed upon. I would draw the attention of the Government that during the Rajiv Gandhi Government, the IATA has requested four times for the increase of the air fare. But the then Minister and the Government had taken a decision not to increase the air fare to Gulf countries. It is unfortunate to note that it has been raised now in such a manner that the poor people are suffering. A lot of memoranda have been submitted to the Ministry of Civil Aviation as well as the Government to reduce the air fare to the Gulf countries. Our request is not heeded to and no decision has been taken. Today, our country is facing the problem of unemployment due to which our youngsters are going abroad, specially from the State of Kerala, to get employment in Gulf countries. I request the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation, through you, to

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

reconsider this decision. They should decrease the air fare to the Gulf countries, specially Saudi Arabia, forthwith.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please understand that I am calling the names of hon. Members as per the list.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Saidpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I represent Saidpur constituency of Lok Sabha in Uttar Pradesh. Dullahpur railway station situated in my constituency Saidpur is a very important railway station of North East Railway from the business point of view. The above railway station is situated on Gazipur, Azamgarh, Mau border. Lichhvi and intercity express trains pass through Dullahpur railway station. The people of this area have been demanding for a halt of this train here for quite some time. In this connection I have made a written request to hon'ble Railway Minister. Since the said trains don't stop here so the people of this are have been facing lot of difficulties. Delhi bound Saryu, Yamuna and Sadbhavna Express used to halt at this station. Both there trains have been taken off from this railway line. Halt of Lichhvi Express is very necessary. Intercity express which pass through this station goes to Gorakhpur via Varanasi. It halts at only one place in a stretch of 93 kms from Varanasi to Mhow where as from Mhow to Bhatni, there is a distance of 75 kms and the train halts at a dozen places. Therefore, through you I want to draw the attention of Railway Ministry and feel that it is necessary that these trains should halt at Dullahpur station.

MR. SPEAKER : Please take your seat.

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani): Sir, I have been giving notice for the last two days... (Interruptions) Every time Senior Members are given a chance....(Interruptions) If the Seniors will speak every time then what shall we do ?.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: As per the list, I am calling the names. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am referring to the postal employees strike which is to commence on 2nd May, next week. It will definitely paralyse the entire postal service. This is a matter

pending before the Postal Department for long. I want to draw your attention to the deplorable conditions under which the Extra-departmental staff work in the Postal Department. There were several meetings which were held earlier also. There was a strike previously. During the Twelfth Lok Sabha, several notices were given in respect of this issue. I myself raised the issue. The hon. Minister was pleased to convene a meeting with the parties concerned and an amicable settlement was entered into. Bill the settlement was not being given effect to.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, there are other hon. Members also. They want to raise some matters. Please conclude.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have received a note from the Lok Sabha Secretariat informing the steps taken by the Government to improve the conditions of service of the postal employees. But, in fact, no improvement has been made. On going through the statement, which was sent by the hon. Minister's Office and which was, in turn, circulated by the Lok Sabha Secretariat, I find that it does not specify the concrete steps they have taken to prevent the strike. It is better to prevent the strike from taking place because the poor people will be put to difficulties.

So, I would request the Government to intervene in the matter, call a meeting of the employees of the Postal Department and settle the matter before 2nd May. I would further request the Government not to put the people to difficulties and make the postal strike a reality.

I would again request the hon. Minister to convene a meeting and settle the matter at the earliest.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw Government's attention towards an important issue. A news has appeared in most of the newspaper that Pakistan is making helipad at Dora Area near Koteshwar in Bengal. This has never happened in the last 52 years. It is for the first time that helipad is being made over there. Whether Government are aware of it? Kargil type incident may not happen again in this country? Important issue is that in a meeting held in Pakistan people have been asked to declare 'Jehad,' against India. United States has asked to close Group Headquarters but Gen. Musharraf has said that these will not be closed. Whether Government are aware of all these developments.

MR. SPEAKER: You are making a speech in Zero Hour?

SHRI RASHID ALVI: I will take only one minute. There is a talk of 'Jehad'. I condemn that 'Jehad'. The day before yesterday Hon'ble Home Minister said in the House that our muslim should reply the call of Jehad. We condemn that Jehad also and tell our Home Minister also to do so.

[English]

I call upon all the countrymen to join me in condemning this Jehad.

[Translation]

The Government should be prepared to see that Pakistan does not indulge in any Kargil type misadventure.

[English]

SHRI M. CHINNASAMY (Karur): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the condition of the mono-filament yarn producers in my constituency. There are hundred units which are involved in manufacturing the mono-filament yarn and 500 units are involved in manufacturing the mosquito nets. They are marketing the mosquito nets in West Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. In the meanwhile, the industries are affected due to the smuggling of nylon nets from Bangladesh into India. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take necessary steps to prevent the nylon nets from being smuggled into India from Bangladesh and save the industry as well as the 50,000 workers in my constituency.

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih): Mr. Speaker, Sir, CCL, the Central Coal Fields Ltd., produced coal worth Rs. 32.163 crores during 1996-97 and suffered a loss of Rs. 15.52 crore. During 1997-98 it suffered a loss of 85.67 crores rupees. After mining coal from the mines the loss amounts to 175 crore rupees. Sir, through you, I demand for a CBI enquiry into it. Reason - despite increase in company's productivity and also increase in the prices of coal, the profitability is on decline.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Sir, Dhulia and Malegaon are tribal constituencies. We all met them and came to know that survey of Malegaon, Dhulia and Nardana has been conducted. I demand that the line may be approved and the work should be commenced as soon as possible.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Good.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Sir, Maharashtra is also in the grip of severe drought conditions like Rajasthan and Gujarat. Drinking water is scarce in about 200 to 300 small towns. People living in those areas are not getting drinking water. Maharashtra has started supplying water with the help of 200-300 tankers. Maharashtra Government does not have that much money. Maharashtra Government has asked the Central Government for an assistance of Rs. 100 crores for the purpose of drinking water supply and facing drought. I request the central government that it should grant to the Maharashtra Government whatever money it needs for facing the drought and resolving the drinking water crisis.

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, about two-three days back, House had discussed the attacks on the Christians. Minority commission, which consists of Justice Mohammed Shamim, General A.N. Setna, Shri John Joseph and Shri Trilochan Singh, visited all the four cities and collected information from all the victims on the spot. According to the report submitted to the hon'ble Prime Minister, there was no evidence on the basis of which these incidents could be called communal or anti-christian. The commission was satisfied about the role of the police in this case. According to the information received, the teams of the Commission visited a christian school in Kosi. They met Father K.K. Thomas. The team was told that Father Thomas was severely beaten by about 10 people on the night of the incident. They took away Rs. one lakh. But Father Thomas is satisfied with the investigation conducted by the police so far. He does not regard it as a communal or anti-christian incident(Interruptions) Sir, I request that I may be allowed to speak for one more minute. We had a lot of discussion about that. Such a picture of India has been presented to the 300 crore christians all over the world. It was termed as a part of the ethos of the Government. Then Bajrang Dal was blamed for the attack.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): This is not fair.....(Interruptions) We have been coming and saying that several instances of attacks on Christians were reported recently.....(Interruptions) It is unfortunate that the Government has not given a statement.....(Interruptions) and instead a Member is contradicting them without adequate evidence.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Minority commission has a muslim justice, a christian and a parsi.....(Interruptions) All of them unanimously reported that there is no case of communalism or Hindu christian conflict. You should be pleased about it.....(Interruptions) The House should be pleased that it is not a case of communalism or of Hindu Christian conflict.....(Interruptions) The people who made it out to be a case of Hindu-Christian conflict should apologise to the House. Even Minority Commission has said that there is no such case.....(Interruptions) Whenever such issues come before the House, they ought to be verified first. We should not discuss meaningless things which may distort the image of the country abroad.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, there are others also who want to make submissions. Please conclude.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It has happened in Kerala too and it has now happened here also. The report of the Minority Commission has made it clear that no such thing has happened. I will ask the Government to table that report in the House. That report should be tabled in the House and people who create mischief should apologise to the House.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, let the Home Minister come and make a statement on this matter.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: It is a wrong to say such things in the House.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Delhi which has a population of more than one crore people, is going through a crisis due to water and electricity cuts. Electricity and water supply remain disconnected for as long as 18 hours in Delhi. Except in the urbanised areas of Delhi, people living in the rural areas within Delhi are facing acute shortage of water and electricity. The projects pertaining to Delhi, viz. Bawana (Phase-I) and Bawana (Phase-2), Pragati are in doldrums. Congress is in power in Delhi. The Chief Minister Smt. Sheila Dikshitji has been accused of corruption by her own party leaders. There is

division within the party. She is incapable of running the Government. What I want to say is that it is the duty of the Central Government to intervene if the State Government is unmindful of the projects or the projects are getting obstructed.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vijay Goel, you have given notice to raise the matter regarding drinking water and electricity problem in Delhi, but you are raising some other matter now. This is not correct.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: The Central Government will have to dismiss Shrimati Sheila Dikshit and her Government.....(Interruptions) If additional power is not generated in Delhi, steps should be taken to check the theft of electricity which amounts to 60% of power generation. This Government is not capable of doing that. Therefore, the Central Government will have to take strict action. Same problem is being faced in case of water supply also. Mr. Speaker, Sir, that is why. I wish to say that the Central Government should take strict action. Electricity is not being made available even when the centre is ensuring full supply.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (Delhi Sadar) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, about seven lakh people live in slums of Delhi. They have to queue up for water. People are not getting water and electricity.....(Interruptions) Hon'ble Minister is present here, he should tell us how long will Delhi continue to receive inadequate water supply.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madan Lal Khurana, we have discussed about the drought situation in the country only two days back in the House.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: The issue is concerned with making electricity available for the people of Delhi. Please allow half an hour discussion on this subject.....(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): He is levelling allegations on us.....(Interruptions) Please expunge these remarks from the proceedings of the House

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If it is objectionable, it can be expunged.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: How long will the people of Delhi continue to face the electricity and water crisis.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Madan Lal Khurana, you are not allowing your own party Member to speak. Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: When I speak of Delhi, it is not just about New Delhi. 7 lakh people living in slums are facing the problem regarding electricity and water supply.....(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Khurana, yesterday, you have discussed the entire drought situation in the country.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Shri Khurana, I have come for you.....(Interruptions) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have raised a matter. He is supposed to answer.....(Interruptions) This is not correct.

MR. SPEAKER: You have raised the matter without permission of the Chair.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: The Chair has permitted me.....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE (Sarangarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Bar Navpara Sanctuary is located in Kaltol assembly constituency which falls under my parliamentary constituency, Sarangarh. Crores of rupees were spent for the development of this sanctuary. About 15 days back, there was an incident of devastating fire in the sanctuary. It caused damage to lakhs of acres of forest land and the total loss amounted to crores of rupees. Madhya Pradesh Government and the Government of India had spent crores of rupees for its upkeep and afforestation. The afforestation programme launched there, turned out to be a failure. The incident of fire was a conspiracy to shield the corruption. I request that a high level probe be conducted into the incident of fire.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a matter of serious concern that human values are eroding in our country. Man is getting demonised as a result of greed and selfishness. They are even ready to commit heinous crimes to make money in any which way. That is why the human values like truth, honesty, patience, courage, compassion, humanity, patriotism and selflessness have become unimportant. There was a time when India was the world leader and was famous for its religiosity and culture. To endow the young generation with all the human values, the educational institutions of the country should compulsorily impart moral education. This would lead to development of good and ideal Indian citizens.

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the range of Doordarshan in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh is only 25 kilometre due to which audiovisual reception of the Doordarshan programmes within a radius of fifty kilometre is not clear and people are unable to view the programmes properly. Hence the range of Doordarshan in this area should be increased upto fifty kilometres. Besides telegraph office at Tehsil Mungeli under Bilaspur district is closed for the last two years. Therefore, Fax, S.T.D. or telegram facility should be provided at this place.

[English]

DR. (SHRIMATI) C. SUGUNA KUMARI (Peddapalli): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I want to draw your attention and that of this august House to a matter of national importance. It is regarding prize-fixing in Sikkim and Bhutan Lotteries.

Two companies – Martin & Co. and Best & Co. – have been fixing the ceremonial top prizes money-winning ticket numbers in the draws by bribing the concerned State Finance Department and getting pre-selected numbers fixed by them.

The people are put to a loss worth crores of rupees in the new Bhutan Kalpataru Lottery and Sikkim State Lottery. The same ten numbers were the winning tickets. The draws were held in cities Thimpu and Gangtok.

This clearly shows that the numbers of winning tickets are fixed. I request the Government of India to act immediately and stop this scam.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJAY GOGL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also associate myself with this and I urge upon the Government that state lotteries should be banned.

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Sir, my name is also there in the list.

MR. SPEAKER: I have called your name, but you were not present at that time.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, after a long desire, Kerala was given diesel loco shed. It was started in Emakulam. It was going on very well, but of late it is seen that attempts are being made to stop this loco shed saying that all the lines in Kerala are going to be electrified. We know that it is a long way. In Kerala, the number of lines, which have been electrified, is very little.

Sir, this loco shed is a workshop of diesel engines and it is very essential. So, I would submit to the concerned authorities and the hon. Railway Minister that immediate steps be taken to strengthen this loco shed rather than stopping it.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (Nawada): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a news item which appeared in Jana Satta of yesterday where one Joint Secretary level officer had sought clarification from the Government regarding imposing the creamy layer in the SC/ST employees case.

I would like to say that such type of tress-passing by the bureaucracy is hampering the interests of SS/STs and the OBCs. Sir, you must have heard recently that UPSC had selected some OBC candidates, but it is only because of the bureaucratic interference that those selected OBC candidates were not finally given the posts of IAS and IPS. I would request that these biased and guilty officers must be punished and taken to task in the interest of SC/ST and OBC employees.

[Translation]

DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also endorse his point.

[English]

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Sir, there is an acute drinking water crisis in the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput and that the water table has gone down.

MR. SPEAKER: We have discussed this subject yesterday. I think, you had participated in the debate also.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: That is right Sir, but this morning I have got a fax from the Collector of my area.

MR. SPEAKER To raise the matter in the House.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: I took part in the debate but the condition is so acute there. Recently, there was a question in the Rajya Sabha where the hon. Minister gave a reply but there was no mention about the scarcity of water in Orissa. In The Statesman of 27th and in The Pioneer it has come out. I have got a fax from the Collector of my area that there is an acute drinking water shortage in most parts of the district. Out of 191 Panchayats, there is shortage of water in nearly 165 Panchayats where the ground water has gone to such a level where there is iron contamination, fluorosis and chemical contamination. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to immediately give adequate funds for the same, besides clearing the pending projects of pipe water supply for small and urban towns immediately.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (Bolangir): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the issue raised by the hon. Member from Kalahandi. As the House is aware, the districts of Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput have been reeling under drought conditions, I strongly urge the Central Government to release funds for the various projects in order to do away with acute scarcity of water.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, drinking water in Jaipur is supplied from the Ramgarh barrage but the water supply has stopped due to formation of an anicut in the river flowing towards Jaipur. Apart from this, the barrages, ponds and wells near Jaipur have dried up and ground water table has depleted considerably.

13.00 hrs.

