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Wednesday, April 25, 2001
Vaisakha 5, 1923 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, April 25, 2001/Vaisakha 5, 1923 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the bandh is being observed in Mumbai today. There...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Two Adjournment Motions were received by the hon. Speaker from Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and Shri Ramji Lal Suman. Both the Motions have been disallowed by the hon. Speaker. If you want to raise anything, you can raise it after the Question Hour. I will give you the floor. Please cooperate.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious matter. I have given a notice....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale, you can take it up during 'Zero Hour'. I will give you the floor.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, please allow me for a minute....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we shall give you full support in running the House, but I seek permission from you for raising a serious matter pertaining to farmers. No provision has been made for farmers in the present Budget. The Government has reduced subsidy for Indian farmers. The Government are making comparison of our farmers with farmers of rich countries, but the farmers of foreign countries are getting five times more subsidy as compared to that being given to the farmers of our country. Hon. Finance Minister himself said in his speech that three and a half per cent production has come down with the reduction of subsidy on fertilisers, foodgrain production would further fall in future. Competition can be held between two equal persons. Can our farmers compete with the farmers of Japan, America, Canada and other countries of the European community? Hundred percent subsidy is given in rich countries and here the subsidy is being reduced. Hon. Prime Minister is sitting here, I want to ask him as to what he is going to do to check such competition involving Indian and foreign farmers, e.g. if one person is standing at a place and the other is standing five kilometers ahead him and both of them are asked to reach airport, then definitely the person standing 5 km. ahead would reach earlier than the person standing behind him. Therefore, I demand that farmers should be given a remunerative price for their production. Hon. Prime Minister in his speech had said that our farmers will not be at disadvantage by the agreements with International Market Organisation....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my question is...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will get a chance after the Question Hour, then you can raise this question.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I would like to point out one thing here. My telephone has been tapped. Several threatening calls by the corporate *mafia* are coming to me since I took up the issue of telecom scam....*(Interruptions)* I have conveyed this to hon. Speaker. I would like to take it up in the House. Kindly allow me....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will give you the floor later, after the Question Hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker: Sir....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Not in the Question Hour, I will give you chance in the Zero Hour. Now you please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are going to establish new conventions here by distributing the proceedings in this way.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give you the floor. Let us take up the Question Hour now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, I agree with Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav. Farmers are facing a big problem not only in regard to wheat, but also in regard to paddy.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is true, Shri Reddy. There are two Adjournment Motions tabled by them. He has met the hon. Speaker also and, that is why, I gave the floor to him. These matters can be raised immediately after the Question Hour is over. Please cooperate with the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, please let me speak for a minute only.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have said that I shall give you the floor after Question, but not now.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to make a point...*(Interruptions)*. I wish to make a request to you. I will not make a speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall hand-over the floor to you after the Question Hour.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Sir, I want to make a request...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may make all your requests in the Zero Hour. Do not disturb the Question Hour. Question number 541.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: I shall take only one minute.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have asked every Member including you to speak in the Zero Hour only and repeating this to you also.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you have listened to everyone.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please make your point after the Question Hour. I will give you chance in the Zero Hour. I have asked everyone to sit down as I will give them chance to speak. It is the right of all the Members to ask questions in the Question Hour, and its reply is to be given by the Government.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Sir, I wish to speak for only one second.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will get a chance in the Zero Hour.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Sir, entire Bihar is burning, murders are continuously taking place over there....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: One Member wants to speak for farmers while the other wants to speak for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Do not speak now, speak in the Zero our.

[English]

Please do not interrupt now, Shri Pappu Yadav. I will have to take you seriously.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Our BSF Soldiers were killed...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I told you that I will give you the floor during the 'Zero Hour'. Please resume your seat. Shri Ramdas Athawale, please resume your seat.

Now, let us take up Question No. 541, Shri Rampal Singh.

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* Not recorded.

11.08 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Conventional Methods of Treatment for Mental and Physical Diseases

+
*541. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

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

(a) whether conventional methods of treatment of physical and mental diseases are being grossly neglected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate an ambitious scheme to encourage research work in conventional methods of treatment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Indian Systems of Medicine (as different from modern allopathic medicine) have been accorded due attention and prominence. A vast infrastructure has been set up throughout the country comprising 2854 hospitals, 396 colleges and 22735 dispensaries. There are over 6.11 lakhs registered practitioners of various systems. A new Department was created in 1995 to look after the development and propagation of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy systems.

Emphasis has been placed on the implementation of various schemes which address the thrust areas identified for the development of the Indian Systems of Medicine which inter-alia include:-

- Upgradation of educational standards of the institutions.
- Improving the availability of raw-material.
- Quality control and standardization of drugs.
- Encouraging research in identified areas.
- Building awareness about the efficacy of the systems in India and abroad.
- Integration of the systems into the national health care delivery system including the Reproductive & Child Health Services.

Four autonomous Councils have been set up to initiate, guide, develop and coordinate scientific research in different aspects of the respective system of medicine. The Councils have been conducting research in various aspects including physical and mental/behavioural disorders. Apart from this, 21 institutions are presently being supported financially for conducting research in 25 areas under the scheme of Extra Mural Research on ISM&H. The main areas where the Indian Systems of Medicine have strengths have been identified and operational research studies, clinical trials and efficacy studies are also being promoted covering areas of current relevance and emerging interest.

The Indian Council of Medical Research has been funding research proposals in this area for scientific validation of treatment. The Department of Bio-technology, the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research and the Defence Research and Development Orgnaization among others are also engaged in conducting research in this sector. Clinical trials to prove the efficacy of the drugs have been emphasis and institutions and industry are being encouraged to undertake further research to promote wider acceptance of traditional Indian Medicine.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would ask hon. Minister that India, since ancient period has been dependent upon conventional methods of treatment of various physical and mental diseases. But in the present times, treatment through such conventional methods is losing its relevance in our country, whereas it is being encouraged in the foreign countries. Hon. Minister in his reply has said as to which schemes, out of the schemes prepared for experimentation of conventional methods are running presently 'b' part of my question is that the hon. Minister in his reply has informed that under the Indian system of medicine, experimental work has been done in 25 areas wherein 21 institutions are given financial assistance. I would like to ask the hon. Minister to mention about these 25 areas out of which the 21 institutions are being given financial assistance and the norms and grounds on which it is given.

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, it may be true that in the past the conventional system of medicine might have been ignored. The Department of Indian Systems of Medicine, a separate and exclusive Department, has been set up in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the year 1995 to develop and propagate the Indian systems of medicine, namely, Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy. We are giving more attention and focus on these systems of medicine. After the creation of a separate Department, the development of the system has received focussed attention.

So far as research is concerned, for Indian systems of medicine we have statutory regulatory bodies as we have the Indian Council of Medical Research for allopathy. Before going into details, I would like to say in a nutshell that just as we have research and statutory bodies to regulate the standard of education, manufacturing processes, etc., in the allopathy, we have a symmetrical structure available for Indian systems of medicines also. It will give a great boost to these systems to know that the Government is committed to promote them.

So far as research is concerned, we are having many research institutes as Councils created under statute. We are having four apex Research Councils, namely, Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha; Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine; Central Council for Research in Homeopathy; and Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy. These research institutes are giving attention on the areas of health care research, drug research, drug standardisation, medico-botanical survey, tribal health research, cultivation of medicinal plants, literary research and family welfare research.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am asking about the 25 place identified by them for research and the institutions given financial help. But no reply has been furnished.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has mentioned about the areas.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: This has not been told. He has mentioned about Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic System of Medicine only, not the areas.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has told three areas also.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Which institutions have been given assistance?

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: So far as assistance to hospitals attached to Government medical colleges for upgradation of wards under these systems is concerned, assistance has been given to five Government institutions for upgradation and modernisation of hospital wards attached to medical colleges at the rate of Rs. 20 lakh each. These colleges are: Government Ayurvedic College Hospital, Tiruvanathapuram; Government Naseeba Tayyiba College, Hyderabad; JPS Homeopathy Medical College, Hyderabad; Government Ayurvedic College, Bangalore; and Government Ayurvedic College Hospital, Chennai. Apart from that, extramural research is going on in all the research bodies I have mentioned. Apart from that, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), which is mainly dealing with allopathy system, is doing research in the field of Indian systems of medicine also on par with the allopathy system.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: What amount have the Government allocated for this project?

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: In the Ninth Plan, we have allocated Rs. 364.73 crore. For this year, we have allotted Rs. 120 crore for Indian systems of medicine altogether.

[Translation]

SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY: Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has told in his reply that a department has been established in 1993 for this project. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to this department has been established at which of the places, hon. Minister has told about the annual statement of expenditure incurred on it but which officer/authority is entrusted with the work of keeping a watch over its working and how many people have been benefited by this scheme? Please tell me.

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: The Department of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy is a separate Department created under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. A separate Secretary has been posted to look after this Department and she is maintianing all these things.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the kind notice of hon. Minister that 'Ayurveda' has given most significant place in the indigenous treatment methods. And new researches and experiments are being undertaken in this regard not only in India, but in various other foreign countries also. I, therefore, want to know from the hon. Minister that whether keeping in mind the aforesaid situation, the Government are proposing to create a separate Directorate for the aforesaid purpose. As many Doctors practising in this conventional method of treatment have given memorandum and have also made repeated requests to the Government?

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, as I said it earlier, on par with the Allopathic system, we are maintaining pharmaceutical standards in the Indian Systems of Medicine also. So far, the Department has brought out the first and the second volumes of Aurvedic Pharmaceuticals of India containing 80 and 78 monographs respectively of single drugs plants which have been published. The third volume which contains 100 monographs of single drugs has also been published recently.

Similarly, Sir, Ayurvedic Pharmaceuticals of India contains the first and the second volumes containing 444 and 191 compound formulations respectively which have also been published for the benefit of the system.

[Translation]

DR. LAXIMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I have a particular question that whether the Government propose to establish a separate Ayurveda Directorate or not, hon. Minister has not given any reply of that.

[English]

Is Govt. going to constitute a separate Directorate for Ayurveda or not?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, we are having two bodies. One is the statutory body to maintain and monitor the educational system contemplated in the Ayurvedic system. Another one is the research body. I think that no more Directorate is necessary here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member is asking for a separate body, an indigenous body for Ayurveda. Am I right?

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Is the Government considering to constitute a separate Ayurveda Directorate or not?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I am explaining it exclusively for Ayurveda. For Ayurveda, we are having two bodies. We are having a statutory body to maintain the educational system...*(Interruptions)*

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: I am asking about a separate Directorate.

SHRI A. RAJA: Apart from that, with great respect to the hon. Member, I do feel that the creation of a separate Directorate for Ayurveda is not necessary. But if at all it is required, I would look into the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the North-East, adjoining Bhutan and Tibet, is the hilly area. It is having rich flora. There is a system of herbal care which is quite famous in the Tibetan area. Also in my own constituency, there have been miraculous cures in the cases of cancer, diabetes and blood pressure. In Mizoram, we have a plant which is quite good for treatment of ordinary ailments.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware of the rich herbal wealth in the region which I mentioned, and in regard to the research areas which are to be identified, whether the North-East will be taken care of.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, the hon. Prime Minister had also announced about the establishment of the Medicinal Plant Board which deals with the consideration of herbs, proper harvesting cost effective cultivation, research and other things.

I do admit that even the Indian Council for Medical Research has formulated a medicine for diabetes which is in the experimental and clinical stage, and is under active consideration. However, the details exposed by the hon. Member will be kept in mind and looked into during the course of time through the National Board.

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I just want to know whether the Government has banned the injections available in the Ayurvedic system. If so, what are the reason thereof—medically and legally. This is what I want to elicit from the hon. Minister.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, this is a sensitive question. However, I want to answer it. It is needless to submit

before this House that all the drugs, including the injectable drugs, are being governed by the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. Under this act, Ayurveda, as any system of Indian Medicines, has not been permitted to manufacture injections. However, two companies, namely, Pratap Pharmacy and Siddhi Pharmacy, as also one Ayurveda pharmacy at Jaunpur had formulated an injection and started selling it in the market.

As soon as it was brought to the notice of the Department, the Drug Controller of India verified it and passed an order. Since such kinds of medicines or injections are violating the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, he issued a ban order as early as in 1983.

The companies challenged that order that they should be permitted to sell it in the market, stating that it was not detrimental to human beings. However, since it involves legal impediments, when they challenged it before the Supreme Court, the Supreme Court gave a direction to the Department to constitute a committee under section 33 (c) which is available in the Drugs and Cosmetics Act itself to verify on experimental and clinical bases whether the injection could be allowed or not. Accordingly, we constituted a committee. That committee, after full experimental and clinical studies, felt that it could not be allowed in the market. Before a direction could be given, out of apprehensions best known to the companies, they went again to the Supreme Court and filed a petition so that the judgement could be secured in a proper manner. As such, we are waiting for a direction from the Supreme Court. The matter is *sub judice* and only these things could be given to this House at this stage.

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in Tamil Nadu, the Government has given land...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can ask only one Supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M. MASTER MATHAN: Sir, the Government of Tamil Nadu has given land for National Institute of Siddha. I want to know when it would come up....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I want to respond to it since it is on Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Even if it is on Tamil Nadu, I cannot violate the rules.

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, I am from Tamil Nadu. I know, I am a Minister in the Government of India but there should not be any unnecessary apprehensions in the minds of MPs from Tamil Nadu.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you have information, you can give it.

SHRI A. RAJA: He is asking about the National Institute for Siddha. For Ayurveda and Unani medicines, we are having National Institutes. The Government is committed to have a National Institute for Siddha at Chennai. The Government of Tamil Nadu has assigned some land. The issue is, the State's share should be fixed, how much they could bear. For that, the Government of Tamil Nadu has responded positively. It would be coming up within this year.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, along with the globalisation, mental health is also in disorder in our country. There is much of stress and depression among the bureaucrats, among the school-going children and sometimes amongst us also. What I want to know from the hon Minister is whether *yoga* and meditation are the best courses as has been suggested by many Siddha *yogis* and other *yogis*. This system is also being encouraged by our hon. Chief Minister, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu. He has already introduced this course to be undergone by many bureaucrats and politicians including Legislators. Will the hon. Minister introduce this course in the Indian systems of medicine to have *yoga* and meditation as one of the subjects under the Indian systems?

SHRI A. RAJA: The hon. Prime Minister has announced that the basic concepts of Indian systems of medicine and homeopathy should be incorporated in the MBBS course. Apart from that, so far as the mental state of some patients is concerned, the Ayurveda Research Unit of the Central Council of Research in Ayurveda and Siddha is working in collaboration with the Institute at Hyderabad, which I think is the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences. We are having continuous and perpetual contact with them to devise something medically and therapy-wise. We are trying to sort things out.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: We require it on an all-India basis, not only for Hyderabad. This disorder is

everywhere in the country. We must have a national policy on this....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

High Mortality Rate of Expectant Mothers

*542. + SHRI P. R. KHUNTE:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

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

(a) whether as per the report of the United Nations Population Fund, four out of every one thousand expectant mothers in India die every year while delivering a child;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that iron deficiency in pregnant women is increasing enormously which causes high Maternal Mortality Rate in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by the Government to tackle the situation?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) According to 'Population and Reproductive Health Facts on India', a briefing kit published by United Nations Population Fund, four mothers die for every one thousand live births each year in India. This fact is in conformity with the estimates on maternal mortality ratio published by the Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India. According to these estimates for 1998, the maternal mortality ratio was 407 per 100,000 live births.

The main causes of maternal deaths are:

1. **Direct Causes**: Haemorrhage, infections, obstructed labour, unsafe abortion, toxaemia of pregnancy etc.
2. **Indirect Causes:** Anaemia, viral hepatitis, tuberculosis and malaria.
3. **Socio economic Causes:** Early age at marriage, adolescent pregnancy, low status of women, low level of female education, lack of access of health services, gender bias and economic dependency.

(c) and (d) Anaemia during pregnancy is an important contributor to maternal mortality. According to a study conducted by ICMR in 11 States during 1984-86, 87.6% pregnant women were found to have anaemia. However, according to a country-wide National Family Health Survey conducted in 1998-99, 49.7% pregnant women were found to suffer from anaemia. Though the two surveys are not strictly comparable, the results indicate a declining trend in anaemia among pregnant women over the years.

(e) Iron deficiency anaemia is a problem of inadequate nutrition. A National Nutrition Policy was formulated in 1993 and the national plan of action on nutrition is being implemented through a number of departments of Government of India including, among other, the Integrated Child Development Services Programme of Department of Women and Child Development and the Reproductive and Child Health Programme of the Department of Family Welfare for improving the nutritional status of pregnant women and children. Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme implemented throughout the country, pregnant women and children (1-5 years) are provided with Iron and Folic acid tablets for prophylaxis and treatment of anaemia.

Maternal health care is an integral part of the Family Welfare Programme. Certain vertical interventions like the National Nutritional Anaemia Control Programme and Tetanus Immunization Programme for pregnant mothers have been going on under the Family Welfare Programme since 1977-78. In 1992, the nationwide Child Survival and Safe Motherhood (CSSM) (1992-97) was launched with World Bank support, for integrating various vertical interventions in the area of Maternal and Child Health. The Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme, which was launched in 1997, continues by way of strengthening of the CSSM activities along with certain new programmes. The major interventions of RCH programmes aimed at bringing down maternal mortality are:

1. Provision of Essential Obstetric Care.
2. Provision of Emergency Obstetric Care.
3. Provision of Services in backward districts by holding RCH Camps at primary health Centres.
4. Contractual appointments of additional ANMs for backward districts for improving access to services.

5. Provision of contractual or part time appointment of Anaesthetists, Gynaecologists, Safe Motherhood Consultants and technical staff like Laboratory technicians, Public Health Nurses etc.

6. Provision of drugs and equipment for Maternal Health at sub centres, primary health centres, community health centres/first referral units- including Iron and Folic Acid tablets for maternal and childhood anaemia.

7. A scheme for 24 hour delivery services at selected primary health centres and community health centres.

8. Referral transport for pregnant women from indigent families.

9. Facilities and training for medical termination of pregnancies for safe abortions.

10. Prevention, management and control of Reproductive Tract Infections (RTI) and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI).

11. Intensification of information, education and communication programmes for Maternal and Child Health through the mass media as also decentralised local specific activities at the grass root level.

12. Involvement of NGOs in awareness generation and service delivery where government services are not adequate.

13. Training of medical/paramedical and other services providers.

14. Training of Dais

The need for brining down MMR considerably and improving maternal health in general has been strongly stressed in the National Population Policy-2000, which has been approved by Government. This policy recommends a holistic strategy for bringing about total inter-sectoral coordination at the grassroots level and also for involving the NGOs, civil society, Panchayati Raj Institutions and women's groups in bringing down Maternal Mortality Ratios and Infant Mortality Rates.

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have drawn your attention towards a very serious issue. It is a fact that for human development, women must be healthy and educated. As per 1991 census, the sex ratio in India is 927 females per 1000 males. It is estimated that every year 120 lakh girl child are born, of which only 90 lakh survive upto the age of 15, this is more so in rural areas where women are not well educated and healthy. Many expecting mothers and children die due to lack of medical facilities at the time of delivery. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government propose to introduce a scheme to train Anganwadi women and public health workers to extend help in pre-delivery stage, during safe motherhood and child birth and also after delivery.

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: The Government is concerned about the sentiments expressed by the hon. Member. As stated in the answer itself, the main or the direct causes of maternal deaths are: haemorrhage, infections, unsafe abortion, etc. As the hon. Member put it, socio-economic causes are also more. They are: early age at marriage, adolescent pregnancy, low status of women, low level of female education, lack of access to health services, gender bias and economic dependency. They are the causes for this stigma. To control all these things, in 1997, we introduced a comprehensive plant with the assistance of the World Bank.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has asked whether you have schemes to educate *anganwadi* women to help expectant mothers. That is what he has asked.

SHRI A. RAJA: I am coming to it. Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, we are empowering the PHCs and Sub-Centres — if doctors and ANMs are not available at all — to hire doctors or trained medical persons to extend medical facilities for expectant mothers and children.

[Translation]

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I did not get the accurate reply of my question which I had asked. There are rural public health workers, particularly Anganwadi workers in every village who are educated upto 8th, 10th and 12th standard. They even distribute nutritious food to remove malnutrition but since they lack knowledge about delivery, they are not in a position to extend their help to them. If the Anganwadi workers are trained, then certainly their services can be utilised. I have not got this reply and I am yet to ask my supplementary question...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can add your supplementary question to this.

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Though nurses have been appointed in 10-12 villages, they are unable to manage 10-12 villages and extend medical facilities to them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government of India propose to recruit women health workers in every Gram Panchayat having population of more than 1500?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has raised two points.

SHRI A. RAJA: The job of recruiting nurses or doctors falls within the purview of the State Government. In spite of that the Central Government is continuously insisting on the State Governments to fill up the vacancies. Apart from that, under RCH programmes, we are having essential obstetrics care. Under these programmes, we promote and propagate two types of deliveries. One is the promotion of institution of deliveries. Under this programme, the expectant mothers are brought to hospitals and delivery is made there. Another is the promotion of safe deliveries at home by training *Dais*, that is local *Anganwadis* etc. For that, so far Rs. 5.21 crore have been released to the States particularly for 42 districts in 18 States. In these 18 States and 142 districts, we have identified the expectant mothers' death and we have funded for that. All sorts of medical facilities are being extended to them.

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH: Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in his written reply, the hon. Minister has mentioned about 14 major interventions of 'The Reproductive and Child Health Programmes' aimed at bringing down maternal mortality rate. I feel that out of these 14 programmes, not even a single programme is being implemented in Uttar Pradesh. Hon. Prime Minister who is sitting here, also belongs to Uttar Pradesh. Even today poverty is prevailing in various villages of Uttar Pradesh and the women are facing difficulty due to lack of food and medication and they are being oppressed. Particularly, there is scheme for 24 hour delivery services at selected primary health centres. However, I would like to say that there is no lady doctor in the Primary Health Centre of any village to attend delivery cases. Though there is an arrangement for lady doctor in District Hospitals and District Headquarters, it is so crowded that the expecting mothers have to rely on village midwives. The mothers and children suffer poor health due to lack of money and poverty. I feel that it is not possible to implement the list of programmes, which has been given in India, instead it can be implemented only in America or any other Western country. I would like to know whether these 14 programmes are being implemented in Uttar Pradesh or not? If so, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the names of those districts where these programmes are being implemented? As per my information, these programmes are not being implemented in any district of Uttar Pradesh. Earlier poor people used to get medicine free of cost in hospitals, today I would like to ask the Government of Bharatiya Janata Party....*(Interruptions)*. This is my second question. I have not completed my question. Now Rs. 400 is being charged for the health services being provided to women at the time of delivery, which were earlier provided free of cost.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You ask your Question.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: I would like to know whether these poor women, who do not have money, will be able to give birth to a child in hospital or not?

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, invariably all the programmes are being implemented in all States. No State has been excluded from the programmes available in the Ministry.

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH: It is not being implemented in Uttar Pradesh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: These programmes are in Union List. If they have not implemented it, then it is their fault.

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, health is a State subject. Maintaining the PHCs and Community Health Centres at Taluk level or at the block level is done by the State Governments. We are only supplementing that. We are funding from here in order to upgrade the standard of the hospitals and other things. I can give these details. To recruit additional ANMs, from 1997-98 to 2000-2001 alone, we have given Rs. 15.63 crore. For PHN, lab technicians, referral transport, 24-hour clinics, consultation, hiring private gynaecologists etc., we are giving money to Uttar Pradesh, which is on par with other States. If the hon. Member needs these details, I will send the details to him.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can send the details to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Hon. Member's Question has not been replied to properly....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will send information to you regarding U.P.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: You should supervise the utilisation of funds, which you are providing.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will send all details to you. Even then you are getting up time and again.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Shri Rattan Lal Kataria's Question.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is not the time to ask such a long Question. During Question Hour, you cannot give speech, you can only ask Question.

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in our country expecting mothers die while delivering a child. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the maternal mortality ratio in urban and rural areas and whether this number is more among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes women? Alongwith this, I would also like to know about the Infant Mortality Rate on account of malnutrition particularly in such cases where infant dies while mother survives?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you have these details you can tell, otherwise you can send them to the hon. Member in writing.

SHRI A. RAJA: So far as maternal mortality ratio is concerned, we do not have any stringent survey. However, as per the Registrar General of India, by way of Central Registration Scheme admitted in the year 1998, out of one lakh expectant mothers, 407 mothers die. The Government is committed to bring down this maternal mortality ratio to 100 out of one lakh.

[Translation]

SHRI J.S. BRAR: The hon. Minister in his reply has mentioned about the condition of women in the 21st century. The figures which he has given are not correct. A mention has been made about anaemia. According to a study conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research, in 11 States during 1984-86, 87 per cent pregnant women were found to be suffering from anaemia. Now it has come down to 49.7 per cent. I would like to ask from the hon. Minister that

[English]

> "Pregnant women and children upto the age of one to five years, are provided with Iron and Folic Acid Tablets."

[Translation]

These tablets are not being provided in States like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Even if it is provided, they are not aware as the literacy rate among women is very less in the villages. Will the Government take any concrete step in this regard? According to the latest census, male and female ratio has declined. This ratio has declined more in Punjab. I would like to know as to what step hon. Minister would take to check such irregularities in the society.

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: So far as anaemia, the main cause of maternal death, is concerned, a study has been held by the National Family Health Survey. This study is comparable with the study conducted by the ICMR in the year 1984-86. As per this study, 87.6 per cent pregnant women and anaemic. This figures has been reduced to 49.7 per cent in the year 1998-99 because of the efforts made by the Government in propagating RCH and other such programmes. So, the Government is very much keen to further reduce the mortality ratio by introducing RCH and other World Bank assisted programmes.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: What was the decrease in the male-female ratio?

SHRI A. RAJA: I do not have the figure at present. I will send it to you.

* Not recorded.

SHRI J.S. BRAR: Sir, the Minister has not answered my question...*(Interruptions)* Could the minister send me a written reply?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Could you tell whether in Punjab there was a decline in male and female ratio? As per the revised census, there is an alarming gap. Is there anything that the Government intends to do in this regard?

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, this question pertains to mothers' mortality. However, hon. Member's question will be answered in writing.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you that at least you have paid attention to a lady Member. The entire House is sensitive to the issue of safe motherhood. The Government intends to bring down the maternal mortality rate through cooperation of NGOs by expanding health services since expecting mothers die while delivery a child. The 80 per cent women who are living in rural areas should also get these facilities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government have involved NGOs for making proper arrangement to prevent expecting mother's death in these 4 States i.e. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, which are known as 'BIMARU' States and if not, what special package Government propose to formulate so that these States can overcome this situation.

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, so far as the health programmes for BIMARU States are concerned, wherever the incidence of disease is higher, notwithstanding the geographical situation, we are funding all the schemes available in the Department.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: I have asked about these 4 'BIMARU' States....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI A. RAJA: Sir, as regards the procedure contemplated to select the NGOs, we are giving mother-NGO status for NGOs who are working for more than three years. Sir, I will give other details regarding NGOs later.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You give information to her about those four States at later stage.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: We want the figures of 4 States i.e. Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MPLADS

*543. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any complaints from the Members of Parliament regarding non-issuance of the utilisation certificate in time and non-execution of work in time by the District Collectors in the States under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Schemes despite the recommendations made by the Member of Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Under the existing Guidelines and procedure, the annual entitlement of Rs. crore per MP per year is released in two instalments of Rs. 1 crore each. This is based on an expenditure report showing unsanctioned balance less than Rs. 50 lakhs. As soon as such a report is received from the District Collector, the next instalment of Rs. 1 crore is released in respect of an MP. Complaints have been received from some Members of Parliament regarding non-submission/delay in submission of such reports.

Complaints have also been received from the Members of Parliament regarding delay in the

implementation/non-implementation of MPLADS work. These complaints broadly highlight various circumstances leading to slow pace of work. Some of these are indicated below:

(i) Delay in release of funds.

(ii) Delay in processing of recommendations received from MPs by District Authorities.

(iii) Delay in preparation of estimates by the concerned agencies.

(iv) Delay in issue of financial sanction by the District-Heads.

(v) Non-compliance of time frame by the implementing agencies.

(vi) Delay in transfer of funds from one District to another.

(vii) Non-submission of expenditure statement by District Heads to the Central Government.

(viii) Non-availability of/delay in acquisition of land.

(ix) Operation of the Model Code of Conduct issued by the Election Commission of India.

(x) Numerous other responsibilities of the District Officials.

(c) Whenever any specific instance of non-submission/ delay-in submission of expenditure report by the District Collector is brought to the notice of this Ministry, the concerned collector is immediately contacted for submission of the requisite report.

On receipt of complaints, about delay in implementation the matter is immediately take up with the concerned State Governments/nodal authorities for investigation and remedial action. The State Governments have been advised from time to time to follow strictly the provisions of the guidelines and implement works recommended by members of Parliament expeditiously. The District Heads have been advised to sanction works recommended by Members of Parliament to the extent of their entitlement without waiting for actual release of funds and submit the expenditure report expeditiously so that funds could be released from the Ministry speedily. The District Heads have also been advised to evolve a time frame for implementation keeping in view the nature of the works and follow the same strictly. To streamline the process of release of funds by the Central Government, in place of release of funds of Rs. 2 crores in four instalments of Rs. 50 lakhs each, it has been decided to release annual entitlement of Rs. 2 crores in two instalments of Rs. 1 crore each on the condition that as soon as the unsanctioned balance comes below Rs. 50 lakhs the next instalment of Rs. 1 crore is released. The State Governments/District Heads have also been advised to comply with the provision of monitoring of works as per the guidelines on MPLADS and make special arrangements for holding review meetings at the level of Chief Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary etc.

The Parliamentary Committee of Lok Sabha on MPLADS visited Hyderabad on 15.4.2000 to have interaction with some District Heads of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala Karnataka, Pondicherry and Lakshadweep. The Committee also visited Khajuraho on 12th September, 2000 to have interaction with some District Heads of Madhya Pradesh, U.P. and Rajasthan. Special Review Meetings are also being held from time to time at the level of MOS (S&PI) to remove the constraints so as to ensure expeditious implementation of works recommended. Special Review Meetings were held with the MPs and District Heads in Patna, Calcutta, Bhubneshwar and Goa under the Chairmanship of MOS (S&PI).

[Translation]

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my question relates to the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). The question is related to the non-insurance of utilisation certificates and non-execution of work in time despite the recommendations of the Member of Parliament.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Whether the Union Government have received any complaint in this regard and the action taken in regard thereto.

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: All kinds of complaints from every State have been received regarding MPLADS scheme. The local area development work is undertaken by DRDA and PWD after having been sanctioned by the District Collector. I hail from Jalana constituency....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You ask the question. Many more Members have to ask the questions.

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: The C.O. of the Zila Parishad has written a letter to the Collector that we cannot undertake the work and get it done from another agency despite it having having been sanctioned by the D.M. and sent to DRDA of rural area under the Zila Parishad. I have also got the proof of that letter with me. I raised this issue several times but C.O. declined to

undertake the work. I would like to know as to whether an officer who is entrusted the job of implementing the work can refuse to undertake it despite the work of project having been properly sanctioned. If he cannot decline to do so, then what action will be taken up against such guilty officers.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir such type of complaints have been received several times. Whenever some hon. Member lodge specific complaint in this regard, I talk without any delay to the district collector and the officer entrusted with the job of undertaking the work. Two to three days before, Shri Brar and Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Sinhdevji had come to me...*(Interruptions)*. Situation improves...*(Interruptions)*. No there is neither any scheme nor any provision under which any district officer can be punished by the Union Government for denying to undertake a particular work regarding MPLADS. I will not misguide you, hence I would say that we can only persuade. As the district officers work under the State Government, we can only talk to the Chief Secretary and district officer. Many a times this issue has been raised in the House that the devolution of powers in regard to the control over the district officer should take place and the centre should also be given the right to punish erring district officer. This issue was raised under the discussion on the rural development demands. The hon. Members must also pay attention to the fact that insignificant projects should not be taken up under the MPLADS scheme. As the hon. Member has also referred to Jalana, I would like him to tell about some specific complaints he has. I will personally talk to the officers and try to resolve the issue.

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Sir, hon. Minister has said during his reply that the Government can not take action against the district officers. I would like to emphasize that funds worth crore of rupees are lying unutilised but no agency agrees to undertake and implement the work. This causes a lot of suffering to the Member of Parliament. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether he will write to the State Government in this regard.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: As I have said, I will certainly write to the State Governments....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let him reply. You do not allow him to give the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I will not only write to the State Government but also hold deliberations and try to find some solution.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, what he says is that the norms are already there. If any officer is violating the norms, what is the action that the Government has contemplated to take?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I would not like to pre-judge the issue by saying that an officer has violated the norms without examining the matter. I just cannot say that. When the hon. Member gives me a specific complaint, I would take it up.

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: We have given in writing several times but every time our request is turned down. I would like to know as to what action you propose to take in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I do not agree to what you are saying.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please allow the Minister to give the reply.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I will not just pass a stricture against an officer without examining the matter.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is unbecoming of a Member. You do not allow the Minister to complete his answer on such an important matter.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: What he is referring to are letters he has written to the District Administration and not to me. When the matter is brought before me. I will certainly take it up. Why does he not text us on that matter? We will redress on the question, if the officer is doing something wrong.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Patel, he has already given the reply.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Sir, I have the proof with me.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may have the proof with yourself to the Minister. The Minister has said that he will take up the matter.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit that the Ministry of Programme Implementation of the Government of India have, under the Member of Parliament Local area Development Scheme, directed the district collector to provide administrative sanction within 30 days ad financial sanction within 45 days. The Standing Committee on Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) have suggested to amend these guidelines. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what action the Government will take against those district collectors who do not give the administrative sanction within 30 days and financial sanction within 45 days as mentioned under the guidelines? For the sake of informing you, I would like to tell you that nowhere the sanction is being provided within the stipulated period and as there is no such provision as to punish the erring officers, the district collectors are acting arbitrarily. Secondly in regard to your mentioning that second instalments of 1 crore will be released as soon as the expenditure report showing unsanctioned balance less than 50 lakhs is received from the district collectors. On the basis of the true information I have in this regard, I would like to say that either what you have stated in this regard is wrong or the proper procedure is not being followed.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please do not make a speech now. This is the difficulty.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, actually, last time, the hon. Speaker had said that there would be a Half-an-Hour Discussion on this matter. I can continue to reply to each of these if you want to have a more structured debate. I have said that we are more than willing to have it.

As far as punishment is concerned, I will only be repeating myself that Parliament will then have to pass a law about punishing officials on this matter. There is no provision of that kind now. I do not want to leave anybody under any illusion on that score....*(Interruptions)*

The second point is that as far as motivating the District Collectors is concerned, the hon. Speaker himself has been taking the initiative....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: How can he answer if you do like this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pradhan, let him answer. He is explaining it. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do you not want the reply? The hon. Member has put a question and the hon. Minister is answering. Shri Pradhan, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, our Department has been regularly holding meeting. Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi and others will testify it. We have been holding meetings with the Collectors. The hon. Speaker himself has held meetings with the Collectors of all the Southern States in Hyderabad; with the Collectors of the North-Western States in Khajuraho. Other meetings are planned. Shri Ramaiah has been meeting the Collectors himself. I have met the persons concerned in Calcutta for West Bengal. In Bhubaneswar and in Goa also I met them.

The third point is about releases. I just want to answer that....*(Interruptions)* A complaint about releases was just made by hon. Members....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI. District Collectors don't do anything....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Phoolan Deviji, you please sit down, the Minister is replying.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: As far as releases are concerned....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shrimati Phoolan Devi please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the District Collectors even do not meet us. This way they are trying to insult us....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You resume your seat.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir you listen our viewpoint also...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Not one crore, five crores should be released.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you do not allow the Question Hour also to function.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: As far as the releases are concerned, the complaint that has just been made, I wish to inform the House that in the last year the releases were to the tune of Rs. 1,390 crore. This year, the releases have been Rs. 2,080 crore. There has been an increase of Rs.800 crore in the releases. This time, we were given Rs. 250 crore on the 16th of January, by the 14th of February, the entire amount has been released. Then, we were given Rs. 250 crore on the 27th of March, by the 29th of March, the entire amount has been released. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVRAJ SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the reply of the hon. Minister is totally wrong....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if the hon. Minister cannot do anything then you provide justice to us....*(Interruptions)*. They do not take any action.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister is giving the details of the releases to the tune of Rs. 250 crore but nobody wants to listen to the Minister. This is such an important issue.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: So much delay has taken place in our receiving the funds. We should get it within 15-20 days. Why do not you take any action when the Union Government should do so...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister.

[English]

Though our Minister has a vision, I think, his department has a slightly blurred vision and that creates most of the problems...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You ask the question.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: The question here is, apart from what we have discussed here, it relates to the preparation of estimates.

[Translation]

We have seen in our villages that if a bridge is to be constructed in a rural area and a private engineer is asked to draw its design, it costs ten thousand rupees. But a project can not be sanctioned by the Deputy Magistrate until it is signed by Executive Engineer. If the construction cost of building is in the range of two lakhs, the estimate prepared by the executive engineers comes somewhere between three to four lakhs. The villagers complaint that if the construction work of a school is entrusted to the Committee then it would cost nearly 10 lakh and if the estimate for the same construction comes to thirty lakhs when it is done by Government functionaries. The district magistrate declines to pass the estimate prepared by the Government functionaries. I would like to know from you as do the Government propose to evolve a produce for getting the project sanctioned by the District Magistrate if the estimate of the said project or work is prepared by a recognised structural engineer or recognised architect? If so, what will be the procedure, if it is not done then the misutilisation of Government fund will continue...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: This is an important suggestion. I will certainly bear it in mind. The reason for the existing provision that you have to get things

implemented through the State Government's machinery is that if MPs start naming architects and contractors on their own....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, this is the whole problem.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, I will certainly take up the matter regarding estimate preparation and architects. I would like to give a forecast now that allegations would start coming against Members of Parliament, but as an important suggestion, I will take it up and the House will decide this. But this will require an amendment in the guidelines and the Committee on MPLADS headed by Dr. B.B. Ramaiah would like to decide that as such...*(Interruptions)*

12.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Hospitals

*544. SHRIMATI RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

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

(a) whether World Bank is providing funds for setting up of hospitals and dispensaries in some States;

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

(c) the extent to which medical facilities have been augmented by this assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) Health is a State subject and establishment/ upgradation of hospitals is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, as a result of some States approaching the World Bank with a request for assistance, and its appraisal by the Government of India and the World Bank, assistance is being received to inter alia, renovate, extend and modernize the essential secondary level health care facilities in seven States. The details of these projects are given as follows:

1. ANDHRA PRADESH

Cost	Rs. 608.00 crores (US$ 158.9 million)
Duration	$6^1/_2$ Years w.e.f. 1.3.95.
Coverage	Extending/renovating-21 District Hospitals, 47 Area Hospitals, 25 Sub-Community/Taluk Hospitals, 49 Community/Taluk Hospitals and three new MCH units.
Progress	Construction of 138 hospitals has been completed, out of which 130 hospitals have been operationalised. All 150 hospitals will be operationalised shortly. Major equipment norms for 130 hospitals have been met, and supply for the remaining hospitals is in the pipeline. In order to upgrade the hospital performance rating system, quality indicators have been identified. Plan for medical waste management has been developed. Training of health staff is being conducted regularly.

2. WEST BENGAL

Cost	Rs. 698.00 Crores (US$ 174.2 million)
Duration	$5^1/_2$ Years w.e.f. 27.6.96
Coverage	Extending/renovating-15 districts hospitals, 60 sub-divisional hospitals, 95 rural hospitals, upgrading 28 primary health centres, 8 block PHCs in the Sunderban areas.
Progress	Construction in 85 hospitals has been completed and work in the remaining 125 hospitals is progressing. It is expected that a total of 140 works would be completed by April 30, 2001. Deliveries of equipment ordered under phases I and II of the procurement plan have been completed. Repair programme for equipment and furniture has been completed in 170 hospitals.

3. KARNATAKA

Cost	Rs. 546 Crores (US$ 136.4 million)
Duration	$5^1/_2$ Years w.e.f. 27.6.96
Coverage	Extending/renovating-21 district hospitals, 107 sub-divisional hospitals and 74 community hospitals.

Progress	Work has been completed in 105 hospitals and has been in progress in another 86 hospitals. The remaining 9 hospitals are also supposed to be completed shortly. Procurement plan for goods and equipment has been finalised. In 30 hospitals, the system of Medical Waste Management has already been implemented.

4. PUNJAB

Cost	Rs. 425.00 crores (US$ 106.1 million)
Duration	$5^1/_2$ Years w.e.f. 27.6.96
Coverage	Extending/renovating-13 district hospitals, 46 sub-divisional hospitals and 91 community hospitals.
Progress	Out of the total 154 hospitals, civil works in 63 hospitals have been completed and works in 63 hospitals are under progress. Procurement of goods worth Rs. 47 crores is at an advance stage.

5. ORISSA

Cost	Rs. 415.57 Crores (US$ 90.7 million)
Duration	5 years w.e.f. Sept. 1998
Coverage	32 District head qrs. Hospitals, 20 Sub-divisional hospitals, 19 Area hospitals, 85 Community health centres.
Progress	21 works are already under progress and another 14 are also to be started shortly. For the other 120 hospitals, design and tendering process have been going on. 42 ambulances, equipment and drugs worth Rs. 5 crores have been procured. Progress has been made in medical waste management, quality assurance, disease surveillance etc.

6. MAHARASHTRA

Cost	Rs. 727.00 Crores (US$ 158.1 million)
Duration	$5^1/_2$ Years w.e.f. 14.2.1999
Coverage	25 district hospitals, 76 sub-divisional hospitals, 35 community health centres.
Progress	Work is under progress in 27 hospitals and it is expected to cover a total of 57 hospitals by April 30, 2001. It is hoped that 6 hospitals will be completed by April 30, 2001. Procurement of equipment, medicine etc. of the value of Rs. 18 crores is under progress.

7. UTTAR PRADESH

Cost	Rs. 495 Crores (US$ 110 million)
Duration	$5^1/_2$ Years w.e.f. 1.7.2000
Coverage	Strengthening 25 District Hospitals (male), 25 District Hospitals (female), 3 Combined Hospitals, 28 Community Health Centres and 36 Block Primary Health Centres.
Progress	The process of receiving and examining bids for construction has been started. Similarly procurement of ambulances and equipment will start soon.

Attacks on Places of Worship in Fiji

*545. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the incidents of attacks on temples, looting of gold ornaments from temples and destruction of idols in Fiji;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have lodged protest in this connection with the Fijian Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Contribution of SSI Sector

*546. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of the Small Scale Industries sector in the matter of export, employment generation and in gross industrial production;

(b) the details of the existing policy of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the extent to which the above policy has proved to be helpful in developing and strengthening the said sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The contribution of the Small Scale Industries (SSIs) sector is estimated at 35% of total exports, employment of 177.50 lakh persons and 39.53% of total industrial production in 1999-2000.

(b) The present policy of the Government is to impart greater vitality and growth impetus to the SSI Sector to enable it to contribute fully to the economy, particularly in terms of growth of exports, employment and output. In addition, a comprehensive policy package for Small Scale Industries (SSI) and Tiny Sector was announced on 30th August, 2000 to strengthen the small scale sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally. The policy package *inter-alia* includes easier access to credit, availability of collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs, capital subsidy for technological upgradation and improved infrastructure.

(c) The policy measures taken by the Government have helped the SSI sector to maintain sustained rate of growth, contribute significantly to the growth of output, generate employment, earn foreign exchange and become globally competitive.

[English]

Bringing Back of Ashes of Prithviraj Chauhan

*547. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring back ashes of Prithviraj Chauhan, the great historical figure, from Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) No Sir. There is no evidence available with the Government which could establish that the mortal remains of Samrat Prithviraj Chauhan are buried in Afghanistan.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Launching of GSLV

*548. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's first GSLV failed to lift off due to some technical snag recently;

(b) if so, whether the Space Research Programme has been badly hit due to failure of the launching of GSLV;

(c) whether any preliminary investigations have been conducted into the causes of failure of launching of GSLV;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total losses suffered by the Government on this count;

(f) whether the Government are considering to re-launch the GSLV;

(g) if so, time-frame worked out therefor; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to check recurrence of such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY

AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The first launch attempt was aborted one second before the lift-off on March 28, 2001 by the Automatic Launch Processing System (ALS) after detecting that one of the strap-on boosters did not develop the required thrust. Subsequently GSLV was successfully launched on April, 18, 2001.

(b) The Space Programme has not been affected by the launch hold. On the other hand the experience gained through the safe abort and fast recovery is invaluable as witnessed by the successful launch.

(c) A detailed analysis has been carried out about reasons for the strap-on motor developing insufficient thrust.

(d) The reason for one of the strap-on boosters not developing the required thrust is due to a defective plumbing in the oxidiser flow line of the engine, which had escaped detection during testing. This resulted in reduced flow of oxidiser to the engine. The anomalous engine was replaced with a standby engine. All the other systems of the vehicle were found to be healthy. Subsequently GSLV was successfully launched on April 18, 2001.

(e) Provision for launch abort is part of the launch countdown. All the vehicle systems were healthy and reusable. The disassembled engine also can be reused after refurbishment. The re-launch attempt called for marginal additional network hiring charges, propellants and gases, which are provided for. It is important to note that the experience, gained through the safe abort and fast recover, is invaluable. The additional expenditure involved would not be significant.

(f) and (g) The GSLV-D1 was successfully launched on April 18, 2001.

(h) While the quality control procedures had been validated through realisation of several engines, it is proposed to further strengthen them based on the present experience.

[English]

Contraceptives

*549. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:

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

(a) whether in a bid to check growing population, the Union Government have constituted a High Powered Action Group to make contraceptives easily accessible across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the rural people are still unaware of use of contraceptives to check population; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure availability of contraceptives in rural parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Government of India has constituted an Empowered Action Group (EAG) in the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in March 2001. The EAG is to facilitate the preparation of area specific programmes with special emphasis on States that have been lagging behind in containing population growth to manageable limits. The terms of reference of the Empowered Action Group include (i) formulation of area specific programmes, (ii) devising ways for meaningful involvement of voluntary associations, community organizations and Panchayati Raj Institutions, (iii) exploring the possibility of extending the scope of social marketing of contraceptives.

(c) As regards the awareness about use of contraceptives among the rural people, the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-II) conducted in 1998-1999 shows that the knowledge of contraceptive methods is nearly universal in India. In an average 99% of currently married women recognize at least one method of contraception.

(d) The National Family Welfare Programme provides the following contraceptive services:-

- Sterilization as a terminal method.
- Intra-uterine Device (IUD) for spacing births.
- Oral Contraceptive pill for spacing births
- Condoms for spacing births.

Whereas, Condoms and OCPs are being provided through free distribution scheme and social marketing scheme, I.U.D. is being provided only under the free distribution scheme.

(i) Condoms

Condoms are made available to the potential users by Government of India through the following schemes:-

- Free Distribution Scheme
- Social Marketing Scheme

Free Distribution Scheme: Free distribution of condoms was started with the objective of making them available to those who cannot afford to pay for them. Under this Scheme, Department of Family Welfare procures condoms with the brand name of NIRODH from different manufacturers and supplies them to all the States/UTs for distribution to users, free of cost, through dispensaries, hospitals, PHCs and sub-centres etc.

Social Marketing Scheme: The Government of India launched a social marketing programme in 1968 with the objective of making condoms available to those who can afford to make nominal payment for the product. Under this scheme, three different varieties namely (i) 'New Lubricated Nirodh', (ii) 'Deluxe Nirodh' and (iii) 'Super Deluxe Nirodh' are procured from indigenous condom manufacturers and supplied to marketing companies at subsidized rates for sale in the open market. In addition, distribution companies/NGOs are permitted to market condoms under their own brand name.

(ii) Oral Contraceptive Pills (OCPs)

Government of India makes Oral Contraceptive Pills available to the potential users through the following schemes:

- Free Distribution Scheme
- Social Marketing Scheme

Free Distribution Scheme

Under the free distribution scheme, Oral Contraceptive Pills with brand name 'Mala-N' are procured and distributed to the acceptors free of cost in the same manner as that of condoms.

Social Marketing Programme

On the pattern of social marketing scheme of condoms, the Government of India launched social marketing scheme of Oral Pills in 1987. Under this scheme, Government procures 'Mala D' from the indigenous manufacturers and supply them to marketing companies at subsidized rates.

(iii) Copper-T

Copper-T is one of the important spacing methods offered under the Family Welfare Programme. It is supplied free of cost to all the States/UTs for insertions at the PHCs, Sub-centres and Hospitals by trained Medical Practitioners/trained Health Workers.

Area Projects: Three area-specific social marketing projects have been undertaken by Hindustan Latex Family Planning Promotion Trust, Thiruvananthapuram. These are (i) in five districts of Madhya Pradesh and (ii) throughout the State of Andhra Pradesh. These projects are aimed at enhancing the availability of contraceptives in rural areas through the channels of social marketing.

In collaboration with State Innovative and Family Planning Services Agency (SIFPSA), a Rural Marketing Project for condoms and oral contraceptive pills has also been undertaken by M/s HLL in Uttar Pradesh. The project has developed linkages with many NGOs and milk cooperative societies in this most populous State and made strides in last two years.

During 2000-01, the Department of Family Welfare has organized mass awareness generation programmes by holding Health and Family Welfare Melas at Mathura, Kargil, Patna, Lucknow and Delhi. The response was tremendous particularly in the matter of enhancing awareness and increasing availability of essential curative health care with necessary coordination and follow up action.

The scheme of RCH camps have been started in 102 districts with focus on underutilized/remote PHCs with similar objectives. Though the scheme of strengthening RCH outreach services, operational in 50 districts, the outreach services including counseling for and distribution of contraceptives are being strengthened at village level.

CVC Report on Defence Deals

*550. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission has submitted its final report on all major Defence procurement worth over Rs. 75 crores since April, 1989 to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made in the report;

(c) whether the involvement of middlemen in the Defence purchases has been noticed during the past few years;

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

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bring transparency in the defence deals?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report is being examined.

(c) and (d) The instructions of 17.4.1989 issued by Ministry of Defence barred the involvement of agents in the purchase of weapons/weapon systems. Further instructions had also been issued on 7.11.1997 by the Ministry of Defence that in all contracts with foreign supplies, clauses need to be incorporated whereby the seller is equired to give an undertaking that they have not engaged any individual or firm, etc. or paid any amount to them for purpose of interceding or facilitating the award of the contract. As and when, any complaint is received in this regard, it is examined and appropriate action taken.

(e) With a view to ensuring high levels of transparency in difference purchases, Government have issued orders, in consultation with the CVC/C&AG, for mandatory and time-bound scrutiny of all major procurements/purchase decisions, involving cost of above Rs. 75 crores, by the C&AG and where necessary, by the CVC.

[Translation]

MPLADS

*551. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the amount under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which this amount is likely to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (d) Government does not propose to increase the amount due to each Member under the MPLAD Scheme. Main reasons for this are the following:

(i) As the Funds, under the Scheme, are non-lapsable, there is a carry-forward liability of Rs. 786.5 crores as on date. Additional funds to meet this liability have to be provided in the current year and the next year.

(ii) Against a total release of Rs. 7097.8 crores, under the Scheme upto the 31st March' 2001, actual expenditure reported by the Districts is Rs. 4649.50 crores which is about 65.5% of the amount released. On the one hand, Government is borrowing funds at high cost, on the other, funds are lying idle in the Districts.

(iii) The shortfall in utilisation has been adversely commented upon by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) in their Reports laid in the Parliament on 11th June, 1998 and on 17th April' 2001.

(iv) In addition, the C&AG has severely criticised the utilisation of funds on grounds such as the following:

(a) The Ministry released the MPLADS funds without any correlation with their end use

The Ministry releases funds based on the cost of the works sanctioned as per the approved criteria and does not insist upon the utilisation certificate. The C&AG criticised this practice.

(b) The implementing agencies did not refund the unspent balance

In 1/3rd of the Constituencies taken in the audit sample, the implementing agencies were found to have retained the excess amount in cases where the works were either cancelled or completed at lower than estimated cost.

(c) Irregular diversion of funds to inadmissible purposes

The Audit found that the District Heads accorded sanctions totalling to Rs. 18.33 crores to. inadmissible works.

(d) Sanction of works for commercial and private organisations

The District Heads sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 9.16 crores on 518 works belonging to commercial organisations, trusts, clubs, societies, private institutions which were not permitted under the Scheme.

(e) Irregular sanction of repair and maintenance works

The Audit found MPLADS funds spent on repair and maintenance works which are not permitted under the Guidelines.

(f) Purchase of stores out of the MPLADS funds

Stock valuing Rs. 5.46 crores were purchased out of the MPLADS funds in violation of the Guidelines.

(g) Irregular expenditure on places of religious worship

The Guidelines prohibited works pertaining to places of religious worship. The Audit has pointed out many cases where works belonging to places of religious worship were taken up under the Scheme.

(h) Irregular expenditure on memorials

The MPLADS does not permit works of construction of memorials. The Audit found irregular expenditure of Rs. 54.55 lakhs for construction of memorial buildings in 5 States involving 7 constituencies.

(i) Irregular sanction of loans, grants and donations

There was irregular sanction of loans, grants and donations totalling to Rs. 81.45 lakhs in contravention of the provisions of the MPLAD Scheme.

(j) Suspected fraud/misappropriation of funds

The audit has reported that there were 13 cases of suspected fraud/misappropriation of funds in 7 sample States involving Rs. 118.36 lakhs.

(k) Incomplete/abandoned works

In 31 sample constituencies of 14 States/ UTs, 99 works were either abandoned or left incomplete midway due to dispute over title to land, insufficient provisions of funds, objections raised by local people/government department.

Overall, the C&AG has concluded that the Audit findings reveal failures: in operationalising the MPLADS; in meeting its stated objectives; in conforming to the prescription of the scheme by the MPs at the recommendation stage and by the District Officers at the execution stage; and, failure to effectively administer and monitor the Scheme. The C&AG has recommended that the Scheme has "hardly served its main objectives' and in view of this, the Central Government needs to have a thorough review of the present arrangements for the implementation of the Scheme.

[English]

Cases Registered by CBI

*552. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending under the consideration of CBI for investigation as on date,

(b) the number out of them pending for more than one decade;

(c) the reasons for inordinate delay;

(d) the number of cases booked by CBI under the Official Secret Act during each of the last three years; and

(e) the time by which all the pending cases are likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) As per information made available by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), 1677 cases were under investigation with CBI as on 28th February, 2001.

(b) and (c) Of the above cases pending investigation with the CBI, four cases are under investigation for more than one decade. The reasons for delay in respect of these four cases as reported by CBI area: stay granted by the High Court on investigation, interlocutory revision petitions filed in the High Court/Supreme Court and non-execution of Letters Rogatory issued by Courts in India for investigation abroad.

(d) During the last three years, two cases, under the Official Secrets Act, were registered by the CBI, one each in 1998 and in 1999.

(e) While it is not feasible to indicate a time frame by which all the 1677 pending cases are likely to be finalised, an Action Plan has been prepared by the CBI to achieve reduction in cases under investigation. All efforts are being made by the CBI to cut down delay and reduce pendency in cases under investigation.

[Translation]

Pulse Polio Campaign

*553. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pulse Polio Campaign has been a success;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the several electronic and print media and have expressed doubts about the success of the above campaign;

(d) if so, the facts thereof;

(e) whether the Pulse Polio drops were not administered at several places following these doubts;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Significant success has been achieved in the pulse polio immunization programme in the country. The reported coverage has increased from about 12 crores children in 1996 to about 16 crores during the latest round held on 21st January, 2001. There has also been significant decline in the number of polio cases from 1934 reported in 1998 to 265 cases only reported in 2000. During 2001, only 8 cases have been reported so far and there is very clear indication that for five weeks following 2nd February, 2001, no confirmed case has been detected in the country.

(c) and (d) Some doubts were raised by electronic and print media in the past about occurrence of deaths/ impotency/HIV, etc. due to administration of oral polio vaccine. The reported cases of deaths following administration of oral polio vaccine have been investigated and found to be not related to oral polio vaccine, but to other causes. The news items about oral polio vaccine causing impotency, HIV/AIDS, etc. are completely unfounded and baseless.

(e) to (g) There were a few instances where certain sections of the people expressed fears about oral polio vaccine causing impotency, etc. These fears dispelled with the help of community leaders, influential persons and technical experts and the reluctance on the part of these families to administration of oral polio vaccine was overcome.

[English]

Health Care

*554. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether diseases such as cervical and breast cancer specially in the women are on the rise in the country;

(b) if so, whether this is due to absence of any regular health checking/monitoring specially for weaker sections;

(c) whether the Government propose to engage various NGOs and utilise their services for such work; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Time trend analysis of data from population based cancer registries over the last decade shows a small but significant increase in the overall incidence of cancer in urban registries, both amongst men and women. The ICMR registries have showed an increase in the incidence rate of breast cancer among women at Bangalore,

Mumbai, Madras, Delhi and Bhopal between 1982-1994. The age-adjusted incidence rate of cancer of uterine cervix showed a decrease in Bangalore and Madras. However, the exact reasons for this change are not known.

(c) and (d) Under the National Cancer Control Programme, apart from recognition of one Regional Cancer Centre in each State, development of Oncology Wing in government medical colleges, grants for installation of tele-therapy units in government and charitable organizations and District Cancer Control Programmes, there is a scheme to provide financial assistance to NGOs for undertaking health education, early detection and prevention of cancer.

Indo-US Agreements

*555. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and USA have signed agreements to improve bilateral relations in IT software and service industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the agreements will materialise; and

(d) the extent to which the Indian industry is likely to be benefited through these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Review of Defence Deals

*556. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Defence deals to be reviewed" as reported in the *Statesman* dated March 30, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the recent Tehelka expose has forced the Government to re-examine the signing of several defence deals;

(c) whether it has affected the whole modernisation programme of Armed Forces;

(d) if so, the details of the defence projects which have been affected due to Tehelka expose and the steps taken by the Government to ensure modernisation of defence forces timely?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There is no proposal under consideration for re-examination of any of the defence acquisitions. Modernisation is a continuous process, therefore, review of defence projects whenever undertaken is without compromising the defence preparedness of the country.

Upgrading of Primary Health Centres

*557. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN:
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

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

(a) the criteria adopted for upgrading the Primary Health Centres/Community Health Centres to Hospitals in the country;

(b) the number of such Centres upgraded to Hospital status during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether most of the Rural Health Care Centres in the country are lacking basic infrastructure i.e. medicines, well trained doctors (specialists) and pharmacists;

(d) if so, the rationale behind opening these Centres without manpower and basic infrastructure; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up the vacancies of doctors in these Centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) The Government had advised the State governments to establish Community Health Centres/ Hospitals by upgrading 25% of Primary Health Centres.

While selecting the location of the upgraded PHC/CHC, only those areas be selected which have no referral facilities within reasonable distance. Preference should be given to the areas located farthest from the district head quarters and backward, hilly and tribal areas. One CHC should cover four Primary Health Centres, should have 30 beds, trained and qualified specialist in medicine, surgery, paediatrict, obstetrict-gynae and Public Health. There should be about 1 CHC/Hospital for every one lakh population.

As the establishing of CHCs and Hospitals comes under the purview of concerned State Governments, the above criteria have not been followed. As a result most of the CHCs/Hospitals have been established *de novo* rather than through upgradation.

The list of CHCs established during last three years is given in enclosed statement. At present secondary health systems are being strengthened in seven States i.e. Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Orissa, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh with the objective of upgrading and modernizing secondary level facilities, such as district hospital/sub-district hospitals and CHCs to provide first referral case to patient.

(c) and (d) Government is aware of certain gaps in health infrastructure and manpower within the primary health care system and that it functions sub-optimally. Some of the factors responsible for the sub-optimal functioning of rural Health Care Institutions are:

- Multiple tier of institutions, which had been created at various times, not being organized to take care of health needs of a defined population.
- Inappropriate location, poor access and poor maintenance.
- Gaps in critical manpower;
- Lack of essential drugs/diagnostics;
- Poor referral linkages;

The following steps are being taken by Government to improve the functioning of Primary Health Care Institutions:-

- Strengthening/appropriately relocating Sub-centres/PHCs.
- Merger, restructuring, re-locating of hospitals/ dispensaries in rural areas and integrating them with existing infrastructure.
- Restructuring existing block level of PHC Taluk, Sub-divisional hospitals in some States.
- Utilising funds from BMS, ACA, for BMS and EAP to fill critical gaps in manpower and facilities.
- Districts level walk-in interviews for appointment of doctors of required qualifications for filling up the gaps in PHC and Contractual Appointments/ hiring of ANMs/Lady Doctors/Specialists.
- Use of mobile health clinics.
- Currently, funding from Additional Central Assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) serves to strengthen health infrastructure and to improve functioning of centrally sponsored programmes in Health and Family Welfare, covering critical gaps in infrastructure.
- Under the Reproductive and Child Health Care Programme, funds are being released to the States towards minor/major repair and maintenance etc.

(e) Since the appointment and postings of doctors in entirely the responsibility of the State Governments/UT administrations, the State Governments/UT administrations have been advised to take appropriate steps to fill up the vacancies of doctors in rural areas. In pursuance of the Resolution of the 6th Conference of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare, held in 1999, the States have been advised to take the following steps to ensure availability of qualified doctors in rural areas.

- To resort to decentralized recruitment of doctors.
- To appoint doctors on contractual basis.
- To make rural service obligatory for 3 years, for fresh graduates
- To reserve 25% of post-graduate seats in Medical Colleges, for in-service candidates who have worked in rural areas for 3 years.

Reproductive and Child Health Programme interventions for improving the availability of doctors, are:

- State Government is empowered to appoint anaesthetists and specialists on contract basis.
- 24 hours delivery services has commenced in some PHC's/CHC's with honorarium to the staff.
- There is provision for the contractual hiring of consultant doctors to visit PHC's for providing MTP Services at least twice every month.
- NGOs and private sector are encouraged for service delivery.

- Practitioners of the Indian Systems of Medicine are being involved in the delivery of RCH services.

  Government have adopted the National Population Policy, 2000, which emphasises the need to augment the existing number of trained medical personnel in the rural areas and in other underserved segments with diverse health care provides, by, for instance:

- Reviving the earlier system of the licensed medical practitioners.
- Increasing and augmenting the public-private partnership and providing a role for the non-government/private practitioners.
- Assigning a satellite population to private medical practitioners who may be accredited after due certification by the Indian Medical Association (IMA)
- Involving the non-medical fraternity in counseling and advocacy.
- Collaborating with NGOs to augment advocacy counseling and clinic services.

Statement

Position of PHCs & CHCs upgraded during the last three years

Sl. No.	States/UTs	1998-99			1999-2000			2000-2001		
		PHCs upgraded to CHCs	CHCs upgraded to hospitals	CHCs established during the year	PHCs upgraded to CHCs	CHCs upgraded to hospitals	CHCs established during the year	PHCs upgraded to CHCs	CHCs upgraded to hospitals	CHCs established during the year
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Arunahcal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
3.	Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	—	—	18	—	—	18	—	—	9
7.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1	10	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	—	5	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Kerala	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	124	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	2	—	—	40	—	—	1
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17.	Nagaland	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25.	West Bengal	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
26.	A & N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	D & N Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(Figures are provisional)

[Translation]

"Publication of Secret Documents"

*558. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that after the disintegration of the USSR, the present Government is making public its secret documents by categorising these as unclassified;

(b) if so, whether several documents relating to India out of them have been published in several newspapers from time to time;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have any plan to bring these documents to India; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) The Government are aware of declassification of previously secret documents by the Government of the Russian Federation.

(b) The Government are not aware of any publication of such declassified documents relating to India, in newspapers.

(c) Does not arise;

(d) and (e) Presently, there is no agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the Russian Federation for bringing these declassified documents from the Russian Federation to India.

Educational Programmes for OBCs

*559. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals for the State Governments regarding Central assistance to launch educational programmes for backward classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the Central assistance sanctioned/ released to each State during each of the last three years till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Government of India is implementing following schemes for the educational development of Other Backward Classes (OBCs):-

(i) Pre-matric Scholarships for OBC students;

(ii) Post-matric Scholarships for OBC Students;

(iii) Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls; and

(iv) Pre-examination Coaching for OBCs.

Under these Schemes, Central Assistance is provided to the State Governments as per the provisions of the Schemes on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments subject to availability of funds.

In addition, the National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC) is implementing Akansha Loan Scheme.

(b) and (c) During the last three years, the proposals received from various States/UTs under each Scheme and funds released to them are as under:-

I. Pre-matric Scholarship for OBCs:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1	Bihar	84.60	Nil	Nil
2.	A.P.	Nil	325.00	Nil
3.	M.P.	64.00	Nil	Nil
4.	Tripura	1.40	100.00	95.79
5.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	16.00
6.	Assam	Nil	Nil	62.50
7.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	425.71
	Total	150.00	425.00	600.00

II. Post-Matric Scholarships to the OBC students for studies in India:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Bihar	196.50	Nil	Nil
2.	A.P.	116.00	324.26	559.25
3.	M.P.	149.00	Nil	Nil
4.	Tripura	3.00	55.00	Nil
5.	Karnataka	Nil	118.00	110.72
6.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	91.36
7.	Goa	Nil	Nil	25.00
8.	Assam	Nil	Nil	94.47
9.	J&K	Nil	Nil	8.00
10.	U.P.	Nil	Nil	10.20
	Total	464.50	497.26	899.00

III. Hostels for OBC Boys & Girls:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Bihar	120.53	Nil	Nil
2.	A.P.	Nil	144.26	Nil
3.	M.P.	10.00	Nil	Nil
4.	Rajasthan	Nil	57.48	Nil
5.	Karnataka	Nil	78.26	183.23
6.	Sikkim	Nil	20.00	Nil
7.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	10.00
8.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	259.86
9.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	46.91
	Total	130.53	300.00	500.00

IV. Pre-examination Coaching for OBCs:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Assam	6.78	Nil	Nil
2.	Kerala	3.33	Nil	Nil
3.	M.P.	5.19	2.13	Nil
4.	Orissa	2.12	0.85	0.01
	Total	17.42	2.98	0.01

V. Akansha Loan Scheme (Implemented by National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC)

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.N.	State/UT	1998-99 Funds Released	1999-2000 Funds Released	2000-01 Funds Released
1.	Bihar	Nil	0.55	Nil
2.	M.P.	0.59	0.33	Nil
3.	Pondicherry	0.11	Nil	Nil
4.	Tamil Nadu	2.45	0.72	0.48
	Total	3.15	1.60	0.48

[English]

Competition in Software Sector

*560. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are likely to face stiff competition from China in the field of software sector;

(b) if so, the success achieved by China in comparison to the developments in India in this field; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to compete with China and other countries in the international field?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) China is making serious efforts to catch up in the software sector. They are also training a large number of IT professionals in English.

(b) China's software exports are estimated at US $ 1.2 billion as compared to US $ 6.24 billion for India.

(c) Government have taken various steps in order to keep an edge in IT skills over its competitors, which include the setting up of Smart Schools, promotion of virtual Universities, IT education in the non-formal sector through the Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Courses (DOEACC) scheme and increasing the intake of students in IT related disciplines in IITs, Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs) and other engineering colleges.

[Translation]

Representation to Indian Migrants

5641. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee has been constituted to provide representation to Indian migrants in Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of aspects proposed to be studied; and

(d) the time by which this Committee is likely to submit its report to the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) No, Sir. However a High Level Committee has been set-up to study the problems of NRIs and PIOs.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Amendment of Ninth Schedule of the Constitution

5642. SHRI RAJESH VERMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution for effective implementation of the policy of reservation for Scheduled Castes/Tribes in regard to appointment and promotion and make provisions of punishment for non-implementation and adopting obstructive measures in implementation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Bill is likely to be brought in the House; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) No such decision has been taken. The executive instructions on reservation issued by DOPT derive authority from Article 16(4) of the Constitution and come within the meaning of 'law'. Legal validity of these instructions has specifically been upheld by the Supreme Court in Indra Sawhney case. No legal deficiency has been apprehended in implementation of the policy. Executive instructions have the advantage of flexibility to meet the emerging needs and such flexibility could not always be provided by legislative enactment. Flouting of the executive instructions on reservation amounts to misconduct making the delinquent officials liable to disciplinary action under the Conduct Rules.

Creation of Job Opportunities

5643. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken to create job opportunities for unemployed youth through setting up of industries in the States, State-wise; and

(b) the criteria adopted to choose places to set up industries as far as unemployment is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The main responsibility for overall economic and industrial development at the State level lies with the concerned State Governments. However, in order to promote creation of job opportunities for educated unemployed youth, Central Government is implementing Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) since 1993. PMRY aims at providing employment/self employment to educated unemployed youth within the age group of 18-35 years with annual family income of Rs. 24,000 or less.

The summary of progress under PMRY, State-wise, for the year 1999-2000 is given in enclosed statement.

Central Government is also implementing a scheme of setting up of Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres (IIDC) to encourage setting up of new units in rural and backward areas. State Governments are provided loans of Rs. 3 crore for each IIDC through Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and Rs. 2 crore as financial assistance to promote infrastructure facilities in rural and backward areas.

Statement

The Summary of Progress Under PMRY for the year 1999-2000

Sl. No.	States/UT	Target	No. of Applications		No. of cases
			Received by Banks	Sanctioned by Banks	Disbursed by Banks
1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTHERN REGION					
1.	Haryana	7500	13196	7123	3854
2.	Himachal Pradesh	2500	3776	2144	1690
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	4000	2407	1157	747
4.	Punjab	9000	18621	9547	6749
5.	Rajasthan	16100	28571	14867	7617
6.	Chandigarh	100	128	69	42
7.	Delhi	4800	4829	899	510

1	2	3	4	5	6
NORTH EASTERN REGION					
8.	Assam	12800	15318	7826	2991
9.	Manipur	1350	1329	881	158
10.	Meghalaya	550	619	524	287
11.	Nagaland	200	85	66	42
12.	Tripura	1300	1540	1029	162
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	500	512	410	105
14.	Mizoram	350	542	220	31
15.	Sikkim	150	119	58	40
EASTERN REGION					
16.	Bihar	21800	19447	10254	5392
17.	Orissa	12150	16630	7965	680
18.	West Bengal	22800	12024	3314	1982
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	200	333	125	94
CENTRAL REGION					
20.	Madhya Pradesh	31600	62410	29209	11234
21.	Uttar Pradesh	52000	84150	43769	29583
WESTERN REGION					
22.	Gujarat	14600	17868	10654	9620
23.	Maharashtra	43600	66232	34207	20238
24.	Daman & Diu	50	30	17	16
25.	Goa	600	798	481	380
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	50	42	36	25
SOUTHERN REGION					
27	Andhra Pradesh	33600	32972	20721	10448
28.	Karnataka	22200	31273	16652	8306
29.	Kerala	24000	28730	16325	10291
30.	Tamilnadu	15000	28126	13426	9183
31.	Lakshadweep	50	88	31	19
32.	Pondicherry	550	699	402	207
	Not Specified All India	356050	493444	254408	142723

Source: RBI data.

Work Permit

5644. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the discussion on the proposal of the work permit to Bangladeshis and reciprocal arrangements for Indian between the Governments of India and Bangladesh has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the decision taken; and

(c) if not, by when the decision is likely to be arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) to (c) A comprehensive review of the visa arrangements between India and Bangladesh is underway.

[Translation]

Pending Scheme

5645. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is pending with the Union Government for providing special Central Assistance for the development of backward areas of Bihar State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

National Advisory Council to Naturologist

5646. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to constitute a National Advisory Council to promote naturopathy;

(b) if so, the time by which the proposed council is likely to be constituted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) The Government have already set up the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy at New Delhi and National Institute of Naturopathy at Pune for development, promotion and propagation of Naturopathy.

[English]

Fifth Pay Commission

5647 SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have since completed the examination of the recommendation of Fifth Central Pay Commission for grant of higher pay scales of Data Processing Assistant Grade III and Grade I of Rs. 5500-9000 and Rs. 7500-12000, respectively;

(b) if so, the details the decision taken; and

(c) if not, the time by which the examination is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) If the recommendations of the Fifth Central Commission are finally accepted then the Data Processing Assistants Grade III will get the scale of pay of Rs. 5500—9000 and the Data Processing Assistants Grade-I will get the scale of pay of Rs. 7500—12000 as against the present pay drawn by them in the scales of Rs. 5000—8000 and 7450—11500 respectively.

(c) The matter is under examination in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and the orders will be issued by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation as soon as the Ministry of Finance concurs with the proposal.

Building Replica of Bamiyan Buddha

5648. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sri Lankan main Buddhist organization is seeking help from India in building the replica of Bamiyan Buddha in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have supplied necessary information and documents required by Sri Lanka; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) to (d) The Mahabodhi Society of Sri Lanka have sought help in obtaining clear photographs of Buddha statues destroyed at Bamiyan to assist local sculptors in designing replicas. Copies of some photographs available with Archeological Survey of India have been sent to Sri Lanka authorities.

[Translation]

Eradication of Cancer

5649. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

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

(a) the details of the assistance provided by the foreign agencies to the Government for the eradication of Cancer in the country;

(b) the details of the amount spent during the last three years for the prevention and cure of Cancer;

(c) the results achieved so far in this regard for the said period;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up special wards in hospitals for the treatment of such patients;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to provide assistance to the State for opening separate cancer hospitals/centres for the treatment of cancer;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) In the current biennium 2000-01 approximately US $ 6,00,000 have been allocated by WHO for various activities under National Cancer Control Programme. In the last biennium 1998-99, the allocation was US $ 3,53,000.

(b) Amount spent during the biennium 1998-99 is given in enclosed statement.

(c) The activities were carried out successfully.

(d) No such proposal is planned or pending.

(e) Not applicable.

(f) to (h) The Central Government has a scheme to provide assistance to different States for prevention and treatment of cancer.

Statement

Details of the WHO biennium 1998-99 activities under National Cancer Control Programme

S. No.	Item	Quantity	Amount US $	Remarks
1.	Pap Smear kits	1 lakh	75,000	List enclosed Table I
2.	Morphine tablets	10 mgx50 lakh 60 mgx4 lakhs	1,85,000	-do- Table II
3.	Can Scan Software	11	11,000	-do- Table III
4.	Training Programmes	16	59,500	-do- Table IV
		Total	3,30,500	

Table I : Consignees Addresses for Pap Smear Kits

Sl.	Name and Address	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Dr. P.S. Prabhakaran, Prof. & Head, Department of Surgical Oncology, Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore — 560 029. (Karnataka)	8000 kits
2.	Dr. D.D. Patel, Director, Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, New Civil Hospital Compound, Asarwa, Ahmedabad — 380 016. (Gujarat)	8000 kits

1	2	3
3.	Dr. A.K. Govila, Director, Cancer Hospital & Reearch Instt., Mandre Ki Mata, Gwalior — 474 009 (M.P.)	8000 kits
4.	Dr. (Mrs.) V. Shanta, Cancer Institute, Adayar, Chennai, 600 020 (Tamil Nadu)	8000 kits
5.	Dr. M. Krishnan Nair, Director, Regional Cancer Centre, Medical College Campus, Trivandrum — 695 011 (Kerala)	8000 kits
6.	Dr. C. Nayak, Regional Centre for Cancer, Research & Treatment Society, Cuttack — 753 007 (Orissa)	8000 kits
7.	Dr. M. Siddiqui, Chittaranjan National Cancer Instt., 37, S.P. Mukherjee Road, Calcutta — 700 026. (West Bengal)	10,000 Kits
8.	Dr. Vinod Kochupillai Director, Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital, AIIMS, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi — 110 029.	10,000 kits
9.	Dr. A. Dinshaw, Tata Memorial Hospital, Earnest Borges Marg, Parel, Mumbai — 400 012 (Maharashtra)	8000 Kits
10.	Director, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, U.P.	8000 Kits
11.	Dr. Sathya Prasada Rao, Director, MNJ Institute of Oncology, Regional Cancer Centre, Red Hills, Hyderabad - 500 004. (A.P.)	8000 Kits
12.	Dr. Gazi G. Ahmed, Director, Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute, Gopinath Nagar, Guwahati — 781 016. (Assam)	8000 Kits

Table II: Consignees Addresses along with Morphine Tablets

Sl. No.	Name and Address	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Dr. P.S. Prabhakaran, Prof. & Head, Department of Surgical Oncology, Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore — 560 029. (Karnataka)	4 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
2.	Dr. D.D. Patel, Director, Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, New Civil Hospital Compound, Asarwa, Ahmedabad — 380 016. (Gujarat)	4 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
3.	Dr. A.K. Govila, Director, Cancer Hospital & Research Instt., Mandre Ki Mata, Gwalior 474 009. (M.P.)	2 lakhs tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
4.	Dr. (Mrs.) V. Shanta, Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai — 600 020. (Tamil Nadu)	5 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
5.	Dr. M. Krishnan Nair, Director, Regional Cancer Centre, Medical College Campus, Trivandrum — 695 011 (Kerala)	10 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
6.	Dr. C. Nayak, Regional Centre for Cancer, Research & Treatment Society, Cuttack — 753 007 (Orissa)	4 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
7.	Dr. M. Siddiqui, Chittaranjan National Cancer Instt., 37, S.P. Mukherjee Road, Calcutta — 700 026. (West Bengal)	5 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 50,000 tablets of 60 mg.
8.	Dr. Vinod Kochupillai, Director, Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital, AIIMS, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi — 110 029.	5 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 50,000 tablets of 60 mg.

1	2	3
9.	Dr. A. Dinshaw, Tata Memorial Hospital, Earnest Borges Marg, Parel, Mumbai — 400 012 (Maharashtra)	4 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
10.	Director, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, U.P.	2 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
11.	Dr. Sathya Prasada Rao, Director, MNJ Institute of Oncology, Regional Cancer Centre, Red Hills, Hyderabad — 500 004 (A.P.)	2 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.
12.	Dr. Gazi G. Ahmed, Director, Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute, Gopinath Nagar, Guwahati — 781 016. (Assam)	3 lakh tablets of 10 mg. 30,000 tablets of 60 mg.