At present there is acute shortage of potable water in the Jaipur city. I request the Union Government to kindly allocate funds to us so that the wells could be repaired and the Ramgarh barrage could be desilted for increasing its water storage capacity. Silt has accumulated in the Ramgarh barrage due to which its water storage capacity has reduced considerably. In my Parliamentary constituency water contains flouride. Sir, through you I request the Union Government to kindly make some arrangements for repairing the ponds and dams, cleaning the wells and desilting the Ramgarh barrage so that potable water could be made available.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA (Bilhaur): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, Kanpur is the largest city of Uttar Pradesh having population of 40 lakh and the population of Kanpur

dehat district is 30 lakhs. This area is in the grip of drought and the table of ground water in this region has gone down considerably. The wells in this region have dried up. There is no water for cattle in the ponds. The Government of Uttar Pradesh is facing the financial crunch. Therefore, I demand from the Union Government that it should provide assistance in the relief work in the state. A dam is being constructed on river Ganga to solve the drinking water problem in Kanpur and State Government have already released its share of fifty percent for this project. The Union Government have also given its consent in this regard. I request the Union Government to kindly release its share of funds as early as possible. The Ganga cleaning scheme was started by the Union Government but in Kanpur the Ganga water is highly contaminated. The dyeing units at Farukhabad are releasing their effluent into the Ganga. Leather Industry is also dumping its waste material into the Ganga. The Ganga cleaning scheme is existing only on papers. An inquiry should be conducted in this regard and the Ganga cleaning scheme should be started again to purify the Ganga water to make it potable. This is my submission.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (Vidisha): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, Pakistan is making every possible effort to disintegrate our country. On the one hand, Pakistan is increasing the terrorist activities after suffering humiliating defeat in Kargil conflict and on the other hand, it is trying to disablise our economy by pumping in counterfeit currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination. During recent past fake currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination have been recovered in some parts of the country and in some Banks. Due to this, not only our economy is being destabilised but a situation of confusion has also arisen all over the country. In small towns and cities the traders are not accepting currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination. Situation is so grave that even some Banks are also not accepting the currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination due to which a situation of confusion has arisen all over the country.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to request the hon'ble Finance Minister to kindly clear this situation of confusion and inflow of fake currency notes into the country should be checked and the Government should take effective initiatives to educate the people to distinguish between the fake and genuine currency notes. The Government have also informed that it is going to release a new series of currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination. Due to all these reasons, a situation of confusion has arisen in the country. Machines should be installed in Banks to distinguish the

fake currency notes so that Banks could accept the notes of rupees five hundred denomination presented at their counters. Hon'ble Finance Minister is present here and I request him to kindly clarify the position in this regard.

SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISHRA: Sir, it is a genuine demand. The Government should clarify this through the news papers so that there my not be any confusion amongst the people and Banks should also be able to accept the currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, several Banks are not accepting the currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination. In villages, situation of confusion is prevalent amongst the people.....(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all the Central Trade Unions of coal workers have served a strike notice for seven days from the 7th of May to 14th of May against the Government's decision to privatise coal mines and open coal mines to the private sector as well as multi-national companies.

Sir, coal industry was nationalised in 1973. Since then, this industry has done immense work and the production of coal has increased. Coal industry was in the hands of the private sector prior to 1973. They resorted to unscientific mining and slaughter mining. As a result of that, there had been a number of mining accidents during that period, and coal industry was nationalised. Now, the Government has decided to open coal mines to the private sector ignoring the demands of the public sector as well as the workers.

Sir, I demand that the Bill, which has been introduced in the other House, should be withdrawn.

Coal mines should not be privatised. They should not be handed over to the private sector and multi-national companies. The rebate to the extent of 10 per cent has been allowed to the imported coal. As a result of this, the price of imported coal is less than the indigenous coal. I demand that the rebate which is allowed for the imported coal should be withdrawn. Coal is coming from Australia and South Africa.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Basu Deb Acharia, please conclude.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Previously, seven million tonnes of coal was to be imported.....(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): He has shifted from the issue of trade unions to the import of coal.

MR. SPEAKER: He is not concluding.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Now in the regime of swadeshi, this has been increased to 24 million tonnes. It is not only for the steel industry but also for other industries like thermal power plants. I demand that this rebate given for the imported coal should be withdrawn. The mines which have a reserve of coal should not be closed down. The Sixth National Coal Wage Agreement which is overdue, should be settled immediately. Then the budgetary support which has been stopped, should be restored. The Bill which has been introduced to hand over to coal industry to the private sector, should be withdrawn.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaswant Singh Bishnoi as the matter you are raising is related to law and order situation, hence you cannot raise it here.

[English]

The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.10 p.m.

13.06 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till ten minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.35 hours

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at "Thirty-Five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[SHRI MARGARET ALVA in the Chair]

*At 1410 hours quorum bell was rung. No quorum was made. At 1413 hours quorum bell was rung again and no quorum was made. At 1416 hours once again quorum bell was rung and no quorum was made. Thereafter, the Secretary-General informed the Members present as follows:

"There is no quorum. The House, therefore, cannot meet; and we may not start the House till there is a quorum. Hon. Chairman has directed that the House will re-assemble at thirty-five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock."

DESIGNS BILL – Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will take up Item No. 13, further consideration of the motion moved by Dr. Raman Singh on the 20th April, 2000.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh—Not present.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Madam, I oppose the Bill. Superficially, it may appear to be a non-controversial Bill, but in reality, it is highly objectionable.

Now, this legislation is primarily presented to consolidate and amend the law relating to protection of designs. This is the purposes for which this legislation has been brought. Now, the question is this. Is this Bill brought for the protection of Indian designs or foreign designs? That is the question to be answered when we deal with the provisions of this particular legislation.

This Bill is the off-shoot of our policy of globalisation, liberalisation and privatisation. This is an extended form of it. In other words, it is a sale of our national interest to multinational companies. I am stating these things not in a figurative mood.

I want to draw the attention of those concerned to section 44 of the Bill. This section deals with the powers of the Central Government. This legislation is directly connected with foreign legislations. Section 44(1) says:

"Any person who has applied for protecting for any design in the United Kingdom or any of other convention countries or group of countries or countries which are members of inter-governmental organisations..."

So, the registration in India is related to registration in the United Kingdom or inter-governmental organisations or national belonging to the World Trade Organisation. That is made explicitly clear in the explanation 1 to section 44 which says:

"For the purposes of this section, the expression "convention countries", "group of countries", or "inter-governmental organisation" means, respectively, such countries, group of countries or inter-governmental organisation to which the Paris Convention for Protection of Industrial Property, 1883 as revised at Stockholm in 1967 and as amended in 1979 or the final Act, embodying the results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, provided for the establishment of World Trade Organisation applies."

So, it is crystal clear that the provisions of this section are directly connected with the provisions contained in the World Trade Organisation. This statute has been introduced for the purposes of serving the interests of the World Trade Organisation. That is why, at the outset, I expressed my apprehension that this is a sell-out of our national interests to multinational companies. This is made clear by the reference to section 44 of this Bill. Moreover, I may further state:

"Anybody, alone or jointly with any other person, be entitled to claim that registration in a foreign country."

That registration is applicable here also. Suppose, an Indian citizen has applied for registration of a design under section 3; now, his interest will be subservient to the interest of the person who has made registration in a foreign country. We are making statutes to the whims and fancies of the statutes of the foreign countries. A person who has applied for a registration, suppose, in the United Kingdom, he will get preference under section 44. Suppose, somebody has applied for a registration in the United States of America, that application will get the preference over the application that was subsequently submitted in the Indian State. So, the Indian citizen's interest is not given priority, and priority is given to the foreign citizens' registration, which was made in a foreign country. That is how section 44 is applied. That is why, we oppose this statute. It is there only to serve their purpose.

Madam Chairperson, you may remember that there is a petition pending before the Supreme Court. An American company has applied for a patent right over basmati rice. Even the name itself is Indian, but the patent right will go to an American company. They have filed a petition before the Court. The Government of India has filed a counter-affidavit saying that we have the right for the patent. Why have we come to such a pitiable situation before the Supreme Court? Here is an American company claiming right over basmati rice in India, and the Indian Government is the defendant or the respondent in the petition. The Government has filed a counter-affidavit to the effect that basmati rice is Indian, and its patent right cannot be given to anybody else. All such things have been raised in the petition. We have come to such a miserable situation by passing the Patents Act. This is another sister legislation with regard to the Patents Act.

Now, section 3 makes it clearer. I will read section 3.

"The Controller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks appointed under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 shall be the Controller of Designs for the purposes of this Act."

So, a person acting as the Controller-General of Patents and Trade Marks will have to act as the Controller of the Designs. He is given the double job—he is administering the provisions of the Patents Act, and he has to act as the Controller of Designs.

It is more or less a sister legislation to patents legislation. Manufacturers of Indian preparations in the country apprehend that their rights will be curtailed by this Act as well as by the Patents Act. I submit that this will lead to a sell out of our traditional preparations. We manufacture certain ayurvedic medicines in the country. I am sure that within a short time the patent rights on these ayurvedic medicines will be in the hands of multinational companies who would apply for registration in a foreign country, bring that registration to India and claim preference over Indian legislation. This is going to happen under the provisions of Section 44 of the Act. It will lead to a very difficult position so far as our interests are concerned. Section 44 is crystal clear in this respect. I, therefore, have to oppose this legislation with all vehemence.

I draw the attention of the House to the period of registration. The period of registration provided for in the Bill is ten years to start with which could be extended under certain conditions for a term of another five years. That makes the total period of registration fifteen years. Here, who is taking the vital decision on registration? The vital decision is taken by the Controller of Designs. The Controller is given wide powers and there is no curtailment of his powers. He can act in any way he chooses to. No other authority is given any discretionary power. On any action or on any order passed by the Controller, an appeal to the High Court is provided. The High Court is the authority to deal with such matters. The Controller can refuse registration to an applicant without stating reasons. This is highly arbitrary. A poor Indian citizen who is holding the secret of a preparation in India has to compete with an application from a foreign country. The foreign applicant would claim priority over the poor Indian, under Section 44 and he would say that he is competent to have that registration. Ultimately the poor Indian will be thrown out. The Controller can take a decision in favour of the foreign applicant for no reason because he need not state any reasons for the rejection of an application.

Why should the Controller be invested with such enormous power? For whose interest is he given such unlimited powers? I respectfully ask the Government as to why the Controller is given such unlimited powers. Will it not create any suspicion and doubt in the administration of justice? That is why I wish to draw your attention to these

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

matters. The powers of the Controller should be curtailed. Also there must be a periodical check over the Controller's powers. The Controller is a person who has multifarious duties to perform. He is the Controller of Designs; he is the Controller of Patents; and he is the Controller of Trademarks. He has to deal with these many issues at the same time. He is put to great difficulty as he has to handle all these affairs himself. If a person holding all these posts is given such unlimited powers, misuse of power will be the ultimate result.

In order to prevent misuse of powers, there must be some check over the powers vested in the Controller of Designs. I suggest that the Government bring in some amendments to curtail the Controller's powers and to provide a periodical scrutiny of his powers. Otherwise, the purpose for which this statute is going to be enacted will not be served. We would like to serve the patent rights of Indian patents and not foreign citizens alone.

So, I submit that the Act is defective in many respects.

Another point which I would like to mention is about the publications. The Controller will have to publish a list of persons who have been given registration. We do not know where it is to be published. There is no provision.

The Controller will have to delegate powers to some other people. India is a vast country. Hundreds of thousands of applications may come up for design registrations. As per the provisions of the Act, there is only one Authority and that Authority will have to delegate powers to many others. That is not provided. We may provide it in the rules. I do agree. But there is no specific provision and it is not known where it is to be published. The High Court is the only Authority which can look into the matter. There is no other Authority. There are cases wherein suo motu appeal will lie. Even the Controller can refer certain applications to the High Court on his own accord. In all other matters, the aggrieved party should prefer an appeal before the High Court and that too is a very very retrograde step, if I may put it so. That will not help the poor man and our applicant will be a poor man. He cannot compete with the multinational interest who is opposing his case. So, a very peculiar situation may arise and, that is why, I oppose this legislation. It is not in the interest of the State.

So, I would request the hon. Member either to change the Bill drastically or he may show courtesy of withdrawing the Bill in national interest.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga):

Respected Chairperson, I really want to appreciate the progressive legislation so that the Indian artisans who are living in the villages and who do not know about the intellectual property rights will register their inventions and new creations according to the expectation of the law. It will give more richness to them if they know about this law. There will not be any poverty for the poor artisans who are actually rich in their artisan works and who are enriching Indian culture. Section 44 is especially a very good provision which makes the Indian creations to compete throughout the world and also the Convention countries can get the benefit and they can get more money out of their inventions and creations.

I would like to suggest that this provision can also further go to provide an Office just like in Switzerland to go for registration to cover up all the Convention countries. If a registration is made in India itself, automatically it should be covered throughout the Convention countries or the countries which are accepting our registration. Instead of going again to the International Office in Europe and register and then get the benefit, this type of arrangement will give us more focus towards India so that the Asian countries can come to India and register their designs and inventions and get the benefit, instead of going to Europe for registration.

I find the design is defined by just copying from "Mozley & Whiteley's Law Dictionary 10th Edition Butterworths 1988". We have to think about the future progress and make the definitions useful for future.

The definition should not be restricted. I am just reading a portion of the 'Definitions' clause. I quote from clause 2(d):

"Design" means only the features of shape, configuration, pattern, ornament or composition of lines or colour applied to any article whether in two dimensional or three dimensional or in both form, by any industrial process or means, whether manual, mechanical or chemical, separate or combined, which in the finished article appeal to and are judged solely by the eye..."

This might be a definition given by different countries. But why should we not have the progressive thinking to make it 'judged by the five senses of the human beings'? I am making this suggestion because if you see a design made in a Madurai temple, it would only be a small stone pillar but if you touch it, it will give you all the saptaswaras. If you want to say that it should be 'judged solely by the eye', you cannot use the ear. There are many things that

we can smell and that can give light. There are many things that can be felt by touch like the touch-screen system on computers. There are many architectural pieces in our country that will give more inspiration and more happiness through the use of all the five senses. So, a broad definition can be made on those lines because the poor sculptors in the villages are not identified. They are not given the recognition of their greatness. Their works are not shown to the world.

According to the New Shorter Oxford Dictionary, the word 'design' is derived from the French *dessein*, which is, in turn, derived from the Latin *designare* and it gives the meaning: 'a plan or scheme conceived in the mind'. The very important thing here is the human mind or how the human beings apply their minds to make inventions. It is not 'eye' alone that has to be taken into consideration. The latest *Encarta World English Dictionary*, 1999 MacMillan Edition gives the meaning: 'invent, to contrive, devise'. These dictionaries give more meaning to the word 'design'. Therefore, I would like to suggest that the framers of this clause might think about it and bring in a broader sense to the word. Let us be a country that gives more light to the definition rather than borrowing the definition from other countries or from other dictionaries.

Clause 22 deals with piracy. But clause 4 actually helps the pirates to escape from the clutches of law. If they are very vigilant, when they are about to be prosecuted for piracy, they can go to the Controller and get their registration removed. The Controller will have to very carefully go through the application for removal of registration. If he finds that it is not a bona fide registration, that person should be prosecuted under clause 22.

Finally, I would like to suggest that through this legislation India's richness should be shown throughout the world. I would request the hon. Minister to make a separate provision to make known throughout the world all the artisans, blacksmiths, goldsmiths living in the remote corners of the country. They are doing their work without knowing that they are creating richness. If they register their designs, you should be able to say, here is the welfare Government that is ready to give the legal aid to register their inventions and designs and see to it they get the benefits out of it. There should be a real propagation and awareness of this throughout the nooks and corners of the country so that the villagers are benefited by this legislation.

15.00 hrs.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Madam Chairperson, I rise to support the Bill. This Bill is a technical

one. As we passed the Copyrights Bill, it is very necessary to pass this Bill also. It is connected with the World Trade Organisation and the Intellectual Property Rights.

In 1911, we passed this legislation which needs more teeth and some modifications. Today our country is passing through the process of industrialisation. Changes are taking place all over the world. Whether we like it or not, we are in the process of liberalisation. More and more capital investments are coming from abroad and we have to streamline this. When the process of industrialisation is underway, this kind of legislation is very necessary.

My colleague, Shri Radhakrishnan was mentioning that this Bill is brought forward to protect the multinational companies. I would not agree with that. This Bill is brought forward to protect the people of our country who are inventing their own designs and their own drawings. This Bill is giving a kind of protection which we are giving to our rural artisans and the rural people who are trying to invent new designs and new drawings and I do not know how this is going to help the multinational companies. Generally, the hon. Member Shri Radhakrishnan spoke in line with the Members belonging to CPM. Whenever they speak, they speak about the multinational companies and they would criticise everything under the Sun. That is their attitude. That is why, he criticised this Bill. I do not want to go into that aspect.

The point that I want to mention is that when we are in the process of industrialisation, this type of legislation is a must to protect the interests of designers; and we do not have such a law today. So, this compels the Government to come forward with this piece of legislation.

In this legislation, 48 clauses are incorporated. Due to the changed atmosphere and the new situation, re-defined clauses 43 and 45 are to be incorporated. I would like to mention two important points regarding this Bill. I do not want to take much time of the House.

The first point is regarding the role of the Controller. The role of the Controller has to be viewed very seriously. According to this piece of legislation, the Government is giving more powers to the Controller. Too Many legislative powers are given to the Controller. Naturally, when more powers are vested in the Controller, he would delegate the powers. When he is going to delegate his powers, extra care should be taken there. I do not know whether the Government will be able to monitor this aspect or not. I also do not know whether the Government will be able to scrutinise the nitty-gritty of this. The Government should be very careful when it gives more powers to the Controller.

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

So, my request to the hon. Minister, through you, Madam, is that the Government should reconsider the status and the powers given to the Controller. Definitely this is going to create a kind of confusion and after some time, the Controller will become an authoritarian. So, this should be viewed separately and corrective measures have to be taken in this regard.

The second point is regarding the tendency to copy various designs. The general tendency of the human beings is to copy various designs. I am not saying that we do not do it. We are also doing it. We renew the old designs. Once we register them after renewal, definitely we get the protection. We must be very careful in this regard. Once we are registering them, they will get the legal cover. After getting the legal cover, nobody will be able to trace them. So, we should be very very careful. Once a design is registered, nobody can change it.

This is a technical Bill. This piece of legislation will definitely give protection to the own workers, designers and people engaged in designs. This Bill will definitely give more mileage to our rural artisans and people in rural areas. Thank you.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN): Madam, I thank the hon'ble Members for participating in the discussion on the Design Bill and giving their valuable suggestions in this regard. Hon'ble Member Shri Banatwallaji is not present here at the moment. I welcome the suggestions of Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji, Shri Sahuji, Shri Radhakrishnanji, Shri E.M. Sudarshan Natchiappanji, Shri Rameshji and all the other hon'ble Members. I will try to answer all the points raised and suggestions given by the hon'ble Members.

Madam, I had made a mention at the introduction stage of this Bill that no amendment has been effected in the Design Act, 1911 even after nine decades of its enactment. It is worth mentioning that so far as implementation of new technology and technique is concerned, there have been a lot of changes in the field of design during this period. Efforts have been made to draft the present Bill as per the present day needs. At the same time efforts have been made to frame this Bill on the lines of similar laws available in other countries. Thus an attempt has been made to combine all these laws in order to promote the design activities.

In view of the Indian Membership of the World Trade Organisation and Paris Conference we have laid emphasis on it from December, 1998 and have tried to ensure certain changes to fulfil our national responsibility. We are optimistic that after enactment of law under this Act, our administrative pattern will become more transparent and consumer friendly.

Now I will try to reply the questions raised by the hon'ble Members of this August House. First of all, I will reply to the question raised by the hon'ble Member Shri Banatwallaji as his approach about this Bill is very constructive. I would like to assure him that the Government do not intend to enact any such law which subjugates our country to any organisation rather the Government are of the view that only a strong law can help the country improve its position in the world by presenting a constructive stand. The Design Act, 1911 is in existence for more than nine decades. It is being amended in order to provide assistance in economic activities in the field of design and to provide help in protecting the rights of designers. Our aim is to fulfil the minimum standard under the 'Trips' agreement and to make it consumer friendly.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am confident that keeping in mind this clarification, they will not insist upon the passage of amendments moved by them. I would like to briefly reply to the questions of hon'ble Members, who have expressed great concern. The provisions under the bill surpass the World Trade Organisations' requirements. Hon'ble Member has expressed concern that under the agreements of World Trade Organisation, Intellectual Property Rights come under the purview of 'Trips' Agreement, 1994. Member countries are required to adopt the minimum standards, under this agreement. As inter-ministerial group formed to consider the provisions of Design Act, 1911 has recommended these changes, which have been incorporated in the present bill. This bill contains all those provisions, which are beyond the requirement of 'Trips'.

Shri Banatwalla has raised another issue that the present Bill itself does not follow section 61 of the 'Trips' agreement. Under Section 61, the Member countries have been expected to make a provision regarding criminal procedure and penalty in case of wilful contravention with regard to piracy of trade mark and copyright. In this connection I would like to say that in the cases where the infringement of design is involved, it is not applicable in case of forfeiture, or confiscation of those articles because the said act is not beyond the expectations of 'Trips'. Therefore, it was not considered necessary to provide for additional powers.

Third issue is regarding the penalty-penal provision of a fine of rupees 25,000 without imprisonment, which can extend upto rupees 50,000, is inadequate as per hon'ble Member. I would like to tell the hon'ble Member that the provision of penalty of rupees 1000 in the old act of 1911 has been amended and penalty has been increased by 25 to 50 times. In every aspect of intellectual property rights there is commercial value of industrial design which is not in accordance with trade mark and patent. Hon'ble Member understands this issue very well. The provision of imprisonment and high penalty in accordance with the standard of trade mark and patent has not been considered appropriate at this stage.

Fourth point is regarding restricting the powers of courts. The provision for appeal before Supreme Court has not been made. Hon'ble Banatwallaji, Intellectual property rights is a specialised subject. Hon'ble Member himself has accepted that there is need for Indian judiciary to be well informed about the progress made in this field. Accordingly, the process of filing cases is limited only upto District Courts and above. Similarly the Government has no intention of restricting powers of high courts. Under the provisions of this act, an appeal can be made in the high court through special leave petition.

Fifth point is regarding foreign application. Giving priority to foreign applicants will be harmful as far as the interests of Indian applicants are concerned. I would like to tell the hon'ble Member that with the change in technology, amendment in Design Act, 1911 has become necessary because of India's participation in 'TRIPS' agreement and Paris convention relating to protection of industrial property. As per the Paris convention, there is a provision of according priority in case of filing of applications in the convention countries in accordance with the international practice and procedures to be followed by Patent and Design Office. As Indian applicants will get priority in other Member convention countries, likewise India also will be accorded priority. This system has mutual benefits, provided by a set of rules. Under this system India is also at advantage. We can get our design registered in other countries and will be given priority. Therefore, Indian designers will also be benefited by this.

The Members have raised an issue regarding curtailing the powers of control. They have stated that the powers of control are being restricted where as powers of Central Government are being enhanced. There is controversy over this issue. Shri Ramjiwan has said that

the powers are being enhanced whereas hon'ble Banatwallaji has said that the powers are being curtailed. This is not correct. In fact, the powers have been enhanced because the Central Government has transferred some of the powers to the controller. The Central Government issues directions to the controller in the administrative matters. It is part of overall view of the Government regarding further decentralisation of administration.

Hon'ble Anadi Sahuji is not present here. He expressed his views on lapsed design. It will be difficult to prove the piracy of lapsed design. Specific provisions have been made in the act with regard to the piracy of design. There is no intention to create legal complications by taking permission to file claims regarding piracy of lapsed designs also. With the help of rules to be framed under the proposed act, special types of cases will be placed outside its purview and would be given proper protection wherein on the basis of time facts it would be decided that proper attention is paid towards removing apprehensions at the stage of finalisation of rules.

Shri Sahu has raised another issue regarding single administrative head. He enquired if there will be only one administrative Head. No difficulty will be faced in this matter. Integrated system of administrative hierarchy has been in existence in India for the last several years. Under this system, the patent or design including trade marks would be dealt with by the administrative Head. The administrative Head is the Controller General, which is a selection post. In order to keep the administrative system simplified, the proposal of creating separate posts cannot be considered. Hon'ble Anadi Sahu has given separate suggestions regarding clause 4 and clause 34. Subsequently, Hon'ble Shri Ramkrishanji has given suggestions about United Kingdom. A special mention has been made regarding United Kingdom under clause 44. The Design Act was enacted in 1911. On this issue a Commonwealth treaty still exists between India and the U.K. But, in case of patent, that treaty has been revised in the course of 19th amendment. U.K. and other Commonwealth countries have been notified as convention countries in all provisions of the act. Hon'ble Ramchandrajai raised another issue that our Indian and foreign....
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKARISHNAN: Who will get the priority?

DR. RAMAN: We will get the priority.

[Translation]

I am coming to your point only. Regarding application, you have said that 2395 Indian designs are still pending whereas only 669 foreign designs are pending. If foreign designs have priority, then Indian designers too will get priority, in case we apply on priority basis anywhere. Today we have a large number of applications. You have raised an issue regarding Basmati, however it is not related to design, it is a matter of patent. The Government have decided to challenge the Basmati patent. And probably the representation will be filed in U.S.A. either to-day or tomorrow. Design and patent are separate issues.

[English]

Recently we have passed the Geographical Indication Act to provide for the Darjeeling Tea, Basmati, etc.

[Translation]

A clear-cut provision has been made in the act to protect it. It does not come under Design Act, however we have Geographical Indication Act. All these can't be given protection under this act. There will be only one controller under this act. You've specially asked about controller.

[English]

The report of the Controller General will be placed before Parliament annually.

[Translation]

Every year this issue will be raised there.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): You have given so much power to the controller. Can you consider this issue?....(Interruptions)

DR. RAMAN: You have expressed the whole issue very nicely. I will speak on your point also.

[English]

High Court will bring expertise in deciding the disputed cases.

[Translation]

The views expressed by hon'ble Members, especially in relation to the definition have been presented in a literary manner.

[English]

The definition of the design is based on the original definition in the 1911 Act.

[Translation]

But you have defined in external features

[English]

Seen by the eyes, ears because the design refers to the external features of the article. This is the globally followed definition.

[Translation]

This definition has been accepted all over the world. Under this definitions, especially in relation to piracy.

[English]

We will apply the case with the current situation.

[Translation]

This issue might come up in the current cases or the cases of inheritance.

[English]

Not the lapsed design.

[Translation]

It is not concerning lapsed design.

I would like to tell all the Members that though this bill has been passed in Rajya Sabha, yet there has been a debate over this bill for quite sometime, i.e. for the last two months continuously. Hon'ble Banatwallaji has given many suggestions on this issue. With due respect, I request all the members that suggestions have been received from all of you regarding this bill. Keeping in mind the guidance given by you and the views expressed by you, I have given you complete information on this issue. I would like to request all the members that this bill may please be passed.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to protection of designs, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clauses 4

Prohibition of registration of certain designs

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): I beg to move:

"Page 3—

after line 14, insert—

"(e) is dictated by inevitable or essential functional consideration." (4)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 4 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendment No. 4 was put and negatived. †

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5

Application of registration of designs

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I beg to move:

"Page 3, line 29,—

after "if he thinks fit" insert—

"and for reasons recorded in writing" (5)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 5 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendments No. 5 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clause 6

Registration to be in respect of particular article

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I beg to move:

"Page 3, line 40,—

omit "whose decision in the matter shall be final" (6)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 6 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendment No. 6 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 6 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 7 to 21 were added to the Bill.

Clause 22

Piracy of registered design

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I beg to move:

"Page 8,—

after line 13, insert,—

"(2A) The registered proprietor of a design shall have the right to apply to the High Court for an order—

(a) to prevent any person not having his consent from making, selling or importing articles bearing or embodying a design which is a copy or substantially a copy of the registered design when such acts are undertaken for commercial purpose;

(b) to prevent an infringement of any of his rights as a registered proprietor of a design; or

(c) to preserve relevant evidence in regard to an alleged infringement of his rights as a registered proprietor of a design." (3)

"Page 8, lines 5 and 6, —

for "twenty-five thousand rupees"

substitute "fifty thousand rupees" (7)

"Page 8,—

omit lines 10 and 11" (8)

"Page 8,—

for lines 12 and 13, substitute—

"Provided further that a suit or any other proceeding or relief under this sub-section shall be instituted in the High Court." (9)

[Shri G.M. Banatwalla]

"Page 8, —

after line 2, insert—

"1(A) whoever is guilty of wilful contravention of this section, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

1(B) In any case of wilful contravention of this section, the High Court may order seizure, forfeiture and destruction of the infringing articles for sale and of any materials and implements the predominant use of which has been in commission of the offence." (12)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment Nos. 3, 7, 8, 9 and 12 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendments 3, 7 to 9 and 12 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 22 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 22 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 23 to 35 were added to the Bill.

Clause 36

Appeals to the High Court

SHRI. G.M. BANATWALLA: I beg to move:

"Page 10,—

after line 44, insert—

"Provided that the High Court may, for reasons adequate and appropriate, admit an appeal made after the date under this sub-section." (10)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put Amendment No. 10 moved by Shri. G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendment No. 10 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clause 36 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 36 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 37 to 43 were added to the Bill.

Clause 44

Reciprocal arrangement with the United Kingdom and other convention countries or group of countries or inter-governmental organisation

SHRI G.M.BANATWALLA: I beg to move:

"Page 13, line 7,—

for "priority to other applicants"

substitute "priority to such other applicants who may have made their application for registration after he had applied for protection in the United Kingdom or any such other convention countries of inter-governmental organisations." (11)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I shall now put amendment No. 11 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendment No. 11 was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That Clause 44 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 44 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 45 to 48 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1

Short title, extent and commencement

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 5,—

for "1999"

substitute "2000" (2)

(Dr. Raman)

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:

Page 1, line 1,—

for "Fiftieth Year"

substitute "Fifty-first Year"(1)

(Dr. Raman)

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.

The title was added to the Bill.

DR. RAMAN: 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.

15.27 hrs.

PRESIDENT'S EMOLUMENTS AND PENSION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have before me another Bill further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951. I think, this can be passed without too much time. We have limited time.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara) : We can pass it without discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a very cooperative approach.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): I am grateful to you for this gesture. It relates to the President.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : I have a doubt. Let it be clarified.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I beg to move:**

"That the Bill further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951 be taken into consideration."

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**Moved with the recommendation of the President.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951 be taken into consideration."