Table III: Consignees Addresses for Can Scan Software

Sl. No.	Name and Address	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Dr. P.S. Prabhakaran, Prof. & Head, Department of Surgical Oncology, Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore — 560 029. (Karnataka)	1
2.	Dr. D.D. Patel, Director, Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, New Civil Hospital Compound, Asarwa Ahmedabad — 380 016. (Gujarat)	1
3.	Dr. A.K. Govila, Director, Cancer Hospital & Research Instt., Mandre Ki Mata, Gwalior 474 009. (M.P.)	1
4.	Dr. (Mrs.) V. Shanta, Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai — 600 020. (Tamil nadu)	1

1	2	3
5.	Dr. M. Krishnan Nair, Director, Regional Cancer Centre, Medical College Campus, Trivandrum — 695 011 (Kerala)	1
6.	Dr. C. Nayak, Regional Centre for Cancer, Research & Treatment Society, Cuttack — 753 007 (Orissa)	1
7.	Dr. Vinod Kochupillai, Director, Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital, AIIMS, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi — 110 029.	1
8.	Dr. A. Dinshaw, Tata Memorial Hospital, Earnest Borges Marg, Parel, Mumbai — 400 012 (Maharashtra)	1
9.	Director, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, U.P.	1
10.	Dr. Sathya Prasada Rao, Director, MNJ Institute of Oncology, Regional Cancer Centre, Red Hills, Hyderabad — 500 004 (A.P.)	1
11.	Dr. Gazi G. Ahmed, Director, Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute, Gopinath Nagar, Guwahati — 781 016. (Assam)	1

Table IV: Training Programmes Held Under WHO Bienium 1998-99

Sl. No.	Name and Address	Quantity
1	2	3
1.	Dr. P.S. Prabhakaran, Prof. & Head, Department of Surgical Oncology, Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology, Dr. M.H. Marigowda Road, Bangalore — 560 029. (Karnataka)	1. Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt. 2. Training of Trainers in Oral cancers

1	2	3
2.	Dr. D.D. Patel, Director, Gujarat Cancer Research Institute, New Civil Hospital Compound, Asarwa Ahmedabad — 380 016. (Gujarat)	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
3.	Dr. A.K. Govila, Director, Cancer Hospital & Research Instt., Mandre Ki Mata, Gwalior 474 009. (M.P.)	Training of medical offices of PHC/CHC/Distt
4.	Dr. (Mrs.) V. Shanta, Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai — 600 020. (Tamil Nadu)	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
5.	Dr. M. Krishnan Nair, Director, Regional Cancer Centre, Medical College Campus, Trivandrum — 695 011 (Kerala)	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
6.	Dr. C. Nayak, Regional Centre for Cancer, Research & Treatment Society, Cuttack — 753 007 (Orissa)	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
7.	Dr. Vinod Kochupillai, Director, Institute Rotary Cancer Hospital, AIIMS, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi — 110 029.	1. Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt 2. Workshop on National Treatment policy
8.	Dr. A. Dinshaw, Tata Memorial Hospital, Earnest Borges Marg, Parel, Mumbai — 400 012 (Maharashtra)	1. Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt 2. Training of trainers in Breast cancer
9.	Director, Kamla Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad, U.P.	Training of medical Officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
10.	Dr. Gazi G. Ahmed, Director. Dr. B.B. Cancer Institute, Gopinath Nagar, Guwahati — 781 016. (Assam)	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
11.	Principal, Indira Gandhi Medical College, Shimla	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt

1	2	3
12.	Principal, Govt. Medical College, Amritsar	Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt
13.	Director, Chittaranjan National Cancer Instt. Calcutta	1. Training of medical officers of PHC/CHC/Distt 2. Training of Trainers in Cancer Cervix

[English]

Assistance for Medical Facilities

5650. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any project/proposal from Kerala for Central assistance to develop medical facilities in the State during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare received a proposal from Government of Kerala in February, 2000 seeking financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 1.50 crores for upgradation and strengthening of Emergency facilities at General Hospital, Ernakulam.

The proposal has been considered in this Ministry and an assistance of Rs. 1.50 crores has been sanctioned to the Government of Kerala.

Hypertension and Heart Disease

5651. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several diseases like hypertension and heath diseases earlier associated with middle and old age striking younger people;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring such diseases under control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) The impression of cardiologists are that recently there is an increase in the occurrence of hypertension and heart disease among younger people. However, no nation-wide data regarding the number of cardiac patients is being maintained. Since the causes of these diseases are attributed among others to individual life style and food habits, the doctors are creating awareness among the people for adopting proper life style and food habits to control these diseases.

Atrocities on SC/STs

5652. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2720 dated December 6, 2000 and sate:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

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

(c) whether any study was made to evaluate the effects of implementation of the prevention of Civil Rights and Prevention of Atrocities on SC/ST Acts; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The matter was pursued with concerned State Governments/UT Admns. Information received so far has been compiled and given at

Statements-I and II enclosed. Information is awaited from Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Details of evaluation studies conducted, findings and action taken thereon are enclosed at statement-III.

Statement I

Details of cases of atrocities on SCs & STs registered during the period from April 1996 to September, 2000

S.	States/UTs	1996(April to Dec.)	1997	1998	1999	2000 (Jan. to Sept.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1997	2149	1805	1897	1411
2.	Arunahcal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Assam	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	646	1640	1558	1445	558
5.	Goa	Nil	2	3	1	1
6.	Gujarat	1989	2283	2224	1773	589
7.	Haryana	9	32	32	28	43
8.	Himachal Pradesh	59	86	62	66	52
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
10.	Karnataka	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
11.	Kerala	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
12.	Madhya Pradesh	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
13.	Maharashtra	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
14.	Manipur	Nil	Nil	2	2	1
15.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
16.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
17.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Orissa	836	1180	1332	1449	982
19.	Punjab	3	5	17	19	25
20.	Rajasthan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
21.	Sikkim	—	2	—	—	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	574	757	897	1011	750
23.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10359	9236	7095	6917	6246
25.	West Bengal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
26.	A & N Islands	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	Chandigarh	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
28.	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	D & N Haveli	Nil	1	1	1	1
30.	Delhi	12	18	14	20	14
31.	Lakshdweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
32.	Pondicherry	Nil	1	Nil	1	3
	Total	16486	17396	15042	14630	10676

NA: Not Available.

Statement-II

Details of cases excluding the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and West Bengal of atrocities on SCs & STs (convicted and acquitted) during the period from April 1996 to September, 2000

1996 (April to December)		1997		1998		1999		2000 (January to September)	
Convicted	Acquitted	Convicted	Acquitted	Convicted	Acquitted	Convicted	Acquitted	Convicted	Acquitted
986	4395	901	4155	550	5365	373	2836	@	@

Note @=Information for the year 2000 is being collected.

Statement-III

Details of evaluation studies conducted, findings and action taken thereon.

1. **Institute of Judicial Training and Research, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow** conducted two studies on "Scheme of Relief and Rehabilitation to victims under/of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989" and "Evaluation study on the Scheme of Legal Aid, relief and rehabilitation to victims under the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989".

The study covered Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

Salient findings of the study reports are as under;

(i) Eminent advocates as Special Public Prosecutor may be appointed.

(ii) State should provide adequate funds for Travelling and daily allowances to the victims of atrocities.

(iii) Distribution of relief, rehabilitation and legal aid to victims may be brought to the notice of the Special Courts.

2. The **Jigyansu Tribal Research Centre, New Delhi** evaluated the working Special Cells set up under the two Acts in the States of **Gujarat and Maharashtra**.

Salient findings of the study are as under:-

(i) In Gujarat, the existing infrastructure and monitoring mechanism are quite effective, but needs to be strengthened from time to time.

(ii) More special courts are needed to be established in order to create a quick disposal system in such cases.

(iii) In Maharashtra, Government of India should strongly emphasise on the involvement and participation of the Department of Social Welfare in the implementation of these Acts.

(iv) There is a need for a better monitoring and reporting system with inter-department co-ordination at the State Government levels.

(v) There is a need for creation of special cells in the rural police stations in atrocity prone areas.

3. **Centre for Social Justice and Welfare of the Handicapped, Varanasi** took up study on "Disposal of Cases registered under Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 by the Courts — Problems and Remedies".

Salient findings of the study reports are as under:

(i) Promote/motivate income generating activities

(ii) Proper administration of rule of law

(iii) Provide proper and legal protection

(iv) Establishment of police chauki inhabited by the Scheduled Castes persons.

The recommendations/suggestions of the above said studies have been forwarded to concerned State Governments for appropriate action.

[Translation]

Heart Surgery in Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital

5653. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal in regard to provide facilities for the heart surgery in the Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital is under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the time by which this facility is likely to be made available in the said hospital; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) In Dr. Ram Manohar Hospital, Cardio Thoracic and Vascular Surgery Department was started in December 1998 with close heart surgeries. The full-fledged Department has been started in October 2000 with the facilities of Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting (CABG), valve replacement and congenital heart surgeries.

[English]

Irregularities in Kendriya Bhandar

5654. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the internal audit of the Kendriya Bhandar during the last few years have alleged irregularities in its functioning, undue favour to suppliers, ill-will against suppliers, purchase of computers, modi xerox like items at higher prices, supply of poor quality of stationery to Government Deptts. and sale of stationery and other items at exorbitant prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have appointed any inquiry committee to look into the irregularities;

(d) if not, the time by which the inquiry committee is likely to be set up;

(e) the number of letters received by the Government in this regard from the Members of Parliament during the last one year and the action taken thereon;

(f) the number out of them are still pending and the time by which these listers are likely to be replied; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to improve the working of the stationery deptt. of the Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar does not have an internal audit cell of its own. Internal Audit is carried out periodically through an outside agency namely a Chartered Accountant Firm on contract basis. All objections/observations raised by the Internal Audit Firm relate to individual transactions as well as system failure. These are discussed with the Audit and a majority of the objections are settled through discussions. The remaining objections are taken note of and top most priority is given by the Management to take remedial measures before the next audit.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) & (b) above.

(e) No letter has been received by the Government from MPs specifically alleging irregularities pointed out by the internal audit of Kendriya Bhandar during the last one year.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply to part (e).

(g) With a view to continuously improving Kendriya Bhandar's performance and ensuring transparency and accountability, following steps have been taken in respect of all areas including stationery stores.

(i) The Board of Directors of Kendriya Bhandar has formulated a Purchase Policy to bring transparency in the procurement of goods.

(ii) Computer software programme has been installed in Head Office to monitor the sales summary of every store every day to ensure that they are selling the goods according to the codes.

(iii) Kendriya Bhandar has initiated a process for obtaining indemnity from the suppliers regarding price guarantee to ensure that the customers get the best price.

(iv) Prepaid suggestion Post cards have been kept in all the stores to get prompt feed back from the customers. Action is taken on complaints/ suggestions received from the customers. In case of serious complaints, suppliers have been suspended or deregistered depending upon the gravity of the offence.

(v) Wherever possible, limited tenders are invited from the registered suppliers to generate competition among them.

(vi) Last year nearly 125 employees were transferred to prevent them from developing vested interest. Some of them had not been transferred for many years.

Diabetic Cases

5655. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

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

(a) whether the number of diabetic patients are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the poor diabetic patients are not able to afford the rapidly increasing cost of Insulim therapy; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to provide adequate treatment and insulin injection/tablets at subsidised rate to the patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) According to Indian Council of Medical Research, there is epidemiological evidence showing increase in prevalence of diabetes, particularly in the urban areas of the country. The reason of increase may be attributed tc ageing population, unhealthy diets, obesity and sedentary life style.

The prices of different types of insulin based formulation (injectables) packs are fixed/revised from time to time based on the company's application. However, in order to make available the insulin to poor patients at reasonable prices, NPPA held discussions with manufacturers/importers of insulin formulations. As a result, some leading companies have reaffirmed the supply of insulin based formulations at special (discounted rates) prices for poor & needy patients through Government Hospital & Institutions.

Diabetes treatment is done at all levels in the rural health care delivery system and urban health care institutions. There are also around 100 Government Medical Colleges in the country, besides premier institutions like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, which are providing both secondary and tertiary diabetes management facilities. A Pilot Project on "Strengthening of Bio-Chemical Laboratories and Quality Assurance" was initiated in 1999-2000 in the States of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Punjab.

Purchase Policy of Kendriya Bhandar

5656. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Directors of the Kendriya Bhandar has given a directive policy on the purchase to be made in the Kendriya Bhandar during the month of August 2000;

(b) whether this policy has been changed to the rigorous of the existing suppliers prior to the commencement of the policy in favour of the newly entered suppliers in the case of lighting items and the same is that ultra vires of the provisions of the policy;

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

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken to strike down rigours of changing that policy; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kendriya Bhandar has not made any amendment in the purchase policy to favour any individual supplier (s).

(c) to (e) Do not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

Purchase Policy of Kendriya Bhandar

5657. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the Board of Directors Kendriya Bhandar has given a comprehensive purchase policy during August, 2000 and whether that policy has been changed to the vigours of some of the suppliers of tubelight and bulbs existing before the commencement of that policy by floating limited tenders within the existing and lately introduced suppliers in order to favour the lately introduced supplier;

(b) if so, the reasons for changing the purchase policy in respect of tubelight and bulbs only; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kendriya Bhandar has not made any amendment in the purchase policy to favour any individual supplier (s).

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

Donation of Eye

5658. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the general hospitals in each State which motivate eye donation by counselling relatives of deceased patients within their wards;

(b) the recorded number of such eye donations made in the year 2000, State-wise and Hospital-wise;

(c) the reasons for not making a mandatory request to relatives of all deceased patients for eye donation immediately after death; and

(d) the reasons for not mandatorily link up with a registered eye bank nearest to the hospital and organise for timely eye collection in case consent to donate eyes is received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) As per information available from the Eye Bank Association of India (EBAI), there are about 19,000 comease collected per year against a demand of 100,000 cornea per year. The State-wise details of collection of eyes as provided by EBAI are given in enclosed statement. The reasons for the poor response in eye donation are misconception, prejudice and short time available for removal of the eye (4-6 hrs). Other factors responsible are lack of awareness and poor communication. The Human Organ Transplantation Act 1994 is being considered for amendment so as to simplify the process of obtaining consent for donation of eyes, though no specific time frame can be given for its implementation at the present time.

The following other efforts are being undertaken to increase the rate of collection of corneas:

- Efforts are being made to link up registered Eye Banks and nearby hospitals to achieve timely collection of eye after receiving the consent.
- Radio and Television Media Network is being utilized to create awareness amongst the masses regarding eye donation.

- The country observes a National fortnight on eye donation every year, between from 25th August —8th September. During this fortnight, intensified publicity through all available media is given to step up the eye donations.
- The focus has now been shifted from "pledging of eyes" to actual collection of eyes by launching the "Hospital Retrieval Programme" in major multi specialty hospitals in Government and Non Government Sectors, Army, Railways, ESI etc. This is expected to enhance the collection of donated eyes. Wide publicity is given in Trauma Centres, ICU and Cancer Centres.
- The cooperation of staff of other departments like social welfare, education, publicity and public relations are being sought to make the programme more effective.
- NGO participation is also being encouraged to setup Eye Banks.

Statement

Statewise statistics of cornea Collection by the Member Eye Banks of EBAI

Sl. No.	State	Eyes collected in 1996	Eyes collected in 1997	Eyes collected in 1998	Eyes collected in 1999	Eyes collected in 2000
1.	Andhra Praesh	650	1114	1040	917	1306
2.	Assam	0	0	Not reported	Not reported	0
3.	Bihar	20	26	28	68	17
4.	Chandigarh	109	150	200	225	246
5.	Delhi	691	914	846	997	881
6.	Gujarat	5259	5430	5133	588	6078
7.	Haryana	20	20	10	Not reported	168
8.	Karnataka	709	655	723	776	842
9.	Kerala	345	324	238	206	264
10.	Maharashtra	2134	1896	2700	1477	4189
11.	Madhya Pradesh	298	277	310	456	408
12.	Orissa	6	27	Not reported	Not reported	0
13.	Punjab	659	714	752	100	199
14.	Rajasthan	105	44	47	143	218
15.	Tamil Nadu	1776	2145	2534	1201	3359
16.	Uttar Pradesh	212	32	319	224	214
17.	West Bengal	410	352	214	296	531
18.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	67
		13,463	14,411	15,194	12,174	18987

State Commission for OBC

5659. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals have been received from State Government of Maharashtra seeking approval to set up Maharashtra State Commission for Other Backward Classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons and date of pendency; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Re-employment Rules for Retired Army Officers

5660. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commission had recommended for restriction on re-employment for retired Army Officers in view of large unemployment in the country;

(b) whether the Government have since examined the recommendation; and

(c) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Probe into Scam in Navy's Canteen, Delhi

5661. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigations by the Board of Enquiry constituted to probe the scam at the Navy's Canteen at Dalhousie Road, New Delhi, have since been completed; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Hostels for Mentally Retarded

5662. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plan to construct hostels for children suffering from mental ailments and other diseases related to cerebral palsy etc.;

(b) if so, the number of children suffering from such diseases and are likely to be lodged in such hostels;

(c) the steps taken to implement the same so far; and

(d) the steps proposed to help parents of such children below the poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The National Trust envisages schemes for providing facilities of care services for persons with autism, cerebral palsy, and multiple disabilities.

(b) to (d) The lodging capacity will be determined by the organization seeking to set up such facilities. The standard unit cost of the scheme has been worked out for 20 person with proportionate enhancement/downscaling for more/less beneficiaries.

Trained Professionals for Disabilities Sectors

5663. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitation Council of India any role in developing trained professionals for the disabilities sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the annual cost thereof and other measures being taken by RCI to increase the number of trained professional for the disabilities sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Rehabilitation Council of India has been constituted under Section 3 of the RCI Act, 1992 for regulating and monitoring the training of rehabilitation professionals and personnel, promoting research in rehabilitation and special education. Towards this end, the Council has undertaken various measures such as short term and long-term training programmes for rehabilitation professionals/personnel, Bridge Course, orientation of PHC medical officers to disability management etc. Besides, the Council also sponsors continuing rehabilitation education programme, seminars, conference, workshops, etc. on relevant themes from time to time. A sum of Rs. 4.12 crore was released to the Council as grant in aid during the financial year 2000-2001.

[Translation]

Status of SC to Carpenters

5664. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH:
SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the carpenter is given the status of the Scheduled Caste in the entire country under the Article 341 of the Constitution but a serious anomaly has cropped up due to not providing the status of Scheduled Caste to the people of the carpenter community residing in new areas which were included in the State after the reorganisation of Himachal Pradesh State in 1966;

(b) if so, whether the Himachal Pradesh Government have forwarded all the required information to the Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) As per provision under Article 341 of the Constitution, the list of Scheduled Caste has been notified for each State/Union Territory. Carpenter has not been notified in the list of Scheduled Caste.

A proposal for inclusion of Tarkhan community, whose professions is stated to be wood/iron work, in the list of the Scheduled Caste for Himachal Pradesh was recommended by the State Government concerned. This has been processed as per approved modalities.

Security to Indians

5665. DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is danger to the life and property of the people of the Indian origin living in Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details of the efforts being made by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) and (b) In the last week of December 2001, demonstrations were held in Kathmandu and other places of Nepal protesting against the alleged anti-Nepal remarks purported to have been made by Indian film star Hrithik Roshan. The demonstrations took an anti-India colour and resulted in damage to the property of people of Indian origin in Kathmandu and some other places of Nepal. The Government of India took up the matter at the highest level with His Majesty's Government of Nepal to ensure the safety and security of Indians and people of Indian origin in Nepal and their properties. The Government of Nepal conveyed its assurance that necessary measures would be taken.

Recently, India-Nepal Foreign Secretary level talks were held in Delhi on January 30 and 31, 2001. The issue came up for discussion during these talks and the concern of the Government of India has been conveyed to the Nepalese side. Both sides agreed on the need to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future.

[English]

Participation of Professionals in Defence Planning

5666. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether experienced professionals in the services and the Chiefs of Defence Staff are not invited while considering the military issues and contingency planning;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps proposed to include the professionals in such policy decisions?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) All matters having a bearing on national security are considered by the Government at appropriate levels and the Chiefs of Armed Forces are associated in the process. The Chiefs of Armed Forces do attend meetings held at the highest levels, including the meeting of the National Security Council (NSC), its sub-structures and the meetings of the Cabinet Committee on Security, whenever required to.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Radiotherapy to Cancer

5667. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

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

(a) whether setting up more radiation therapy cobalt units in the only way to provide treatment for the cancer;

(b) if so, the details to the steps taken by the Government to provide radiation therapy units in urban and rural areas of the country;

(c) whether India is presently importing Cobalt Machine and Linear accelerator for providing radiotherapy to cancer patients;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the National Cancer Control Programme which is presently pitched against many odds is likely get a big boost by success of Sameer Projects of manufacturing of linear accelerator by indigenous technique;

(f) if so, the details thereof the time by which this project is likely to be completed; and

(g) the extent to which the national cancer programme is likely to be helped by development of this Accelerator?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) Efforts are on way to develop indigenous equipment.

(e) to (g) Sameer Project is for indigenous development of linear accelerator teletherapy machine in India by Ministry of Information Technology (Department of Electronics) Two Linear Accelerator will be developed in next 3-5 years and four more will be manufactured depending on the success of first two.

[Translation]

Synthetic Colour in Juices

5668. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the content of the synthetic colour in the sealed tinned juice is more than the permitted level;

(b) if so, the number of samples collected from the market during each of the last three years till date and the number of samples out of them not found upto the mark; and

(c) the action taken by Union Government against the manufacturers to stop production of such products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) As per the information received, out of 1010 samples of packed fruit juice collected by the State/UTs authorities during the years 1997,1998 and 1999, five samples were found to be adulterated with artificial colours. Prosecution proceedings have been launched in all the cases.

[English]

Tamper Proof Electronic Voting Machines

5669. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canadian and Bangladesh Governments have shown interest in the tamper proof electronic voting machines devised by the Electronics Corporation of India Limited; and

(b) if so, the action taken to export such machines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING,

DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The written request received from Bangladesh has been responded to by Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL). They have also requested for sample Electronic Voting Machines for study. This is being attended to. The quantum of business that might result is not known at this stage as this is only a preliminary enquiry. No written request has been received from Canada as yet.

Budgetary Support for Ninth Plan

5670. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gross Budgetary Support for the annual plan for the year 2001-2002 of the Ninth Five Year Plan has been slashed;

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

(c) the details of percentage of budgetary support to the Ninth Plan after slashing down of budgetary support; and

(d) the areas which are likely to receive less funds because of this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. After discussions between the Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Finance Minister and in view of the fiscal position of the country, it was agreed that the Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) for the Annual Plan 2001-2002 will be Rs. 100,100 crore. Of this amount, Rs. 95,100 crore have been allocated for Central Assistance to State/ Union Territory Plans (Rs. 40,644 crore) and Central Sector Plan (Rs. 54,456 crore). The balance of Rs. 5,000 crore has not been allocated so far and has been shown as a lumpsum provision for additional expenditure on plan schemes and projects in the budgetary provision for the Department of Expenditure. This amount is linked with the expected realisation of Government's disinvestment receipts and will be allocated in the course of the year when it becomes available. With the GBS for the Annual Plan 2001-02, the Budgetary Support realised for the Ninth Plan is about 88% in real terms (i.e. at 1996-97 prices).

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Mission to Moon

5671. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Bharat Ki Chand Ke Ghar Dastak Dene Ki Tyyari" appearing in 'Hindustan" dated March 28, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the total money likely to be spent on the said project and benefits likely to be achieved thereform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A study team has been constituted by ISRO to examine the feasibility aspects and other related requirements for an unmanned scientific mission to Moon. The recommendations of the study team will be considered by ISRO.

(c) The details of the lunar mission and the budget provision which may be required can be worked out only after the study team submits its report. The lunar mission will provide impetus to the development of science and technology in India and will pave the way for future missions for planetary exploration.

[English]

Software Technology Parks

5672. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of a 'Software Technology Parks';

(b) the number of such parks in the country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any information regarding income generated by these parks during the last two years;

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

(e) whether any such parks have been set up/ proposed to be set-up by the Union Government or with the assistance of the Union Government;

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

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) was established and registered as an Autonomous Society on 5th June, 1991 with the objective of establishing and managing Infrastructral facilities including High Speed Data Communication facilities and extending other services like technology assessment and professional training to the software sector.

The salient features of the STP Scheme are as follows:

Approval under single window clearance

- 100% foreign equity permitted
- Imports are duty free
- Second hand capital goods can also be imported
- Custom boding period is for 5 years, extendable to 10 years in case of products requiring significant capital investment and infrastructure.
- Exemption of local taxes for domestic purchases
- Sales in the domestic market permissible upto 50% of the exports
- Exemption from Corporate income tax up to March 2010
- Export obligation on net foreign exchange is US $ 0.25m or 3 times the CIF value of the goods imported, whichever is more to be fulfilled over a period of 5 years.

(b) to (g) STPI has already set up nineteen STPI Centres as detailed:

S. No.	Centre	State
1.	Bangalore	Karnataka
2.	Pune	Maharashtra
3.	Bhubaneshwar	Orissa
4.	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Noida	Uttar Pradesh
6.	Gandhinagar	Gujarat
7.	Thiruvananthapuram	Kerala
8.	Chennai	Tamilnadu
9.	Mohali	Punjab
10.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
11.	Navi Mumbai	Maharashtra
12.	Coimbatore	Tamilnadu
13.	Manipal	Karnataka
14.	Mysore	Karnataka
15.	Guwahati	Assam
16.	Vizag	Andhra Pradesh
17.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
18.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
19.	Calcutta	West Bengal

During the year 2000-2001, the Central assistance has been provided for setting up the following STP centres;

S. No.	Location	State
1	2	3
1.	Guwahati	Assam
2.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh

1	2	3
3.	Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir
4.	Hubli	Calcutta
5.	Shimla	Himchal Pradesh
6.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry
7.	Aurangabad	Maharashtra
8.	Nagpur	Maharashtra

In addition, the following STP centres are proposed to be set up by STPI with the assistance from the concerned State Government;

S. No.	Centres	State
1.	Nasik	Maharashtra
2.	Kolhapur	Maharashtra
3.	Warangal	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Dehradun	Uttaranchal
7.	Mangalore	Karnataka
8.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir
9.	Rourkela	Orissa
10.	Calcutta	West Bengal
11.	Gurgaon	Haryana
12.	Agartala	Tripura
13.	Shillong	Meghalaya
14.	Gangtok	Sikkim
15.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
16.	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh
17.	Trichy	Tamilnadu
18.	Madurai	Tamilnadu
19.	Thirunavelli	Tamilnadu
20.	Salem	Tamilnadu

The Member units of STPI have exported software of over Rs. 11,607 crores during the year 1999-2000. The export figure of Rs. 11,607 crores from STP units represents approximately 68% of the National Software Export. The State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Centre Wise Software Exports

Name of the Centre	1998-1999	1999-2000
Bangalore	2888	4321
Bhubaneswar	53	89
Calcutta	96	150
Chennai	748	1890
Gandhinagar	13	27
Hyderabad	574	1059
Jaipur	4	15
Mohali	5	15
Navi Mumbai	148	962
Noida	1346	2450
Pune	381	572
Trivandrum	44	57
Total	6300	11607

[Translation]

Inclusion of Bhumihar Caste in OBCs

5673. DR. BALIRAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include the Bhumihar Caste of Uttar Pradesh in the category of other backward class;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) As per provisions under the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC)

Act, 1993, the NCBC examines requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as a backward class in the lists and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists based on social, educational and economic aspects of backwardness of the community and tenders such advice to the Central Government, as it deems appropriate. The Government of India decides cases of inclusion/amendment in the Central List of Backward Classes based on the advices tendered by the NCBC and these are notified from time to time.

No advice on inclusion of Bhumihar caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh has yet been received from the NCBC.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Trauma Scheme

5674. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme called 'TRAUMA' is being run in the country;

(b) if so, the objectives thereof;

(c) the amount spent under this Scheme during the last two years, State-wise particularly in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(d) the works undertaken and the achievements made in this regard during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) No scheme called 'TRAUMA' is being implemented in this Ministry. However, this Ministry is providing financial assistance to States/Union Territories under 'Pilot Projects for upgradation and strengthening of Emergency facilities of State Hospitals of towns/cities located on National Highways.' Under the scheme, this Ministry is providing financial assistance to States/Union Territories to augment and upgrade the Accident & Emergency Services in selected State Government Hospitals, which fall in most acciden' prone area of National Highways. Emergency Care Centre facilities are provided to the State Hospitals where there is minimum infrastructure and personnel already available.

No assistance has been provided to the Jammu & Kashmir during the last two years under this scheme. However, Rs. 150.00 lakhs has been provided to Government of Jammu & Kashmir during the year 2001-02 for development of emergency/trauma services on Srinagar—Leh National Highway at Margund, Kangan under the scheme. During the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01, financial assistance has been provided to the following States/Union Territories under the scheme:-

1999-2000

1. Rs. 97.00 lakhs to, Government of Madhya Pradesh for Maharaja Yashwant Rao Hospital, Indore.
2. Rs. 150.00 lakhs to Government of Haryana for General Hospital, Karnal.
3. Rs. 53.00 lakhs to Government of Bihar for Indira Gandhi Central Emergency Unit of Patna Medical College Hospital, Patna.

2000-2001

1. Rs. 70.00 lakhs to Government of Tripura for Tripura Sundari Hospital (South District), Udaipur.
2. Rs. 70.00 lakhs to Government of Sikkim for Emergency Care Unit at S.T.N.M. Hospital, Gangtok.
3. Rs. 59.00 lakhs to Government of Arunachal Pradesh for Pasighat General Hospital.
4. Rs. 150.00 lakhs to Government of Uttar Pradesh for King George's Medical College, Lucknow.
5. Rs. 78.00 lakhs to Government of Pondicherry for General Hospital, Mahe.

Facilities to Handicaps

5675. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no provision of ramp, stretcher, wheel-chair etc. in the C.G.H.S. dispensaries to bring the handicapped beneficiaries inside the dispensary building;

(b) if so, the dispensaries where the above facilities are available; and

(c) if not, the time by which the Government propose to provide above facilities at the dispensaries for the handicapped beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a)

and (b) The details of ramp, stretcher and wheel-chair available in the CGHS dispensaries of Delhi are given in the enclosed statement-I. In so far as CGHS dispensaries out side Delhi are concerned, ramp is available at the CGHS dispensary functioning at Koliwada, Mumbai and the details of stretcher and wheel-chair are given in the enclosed statement-II.

(c) Up-gradation of facilities at CGHS dispensaries is an ongoing process and is subject to availability of resources.

Statement I

S. No.	Name of the Dispensary	Ramp	Stretcher	Wheel Chair
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chankyapuri	—	Yes	—
2.	Chitra Gupta Road.	—	Yes	—
3.	Constitution House	—	Yes	—
4.	Faridabad	Yes	Yes	—
5.	Kali Bari	Yes	—	—
6.	North Avenue	—	Yes	Yes
7.	Paharganj	—	Yes	—
8.	Dr. Z.H. Road	—	Yes	—
9.	Pandara Road	—	Yes	—
10.	Delhi Cant.	Yes	—	—
11.	Hari Nagar	Yes	—	—
12.	Tilak Nagar	Yes	—	—
13.	New Rajinder Nagar	Yes	—	—
14.	Janakpuri II	Yes	—	—
15.	Ashok Vihar	—	Yes	—
16.	Naraina	—	Yes	—
17.	Pusa Raod	—	Yes	—
18.	Srinivashpuri	Yes	Yes	Yes
19.	R.K. Puram IV	Yes	Yes	Yes
20.	Timarpur	—	Yes	Yes
21.	Kingswaycamp	Yes	Yes	Yes
22.	Laxmi Nagar	—	Yes	—
23.	Shahdara	Yes	Yes	—
24.	Yamuna Vihar	Yes	Yes	—
25.	Subzimandi	—	Yes	—

Statement II

Details of CGHS dispensaries having facilities of stretcher wheel chair

S. No.		Availability of Stretcher	Availability of Wheel-Chair
1		2	3
1.	Bangalore	All Disp.	Not Available
2.	Bhuwaneshwar	All Disp.	All Disp.
3.	Hyderabad	All Disp.	Available in 3 functional dispensaries and one policlinic.
4.	Jabalpur	All Disp.	Not Available
5.	Jaipur	All Disp.	Available in one poli-clinic and one Disp.
6.	Kanpur	Available in 3 functional Disp.	Not Available

1	2	3
7. Calcutta	Available in 4 functional Disp.	Not Available
8. Lucknow	Available in one functional disp.	Not Available
9. Mumbai	Available in 4 functional Disp.	Available in one poly-clinic.
10. Nagpur	All Disp.	Available in one Poly-clinic and one functional dispensary.
11. Chennai	All Disp.	All Disp.
12. Pune	All Disp.	Not Available
13. Guwahati	All Disp.	All Disp.

[English]

Probe into Purchase of Radar from Ukrain

5676. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Sthai Samiti Ne Ukrain Radar Saude ki Janch ki Mang ki" appeared in the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated April 1, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Government have signed any agreement with a company of Ukrain to purchase 50 Weapon Locating Radars during the Kargil war;

(c) if so, whether the Ministry of External Affairs had opposed this deal;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and justification behind signing the deal;

(e) whether the Government propose to conduct an inquiry in this matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) to (f) Questions do not arise.

Assistance of European Commission

5677. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated cost of the European Commission supported five year "Health and Family Welfare Programme" in India; and

(b) the amount spent during last three years thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) The total estimated cost of European Commission supported five year "Health and Family Welfare Programme" in India is Euros 200 million.

(b) An amount of Rs. 103.38 crores has been spent/ released by the Government of India during last three years on this programme.

Aid for Health Projects

5678. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any foreign aid for various health related projects from the international funding agencies;

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

(c) the quantum of funds allotted to various States, particularly Maharashtra during the last three years alongwith the names of hospitals and dispensaries; and

(d) the amount utilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) The Union Government does not allot funds specifically to the hospitals and dispensaries of the States. The States have their own provision in their budget for allotment of funds to their hospitals and dispensaries.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State(s)	Name of Donor	Name of the Project	Allotted Amount	Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	DFID	Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme	£20.57 million	Disbursement not started
		World Bank	National Programme for Control of Blindness	**1998-99** Rs. 533.50 lakhs	**1998-99** Rs. 585.25 lakhs
				1999-2000 Rs. 434.40 lakhs	**1999-2000** Rs. 654.45 lakhs
				2000-01 Rs. 417.25 lakhs	**2000-01** Rs. 256.53 lakhs
		World Bank	Andhra Pradesh Health System Development Project	US $ 133.0 million	US $ 84.5 million
2.	Gujarat	ORET, the Netherlands	Gujarat Health Care Project	**Grant** NLG 39.826 million	NLG 30.60 million
				Loan NLG 59.739 million	NLG 59.73 million
3.	Karnataka	Denmark (DANIDA)	National Prog. For Control of Blindness Phase III	Rs. 31.50 crore	Rs. 7.48 crore
		Germany	Secondary Level Health Care Project	DM 23.0 million	DM 4.564 million
4.	Madhya Pradesh	Denmark (DANIDA)	Basic Health Service Programme	Rs. 49.51 crore	Rs. 1.90 crore.
			National Leprosy Eradication Programme	**1999-2000** Rs. 58.34 lakhs	The amount has been fully utilized

1	2	3	4	5	6
				2000-01	
				Rs. 60.00 lakhs	
		World	National Programme	**1998-99**	**1998-99**
		Bank	for Control of Blindness	Rs. 976.67 lakhs	Rs. 654.23 lakhs
				1999-2000	**1999-2000**
				Rs. 740.81 lakhs	Rs. 1,116.21 lakhs
				2000-01	**2000-01**
				Rs. 473.00 lakhs	Rs. 382.17 lakhs
5.	Maharashtra	Germany	Basic Health Programme	DM 20.0 million	DM 2.225 million
		USAID	AVERT-AID/HIV Programme	US $ 41.5 million.	0.00
		World Bank	National Programme for Control of Blindness	**1998-99** Rs. 449.25 lakhs	**1998-99** Rs. 702.38 lakhs
				1999-2000	**1999-2000**
				Rs. 664.88 lakhs	Rs. 1,203.74 lakhs
				2000-01	**2000-01**
				Rs. 437.00 lakhs	Rs. 321.25 lakhs
		World Bank	Maharashtra Health System Development Project	US $ 134.0 million	US $ 4.431 million
6.	Orissa	DIFD	Orissa Health & Family Welfare Project Phase III, Stage I	£ 3.287 million	£ 0.419 million
			* Reproductive Health Project, Orissa (Under Technical Cooperation grant not routed through GOI budget)	£ 4.99 million	—
		Denmark (DANIDA)	Revised T.B. Control Programme	Rs. 31.96 crore	Rs. 1.31 crore
		Denmark (DANIDA)	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	**1999-2000** Rs. 64.81 lakhs **2000-01** Rs. 53.23 lakhs	The amount has been fully utilized

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Denmark (DANIDA)	National Programme for Control of Blindness	**1998-99** Rs. 551.08 lakhs	**1998-99** Rs. 382.18 lakhs
				1999-2000	**1999-2000**
				Rs. 420.25 lakhs	Rs. 793.53 lakhs
				2000-01	**2000-01**
				Rs. 1087.00 lakhs	Rs. 1546.85 lakhs
		World Bank	Orissa Health System Development Project	US $ 76.4 million	US $ 6.026 million
7.	Rajasthan	World	National Programme	**1998-99**	**1998-99**
		Bank	for Control of Blindness	Rs. 324.50 lakhs	Rs. 545.19 lakhs
				1999-2000	**1999-2000**
				Rs. 314.18 lakhs	Rs. 339.77 lakhs
				2000-01	**2000-01**
				Rs. 759.00 lakhs	Rs. 1085.75 lakhs
8.	Sikkim	France	Modernization of Namchi Hospital	FF 24.0 million.	FF 20.9 million.
9.	Tamil Nadu	Denmark	Area Health Care	Rs. 51.50 crore	Rs. 33.77 crore
		(DANIDA)	Project		
			National Leprosy	**1998-99**	The amount has been
			Eradication Programme	Rs. 20.0 lakhs	fully utilized
				1999-2000	
				Rs. 27.88 lakhs	
				2000-01	
				Rs. 147.74 lakhs	
		USAID	AIDS Prevention and Control (APAC)	US $ 10.0 million.	US $ 4.295 million.
		World Bank	National Programme for Control of Blindness	**1998-99** Rs. 866.85 lakhs	**1998-99** Rs. 931.64 lakhs
				1999-2000	**1999-2000**
				Rs. 1009.82 lakhs	Rs. 600.48 lakhs
				2000-01	**2000-01**
				Rs. 523.25 lakhs	Rs. 501.26 lakhs

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	West Bengal	DFID	*West Bengal Sexual Health Project (under Technical Cooperation grant not routed through GOI budget)	£ 3.930 million	—
		Germany	Basic Health Programme	DM 60.0 million	nil
		Programmes being implemented jointly by the States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala & Orissa	DFID	Partnership for Sexual Health	£ 28.10 million	Disbursement not started
2.	Madhya Pradesh Chhatisgarh, Tamilnadu & Orissa	Denmark	National Programme for Eradication of Leprosy	Rs. 43.89 crore	Rs. 2.96 crore
3.	Kerala & Orissa	Italy	Maternal Child Care Project	ITL 2.0 billion	Allocated in May, 2000; disbursement not known
4.	Rajasthan & Karnataka	Canada	India Canada Collaborative HIV/AIDS Project	Canadian $ 12.748 billion	0.00
5.	Karnataka, Punjab & West Bengal	World Bank	II State Health System Development Project	US $ 191.00 million	US $ 39.479 million
6.	U.P., M.P., A.P., Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Tamilnadu & Orissa	World Bank	Cataract Blindness Control Project	US $ 117.8 million	US $ 50.74 million
7.	Bihar, Karnataka M.P., U.P., Maharashtra, West Bengal, H.P., Rajasthan, Daman & Diu	World Bank	Leprosy Elimination Project	US $ 75.933 million	US $ 73.97 million
8.	All States/UTs	World Bank	2nd HIV/AIDS Control Project	US $ 229.8 million	US $ 33.613 million
9.	All States/UTs	World Bank	Malaria Control Project	US $ 164.8 million	US $ 32.643 million
10.	All States	World Bank	T.B. Control	US $ 142.4 million	US $ 21.782 million

Finalisation of Outlay Plan

5679. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the outlay plan for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 has been finalized;

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

(c) the criteria adopted by the Government to finalise the plan allocation;

(d) whether several State Governments have criticised the approved outlay plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. States' annual plan outlay for 2000-2001 were finalized during the course of the year in the meeting between the Chief Minister of the States with Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. For the current year i.e. 2001-2002, States plan outlay have been finalized in respect of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The process of finalization of the plan outlay for the remaining States is on. A statement giving details of the originally approved outlay vs revised plan outlay for 2000-2001 and agreed outlay for 2001-2002 is enclosed.