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: At the outset, I would like to say that in Clause 2A, the expression "by resignation of his office." has been used. There may be Presidents who may not resign but they may be removed by some other way.

Is the spouse of the President entitled for pension?....(Interruptions) Normally, the term will be over by resignation. Should we not make it clear? Not all Presidents, there are some Presidents who may be removed from office and some Presidents may be forced to resign. In that case, are they entitled to get pension?

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: That is only in exceptional cases.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: In law, where is the exception? Law includes all cases. I am not speaking about a particular President. I do concede and I have no objection. But the question is, there may be some instances wherein the President will be removed or the President will be forced to resign. Would you mean in that case his spouse is entitled for pension?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No. Even in the original Bill, the provision is that if he holds office as President In this case, the spouse becomes entitled only if he ceases to hold the office of the President, either by expiry of his term of office or by resignation, not by impeachment... (Interruptions)

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: If a President is removed from office or resignation, is he not entitled?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That means, he will not get all that if he is impeached.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: These are only two circumstances. It is a very simple Bill. The original Bill provides pension for the President. But for the spouse of the President, there was nothing provided except that she would be entitled to medical assistance or medical attendance. Now, provision is being made for family pension amounting to 50 per cent of the pension that the President is entitled to and also accommodation for the surviving spouse for the rest of her life.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Is it given only after his death ? . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI L.K. ADVANI : Yes. This is given to the surviving spouse after the death of the President.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: My question is: Will it be given with retrospective effect ? There are wives of former Presidents who are still surviving. Will it be applicable to them?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: They would be entitled. I may mention to the House that there are four surviving spouses who are entitled, who would be entitled.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will it be with retrospective effect from the beginning?

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: No, it would be with prospective effect....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will now put the motion for consideration of the Bill to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the President's Emoluments and Pension Act, 1951, 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 clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI L.K. ADVANI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A few minutes have been consumed for this Bill out of the Private Members' Business. I apologise for the same. I hope the House has no objection.

15.35 hrs.

[English]

RESOLUTION RE: BOARD FOR DEVELOPMENT OF HILLY REGIONS—Contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up further discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Maheswar Singh. Shri Chhatrapal Singh will continue his speech.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (Bulandshahar): Madam, Last time when I was speaking, my speech was left incomplete. Now I have got an opportunity to express my views. Hon'ble Maheshwar Singh's proposal for creation of a board for coordinated development of hill areas is praise-worthy.

Even after 50 years of independence, there is poverty, illiteracy and lack of avenues for employment and recreation. Most of the people living below poverty line are inhabitants of hilly areas. Distressed by all these factors, the representatives from these areas raise their problems. Hon'ble Maheshwar Singhji has moved this Resolution for the progress and development of these area. I have risen to support this Resolution.

There is a shortage of primary and secondary schools in hilly areas. Even after travelling for a distance of 10 kms from their home, children are unable to get the facility of primary education. Therefore, there is a need for giving special attention towards education of boys and girls in these areas. I don't say that the college should not be opened there. But, when the foundation is not strong, how the house would be strong? Even today the maximum number of illiterate people are from hilly areas. There are no sources of employment over there at all. There is no factory or any other source of employment over there. Because of lack of means of transportation, people face difficulty in travelling to further places in search of employment. They also face problems as the local employment opportunities are limited.

Whether it is a north-eastern state or Kashmir, the youth over there are turning towards terrorism because of unemployment. I am sure if those young people are provided employment, there will be gastric decline in terrorist activities over there.

As far as environment is concerned, urbanites get fed up of polluted air and move towards hills for better environment and fresh air. But just after spending four days,

they realise how difficult life is in these areas. There is a lack of means of communication, eatables etc. are not available at fair price. People get fed up over there within four-five days because of lack of other luxuries of life and run away from there. Therefore, it is my a special request that means of communication and means of transportation should be made available over there. Then the tourist will be encouraged to visit these areas and consequently local people will get employment.

Today the life in hills is known as the money order life. Hill people come to the plains and either they work in cities or join the army and send money order to their home at a definite time. Their parents and their wife keep on waiting as to when money order is received then they would arrange ration for their family. Therefore, life in hilly areas is reduced to money order life. Hence, it should be ours and an Government's endeavour that the means of employment are provided to them locally. I want to suggest something. Our brethren have to go to plains, to the cities and they have no railway link because we are not in a position to provide rail links to hilly areas. It is alright, but if a person from Kashmir wants to go to Madras, he has to come to Jammu for reservation.

15.40 hrs.

[DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY *in the Chair*]

Once he has to come to get reservation and again when he starts journey. This is the condition of people of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and north-east hills. We should make some arrangement to solve this problem. Had the Minister of Railways, been present here, I would have requested her to provide the facility of railway reservation over here. Reservation counters should be opened in hilly areas so that our brethren from hilly areas get railway reservation facility.

There is a law for the preservation of forests, but it is creating difficulty for the people living in hills. There is a shortage of fuel. They can't bring wood from the forest to use it as fuel. Forests are essential for the conservation of environment. To protect environment, if we give LPG connection to all those, who have demanded for it, then we can definitely save the trees from being cut.

Even after 50 years we have not been able to utilise the river water. Plenty of water flows into the sea. Barely two days ago, drought was discussed in the House. Some parts of the country are longing for a drop of water where as another part of country is troubled by floods. It is because of lack of management.

We should divert this water to those areas where there is scarcity of water. It will certainly solve the problem of flood and it will bring greenery and prosperity to those areas where there is paucity of water. Dams should be constructed on the rivers in hilly region and electricity should be generated. Some amount should be given to the hilly areas as royalty. A portion of it should be spent on the development of that area. The people of the area where dam is constructed are displaced. They lose their means of employment. If a small percentage of the amount is earmarked for the development of that region, then those regions will progress. In order to promote the tourism, it is quite essential to develop the hilly areas. Efforts should be made to attract domestic and foreign tourists towards mountains. A plan should be formulated for this purpose. It should be publicised abroad. The foreign tourists who visit here do not have full information about the tourist places here. They make plans about the places they have to visit after coming here. If they plan before coming here, then their stay in India will be extended to 15 days in place of one week. This will on the one hand, bring you foreign exchange, and on the other hand it will provide employment to the people in the hills.

Therefore, I support the resolution moved by Maheshwar Singhji and thus conclude.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me chance to speak. This private Members' Resolution is very important. Yesterday, the Minister of Human Resource Development had remarked with pride that education facility has been provided to 62% people of this region. Several persons were untouchables in hilly region. Therefore, their condition did not improve. Just now an hon'ble Member said that hilly people have to face much hardship.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are aware of the story of Savitri & Satyawati. When Yamraj departed with the soul of Satyawati, Savitri continued to follow him. She prayed that her husband should remain alive. Yamraj blessed her with eight sons and long life of her husband. But now can there be a child without Satyawati, same is situation with this resolution. Forest cover is shrinking in hilly areas. There are no telephones, electricity or dam. We should think as to how life goes on there if there are so many problems. If there were dams there would have been water and there would have been building for the school. I feel that this law should be enacted for the provision of all such facilities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are three tourist centres in my constituency - Sapt Sarogvani, Sapotara and Trimbakeshwar.

[Shri Haribhau Shankar Mahale]

It will be convenient for the tourist if a Board is constituted for these three centres. A dam was sanctioned for my constituency, for which an amount of Rs. three crore was required to be invested but the cost has currently escalated to Rs. 35 crore. Therefore my request is that the government should consider it and Hon'ble Minister should work for the fulfilment of the objective for which the Bill has been introduced.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): I am in support of the Resolution that a Board shall be constituted by the Central Government for the all round development of the hilly regions. In the instant case, there are some local authorities formed by the State Governments. They are discharging their functions. Some of them are doing well while most of them are not functioning properly due to various reasons. I do not go into the details. But the question is that there must be a concerted move and a committed thinking among the hilly regions. So, I would suggest that there must be a statutory authority. The Board need not be an advisory body. It shall be a statutory body and that it should be constituted having jurisdiction over the entire area. If this can be done and if the Central Government takes a view in that way, that will be much more useful. Our discussion will not be a futile exercise. So, with these words, I support the Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Minister please.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): Sir, this has been one of the most fruitful discussions. When Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh was speaking, he said that Government should not take it as a prestige issue. I can assure that if I agree with Shri Maheshwar Singh, it is not that I feel that otherwise the prestige would be jeopardised or if I express some other points for your consideration, it is not because anybody is standing on prestige. I will only put some points for your consideration.

Sir, this has been the most instructive discourse. Even in the few minutes when the three Members who have spoken now, you will see how many constructive suggestions they have made. The proposals ranged from horticulture, food processing, tourism, increasing the length

of stay of tourists, opening railway reservation offices in the hills, education, especially primary education, employment opportunities, environment, especially drinking water and the infirmities in the Forest Act. As we were just now told, there was a proposal on utilising the hydro potential, on the hydro potential when it is utilised how the royalty from it should be utilised. So, a very wide range of constructive proposals have been made. They all have importance. The question before the House is more limited. The question is, to implement or realise any one of those proposals, we require, as the speaker has just mentioned, a Statutory Board with overriding or co-ordinating authority. That is the question because Shri Maheshwar Singh's Resolution is:

"This House is of the opinion that a Board may be constituted by the Central Government for all round development of the hilly States...."

Sir, it is only in that limited point that I will bring some points to your attention. This is not at all a reflection on the importance of the individual's suggestions which have been made for development of hill areas which I shall forcefully argue in the Planning Commission and in other fora of the Government. Sir, very telling points were made by Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Maheshwar Singh and also our friends from J&K in regard to Himachal Pradesh, J&K, North-East, forest areas in the hill areas, and so on.

My submission is that I have reviewed the literature on this matter in the great detail because we had the benefit of this discussion over three fortnights. So, I had a lot of opportunity to immerse myself in the literature on this matter. The conclusion is that it is not, as I just put forward for your consideration, the lack of money which is coming in the way of hill areas development. Secondly, it is not the lack of institutions, schemes, programmes and projects but it is that they are not being implemented well because there is a lot of seepage in the development fund and various things of this kind which I shall mention. I would, therefore, urge that instead of going after or thinking that in setting up yet another institution, it will enable us to expedite the things that all of us want. It is better that we focus on the speedier implementation of individual schemes that we direct our attention and our great pressure that the hon. Members of Parliament can bring on State and Central Government on the speedier implementation of those schemes.

First, I shall just mention to you the position in fact because many of our colleagues may find that some of the facts may have escaped their attention. There are two

types of hill areas. One is those hill areas in which the entire State is a hilly area as the North-Eastern States. Second is, there are other States in which parts of the States are hill areas. We have Western Ghats. We have some districts in Uttar Pradesh. We have two hilly districts, namely, Karbi Anglong and North Cachar hills in Assam. Now, there are different schemes in the Constitution also and in the planning process for these two types of hill areas.

For the first type of hilly areas, these are Special Category States. Eighty per cent of the hill areas are Special Category States. All the North-Eastern States and Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim, etc. constitute 5.3 per cent of the population of the country. They are given, under the Gadgil formula, 30 per cent of the resources under the Plan. Before any allocation can be made to anybody, 30 per cent of the resources are taken out and given to these 5.3 per cent of the population.

A number of examples were given in the case of Himachal Pradesh. The population of Himachal Pradesh is 0.64 per cent of the total population of the country. It gets, under the Gadgil formula, 3.25 per cent, namely, five times its share of the population, as an allocation from the Plan resources. The per-capita allocation of Plan outlay for Himachal Pradesh during the last year is 2,420. Now, this compares with the All-India figure of only 837. In Arunachal Pradesh, another hill-State, the per-capita allocation is 6,033. If you multiply by five, then you will get that much of a figure for every household of Plan outlay....(Interruptions) That is a proposition made by the Secretary of the Planning Commission himself in various presentations.

The first point I am urging for you is for the hill area States, for the Special Category States, 5.3 per cent population, 30 per cent allocation, a State like Himachal Pradesh getting five times its share that would come if the criterion were only population.

The second points is that for the Special Category States, for other States, for ordinary States, 30 per cent of the outlay is given by way of grant and 70 per cent is given by way of loan. In the case of Special Category States of which Himachal Pradesh is one, all our North-Eastern States are one, Jammu and Kashmir is another, for all of them, the figure of grant is not 30 per cent, it is only 90 per cent as grant and only 10 per cent as loan....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, hon'ble Minister has said that special category states

are provided with 90% grant and 10% loan, but I would like to inform him that Ninth Finance Commission has withdrawn the facility of 90% grant and 10% loan given to these states on account of being special category state.

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I am always open to corrections, but this is the figure as is being reported today in the Planning Commission and the Planning Commission is adhering to that. I will certainly check up and come back before this House.

The third point to be remembered is: all the States in India now and specially the Special Category States are in great financial difficulties. I will come to that point just now. In one State—I do not want to name that State—the expenditure on salaries and wages paid by the State Government is 37 times the revenues they collect. It is an unsustainable position. So, what is being done in the case of the Special Category States is that it has been allowed that 20 per cent of the Plan funds can be diverted to non-Plan expenditure. It is a concession that is quite unheard of, but has been given.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): Why not abolish the distinction between Plan and non-Plan expenditure?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Maybe you want to actually enforce the discipline so as to curtail non-Plan expenditure somehow or other. We should come to the definition in one way. The point is that there is a certain discipline, which has to be maintained. I am only on the psychology of successive Governments. I am not claiming exclusive credit for this Government or anything like that.

16.00 hrs

But the successive Governments, going exactly by the sentiments expressed in this House, have made these important concessions to the first category of hill States. In this Basic Minimum Services Programme, it has again been allowed. As you know, every State has to contribute at least 15 per cent of the BMS expenditure through its own resources. In the case of Special Category States, that requirement has been waived. So, for the majority of the hill States, hill areas and hill population, they have this kind of facility. Probably because of their circumstances, they deserve that kind of a special treatment.

For the other hill areas which come in States which are plain but which have some hill pockets in them — such as, Northern Uttar Pradesh, two districts in Assam and Western Ghats — there is the Hill Areas Development

[Shri Arun Shourie]

Programme on which another Rs. 400 crore are being spent every year. This is special Central assistance above the normal Central assistance which I described earlier.

Then, there is the Western Ghats Development Programme.

Since most of these States and areas are also border States and border areas, there is another Rs. 210 crore spent last year on the Border Areas Development Programme. So, almost all hill States, including Uttar Pradesh, because they have borders contiguous with some country or the other – like Jammu and Kashmir – get money under this Programme also. Here again, 100 per cent of this amount is by way of grant.

In the case of 7/10th of the hill area States, that is, the North-Eastern States, you get another Rs. 400 crore a year under the North-Eastern Council Fund.

It has been prescribed since Shri Deve Gowda's time that all Ministries shall spend ten per cent of their expenditure – except the eight designated Departments, like the Atomic Energy – in the North-East. If they do not spend, it will all go to a non-lapsable pool which will again be spent on the North-East.

Then, there is this Tribal Sub-Plan because most of the areas have tribes. There is the Tribal Sub-Plan and the Special Component Plan, on which another Rs. 400 crore are spent every year.