(c) States' Plan outlay for the years 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 were finalized in consultation with the States' concerned taking into consideration (i) the trend of aggregate actual resource mobilization for the Plan of the State over the earlier years of the Ninth Plan; and (ii) a realistic estimate of resources available for financing the Plan.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise agreed outlay for the year 2001-2002 and approved and revised outlay for the year 2000-2001

(Rs. Crore)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Approved outlay 2000-01		Agreed Outlay
		Original	Revised	2001-02
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7,708.00	6,660.14	@
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	640.00	605.41	661.00
3.	Assam	1,520.00	1,520.00*	@
4.	Bihar	3,100.00	1,736.72	@
5.	Goa	332.00	347.00	460.00
6.	Gujarat	7,600.00	7,010.00	@
7.	Haryana	1,920.00	1,825.20	2,150.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1,382.00	1,720.00	@
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,753.00	1,753.00*	@
10.	Karnataka	7,250.00	6,785.37	@
11.	Kerala	3,317.00	2,493.25	@
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3,295.58	3,300.58	3,620.00
13.	Maharashtra	11,500.00	11,500.00	@
14.	Manipur	451.00	429.57	@
15.	Meghalaya	480.00	467.00	487.00
16.	Mizoram	401.26	396.71	410.00
17.	Nagaland	326.00	326.16	405.00
18.	Orissa	2,665.00	2,555.25	@
19.	Punjab	2,420.00	2,147.14	@
20.	Rajasthan	4,146.00	4,247.94	@
21.	Sikkim	250.00	250.00*	300.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	5,700.00	5,775.30	@
23.	Tripura	485.00	422.60	560.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	9,025.00	6,756.79	@
25.	West Bengal	4,026.59	4,026.59*	@

@Not yet finalised.

*Revision not sought by the State Govt; approved Outlay repeated.

[Translation]

Jurisdiction of Planning Commission

5680. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to limit the jurisdiction of the Planning Commission to the areas where formulation of comprehensive scheme is required and delegate the powers of formulation of schemes in the remaining areas to the concerned central ministries and the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Planning Commission is currently engaged in an exercise to determine what would be the most effective role for the Commission in the altered domestic and global scenario. In this regard, a note prepared on the Role of the Planning Commission in the wake of changing economic scenario was discussed in the full Planning Commission Meeting held on 30th September, 2000 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The proposal was broadly approved and is to be further discussed between the Deputy Chairman and the Union Finance Minister.

Over the years, Planning Commission has largely confined itself to undertaking investment planning of the economy by focusing primarily on its planning and allocative functions involving distribution of plan funds between the Central Sector Plan and the Central Assistance to State Plans as also across the Ministries/ Departments in the Central Sector. Intrinsic to this exercise is the process of plan formulation-both Five Year and the 'Annual plans - their review monitoring and the requisite follow-up. Even though this exercise may have lost some of its importance both on account of dwindling share of public investment to the total investment in the economy and also due to the changing economic policy regime and administration which is placing an ever greater reliance on the market to deliver the nation's development goals, its relevance for overseeing capacity building in crucial social and infrastructure sectors continues to be as important, demanding and urgent as ever before.

In the face of changing domestic economic policy regime and an equally fast paced integration of the economy with the emerging global order, investment planning is no more the only, or the more predominant, or even the most effective instrument of pursuing development. In fact, the role of state and hence of planning has to move from a direct intervention in economic activity in general and the production process in particular, to facilitating creation of an environment that encourages individual initiative and reaches out by providing opportunity to all. Planning has to, therefore, go beyond undertaking mere budgetary allocations, between the competing sectors and regions, for the alone would not be enough, and move towards ensuring policy harmonisation over time and across space. This requires the Planning Commission to strengthen its role as a 'Think Tank' - repository of expert knowledge.

Blacklisting of NGOs

5681. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details including the names of Non-Governmental Organisations penalized during the last three years till date in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, Kushinagar and Devaria districts; and

(b) the details of progress of the action taken against such organizations so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The names of Non-Governmental Organisations penalized during the last three years till date in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Mirzapur, Sonbhadra, Kushinagar and Devaria districts are given in enclosed statement.

Action has been taken either to blacklist or to suspend further assistance to these organizations. The State Government/District Collector concerned has been asked to seize the assets created out of the Government assistance, dispose of the same, deposit the monies thus collected with the Government and recover the balance amount as arrears of land revenue.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Organization with address	Name of the Project	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)	Action taken
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Akhil Bharatiya Samaj Kalwant Pratisthan Sewa, Puri, Deoria District, UP.	ADIP Scheme	1.28	Blacklisted in 1998-99
2.	Rachna Sansthan, Vill. Lehni, Distt.: Kushinagar, UP	Speical School for disabled	No grant has been given in 1998-2001	Grant-in-aid has been stopped after getting the adverse report from the officers of the Ministry. Further Action to be taken.
3.	Anjuman Madrasa Islamia Urai, Jalaun (UP	Drugs (Abuse)	5.10	Blacklisted in 1999-2000
4.	National Institute of Social Welfare, 5/13/43-B, Behind Gurudwara, Khawaspura, Faizabad (UP)	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse	14.00	Blacklisted in 1999-2000
5.	Sarvodaya Gram Avam Mahila Vikas Sansthan M. Rampur, (UP).	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse	2.57	Blacklisted in 1999-2000
6.	Ambedkar Shiksha Prasarak Samiti, Nilechal, Maharaganj, (UP).	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse	5.10	Blacklisted in 1999-2000
7.	Abhinav Sewa Sansthan, Dwarika Ganj, Sultanpur (UP).	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substances (Drugs) Abuse	15.00	Blacklisted in 1999-2000
8.	Nandini Bal Vikas and Gramin Gramodhyog Sewa Samiti, Vill. Parbati, P.O. Harwanshpur, Distt. Gonda, (UP).	Prevention of Alcholism and Suobstances (Drugs) Abuse	1.35	Blacklisted in 1999-2000
9.	Rashtriya Samaj Kalyan Sanstha, B-405, Gopal Tower, 50-Ram Tirth Marg, Lucknow (UP)	Project for Laprosy Cured Persons	11.00	Blacklisted in 2000-2001
10.	Jan Kalyan Evam Nari Uthan Samiti, 104, Sahib Gunj, Faizabad Distt. (UP)	Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse	6.80	Blacklisted in 2000-01

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Propkari Sansthan, LS-2/648, Sector-F, Janki Puram, Lucknow (UP)	General grant-in-aid scheme	1.69	Blacklisted in 2000-01
12.	Bhartia Grameen Kshetra Gramodyog Vikas Samiti, Jai Narayan Verma Road, Fatehgarh, Farukhabad (UP)	General grant-in-aid	0.98	Blacklisted in 2000-01
13.	Manva Shiksha Parsar Samiti, 280/69, Tilak Nagar, Baghambari Road, Allahabad (UP)	General grant-in-aid	1.66	Blacklisted in 2000-01
14.	Bal Vikas Avam Mahila Kalyan Parishad, Distt. Gonda (UP)	Educational cum Vocational Training Centre	5.00	Blacklisted in 2000-01
15.	Kishan Shikshan Sansthan, Vill.: Jaitnagar, P.O.: Khajhona, Hardoi	Project for Laprosy Cured Persons	10.40	Grant-in-aid has been stopped after getting the adverse report from the officers of the Ministry. Further action to be taken.
16.	Jan Sewa Sansthan, Vill.+P.O.: Kaundhiyara, Distt. Allahabad.	1. Reh. of Laprosy Cured Persons 2. Spl. School for disabled	No Grants has been given in 1998-2001	Grant-in-aid has been stopped after getting the adverse report from the officers of the Ministry. Further action to be taken.
17.	Serva Kalyan Sansthan, 564/44, Guru Nanak Nagar, Alambagh, Lucknow.	Project for Leprosy Cured Persons	12.06	Grant suspended on receipt of a letter from State Govt. for getting grant by the NGO on fake recommendation. Showcause notice issued for black listing.
18.	Prabhat Antarashtryia, MD-1, Sec.-D, LDA Colony, Kanpur Road, Lucknow	Project for Leprosy Cured Persons	1.29	Grant suspended on receipt of a letter from State Govt. for getting grant by the NGO on fake recommendation. Showcause notice issued for black listing.
19.	Anant Ashram, LD-9, Sector-F, LDA Colony, Kanpur Road, Lucknow	Project for Leprosy Cured Persons	7.14	Grant suspended on receipt of a letter from State Govt. for getting grant by the NGO on fake recommendation. Showcause notice issued for black listing.
20.	Sewa Lok Kalyan Samiti, Tarangini Marg, Elidco Colony, Bangla Bazar, P.O.-Bhadrukh, Lucknow	Project for Leprosy Cured Persons	2.41	Grant suspended on receipt of a letter from State Govt. for getting grant by the NGO on fake recommendation. Showcause notice issued for black listing.

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Awadh Sansthan, Ramghat Ayodhya, Faizabad	Special School for disabled	7.65	Grant suspended on receipt of a letter from State Govt. for getting grant by the NGO on fake recommendations. Showcause notice issued for black listing.
22.	Janta Sewa Sansthan, Raje Sultanpur, Distt- Ambedkar Nagar	Project for Leprosy Cured Persons	15.00	Grant suspended on receipt of a letter from State Govt. for getting grant by the NGO on fake recommendation.

[English]

Rural Industries set up in Villages

5682. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Rural Industries set up in the villages of Tamil Nadu by the Khadi Gramodyog Commission and the number of people working in them;

(b) the details of the registered rural industries/ institutes;

(c) the present position of these industries and the number of industries earning profit and those incurring losses out of them;

(d) whether there is any scheme to provide assistance to industries incurring losses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), inter-alia, provides financial assistance for setting up viable village industry units. However, the KVIC does not set up village industries on its own. About 10.51 lakh persons are working in village industry units in the State of Tamil Nadu as on 31.3.2000

(b) and (c) No such information is maintained centrally.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

ISM & H Services under CGHS

5683. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of ISM & H prepared a proposal for upgradation, expansion and consolidation of ISM & H services under CGHS;

(b) if so, the decision of the Government on the proposal;

(c) whether the Government are considering to complete administration of ISM & H component under CGHS through the Department of ISM & H instead of Department of Health;

(d) whether the post of senior level officers of ISM & H at the Directorate of CGHS be given alternatively; and

(e) if so, the decision of the government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Up-gradation, expansion and consolidation of ISM & H services under CGHS does not come under purview of the Department of ISM & H whereas the same is dealt by the Department of Health. However, the Department of ISM & H had sent a proposal to the Department of Health for up-gradation, expansion and consolidation of ISM & H services under CGHS which

can be taken up subject to feasibility and availability of resources.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of (d) above, the question does not arise.

Agro Rural Industries in Karnataka

5684. SHRI R.S. PATIL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Agro Rural Industries set up by the Government in Karnataka particularly in Bagalkot and Bijapur districts during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have any proposal to set up more Agro Rural Industries in Bagalkot district 2001-2002; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Industrialisation is the specific responsibility of the concerned State Governments and the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission provides assistance in the form of grants, interest subsidy, rebate, training, marketing etc. for the promotion and development of Khadi and Village Industries, however, it does not set up units of its own.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

"Indo-German Experts Meet"

5685. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian and German experts had held three-day meeting in New Delhi in March 2001 to discuss ways and means to correct respective global images of their countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) Yes, the Indo-German Experts' Meeting on reviewing 'India's image in Germany & Germany's image in India in High School Education' was held on March 12-14, 2001 in New Delhi as part of the German Festival in India 2000-2001.

(b) Experts discussed ways to evolve strategies to enrich information available on their respective countries so as to promote better understanding of each other's cultures and values. The meeting also recommended the establishment of a joint group to implement the changes in the mutual perception of each other in high school Textbooks.

[Translation]

Decline in Employment Generation

5686. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a fall in the domestic production creation of job opportunities and exports in the Small Scale Industries Sector during the nineties as compared to eighties;

(b) if not, the total number of small scale industrial units in the country during eighties and nineties separately alongwith the total value of the production made thereunder and annual rate of creation of employment opportunities by them; and

(c) the reasons for gap in this regard during the said decades?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The estimate total number of the small scale industrial units and the estimated total value of the production year-wise during the eighties and the nineties are given in the *statement* enclosed. The annual rate of creation of employment opportunities during the eighties and nineties was estimated at 7.8% and 4.9% respectively. The decline in the growth rate of employment could be linked to modernisation/technology upgradation of existing SSIs, and emergence of new SSI activities with low labour intensity.

Statement

During the Year	No. of small scale units (in lakh nos.)	Total production at 1970-71 prices (in Rs. crores)
1980-81	8.74	10906
1981-82	9.62	11837
1982-83	10.59	12800
1983-84	11.55	14120
1984-85	12.40	15810
1985-86	13.53	17840
1986-87	14.62	20187
1987-88	15.83	22742
1988-89	17.12	25672
1989-90	18.23	28690
1990-91	19.48	31160
1991-92	20.82	32129
1992-93	22.46	33935
1993-94	23.88	36948
1994-95	25.71	37362
1995-96	26.58	41621
1996-97	28.03	46333
1997-98	29.44	50239
1998-99	30.80	54108
1999-2000	32.12	58523

India's Initiatives on International Issues

5687. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by the Government on different international issues during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the countries which supported Indian initiatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) The Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism; the Convention on the Prohibition of the use of Nuclear Weapons; the Role of Science & Technology in the context of international security and disarmament; and reducing nuclear danger are some of the initiatives taken by India through resolutions at the United Nations General Assembly. India operates through either the Group of 77 or the Non-aligned Movement on almost all economic and social issues and a large number of political issues, and therefore, is not generally identified with particular initiatives.

(b) 151 countries supported India's initiatives to continue work on the Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism and the record of support for the other initiatives is also impressive.

[English]

Fencing

5688. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has opposed the fencing along the working boundary;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Indian Government to settle the boundary dispute with Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) to (c) The term "working boundary" cannot be applied to any part of the India-Pakistan boundary, including the boundary between the Indian State of Jammu & Kashmir and Pakistan.

Our security forces undertake the construction of defensive structures along the International Boundary in Jammu & Kashmir from time to time. The nature and type of structure is based on an evaluation of our security requirements. In this context, Pakistan sponsored infiltration of terrorists into the State of Jammu & Kashmir has to be taken into account. Our security forces will continue to construct such defensive structures as are needed. Pakistan's objections to the construction of any kind of defensive structures are untenable and have been rejected by us.

The State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible illegal occupation by Pakistan. Under the Shimla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, which are the cornerstones of India Pakistan relations, both countries are committed to resolving all outstanding issues peacefully through direct bilateral discussions.

Israeli Keenness in Purchasing India's Lakshya Aircraft

5689. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Israel has reportedly offered to buy India's indigenously manufactured "Lakshya Aircraft";

(b) if so, India's response thereto;

(c) whether any other country has also come forward for purchasing this aircraft; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) and (b) Ministry of Defence, Israel, had requested technical details of Lakshya pilotless target aircraft. These details have been provided.

(c) and (d) Only preliminary inquiries have been received from some other countries.

Mental Disorders

5690. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

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

(a) whether it is fact that mental disorders is increasing in the country during the last few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this direction;

(d) whether WHO has observed 2001 as the year of Mental Health; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The number of persons with mental illness is increasing due to changes in demographics such as increase in population and over all increase in the rate of depression world wide. Epidemiological studies have revealed that 1 to 2% of the population have major mental disorders and 5 to 10% suffer from minor mental disorders.

(c) The Government has already initiated a pilot programme for providing care for persons with mental disorders in selected districts in the country. The District Mental Health Programme is currently being implemented in 25 districts covering 20 States and Union Territories. Its aim is to identify persons suffering from various mental disorders and epilepsy and manage them at the primary health care centre and district level by trained doctors and with the active support of the families and the community in which the patient lives.

(d) and (e) WHO had declared the theme of the World Health Day on 7.4.2001 as 'Mental Health: Stop Exclusion — Dare to Care'. A WHO sponsored Global School Contest was organised to promote awareness on mental health issues. In addition, symposiums were held to highlight issue related the Mental Health.

OBC IAS/IPS Officers

5691. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of serving IAS/IPS Officers in the country, as on date cadre-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether there are certain drawbacks to the OBC, IAS/IPS aspirants after introductions of the creamylayer system;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to eliminate such difficulties of OBC candidates; and

(d) the break-up of IAS/IPS Officers in the country, category wise, SC and ST and OBC as well as women, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) A statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Consequent on the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Indira Sawhney and Others Vs. Union of India case, the Government has laid-down certain criteria for excluding persons of the socially advanced sections of society from obtaining the benefit of the reservation for OBCs in posts under the Government of India. This has been done with a view to ensuring that socially disadvantaged OBCs get the full benefits of reservation in posts. These criteria are also applicable for reservation for OBCs in posts in the IAS and IPS.

(d) A statement is enclosed.

Statement

I. Number of IAS Officers in Position As on 20.4.2001 (Cadre/State-wise)

Sl.	Cadre/States	Officers in Position	Female	SC	ST	OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	315	33	36	14	10
2.	AGMUT**	239	39	28	19	06
3.	Assam & Meghalaya	207	10	09	28	05
4.	Bihar	246	19	20	11	07
5.	Chhattisgarh	90	08	07	08	02
6.	Gujarat	226	24	19	11	07
7.	Haryana	208	31	32	02	02
8.	Himachal Pradesh	126	17	09	13	02
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	113	03	07	04	02
10.	Jharkhand	117	15	12	15	03
11.	Karnataka	265	36	34	08	05
12.	Kerala	181	21	26	05	05
13.	Madhya Pradesh	317	47	33	08	06
14.	Maharashtra	343	41	42	09	08
15.	Manipur & Tripura	152	04	06	27	03
16.	Nagaland	53	01	01	14	—
17.	Orissa	197	17	17	08	07
18.	Punjab	193	27	27	01	06
19.	Rajasthan	242	31	29	13	07
20.	Sikkim	42	04	03	10	01
21.	Tamil Nadu	329	37	57	12	11
22.	Uttaranchal	72	07	11	04	01
23.	Uttar Pradesh	483	43	63	11	16
24.	West Bengal	301	25	29	14	06
	Total	5057	540	557	269	121

** AGMUT Cadre includes States of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram & all UTs

II. Number of IPS Officers in Position as on 15.11.2000 (Cadre/State-wise)

Sl.	Cadre/States	Officers in Position	Female	SC	ST	OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	187	11	20	10	25
2.	AGMUT**	155	10	21	13	04
3.	Assam & Meghalaya	135	04	08	25	07
4.	Bihar	161	07	17	10	16
5.	Chhattisgarh	59	—	04	05	01
6.	Gujarat	139	04	17	11	11
7.	Haryana	111	06	17	—	09

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	76	01	08	06	03
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	86	01	04	04	05
10.	Jharkhand	86	09	13	08	05
11.	Karnataka	140	05	18	08	05
12.	Kerala	112	02	13	03	24
13.	Madhya Pradesh	219	08	36	15	06
14.	Maharashtra	206	06	31	09	19
15.	Manipur & Tripura	103	03	04	18	02
16.	Nagaland	40	01	—	27	03
17.	Orissa	129	07	15	04	08
18.	Punjab	143	06	23	03	07
19.	Rajasthan	148	05	13	11	17
20.	Sikkim	25	—	02	06	02
21.	Tamil Nadu	176	08	28	06	73
22.	Uttaranchal	42	04	05	05	01
23.	Uttar Pradesh	359	07	61	07	20
24.	West Bengal	248	04	30	15	07
	Total	3285	119	408	229	280

**AGMUT Cadre includes States of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram & all UTs

Compensation for Mishap in Launch of Satellite

5692. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the possible effects of any mishap involving the various satellites in space;

(b) whether any provision for compensation/insurance to the affected persons/institutions is made for in Treaties regarding space; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(b) 'Convention on International Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects' which was evolved by the United Nations, was signed by 107 countries including India. This convention stipulates the terms of liability of a launching State to pay compensation for damages caused by its Space object on the surface of earth or to aircraft flight, or to another space object in Space.

Funds to State Finance and Development Corporation

5693. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to State Finance and Development Corporation for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes of Orissa during each of the last three years; and

(b) the details of funds utilised by Orissa State Finance and Development Corporation during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Under the Schemes of National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) and National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) funds released to and utilized by the Orissa Scheduled Castes Development Corporation during the last three years was as follows:

Funds released by NSFDC

Rs. in Lakhs

Year	Fund released	Fund utilized
1998-99	954.69	279.51
1999-2000	754.08	769.45
2000-2001	689.20	100.48

Funds released by NSKFDC

Rs. in Lakhs

Year	Fund released	Fund utilized
1998-99	0.00	0.00
1999-2000	0.00	0.00
2000-2001	100.33	5.25

Under the Scheme of Share Capital assistance to State Scheduled Castes Development Corporations (SCDCs), 49% Central Share of Equity is provided to State Finance and Development Corporation for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes on matching basis with 51% Share contributed by the State Government, provided recovery percentage is higher than 60%, State share has been released and amount released earlier has been utilized.

During the last three years, no Central Share of Equity has been released to Orissa SCDC, as no assistance was admissible as per the guidelines.

Indo-Malaysia

5694. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether IT industry from Bangalore has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Malaysia;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the manner in which it is likely to increase the trade relations between the two countries on IT segment; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement the MoU?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The Department of Information Technology, Government of Karnataka, has not signed any Memorandum of Understanding with Malaysia and also there is no information on signing of any MoU by the IT industry of Bangalore with Malaysia.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Family Welfare Programme

5695. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Family Welfare Programme (FWP) has been replaced with Community Needs Assessment Approach (CNAA);

(b) if so, the difference between the two Programmes; and

(c) the success of achievements of CNAA over and above the F.W.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir. In fact, Community Needs Assessment Approach (CNAA) has been adopted since Ist April, 1996 for implementation of Family Welfare Programme emphasizing on quality of case. Under this approach, the people's needs for family welfare services are to be assessed in consultation with the community at grass root level.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Committee on Rural Poverty

5696. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee has been set up to determine the criteria for allocation of funds to States under major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has since submitted its report;

(d) if so, the main recommendations contained therein; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

(SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on 19th February, 1999, a Committee of NDC was set up on the Criterion for Allocation of Funds under Major Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The Members of the Committee included Minister for Rural Development, Minister of State for Planning, Chief Minister of Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh with member, Planning Commission as Member-Secretary of the Committee. The Terms of Reference of the Committee was to work out the criterion for allocation of funds under the major rural poverty alleviation programmes in the Ninth Plan.

(c) to (e) A meeting of the NDC Committee was held on 12.01.2000 and there was a consensus and agreement on continuation of the presently used criterion i.e., 15 per cent adjusted shares as approved by the full Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister. However, some States made the observation that some incentive may be provided to the States that had performed well in terms of poverty reduction. It was also noted that there were special needs and pockets of acute distress in some States and these issues also needed to be addressed. The Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission appreciated their concern and agreed that such issues could be considered at the time of the formulation of the Tenth Five Year Plan. The Report of the NDC Committee would be placed before the next meeting of the NDC.

Legislation to Regulate Blood Banks

5697. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to bring forward a Legislation to regulate blood banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Legislation already exists in the form of Drugs and Cosmetics Act/Rules, the provisions of which provide *inter-alia* for regulation of blood banks.

Number of Educated Unemployed in Madhya Pradesh

5698. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of educated unemployed provided employment in Madhya Pradesh during the 2000-2001 out of the allocations made under the Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana; and

(b) the district-wise details of unutilised allocations during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) As intimated by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, a statement showing district-wise targets, number of educated unemployed youth sanctioned, disbursed loans and the estimated employment generated in the State for the year 2000-2001 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is enclosed. As per the guidelines of the Scheme, the disbursement of loans of the cases sanctioned for the programme year 2000-2001 will continue upto 31.12.2001. The District-wise allocations of targets and their monitoring is done by the State Government.

Statement

District-wise targets, sanctions and Disbursement of loans by banks and estimated Employment Generated for the year 2000-2001 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana

Based on the Report Received from the Govt. of Madhya Pradesh (As on 20-04-2001)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Target Nos.	Loans Sanctioned by Banks (Nos.) (Provisional)	Loans Disbursed by Banks (Nos.) (Provisional)*	Estimated Employ. Generated (Nos.)**
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Bhind	225	144	19	24
2.	Malanpur	235	238	3	4

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Morena	345	327	107	135
4.	Shyopur	145	148	77	97
5.	Datia	275	280	168	212
6.	Guna	575	655	375	473
7.	Gwalior	1400	1406	424	534
8.	Shivpuri	430	457	163	205
9.	Dewas	975	1007	239	301
10.	Mandsaur	465	544	262	330
11.	Neemuch	265	281	129	163
12.	Ratlam	670	670	284	358
13.	Shajapur	515	588	224	282
14.	Ujjain	1115	1117	228	287
15.	Badwani	300	306	84	106
16.	Dhar	405	405	72	91
17.	Indore	2490	2500	1018	1283
18.	Jhabua	405	407	201	253
19.	Khandwa	815	815	130	164
20.	Khargone	505	589	508	640
21.	Pithampur	185	185	23	29
22.	Behul	460	461	145	183
23.	Bhopal	1725	1867	353	445
24.	Mandideep	235	236	90	113
25.	Raisen	295	297	81	102
26.	Rajgarh	455	501	219	276
27.	Sehore	555	503	120	151
28.	Vidisha	615	616	155	195
29.	Harda	205	213	57	72
30.	Hoshangabad	440	471	224	282
31.	Chhatarpur	375	375	103	130
32.	Damoh	540	570	43	54
33.	Panna	215	226	10	13
34.	Sagar	1015	1040	159	200
35.	Tikamgarh	325	325	93	117
36.	Balaghat	460	418	69	87
37.	Chhindwara	765	766	108	136
38.	Dindori	90	91	57	72
39.	Jabalpur	1280	1281	57	72
40.	Katni	465	597	234	295
41.	Mandla	205	210	43	54
42.	Narsinghpur	615	738	43	54
43.	Seoni	330	334	154	194
44.	Rewa	620	642	118	149
45.	Satna	775	789	151	190
46.	Shahdol	365	365	125	158
47.	Sidhi	460	461	84	106
48.	Umaria	165	67	51	64
	Total	26790	27529	7884	9935

* Disbursement will continue upto 31.12.2001

** Employment is estimated @ 1.26 persons per unit disbursed loan which is based on the physical verification of units disbursed loans in the previous years.

[Translation]

Amount Spent for Encouragement of SS & Cottage Industries

5699. SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government to encourage the Small Scale and Cottage Industries in Rajasthan in the Financial year; and

(b) the details of programmes started under the 'Din Dayal Hathakargha Protsahan Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The reference to the financial year is perhaps to the year 2000-01. The Schemes/Programmes to encourage the Small Scale and Cottage Industries are uniformly applicable to all States including Rajasthan and specific State-wise allocation of funds is not made. During the year 2000-01, an amount of Rs. 701.77 crores (provisional) was utilised for the development of Small Scale, Agro and Rural Industries in the country.

(b) "Deen Dayal Hathakargha Protsahan Yojana" was launched by Government of India during the year 2000-01 to provide necessary support in an integrated and comprehensive manner to upgrade skills and knowledge of weavers, to strengthen the Handloom Organisations, to ensure availability of infrastructure and common facilities for development of better products to provide assistance for publicity and marketing, to improve the mobility of the finished products, to provide marketing incentives etc.

[English]

"Indo-Russia Consultations"

5700. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether senior officials of India and Russia are holding consultations to expand strategic cooperation in combating international terrorism, drug trafficking and illegal arms trade;

(b) if so, whether a high-level delegation from India visited Moscow and had discussions with Russian Government on these issues; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) and (b) In line with the decisions taken during the State Visit to India by President of the Russian Federation, H.E. Mr. Vladimir Putin, in October 2000, India and Russian Federation have set up a Joint Working Group on Afghanistan. The first meeting of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Afghanistan was held in New Delhi on November 20-21, 2000.

As per the Protocol on Cooperation between the National Security Council of India and the Security Council of the Russian Federation, both sides have established Joint Coordination Groups on International Terrorism and International and Regional Security. The first meeting of the Joint Coordination Groups in International Terrorism and International and Regional Security were held in Moscow from February 19-21, 2001.

(c) During the meetings of the Joint Coordination Groups, issues relating to the challenges faced by both India and the Russian Federation from international terrorism and drugs trafficking were discussed. Discussions on regional and international security issues were also held.

Arrest of Indian Fishermen

5701. DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan have arrested 38 Indian fishermen for allegedly straying into its waters in the Arabian Sea; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) As per available information, there are 302 Indian fishermen detained in Pakistan as present.

(b) As a result of efforts made by Government, Pakistan has agreed to release 844 Indian fishermen. Consular access has also been provided by Pakistan to another 76 fishermen apprehended in March this year. It is expected that these Indian fishermen would shortly return to India. Our efforts at securing the early release of the remaining Indian fishermen in Pakistani custody will continue.

Ayurvedic Hospital

5702. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open National Ayurvedic Hospitals in order to promote Ayurvedic System of Medicines and to arouse more trust of people therein;

(b) if so, the names of places where such Ayurvedic Hospitals are proposed to be opened first; and

(c) the amount expected to be spent on this work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a)

to (c) Health is a State subject. The concerned State Governments establish hospitals for Ayurveda depending upon their inter se priorities and the availability of resources. Presently, 1965 Ayurvedic hospitals have been established by the State Governments and 82 by the local bodies.

The Central Government establishes national level institutes and centres and excellence depending on the overall need, availability of resources and likely benefit to the general public. A National Institute of Ayurveda has already been established at Jaipur which has a 180-bedded hospital attached to it. Other possibilities are presently at the state of conceptualization, keeping in mind the range of priorities for developing and propagating Ayurveda.

[Translation]

Misappropriation of Funds by NGOs

5703. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the NGOs working in the field of de-addiction have stopped their activities;

(b) if so, the number of NGOs which have stopped their activities during the last two years;

(c) whether it is a fact that there were allegations of misappropriation of Government grants against some of these organizations;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Government have received some complaints of misappropriation of Government grants against some of these NGOs;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by the government against such organizations;

(f) whether Government are taking any steps for recovering the said grant from these NGOs who are involved in misappropriation of Government grants; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (g) Instances have come to the notice of the Government where grantee organizations have been found to be non existent, or misutilising the grant, of the quality of services delivered by the NGO are not commensurate with the funds released. In such cases, further release of grant in aid to the NGO is suspended Show cause notice is issued to the management and if the explanation is found to be unsatisfactory, then action is taken to blacklist the organization and the State Government/District Collector concerned is asked to seize the assets created out of the Government assistance, dispose of the same, deposit the monies thus collected with the Government and recover the balance amount as arrears of land revenue.

7 NGOs have been blacklisted under the Scheme for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01. In case of one BGO, an amount of Rs. 78,100/- has been recovered.

[English]

Loan Under PMRY

5704. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications of loans under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana pending since last three years in the country particularly in Gujarat;

(b) the reasons for their pendency;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) It has been reported by the Reserve Bank of India that 1,17,533 applications of loans were pending with the banks in the country and 1344 applications of loans were pending with the banks in Gujarat State under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana as on 28.02.2001.

(b) to (d) As per the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) norms, the applications to be sponsored to the banks should be equal to 125 per cent of the target. Therefore, at the end of any financial year, there are likely to be some pending applications. As per the

instructions of the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India, the pending applications are to be processed and sponsored in the following year. As per the Evaluation Report of the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, disbursement of loans is also delayed because of non-completion of formalities, non-availability of premises, inability to deposit margin money etc. by the applicants.

Financial Difficulties

5705. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Small Scale Industries facing serious financial difficulties due to delayed payments to them by large scale industrial houses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to safeguard the interests of the SSI units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have been receiving information/ representations from Associations of Small Scale Industries (SSIs), as well as individual SSI entrepreneurs regarding the financial difficulties faced by SSIs on account of delayed payments due to them from the large scale units.

(c) The Interest on delayed Payments to Small Scale and Ancillary Industrial Undertakings Act was enacted in 1993, and amended in 1998, which provides penal rate of interest at 150% of the Prime Minister Lending Rate on delayed payments exceeding 120 days. Under the Act, State/UTs are required to set up Industrial Facilitation Councils (IFCs) to provide a speedy and simple redressal and recovery process. So far, 22 States/UTs have set up IFCs. Other States have been requested to expedite the process. Further, Section 8 of this Act stipulates that where any buyer is required to get his annual accounts audited under any law for the time being in force, such buyer shall specify the amount together with the interest in his annual statement of accounts as remains unpaid to any supplier at the end of each accounting year. A supplier is defined to be an ancillary industrial undertaking or small scale industrial undertaking holding a permanent registration certificate.

Eradication of Poverty and Illiteracy

5706. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that SC and ST welfare programmes of the Union Government are not fully percolating down to the target group;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that those SCs and STs who are ignorant about their rights and welfare programmes of the Government continuously remain ignorant of them;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to create awareness among SCs/STs in this regard by the Union Government.

(e) the literacy rate of SCs as against the national average as per the latest Census, State-wise; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the literacy rate among SCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Welfare programmes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes funded by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are implemented through the State Governments/UT Administrations concerned as well as Non-Government Organisations. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment & the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have taken several steps, including steps for making the target group aware about the programmes so as to ensure that the benefits of the schemes/programmes reach the target groups. Details in respect of the schemes/ programmes implemented by the Ministry have also been indicated in the Annual Report of the Ministries for 1999-2000, which have been laid in the Parliament and are also given in the website of the Ministries. Details of steps taken by the Ministry for implementation of the schemes in a proper manner is given in enclosed statement-I.

(e) A statement-II showing the Statewise literacy rate of SCs as against the national average as per the 1991 Census, is enclosed.

(f) Pursuant to the National Policy on Education special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, details are given in enclosed statement-III, have been incorporated in the existing scheme of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Statement-I

With a view to ensure utilisation of the amount provided for implementation of various schemes/ programmes for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in a proper manner, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are taking the following steps:

(i) Release of funds to States/UTs is made on the basis of a detailed examination of the proposals received.

(ii) Utilisation Certificates are insisted upon in respect of past releases before fresh releases are made.

(iii) Periodic progress reports are obtained from the States/UTs, showing the progress of implementation of schemes, the beneficiaries covered and other relevant information/data.

(iv) Senior officers from the Ministries visit the States/ UTs to assess the progress of implementation of schemes.

(v) Meetings with State Secretaries in charge of the subject are convened to ascertain the progress of implementation of schemes.

(vi) In the case of schemes implemented through Non-Governmental Organisation (NGOs), funds are released after obtaining the recommendations of the State Governments/UTs and after an assessment of the standing of the NGO, past performance, etc. Apart from periodic progress reports, the NGOs are required to furnish Annual accounts and audited reports and Utilisation Certificates on the basis of which further release of funds are made. Inspection of NGOs is also undertaken through State Government/UT officials, and other authorities and also by Central Government officers.

(vii) Due publicity of the plans/programmes are being arranged through All India Radio, Television, hoardings, newspaper releases etc. for creating awareness about the programmes among the target groups.

Statement-II

Sl. No.	India, State/ UTs	Total Population (%age)	SC population (%age)
1	2	3	4
	India*	52.21	37.41
	STATES		
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44.09	31.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	41.59	57.27
3.	Assam	52.89	53.94
4.	Bihar	38.48	19.49
5.	Goa	75.51	58.73
6.	Gujarat	61.29	61.07
7.	Haryana	55.85	39.22
8.	Himachal Pradesh	63.86	53.20
9.	Karnataka	56.04	38.06
10.	Kerala	89.81	79.66
11.	Madhya Pradesh	44.20	35.08
12.	Maharashtra	64.87	56.46
13.	Manipur	59.89	56.44
14.	Meghalaya	49.10	44.27
15.	Mizoram	82.27	77.92
16.	Nagaland	61.65	0.00
17.	Orissa	49.09	36.73
18.	Punjab	58.51	41.09
19.	Rajasthan	38.55	26.29
20.	Sikkim	56.94	51.03
21.	Tamil Nadu	62.66	46.74
22.	Tripura	60.44	56.66
23.	Uttar Pradesh	41.60	26.85
24.	West Bengal	57.70	42.21
	UNION TERRITORIES		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	73.02	0.00
2.	Chandigarh	77.81	55.44

1	2	3	4
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	40.71	77.64
4.	Daman and Diu	71.20	79.18
5.	Delhi	75.29	57.60
6.	Lakshadweep	81.78	0.00
7.	Pondicherry	74.74	56.26

• Excludes figures of Jammu & Kashmir where 1991 census was not taken.

Statement-III

Pursuant to the National Policy on Education, following special provisions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, have been incorporated in the existing scheme of the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development:

(i) Relaxed norms for opening of primary schools;

(ii) A primary school within one kilometre walking distance from habitations of 200 people instead of habitations of 300 people;

(iii) Abolition of tuition fee in government schools, in all the States, at least up to upper primary level. Most of the States have abolished tuition fee for SC/ST students up to senior secondary level;

(iv) Provision of incentives like free text books uniforms, school bags, etc. to these students;

(v) The major programmes of the Department of Education, namely, universalisation of Elementary Education, Operation Blackboard, Non-formal Education, District Primary Education Programme etc. accord priority to areas of concentration of SCs and STs. Lok Jumbish and Shiksha Karmi projects, which are community based basic education projects, have a specific focus on remote and backward areas;

(vi) Reservation of seats of SCs and STs in Central Government Institutions of higher education including IITs, Regional Engineering Colleges, Central Universities, Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas, etc. In Universities, colleges and technical institutions, apart from reservation, there is also relaxation in the minimum qualifying marks for admission for SC/ST candidates. The UGC has established SC/ST cells in 98 universities including Central Universities to ensure proper implementation of the reservation policy. A Standing Committee has also been set up by the UGC to review implementation of the reservation policy;

(vii) To improve academic skills and linguistic proficiency of students in various subjects and raise their level of comprehension, remedial and special coaching is provided for SC/ST students. IITs have a scheme under which SC/ST students who marginally fail in the entrance examination are provided one year training and then admitted to the first year of the B. Tech. Course;

(viii) Junior Research Fellowships (50 annually), Scholarships (25), Research Associationship (20), Fellowships (50) are awarded by UGC exclusively to SC/ST students;

(ix) The Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL), Mysore prepares text books, primers, grammer books, dictionaries and bilingual text books, facilitating translation from regional languages into tribal languages. CIIL has worked in 75 tribal and border languages;

(x) The NCERT published ten text books in tribal dialects and teaching/learning material in 15 tribal dialects;

(xi) SC candidates are provided relaxation up to 10 per cent of cut off marks for the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) test and all the SC and ST candidates qualifying for the JRF are awarded fellowships;

(xii) Fifty Junior Fellowships are awarded every year in Science and Humanities including Social Sciences to SC/ST candidates who appear in National Eligibility Test (NET) of UGC and qualify the eligibility test for lecturership;

(xiii) The University Grants Commission provides relaxation of 5 per cent from 55 per cent to 50 per cent, at the master's level for appointment as lecturer to SC/ST candidates. The Commission has also reduced minimum percentage of marks required for appearing in the NET examination to 50 per cent at master's level for SCs/STs.

(xiv) An inter-ministerial working group has been constituted to draw up a ten year perspective plan aimed at the educational development of SCs and STs and to bring them at par with the other communities;

(xv) One hundred and forty-six districts have been identified as low female literacy districts to be

give focused attention by Centre as well as States/Union Territories for implementation of Programmes/Schemes. Allocation of Rs. 767.51 crore and Rs. 376.47 crore has been made under the Special Component Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan for SCs and STs, respectively. This accounts for 16.33 per cent and 8.01 per cent of the total outlay.

Gap Between Rich and Poor

5707. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO:
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap between rich and poor persons Rural and Urban areas has increased in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to bridge the gap; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) From the two latest estimates of consumer expenditure data obtained for the years 1993-94 (NSS 50th Round) and 1999-2000 (NSS 55th Round), it is observed that the ratio of per capita consumption of the poor to non-poor increased from 45% in 1993-94 to 47% in 1999-2000 (on the basis of 30-day recall) in rural areas. In urban areas, however, it decreased from 37% to 36% during the same period. This is due to the fact that a high proportion of urban poor are first generation migrants with little assets.

(c) and (d) The gap between the poor and non-poor is attempted to be reduced by proportionately higher increase in the per capita income/consumption of the poor, to be effected through acceleration of economic growth and direct income generation of the poor through employment and income generating programmes and assets-building.

[Translation]

Indo-China Talks at Military Level

5708. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have held any talks at the military level recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the subjects on which the talks were held; and

(c) the likely effects of the above talks on the defence relations of the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An Indian Army delegation led by GOC-in-C, Eastern Army Command visited China 2nd to 7th April, 2001. This was a goodwill visit and a part of existing Confidence Building Measures relating to military-to-military exchanges between the two countries.

Government of India is committed to the development of friendly relations with China and promotion of friendly and reciprocal contacts and exchanges between the armed forces of the two countries.

Haj Pilgrimage

5709. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL:
SHRI RAJO SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Haj Pilgrims who visited Mecca during 1999, 2000 and 2001 State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) whether any quota, State/Union Territory-wise has been fixed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) The number of Haj pilgrims, who visited Mecca during 1999, 2000 and 2001 State/Union Territory-wise, is indicated in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The details of break-up are given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

State	1999		2000		2001	
	No. of Pilgrims Proceeded	Original Quota	No. of Pilgrims Proceeded	Original Quota	No. of Pilgrims Proceeded	Original Quota
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Daman Diu	12	37	31	37	23	40
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	33	37	30	37	15	40
Goa	27	55	28	55	28	60
Gujarat	5310	2174	7269	2174	7082	2378
Madhya Pradesh	3604	1979	3638	1979	3406	2165
Maharashtra	10517	4599	10413	4599	10682	5030
Chandigarh	4	55	21	55	4	60
Delhi	2422	536	3083	536	2649	587
Haryana	855	461	867	461	720	504
Himachal Pradesh	24	46	15	46	39	50
Jammu and Kashmir	3252	2485	4443	2485	5746	2718
Punjab	126	145	158	145	144	158
Uttar Pradesh	15064	14534	13925	14534	12085	15897
Rajasthan	3119	2125	3987	2125	4297	2325
Andhra Pradesh	2406	3571	3459	3571	3711	3906
Karnataka	3606	3155	4455	3155	4848	3451
Andaman Nicobar	15	55	30	55	13	60
Lakshadweep	234	111	205	111	216	121
Pondicherry	34	55	60	55	72	60
Kerala	4192	4092	6969	4092	6221	4476
Tamil Nadu	2661	1840	3537	1840	2858	2013
Assam	472	3904	620	3904	1067	4270
Bihar	1212	7709	1580	7709	1771	8432
Manipur	170	81	126	81	198	88
Orissa	152	349	240	349	214	381

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tripura	21	119	10	119	9	130
West Bengal	1916	9691	2227	9691	2056	10600
Discretionary Quota	640	2000	483	2000	959	2000
				66000		
				(+) 6000		
Total	62100	66000	71909	72000	71133	72000

[English]

Assistance & Hospitalisation by AIIMS

5710. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether poor patients are being ignored by the premier hospital like AIIMS, New Delhi for their assistance in hospitalisation and treatment cost;

(b) if so, the assistance and Hospitalisation provided by AIIMS to poor patients during the last three years and upto March 31, 2001; and

(c) the details of funds allocated to the AIIMS for assistance to poor patients during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no discrimination between the poor patients and rich patients who come to OPD and emergency department. However, patients who can afford are admitted in the Private ward and the percentage of such patients is only 8%. The patients who cannot pay the nominal hospital charges and charges for investigations are exempted by the faculty of the Department of the Hospital Administration and the Medical Superintendent. The patients who are poor and need financial assistance are provided help from AIIMS Poor Fund Account upto Rs. 2000/- in each case by the Medical Superintendent. Poor patients suffering from Cancer and heart diseases are provided financial assistance upto Rs. 50,000/- by the Medical Superintendent on the recommendation of the treating physician under the National Illness Assistance Fund. The details of funds utilised by the Institute to help poor patients are given below:

AIIMS Poor Fund Account

Year	No. of Patients benefited	Amount disbursed
1998-1999	56	16,325.00
1999-2000	186	30,620.00
2000-2001	45	22,650.00

National Illness Assistance Fund

Year	No. of Patients benefited	Amount disbursed
1999-2000	12	4,81,667.00
2000-2001	111	32,20,420.00

The Institute has been provided Rs. 10.00 lakhs as a revolving fund under National Illness Assistance Fund.

Creation of a Larger "Asian Grouping"

5711. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the proposal put forward by Malaysian Prime Minister regarding the creation of a larger "Asian Grouping";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for improving economic relations with Malaysia;

(d) whether India proposes to have greater coordination with Malaysia in multilateral fora; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) and (b) While addressing the Asian Society in Hong Kong in October 2000 PM Mahathir advocated an Asia Monetary Fund and in Asia Association for Development through which Asian countries could interact more closely with each other.

(c) Malaysia is India's largest trading partner in South-East Asia and one of the largest investors in India. The economic relations between India and Malaysia are further strengthened by continuous exchange of ministerial visits, visits of trade delegations and bilateral discussions. We have mechanisms of Joint Commission at Ministerial level and Joint Business Council at trade level to discuss ways and means of promoting economic and commercial relations. A bilateral Trade Agreement was also signed during the last JCM which among other measures of trade promotion also envisages setting up of a Joint Trade Committee to discuss commercial issues at official level on a regular basis;

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) There is a unique commonality between India and Malaysia on WTO, G-15 and on G-77 issues in general. There are regular consultations between officials of the two countries on these issues. Malaysia is our country coordinator for next three years for our relationship with ASEAN and therefore guides us in our interaction with this regional body. In UN also there is continuous discussion, interaction and exchange of views between the delegations of the two countries.

[Translation]

Execution of Ambitious 'Genome Project'

5712. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research activities in the sphere of inventing new medicines are getting badly affected due to interference of the organisations fighting for social justice and animals rights;

(b) whether the execution of the ambitious 'Genome Project' of the Government is badly affected due to interference by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to frame guidelines in this regard so that the research work in the field of medicine may not be suffered; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) According to ICMR, which is coordinating the research activities in Bio-medical sciences in the country, the research activities at inventing new medicines and execution of genome project, have been affected following framing of rules on experimental animals although the objective of these rules are stated to be not to put hinderances on research activities, but to ensure that animals are not subjected to unnecessary pain before & after experimentation.

The difficulties faced by the scientists are being addressed so as to ensure that research activities in the field of Bio Medical Sciences progresses unhindered.

[English]

Cases of Cancer

5713. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is sharp rise in the cases of lung cancer in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of cases came to different hospitals; and

(c) the number of patients cured from lung-cancer during 2000-2001 hospital-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Based on the data from Delhi's Population Based Cancer Registry functioning under the National Cancer Registry Programme of India, there has been an increase in the incidence of lung cancer between 1996-98, among men in Delhi.

(b) During the year 1995 Delhi Cancer Registry registered a total of 138 new lung cancer cases, out of which 110 among men.

(c) This information is not collected.

CGHS Dispensaries

5714. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have revised norms for issue of medicines under Local Purchase System from 30 days to 15 days in CGHS Dispensaries;

(b) if so, details and reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Heart, Asthmatic patients are forced to accept medicines of other brands even though these medicines have been prescribed by senior cardiologists of government Hospital since it has better composition and more effective. The drugs are purchased of less reputed companies even though the prices of both reputed and non-reputed companies are same particularly in Dispensary No. 63 resulting in lot of harassment and inconvenience to patients; and

(d) if so, reasons therefor and steps taken by the Government to redress the grievances of patients and streamline the local purchase system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Population Control

5715. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY:

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

(a) whether the Empowered Actin Group for dealing with problematic States regarding population rise have since been constituted;

(b) if so, the details of the members of the group; and

(c) if not, by when it is likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir. The Empowered Action Group has been constituted in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare under the chairmanship of the Minister for Health and Family Welfare on 20th March, 2001.

(b) The following are the Members of the Empowered Action Group:

1. Minister for Health and Family (Chairman)
2. Minister of State of Health and Family Welfare (Vice-Chairman)
3. Secretary, Department of Family Welfare.
4. Secretary, Department of Health.
5. Secretary, Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy.
6. Secretary, Department of Elementary Education & Literacy.
7. Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development.
8. Secretary, Department of Rural Development.
9. Director General of Health Services.
10. Project Director, National AIDS Control Organisation.
11. Principal Secretary/Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) of the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Uttranchal and Jharkhand.
12. Additional Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
13. Adviser (Health), Planning Commission.
14. Joint Secretary & Finance Adviser, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
15. Joint Secretary (Reproductive of Child Health), Department of Family Welfare
16. Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research.
17. Director, National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.
18. Director, International Institute of Population Sciences, Mumbai.
19. Executive Director, Voluntary Health Association of India.
20. President, Family Planning Association of India.
21. Joint Secretary (Policy), Department of Family Welfare (Convenor).

(c) Does not arise.

Irregularities in Medical Colleges Seats

5716. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a Union Government quota of seats in medical colleges in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the names of such colleges and number of such seats, State-wise, college-wise;

(c) the eligibility of criteria fixed for admission for these seats;

(d) whether it is a fact that inspite of clear cut guidelines by the Union Government to the States for filling up these seats, some irregularities have been committed by various States;

(e) if so, number of such cases reported during the last three years from Maharashtra; and

(f) the action taken/being taken for not adhering to the criteria for filling up the seats in medical colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the States including Maharashtra and some medical institutions are voluntary contributing few of the MBBS seats in their medical colleges to Central Pool maintained by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on an year to year basis.

(b) Names of such colleges State-wise and number of seats reserved for Central Pool nominees in the Academic Session 2000-2001 are given in the Statement-I.

(c) Eligibility criteria is given in the enclosed statement-II and III.

(d) No such case has been brought to the notice of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

(e) No Applicable in view of (d) above.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5716 for 25.4.2001

Sl. No.	Name of Medical/Dental College	Place	State	No. of Seats
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gauhati Medical College	Guwahati	Assam	6
2.	Assam Medical College	Dibrugarh	Assam	6
3.	Silchar Medical College	Silchar	Assam	3
4.	Patna Medical College	Patna	Bihar	5
5.	Rajendra Medical College	Ranchi	Bihar	5
6.	Darbhanga Medical College	Lehariasarai	Bihar	5
7	J.N. Medical College	Bhagalpur	Bihar	4
8.	Nalanda Medical College	Patna	Bihar	4
9.	M.G.M. Medical College	Jamshedpur	Bihar	2
10.	S.K. Medical College	Muzaffarpur	Bihar	4
11.	A.N. Magadh Medical College	Gaya	Bihar	4
12.	Pataliputra Medical College	Dhanbad	Bihar	2
13.	Maulana Azad Medical College	New Delhi	Delhi	6
14.	A.I.I.M.S.	New Delhi	Delhi	5

1	2	3	4	5
15.	L.H.M.C.	New Delhi	Delhi	30
16.	Pt. B.D. Sharma Medical College	Rohtak	Haryana	1
17.	Indira Gandhi Medical College	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh	5
18.	Medical College	TVM	Kerala	5
19.	Medical College	Kozhikode	Kerala	5
20.	Medical College	Kottayam	Kerala	5
21.	Medical College	Alapuzha	Kerala	5
22.	Medical College	Trissur	Kerala	4
23.	Gandhi Medical College	Bhopal	M.P.	7
24.	G.R. Medical College	Gwalior	M.P.	6
25.	M.G. Medical College	Indore	M.P.	3
26.	Medical College	Jabalpur	M.P.	8
27.	Pt. J.L.N. Medical College	Raipur	M.P.	3
28.	S.S. Medical College	Rewa	M.P.	3
29.	Grant Medical College	Mumbai	Maharashtra	2
30.	I.G. Medical College	Nagpur	Maharashtra	1
31.	Govt. Medical College	Nagpur	Maharashtra	2
32.	S.R.T.R. Medical College	Ambajogai	Maharashtra	1
33.	Govt. Medical College	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	1
34.	Dr. V.M. Medical College	Sholapur	Maharashtra	1
35.	B.J. Medical College	Pune	Maharashtra	2
36.	Govt. Medical College	Miraj	Maharashtra	1
37.	Govt. Medical College	Nanded	Maharashtra	1
38.	S.B.H. Govt. Medical College	Dhule	Maharashtra	1
39.	S.V.N. Govt. Medical College	Yeotmal	Maharashtra	1
40.	S.M.S. Medical College	Jaipur	Rajasthan	4
41.	S.P. Medical College	Bikaner	Rajasthan	4
42.	R.N.T Medical College	Udaipur	Rajasthan	4
43.	Dr. S.N. Medical College	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	4
44	J.N. Medical College	Ajmer	Rajasthan	4

1	2	3	4	5
45.	Medical College	Kota	Rajasthan	4
46.	K.G. Medical College	Lucknow	U.P.	3
47.	G.S. V.M. Medical College	Kanpur	U.P.	3
48.	S.N. Medical College	Agra	U.P.	3
49.	L.L.R.M. Medical College	Meerut	U.P.	3
50.	M.L.N. Medical College	Allahabad	U.P.	3
51.	B.R.D. Medical College	Gorakhpur	U.P.	3
52.	M.L.B. Medical College	Jhansi	U.P.	3
53.	Burdwan Medical College	Burdwan	West Bengal	3
54	B.S. Medical College	Bankura	West Bengal	3
55.	North Bengal Medical College	Darjeeling	West Bengal	4
56.	M.P. Shah Medical College	Jamnagar	Gujarat	10
57.	J.I.P.M.E.R.	Pondicherry	Tamil Nadu	18
58.	Instt. of Medical Sciences (BHU)	Varanasi	U.P.	4
59.	M.G.I.M.S. Sewagram	Wardha	Maharashtra	4
60.	Christian Medical College	Vellore	Tamil Nadu	1
61.	St. John's Medical College	Bangalore	Karnataka	1
			Total MBBS Seats	258

Statement-II

Categories of Students Eligible to be considered for admission against the Central Government quota of seats for MBBS Course

(1) Students belonging to States/Union Territories with no Medical/Dental College.

(2) Wards of Defence Personnel

(3) Children of para-military personnel serving in CRPF/BSF etc.

(4) Children of personnel serving in Cabinet Secretariat (SSB/R&AW/SFF)

(5) Children of Indian Staff serving in Indian Missions abroad

(6) Self-financing foreign students to be nominated by M/o External Affairs for meeting diplomatic/bilateral commitments

(7) Tibetan Refugees

(8) National Bravery Award Winning Children

(9) In addition to the category of students mentioned above few MBBS seats are also allotted to Jammu & Kashmir on an adhoc basic due to the disturbed conditions in the State for allotment to students who have been affected by terrorism.

The eligibility conditions to be fulfilled by the candidates for admission against the seats reserved for the Government of India and the guidelines to be followed while making selection of candidates are contained in the M/o Health and Family Welfare letter No. U. 14014/84/86-ME (UG) dated 9.12.1986 which is enclosed at Annexure-3.

Statement-III

P.P. CHAUHAN
Joint Secretary

No.U. 14014/84/86-ME (UG)
Ministry of Health and
Family Welfare
India
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi-11
Dated the 9th December, 1986.

Dear Sir,

As you are aware, we have been allocating MBBS/BDS seats to your State/Union Territory for the selection and nomination of eligible candidates. Some instances have, however, come to our notice where some of the allottee agencies have not followed the relevant instructions issued by the Government of India while selecting and nominating candidates against the seats allotted by us.

2. It is once again reiterated that only the children of (i) permanent residents of the State/UT concerned, (ii) the employees of the State/UT Government concerned, (iii) the employees of the Central/other State/UT Government on deputation to the State/UT concerned; and (iv) the employees of the Central/other State/UT Government posted in and having their headquarters within the State/UT concerned, will be eligible.

3. The children of Central/State/UT Government employees, aforementioned, should be treated at par with the local resident. The sole criteria for selection will be the academic merit of the candidates, subject to any special orders issued with the concurrence of the Government of India.

4. $22^1/_2$ of the seats allotted to each State/UT concerned will be reserved for students belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes of that State/U.T. The break-up of this reservation will be as follows:-

(a) a distinct reservation of 15% for Scheduled Castes and $7^1/_2$% for Scheduled Tribes.

(b) the reservation as mentioned in sub-para (a) above, can be interchanged. Thus, if a sufficient number of candidates are not available to fill up seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes, they may be filled up by suitable candidates from Scheduled Castes and Vice-Versa; and

(c) if the number of available Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe qualified candidates is less than $22^1/_2$ of the seats the balance can be given to Non-Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe candidates.

5. Only those candidates will be eligible for admission against the seats reserved for the Government of India who have secured at-least 50% (40% in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or as amended by the Medical Council of India from time to time of the aggregate marks in English, Physics, Chemistry and Biology in the qualifying examination, pre-medical/Ist year of three years degree course/Ist year of three year B.Sc (Hons) Course-pre-degree (Two years course/pre-University (two years course)-10+2 under the new pattern of 10+2+3 or any other examination recognised as equivalent by the Medical Council of India). 80% weightage is to be given to the results of the eligible examinations for admission and 20% to that of matriculation or school leaving examination; when a candidate has passed B.Sc. or M.Sc. examinations, then 80% weightage is to be given to the results of the eligible examination 10% to the results of the matriculation or school leaving and 10% on the results of the B.Sc. or M.Sc. examinations.

6. It may further be noted that-

(a) For a candidate who has passed the qualifying examination in the 2nd attempt, 2% of the marks from the total aggregate should be deducted in determining his merit; and

(b) Candidates who have passed the qualifying examination in more than two attempts should not normally be considered suitable for medical studies.

7. It is requested that the above criteria for the selection and nominations of candidates against the MBBS/BDS seats reserved for the Central Government should be strictly followed. The Central Selection Committee in this Ministry will also follow this procedure.

8. I shall be grateful for a line in acknowledgment of this letter.

Yours Sincerely,
Sd/-

(P.P. CHAUHAN)

To: States/UTs without medical colleges.

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. The Ministry of Defence (ISSA) Board, New Delhi.
2. The Ministry of Home Affairs, (Rehabilitation Division), Jaisalmer House, Mansingh Road, New Delhi.

3. The Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri P Vijayaraghavan, Deputy Secretary), New Delhi.
4. Director General, Border Security Force, New Delhi.
5. Commandant, C.R.P.F., R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110 066.
6. Director, S.S.B., East Block, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-22.
7. Ministry of External Affairs (Student Cell), (Shri G.P. Kapoor, Under Secretary), Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
8. Ministry of external Affairs (Welfare Cell), (Shri J.R. Blah, Eeputy Secretary), New Delhi.
9. Cabinet Secretariat (Shri R.K. Ganger, Deputy Secretary), Bikaner House Annexe, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.
10. The President, Medical Council of India, Diwan-e-Galib Marg, Temple Lane, Kotla Road, New Delhi.
11. DDG(M)/Dte. GHS (ME Section), Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.

(Sd/-
(P.P. CHAUHAN)
JOINT SECRETARY

Integrated Infrastructural Development

5717. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) scheme to promote stronger linkages between agriculture and industry was launched in 1994;

(b) if so, the areas which are covered under this scheme;

(c) whether proposals for this scheme are routed through the State Government after project appraisal from SIDBI;

(d) if so, the total number of schemes submitted by Andhra Pradesh to Union Government during the last three years and cleared by Union Government;

(e) the number of projects pending with Union Government; and

(f) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheme covers the entire country with 50% reservation for rural areas.

(c) Under the Scheme, the State Governments/Union Territories are required to firm up the proposals and submit these to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) for techno-economic appraisal. SIDBI submits the appraisal reports to Central Government for consideration.

(d) During the last three years Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted four proposals under the Scheme and all of them have been cleared.

(e) None.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Electronic Cities

5718. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Electronic Cities in the country as on date particularly in the tribal and backward areas, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some new Electronic Cities;

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

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) The Government of India has not promoted any electronic city. Some of the State Governments have created infrastructure facilities for the IT sector and these are sometimes called electronic cities, cyber cities, electronic parks etc. The Government

of India has not prescribed any minimum requirement that needs to be fulfilled by such infrastructure facilities and has not planned the established of such "cities".

[English]

CISCO Networking Academy Programme

5719. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether CISCO systems plan to set up 34 networking academies in India to train about one lakh professionals over the next five years;

(b) if so, furnish details of the proposals, finalised/ under consideration and likely impact thereof, particularly on I.T. institutes and professional training facilities in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(c) the details of regional academies proposed to be covered under CISCO plan in the country particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) the action plan worked out by the CISCO Networking Academy Programme and investment proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) CISCO has announced a plan of setting up 53 Regional Networking Academies and 413 Local Academies.

(b) From the announcement made by CISCO, a total of 3 Regional and 30 Local Networking Academies are to be set up in the State of Maharashtra.

According to CISCO, these Academies will educate and train a pool of people in the States in highly employable and globally recognized IT skills including Networking and help proliferate IT/Networking skills to masses with the potential of creating skilled manpower to cater to the Networking infrastructure.

(c) and (d) This information is not available with this Ministry.

Service Conditions of Unit run Canteen Workers

5720. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army HQs have recently instructed all its command headquarters to revise the service conditions of civilians employed in the unit-run canteens under their control, issue them fresh appointment letters of a fixed tenure and terminate them after expiry of the tenure without giving any weightage of past service;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor especially keeping in view that the Hon'ble Supreme Court has already granted them Central Government servant's status;

(c) whether any URC was closed down or any employee has been affected by virtue of these orders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action being taken to safeguard the interests of these employees in view of the hon'ble Apex Court's judgement?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

"Indo-EU Ties"

5721. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of the Indo-European Union (EU) agreements signed during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) During the period 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 the Financing Agreement for "EU-India Civil Aviation Project" was signed on 28th June 2000 between the European Community and the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India during the First EU-India Summit in Lisbon.

Institutes for Mentally Handicapped

5722. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped plan to set up a number of schools to train handicapped children;

(b) if so, the number of institutes managed or being run by the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped;

(c) the number of children got training through such schools in 2000-2001;

(d) whether there is a proposal to expand such work by the NIMH; and

(e) if so, details of proposals under consideration to assist the mentally handicapped children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (e) The National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH) has a special school at its headquarters for the purpose of practical training for the professional courses run by NIMH. NIMH also has a special school at New Delhi namely Model School for Mentally Deficient Children (MSMDC). Over 90 children study in each of the schools. NIMH continues to extend technical guidance to the organizations working for the rehabilitation of children with mental retardation.

Bridge Courses and Special Education Teachers

5723. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitation Council of India has made arrangements for offering Bridge Courses to train Rehabilitation workers and Special Education Teachers;

(b) if so, the details of such courses and the various institutions offering them;

(c) whether the RCI subsidies such institutions offering training courses for this purpose;

(d) if so, the financial outlays on this account;

(e) whether annual assessment is being done on the utility of such courses; and

(f) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Rehabilitation Council of India has started Bridge Course from the year 1998 for training rehabilitation workers and special educators in the areas of mental retardation, hearing impairment, locomotor handicapped, visual impairment and associated disabilities. The objective of this course is to train those rehabilitation workers and special educators who are working from a date prior to June 1993 and do not possess a recognized qualification. A list of institutions offering the Bridge Course is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The Rehabilitation Council of India gives 100% grant to the institutions for conducting Bridge Course. A sum of Rs. 0.82 crores was spent on this account during the last financial year (2000-2001).

(e) and (f) As per report of the Rehabilitation Council of India, annual assessment of the Bridge Course is done by the Council regularly and the course is found to be useful.

Statement

List of Institutions Running Bridge Course

ANDHRA PRADESH

1.	Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehabilitation for the Mentally Handicapped, Rural Project, Lalacheruvu, Rajamundry, East Godavari Dist., AP.-533106.	MR
2.	Thakur Hari Prasad Instiutte of Research and Rehabilitation for the Mentally Handicapped, Vivekananada Nagar Dilsukhnagar, Hyderabad-500 060, (A.P.)	MR
3.	Sahaya Institute for Diploma in Mental Retardation, Rayalaseema Seva Smithi, 181 78/A.K.T. Road Tirupati - 517501 Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh.	MR
4.	Sweekar Rehabilitation Institu te for Handicapped, Upkar Circle, Picket, Secunderabad 500003	HI
5.	Zilla Viklangula Sangam, Vinukonda, Dist. Guntur - 522 647 A.P.	LH
6.	National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped Manovikas Nagar, P.O. Bowenpally Secunderabad 500011	MR

7.	Vegesna Foundation, 6/91, Saroornagar, Hyderabad - 35	LH
8.	Society for Education of the Deaf & Blind, 2-2-20, Perlovori Street, Vizianagaram-535 001	HI
9.	B.B.S. Devnar School for the Blind, (Managed by Devnar Foundation For the blind) H. No. 10-2-231, Road No. 1, West Marredpally, Secunderabad	VH
10.	S.V. School for the Deaf, T.T. Devasthanams, Tirupati	HI
11.	College of Teacher Education (Andhra Mahila Sabha), Durga Deshmukh Vidyapeetham, Osmania University Campus, Hyderabad.	HI
12.	Mangalam, 18-1-90/A, Yasoda Nagar, K.T. Tirupati	LH
13.	Department of Education, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam-53003 A.P.	VI
14.	AYJNIHH, South Regional Centre, Manovikas Nagar, Secunderabad	HI
15.	Bethlehem Church Association for the Blind, Royapet, Narsapur-534275, West Godavari Dist.	VI
ASSAM		
16.	Guwahati Mental Welfare Society, North Eastern Regional Training Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Vikas Nagar, Dakhingaon, Kahilipara, Guwahati - 781019, Assam	MR
17.	Shishu Sarothi, Spastic Society of Assam, Opp. Ramakrishna Mission Road, Birubai, Guwahati - 781 016	MR
18.	Prerna Spastic Society of Jorhat, Cinnamara, Jorhat	LH
BIHAR		
19.	J.M. Institute of Speech & Hearing, Road No.5, Indrapuri, P.O. Keshrinagar Distt. Patna—800024 Bihar.	MR & HI
20.	Bihar Institute of Speech & Hearing & Research Centre, 6 Rajendra Nagar Patna-Pin- 800016, Bihar	HI
21.	Rajendra Institute of Education & Social Welfare, Halimpur, PO. Dumari Kala, Distt.-Sitamarhi (Bihar) -843315	LH
22.	Indian Institute Rural Reconstructions of Social Change, East Gandhi Maidan, Jehanabad-Bihar	MR
23.	YMNA, 303 Himgiri Bhawan, Anandpuri, Patna-800001, (Bihar)	MR
24.	Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Institute, Rajender Nagar, Road No. 6-B, Patna-800016, Bihar	LH
25.	Deepalaya Institute for Mental Health & Rehabilitation, Kailash Puri, Sri Nagar Hata, Purnea, Bihar-864 301.	MR
CHANDIGARH		
26.	Institute for the Blind, Sector-26, Chandigarh	VI
DELHI		
27.	Tamana Special School, B 6 Street, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi.	MR

28.	YMCA Nizammudin Division Institute for Special Education, Nizammudin, New Delhi-Pin-110 013	MR
29.	The National Association for the Blind Sector-V, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022	VI
30.	Federation for the Welfare of the Mentally Retarded (India), Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Special Institutional Area, New Delhi-67	MR
31.	Akshay Pratishthan, Sector-D, Pocket-III, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070	LH
32.	Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust, Karkar Dooma, Vikas Marg, Delhi - 110 092	MR
		LH
33.	Samadhan, F-Block Nain Park Sector V, Dakshinpuri, New Delhi-62	MR
34.	Kulachi Hansraj Model School, Ashok Vihar-Delhi (D.A.V. run school)	MR
35.	National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped Regional Centre, Kasturba Niketan Lajpat Nagar II, New Delhi-24	MR
36.	Delhi Society for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded Children, Okhla Centre, Okhla Marg, New Delhi-110 025	MR
37.	Jan Madhyam 148 A, Zamrudpur, New Delhi-110048	
38.	Air Force Golden Jubilee Institute Subroto Park, Delhi Cantt-110 010	MR
39.	Laxman Public School, Hauz Khas Enclave, New Delhi-110016	MR
40.	Enabling Centre, Lady Irwin College, New Delhi	MR
41.	Vasant Valley School, Sector-C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi	MR
GUJARAT		
42.	Blind Men's Association, Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Road Vastrapur, Ahmedabad -380 015, (Gujarat)	VI
43.	B.M. Institute of Mental Health Ashram Road, Nr. Nehru Bridge, Avrangpura Ahmedabad-380009	MR
44.	Gujarat Kelavani Trust, Mangal Prabhat Building, Opp. St. Xavier's high School Mirzapur, Ahmedabad-380 001	MR
45.	Medical Care Centre Trust, C/o KG Patel Children Hospital, Jalaram Marg Karelibaug, Baroda-390018 Gujarat.	MR
46.	Rotary Club Nadiad Samajseva and Sanshodhan Trust (Shri S.G. Brahmbhatt Badhir Vidya Vihar Dabhan Road, Nadiad-387002.	HI
47.	Gujarat Council of Educational Research & Training, Sector-21, Gandhi Nagar-382 021	VI
48.	PNRS, Society for Relief and Rehabiitation of the Disabled Bhavnagar-364002.	LH
49.	K.L. Institute of Speech & Hearing, 51 Vidhya Nagar, Bhavnagar, Gujarat-364002	HI
HARYANA		
50.	Red Cross Institute for Mentally, Handicapped Children, Gandhi Nagar, Rohtak-124001, Haryana. (ARPAN)	MR
51.	Association for the Welfare of Handicapped, 5N/12, N.I.T. Faridabad	HI

HIMACHAL PRADESH		
52.	HP Primary Education Society, Glen Hogin, Lal Pani Shimla-1	MR LH
JHARKHAND		
53.	Deepshika Institute for Child Development & Mental Health, Arya Samaj Mandir, Shradhanand Road, Ranchi-834001, Jharkhand	MR
KARNATAKA		
54.	St. Agnes Special School, Bendur, Mangalore-575002	MR
55.	Sangram Education Society, EWS 90 Hudco Colony, Bidar-585 401	VI
56.	Shri Renuka (Yallamma) Vidyavardhak Sangh, Saundatti-591 126	MR
57.	Association for Rehabilitation of the Disabled, PB. No. 24, Vivekananda Colony, Gangavathi-583227, Koppal Dist.	VI
58.	Shri Vinayaka Education Society, Behind Shivali Theatre 'B' Block, Devraj Urs Layout, Davangere-577 006	HI
59.	Belgaum Integrated Rural Development Society, Naganur, Tq. Gokak Dist.-Belgaum	HI
60.	Shree Ramana Maharishi Academy for the Blind, 3rd cross, 3rd Phase (Near Ragi Gudda) J.P. Nagar, Bangalore-560078	VI
61.	Karnataka Parent's Association for Mentally Retarded Citizens, AMH Compound Off Hosur Road, Near Kidwai Memorial Hospital, Bangalore-560029	MR
62.	Divya Shanthi Special School, Silas House, First Cross Road Opp. Municipal Ground Robertsonpet, KGF-63122, (MR)	MR
63.	Institute of Speech & Hearing, Hennur Road, Bangalore-560084.	HI
64.	Devine Light Trust, White Field, Bangalore 560066	VI
65.	Seva-in-action, 36 Ist main S.T. Bed Layout Koramangala, Bangalore-560034.	HI
66.	Karnataka Handicapped Welfare Association, Jeevan Bhimnagar, Bangalore-560075.	HI
67.	Vathasalya H.A.L. School for Special Education, Jawahar Nagar, Marathahali, Post Bangalore-560037.	MR
KERALA		
68.	Association for the Welfare of the Handicapped M Sqare Complex Pavamani Road, Calicut-673001	MR & HI
69.	Bala Vikas Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Gandhi Marg, Opp. Hindustan Latex, Peroorkada P.O. Trivandrum-695005	MR

70.	Kerala Federation of the Blind, Kunnaukuzhi, P.O. Thurvanathapuram-695 037.	VI
71.	Pope Paul Mercy Home Residential Training School for the Mentally Retarded, Peringandoor P.O. Thrissur-680 581.	VI
72.	Nirmala Sadan, School for MR Children, Muvattupuzha P.O. 686661	MR
73.	RAKSHA Society for Care of Children with Multiple Handicaps, Yamin Manzil, Darragh-Es-Salaam Road, Kochangadi, Cochin-682 002	MR
74.	C.S.I. Training Centre for Teachers of the Hearing Impaired, Valakom, Kollam-691532.	HI
75.	Central Institute on Mental Retardation, Murinjapalam Medical College P.O. Thiruvananthapuram-695011	MR
76.	Faith India, Faith India Bhawan, Puthenanz P.O., Eranakulam-682308, Kerala.	CP
		R
77.	NISH-National Institute of Speech & Hearing, Palace Road, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram.	HI
MADHYA PRADESH		
78.	Digdarshika Institute of Rehabilitation & Research, Red Cross Bhawan, Shivaji Nagar, Bhopal-462016.	MR
79.	M.P. Welfare Association for the Blind, 33B/D, Kila Maidan, Indore-452 006	VI
80.	Marian Society, Asha Niketan High School for the Deaf, C-Block, Pvt. Colony, E/6, Bhopal (MP)	HI
81.	Mahesh Drashtiheen kalyan Sangh, Scheme, No. 54, Behind Saty Sai Vidya Vihar, A.B Road, Indore-452008.	VI
82.	Deaf & Dumb Association Scheme No. 71B (Behind Ranjit Hanuman mandir) Indore-452009. M.P.	HI
83.	Navjeevan School for Hearaing Handicapped Children for Speech & Language Develoment, Navjeen Badhir Samithi, 3/1, Old Palasia, Near Navneet Tower, Indore-452001	HI
MAHARASHTRA		
84.	Mind's College of Special Education, Sweri Hill, Sewri Road, Mumbai-400 003.	MR
85.	Society for the Education of the Crippled, Agripada Municipal School Building, Motibai Street, Mumbai-400 011	LH
86.	National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped Regional Centre,C/o AYJNIHH, Bandra Reclamation, Bandra (W), Mumbai-400050,W	MR
87.	Ayodhya Charitable Trust,. 577, Shukrawar Peth, Subhash Nagar, Pune-411002	HI
88.	V.R. Ruia Mook Badhir Vidyalaya, S.P. College Compound, Pune-411 030,	HI
89.	Central Institute of Teacher of Deaf, 3rd Floor Municipal School Building, Opp. YMCA Swimming Pool, Farook S Umar-bhyo Path Agripada, Mumbai-400 011	HI

90.	The Poona School & Home for the Blind Trust, Dr. S.R. Machave Road, 14/17, Koregaon Park, Pune-411 001	VI
91.	The National Association for the Welfare of the Physically Handicapped, University Gate No.3 Mardi Road Camp, Amravati-444602	VI
92.	National Association for the Blind, India, 11, Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan Road, Worli Seaface, Mumbai-400 025	VI
93.	National Association for the Blind, Unit Maharashtra, 3rd Floor, Yeshwant Mandal, Raviwar Karanja, Nashik - 422 001	VI
94.	Apang Va Niradhar Bahuddeshiya Kalayankari Sanstha, Zingabai takli Geeta Nagar, Ward No.-1 Nagpur-30	MR
95.	Spastics Society of India, K.C. Marg, Bandra Reclamation Bandra (W) Mumbai-400 050	MR
96.	Dilkush Teachers Training Centre in Special Education, Church Road, Juhu, Mumbai-400 049	MR
97.	S.N.D.T. Women University, Deptt. of Special Education, Sir Vithaldas Vidyavihar, Juhu Road, Santacruz (W) Mumbai-400 049	MR
98.	Kamayani Prashikshan & Society, 270/B, Gokhalenagar, Near Patrakarnagar, Pune 16, Maharashtra.	MR
99.	Deaf & Dumb Industrial Institute, North Ambazari Road, Shankar Nagar, Nagpur	HI
100.	Apang Kalyan & Punarvasan Sanstha, Ajantha Road, Buldana-443001	HI
101.	Navjeevan School for Mentally Retarded, Plot No. P-65, MIDC Naregaon Fata Aurangabad.	MR
102.	AYJNIHH, Bandra (W), Mumbai-50	VR
MANIPUR		
103.	All Manipur Mentally Handicapped Persons Welfare Organisation Keshamthong Top Leirak, Imphal-795008	MR
MEGHALAYA		
104.	Montfort Centre for Education, Danakgre, Tura (P.O.) Meghalaya-794101	VI
ORISSA		
105.	Jewels International's Chetna Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, A/3, Nayapalli Bhubaneswar 751013	MR
106.	Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre, 108 D Master Canteen Building Station Square, Unit-II, Bhubaneswar-751001	LH
107.	Training Centre for Teachers of the Deaf (A Joint Project of State Govt. & AYJNIHH) S.I.R.D. Campus Unit 8 Bhubaneswar-751012, Orissa	HI
108.	Training Centre for Teachers of the Visually Handicapped SIRD Campus, Unit-VIII, Bhubaneswar-751012.	VI