Attention was drawn to the fact that the raw materials have to be transported a great deal. So, since July, 1971, there is a Transport Subsidy Plan in which all hill areas get a transport subsidy from the rail-head. The hon. Member is right that it was to expire by the 31st of March, 2000, but it has now been extended to 2007 in the case of North-East.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: So far as the other hill States are concerned, they are not getting any transport subsidy. It may be that you are giving it in the North-East, but so far as Himachal Pradesh and other States are concerned, they are not getting any transport subsidy.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I shall again stand corrected, but I will tell you two facts. One is that this is available to the North-East, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh, Darjeeling, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. As I have already mentioned to you, this scheme was to expire

by the 31st of March, 2000, but the Government has already decided to extend it in the case of the North-East. The second is that in the Planning Commission, we have strongly recommended that it should be continued till 2007 for all the districts which were getting it.

Furthermore, there are devolutions from the Finance Commission. I will not take time on that, but again it will be seen that the Finance Commission is going by a formula which benefits such States that are in hardship, like the hill districts.

Because great emphasis was placed on Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh in our discussion, I shall just mention to you some facts about these two States and then continue with some reasons.

As I mentioned to you, the per capita outlay on Himachal Pradesh itself is 2,420 whereas the all India figure is 837. That is, it is three times of the all India average. I am not grudging Himachal Pradesh. For their geography, for the difficult circumstances in which they are, because of their good effort in protecting the forest, for instance, they deserve more. But I just want to register that fact with you.

Similarly, I have been through the normal Central assistance, the Special Plan assistance etc. In the case of the Special Plan assistance, I looked up the figures. In 1998-99 above what they entitled to under normal Central assistance, which I mentioned to you is five times what their share in the population is, they got in 1998-99 Rs. 200 crore for one year. In 1999-2000 they got another Rs. 69 crore from the Prime Minister's package. On the 27th of January, 2000 another sum of Rs. 200 crore was given.

Now, the point there is given it is not by way of a grudge. But these things just point to one suggestion I wanted to urge to the House that it is not the want of money.

Secondly, in the case of Jammu and Kashmir, Shri Jagmohan is here. He has mentioned these in great detail in his book—one of the great books in the last fifty years—MY FROZEN TURBULENCE, on the outlays which have been made on J&K. They give a completely contradictory picture to what we were told when this discussion was going on.

In the case of the Plan outlay, per capita for J&K for the last year was 2,105. Again, you can see that how it compares to almost two-and-a-half or three times to the per capita outlay on the rest of the country. The normal

Central assistance in the case of the Gadgil formula, if it were going by population, will be 0.85. In fact, it is 6.45. That is it is eight times. That is the Plan assistance. When you see what is happening to non-Plan expenditure, of J&K, almost the entire amount is being met from the Central subsidy. So, it is not for want of concern, not for want of outlay.

The second point is that these are not largesse being given adhoc. These are criteria which have been evolved over two or three decades. Shri Maheshwar Singh had mentioned that because of the allocations being made according to population, the areas which are sparsely populated like our hilly areas suffer. In fact, population is just one of the criteria, just for that reason. Area is the distance of the State from the average per capita income of the country. If it is a poorer State, then it gets a greater weightage. That is density of population is taken into account – for instance, in the Integrated Child Development Scheme, in the mini Anganwadi schemes etc., have been through at least 20 schemes. It is not just borne out by the fact that only by consideration of population people are distributing it. Actually, as you see, if it were population the outlays would be one-sixth of what they are, not counting Special Assistance, not counting the contributions to non-Plan expenditure.

The problem I beg to suggest, is completely different. One of the problems is in the case of Himachal Pradesh for instance, revenue receipts for the last year were Rs. 2,400 crore. The current expenditure was Rs. 3,600 crore. An amount of Rs. 400 crore was being spent only on daily wages. The revenue deficit, as a proportion of the State Domestic Product has reached an alarming 15 per cent.

When the Central deficit has reached five point some per cent, everybody is alarmed. You can see what the problems the State has got into when its deficit has become 15 per cent of its total domestic product.

Sir, I think the House would be alerted to the fact that even in the Eighth Plan, the States' contribution to the Plan outlays was 40 per cent from their own resources. There is not a single State today which is contributing anything positive to its own Plan outlay. In the case of Himachal Pradesh, in 1998-99, the contribution of Himachal Pradesh to its own Plan expenditure was minus Rs. 27 crore. It became Rs. 564 crore next year, 1999-2000. So, I tried to find out how there was a sudden jump and whether it was due to increased taxation. It turned out that they borrowed Rs. 950 crore from the market. This year, their contribution is budgeted to be minus Rs. 788 crore because now there

is no ability to borrow any more. That is the problem. The direction of outlays that are being done is completely different.

The first point I want to urge is that sentiments expressed in this House are well-reflected in the arrangements which have evolved over the last 20 or 30 years in regard to our poorer hill areas and precisely because of their ecological importance, other importance and the mobility of the people residing there. The second point I want to urge is that actually, the hill areas, while we talk of them as one, are very diverse. For instance, we were just told by our friend about the Forest Act. Now, from State to State, the rights of the people in regard to forest products are completely different in the hill areas themselves. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi had mentioned the case of housing. He said that we were giving one type of houses while the hill areas differ from place to place and that led to great difficulty. On the one hand, our Members have said not to impose uniform solutions from Delhi and on the other, disregarding the diversity of this, they are saying that there should be a centralised board, which will suggest even more uniform solutions for the hill areas.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prescribed time for this Resolution is going to over at 4.21 hours. Shri Maheshwar Singhji has yet to reply so please take care of it.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Everybody has said the same thing. Discussions have been going on for last three Fridays. I want to point out the negative aspect if the resolution is passed in haste.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: We can extend the time for this resolution with the permission of the House.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Thank you. On the one hand, great pride has been taken by this House, certainly by the Congress Government for 73rd and 74th Amendments to the Constitution, the feature of which is decentralisation. In this side, we are urging a centralised board....

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much more time will you take?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, I will take 15 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, we have to extend time for this resolution by 20 minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Hon'ble Minister is making so many points I have to reply also, so it will take some time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, I extend the time by half an hour.

[English]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Discussion on it is going on for last three Fridays. Hence I am submitting the facts before you. Hilly areas have been included in schedule six and there are total nine such areas which are in schedule six.

[English]

They are so diverse that is a mini constitution within constitution.

[Translation]

You want that autonomous council should be abolished and central board should be constituted which may have overriding authority and implementing authority but it is not right.

Fourth issue is that suppose the Board is constituted, then what will be its relation with the state government if the Board take certain decision?

[English]

Will this bind the State Governments? You will immediately get into Centre-State difficulties. Similarly, let us say, it says something on the use of forest products. In Orissa, in other States, there are State legislations on the use of forest products. If this Board gives a direction, immediately you will get into conflicts with forest departments and their jurisdiction. Already you have so much heartburn with Centrally-sponsored schemes. Already in the Planning Commission, I have had representations. Here, Dr. Rongpi has argued so forcefully during Question Hour for 20 minutes that the Autonomous Councils must not have to be subjected to even to the State Governments. Now, you are saying that take that out and put that into a Central Board. You will create great difficulties vis-a-vis the States.

[English]

Sir, the third thing that we have to see is that.

[Translation]

What even solutions and suggestions have been put forward like adventure tourism, opening of reservation

centre and religious tourism are excellent. It was suggested that there should be subsidised flight. But if we constitute Board, then from where will the money come for it, if money can not come from other sources? Now railway lines should be laid, there should be religious tourism, small area should be developed, dairy development should be undertaken, tunnel should be constructed at Rohtang, iodized salt should be distributed, which of these tasks can not be accomplished by the present governments and it is not as if they do not have power to take then up which of these suggestions are such for which funds can be provided merely on the instruction of the Board?

[English]

Very good suggestions have been made. If you give only policy-making powers to that Board, those policy-making powers already exist in the Planning Commission and other places. If you give implementing powers, the States will object. If you transfer funds to the Board, corresponding funds will have to be cut from the States. Where is the net gain? In fact, does the setting up of the Board facilitate the implementation of any one of those suggestions?

[Translation]

File has been sent there from here, one more agency will come in-between.

[English]

It will just be yet another layer and we will get into further problems.

[Translation]

The Kasim Report had been discussed. Kasim committee was constituted in 1993 under planning commission and it had recommended setting up of such an Authority. It had recommended constitution of Board. I am telling this for your information as I have read the entire report. It was stated that there should be an Authority.

[English]

It is not the way of generating ideas. New ideas can come not from Boards set up under statutes, but by contracting a hundreds good experts in the country on every matter.

[Translation]

With you permission, I want to tell as to how serious is this matter. The study was conducted in Planning

Commission in 1997. The Kasim Committee stressed upon the setting up of an Authority. Madhu Dandvate, who is known to the entire House and who was the then Deputy Chairman of the planning commission had said in a meeting:

Prof. Hashim also said this, Dr. Thimmayya, another member, said that this had become another mini Planning Commission. He gave the examples of various authorities set up in Karnataka earlier which resulted in spending and spending huge amounts on the establishment costs alone. So, it is after long deliberation by a succession of people that this sort of thing has been objected.

Money is not the problem; absence of institutions is not a problem. Another institution will only complicate jurisdictional matters. Development will become the responsibility of this institution rather than being the responsibility of all Departments. Therefore, I would plead with Shri Maheshwar Singh and others to join hands to spur the existing Government Departments to implement the programmes faster. We should ourselves focus on individual projects and individual schemes and ensure their expeditious implementation. We should have new approaches rather than the ones that are going on. We should go in not for just fruits but for medicinal plants, hydel power and for other things of this kind.

My final submission is a suggestion to the House and to Shri Maheshwar Singh in particular. After this Qasim Committee, a Cell was set up in the Planning Commission to go into the development of hill areas especially of the Himalayan region. I have no hesitation in saying that the Cell has been working but the work of that has not been as vigorous as it should have been. For that reason, I consulted my colleagues and I would like to suggest that instead of setting up a new body, we should activate this Cell. It has been working hard since November. They have produced an excellent report, which I will send to the Member, on medicinal plants and their potential for development in these areas. What we should do is, we should ensure that the Members from our House from the hill areas get to meet this Cell at least twice a year so that the expert knowledge, the ground knowledge, which they have can be brought first hand to that Cell. They should meet the Cell before the Tenth Plan is finalised.

[Translation]

Sir, now work will start on Tenth plan. I am ready to organise its meeting. A way should be found out at the time of discussion of the annual plan in the states. M.Ps.

from hilly areas should meet state plan advisors and at the time of Mid-term review of the plan, the M.Ps. should be given opportunity to express their views. We have learnt about many things since the North-Eastern M.Ps. have joined the Planning Commission and in my opinion they might also have been benefited by our knowledge. I, therefore request Shri Maheshwar Singhji that in place of setting up another Board, he should follow these things.

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH : Sir, I had moved a Private member's resolution on 10th November, 1999 in the House for setting up of a Board for the all round development of their hilly states and areas especially the Himalayan region so that they could be brought at par with the developed plain areas of the country.

Sir, first of all, I would like to express my gratitude to all the members who participated in the discussion. A total of 14 members expressed their views. I am pleased that almost all the participants demanded the constitution of the Board. It is but natural that the people coming from the hilly areas support the move, but I specially, wish to thank those, who inspite of belonging to the plain areas have understood our problems and have supported us.

Sir, if I go in detail, it will take a lot of time and I have been given only 10 minutes to speak. I would especially like to thank Shri Raghuvanshji, who went to the extent of saying that if there is broad consensus on the resolution, then what is the problem in acceptance of the proposal by the Government. I am happy for it. I used to think that only those people can understand our pains and problems who live in hilly areas but it is not so. In the House, only 29 Members come from hilly areas.

There are 21 members who get elected from hilly areas and there are 8 Members in addition who get elected from areas in western Ghats, Uttarakhand or the hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh or from Nilgiri hills. I am pleased to know that other Members of the House too, think about us and are concerned about us. I would also like to express my gratitude to Hon'ble Minister for the detailed reply he gave. But I would like to ask few questions that have arisen in my mind after I listened to him. First of all, I would like to clarify as the hon'ble Minister has said that these are special category states. Even today, hilly states are given 90% of their funds as grant and 10% as loan. Sir, please re-check your information, because it is not true. It was the practice only till the formation of Ninth Finance Commission. At that time, the Central Government used to write-off all the non-plan expenditure by these states. But our problems increased after the formation of Ninth Finance Commission. You mentioned that Himachal Pradesh is managing its

[Shri Maheshwar Singh]

affairs by borrowing money. But why our position is so? The cost of construction of one kilometre long road in the mountainous areas is around 9-10 lakh rupees while a road of similar length in plains costs only one lakh rupees. We have problem of money on one hand and the need for development on the other. Now the situation has come to such a pass that we are unable to pay salaries to our employees. That is why we say that Nature has endowed us quite liberally, we have been given stones from which we can make cement. We have abundant water, from which electricity can be generated and the natural beauty only of these areas attracts people not only from our own country but from all over the world. We also have the right to be self-reliant. Therefore, we request the Central Government that if they help us only once, we would generate electricity in such quantity that Himachal would become self-reliant and we will also fulfil the requirements of the country.

Sir, you have mentioned a few programmes. Its true that many programmes have been formulated for the hilly areas viz. Hilly Area Development Programme, Western Ghat Development Programme, North-Eastern Council, Border Area Development Programme, Desert Development Programme, Drought Area Development Programme. I did not say that we have not received money under these programmes. My submission is that the funds received have not been put to proper use. Its monitoring is necessary. Whether at any level a watch is kept over the money sent? It is not done at any level. People's representatives are never asked about that anywhere. I agree that the review may be done at the Government level. Therefore, I have asked a few questions and hope that hon'ble Minister would provide answers to those also. I agree that Government of India has sanctioned crores of rupees. But they have not been properly utilised. Whether these programmes have been reviewed in any forum at the central level? Whether the elected representatives from such states have ever been asked? Whether any group in behalf of the planning Board reviews these programmes by visiting those states and whether that group takes into confidence the people's representatives of those places? We are not demanding money. Even if the Board is constituted, we do not say that give us the money. We are only asking for review so that we can express our views and we can speak at a forum. Sir, my intention was only that. It was not my intention that such body should be constituted which operates all the programmes by itself. As you have mentioned, that in 1984-85 a committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S.M. Qasim was constituted by the National Development Council. 17 years have passed since then.

What results have come after 17 years. Did the Planning Commission do any work in this regard? You said that a Council may be set up. Has anyone ever considered it? Since the ninth Lok Sabha, I have been continuously elected either to the Lok Sabha or to the Rajya Sabha. It is true that I could not get the full term. Did you ever ask us? Did you ever give us the right or opportunity to say anything? You have stated about the special category in detail. You said that this facility is still there, but the time limit ended on March 31st. It is required to be extended. May god help us in this matter. Will you restore the special category status? If not, then what are the reasons therefore?

You talked about the transport subsidy. It might have been given to the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, I do not know but I can say with responsibility about Himachal Pradesh that we do not get any transport subsidy. We are making the demand for subsidy for all our produce, whether it be fruits or something else.