109. TYAGA, At Chhatratota, P.O. Mahanga, Dist. Cuttack, Orissa-754206.	HI
PUNJAB	
110. Dr. Satya Paul Khosla Charitable Memorial Trust, S.U.S. Nagar, Jalandhar,	HI
111. Navjivini School of Special Education Sular, Patiala-147001	MR
112. Vocational Rehabilitation Training Centre, Halbowal Road,, Opp. Kitchlu Nagar, Ludhiana, Punjab-141001	LH & VI
113. Department of Education, Punjab University, Chandigarh-160014	MR
RAJASTHAN	
114. Navdisha Vikas Samiti, C-6, Hasankkhan, Mewati Nagar, Alwar-301001, Rajasthan.	VI
115. Marudhar Deaf and Dumb School, Sagar Road, Bikaner-334001	HI
TAMIL NADU	
116. Institute of Rehabilitation Science and Special Education, Holy Cross College, Teppakulam Post, Tiruchirapalli-620 003	MR HI & VI
117. Spastics Society of Tamil Nadu, Opp. TTTI, Taramani Road, Chennai-600 013	MR
118. Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya College of Education Coibamtore-641 020	VI
119. Hellen Keller Service Society for the Blind Vizhiyagam, Viswanathapuram, Madurai-625014	VI
120. Bala Vihar Training School, Halls Road, Kipauk Garden, Chennai-600 010	MR
121. Holy Cross Service Society, 96-B-Ettupattai Bungalow, Behind General Hospital, Pathur, Tiruchirapalli-620 017.	HI
122. Ajay Memorial Foundation 6, Officers Colony, Anna Nagar West Extension, Chennai-600 050	HI
123. M.S. Chellamutthu Trust & Research Foundation, 611, K.K. Nagar, Madurai-625 020	MR
124. Institute of Mental Health, Kilpauk, Chennai - 600010	MR
125. The Clarke School for the Deaf and the Mentally Retarded, 3, 3rd Street, Dr. Radha-Krishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai-600004	HI
126. School for Young Deaf Children, Bal Vidyalaya, 14, 1st Cross Street Shashtri Nagar, Chennai Tamilnadu	HI
127. Spastic Soicety of India No. 1 Ranjit Road, Kothurpuram, Chennai-600085.	LH
128. Oral School for the Hearing Impaired, Trowel Street, College Road, Nagercoil-629 001, Kanyakumari Distt. Tamilnadu	HI
129. Vidya Vikasini, Opportunity School, 66D Mettupalayam Road, Thudialur, Coimbaore-641 034.	MR

130. C.S.I. Balar Gnana, Illam, Hasthampatty, Salem-636007, Tamilnadu,	MR
TRIPURA	
131. All Tripura Scheduled Castes Tribes and Minority Ulpliftment Council Amnagar Road No.-1 (2nd Lane) Agartala, Tipura-799002	MR
UTTAR PRADESH	
132. Chetna Institute, Sector C, Aliganj Housing Scheme, Lucknow 24, Uttar Pradesh	MR
133. Nav Vani School for the Deaf Village Koirajpur, Post Harahua, Varanasi-221 105	HI
134. Jeewan Jyoti School and Community Based Rehabilitation for the Blind, Aktha, P.O. Sarnath, Varanasi-221 007	VI
135. Akhil Bhartiya Viklang Kalyan Samiti, Tulsi Nagar, Ayodhya, Faizadabad-U.P.	HI
136. Bala Vikas Evam Mahila Kalyan Parishad, Nawabganj, Gonda-U.P.	LH
137. Shri Hanuman Prasad Pandar, Sr. Sec. Andha Vidyalaya, Durga Kund Varanasi-221010	VI
138. U.P. Deaf & Dumb Institute, 4/7 Malviya Road, George Town, Allahabad	HI
139. Viklang Kendra 13, Lukerganj, Allahabad-211001.	LH
140. Deva Integrated School for the Handicapped 21/100, Blind Bhawan, Kamachha Chungi, Varanasi-10 (U.P.)	MR
141. Integrated Institute for the Disabled, Hanuman Dham Colony, Karanndi B.H.U. Varanasi-221005	MR
UTTARANCHAL	
142. RAPHAEL, Ryder Cheshire International Centre, P.O. Box No. 157, Dehradun (U.P.)-248001	MR
143. Natoinal Institute for the Visually Handicapped 116, Rajpur Road, Dehradun, Uttar Pradesh	VH
144. Sharp Memorial School for the Blind, P.O. Rajpur, Dehradun-248009.(U.P.)	VI
WEST BENGAL	
145. Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential P 1/4/1, C.I.T. Scheme VII M, VIP Road Kankurgachi, Calcutta-700054	MR
146. National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped Regional Centre, C/o NIOH, B.T. Road, Bon Hoogly, Calcutta-90	MR
147. Ramakrishna Mission Blind Boys Academy, P.O. Narendrapur, 24 Parganas, (South)-743508.	VI
148. Bikash Bharati Welfare Society Central Office, 20/1B, Lalbazar Street Calcutta-700 001	LH
149. West Bengal Council for Child Welfare, 42, Ramesh Mitra Road, Calcutta-700 025	LH
150. North Calcutta Pratibandhi Seva Kendra 2/8/1, Ramkrishna Ghosh Road, Calcutta-700 050	MR

151. Society for Mental Health Care, (Ananda Niketan) P.O. Khajurdhi, Dist.-Burdwan (Via Katwa), 713518	MR
152. Speech & Hearing Institute & Research Centre, Calcutta Centre: 7B, Kankulia Road, Calcutta	HI
153. REACH, Society for Remedial Education, Assessment handicapped, 18/2/A/3 Vidya Shankar Sarani, Golf Green, Calcutta-700 098	HI
154. HOPE Society for Handicapped Orientation Programme and Education, St. Paul's Road, Durgapur-713204	MR
155. Louis Braille Memorial School for the Sightless, Birla Road, Post-Makhia, Dist. Hooghly-712245	VI
156. Bikashayan Institute for Retarded Children, 40 Bonhooghly, Govt. Colony, Calcutta-700035.	MR
157. Manovikas Kendra Rehabilitation & Research Institute for the Handicapped, 482, Madhudah, Flat No. 1-24, Sec-I, Eastern Metropolitan By Pass, Calcutta (W.B.)	MR
158. N.I.O.H., B.T. Road, Bon-Hooghly, Calcutta-700090	LH
159. Missionaries of Charity (Brothers), 37 Tangra Road, Kolkata-700 015.	MR

Conference on South Asian Growth Quadrangle

5724. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the FICCI with the financial support of Ministry of External Affairs organized a conference on "South Asian Growth Quadrangle — Emerging opportunities for Economic partnership" in New Delhi on March 13-14, 2001;

(b) if so, the issues discussed and the outcome thereof;

(c) the amount spent on the conference;

(d) the recommendations made by the conference; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) FICCI organized the Conference to discuss and identify areas for developing project-based economic cooperation among the four countries comprising the South Asian Growth Quadrangle (SAGQ)-Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal. The Conference adopted and identified key areas of economic and technical cooperation in five working sessions on trade, investment, energy, tourism and infrastructure.

(c) An amount of Rupees ten lakhs has been committed by the Ministry of External Affairs for this Conference, of which Rupees five lakhs have so far been disbursed.

(d) and (e) The Ministry has not formally received the recommendations made by the Conference. It is, however, understood that the major recommendations relate to the need to develop sub-regional transport networks, cooperation in the energy sector, establishment of joint ventures, development of trade complementarities etc.

[Translation]

Corruption in Defence Deals

5725. SHRI VIJAY GOEL:
SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of corruption cases in defence deals registered by the CBI since 1989;

(b) the present position thereof;

(c) whether any person has ever been punished in these cases;

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

(e) the time by which these cases are likely to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) to (e) The CBI has enquired/is enquiring/ investigating only the following cases since 1989 and status thereof is indicated hereunder:-

Sl. No.	Details of the case	Status
1.	Procurement of 36 nos. of Hand Held Direction Finder (HHDF) from M/s Taiyo Musen Co. Ltd., Japan;	The alleged irregularities in the procurement were not found substantiated.
2.	Contract with M/s NOSCHEM, South Africa for supply of 155 mm Smoke Ammunition;	The CBI is verifying the complaint.
3.	Import of ammunition from M/s Pitcare, Hongkong;	A preliminary inquiry by the CBI is in progress.
4.	Contract concluded with M/s Bofors, Sweden for procurement of 155 mm FH77B Gun System, ammunition and associated items;	The CBI has filed charged sheet and supplementary charge sheet against delinquent persons. The CBI is continuing investigation.
5.	Procurement of Weapon Locating Radar;	The CBI's report has been sent to CVC for advice.
6.	Irregular procurement of 'crucibles' in the Eastern Naval Command	The CBI is progressing the case in the designated court at Vishakapatnam.
7.	Irregularities in the procurement of developed items in the Eastern Naval Command;	No report has been submitted by the CBI so far.
8.	Inquiry into the circumstances under which delivery period extension for procurement through Ship Chandelier were given by material organisation, Vishakapatnam from December 1994 onward.	The CBI inquiry is in progress.
9.	Case of Local purchase at NSD, Port Blair in the Eastern Naval Command.	The CBI inquiry is in progress.

2. It may be seen from the above that CBI has so far given its report in respect of only one case viz. Weapon Locating Radar which has been referred to the CVC for their advice. The CBI has not given any time frame for submission of their report in the above mentioned cases.

Foreign Investment in Agro Based Industries

5726. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals have been received regarding foreign investment in setting up agro based

industries in the country particularly in Maharashtra during the last two years; and

(b) the number of proposals cleared out of them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Small Scale Industries and Agro and Rural Industries has not received any foreign investment proposal for setting up agro based industries in the country during the last two years. The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion which is the nodal Department for foreign direct investment in industry have stated that they do not maintain specific information/data. However, the details of proposals approved including proposals pertaining to the State of Maharashtra received by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion to set up agro based industries during the last two years from 1.1.1999 to 28.2.2001 are given in the enclosed statement I & II respectively.

Statement-I

Sector wise Break-up of Foreign Direct Investment and Technical Collaboration approved during the Post-Policy Period (from 1.1.1999 to 28.02.2001)

(Amount in crores)

S. No.	Name of Industry	No. of approval			Amount of FDI approved	% to total amount approved
		Total	Tech.	Fin.		
1.	Paper and Pulp including paper products	22	1	21	849.29	1.20
2.	Sugar	1	0	1	0.00	0.00
3.	Fermentation Industries	10	4	6	17.19	0.02
4.	Food Processing Industries					
	Food Products	94	13	81	433.17	0.61
	Marine Products	5	1	4	6.81	0.01
	Miscellaneous (Food Products)	5	0	5	2.20	0.00
5.	Vegetable oils and Vanaspati	6	0	6	48.30	0.07
6.	Soaps, Cosmetics and Toilet preparations	7	3	4	1.24	0.00
7.	Glue and Gelatin	4	1	3	1.43	0.00
8.	Miscellaneous Industries					
	Horticulture	19	0	19	31.06	0.04
	Agriculture	52	14	38	220.90	0.31
	Floriculture	7	1	6	6.78	0.01
	Tea/Coffee	3	1	2	317.25	0.45
	Coir	9	2	7	2.54	0.00

Statement-II

Sector wise Break-up of Foreign Direct Investment and Technical Collaboration approved during the Post-Policy Period (from 1.1.1999 to 28.02.2001) for the State of Maharashtra

(Amount in crores)

S. No.	Name of Industry	No. of approval			Amount of FDI approved	% to total amount approved
		Total	Tech.	Fin.		
1.	Paper and Pulp including paper products	6	1	5	527.36	2.49
2.	Fermentation Industries	3	1	2	0.00	0.00
3.	Food Processing Industries					
	Food Products	16	2	14	40.74	0.19
	Marine Products	1	1	0	0.00	0.00
4.	Vegetable oils and Vanaspati	1	0	1	6.00	0.03
5.	Soaps Cosmetics and Toilet preparations	5	2	3	1.24	0.01
6.	Miscellaneous Industries					
	Horticulture	4	0	4	17.81	0.08
	Agriculture	13	6	7	12.28	0.06
	Tea/Coffee	1	0	1	315.00	1.49
	Coir	1	0	1	0.10	0.00

[English]

Allocation of Funds For SC/STs and OBCs

5727. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the budget allocations for welfare of SC/STs and Other Backward Classes are very meagre during the last three years and the current financial year i.e. 2000-2001;

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

(c) whether the entire amount allotted in the budget were fully utilised during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the allocation for the Financial Year, 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) and (f) A statement showing budget allocation and expenditure for 1997-98 to 2000-01 and Budget Allocation for 2001-02 is enclosed.

(e) In respect of Scheduled Castes Development, there was no shortfall in utilisation of funds in 1999-2000. However, in 1997-98, 1998-99 and 2000-01, there has been some shortfall on account of low releases under National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and Post Matric Scholarships Funds could not be released to National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations in some years since the Corporation had adequate balances with itself to meet the requirements of the State Channelising Agencies.

In respect of Other Backward Classes, it took some time to formulate schemes for this sector. Besides, adequate proposals were not received from State Governments/UT Administrations even subsequently. Also the funds during the year 1997-98 could not be released to the Corporation (National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBDFDC), as the Authorized Share Capital had not been enhanced beyond Rs. 200.00 crore. The allocation of Rs. 68.10 crore during 2000-01 could not be released in view of the unspent balance out of previous releases lying with the Corporation.

In respect of funds allocated for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, the shortfall in expenditure has been due to lesser demand from the State Governments and Voluntary Organisations.

Statement

Statement showing BE, RE and Expenditure during the last three years i.e. 1998-99, 1999-2000 & 2000-2001 and BE for 2001-2002

(Amount in crore)

	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002
	BE	Exp	BE	Exp	BE	Exp	BE	Exp*	BE
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment									
Scheduled Castes Development	771.00	597.63	759.68	652.38	745.75	746.26	787.70	766.89	854.84
Other Backward Classes	49.08	0.00	111.50	99.80	126.30	113.25	90.52	21.59	71.43
Ministry of Tribal Affairs (ST)	**479.00**	**466.41**	**592.32**	**568.19**	**692.75**	**633.75**	**810.00**	**712.05**	**1040.00**

*Provisional

[Translation]

Water Policy As Health Policy

5728. DR. ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to make the water policy an integral part of the health policy with a view to making available supply of safe drinking water to masses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) An exercise is presently on to revise the existing National Health Policy. In view of the inter-sectoral approach to health, the revised National Health Policy will aim to integrate various critical areas of concern including provision of safe drinking water to the masses.

Eradication of Epidemic

5729. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether epidemic has broken out in most of the earthquake affected places of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the diseases which have been taken an alarming proportion there;

(c) the number of persons died so far to this disease; and

(d) the details of the relief work being undertaken by the Centre and State Governments there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir. Only sporadic cases of ineffective hepatitis have occurred in Kutch district.

(b) The disease has not taken an alarming proportion.

(c) No death has been reported due to viral hepatitis.

(d) Following actions are being taken to control disease situation in the entire district.

(i) Surveillance is carried out by 82 mobile medical teams under technical guidance of WHO and National Institute Communicable Diseases (NICD), Delhi. The Central Surveillance Cell consisting of experts from NICD, Delhi and NIOH, Ahmedabad has also visited the area and provided necessary guidance to the State Health authorities. Laboratory surveillance has been strengthened by provision of laboratory equipments and reagents. State level Rapid Response Team visits affected areas to provide treatment.

(ii) Chlorination of drinking water is monitored by mobile medical teams. Water supplied by tankers is also chlorinated. Chlorine tablets are also distributed in risk areas for pot chlorination.

(iii) Necessary health education on personal hygiene and environmental sanitation is being imparted to people by house to house visits, through pamphlets, press notes.

(iv) Communication has been strengthened from periphery to the State level for immediate feedback.

(v) Under chairmanship of Hon. Health Minister, Govt. of Gujarat a meeting of the State official was organised to implement public health measures such as safe drinking water supply and environmental sanitation.

[English]

Weeding out of Corruption

5730. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Vigilance Commission have expressed that the existing provisions in the Prevention of Corruption Act are took weak to weed out corruption from the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to strengthen provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act to book the guilty;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of other steps the Government propose to take to check corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The Central Vigilance Commissioner has not expressed the view that the existing provisions in the Prevention of Corruption Act are too weak to contain corruption though the need for enacting a separate legislation for forfeiture of property of corrupt public servants has been emphasied by him.

(d) The Government is fully alive to the need to eradicate corruption at all levels of public services. A three pronged strategy of Surveillance, Prevention and Punitive/Deterrent action is followed by the Government. Various Ministries/Departments/Public Sector Undertakings are responsible to ensure probity and integrity in their respective organisations. Recognising that an important aspect of this strategy is Preventive Vigilance, steps have been taken to ensure transparency in public administration and initiate measures of administrative reforms such as introduction of Citizens, Charters, setting up of Facilitation Centres etc. The review and simplification of laws, rules and procedures has also been taken up. The punitive actions being taken under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 duly supported by various rules governing the service conditions of public servants, also act as a deterrent against corruption. However, the drive against corruption in public services to check malpractices in administration is a continuing process. The policies formulated in this regard are modified from time to time in order to make them more effective and responsive to the changing environment. Besides, some of the recent major initiatives taken by the Government include introduction of Central Vigilance Commission Bill, 1999 in Lok Sabha to confer statutory status upon the Commission and Freedom of Information Bill, 2000 to bring greater transparency and accountability in the functioning of the Govt. etc.

Population Control

5731. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:

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

(a) whether it has been confirmed by the latest census that after China, it's India that has crossed the one billion-population mark;

(b) if so, whether population as on March, 2001 stood at 1027,015,247, a shade higher than the projected figures of the Census-2001;

(c) whether according to the provisional results of the Census-2001, it revealed that India had added about 181 million persons to its population between 1991-2001;

(d) if so, whether this is not an alarming situation;

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to take steps to check the population; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) According to the provisional results of the Census of India, 2001, the population of India at 0.00 hours of 1st March, 2001 stood at 1,027,015,247. The "Population Projections for India and the States" prepared by the Registrar General of India projected the population in 2001 as 101.24 crore. Hence the Census 2001 does indicate the population of India as higher than the numbers projected. Yes, in the decade 1991-2001, India has added about 180.62 billion to its numbers. Thus India is only the second country in the world after China to cross the one billion mark.

(d) to (f) In order to tackle the problem of growth of population in the country in a holistic manner, the Government of India has adopted the National Population Policy, 2000 which provides a policy framework for advancing goals for key socio-demographic indices and prioritizing strategies during the next decade. While the policy lays down a multi-sectoral agenda for early population stabilization it seeks to simultaneously address the issues of child survival, maternal health and contraception besides strengthening of primary health care infrastructure and putting in place innovative social marketing strategies.

[Translation]

Welfare of Destitute Children

5732. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are implementing any scheme for the welfare of the destitute children of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance being given by the State Government for the implementation of the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Ministry is implementing three schemes for the welfare of children namely (i) An Integrated Programme for Street Children (ii) A Programme for Juvenile Justice (a statement is enclosed) and (iii) *Shishu Greh* Scheme in the whole country. Under the scheme (i) above, the Ministry is assisting voluntary organizations to prevent destitution of children and facilitate their withdrawal from life on the streets. Under the Scheme (ii) above, the Central Government is assisting State Governments and UT Administrations on 50:50 basis for establishing and running of Juvenile Homes, Observation Homes, Special Homes and After Care Institutions for neglected and delinquent juveniles. Under the Scheme (iii) above, this Ministry is assisting voluntary organizations for Homes (Shishu Greh) for infants for promoting in-country adoption.

(c) The Government of Jharkhand has not sent any proposals to the Central Government.

Statement

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	Year				
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	94.98	—	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	17.30	—	15.83	—	—
4.	Bihar	—	—	143.89	—	—
5.	Chhatisgarh	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Goa	0.81	—	—	—	7.33
7.	Gujarat	—	—	167.81	36.16	35.98
8.	Haryana	6.46	8.52	26.02	—	25.06
9.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	24.58
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—
11.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Karnataka	25.00	2.38	31.23	—	87.00
13.	Kerala	23.53	20.97	48.63	16.86	21.30
14.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	88.69	253.84	159.27
15.	Maharashtra	61.25	341.58	161.76	336.04	251.16
16.	Manipur	3.08	—	—	—	5.35
17.	Meghalaya	2.77	2.82	2.93	4.62	5.62
18.	Mizoram	2.87	2.03	6.70	9.71	4.26
19.	Nagaland	2.52	3.00	3.45	—	6.67
20.	Orissa	14.79	—	—	—	—
21.	Punjab	15.56	15.56	23.68	13.71	24.06
22.	Rajasthan	11.95	8.18	9.31	8.77	8.00
23.	Sikkim	—	—	5.15	1.70	1.70
24.	Tamil Nadu	8.11	2.73	79.43	128.81	118.21
25.	Tripura	—	5.00	—	1.00	—
26.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	276.01	129.24	184.45
27.	Uttranchal	—	—	—	—	—
28.	West Bengal	75.00	18.33	—	103.54	80.00
29.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	2.00	3.10
31.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—	—
33.	Delhi	29.00	—	10.00	—	—
34.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—
35.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	200.00	431.10	1195.00	1046.00	1053.10
	B.E.	200.00	200.00	800.00	1000.00	1212.00

[English]

Indian in Pak Captivity

5733. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 1100 Indian nationals are believed to be in custody in Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether only about 600 nationals have secured release during the last three years;

(c) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with Pakistan Government for early release and repatriation of Indian nationals;

(d) if so, the response of Pakistan Government thereto;

(e) whether the Government have sought international support on the issue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) As per available information, there are 54 Indian defence personnel, 819 civilian prisoners and 302 fishermen detained in Pakistan. However, Pakistan has never acknowledged the existence of any POW in its custody and has conformed detention of only 160 Indian fishermen. Pakistan has not indicated the number of civilian prisoners in its custody.

(b) A total of 611 Indian nationals detained in Pakistan have been repatriated to India since 1997.

(c) The issue of early release and repatriation of Indian nationals under detention in Pakistan has been taken up repeatedly all levels with the Government of Pakistan.

(d) As a result of our efforts, Pakistan has recently agreed to release 84 Indian fishermen and has also provided consular access to 76 additional Indian fishermen. It is expected that these 160 fishermen would shortly return to India. Our efforts at securing the early release of the remaining Indian nationals in Pakistani custody will continue.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Sick Units

5734. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of SSI units identified as sick as on March, 31, 1999;

(b) the details of amount blocked in these sick units;

(c) the number of sick units found potentially viable by banks;

(d) whether the State Level Inter-Institutional Committee (SLIIC) is taking necessary steps to revive the sick units which have been found potentially viable;

(e) whether the Reserve Bank of India has drawn revised guidelines for rehabilitation of sick units found potentially viable; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) As per the data compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the number of sick small scale industries as at the end of March, 1999 were 3,06,221 with an outstanding Bank loans of Rs. 4313.48 crores. Out of these, 18,692 SSI units were identified as potentially viable.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) As a follow-up the measures announced by the Government in the Comprehensive Policy Package for Small Scale Industries on 30.8.2000, the Reserve Bank of India has set up a Working Group to review the existing guidelines for rehabilitation of sick units in the small scale industrial sector and to recommend revision of guidelines making them transparent and non-discretionary.

Cancer Hospital

5735. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to provide financial assistance to construct the Cancer Hospital in Kolhapur, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) There is no scheme under National Cancer Control Programme to provide financial assistance for construction of Cancer Hospital to States.

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

Restriction on Use of Drugs

5736. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued any notification regarding imposing restrictions on certain drugs used for kidney, psychiatric and abdominal diseases; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A notification has been issued prohibiting the manufacture, sale and distribution of certain drugs, which include drugs for infections, psychiatric and abdominal diseases, for human use with effect from 1.1.2002 vide GSR 170(E), dated 12.3.2001, details of which are given in enclosed statement.

The Government have also prohibited the manufacture, sale and distribution of the fixed dose combination of Diazepam with Diphenhydramine Hydrocholoride with immediate effect vide GSR 169(E), dated 12.3.2001.

Statement

1. Fixed dose combination of Nitrofurantoin and Trimethoprim.
2. Fixed dose combination of Phenobarbitone with any anti-asthamatic drugs
3. Fixed dose combination of Phenobarbitone with Hyoscin and/or Hyoscyamine.
4. Fixed dose combination of Phenobarbitone with Ergotamine and/or Belladona.
5. Fixed dose Combination Haloperidol with any anti-cholinergic agent including propentheline Bromide.
6. Fixed dose combination of Nalidixic acid with any anti-amoebics including Metronidazole.
7. Fixed dose combination of Loperamide Hydrochloride with Furazolidone.
8. Fixed dose combination of Cyproheptadine with Lysine or Peptone.

Medical Infrastructure in Newly Carved States

5737. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up comprehensive plan for development of required medical infrastructure to meet the medical needs of hilly people of Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh as reported in the 'Times of India' dated March 12, 2001;

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

(c) the time by which adequate medical facilities would be available in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) The primary health care institutions/infrastructure available in the States of Uttaranchal, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh is given in enclosed statement. The Government is aware of certain gaps in primary health care infrastructure in these States. There are about 8% vacant posts of ANM at Sub-centres and 26% vacant post of doctors at Primary Health Centres in the State of Uttaranchal (Data available for 10 districts) Government have proposed to bring about improvement in the primary health care system in these States in the following ways:-

- Strengthening supply of drugs & equipments.
- Contractual appointment of essential staff.
- Strengthening of Essential Obstetric care.
- Strengthening of emergency Obstetric care.
- Strengthening 24 hour delivery services at PHCs/ CHCs
- Referral transport to indigent families through panchayats

- Training of traditional birth attendants
- Outreach services for immunization
- Holding RCH Camps in the districts
- Major & Minor Civil work for strengthening infrastructure.
- Under Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana launched during the current financial year, the provision has been made as Additional Central Assistance for strengthening the Primary Health Care facilities.
- A number of externally aided area projects have succeeded in strengthening the primary health care infrastructure through construction activities and training/upgradation skills of medical/ paramedical personnel.
- The secondary level health care facilities like district hospital, Sub-district hospitals & Communcity Health Centres are upgraded and Modernized to provide first referral care for patients from the primary health care system through State Health Systems Project.

Statement

CHHATTISGARH

	Subcenter				PHC				CHC			
Rural Pop. Crore	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-2002)	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-2002)	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-(2002)
1.35	3375	NA	NA	NA	540	512	38	38	150	114	36	36

JHARKHAND

	Subcenter				PHC				CHC			
Rural Pop. Crore	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-2002)	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-2002)	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-(2002)
1.72	4265	4467	*	Nil	710	962	*	Nil	177	NA	NA	NA

UTTARANCHAL

	Subcenter				PHC				CHC			
Rural Pop. Crore	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-2002)	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-2002)	Requirement	In position	Shortfall if any	Total Target (1997-(2002)
.8	2285	1604	681	681	320	259	61	61	100	23	77	77

Targets not yet approved by the Planning Commission.

National Population Stabilisation Fund

5738. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up any National Population Stabilisation Fund to control the population in the country;

(b) if so, the total funds earmarked for the year 2000-2001;

(c) the action taken by the State Governments during the period achieving the objectives for which the National Population Commission has been set up;

(d) whether the State Population Commission have also been set up in every State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The National Population Stabilisation Fund has been registered as a Society and a sum of Rs. 50 crores has been allocated as seed money to the corpus of the Fund during 2000-2001. The Fund will become operational after the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is received.

(c) to (e) The Chief Ministers of all the States are members of the National Commission on Population (NCP). The very first meeting of the NCP gave a clear and categorical message about the widespread national concern to achieve early population stabilisation and the need for giving a sense of urgency for taking effective steps to accelerate the process. Some States have formulated their own population policies. Many States have set up State Population Commissions. There is a general commitment on the part of all State Governments to implement necessary policies and programmes for population stabilisation at an early date.

Amount Spent for Rural Areas

5739. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state the total amount spent by the Government for setting of small scale industries in rural areas of Tamil Nadu under the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): Units in the Small Scale Industry Sector in the country are set up by private entrepreneurs. The Central Government supplements these efforts through various Schemes/ Programmes. These Schemes/Programmes are uniformally implemented in the country and State-wise allocation is not made. During the Ninth Five Year Plan, an outlay of Rs. 4304.00 crores has been earmarked by the Central Government for development of Small Scale Industries Sector in the country.

Meeting with Nepalese Foreign Minister

5740. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had any meeting with Nepal Foreign Minister recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) to (c) Foreign Minister of Nepal, Hon'ble Chakra Prasad Bastola, was on a private transit visit to India on March 30, 2001, on his way to Denmark. The main programme during his transit visit was release of two books by B.P. Koirala under the aegis of India-Nepal B.P Koirala Foundation. During the visit, he also paid a courtesy call on the External Affairs Minister during which the two Ministers touched on various aspects of bilateral cooperation.

Funds for National Slum Development Programme

5741. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has launched National Slum Development Programme in the country during 1996-97;

(b) if so, the objectives of the programme;

(c) the funds allocated/released by the Planning Commission to each State since its inception year-wise and State-wise;

(d) the extent to which the achievements have been made under the programme in each State;

(e) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of the programme; and

(f) if so, steps being taken by the Government for effective implementation of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir, during 1996-97 the Central Govt. launched the National Slum Development Programme (NSDP) in the country under which funds are provided by way of Additional Central Assistance to the States/UTs every year on pro-rata basis of slum population.

(b) The main objectives of the programme are to provide adequate and satisfactory water supply, sanitation, primary education facilities, health care, pre-primary, adult literacy and non-formal education facilities etc. The scheme also have objectives of provision of housing, community empowerment, solid waste management, as well as environmental improvement and convergence of different social sector programme through creation of sustainable support system. The programme is also to focus on empowerment women as a special focus area. The programme aims at providing the urban poor the required infrastructure, taking the slum area as the main area of operation.

(c) The funds are allocated to the States/UTs every year on pro-rata basis of slum population. Under NSDP since its inception (1996-2001) an allocation of Rs. 1680.89 crores have been made. The year-wise and State-wise allocation of funds under NSDP is given in the enclosed statement-I.

Under this scheme the release of funds since its inception (1996-2001) is of Rs. 1413.74 crores. The year-wise and State-wise release of funds from 1996-2001 is given in the enclosed statement-II.

(d) The Statement showing achievements is given in the enclosed Statement-III.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir, from time to time, the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, which is the nodal agency for monitoring the scheme have reviewed its progress at meetings and the State Governments have been advised by the Ministry to take effective steps for better utilization of the funds allotted under the programme. Further, the funds are released only after receiving the recommendations of the Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation which is the nodal Department and receives utilization certificates from the States.

Statement-I

Statement showing year-wise/State-wise allocation of funds (ACA) since 1996-2001 under National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	States	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22.97	29.45	32.50	35.75	35.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.11	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam	2.22	2.84	2.84	3.12	3.12
4.	Bihar	18.91	24.25	24.25	26.68	17.75
5.	Goa	0.44	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
6.	Gujarat	14.27	18.30	18.30	20.13	20.13
7.	Haryana	3.65	4.69	5.14	5.65	5.65
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.50	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
9.	J&K	3.26	4.18	6.59	7.25	7.25
10.	Karnataka	12.64	16.21	17.87	21.74	21.74
11.	Kerala	7.27	9.32	9.32	10.25	10.25
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14.80	18.98	18.98	20.88	16.54
13.	Maharashtra	35.67	45.73	53.31	58.31	39.04
14.	Manipur	0.45	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
15.	Meghalaya	0.40	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
16.	Mizoram	0.34	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
17.	Nagaland	0.24	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
18.	Orissa	4.50	5.7	6.20	6.78	6.78
19.	Punjab	7.05	9.04	9.04	9.94	9.94
20.	Rajasthan	10.49	13.45	13.45	14.79	14.79
21.	Sikkim	0.03	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
22.	Tamil Nadu	19.05	24.42	24.65	27.11	27.11
23.	Tripura	0.39	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31.28	40.11	40.11	44.12	42.30
25.	West Bengal	24.69	31.66	34.26	37.68	37.68
26.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.34
27.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.93
28.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.82

Statement-II

Statement showing year-wise/State-wise Release of funds since 1996-2001 under National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22.97	22.05	28.42	35.75	8.89
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.11	0.88	0.88	1.25	0.25
3.	Assam	2.22	2.07	2.53	2.81	0.80
4.	Bihar	18.91	18.18	24.25	26.68	6.85
5.	Goa	0.44	0.88	0.12	1.10	0.28
6.	Gujarat	14.27	13.68	22.92	20.13	20.13
7.	Haryana	3.65	4.29	5.14	5.65	5.13
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.50	0.88	1.00	1.10	0.28
9.	J&K	3.26	3.74	5.90	7.25	1.75
10.	Karnataka	12.64	14.85	21.12	21.74	21.74
11.	Kerala	7.27	8.47	9.29	10.28	2.59
12.	Madhya Pradesh	14.80	17.38	20.58	20.88	12.40
13.	Maharashtra	35.67	41.91	57.13	58.31	12.49
14.	Manipur	0.45	0.88	1.00	1.10	0.29
15.	Meghalaya	0.40	0.88	0.88	1.10	0.29
16.	Mizoram	0.34	0.88	0.88	1.22	1.10
17.	Nagaland	0.24	0.88	0.88	1.22	0.29
18.	Orissa	4.50	5.28	5.60	7.27	3.39
19.	Punjab	7.05	8.25	9.04	9.94	2.51
20.	Rajasthan	10.49	12.32	13.49	14.79	3.76
21.	Sikkim	0.03	0.88	1.00	0.88	0.25
22.	Tamil Nadu	19.05	22.33	26.74	27.11	22.59
23.	Tripura	0.39	0.88	0.90	1.20	1.10
24.	Uttar Pradesh	31.28	36.74	36.74	40.26	40.41
25.	West Bengal	24.69	28.93	31.01	40.93	37.68
26.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.34
27.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.93
28.	Uttranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.82

Statement-III

Statement showing the achievement of the States under National Slum Development Programme (NSDP)

(1996-97 to 2000-2001)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Towns covered	Slum pockets covered	No. of beneficiaries
1.	Andhra Pradesh	116	3196	3554918
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14	14	N.A.
3.	Assam	14	119	66863
4.	Bihar	64	1569	1040169
5.	Goa	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
6.	Gujarat	21	210	654000
7.	Haryana	82	436	350000
8.	Himachal Pradesh	48	255	182056
9.	J&K	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
10.	Karnataka	168	187	149211
11.	Kerala	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	123	3028	4399886
13.	Maharashtra	24	308	216685
14.	Manipur	7	7	301456
15.	Meghalaya	6	26	36000
16.	Mizoram	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
17.	Nagaland	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
18.	Orissa	102	1873	964948
19.	Punjab	6	411	834000
20.	Rajasthan	183	1651	766000
21.	Sikkim	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
22.	Tamil Nadu	719	1855	3692270
23.	Tripura	13	94	14855
24.	Uttar Pradesh	66	3247	4214000
25.	West Bengal	122	31627	6450000

Note: N.A. indicates information not available.

India's Stand on Tibet

5742. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has sought a meeting with India regarding latter's stand on Tibet; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indo-Park Dialogue

5743. SHRI SUBODH ROY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Pakistan Military ruler has since invited the Prime Minister to Pakistan for talks to resolve the Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Leaders of Pakistan's military regime have been making frequent calls for a resumption of an India-Pakistan dialogue, at any level, which is focussed on the issue of Jammu & Kashmir. Pakistan has the same time stepped up its sponsorship of cross border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir. In fact Pakistan's continues with its pursuit of negative and hostile approaches towards India.

The State of Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of the Indian Union. A part of the territory of the State is under the forcible and illegal occupation of Pakistan. Under the Shimla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration, which are the cornerstones of our bilateral relations, India is committed to resolving all issues with Pakistan peacefully through direct bilateral discussions. Government have on several occasions reiterated their desire to resume the Composite Dialogue that seeks to build trust and confidence, establish a stable structure of cooperation and address outstanding issues. An appropriate environment is an obvious requirement for a meaningful dialogue. It is self-evident that Pakistan must end its

sponsorship of cross border terrorism in India in order to create such an environment.

[Translation]

Co-ordination Between SSI Units of Developing Countries

5744. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently developed co-operation and coordination among the small scale industry units of developing countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of benefits likely to get for the development of small scale industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Co-operation and Coordination between India's Small Scale Industries (SSIs) and that of other countries is a continuous process. The Government through its International Cooperation Programme have been facilitating exchange of delegations between SSI/SME entrepreneurs of India and other developing countries. The exchange of delegates is helping in mutual co-operation for expansion of trade, technology, upgradation, joint venture etc.

[English]

Pension Authority

5745. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a Pension Authority under National Pension Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the present contribution of 1.16 of the wages to the Pension Scheme is being discontinued; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Labour who are dealing with the subject, there is already a Central Authority namely, Central Provident Fund Commissioner appointed to supervise and control operation of the Employees' Provident Funds and Employees' Pension Schemes introduced for the workers covered under the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. As such there is no proposal to set up a separate Central Pension Authority at this Juncture.

(c) and (d) According to Ministry of Labour, there is no proposal to discontinue the present contribution of 1.16% of the wages by the Central Government to the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995.

[Translation]

Health Policy

5746. SHRI RAJO SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE:
SHRI MOINUL HASSAN:

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

(a) whether a new health policy is being formulated;

(b) whether the new health policy envisages health for all;

(c) whether restricted recognition is likley to be given to the so called doctors in the rural and tribal areas having little knowledge of medical science; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made to make the life saving drugs available in the rural areas of cheaper rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) An exercise has been undertaken to revise the National Health Policy in view of the significant epidemiological and demographic changes in the country since 1983, when the first National Health Policy was formulated, "Health for All" would continue to be the overall objective of the revised National Health Policy as well.

(c) and (d) Government is aware of the necessity to provide quality service everywhere through qualified health professionals and necessary drugs at reasonable prices.

[English]

IAS/IPS and IFS Officers

5747. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of Indian Administrative Service, Indian Police Service and Indian Foreign Service in the country as on date;

(b) the number of officers of these services posted in the Union Government as well as in the various States; and

(c) the number of officers of IFS posted in the country and abroad separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The number of officers belonging to the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Foreign Service (IFS) is as follows:

IAS (as on 20.4.2001)	IPS (as on 15.11.2000)	IFS (as on 1.4.2001)
5057	3285	594

(b) The details of IAS and IPS officers posted in the Union Government and in various States are as follows:-

	Officers Posted under the Central Government.	Officers Posted in various States
IAS (as on 20.4.2001)	804	4253
IPS (as on 16.4.2001)	428	2857

As regards the Indian Foreign Service, no officer is on deputation of the States.

(c) A total of 187 IFS officers are presently posted in the country, while 407 officers are posted in the Indian missions and posts abroad.

Malnutrition

5748. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme against micro-nutrient malnutrition is proposed to be extended to Tamil Nadu also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Pilot Project on Programme Against Micronutrient Malnutrition is being implemented in 5 States namely Assam, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Orissa & West Bengal at present. The pilot project will be evaluated before a decision for further extension to the other States in the country is considered.

Doctors in AIIMS

5749. DR. (SHRIMATI) SUDHA YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether doctors are being appointed on ad-hoc basis in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Safdarjung Hospital, R.M.L. Hospital, L.N.J.P. Hospital and G.B. Pant Hospital;

(b) if so, the basis for such appointments; and

(c) the time by which their services are regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) So far as All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is concerned, the entry level faculty posts of Assistant Professor have not been filled in on regular basis after September 1993 due to an interim order passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in a Civil Writ Petition filed by the Faculty Association of AIIMS on the issue of reservations in faculty posts. These orders have not yet been vacated by the Court. As such, ad-hoc appointments at the level of Assistant Professor are being made in the interest of patient care, teaching and research activities. These ad-hoc Assistant Professors have to undergo regular process of selection.

Due to non-availability of regular candidates through UPSC, some appointments have been made in on *ad-hoc* basis in Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. RML Hospital in non-teaching sub-cadre of Central Health Service particularly in super Speciality disciplines to ensure patient care in Central Government Hospitals. However, adhoc appointment does not bestow on the candidate any claim or right for regular appointment.

Primary Health Centres

5750. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to set up the Primary Health Centres in each and every village;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to inter-connect Primary Health Centres in the country;

(d) if so, the number of Primary Health Centres being run in the country at present State-wise; and

(e) the number of such centres which Government have decided to inter-connect in the first phase and the total amount earmarked to be spent for this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) Primary Health Centres are establish on the basis of established population norms, i.e. one PHC per 30,000 population in plain area and 20,000 in Hilly/Tribal areas. On an average one PHC covers 25.55 villages in the country.

(c) No, Sir. No specific scheme has been formulated to inter-connect the Primary Health Centres in the country. However, the Primary Health Centres are linked with Sub-centres and Community Health Centres for the purpose of Referral of patients, Logistics & Supplies, Supervision of personnel and monitoring.

(d) The number of Primary Health Centres functioning in the country, Statewise is given in the enclosed statement.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Number of Primary Health Centres Functioning in the country as on 30-6-2000

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of PHCs functioning
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1386
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	58
3.	Assam	610
4.	Bihar	2209
5.	Goa	17
6.	Gujarat	984
7.	Haryana	401
8.	Himachal Pradesh	302
9.	J&K	337
10.	Karnataka	1676
11.	Kerala	944
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1690
13.	Maharashtra	1762
14.	Manipur	69
15.	Meghalaya	85
16.	Mizoram	55
17.	Nagaland	46
18.	Orissa	1352
19.	Punjab	484
20.	Rajasthan	1674
21.	Sikkim	24
22.	Tamil Nadu	1436
23.	Tripura	58
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3808
25.	West Bengal	1262
26.	A&N Islands	18
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	D&N Haveli	6

1	2	3
29.	Daman & Diu	3
30.	Delhi	8
31.	Lakshadweep	4
32.	Pondicherry	39
	All India	22807

(Figures in provisional)

Check of Migration from Rural to Urban Areas

5751. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are formulating any plan to ensure availability of employment to poor farmers at the village level so as to check their migration from the rural areas to the urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), financial assistance in the form of margin money is given at the rate of 25% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and an additional 10% for projects costing between Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs. For weaker sections, margin money is given at the rate of 30% of the project cost upto Rs. 10 lakhs and 10% for the balance amount (upto Rs. 25 lakhs).

Relaxation in Age Limit

5752. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal to relax the upper age limit for Other Backward Class candidates in recruitments by five years instead of three years as at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Orders providing age relaxation of three years to Other Backward Classes in direct recruitment were issued in 1995. No need has been felt thereafter, to further enhance the upper age limit.

Replacement of Vijayanta Tanks

5753. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Vijayanta Tanks have either been laid off or scrapped;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any measures to replace the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount involved in replacement;

(e) whether such replacement includes import of tanks from abroad; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the name of the country alongwith terms and conditions laid down for such import?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Vijayanta Tanks were inducted in the Army from 1966 onwards and a total of 2141 Vijayanta Tanks were

in service. The Vijayanta Tanks have outlived their expected life and are in process of being phased out.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Vijayanta Tanks are to be phased out by the end of the 10th Army plan i.e. by 2007. These are being replaced by indigenously produced T-72 Tanks and procurement of T-90S Tanks ex-import. Financial implication would be known only after the full replacement is completed.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. A contract has been signed recently with M/s. "Rosovoorouzhenie", Russia for the import of 124 Fully Formed T-90S Tanks and 186 Tanks in Completely Knocked Down (CKD)/Semi Knocked Down (SKD) condition alongwith Transfer of Technology for indigenous manufacture in India.

Composition of Planning Commission

5754. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the Planning Commission including the number of members, advisers, consultants etc., together with its full complement of the supporting staff;

(b) whether any efforts have been made to downsize the Planning Commission on the lines of various Ministries and Departments of the Central Government;

(c) if so, results achieved so far; and

(d) the possible role and relevance of the Commission in the changing economic scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Planning Commission is headed by the Prime Minister and has one Deputy Chairman, six Members and a Secretary. The Minister of State for Planning is also an Ex-officio Member of the Commission. Besides, the Commission has, in its composition, the Union Ministers for Finance and External Affairs as the two Part time Minister Members. The Commission has 24 Adviser level officers.

They have been provided with both technical and secretarial supporting staff.

The position in respect of various posts/persons is as under:-

Group	Planning Commission		Programme Evaluation Organisation			
	Sanctioned	Filled	Headquarters		Field Offices	
			Sanctioned	Filled	Sanctioned	Filled
A	307 11*	234 10*	12	05	37	22
B	276 20*	259 14*	05	05	35	30
C	398 24*	319 20*	10	09	67	43
D	317 27*	305 25*	08	08	30	21
Total	1380	1186	35	27	169	116

Total Sanctioned Staff - 1584
Total Filled Posts - 1329
*These posts/persons are co-terminus with the tenures of Deputy Chairman or Members.

(b) and (c) The Planning Commission has recently undertaken a Review of posts in the light of the guidelines of the Ministry of Finance and as an outcome of the Review, 157 posts at various levels have already been abolished in the Planning Commission during the year 2000-2001. Besides, a number of posts at various levels are not being operated by the Planning Commission.

(d) In the face of changing domestic economic policy regime and an equally fast paced integration of the economy with the emerging global order, investment planning is no more the only, or the more predominant, or even the most effective instrument of pursuing development. In fact, the role of state and hence of planning has to move from a direct intervention in economic activity in general and the production process in particular, to facilitating creation of an environment that encourages individual initiative and reaches out by providing opportunity to all. Planning has to, therefore, go beyond undertaking mere budgetary allocations, between the competing sectors and regions for that alone would not be enough, and move towards ensuring policy harmonisation over time and across space. This requires the Planning Commission to strengthen its role as a "Think Tank" — repository of expert knowledge.

Planning Commission is currently engaged in an exercise to determine what would be the most effective role for the Commission in the altered domestic and global scenario. In this regard, a note prepared on the Role of the Planning Commission in the wake of changing economic scenario was discussed in the full Planning Commission Meeting held on 30th September, 2000 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The proposal was broadly approved and is to be further discussed between the Deputy Chairman and the Union Finance Minister.

Internal Audit of Kendriya Bhandar

5755. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no internal audit in the Kendriya Bhandar to play a corrective and vigilant role against errors of omissions and commissions especially in the field of purchase;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to constitute the internal audit in the Kendriya Bhandar;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the method of detecting errors of omissions and commissions alongwith the number of such omissions and commissions detected during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Kendriya Bhandar does not have an internal audit of its own and gets internal audit done by an outside agency i.e. Firm of Chartered Accountants on contract basis. All objections/observations raised by the internal audit firm are discussed with them by the management and the majority of the objections are settled through discussions. The remaining objections are taken note of and topmost priority is given by the management to take remedial measures before the next audit.

(e) It is not possible to indicate any definite number of errors pointed out by the internal auditors on various transactions during the last 3 years.

Lifting of Sanctions Against Iraq

5756. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has pleaded with U.N. for the lifting of sanctions against Iraq; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India has called for the lifting of sanctions on Iraq in tandem with its compliance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. India has also sought an effective response from the international community to remove the sufferings of the Iraqi people.

[Translation]

Import of I.T.

5757. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial units engaged in the Information Technology sector in the country have made

imports during the last three years and the current year; year-wise;

(b) if so, the total value of imports made during the said years and the foreign exchange spent thereon; and

(c) the total value of the imports made in terms of capital goods during the said years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Year-wise details of import of electronic goods and computer software are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Separate figures for import of capital goods during the said years are not available.

Statement

Import of Electronic Goods and Computer Software

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Electronic Goods	Computer Software in Physical form
1997-98	7759	632
1998-99	9352	684
1999-200	11506	68
April 2000 to Nov. 2000	10827	472

[English]

High Charges of Kendriya Bhandar

5758. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Bhandar is charging 9% profit on the sale of stationery to the Government Departments while the NCCF is charging only 5% profit;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Kendriya Bhandar is taking supplies from the suppliers on credit ranging from 15 days to 40 days and even more in the cases of computer sales etc. so also the NCCF;

(d) whether the Government propose to direct the Kendriya Bhandar to bring down its margin of profits; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar is charging margin on sale of stationery items ranging from 3% to 9% to meet its overhead expenditure. Whenever competitive quotation is submitted against the tenders, this is reduced to nominal margins. However, the gross profit of Kendriya Bhandar during the year 1999-2000 was 4.61% only.

NCCF charges 5% margin on sale of stationery and other office use items to the Government Departments.

(c) Kendriya Bhandar is taking supplies from the suppliers on credit basis for a period upto 40 days depending upon the movement of the product while, it is supplying stationery items to the Government Department on credit basis on an average period of 60 days. The NCCF is taking supplies on credit ranging from 30 days and more from its suppliers of various items including computer purchases from them.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

[Translation]

Epidemic Plague

5759. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government constituted a Committee to study the genome of the carriers of plague epidemic;

(b) if so, the details of the report submitted by the Committee; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) Government of India constituted a Technical Advisory Committee on plague in 1994. The committee, in its report presented molecular characterisation and genomics of Yersinia pestis isolates from Surat and Beed. Detailed DNA sequencing and genomic fingerprinting has been done by Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad. A genomic Committee constituted recently by the Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research invited proposals on various diseases, including plague. Further genomic work on plague will proceed through this present genomic initiative.

[English]

Airlift Dues for use of Defence Planes

5760. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total outstanding receivable from the persons/ organisations for using defence Aircraft, case-wise;

(b) the measures initiated to recover the dues and the results achieved therefrom during the last two years;

(c) whether any civil suits have been filed for recovery of the dues against the defaulters;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to amend rules to bar the persons from contesting elections on account of outstanding payable to Government of India as well as any other State/local Governments; and

(f) the steps being taken to take advance payments for using defence Aircraft in future to avoid such lapses?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) and (b) The total outstanding receivable from persons/Organisations for the use of IAF aircraft as on 31.3.2001 is Rs. 146,93,79,172. The user agencies are being regularly requested by Air HQ and Ministry of Defence at the appropriate level for early clearance of the dues. As a result, an amount of Rs. 169.41 crores in 1999-2000 and Rs. 130,25,04,060/- have been received during the year 2000-2001.

(c) Yes, Sir. Three Suits have been filed against Shri Chandrashekhar, Shri PV Narasimha Rao and Shri HD Deve Gowda, former Prime Ministers.

(d) The details of recovery suits filed against the former Prime Ministers are as under:-

Name		Total (Rs.)
Shri Chandra Shekhar	-	12,47,67,414/-
Shri P.V. Narsimha Rao	-	8,93,34,098/-
Shri H.D. Deve Gowda	-	77,55,325/-

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration by the Government of India. Existing instructions, already in operation, in the matter are adequate.

Community Health Workers

5761. SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:
SHRI SUNIL KHAN:
SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY:

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

(a) whether the Government have since released the funds asked for by six States/UTs i.e. Mizoram, West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Meghalaya and Punjab to ease the problems of Community Health Workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken;

(d) whether the requests of funds have also been received from the remaining States/UTs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) During the year 2000-2001, the funds released to these States are as follows:

Rs. in lakhs

	2000-2001
Mizoram	.80
West Bengal	63.85
Orissa	34.61
Rajasthan	13.98
Meghalaya	1.95
Punjab	14.41

Besides, funds have been released to the States as per receipt of Audited Statements of expenditure reported by them, in respect of all schemes, including Village Health Guide Scheme.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

CGHS Dispensary at Indirapuram

5762. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to open CGHS dispensary in Indirapuram, Ghaziabad;

(b) if so, whether any discussions has been held between the Union Government and Uttar Pradesh Government for land and other basic infrastructure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said dispensary is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above, the questions do not arise.

Assessment of Technology Development Mission

5763. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that phase-I of the First ever assessment of the Technology Development Mission (TDM) has been completed and the results are being analysed;

(b) if so, the positive outcome of the assessment;

(c) whether Government propose to go in for TDM Phase-II; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Note on Positive Outcomes of Technology Development Mission (TDM) Phase-I is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) TDM Phase-II commenced from April 1, 2001. The identified generic areas under TDM Phase-II are: (1) Advanced Design and Manufacturing Process and technologies (ADM), (2) Information and Automation Technologies (IAT), (3) Communication Technologies & Networks (CTN), (4) Electronic Technologies and VLSI Design (ETV), (5) Advanced Agricultural Food Technologies (AFT), (6) Health Care and Biotechnology (HCB), (7) Material Technology (MT), and (8) Energy, Resources Management and Environment Technologies (ERE). An outlay of Rs. 8 crore has been provided for the schemes of TDM in 2001-02 (BE).

Statement

Note on Positive Outcomes

The Positive Outcomes are as follows:

1. It enhanced the multi institutional research capability among the IITs and Industries as well as strong interaction among academic institutions and industries.
2. Industrial participation in R&D activities of IITs was greater than expected.
3. Technology Development Missions have proved to be result oriented research project with immediate industrial application.
4. It helped the IITs to gain experience in practicalities of Technology Development compatible to market demand on time bound basis.
5. Significant development took place in Transfer of Technologies from Laboratories to Prototype, to Pilot Production, and on to commercialization.
6. Scientific & Technical Manpower from different engineering institutions were successfully involved in the common objective of research.

7. Special purchase procedures were evolved.

8. Faculty could get encouragement to attend Intellectual Property Rights programmes.

9. TDM's contribution in manpower development comprised of studies leading to awards of 60 Ph. D., 182 M. Tech/B. Tech degrees, 274 research publications, 32 patents filed, and 64 technologies were transferred.

Education for Disabled

5764. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitations Council of India has proposals to promote education for all disabled children, particularly for girl children;

(b) if so, the work done on this objective by the RCI so far;

(c) the number of girl children received education in 2000-2001 under the auspices of the RCI;

(d) the amount of money spent by RCI in 2000-2001;

(e) whether there is any proposal to expand this scheme to other categories of disables; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

Objectives of RCI

5765. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI);

(b) whether any of these objectives are being achieved;

(c) the targets set for the Rehabilitation Council of India in 2001-2002;

(d) whether any review is proposed about the work being done by the RCI;

(e) whether it is a fact that the same work is being done by other national institutes; and

(f) if so, steps proposed to review the possibility of merger of RCI with some other institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) The Rehabilitation Council of India has been constituted under Section 3 of the RCI Act, 1992 for regulating and monitoring the training of rehabilitation professionals and personnel promoting research in rehabilitation and special education. Towards this end, the Council has undertaken various measures such as short-term and long-term training programmes for rehabilitation professionals/personnel, Bridge Course, orientation of PHC medical officers to disability management etc. Besides, the Council also sponsors continuing rehabilitation education programme, seminars, conferences, workshops etc. on relevant themes from time to time. These activities will be continued during the year 2001-2002.

(d) There is no such proposal.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

SC/ST in Dental Council of India

5766. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'SC/ST Parliamentarians' in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on 17.12.1996, 1.9.1997 and 23.7.1998 have demanded appointment/posting of persons belonging to the SCs/STs in posts such as Chief Executives, Functional Directors, Part-Time Chairman and Official/Non-Official Members of the Board of Management of PSUs and Enterprises under Government of India;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total number of persons appointed/posted to the above referred posts in Dental Council of India falling under the Ministry of Health during the last three years;

(d) the number of persons belonging to the SCs/STs among them and their percentage as compared to the total number of posts referred to above; and

(e) the reasons if the above referred demand of SC/ ST MPs is not met satisfactorily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff

5767. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given a green signal to the appointment of a Chief of Defence Staff over and above the three Chiefs of the Armed Forces and formation of a Defence Procurement Board as reported in the *Navbharat Times*, Delhi dated March 28, 2001;

(b) if so, the date from which these decisions are likely to be made effective; and

(c) the details of likely effect on the three Forces of the country and on procurement of arms?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) to (c) The Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) on 17th April 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety and, in particular to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and formulate specific proposals for implementation. The GoM has *inter alia* recommended creation of the post of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) to facilitate better utilization of national resources through establishment of requisite jointness amongst the Armed Forces, ensure *inter se* and *intra se* prioritization of the equipment related requirements of the Services and also facilitate single point military advice to the Government. The recommendations of the GoM have been presented to the Prime Minister on 26.2.2001. After examination and acceptance of the Report by the Government, action as required will be taken expeditiously.

[English]

Functioning of Incinerators

5768. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of poor functioning of the incinerators in various hospitals in the Capitals, the Delhi High Court has directed all the hospitals including Government hospitals to upgrade the functioning of incinerators; and

(b) if so, the details of the action initiated by the hospital authorities in the Capital to upgrade the functioning of incinerators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir. Central Pollution Control Board has informed that High Court of Delhi in its order dated 1.12.2000 issued notices to Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Kalawati Saran Children Hospital, Escorts Hospital, Batra Hospital, Moolchand Hospital and Smt. Sucheta Kriplani Hospital.

(b) Central Pollution Control Board has informed that steps have been taken by the Hospitals for improving treatment facilities set up by them.

As regards Central Government Hospitals in Delhi, in incinerators of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital have been modified to meet the emission norms laid down by the Cental Pollution Control Board. The incinerator of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital has been upgraded with Pollution Control Device. In Safdarjung Hospital, the Secondary Chamber of the incinerator has been increased to large size. The size of the nozzle for better flow of L.D.O. has been changed to larger size to increase the flow of oil which is required to obtain the optimum temperature as laid down in the guidelines of Central Pollution Control Board. In Smt. Sucheta Kriplani Hospital and Kalawati Saran Children Hospital, the Secondary Burner is being installed to upgrade the existing incinerator and procurement of a new incinerator is in the process.

Close monitoring and segregation of the waste is being carried out in the Central Government Hospitals at the site of generation of the waste.

Indo-Canada Ties

5769. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canada has decided to resume normal ties with India ending a two-year freeze in relations over India's nuclear tests;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India has been apprised of the Canadian decision; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Canadian Foreign Minister made an announcement on 20th March 2001 that the Government of Canada will pursue the broadest possible political and economic relationship with India and encourage bilateral ministerial visits, resume full Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) programming in India, including industrial cooperation, and provide support to culture and sports, suspended since May 1998.

(c) The decision to this effect had been already conveyed to India during the visit of Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Canada in February 2001.

(d) The two sides discussed ways to take forward the relationship by enhancing cooperation in various sectors, including trade and investment, education and culture, and security and counter-terrorism.

Announcement of Financial Package

5770. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new financial package has been worked out for Tamil Nadu State;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

AIDS

5771. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whether some women's organisations have expressed concern on the component on targeted interventions in the National AIDS Control Programme Phase-II;

(b) if so, whether these organisations have demanded rehabilitation of women who are victims of trafficking and sexual expliotation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) In January 2000 representatives of a few women's organisations had questioned the targeted interventions programmes of the National AIDS Control Programme Phase-II (NACP-II) and had asked for measures to eliminate prostitution.

In response to the women's organisations representation, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare held a meeting with the representatives of the Women's organisations to address their concern about certain aspects of the programme and to explain to them the significance of the intervention under NACP-II. A meeting was also convened with a larger group of women's organisations, UNAIDS, WHO, bilateral agencies to elicit their views on the targeted interventions component under NACP-II. The policies and programmes of the NACP-II and the strategies adopted for vulnerable populations such as sex workers were strongly endorsed.

It was also decided that a few pilot projects would be taken up under the supervision of the Deptt. of Women & Child Development for the rehabilitation of Sex workers to create an enabling environment which will provide them an alternative way of life.

The State AIDS Control Societies have also been asked to examine selected rehabilitation schemes as pilot projects only on a limited scale.

New Irradiation Technique

5772. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai has come out with a new irradiation technique;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the beneficial effects thereof; and

(d) the time by which the technique in likely to become commercially viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Electron Beam Irradiation Technology has been developed by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and is being used for the last 3-4 years. This technology offers capability of processing Polymeric materials for their improved properties (without using chemical initiators) at room temperature & at extremely fast rates.

(c) The Electron Beam Irradiation is suitable for a range of high technology products and provides superior products, consuming less energy and materials.

(d) Irradiation of Industrial products for commercial utilisation using Electron Beam Irradiation Technology has already been started.

Code of Medical Etiquette and Ethics

5773. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3804 on December 13, 2000 and state the time by which the revised code of ethics for medical professionals is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) The draft 'Regulations on Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics, 2001' is being finalised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in consultation with other concerned Departments.

Drugs Technical Advisory Board

5774. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee of Drugs Technical Advisory Board has been constituted to provide better form on regulatory issues concerning homoeopathic drugs;

(b) if so, whether the committee has submitted the report;

(c) if so the details thereof; and

(d) the decision of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) One of the major recommendations made related to the amendment to the Schedule 'K' of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, 1945 to facilitate availability of some Homoeopathic and Bio-chemic tissue medicines in all licensed pharmacies. This has been notified on March 28, 2001. The Sub-Committee also recommended for consideration the guidelines for weeding out irrational combinations.

15 Point Programme

5775. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have recasted/ propose to recast 15 point programme for the welfare of minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main objectives of the 15 point programme; and

(d) the manner in which these programmes are proposed to be implemented for the welfare of minorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The existing 15 Point Programme is based on a three-pronged approach, namely, (i) to tackle the situation arising out of communal

riots and also to prevent communal riots; (ii) ensuring adequate representation of the minority communities in employment under the Central and State Governments as well as Public Sector Undertakings; and, (iii) other measures aimed at socio-economic development of the minorities.

Action is being taken in consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments to recast the on-going 15 Point Programme so as to make it a more effective instrument for the welfare of minorities.

Vacancies of Hindi Officers

5776. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Hindi Translators/Hindi Officers/Assistants created in the Ministry and allied offices, Public Sector Undertakings attached and subordinate offices for propagation of Hindi as official language and encouragement of Hindi correspondence;

(b) the number of such posts lying vacant and since when;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to fill up such vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) There are 40 posts of Hindi Translators and 9 posts of Hindi Officers in Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, including its attached and subordinate offices namely, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Staff Selection Commission, Institute of Secretariat Training and Management and Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA).

(b) to (d) 9 posts of Hindi Translators are lying vacant-8 posts in CBI and 1 post in LBSNAA. Out of these, 3 posts are lying vacant since 1989, 2 since 1997, 3 since 1998, and 1 since 1999. These posts are lying vacant due to non-availability of requisite nominations from Department of Official Language, non-acceptance of officer of appointment, etc.

Acquisition of Land by IAF in Rajasthan

5777. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are planning to acquire 47,299 bighas land at villages Motare, Dhandhusar, Dheerdesar, Bannasar and Bangasar, in tehsil Rawatsar, district Hanumangarh (Raj.) for use by Indian Air Force;

(b) whether, due to planned acquisition, the farmers/ land owners are not permitted to utilise this land for the last ten years;

(c) whether all developmental works on this land have been stopped;

(d) whether the Government have received any representations from concerned Gram Panchayat for early decision about acquisition or otherwise; and

(e) if so, response of the Government thereto and the likely time by which the farmers are to be paid compensation for their land?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal, to acquire about 47,299 bighas of land in district Hanumangarh, Rajasthan, is under consideration for use by Indian Air Force.

(b) No, Sir. There are no restrictions on utilization of the land by legal owners.

(c) No, Sir. There are no restriction on the implementation of Development works on this land.

(d) Some representations have been received from Ex-Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat Motare, district Hanumangarh in this regard.

(e) As the land is yet to be acquired, the question of payment of compensation does not arise, at this stage.

Financial Assistance to SC/ST Cooperatives

5778. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Financial assistance is being granted to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Cooperatives in every State under Central Sector Scheme during each of the last three years;

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

(c) the work done by these co-operatives in each State during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) In order to strengthen the cooperative credit institution for meeting the credit requirement of the farmers, Central assistance is released to the State Government, under Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. Special Scheme for SCs/STs by the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Agriculture and Cooperation). The Scheme aims at making SCs/STs active members of credit Cooperatives and at strengthening their cooperatives to enable them to undertake activities for the welfare of SCs/STs Under this scheme, assistance is provided in the form of 50% grant and 50% loan. Before modification of the scheme on 1999-2000 the assistance was provided 35% as loan and 65% as grant. The Scheme has following three components:-

(i) Provision of Grant to SCs/STs for acquisition of shares in Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS)/ Primary Land Development Banks (PLDB)/Large sized Agriculture Multi Purpose Societies (AMPS)/Farmers Service Cooperative Societies (FSS).

(ii) Assistance in form of Loan for strengthening the share capital base of Primary Agriculture Credit Societies/ Primary Land Development Banks/Large size Agriculture Multi Purpose Societies/Farmers Service Cooperative Societies.

(iii) Managerial assistance of Rs. 20,000.

This scheme has since been sub-sumed in Macro Management Mode from 2000-2001. It is upto the State Government to include or not to include this scheme in their State Work plan.

Assistance released under this scheme during the last three years is given as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1998-99			1999-2000			2000-2001		
		Grant	Loan	Total	Grant	Loan	Total	Grant	Loan	Total
1.	Tripura	—	—	—	9.60	—	9.60	—	—	—
2.	Punjab	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Madhya Pradesh		—	—	—	13.13	13.13	—	—	—
4.	Rajasthan	6.81	6.90	13.71	—	—	—	11.00	10.00	21.00
5.	Tamilnadu	10.00	—	10.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Kerala	—	2.00	2.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Uttar Pradesh	21.09	—	21.09	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Karnataka	3.10	13.10	16.20	4.61	20.45	25.06	—	—	—
9.	Mizoram	—	—	—	17.28	6.17	23.45	—	—	—
10.	Assam	—	—	—	0.57	—	0.57	—	—	—
11.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	0.32	0.25	0.57	—	—	—
12.	Nagaland	—	—	—	7.62	—	7.62	—	—	—
	Total	41.00	22.00	63.00*	40.00	40.00	80.00$	11.00	10.00	21.00@

* 3637 PACs covered
$ 135 PACs covered
@ 140 PACs covered

The information relating to the work done by these cooperatives in each State, year-wise is being maintained at State-level.

UNLF Donations to Manipur

5779. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a report of the army sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs, reveals that political stalwart of Manipur and the then Chief Minister donated Rs. 1 lakh to the top militant outfit of the State, United National Liberation Front as published in the *Pioneer* dated April 8, 2000;

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

(c) whether the army recovered incriminating documents including original receipts of donations from several serving Ministers, bureaucrats and even police officials in a recent search operations carried out at over a dozen hideouts of the UNLF in Manipur; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) and (b) In one of its reports the Army forwarded two receipts from United National Liberation Front acknowledging receipt of Rs. 1 lakh and Rs. 2 lakh, respectively, from one Shri Nipamacha Singh and one Shri Chandramani Singh.

(c) In the course of counter insurgency operations in the State, Army units have often recovered 'Demand Letters' sent by the militants as also 'Acknowledgment Receipts' for money received by them from various agencies/departments.

(d) The Ministry of Home Affairs has sent the report to the State Government for investigation and further action. A copy of the report has been sent to the Intelligence Bureau.

Lack of Transparency in Russian Defence Deals

5780. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the News-item captioned, "Russian not transparent in Defence Sale" appeared in the 'Statesman' dated April 5, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Navy buys a large amount of equipments from Russia;

(c) whether the Government have paid more money due to lack of transparency on Russian side;

(d) if so, the details of extra amount paid to Russia on submarines deals;

(e) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into the matter; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) All procurements from Russia have to be necessarily made from agencies authorized by the Government of Russian Federation of supply defence related equipment to foreign buyers. Prices are settled by negotiations between the two sides on case to case basis.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

National Population Stabilisation Fund

5781. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of control of National Population Stabilisation Fund (NPSF) has not been finalised so far even after nine months of its formulation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of funds allocated at the time of formation of the NPSF;

(d) whether the funds allocated for the purpose remain un-utilised; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

(SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) The National Population Stabilisation Fund (NPSF) has been registered as a Society and a sum of Rs. 100 crores has been provided in the Central budget towards Government contribution as seed money to the corpus of the Fund. The NPSF will become operational after approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs is received.

Liberal Institutional Credit

5782. SHRI CHANDKRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small scale industries are facing numerous problems due to negative attitude of banks in getting credit support;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to help the small scale industries by providing liberal institutional credit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The SSI entrepreneurs/Associations have been bringing to the notice of the Government the problems being faced by them in obtaining adequate credit from the Banks including those due to negative attitude of banks. Government has taken various measures to improve the flow of credit to the SSI Sector some of which also formed part of comprehensive policy package on SSIs announced by the Government on 30th August, 2000.

The measures taken recently in this regard include simplified procedure for sanction of working capital loan upto Rs. 5 crores based on normative requirement of 20% of the annual projected turnover of the units, dispensing with collateral for loans upto Rs. 5 lakhs enhancement of Composite Loan limit upto Rs. 25 lakhs, enhancement of limit of project cost upto Rs. 50 lakhs under the National Equity Fund Scheme, setting up of specialised SSI bank branches, and operationalising the Credit Guarantee Scheme for providing loans upto Rs. 25 lakhs without collaterals.

Co-operation in Space Exploration

5783. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Russia had agreed to set-up a working group on co-operation in space exploration;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress achieved in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India and Russia signed an Agreement in 1994 for co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space and a working group has been set up for overview of the implementation.

(c) Two meetings of the working group have been held in December 1995 and January 2001 and possible areas of co-operation have been addressed.

Purchase of Medical Stores

5784. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the C.A.G. has adversely commented on procurement and utilisation of medical stores and equipments in its report No. 7 for the year ended on March 31, 1996; and

(b) if so, the action taken to bring about improvements in the functioning of the Director General, Armed Forces Medical Services, to root out the corruption and to fix accountability and responsibility in the purchases?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Comptroller & Auditor General (C&AG) had suggested improvement in the system and procedure including internal control as a remedial action. The following actions have been taken and implemented w.e.f. 1.4.2000 to improve the system and to ensure procurement of good quality drugs:

(i) A new purchase procedure for medical stores/ drugs has been introduced.

(ii) Price Vocabulary of Medical Stores (PVMS) — 01 which was formulated in 1960, has been revised.

(iii) Various checks and internal control have been introduced to improve the system, and ensure accountability.

[Translation]

Irregularities in CGHS Dispensaries and Hospitals

5785. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale irregularities in the purchase of medicines and in administrative mismanagement are prevalent in the CGHS Dispensaries/Government hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, the number of cases, where sub-standard medicines were purchased for CGHS Dispensaries and other government hospitals during the last two years and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the working of these dispensaries/ hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[English]

ISO-9000 Certification

5786. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have extended the scheme of reimbursement of ISO-9000 certification till 2007;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have enhanced the reimbursement amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the percentage of amount at present being reimbursed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The present scheme to grant reimbursement of 75% of the amount spent upto Rs. 75,000/- to each Small Scale unit which obtains ISO-9000 certification has been extended upto 31st March, 2007.

University of Rehabilitation Services

5787. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rehabilitation Council of India has submitted a proposal to establish a University of Rehabilitation Services;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether such a University would duplicate the work being done by the existing National Institutes;

(d) the benefits likely to be derived from setting up a University at this time;

(e) whether any efforts have been done to discuss with the existing Universities in the country to fulfill the stated role; and

(f) if not, steps proposed to discuss with existing universities to cooperate in such objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Does not arise.

Pay Scales for the Employees of AIIMS

5788. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed for implementation of new pay scales for the employees of AIIMS as recommended by the Bakshi Committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the faculty member of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education, and Research, Chandigarh for the better pay scales;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Union Government have implemented the new pay scales in AIIMS as per the recommendations of Bakshi Committee;

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith the main recommendations of the Bakshi Committee in this regard; and

(g) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (g) The Government, after considering all the relevant factors including the recommendations made by the K.K. Baksi Committee, conveyed its approval to the revision of scales of pay and allowance of various faculty posts in All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi/Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh vide orders dated 21st January, 1999. However, the faculty of the both the Institutes were not satisfied with the revision of pay scales. In an interim judgement the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi on 3.3.1999 directed that the Faculty may be paid the pay scale recommended by the K.K. Baksi Committee till the Government takes a final decision in the matter. In pursuance of the interim orders dated 3.3.1999 passed by the High Court of Delhi, an Inter-Departmental Group of Officers was set up which gave its report on 13th December, 1999. This report was endorsed by the Group of Ministers. The Union Cabinet has accepted the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Group Officers as recommended by the Group of Ministers on 12th January, 2000. As implementation of the Baksi Committee recommendation was not feasible, the Government has conveyed a package of incentives to Faculty members of AIIMS/PGIMER in addition to the benefits already given on 21st January, 1999. These incentives include:

(i) Grant of two advance increments to Additional Professors to give them a higher start.

(ii) 50% of the eligible Additional Professors with 7 years of regular service in the grade of Additional Professor may be promoted as Professor under the Assessment Promotion Scheme without linkage to the vacancies, subject to certain terms and conditions.

(iii) A working Group be set up to development norms and parameters which would enable the Centres of Excellence in the areas of science and medicine to be separated and identified for the purpose of long-term development of such institutions without disturbing normal government institutions in these areas.

Not satisfied with the recommendations of the Union Cabinet and subsequent Government Orders, the Faculty Association of AIIMS has filed a petition before the Hon'ble High Court Delhi seeking full implementation of the K.K. Baksi Committee recommendations. The issue is presently pending in Hon'ble High Court. No direction has been given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court for implementation of new pay scales as recommended by the K.K. Baksi Committee.

Purchase of Electronic Alarm System by DRDO

5789. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:
SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "DRDO effort bites imported dust" appearing in the *Pioneer* dated March 25, 2001;

(b) whether the Army has been considering to buy an electronic intruder alarm system from foreign country while a similar DRDO products are laying unattended;

(c) if so, the facts thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to review its decision as the system is already available in the country at a reasonable price; and

(e) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Defence has concluded a contract with M/s NELCO, Mumbai, who have obtained Transfer of Technology (ToT) from M/s Eagle Telonics, USA, for supply of Unattended Group Sensor System (UGS) on 22nd December 1999. There is no such system available with DRDO.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) Does not arise.

Ribozyme For AIDS Virus

5790. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

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

(a) whether India has developed a ribozyme that can inhibit the replication/growth of AIDS virus;

(b) if so, whether the Government have considered this proposal for further development;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to help in checking AIDS virus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (d) As per the annual report of National Institute of Immunology (NII), they are conducting a study on a ribozyme, an RNA cleaving DNA enzyme that can inhibit the replication/growth of HIV.

Agreements for AIDS Treatment

5791. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UNAIDS, WHO and NACO have any agreement to jointly finance treatment of patients suffering from AIDS;

(b) if so, the funds made available by WHO and UNAIDS for this purpose;

(c) the amount spent in 2000-2001 in the country in this direction;

(d) whether separate sanatoria is likely to be setup for the purpose of caring for terminally ill AIDS patients; and

(e) if so, the details of such schemes under implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Marketing Development Fund

5792. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to establish Marketing Development Fund for small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Perhaps the Hon'ble Member is referring to the scheme of Marketing Development Assistance (MDA). As part of the comprehensive policy package for Small Scale Industries (SSIs), an MDA scheme has been announced for the SSI sector in August, 2000. This is a plan scheme to stimulate & encourage exports and is expected to give assistance for individual sales-cum-study tours, individual participation in fairs, publicity, commissioning market study reports etc.

Primary Health Centres

5793. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

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

(a) whether the Union Government are aware about the health care facilities in rural and tribal areas of the country, particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have provided additional assistance for basic Minimum Health Service Programme;

(c) if so, the funds provided to each State for the purpose during the year 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001, till date; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide primary health care service to the people living below the poverty line in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Government is of aware of certain gaps in health care facilities in rural and tribal areas of Maharashtra and has identified the factors responsible for sub-optimal functioning of rural health care institutions.

(b) and (c) During the 9th plan Additional Central Assistance was provided to the States as Additional Central Assistance for Basic Minimum Health Services for the years 1997-98, 1998-99 & 1999-2000. The States were free to decide their priority Sectors out of this allocation. In the year 2000-2001 Additional Central Assistance was allocated under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). Out of which Rs. 375.00 crores was allocated to the States for Health Sector. The State-wise allocation under BMS (for the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000) and PMGY (2000-2001) is given in the enclosed statement-I and II.

(d) The following steps are being taken by Government to provide Primary Health Care Service to the people living in rural areas of the country:-

- Strengthening/appropriately relocating Sub-centres/PHCs.
- Utilising funds from BMS, ACAO, for BMS and EAP to fill critical gaps in manpower and facilities.
- Districts level walk-in interviews for appointment of doctors of required qualifications for filling up the gaps in PHC and Contractual appointments/ hiring of ANMs/Lady Doctors/Specialists.
- Use of mobile health clinics.
- Currently, funding from Additional Central Assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) serves to strengthen health infrastructure and to improve functioning of centrally sponsored Programmes in Health and Family Welfare, covering critical gaps in infrastructure.
- Interventions under RCH Programme for Strengthening Primary Health Care.

The Primary Health Care Infrastructure is being strengthened under RCH Programme as follows:-

1. Funds for minor repairs of PHC, CHC etc. unto Rs. 10,00,000 per district for improvement in water supply, electric wiring and repair of operation theatre, labour room etc. has been provided.
2. Funds for major civil works in PHC's, CHC's etc @ Rs. 10,00,000 per CHC/Dist. Hospital for construction/repair of operation theatre, labour room and for up-gradation of water and electric supply is being provided.
3. Provision of Drugs Kits A&B, Midwifery Kits, Sub-centre equipment Kits, PHC equipment kits and FRU level equipment kits.
4. Provision of MTP equipment of PHC's for safe abortion.
5. Honorarium to Medical Officers/Nurses for working beyond normal hours for facilitating round the clock normal Delivery Services.
6. Strengthening essential Obstetric Care by providing Drugs and PHN/Nurse in PHC is selected States/Districts.

Statement-I

Statement showing the State-wise Allocation under Basic Minimum Services Programme during last three years.

(Rs. in lakh)

State	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	2923.60	3923.60	1197.00
Arunachal Pradesh	1021.00	1072.00	998.00
Assam	3120.00	4334.00	4534.00
Bihar	5059.00	7518.00	10800.00

1	2	3	4
Goa	187.80	101.95	106.55
Gujarat	12177.00	12132.31	11342.82
Haryana	1425.00	2700.00	2700.00
Himachal Pradesh	2659.10	3341.54	3319.83
Jammu & Kashmir	6460.00	6334.86	6312.79
Karnataka	12713.00	11785.00	17200.25
Kerala	855.00	775.00	607.00
Madhya Pradesh	5604.00	4357.78	4056.69
Maharashtra	9882.00	7142.00	6856.93
Manipur	271.65	600.00	550.00
Meghalaya	1306.50	2000.00	2329.00
Mizoram	795.00	794.41	1830.00
Nagaland	1017.00	950.00	1139.00
Orissa	1907.89	3465.19	4127.72
Punjab	3432.00	2579.60	2458.00
Rajasthan	7005.05	8830.00	9656.00
Sikkim	267.15	275.05	540.05
Tamil Nadu	2440.86	3388.14	2442.99
Tripura	619.00	659.00	630.00
Uttar Pradesh	12836.00	27813.00	15413.57
West Bengal	1500.00	3103.00	3246.00
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	671.00	786.00	956.00
Chandigarh	353.00	222.50	250.50
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	207.50	91.45	121.45
Daman and Diu	97.00	153.80	128.00
Delhi	1800.00	3619.00	5525.00
Lakshadweep	151.77	71.00	141.09
Pondicherry	240.52	303.87	453.00
Grand Total	101005.39	125223.05	121969.23

Statement-II

Statement showing the funds released for Primary Health Care Component under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana during 2000-01

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	States	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2841.9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1022.56
3.	Assam	2693.56
4.	Bihar	2154.37
5.	Chhattisgarh	471
6.	Goa	11.7
7.	Gujarat	485.92
8.	Haryana	251.7
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1334.15
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1286.85
11.	Jharkhand	1016.85
12.	Karnataka	1126.94
13.	Kerala	1036.2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1235.55
15.	Maharashtra	1486.94
16.	Manipur	728.4
17.	Meghalaya	608.86
18.	Mizoram	303.08
19.	Nagaland	616.96
20.	Orissa	1478.26
21.	Punjab	606
22.	Rajasthan	1446
23.	Sikkim	421.65
24.	Tamil Nadu	1571.84
25.	Tripura	762.44
26.	Uttar Pradesh	8526.25
27.	Uttaranchal	188.4
28.	West Bengal	2517.3
	Total	38231.63

Aid from WHO

5794. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of assistance provided by the World Health Organisation to tackle the AIDS during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the total aid provided by WHO, have not been utilised;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to absorb the allocation of funds by WHO in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) WHO provides funds to tackle the AIDS problem in India on biennium basis as follows:

1998&1999	US$ 1,93,000.00
2000&2001	US$ 1,70,000.00

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Toxic Tea

5795. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH:

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

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Chai Ke Sath Jahrile Rasayan Ki Chuskiyan' appearing in *Navbharat Times* dated February 2, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any inquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the number of tea companies found involved in it; and

(e) the measures being taken to check this adulteration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The press report states that Central Government has requested the State Governments to keep a strict vigil on the sale of tea as it is feared that spurious tea is finding its way in the market which is harmful to human health.