You made a mention about the tribal areas. We should not forget the fact that all hilly areas are not tribal areas. There are only three tribal areas in Himachal Pradesh. Lahaul-Spiti and Kinnaur are totally tribal districts and Pangi-Bharmaur are parts of Chamba district. Rest of the population is dispersed in other mountainous regions and it is not tribal. You also mentioned about the per capita income. You mentioned about Manipur. If the money spent over there, is utilized properly, than many problems can be solved. It is not only the question of money. We the hilly people guard the country's borders but if the hilly people especially those living in the border area start vacating their houses due to the paucity of basic amenities, then who would guard the borders of the country? The Government will have to take care of the difficulties that we are living in. I feel myself lucky enough that Shri Jagmohanji is sitting here. He has been the governor of Jammu and Kashmir. He understands our agony. We face hardships when snowfall occurs there and we are virtually cut off from other parts of the country for as long as nine months. You please visit that place. Rohtang Pass is closed even today. The Himachal Pradesh Government has to provided for helicopter facility in order to reach there. Sowing season has arrived. It is true that we get financial assistance from the Central Government but the basic responsibility of providing transport facility to the common people lies on the state Government. I would like to say one thing for your information that imbalanced development leads to the rise of terrorism. I consider myself lucky that I belong to this part of the country despite the fact that we are struggling with the economic problems there, but even

today Himachal Pradesh is quite peaceful. Everyone knows as to what is happening in far eastern states as also in Jammu and Kashmir. Please try to understand the agony of people of hilly areas.

You talk about population. You also stated that population is not a criterion for every scheme. I would like to mention about JRY. Population has been made as the criterion for this. It has also been mentioned in it that permanent assets will have to be made with the money received under JRY. Himachal Pradesh gets Rs. 10,000 per panchayat on an average. What can be done in merely rupees 10,000. Not even two staircases, or an unmetalled road can be constructed in such a meagre amount. I am not saying this out of any grudge as such. I am just making a comparative analysis that Rajasthan presently gets Rs. 1 lakh. Should we also increase our population? The Government says that we should practice family planning, so if we will bear more children, then shall we also get more money? What will we do in rupees 10,000. In the same way, population has been made the criterion for providing health facilities. At present the situation is, that if anybody falls sick, he has to be carried on shoulders in a palanquin for as long as 3 to 4 Kms. Hon'ble Jagmohanji must have witnessed as to how the hilly people carry their sick relatives etc., who sometimes die on the way itself. One hon'ble member from Maharashtra made a mention about the Forest Conservation Act. This law, since its enactment has proved to be detrimental for us. On the one hand, Government talks about the protection of wild life, but what do we get in a situation where the tiger attacks and eats our cattle or even kills us? Where should we go? Should we roam around the whole world and say that the man-eater tiger kills us and thus we should get permission to kill the man-eater. All of us have to bear a lot of losses due to such a situation. I request the Government to pay attention to this situation. I have met the hon'ble minister in this regard a number of times. We have taken birth in forests, shall we be deprived of all the basic amenities throughout our life? Shall we not be connected with the road? If today, we find the existence of forest, it is not due to the Government, but the credit goes to our elders, our ancestors, who have looked-after the forests as their own children. Sometimes we get so frustrated in the forest due to the fact that we do not get the right way to come to the nearest road, ultimately, we have to cut the bushes etc. with our axe to come out of the forest. Sir, shall we have to carry the load on our backs throughout our life? I therefore wish to say to the Government that I have not moved this resolution to put any economic burden on the Government. I only wish that this work may be reviewed at one level or the other

and instead of the officers. People's representatives may be involved in the board so that they may be able to place their views before the Government and we may also get a chance to express our viewpoints in the forum. This is my 'Private Member's Resolution' that is why I have been given a chance to speak so much, otherwise, whenever we get a chance to speak on our party level, the bell of hon'ble speaker starts ringing-up. When should we express our view points? I therefore, request that hon'ble minister may kindly re-consider this matter. We do not want that economic burden on the Government should increase and board may be held responsible for this. We say that the money given for the scheme, should be spent. This money may be utilized on other works and the schemes may be pruned.

I am not the only person who is saying this thing. Please do not take my statement otherwise. Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had once said that a rupee is given by the Centre for some work in the village, but only 15 paise reach the village. This may kindly be checked. Other schemes of the Central Government are also having the same fate. DPAP is facing the same situation. They set up a parallel department there and ask nothing from the MPs. This situation prevails everywhere, under every head, whether it is rural area or any other area.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are bound by the direction of the Chair, whether we want or nor, this resolution has to be withdrawn. I am withdrawing this resolution only with the hope and trust that the facts placed before the House would be reconsidered. A 3-4 hour discussion has taken place on this subject, it shall not go in vain, but it will bear fruitful results. Now, it is your responsibility to provide the remedy for our pains and agony and to provide justice to the hill area people. I, once again, extend my thanks to those hon'ble Members, who have supported this resolution. And at the end, I withdraw this proposal with the hope and confidence that hon'ble minister would re-consider it.

Sir, with the permission of the House, I, hereby withdraw my resolution.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri Maheshwar Singh be withdrawn?

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Harpal Singh Sathi — Not present.

16.39 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: UTILISATION OF FUNDS BY THE STATES

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up the Resolution of Shri Ramanand Singh. Before we take up that Resolution for discussion, we have to fix the time for discussing that Resolution. Shall we fix two hours for it?

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Since it is an important subject, I suggest we should fix three hours for its discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us fix the time as two hours. We can always extend it later on.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move that:

"This House expresses serious concern over the non-utilisation by the States of the Funds allotted by the Central Government under various centrally sponsored schemes, particularly in rural poverty alleviation sector and urges upon the Government that to ensure that the benefits of these schemes reach the common man, directions be issued to State Governments for proper and timely utilization of funds meant for these schemes."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole House is well aware of the economic condition of most of the States of our country. In the present times, the economic condition of most of the States is unstable. Deficit economy has greatly affected the States. Some State Governments are misusing the funds and resources of the State to the extent that there are apprehensions whether these States would be able to run properly or their functioning would come to a standstill. Many of the States are in worse condition than the municipality. Amounts are allocated by the Government of India, for rural development and poverty alleviation. But it is really unfortunate that the States, which have limited resources and which are spending 90 per cent of their funds in the non-plan head have actually not been able to have the benefit of poverty alleviation through the funds given by the Centre. Most of the States are given funds by the Government of India under the Indira Awas Yojana, Jeevan Jaldhara Yojana, TRISEM Yojana, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, Assured Employment Scheme (Sunishchit Rozgar Yojana), Prime Minister's Employment Scheme (Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana) and Pension Scheme for the Destitutes (Nirashrit Asahai Pension Yojana).

But unfortunately most of the States do not utilize these funds properly. In Madhya Pradesh, pension meant for helpless and destitute people is not distributed for six months together and whenever it is raised, those persons are given pension for a month and their thumb impressions are taken on master roll for previous six months also. It is a fact and thus in this manner injustice is done to the poor and exploited sections of the society. Same situation prevails in most of the States of northern India especially in Hindi speaking States and situation is quite critical there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similarly the funds allocated for Madhya Pradesh under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana are not being utilized properly. The same situation prevails in Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. I would like to present some figures in this regard—in November 1998, only 44.40 per cent funds were spent in Bihar under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, only 46.43 per cent of the allocated funds were spent in Madhya Pradesh. This amount was 51.26 per cent in Orissa and it was only 37.24 per cent in West Bengal where Leftist Government is in power.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similarly under the Assured Employment Scheme, expenditure was 54.92 per cent in Bihar, 58.48 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 57.40 per cent in Orissa, 66.22 per cent in Rajasthan, 53.89 per cent in Uttar Pradesh and only 28.19 per cent in West Bengal. Only 55.80 per cent funds were spent under this scheme throughout the country. The remaining states could not spend funds under this scheme.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similar is the position in case of Million Well Scheme. I would like to give figures regarding performance of this scheme in various states. The funds spent under this scheme was 55.19 per cent in Bihar, 37.35 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 48.77 per cent in Orissa, 11.61 per cent in Rajasthan, 53.40 per cent in Uttar Pradesh, 37.94 per cent in West Bengal and only 0.67 per cent in Pondicherry. I am not giving figures regarding all the states but regarding some particular states.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the same way actual expenditure under the Rural Area Development Programme remained 51 per cent in Bihar, 70 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 62 per cent in Orissa, 41 per cent in Uttar Pradesh and 27.29 per cent in West Bengal. Similar is the position of TRYSEM scheme. There was a provision of imparting training to artisans under TRYSEM scheme and upto November 1998, the expenditure incurred under this scheme was 29.29 per cent in Bihar, 35.25 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 41.52 per cent in Uttar Pradesh and 11.72 per cent in West Bengal. A negligible amount was spent for providing equipment kits to artisans. It will be sheer wastage of time if figures in this regard are furnished here.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similar is the position of funds spent under Indira Awas Yojana. During the period from April 1998 to November 1998 the funds spent under Indira Awas Yojana were 35.67 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 35.78 per cent in Orissa, 47.32 per cent in Uttar Pradesh, 18.63 per cent in Haryana and 17.86 per cent in Assam. Sir similar is the progress of scheme regarding drought-prone areas. Funds spent under this scheme are 17.43 per cent in Bihar, 28.73 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 1.96 per cent in West Bengal and 37.73 per cent in Uttar Pradesh. During 1998-99, the financial performance of Indira Awas Yojana remained 72.74 per cent in Andhra Pradesh, 49.32 per cent in Madhya Pradesh, 20.99 per cent in West Bengal and 11.52 per cent in Bihar.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the important point is that even funds allocated under old age pension scheme have not been utilized properly. Only a small portion of funds released for this purpose has been utilized. The funds allocated to Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, U.P. and West Bengal have not been fully utilized. It has caused inconvenience for people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similarly the funds allocated under the National Social Assistance Programme were also not fully utilized. It is a matter of concern. A total sum of Rs. 350 crore was released for Madhya Pradesh whereas the allocation is Rs. 1040 crore. In this manner funds allocated to various states have not been fully utilized. Financial position of most of the states is critical. Chief Ministers of several states do not pay attention towards development of their states Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are among these states. But now position of Madhya Pradesh is much worse than Bihar.

According to the establishment expenditure presented by the Finance Minister of Madhya Pradesh in the Legislative Assembly, 90.97 per cent was spent on establishment. Chief Minister and five Ministers of this state Government have spent Rs. 2 crore 67 lakhs on air journey. The funds allocated for poverty alleviation, for digging wells, for helpless people and such works are not being utilized. I am very sorry to say that amount of Rs. 61 crore earmarked for National Highway in Madhya Pradesh has not been spent. What are these State Governments doing? "Rinam Kritva Ghritam Pibet" these State Governments are not utilizing funds properly. Recently the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh expanded Cabinet. There is one-party Government in the State.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Please confine to your subject.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : I am speaking on my subject. Please try to listen to me. The Government which have economic resources. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : How many Ministers are in the Cabinet of Uttar Pradesh?

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : I am not denying that. My point is that drinking water could have been provided to a few districts with this amount Rs. 2 crore 67 lakh spent on air journey. Handpumps are not working there. They say that Panchayati Raj System has been introduced there, so it is the duty of Panchayats to repair it. In the same manner drinking water supply schemes for rural areas are not being implemented. Roads are in dilapidated condition in the state. Leave aside the rural areas, Electricity Boards are not supplying power in cities. Similarly, 27,000 employees at junior level have been retrenched and there is proposal to retrench lakhs of employees. I would like to know that when the Government does not have adequate funds for paying salaries to workers, then how expansion of Cabinet is being done.

I am not mentioning any particular state. It is general thing. The State Governments which are spending extravagantly without caring for their financial management, are going to create problems for the country. I would like to say to the Government of India that there is no need to borrow money, it is already in debt trap of lakhs-thousand crores. In this manner how we will be able to manage affairs of this country? You can invite multi-national companies or take other measures but a policy should be formulated to make this country self-reliant. How long the Government will keep on avoiding such subjects by terming these as state subjects. Ultimately we have to ensure that states should incur expenditure within the limits of their resources and mobilize their own resources for supply of essential commodities. People should be provided drinking water, employment, schools and hospital facilities. I would like to tell that thousands of schools do not have their own buildings. Thousand of villages lack drinking water facility. Hand-pumps are out of order. Proper arrangements should be made for their maintenance. 1600 water supply schemes pertaining to rural areas are not being implemented because State Governments say that these have been handed-over to Gram-Panchayats and Gram Panchayats lack resources. State Governments should provide funds to Gram Panchayats required for their maintenance. It is not proper to aggravate the problems of people by making Gram Panchayats and Municipalities responsible for it.

Union Government provides funds to State Governments under various schemes like Million Wells Scheme, Indira Awas Yojana, Rural Development, Oldage Pension

[Shri Ramanand Singh]

Scheme which are not utilised properly. Plea of paucity of funds is given, but at the same time, State Governments are unable to spend 50-70 per cent of funds allocated to them for this purpose. This aggravates problems of the poor. It is necessary that Government of India should pay attention towards it. This matter should be discussed with the State Governments and Ministers and instructions should be issued in this regard. Deficit economy will not do. It has been stated here that Madhya Pradesh has a deficit of Rs. 29 thousand crores. How we will be able to meet this deficit? How Madhya Pradesh would become self-reliant? A check should be imposed on extravagance of the State Governments. You will feel that it is an important resolution from viewpoint of development of the country. I wish that all of us should participate in the discussion on this resolution rising above party politics as financial position of States is deteriorating. In addition to economic resources of the States, the Union Government provides funds to State Governments under various heads for development of the State, poverty alleviation and various other schemes. State Governments should make proper use of it.

34 per cent population of Madhya Pradesh belongs to SC/ST community. Out of total 320 MLAs of Madhya Pradesh assembly, 108 MLAs belong to SC/ST community. Billions of rupees are given to the State under Tribal Welfare sub-plan. Recently just 15 days back I have read the statement of the State Minister of Welfare of the Union Government that crores of rupees have been returned by Madhya Pradesh Government because these could not be spent by the State Government. Position of people of Bastar, Sarguja, Seeshi and Jhabua has not improved at all and billions of rupees have been spent so far under Tribal Development plans. What is it? Who will stop this? How can such issues be dismissed by terming these as state subjects. Whether States can be given freedom to spend lavishly and mismanage the billions of rupees allocated by Union Government for various schemes and incur losses. The funds given by Union Government are not spent in public interest. Today, 50-52 years after Independent, it has become necessary for the Union Government as well as State Governments to review these schemes. Just now our colleague was saying something about hilly regions. Similarly, centrally sponsored schemes should also be reviewed. Just now the Minister of Rural Areas and Employment has stated that Chief Ministers of some States have raised objections to the proposal of appointment of MPs as Chairman of DRDA and other Rural Development Schemes. Why objections should be raised on it? President of District Panchayat, elected by 10

persons can become Chairman of DRDA, then why not MP, who represents 15 lakh persons. MPs are also concerned about their Parliamentary constituency and proper utilisation of funds allocated by Union Government. There should be some check on mismanagement of funds allocated by Union Government. We do not doubt State Governments but State Governments as well as Union Government are collectively responsible for the development of the country. Ours is a federal State and in this federal system, no one can be given liberty to that extent that Chief Ministers of States may spend Rs. 3 crore on air journey and funds allocated for schemes regarding upliftment of SC/ST and poor get lapsed or returned to Union Government. Hence, I request that this issue should be debated in the House by Members of all the political party rising above the party lines so that the country could face the economic challenge. Several State Governments are not working properly. Financial mismanagement, carelessness and extravagance is reflected in their functioning, which should be checked. Funds under the centrally sponsored schemes should be spent on poverty alleviation programmes and schemes launched in public interest. Then only the country would be able to make progress.

With this, I commend my resolution to the House.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Mr. Chairman Sir, at the outset, I would like to thank our honourable colleague, Shri Ramanand Singh for moving this very important Resolution. In his opening speech, he has mentioned about various centrally sponsored schemes and their implementation. There are three types of centrally sponsored schemes in our country. One scheme is meant for poverty alleviation.

17.00 hrs.

The second is meant for employment generation and the third is meant for the grants for the Special Area Programmes. These are the three Centrally-sponsored Schemes implementing in our country for years. In every democratic system, it is the duty of the Government to protect the poorest of the poor. These three important poverty alleviation and employment generation schemes have been formulated and the principle behind this is the Antyodaya. The antyodaya principle is for targeting the poorest of the poor. So, this principle is behind these three important Centrally-sponsored Schemes. It is the duty of every popular Government or democratically-elected Government to see that the burden of the poor is lessened. Then only we can assess the performance of the

Government. So, after giving a deep thought, these three Centrally-sponsored Schemes were implemented in our country. The question is whether the Government are able to implement these programmes effectively; whether the money earmarked for the Schemes is properly utilised or not; whether the benefit is reaching the poor or not and whether the physical as well as the financial targets are achieved or not. These are the important questions raised by my friend, hon. Shri Ramanand Singh, through this Resolution.

Sir, this is a very serious issue which has to be properly addressed. First, I want to address the question of poverty alleviation programmes. Poverty is a social evil. Since Independence, we are trying to eradicate poverty. On the one hand, we are trying to eradicate poverty through the different Schemes running through Central as well as the State Governments. At the same time, the population is increasing in a very high rate. Today, even in the villages, there are poor people who do not have a single meal a day. Even in village areas, people are struggling to get food for one time a day. They do not have enough opportunities for getting jobs. As a result of this, starvation deaths are also taking place in some remotest places in our country and there is total poverty. So, keeping this in mind, the Integrated Rural Development Programme has been formulated. Under this Schemes, 50 per cent grant will be given by the Centre and the 50 per cent matching grant will be given by the States. Through this programme, we have achieved a lot. There is no doubt about it. We are targeting the poor people who are below the poverty line. We are trying to give some assistance to these people. The banks are also helping them financially. In certain areas, we can see that the non-cooperation of the financial institutions is the biggest impediment in implementing this Scheme.

We can see that the banks are not ready to achieve the target which is earmarked. They are not interested in giving the loans under the IRDP scheme; they are interested in giving big loans to big people, to corporate houses, rich people. They are not even ready to achieve their targets. If we go through the IRDP, we can see that banks are creating a lot of hurdles for the implementation of this programme. At the same time, Sir, the Centre is allotting 50 per cent grant and the matching grant has to be provided by the State Government. Today, almost all the State Governments are facing financial crunch. Due to the financial problems faced by the State Governments, they are not in a position to supplement the matching grant. As a result of this, we are not in a position to utilise the funds which are earmarked by the Central Government.

Sir, see the achievements in the last year. The total allocation in 1998-99 was Rs.1456.28 crore and the funds utilised were Rs. 671.45 crore. The percentage of total utilisation of available funds was 46.11 per cent. This is very unfortunate. The Standing Committee of Parliament has gone into the details. They had assessed that this is a very dismal picture. They had asked the Department as to what are the reasons for the poor utilisation of funds earmarked by the Central Government. They said that many of the States are not giving the matching grants. This is an alarming situation. Every State Government has to provide 50 per cent of the grant along with the 50 per cent grant of Central Government. Most of the State Governments are not taking care of this.

Under the Chairmanship of Dr. Murti Manohar Joshi, Public Accounts Committee—I was a Member of Committee—went to different States. We examined the performance of the IRDP and other employment guarantee schemes. It was shocking to note that money earmarked for the Centrally-sponsored schemes are diverted by the State Governments. Take for example, West Bengal. It is highly shocking. We were there in Calcutta and we have gone into the records extensively. We summoned the officers. The Public Accounts Committee was shocked to note that more than 50 per cent of the money earmarked for the poverty alleviation and employment guarantee schemes are diverted by the State Government. Do you know that the Accountant General had also mentioned about this. The case was pending in the Calcutta High Court.

The money earmarked by the Central Government is not properly utilised. It was diverted for other purposes. It was diverted even for paying the salaries of the Government employees. This money was utilised for paying salaries by the State Governments. This is highly objectionable. This scheme is meant for the poverty alleviation programme. This scheme is targeted for the poorest of the poor. This scheme is for providing social security for the poor people who are struggling. Unfortunately, the State Governments are not taking seriously this scheme. I wanted to quote the Report of the Standing Committee. It says:

"The Standing Committee noted increase of Rs.1119 crore in the financial allocation (Central share) for IRDP during 1999-2000."

The Standing Committee has also stated that the utilisation of the total available fund during 1998-99 was only 46.11 per cent. This is surprising. As far as the Integrated Rural Development Programme is concerned,

[Shri Ramesh Chennithala]

50 per cent of the money is earmarked by the Central Government and 50 per cent matching grant is given by the State Governments. This programme is implemented through the District Rural Development Agency and the District Rural Development Agency implements it through Block Development Offices. But the benefits are not reaching the poorest of the poor in our villages. To see whether the benefits are reaching the poor people, earlier there was a provision for concurrent evaluation. I do not know whether the concurrent evaluation is now taking place or not. Some reputed Non-Governmental Organisations were given this job. They used to evaluate both the financial and physical performance in various districts and they used to suggest remedies to rectify the defects.

The main problem in the IRDP is the lack of selection of viable schemes by the beneficiaries. The officials are not giving proper advice to the beneficiaries to select viable schemes. Due to non-selection of viable schemes, the schemes are failing. As a result, the poor people are not able to repay the loan and finally recovery proceedings are launched against them. Earlier, DRDA officials and Block Development Officers, after taking into consideration various aspects, used to prepare viable schemes, in consultation with the beneficiaries. Unfortunately, 60 per cent of the schemes selected under IRDP are found to be defective. The main reason for this is that the schemes that are prepared in Rajasthan may not be feasible in Madhya Pradesh and schemes that are prepared for Madhya Pradesh may not be feasible in Himachal Pradesh. So, the schemes have to be formulated keeping in mind the local circumstances. Then only, they can be implemented properly and the poor will get benefits out of them.

So, I would like to once again emphasise that the IRDP schemes should be streamlined and there should be concurrent evaluation. Then, the Central Government should have a proper monitoring system. Now, we have the modern facilities. The Ministry can be directly connected with all the district headquarters in the country through computer, and by sitting in his office, the Minister can monitor the progress of financial and physical achievements in every quarter.

Secondly, the scheme called, 'Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas' is mainly targeted towards the women and children of our country. This is a component of the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Then, the scheme called 'Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment' is another component of the IRDP. If we go through these

two schemes, we can see that they remain only on paper. No proper training is given to anybody under TRYSEM. Interestingly, all the Industrial Training Institutes that are functioning in our country are entrusted with this work and they are only getting the benefits. They will get all the benefits. They will take the stipend, etc., will be taken by the ITI people in collusion with the Block Development Officer and other officials. What will happen finally is that the beneficiary will not get any benefit.

Regarding SITRA – Supply of Improved Toolkits to the Rural Artisans – I do not know whether any honourable seniormost Member in this House, has heard about this scheme or not. Is he aware that such a scheme is available in the rural areas? The Scheme aims at providing proper assistance to the rural artisans by giving tools to them for carrying out their agricultural operations and other things. This is the fate of our Poverty Alleviation Programmes.

Next, I come to the Employment Generation Programmes. The employment generation programmes are: JRY, Indira Avas Yojana, Million Wells Scheme and Employment Assurance Scheme. Now, the Government has clubbed all these Schemes into two. They are allergic to the name of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. So, they have changed the names.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): It is because of the changing times.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): You only change the names. That is your achievement.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: That is the beginning. . . . (Interruption)

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: All right. . . . (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA): We are always giving respect to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi . . . (Interruptions) Even the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been changed to Jawahar Samridhi Gram Yojana.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: I may be corrected. . . . (Interruptions) When we came to power, we never changed the names. The IRDP was started during the time of Shri Morarji Desai. We never changed the scheme. I do not want to go into those details. The point is that the schemes, like JRY, aimed at creating more employment

opportunities in the rural areas and creating more permanent assets in the rural areas. This scheme has definitely contributed a lot in the rural areas, especially in my State. I can very well say that under the JRY, we had implemented a lot of rural programmes. But there are certain complaints that this money has not been properly utilised. Now, it is being implemented through the Panchayat system. There are a lot of complaints regarding that also. I do not want to go into that. The point is that the Central Government is giving money. The same thing is happening here. The matching grant is not provided by the State Governments. Because of that, under-utilisation can be seen there. Earlier, the ratio was 80:20. The share of the Central Government was 80 per cent while that of the State Government, it was 20 per cent. Unfortunately, we are able to say that 20 per cent was not primarily provided by the State Government. Because of that, every programme will be rushed in the last quarter to show in the accounts that we have implemented it to the extent of hundred per cent or 75 per cent.

We are able to see that the Indira Avas Yojana has also not been implemented properly in certain States. The Million Wells Scheme has met the same fate. Because of paucity of time, I do not want to go into the details of these programmes.

My request to the Hon. Minister of that there should be an evaluation of these programmes whether these are being implemented properly by the institutions or not. These programmes are being implemented by the *Panchayati* institutions. They are answerable. So, there should be some kind of inspection or some kind of evaluation on the part of the Central Government about this programme. The Blocks and the DRDAs have to be strengthened.

I agree with our hon. colleague that a Member of Parliament or an elected representative should be the Chairman of the DRDA so that these programmes can be implemented properly. We are answerable to the people, so we will be more conscious when implementing these programmes. The most important thing is that the Rural Development Department has to be strengthened properly and the middlemen should be avoided.

As has been rightly pointed out by my hon. Colleague, our former Prime Minister, late Rajiv Gandhi once said that when we are spending one rupee, the beneficiary is getting only 16 paise out of that. This has to be avoided and the States should be directed that they should give matching grant properly so that these programmes can be implemented effectively.

Sir, the Standing Committee on Urban and Rural Development has given another suggestion that as most of the States are facing financial crunch, the Centre should give the State's share along with the Centre's share. It can

be considered as a loan which has to be repaid by the State. This is a new suggestion given by the Standing Committee of the Parliament.

I think, the Government should seriously consider this, ponder over this issue and make these programmes effective.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL (Varanasi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the resolution moved by hon. Member Shri Ramanand Singh. This is a very relevant issue. The State Governments fail to utilise the funds allocated by the Union Government for development of the region and upliftment of poor farmers, unemployed youth and jhuggi-jhonpri dwellers. Hon. Members have stated that Union Government should issue instructions to State Governments for full utilisation of funds. The Union Government have been accorded some rights under the Constitution of India according to which it can urge upon the State Governments to follow its instructions.

The issue of review of constitution is raised because in such circumstances financial emergency can be imposed in a State and in that case funds are spent with concurrence of Union Government. In that manner State Government will make proper use of the funds allocated by the Union Government.

It is an irony that we are under debt. In the current budget, our net income has been shown as Rs. 2 lakh crore. We have paid a huge amount on account of interest of the debt taken for the development of the country during last 50 years. An instalment of this debt was Rs. 1 lakh 24 thousand crore. Along with the net income, a sum of Rs. 25 thousand crore is taken in form of debt. We are taking debt from foreign countries and World Bank for making our defence forces well equipped and for development of the country. Similar is the position of States. The issue of Madhya Pradesh has been raised which is under the debt of Rs. 29 thousand crore. Now the Union Government has given liberty to the States to get loan from World Bank. Several States have done that and their economic condition is deteriorating. What is happening? I feel that several companies which are made Private Limited companies become financially bankrupt but directors of those companies become rich. Similar is the case of the economic condition of this country. During last 50 years our country has been heavily indebted whereas officials have become richer. Now country has become poor but politicians and officials have become richer. Same is the position of States. Therefore, it is necessary that there should be a review of the Constitution. In this resolution, the hon. Member has given suggestions that instructions should be issued to the State Governments. I support this proposal. It is necessary that there should be review of the

[Shri Shankar Prasad Jaiswal]

Constitution. I would like to cite example of two States—Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. Economic condition of both these States is bad. Economic sanctions should be imposed on them. These States should not be allowed to spend a single paise without the permission of Union Government. This will help in bringing the other States on the right track.

With these words, I support this resolution.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the Resolution, I have to mention certain inherent weaknesses in all these projects and schemes. By 'inherent weaknesses', I mean that the agencies involved in implementing these schemes are not at all sincere and they are not having any commitment towards the poor man.

Let us take the case of lead banks. They are the total agency to implement the schemes at the village level because the banks are not at all interested. The success of each and every scheme will depend upon the timely help rendered by the lead bank but the lead bank is more or less interested in making the affair a profitable business. As a matter of fact, we know that giving employment to unemployed people is not a profitable business. The banks are not at all interested.

Secondly, the various Departments involved in this affair are also not interested in this. They have some other business to look after. They take this as a last resort. So, most of the schemes, IRDP and other schemes, will be a total failure because of this inherent weakness.

I think, my learned friend, Shri Ramesh Chennithala was a Minister in Kerala State and he was dealing with this subject. He has his own personal experience but his attempt was a failure. It was not because of any commitment but he could not implement it. Why? There is no co-ordination. There is no State co-ordination. There is no co-ordination even at the Centre, if I may put it. Unless and until some co-ordination is effected, these schemes will not work, especially in the State. So, what is the remedy? This basic remedy is decentralisation of powers. Now, bureaucracy is dealing with it. Unless and until you decentralise powers, unless and until you give powers to the common man at the village level, these schemes will not succeed. So, the most important thing is that after we have introduced Panchayati Raj institutions and Nagar Palika institutions, all corresponding activities should be streamlined through a process of decentralisation.

But we have passed and implemented the Panchayat Raj Institution Bill but they have not been given the powers. The corresponding legislation has not taken effect in many of the States. The Panchayat works under so many Departments. The powers that they are carrying should be divested to the Panchayats, but so far no effective legislation has come in many of the States. But I am proud to state that in Kerala, they have brought a legislation and they have given all the powers to the Panchayats. The powers of the Public Health Department have been divested to Panchayats, up to the district and village levels, so also of education. All the powers in regard to primary and secondary education are decentralised and given to the Panchayats. If you take any other Department, all the Departmental activities are now decentralised and entrusted at the village, block as well as district levels. So, when you do this thing, I am sure that we will be able to implement the Centre's Poverty Alleviation Scheme. So, I would advise the Central Government as well as the State Governments to decentralise the powers. You make the Panchayat institution an effective machinery. Until that is done, it will be a futile exercise. So, if you want to make a success in this attempt, my suggestion would be that you decentralise the powers at the grassroots level. You give powers to them. Do not entrust these matters to extraneous agencies like the lead bank and some other Department which is not in any way connected with this work. So, after decentralising, you entrust this work to the Panchayats; you give the Panchayats full powers to implement all these schemes. The Central Government may kindly consider all these suggestions in regard to decentralisation of powers in perspective. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH (Bhind): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the resolution moved by Shri Ramanand Singh is very important. I support it. The funds allocated to the State Governments by the centre are not utilised properly. They even fail to fully utilise these fund. Why this money is not used? I feel that it is because their intention is not good. I have a chart with me. It has been stated in it that in Madhya Pradesh 66.43 percent funds were spent under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, 58.48 percent funds were spent under Assured Employment Scheme and out of the total allocated sum of Rs. 4907.31 only Rs. 476.18 were spent on digging of wells scheme. I would like to say that funds allocated under Assured Employment Scheme are spent on construction of roads, small check-dams or stop dams for raising the level of water.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say that since there is no system for monitoring the implementation of these works, it results in wasteful expenditure. This money goes to the pockets of individuals through unscrupulous methods. I would like to say that inquiry should be conducted in anyone district of the State in matter of work done through funds allocated for this purpose during all these years. I would like to cite an example of my parliamentary constituency Bhind. Mr. Chairman, Sir, if the Government conducts a proper inquiry as to how the funds sanctioned for construction of roads, approach roads, stop dams or check dams under the Assured Employment Scheme have been spent, the things will become clear. Sir, through you, I would like to raise the matter regarding construction of stop dam and digging of wells, funds for this purpose are released around 1st June and rainy season starts from 15th June and at some places by 15th July. This is earth work and not cemented one, so, during rainy season due to silt it becomes useless. At the time of inquiry, the plea is given that though the well was dug but it was levelled due to earth loosened by rains. In this manner nothing comes out of such inquiries. Therefore, I would like to say that reality can come before the public if an honest and impartial inquiry is conducted by the Union Government in this matter. The funds given for development of villages are not spent at all because behind it is not good. This fund is embezzled and reaches individual pockets through unscrupulous methods.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, similarly Adult Education Programme is being implemented for the last many years. Under this programme education is imparted to adult people. Every year Union Government allocates billions of rupees for this programme which are embezzled through various unscrupulous methods. Sir, I want to bring this fact before you. The Union Government or State Governments will be unable to produce a single person who has got education through this programme and learnt to sign. I know that billions of rupees allocated for this programme are embezzled by people through corrupt practices. I would like to say that such things must be stopped and inquiry should be conducted to find out facts regarding this programme. On the one hand no proper arrangements could be made for education of children and on the other hand billions of rupees are wasted on adult education.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the condition of primary education is very bad in rural areas. There are no school buildings at many places in rural areas and in many schools

teachers are not available. Some teachers are getting salary on paper from rural schools but Education Department has attached them to urban schools. I would like to share my experience with you. I had gone to a school of Deora village of Mehgaon tehsil of District Bhind to attend an inauguration function. On asking I was told that the school was upto 8th standard and 300 students studied in it. When I asked how many teacher were there. I was told that on papers seven teachers were there but out of them six teachers were attached to schools in Bhind and a Panditji who was the only teacher of the school came forward. When I asked as to how he alone managed to teach 300 students. He told me that in the morning I open the school at the scheduled time and children also come to school. After sometime children start leaving school on one pretext or the other and I also leave at the scheduled hour. This is the position of rural education. This is my personal experience. You can well imagine as to how previous congress Governments had tried to ruin educational system of villages.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, today parents encourage their wards for copying during examination to get them pass at least the 10th standard. When I asked them as to what will be the future of those children. I was told that they would sell one or two bighas of land and get them employed in police. This is the position of rural education throughout the country. I request you that a fair and impartial inquiry should be conducted in the matter of utilisation of money given by the Union Government for development of States. An inquiry should be conducted whether the money being given to State Governments through NGOs is being utilised properly or not and further allocation of funds should be made only after satisfactory report in this regard.

Similar is the position of health. Funds are allocated for leprosy Eradication Programme. But we find that vehicles meant for this programme are misused by CMO and Collector for their families. The funds given for eradication of leprosy are misused. I request you that an impartial inquiry should be conducted in this regard. All the Members of this House speak against corruption. During the special session on golden jubilee celebrations all the Members delivered speeches against corruption. At that time I had stated that now 50 years after independence, this situation was being reviewed, then from where as beginning should be made. I would like to say that Union Government provides funds to various State Governments under various programmes. You should keep a watch on

[Dr. Ram Lakhan Singh]

the implementation of those programmes. NGOs get this money under various schemes for education, leprosy eradication, providing hostel facility to children belonging to SCs, their scholarships and for imparting training to women in weaving work etc. All these projects are going on on papers and actually nothing is being done. I do not know as to how they continue their operations through corrupt means.

I would like to say that Government has changed now. People have great expectations from this Government. The Government is also committed to provide drinking water to all. I would not take much time but I will have the satisfaction of having made my point and the Government may take action on it. So far as the question of drinking water is concerned, I would like to say that you will not get drinking water in any village. If someone comes to know that the M.P. is on tour, somehow he may procure cold drinks or coca cola but you will not get drinking water there. You may get liquor pouch there which is going to spoil coming generation but one can not get drinking water there. In rainy season several villages face problem of water logging and are cut off from other places. Several people die untimely death because district hospital is 20 km. away from it and several nullahs come on the way. The condition is so bad that required building materials for construction of road are not available at a time. Sometime if one material is available the other is not available and in this manner culvert is not constructed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now please conclude.

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: Please allow me for two minutes more. Roads were constructed 20 years ago but a small culvert is yet to be constructed. People have to walk through deep waters during rainy season.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. RAM LAKHAN SINGH: This is the supreme body and I want to raise my points here because several persons are in dark about it. We have to understand that and pay attention towards villages. We shall have to provide drinking water, education facility and medical facility to them on priority basis. The wasteful expenditure shall have to stopped forthwith. I would like to say that an inquiry should be conducted to review the situation before allocating funds for it.

SHRI MANJAY LAL (Samastipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank hon. Member Shri Ramanand for moving this resolution which is timely. This will improve the condition of villages. India is a country of villages and our country will make progress if villages prosper and the country will ruin if villages are in miserable condition. Villages can make progress if the resolution brought here is implemented effectively. During freedom struggle we had a dream of independent India. In 1909 Mahatma Gandhi wrote 'Hind Swarajya' and later on he wrote 'Mere Sapnon ka Bharat' But now 52 years after Independence we find that our country is moving towards a different direction. To correct this direction, the Union Government launched several schemes like Assured Employment Scheme, Indira Awas Yojana, Integrated Child Development Scheme, Barren Land Development Scheme, National Malaria Eradication Scheme, Mid-day-meal Scheme, IRDP, TRYSEM Scheme, Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana etc.

The leaders are right, policies are correct but due to bad intention, the whole process is disarrayed. I hail from Bihar. At the time of Independence, Bihar was at 7th position in the matter of per capita income but after launching so many schemes we have reached the bottom. It is unfortunate but a fact that the schemes like Indira Awas Yojana is launched but people come to us and complaint that under this scheme houses of rich people are constructed but people belonging to Mushar community tribals and harijans are still shelterless there. Sanctions for construction of these houses is taken from BDO after greasing the palms of official and sometime even MLAs. I was Member of 9th and 10th Lok Sabha. I got information that certain percentage is fixed for initiating any work. Once I called DDC of my area, he told that all the schemes are being implemented properly. When I asked as to whether all the MPs and MLAs take the fixed percentage. I asked as to how much expenditure had been incurred on works taken up under Assured Employment Scheme, Indira Awas Yojana etc. on my recommendation. He told that it comes to around Rs. 3 crore I asked him to calculate the amount at 3 per cent. When he tried to know as to why I was asking that I told him that they were taking bribe in our names. Former Prime Minister Late Rajiv Gandhi had said, I am not saying that he always spoke the truth but sometimes he used to speak the sheer truth. When during election he went to Bihar he stated that out of the total funds allocated by the Union Government, only 10-15 per cent actually reaches the villages. Everyone knows where the remaining amount goes. Earlier only 10 per cent reached

there. Now the situation has worsened further, State Governments do not provide even the matching grant and consequently the Union Government curtails the allocation and we blame the Union Government for it. We remain unaware of the fact that the State Government is not spending the allocated funds for a long time. Why a monitoring cell cannot be constituted to avoid this situation. There should be a monitoring cell, meetings of which should be held three or four times in a year under the supervision of MPs and MLAs of the area irrespective of their party affiliation, to review the position of schemes.

A lot of works can be undertaken if wasteful expenditure of the Government is checked. Now a days wasteful expenditure has increased as multinational companies have lured people for spending heavily. I would like to say that these schemes would be implemented efficiently only when our intention is good. You can improve the situation if there is shortage of foodgrains, water and medicine but in case of dearth of honesty wealth and society both get ruined. At present, there is dearth of honesty and we have to follow the path of Mahatma Gandhi and give priority to simplicity, indigenous, decentralisation, self-reliance and cottage industry to save the society. We can save the villages by making proper use of the funds allocated for rural development. There is no other course left.

There should be a proper monitoring of all the schemes. A time bound programme should be formulated for it and officials should be made accountable. Stringent punishment should be awarded against the officials who fail to complete his work in the prescribed time period. Our first Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru was a clever man. He had stated that persons indulging in black marketing should be hanged in public. But today thousands of people die due to black marketeers. Presently several states are in the grip of drought which may lead to loss of life there as no one is to save them. Black marketeers are becoming prosperous. Therefore, stringent action should be taken to improve the situation. Our old slogan was - 'Maang raha hai Hindustan, Roti, kapda aur makan'. We have to work efficiently for proper implementation of schemes formulated for the benefit of common man. During British rule we used to recite this Urdu couplet - 'Ilahi vah din bhi ayege, apna raj bhi dekhege, Apni hi zamin hogi; apna asmaan hoga'. We shall be able to realise these dreams by proper implementation of these schemes.

[English]

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN (Sivaganga): Respected Chairman Sir, it is really a very good resolution. I would like to add that when the Union Government allocates funds, it has to take into consideration that there is a three-tier system now in the Constitution. And panchayat raj is also available with 29 powers. All the 29 powers were not given to the panchayats, specially in Tamil Nadu. The Zila Parishad is there only as a framework, but it is not having any flesh and blood. In such a situation, the funds were allotted by the Union Government under various programmes.

I would like to just recollect how Indiraji had made the anti-poverty programme successful by implementing 20-point programme with systematic review and also giving the funds at the village level. Subsequently, Shri Rajiv Gandhi implemented it by sending the money to the panchayats. We have to have faith in the local people. The people will review their own work every day and the villagers are very vigilant in finding out whether the funds allotted to the village are properly utilised or not. Therefore, we have to have faith in the people rather than in the officials. Now, the system we are following is that there is District Rural Development Agency, a registered association, having Collector as its Chairman, and a Project Officer is appointed. With him, there are various departmental heads, but there is no representation of the people. In such a situation, the Central Government is allotting funds.

I am taking the example of Tamil Nadu. There is a Director, Rural Development at State-level. He is allotted the funds from the Central Government. I am just taking the data which was given by the Ministry of Rural Development yesterday in reply to an Unstarred Question. We are getting about Rs. 91 crore in JGSY project. Under Indira Awas Yojana, we are getting about Rs. 62 crore. Under SGSY project, we are getting Rs. 75 crore. We are getting Rs. 105 crore under Employment Assurance Scheme. Under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, we are getting Rs. 89 crore. Under Central Rural Sanitary Programme, we are getting Rs. 10 crore. Also, we are getting about Rs. 137 crore for Basic Minimum Service Programme.

The Union Government gives so much of money, and we, as Members of Parliament, are voting for granting this money. However, what is the role played by the Members of Parliament, who are elected by the people? The money

[Shri E.M. Sudarsana Natchiappan]

is being spent on the people, who have elected us, but we do not have any right to find out whether we can sanction money for a particular road. When the people represent to us, we cannot tell them that we will be talking about national issues, issues related to WTO, UN, and the sovereignty of other countries including SAARC. We cannot say like that. There is salt water on the seacoast, and people ask us: "We have voted for you, where is the drinking water?" The position is different. I would request the Union Government to take a decision saying that the Members of Parliament should be consulted, who should sit and review all the programmes that are being implemented from the funds released by the Union Government. I am not talking about the State Governments or the Zila Parishads. I am only saying that since Parliament is allocating these funds, we should see whether they are being utilised properly or not. We should be appointed as Chairmen of the District Rural Development Agencies, which have already been created. That Agency can be converted into Rural Development Agencies of parliamentary constituencies concerned. It can be converted and we can, in our capacity as Chairmen, review the programmes, that is, how they are implementing or why they are not implementing. We can inform them about the complaints that come to us, and tell them that they do certain thing. Therefore, it is high time to see that the funds are properly utilised and to see that they reach the poor people, common people and the villagers, for whom we are allocating these funds. When this happens, there will not be any naxalism or any unemployment. People who have graduated with Masters' degree are being elected as Ward Members and Presidents in the Panchayats. They have got the knowledge. Many M.A., DLit., people are being elected as Presidents of the Panchayats. They have got the knowledge. They can very well administer and handle the funds. They can implement the programmes properly at the village level. I would request the Minister of State in the Ministry of Rural Development, Shri A. Raja, who is a very young and energetic person, to take it as a challenge and to give the powers to the Members of Parliament to review what is happening, when the Central funds are allocated to a particular programme.

Before the Chairman asks me to wind up, I just want to say that naxalism or unemployment can be tackled by way of properly utilising the funds through the people, who are educated unemployed. Now, they are being elected as Presidents of the Panchayats, as Mandal Chairmen and as Chairmen of the Zila Parishads.

Coming to reservations for women, in Tamil Nadu, we have implemented the 33 per cent reservation for women. They are also getting the funds. Therefore, they should be given a chance. In the first year, they may not have the administrative capacity or the management capacity, but in the next year, they will learn it. It is a learning process. We have to allow people to gain practical experience in democracy, and they should be allowed to think that management capacity could be developed at the grass-root and Zila Parishad levels. Therefore, I would request the Government to take the initiative in this regard.

The Indian Administrative Service has to be converted into Indian Management Service. When the funds are allocated for the programmes, they should see as to how they can be implemented through the elected representatives and not by the BDOs or by the District Collectors. It is high time to introduce this Indian Management Service, and the officers should be trained in such a way that they educate the elected representatives, who should be given a chance to manage the funds.

Each Member of Parliament is getting Rs. 2 crore, and we are only giving suggestions. We do not have any right to manage the funds or to implement the projects. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance is sitting here. We have been given a chance to allocate funds to the extent of Rs. 2 crore, but we do not have any right to know whether they are implementing programmes or not.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: We have read in the newspapers that the amount is going to be increased to Rs. 3 crore.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Eighteen hundred crores of rupees are still kept in the deposit. You must utilise them first.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: For example, I have given chit for Rs.1.75 crore but nothing is happening. No programmes have been implemented.

Members of Parliament are now given a new role to play, the role of managing MPLADS fund of Rs. 2 crore a year. But we do not have any control over the implementing agencies to check the way programmes are implemented. We are not allowed to review the progress of these programmes. We are given this new role in

addition to our parliamentary work. We are looking after the legislative work and at the same time we are trying to manage these funds. In Parliament we raise questions relating to common man. So, redressal of grievances of the common man should also be the responsibility of Members of Parliament. We cannot go on legislating alone. We put forth the grievances of common people in Parliament. Many State-related problems are coming up in Parliamentary discussions because we are facing them. We are supposed to be confined to the Union List only but we are interfering in the State List also. We are interfering in the Panchayat Raj affairs also because we have put that institution in place. We have to look after the welfare of the people who elect and send us here.

Therefore, I would request that we should be given more powers to manage the funds of the Central Government. When 29 per cent of money is also allotted to the State Governments, there should be a 10 per cent allocation direct to the Panchayat Raj. The only the poverty can be eradicated in India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Arjun Sethi, you may please speak next time.

18.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, May 2, 2000/Vaisakha 12, 1922 (Saka).