(c) and (d) Information received from the State Food Authorities in Andhra Pradesh indicates the seizure of 54,000 Kgs of spurious tea packed in 770 Gunny bags from 4 Rice Mills in West Dodavari Distt, Andhra Pradesh. The samples of the seized stocks were found to contain cashew husk and foreign matter.

(e) All the State/UT Governments have been advised to maintain a strict vigil on the quality of tea being sold in the country and to take action as per provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954.

Supply of Stationery to Government Departments

5796. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Secretary, Ministry of Personnel and Pensions and other have deliberated in a meeting on the O.M. issued in 1981 authorising certain consumer cooperative societies in New Delhi to supply stationery and other items to the Government departments etc. recently and have come to the conclusion to recommend the withdrawal of the said O.M.;

(b) if so, the reasons for the arriving at such a conclusion and the shortcomings/defects noticed by the committee;

(c) whether there is any proposal to bring to book the authorities that are responsible for that;

(d) the reasons for having issued the O.M. in 1981 and to withdraw it now; and

(e) the steps taken to fortify the O.M. and hold the officials guilty and to punish them rather than to withdraw the O.M.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (e) Keeping in view the then policy of the Government of India to encourage cooperative movement, the O.M. providing special dispensation to Kendriya Bhandar and two other cooperatives in regard to the purchase of stationery etc. by the Ministry/Departments and other bodies fully financed by Government, without following the tender procedure, was issued almost two decades earlier.

The position has been gone into in the said meeting keeping in view the various suggestions received by the Government and having regard to the need of decontrols and the present thinking of the Government to limit its role to essential core activities. No decision of the Government has, however, been taken so far.

Technology Upgradation of SSI

5797. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the credit link capital subsidy scheme for technology upgradation of SSIs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have appointed a Governing and Technology Approval Board to monitor scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof and composition of the Board;

(e) the sectors covered under this scheme; and

(f) the broad terms of reference and scope of working of this Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) provides capital subsidy equal to 12% of the loan raised by registered SSI units from scheduled Commercial Banks/NSIC for the projects of technology upgradation in the specified products/sub-sectors. SIDBI is the nodal agency for operation of the Scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Governing and Technology Approval Board has been constituted under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of SSI&ARI to monitor the implementation of the scheme and to identify latest technologies. Other Members of the Board are:

1. Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Min. of SSI&ARI
2. Adviser (I&M), Planning Commission
3. Representative of Banking Division, Deptt. of Economic Affairs
4. Representative of Deptt. of Science & Technology
5. Representative of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
6. Representative of Council of Agricultural Research
7. Chairman, National Small Industries Corporation
8. CMD, Small Industries Development Bank of India
9. Executive Director, Reserve Bank of India
10. CMD, Punjab National Bank
11. CMD, State Bank of India
12. President, FASII
13. President, FISME
14. President, Laghu Udyog Bharti
15. President, CII - SME Committee
16. CMD, NRDC or his representative
17. AS&D (SSI) - Member Secretary

(e) To begin with the following products/sub-sectors are covered under the Scheme:-

(i) Food Processing

(ii) Information Technology (hardware),

(iii) Drugs and pharmaceuticals

(iv) Auto parts and components

(v) Electronic Industry particularly relating to design and measuring,

(vi) Glass and Ceramic items including tiles

(vii) Dyes and intermediates

(viii) Toys,

(ix) Tyres

(x) Hand Tools

(xi) Bicycle parts, and

(xii) Foundries—Ferrous and Cast Iron

(xiii) Stone Industry

(f) The broad terms of reference of the Governing & Technology Approval Board are:-

- to lay down policy guidelines and give necessary directions for smooth functioning of the scheme.
- monitor and review the functioning of the scheme.
- identify the new technologies which will be covered under the Scheme.

In addition, GTAB has powers:

- to co-opt any other member/members, if considered necessary and
- to set up sub-committees to identify new technologies in specific products/sectors.

Media Laboratory Asia

5798. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to implement a proposal called the "Media Laboratory Asia";

(b) if so, whether this project will be a joint effort with some foreign universities and institutions;

(c) the details, the cost and the duration of the proposal; and

(d) the benefits likely to be derived therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Setting up the Media Laboratory Asia is a joint proposal by MIT Media Lab, USA and Ministry of Information Technology, Government of India. Established in 1985, the MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) Media Lab, USA has been a pioneer in the concept of collaboration between academia and industry, and provides a unique environment to explore basic research and applications without regard to traditional divisions among disciplines. A Media Lab Asia Joint Task Force consisting of MIT Media Lab team and Indian team was set up which has submitted its report in March, 2001. This Joint Task Force report is being examined by the Government.

(d) The Media Lab Asia is proposed to be a network of national as well as overseas people projects and laboratories dedicated to bringing the benefits of the most advanced information technologies to the neediest people. The role of the Media Lab Asia is to facilitate the invention, refinement and deployment of innovations that benefit the masses. The Media Lab Asia would be based around village level field projects supported by research for technology development and partnership. Each project would serve as a focus for technical innovations and serve as research laboratory for sponsoring organization. The objective of the Media Lab Asia is to address the grand challenges of poverty, literacy/education, health, employment, and micro-entrepreneurship through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). The activities in the Media Lab Asia projects include a community of researchers working with rural villages and urban slum areas, and helping partner organizations deploy sustainable services such as healthcare, public health monitoring, one-room computer schoolhouses, public and postal services, micro-banking, handicraft trading, informal sector manufacturing, and public entertainment and communications.

Drugs Laboratories

5799. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the advanced laboratories set up to ensure the quality of drugs in the country, State-wise and Location-wise as on date;

(b) whether there is an acute shortage of the said laboratories in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) to (c) Nineteen State Governments, have established their own drug laboratories for testing drugs, details of which are given in the enclosed statement. The infrastructural facilities available in the laboratories vary from State to State. Central Drugs Testing Laboratories have also been established at Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai, Kasauli and Ghaziabad which have facilities for testing all pharmaceutical dosages forms. For special products like vaccines and sera, comprehensive testing facilities are available at Central Research Institute, Kasauli.

(d) States which do not have facilities for testing drugs and pharmaceuticals use the facilities available at central laboratories for testing their drug samples. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare also assists States to augment their testing facilities in laboratories under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Sophisticated laboratory equipments worth of Rs. 4.25 crore are being procured in the current year for supply to selected State as well as Central Laboratories.

In order to augment the drug testing facilities in the country and to ensure speedy analysis of the drug samples, the Ministry is establishing three more new Regional Drugs Testing Laboratories at Chandigarh, Hyderabad and Guwahati. For efficient monitoring of the quality of biologicals, the Central Government has established the National Institute of Biologicals (NIB) at NOIDA (UP).

Statement

The No. of State Govt. Drugs testing Labs. Present in the Country

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of labs.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Delhi	Nil
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	1
6.	Haryana	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1
9.	Karnataka	1
10.	Kerala	1
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1
12.	Maharashtra	1
13.	Orissa	1
14.	Punjab	1
15.	Rajasthan	1
16.	Tamilnadu	2
17.	Tripura	1
18.	Uttar Pradesh	1
19.	West Bengal	1
	Total	20

Indo-U.K. Ties

5800. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Ministerial level visits or contacts took place between India and the U.K. between July 1, 2000 and December 31, 2000;

(b) if so, the level of which visits were exchanged between the U.K. and India in the calendar year 2000;

(c) whether he visited the U.K. during the above mentioned calendar year and exchanged views on different issues; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the calendar year 2000, both Ministerial and official visits were exchanged between India and the U.K. Ministerial visits exchanged during 1 July to 31 December 2000, include visits to the UK by our Ministers of External Affairs, and Environment and Forests and visits to India by the British Ministers of Home, Defence, Small Business and e-Commerce, and their Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

(c) and (d) The Minister of External Affairs visited the U.K. from 13-14 January 2000 and 15-16 November 2000. These visits have been part of the ongoing intensive and wide-ranging dialogue on bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual interest between the two countries. On both occasions he exchanged views with Mr. Robin Cook, UK's Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and other senior British interlocutors. These discussions enabled a review of our multi-faceted relationship with the U.K. Issues pertaining to global and regional developments, UN peacekeeping operations and UNSC reform, cooperation in counter-terrorism and consular matters and cooperation in the fields of education and defence, were discussed.

In pursuance of these discussions several new initiatives have been adopted to enrich our bilateral relationship. An India-UK Joint Working Group has been set up for cooperation in combating international terrorism and drug-trafficking. An official-level dialogue has commenced to enhance mutual understanding on issues pertaining to disarmament and non-proliferation. A non-governmental group, India-UK Round Table has been established to broaden bilateral dialogue and to suggest new ways of consolidating the relationship.

Single Window Clearance

5801. DR. V. SAROJA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide single window clearance for small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) District Industries Centres (DICs) have been established in States/UTs under respective Governments at District level to provide all the facilities and assistance needed by small scale industries (SSIs) at pre-investment and post-investment stages under one roof. DICs have been set up to function as single window clearance agencies.

Per Capita Expenditure

5802. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita expenditure incurred on public health during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;

(b) the per capita Central assistance given to each State during the above period to provide better health facilities;

(c) whether the State Governments have sought additional Central assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) As per information furnished by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) the per capita Government expenditure on health at current market prices during 1996-97 and 1997-98 was Rs. 98 and Rs. 110 respectively. Figures for later years are under compilation.

(b) A *statement* showing per capita Central assistance provided to States/UTs for major disease control programmes of Malaria, TB, AIDS, Blindness and Leprosy during 1999-2000 is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Additional Central Assistance is provided to States under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana to create social and economic infrastructure in rural areas including that for health. An amount of Rs. 375 crores has been allocated to the States for health sector in the year 2000-01 as an essential minimum that should be utilised for improving primary health care services.

Statement

State-wise per capita Central Assistance released during 1999-2000 for major National Health Programmes

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Central Assis-tances	Popn. (in lakhs) as on 1.3.1999	Per capita release
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4002.72	746.00	5.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	555.61	12.00	46.30

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Assam	3735.77	256.00	14.59
4.	Bihar	3105.51	981.00	3.17
5.	Goa	124.69	15.00	8.31
6.	Gujarat	3498.41	476.00	7.35
7.	Haryana	880.21	195.00	4.51
8.	Himachal Pradesh	661.09	65.00	10.17
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	295.39	97.00	3.05
10.	Karnataka	2127.24	514.00	4.14
11.	Kerala	942.50	320.00	2.95
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4580.94	783.00	5.85
13.	Maharashtra	4735.53	901.00	5.26
14.	Manipur	745.39	22.10	33.73
15.	Meghalaya	407.04	24.00	16.96
16.	Mizoram	529.77	9.00	58.86
17.	Nagaland	844.77	16.00	52.80
18.	Orissa	2688.87	355.00	7.57
19.	Punjab	923.19	233.00	3.96
20.	Rajasthan	2761.31	526.00	5.25
21.	Sikkim	139.10	5.00	27.82
22.	Tamil Nadu	3034.22	613.00	4.95
23.	Tripura	580.34	36.00	16.12
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5029.16	1664.00	3.02
25.	West Bengal	2974.90	780.00	3.81
26.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	188.47	4.00	47.12
27.	Chandigarh	190.83	9.00	21.20
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	65.62	2.00	32.81
29.	Daman and Diu	129.39	1.00	129.39
30.	Delhi	931.13	134.00	6.95
31.	Lakshadweep	38.46	0.70	54.94
32.	Pondicherry	70.69	11.00	6.43
	Total (States+UTs)	51518.26	9805.80	5.25

Achievement of Ninth Plan Target

5803. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the first three years of Ninth Plan only 54.3 per cent of the plan target has been met and it seems near impossible to achieve the remaining 45.7 per cent investment during 2000-2002;

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has expressed that it is a cause of concern for the last two years of the plan;

(c) if so, the concrete efforts being made by the Government to achieve the Ninth Plan targets;

(d) whether public sector investments during the Ninth Plan have fallen below the private sector investments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Mid Term Appraisal (MTA) of Ninth Plan has estimated the realised aggregate investment during the first three years of the Ninth Plan at 54.3% of the revised plan target. The MTA has expressed concern that during the last two years of the Ninth Plan (2000-2002) public investment, although expected to recover, is unlikely to attain the target. However, it is expected that the revised target to private investment would be achieved.

(c) Augmenting public investment, bringing down the fiscal deficit and rate of inflation, appropriate pricing of services and reforms in labour policy to encourage private investment are some of the measures suggested in the MTA.

(d) and (e) During the first three years of the Ninth Plan the share of public sector in aggregate investment has fallen to 27.3 percent against the plan target of 33.5 percent. The corresponding share of private sector (72.7%) has been more than the plan target (66.5%) during the same period.

Below Poverty Line

5804. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people below poverty line in each State and Union Territory; and

(b) the steps taken to grant more to those States where there is more poverty in order to have uniform development throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Planning Commission estimates percentage of persons living below the poverty line at national and State level from the large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey (NSS) Organisation at an interval of approximately five years. The latest available estimate of poverty is based on the 55th Round of the NSS consumer expenditure data covering the period July 1999 to June 2000. On the basis of the 30-day recall tabulation in the Key Results of the 55th Round large sample survey of Household Consumer Expenditure in India carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the number of persons living below the poverty line in the country is estimated as 260.25 million (26.1% of the total population) in 1999-2000. The estimates for the States and Union Territories are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Central allocation of funds under the anti-poverty programmes are generally distributed among the States and Union Territories in proportion to the number of poor estimated by the Planning Commission from time to time.

Statement

Number and Percentage of Population Below Poverty Line

by States-1999-2000 (30-days Recall period)

Sl.	States/U.T.'s	Rural		Urban		Combined	
		No. of Persons (Lakhs)	%of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons	No. of Persons (Lakhs)	% of Persons
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	58.13	11.05	60.88	26.63	119.01	15.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.80	40.04	0.18	7.47	3.98	33.47
3.	Assam	92.17	40.04	2.38	7.47	94.55	36.09
4.	Bihar	376.51	44.30	49.13	32.91	425.64	42.60
5.	Goa	0.11	1.35	0.59	7.52	0.70	4.40
6.	Gujarat	39.80	13.17	28.09	15.59	67.89	14.07
7.	Haryana	11.94	8.27	5.39	9.99	17.34	8.74
8.	Himachal Pradesh	4.84	7.94	0.29	4.63	5.12	7.63
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.97	3.97	0.49	1.98	3.46	3.48
10.	Karnataka	59.91	17.38	44.49	25.25	104.40	20.04
11.	Kerala	20.97	9.38	20.07	20.27	41.04	12.72
12.	Madhya Pradesh	217.32	37.06	81.22	38.44	298.54	37.43

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Maharashtra	125.12	23.72	102.87	26.81	227.99	25.02
14.	Manipur	6.53	40.04	0.66	7.47	7.19	28.54
15.	Meghalaya	7.89	40.04	0.34	7.47	8.23	33.87
16.	Mizoram	1.40	40.04	0.45	7.47	1.85	19.47
17.	Nagaland	5.21	40.04	0.28	7.47	5.49	32.67
18.	Orissa	143.69	48.01	25.40	42.83	169.09	47.15
19.	Punjab	10.20	6.35	4.29	5.75	14.49	6.16
20.	Rajasthan	55.06	13.74	26.78	19.85	81.83	15.28
21.	Sikkim	2.00	40.04	0.04	7.47	2.05	36.55
22.	Tamil Nadu	80.51	20.55	49.97	22.11	130.48	21.12
23.	Tripura	12.53	40.04	0.49	7.47	13.02	34.44
24.	Uttar Pradesh	412.01	31.22	117.88	30.89	529.89	31.15
25.	West Bengal	180.11	31.85	33.38	14.86	213.49	27.02
26.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	0.58	20.55	0.24	22.11	0.82	20.99
27.	Chandigarh	0.06	5.75	0.45	5.75	0.51	5.75
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.30	17.57	0.03	13.52	0.33	17.14
29.	Daman and Diu	0.01	1.35	0.05	7.52	0.06	4.44
30.	Delhi	0.07	0.40	11.42	9.42	11.49	8.23
31.	Lakshadweep	0.03	9.38	0.08	20.27	0.11	15.60
32.	Pondicherry	0.64	20.55	1.77	22.11	2.41	21.67
	All India	1932.43	27.09	670.07	23.62	2602.50	26.10

Notes.

1. Poverty Ratio of Assam is used for Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura
2. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Goa is used to estimate poverty ratio of Goa.
3. Poverty Line of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure distribution of Jammu & Kashmir is used to estimate poverty ratio of Jammu & Kashmir.
4. Poverty Ratio of Tamil Nadu is used for Pondicherry and A&N Island.
5. Urban Poverty Ratio of Punjab is used for both rural and urban poverty of Chandigarh.
6. Poverty Line of Maharashtra and expenditure distribution of Dadra & Nagar Haveli is used to estimate poverty ratio of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
7. Poverty Ratio of Goa is used for Daman & Diu.
8. Poverty Ratio of Kerala is used for Lakshadweep.
9. Urban Poverty Ratio of Rajasthan may be treated as tentative.

Clusters Selected for Upgradation

5805. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are implementing the scheme on technology upgradation and management called UPTECH since 1998;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of clusters selected for upgradation during the 9th plan in the country particularly in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra;

(d) the total funds earmarked for upgradation of these clusters; and

(e) the number of clusters, where the work has since been started and progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme addresses all the common issues related to the technology upgradation of a cluster. It has scope for diagnostic study, setting up of common facility centres and new technology demonstration plants, training of workers/supervisors etc.

(c) Out of 14 clusters selected for the 9th Plan, three are from Andhra Pradesh and one from Maharashtra;

The clusters selected are:

1 The Tile Industry Cluster along the West Coast, Kerala

2. The Bulk Drug and Formulation Industry in Andhra Pradesh.

3. The Neem and Perfumery Industry at Kannauj.

4. The Forging & Foundry Industry in Punjab & Andhra Pradesh.

5. The Food Processing Industry Cluster at Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh.

6. Small Scale Tannery Industry at Vaniyambadi, Tamil Nadu.

7. The Pottery Industry Cluster at Khurja

8. The Toy Industry in Delhi and Noida.

9. The Auto Component Industry at Pune, Chennai & Indore.

10. The Lock industry Cluster at Aligarh.

11. The Stone Industry particualarly in Rajasthan and Gujarat.

12. The Glass & Ceramics Industry particularly at Firozabad & Khurja in UP and Mangalore in Karnataka.

13. Development of Clusters based on Herbal & Aromatics Plants at Jhalawar & Dholpur in Rajasthan, Badaun & Bhowali in UP and Ganjam in Orissa.

14. The Trial runs on Hydrogenation Process for manufacturing of Speciality Oils & Solvents in Gujarat

(d) An amount of Rs. 17.74 crores has been earmarked for all the clusters under the scheme for 9th Plan.

(e) The implementation of the programme at different centres is at various stages.

Spurious Drugs

5806. DR. BALIRAM:
SHRI P.R. KHUNTE:

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

(a) whether any enquiry was conducted to ascertain availability of spurious drugs at CGHS Medical Store Depot;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether various CGHS dispensaries have reimbursed Rs. 14 crores to the approved chemists for private purchase of medicines;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of system to be followed for purchase of medicines by CGHS;

(f) whether CGHS formularly has been finalised;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) (a) and (b) One sample of BETON (Betamathasone Valisate Skin Cream) Batch No. S. 61 manufactured by M/s Saika Pharmaceuticals, Rohtak has been detected by the drug inspector as spurious in CGHS Medical Store Depot, Delhi. The use of the said batch of drug has been suspended.

(c) and (d) A city-wise statement showing expenditure on local purchase of medicines of Rs. 104,94,92,193/- during the year 2000-2001 is enclosed. Dispensary-wise details are being collected.

(e) to (h) A new committee has been constituted on 16.11.2000 under the Chairmanship of Dr. J.N. Pande, HOD(IM), AIIMS, New Delhi, to prepare a comprehensive combined formulary for CGHS and MSO and also to consider the procure to be adopted for minimizing references to private chemists by Medical Officers/ Specialists in CGHS for procuring drugs. The Committee is expected to give its report by 31.5.2001.

Statement

S. No.	Name of CGHS City	Expenditure (in Rs) on local purchase of medicine during 2000-2001
1.	Allahabad	1,92,03,116
2.	Ahmedabad	81,93,826
3.	Bangalore	2,67,84,977
4.	Bhubaneshwar	33,96,806
5.	Chennai	3,66,06,660
6.	Delhi	51,99,00,201
7.	Guwahati	1,07,20,705
8.	Hyderabad	13,55,49,470
9.	Jabalpur	1,69,38,863
10.	Jaipur	1,70,94,454
11.	Kanpur	3,35,45,539
12.	Kolkata	3,71,19,927
13.	Lucknow	1,29,66,000
14.	Meerut	2,49,12,685
15.	Mumbai	4,92,38,754
16.	Nagpur	3,55,00,000
17	Pune	2,88,59,279
18.	Ranchi	1,10,08,692
19.	Patna	1,22,33,839
20.	Trivandrum	97,18,400
	Total	104,94,92,193

[Translation]

Maritime Borders

5807. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Maritime Border of India;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps for demarcating the maritime borders of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) Details of the length of the Maritime Border of India with the neighbouring countries (except Pakistan and Bangladesh) are as follows:

Sl. No.	Country	Approx. length of Maritime Border with India
(a)	Maldives	545 n.m. (1010 Kms.)
(b)	Srilanka	610 n.m. (1130 Kms.)
(c)	Indonesia	305 n.m. (565 Kms.)
(d)	Thailand	100 n.m. (185 Kms.)
(e)	Myanmar	585 n.m. (1083 Kms.)

(b) Yes, Sir. Except with Pakistan and Bangladesh the Government of India have concluded 11 Maritime Boundary agreements with other countries, i.e., with Sri Lanka, Burma (now Myanmar) and Maldives.

(c) Details of the Maritime Boundary agreements are as follows:

(1) Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Boundary in Historic Waters between the two countries and related matters, signed on 26/28 June 1974, which came into force on 8 July 1974.

(2) Agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Maritime Boundary Between the countries in the Gulf of Manaar and the Bay of Bengal and related matters, signed on 23 March, 1976 which came into force on 10 May, 1976.

(3) Supplementary agreement between India and Sri Lanka on the Extension of the Maritime Boundary between the two countries in the Gulf of Manaar from position 13m to the Tri-junction point between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives (Point T), signed on 22 November, 1976 which came into force on 5 February, 1977.

(4) Agreement between India, Sri Lanka and Maldives concerning the determination of the tri-junction point between the three countries in the Gulf of Manaar, signed on 31 July 1976 which came into force on the date of signature i.e., 31 July 1976.

(5) Agreement between India and Maldives on Maritime Boundary in the Arabian Sea and related matters, signed on 28 December 1976, which came into force on 8 June, 1978.

(6) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia relating to the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf Boundary between the two countries signed on 8 August, 1974, which came into force on 17 December, 1974.

(7) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia on the Extension of the 1974 Continental Shelf Boundary between the two countries in the Andaman sea and the Indian ocean, signed on 14 January 1977, which came into force on 15 August, 1977.

(8) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand concerning the Determination of the Tri-junction point and the delimitation of the related boundaries of the three countries in the Andaman sea, signed on 22 June 1978, which came into force on 2 March, 1979.

(9) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Delimitation of Seabed Boundary between the two countries in the Andaman Sea, signed on 22 June 1978, which came into force on 15 December, 1978).

(10) Agreement between the Republic of India and Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma on the Delimitation of the Maritime Boundary in the Andaman Sea, in the Coco Channel and in the Bay of Bengal, signed on 23 December 1986, which came into force on 14 September, 1987.

(11) Agreement on the determination of the tri-junction point between India, Myanmar and Thailand in the Andaman Sea, signed on 27 October 1993, which came into force on 24 May, 1995.

[English]

Lifting of Sanctions By Canada

5808. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:
SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canada proposes to lift sanctions imposed on India in May 1998 following the Pokhran nuclear tests as reported in the *Times of India* dated March 21, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the volume of trade between the two countries during each of the last four years;

(d) the volume of trade likely to increase as a result of the lifting of the sanctions;

(e) whether Canada also proposes to relax its immigration rules; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) (a) and (b) Government have seen the report in 'Times of India' dated March 21, 2001 regarding lifting of sanctions on India by Canada. The Foreign Minister of Canada announced on 20th March 2001 that the Government of Canada will pursue the broadest possible political and economic relationship with India and encourage bilateral ministerial visits, resume full Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) programming in India, including industrial cooperation, and provide support to culture and sports, suspended since May 1998.

(c) The volume of two-way trade between the two countries in the last four years have been as follows:

Rs. 2365.56 crores in 1996-97

Rs. 3154.30 crores in 1997-98

Rs. 3612.11 crores in 1998-99

Rs. 4183.24 crores in 1999-00

(d) Normalisation of relations is expected to provide a more positive atmosphere for enhanced trade and economic cooperation.

(e) and (f) Government is not aware of any relaxation or otherwise of Canadian immigration rules, which is an internal matter of Canada.

[Translation]

Rural Electrification Under PMGY

5809. DR. ASHOK PATEL:
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHARY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision to include rural electrification under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be implemented; and

(d) the funds likely to be provided for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for 2001-2002 has proposed inclusion of Rural Electrification as an additional component of Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY).

(c) The implementation of this decision will be undertaken during the current financial year itself.

(d) The funding for this component would be at par with the other five components of PMGY.

Adoption of Children

5810. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh and requested the Union Government to accord its approval to Himachal Pradesh Bal Kalyan Parishad, Mini Secretariat, Shimla-2, Indira Ladies Club, Nahan, district Sirmaur, H.P., Mahila Dalyan Mandal, Chamba-H.P. and Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Rockwood, Shimla H.P. with regard to adoption of children;

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

(c) the reasons for pendency thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Ministry has received a request under the "Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Homes (Sishu Greh) for Infants for Promoting in-country Adoption", from State Government vide its Letter No. W.L.F.-F/5/-2/96-1 dt. 10.7.2000 with regard to HP State Council for Child Welfare, Mini Secretariat, Shimla-2.

The Ministry has not received any request from the Government with respect to the other organizations.

(b) An amount of Rs. 78,763/ has been released to the HP State Council for Child Welfare, Shimla vide our letter No. 22-55/97-CH(AC) dt. 31.3.2001.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Amendment of Atomic Energy Act

5811. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend Atomic Energy Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the purpose thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The process of reviewing the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 and suggesting amendments with a view to, inter-alia, enable private sector participation in the production and supply of nuclear power, is currently underway. After finalising its review, Government will introduce a Bill in both the Houses of Parliament to amend the concerned Sections of the Act.

Special Status to Uttaranchal

5812. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to confer 'special status' for speedy development of Uttaranchal;

(b) if so, the reasons and circumstances leading to such decision;

(c) whether similar status is also to be given to Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Special Category Status is given to those States which are predominantly of hilly terrain with large tribal population, located on border areas with under-developed socio-economic infrastructure and overall economic backwardness. Uttaranchal satisfies most of the characteristics of Special Category States.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh States do not fulfill the criteria to get Special Category Status.

Delayed Delivery of Defence Equipments

5813. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "MoD shopping spree shows bad management; CAG" appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated March 30, 2001;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government against the officials found responsible for delay in delivery of equipments and ammunitions, single vendor deals and faulty supplies; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A draft review titled "Special Audit on purchase of stores for Operation-Vijay (Kargil)" for inclusion in the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31.3.2000, has been received from the Director General of Audit, Defence Services in December, 2000. The observations made therein mainly relates to procurement made during operation—Vijay, delayed delivery of equipments and ammunitions, single vendor procurements and faulty supplies. These observations are being examined in consultation with the Army Headquarters.

Basic Minimum Service

5814. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the Basic Minimum Services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Basic Minimum Service Programme has been discontinued;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have launched any other basic service programme in place of Basic Minimum Services;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government had identified seven Basic Minimum Services (BMS). The Services were Safe Drinking Water, Primary Health Care, Universal Primary Education, Rural Shelter, Rural Connectivity, Nutrition and Streamlining Public Distribution System.

(c) to (e) In order to build on the BMS Programme, focus better on certain components of BMS and emphasise better monitoring of the Programme, BMS has been restructured and recast as the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY). The allocations for the Programme have also been substantially enhanced.

(f) The components of the PMGY are: Rural Drinking Water, Primary Health, Primary Education, Rural Shelter and Nutrition. From the current year (2001-02), Rural Electrification is being included as an additional component under PMGY.

(g) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Promotion of Small and Cottage Industries

5815. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA:
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken any policy decision for promoting small, cottage and rural industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have made any provisions for financial assistance and to provide loan and subsidy to these industries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have issued any guidelines to State Governments in regard to setting up of small cottage and rural industries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Policy measures already exist for promoting Small Scale Industries (SSI), cottage & rural industries in the country and Government continues to lay emphasis on meeting their concerns. Special thrust in given for rural and backward areas through schemes like Integrated Infrastructure Development (IID) Centres, Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and National Programme on Rural Industrialization (NPRI).

(c) and (d) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has formulated several schemes to meet the various needs of entrepreneurs of small scale industries in the country. These cover assistance for setting up new projects for activities like expansion, technology upgradation, quality improvement, rehabilitation of existing units, strengthening of marketing capabilities of SSI units etc. The assistance is made available through appropriate schemes of direct assistance and indirect assistance (Refinance of loans to small scale industries by prime lending institutions, Banks/State Financial Corporations and State Industries Development Corporations). Subsidy is provided under PMRY and Margin Money Schemes.

In addition, a comprehensive policy package for the development of small scale industries has been announced on 30th August, 2000. On the credit side, the policy package will allow for easier access to credit, availability to collateral free composite loans upto Rs. 25.00 lakhs and capital subsidy for technology upgradation.

(e) and (f) Government of India has issued guidelines in respect of registration of SSI units and all schemes are implemented through the State Governments as per approved parameters.

[English]

Small Pox

5816. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India was declared small pox free by the International Commission for Assessment of Small Pox eradication in April, 1977;

(b) if so, the number of cases of small pox reported since then;

(c) whether some cases of small pox were reported from some States recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the steps taken or being taken so far by Government to control the small pox;

(f) whether any fresh certificate from the International Agency in this regard is required again; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) India's last case of Small Pox occurred on 24th May, 1975. As, no case of Small Pox has been reported since then, fresh certificate from the International Agency in this regard is not required.

PM Visit to Iran

5817. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:
SHRI C. SREENIVASAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of issues discussed by our Prime Minister with Iranian leaders during his recent visit over there;

(b) the outcome thereof;

(c) the agreements signed on the occasion; and

(d) the boost to the Indo-Iranian economic relations as a result of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU) (a) and (b) Prime Minister paid an official visit to Iran, a country with which India shares deep historical ties and civilisational and cultural affinities, from 10-13 April, 2001. During PM's visit both sides discussed issues relating to cooperation on bilateral, regional and international matters. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the strengthening and deepening of consultations and to enhancing coordination on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of mutual concern.

PM and President Khatami emhasised the need to enhance trade ties, economic and technical cooperation and cultural contacts. They emphasised the need to promote tourism and decided that Indian would hold an 'India-Week' in Iran and correspondingly Iran would hold an 'Iran-Week' in India. Both sides recognised the importance of preservation of peace, security and stability in the region and agreed to enhance mutual cooperation for safeguarding peace and stability in the region which was witnessing the rise of extremist forces, terrorism and enhanced flows of illicit drugs. In their discussions on international matters, the two leaders emphasised equality between nations and governments.

(c) and (d) PM and President Khatami of Iran signed the 'Tehran Declaration', which embodies their vision of cooperation based on shared concerns, common aspirations and shared complementarities for the benefit of the two peoples and of the region and world at large. In addition, agreements on (i) Trade and Economic Cooperation and (ii) Customs Cooperation and MOUs on (iii) Information Technology (iv) Cooperation in the field of Energy (v) Cooperation in the field of Power (conventional and non-conventional sources) and (vi) Technical Cooperation were also signed.

The agreements and MOU signed during the visit will establish a structural framework for boosting trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. In order to encourage trade and economic relations between India and Iran, PM expressed India's willingness to offer a line of credit of US $ 200 million particularly for infrastructure projects in Iran on terms and conditions to be mutually decided upon.

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 1999-2000.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3633/2001]

(3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Bharat Electronics Limited and the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3634/2001]

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): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Maneka Gandhi, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Wakf Council, New Delhi, 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 Wakf Council, New Delhi, 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 3635/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): Sir, 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 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:—

(i) The All India Services (Conduct) Amendment Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 51 in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2000.

(ii) The All India Services (Discipline and Appeal) Amendment Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 212 in Gazette of India dated the 17th June, 2000.

(iii) The All India Services (Provident Fund) Amendment Rules, 1998 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 379 in Gazette of India dated the 7th October, 2000.

(iv) The All India Services (Study Leave) Regulations, 1960 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 74 in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001.

(v) The All India Services (Leave) Amendment Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 101 in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 2001.

(vi) The All India Services (Leave) Amendment Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 102 in Gazette of India dated the 24 February, 2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3636/2001]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coir Board, Kochi, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon under sub-section (4) of section 17 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Coir Board, Kochi, for the year 1999-2000.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3637/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3638/2001]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, 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 Chittranjan National Cancer Institute, 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 3639/2001]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Allied Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lala Ram Sarup Institute of Tuberculosis and Allied Diseases, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3640/2001]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3641/2001]

(9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, for the year 1999-2000.

(10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3642/2001]

(11) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Latex Limited and the Department of Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3643/2001]

(12) A copy of each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 26-A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940:

(i) G.S.R. 169 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. G.S.R. 578 (E) dated the 23rd July, 1983.

(ii) G.S.R. 170 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2001 prohibiting manufacture, sale and distribution of certain drugs mentioned therein for human use with effect from 1st January, 2002.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3644/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income tax Act, 1961:—

(i) S.O. 210 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "State Innovation in Family Planning Services Project Agency, Lucknow" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1994-1995 to 1996-97, subject to certain conditions.

(ii) S.O. 211 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi" under section 10 (23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(iii) S.O. 213 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Bharat Bhavan Trust, Madhya Pradesh" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

(iv) S.O. 214 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "National Association for Blind, Karnataka Branch, Bangalore" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

(v) S.O. 215 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "The Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(vi) S.O. 216 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "The Hind Kusht Nivaran Sangh, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

(vii) S.O 217 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(viii) S.O. 218 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Exhibition Society, Hyderabad" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(ix) S.O. 219 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (India), New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.

(x) S.O. 220 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th Feburary, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

(xi) S.O. 221 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "His Holiness The Dalai Lama's Charitable Trust, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.

(xii) S.O. 222 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "The National Human Rights Commission, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xiii) S.O. 223 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.

(xiv) S.O. 224 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Mobile Creaches for Working Mother's Children, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(xv) S.O. 225 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Forum of Financial Writers, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.

(xvi) S.O. 226 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xvii) S.O. 227 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Shri Ramakrishna Ashram, 24-Praganas, West Bengal" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

(xviii) S.O. 228 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Centre for Social Research, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1996-97 to 1998-99, subject to certain conditions.

(xix) S.O. 229 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Institute of Rural Management, Anand, Gujarat" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1999-2000 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(xx) S.O. 230 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Arya Vaidya Sala Kottakkal Kerala" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2001-2002 to 2003-2004, subject to certain conditions.

(xxi) S.O. 231 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida (UP)" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

(xxii) S.O. 232 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Civil Services Officers' Institute, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xxiii) S.O. 233 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Mysore Resettlement and Development Agency, Bangalore" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xxiv) S.O. 234 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Jnana Probodhini, Pune" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xxv) S.O. 235 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "West Bengal Council for Child Welfare, Calcutta" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xxvi) S.O. 237 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Maharashtra Gandhi Smarak Nidhi, Pune" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, subject to certain conditions.

(xxvii) S.O. 239 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "National Institute of Bank Management, Mumbai" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2002-2003, subject to certain conditions.

(xxviii) S.O. 247 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "K.D. Malaviya National Oil Museum, New Delhi" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 2000-2001 to 2001-2002, subject to certain conditions.

(xxix) S.O. 248 published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001 regarding exemption to the "Sree Ramakrishna Saytanands Ashram, Distt. 24 Praganas (North), West Bengal" under section 10(23C) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1998-99 to 2000-2001, subject to certain conditions.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3645/2001]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:—

(i) The Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transaction) (Amendment) Rules, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 663(E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 2000.

(ii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing or lending in Foreign Exchange) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 674(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 2000.

(iii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person Resident in India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 675(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 2000.

(iv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Exchange Derivative Contracts) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 756(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th September, 2000.

(v) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person Resident in India) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 89(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2001.

(vi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Borrowing and Lending in Rupees) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 90(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th February, 2000.

(vii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 175(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th March, 2001.

(viii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person Resident in India) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 103(E) in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 2001.

(ix) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 182(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th March, 2001.

(x) The Foreign Exchange Management (Export of Goods and Services) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 199(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2001.

(xi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person resident in India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 200(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2001.

(xii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 201(E) in Gazette of India dated the 21st March, 2001.

(xiii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of any Foreign Security) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 157(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2001.

(xiv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident outside India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 158(E) in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March, 2001.

(xv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Current Account Transactions) (Amendment) Rules, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 301(E) in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3646/2001]

(3) A copy of the Foreign Exchange Management (Removal of Difficulties) Order 2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 530(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st June, 2000 issued under section 45 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3647/2001]

(4) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 860(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 2000 making certain amendments in the Notification No. FEMA/16/RB-2000 dated the 3rd May, 2000 issued under section 3 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3648/2001]

(5) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 171(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th March, 2001 together with an Explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in Notifications mentioned therein so as to extend DEEC/DFRC/DEPB Scheme operation to the ports of the Okha and Mundra and LCS at Singhabad under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3649/2001]

(6) A copy of the Order No. F. No. 212/52/98/ITA. II dated the 13th March, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) regarding relation of requirement of section 43B of the Income Tax Act, 1961 issued under sub-section (2) (c) of Section 119 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3650/2001]

(7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and 1980:—

(i) The Indian Overseas Bank Officer Employees' (Disciplines and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. IRD/184/132 in Gazette of India dated the 28th October, 2000.

(ii) The Oriental Bank of Commerce Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. F. 3930 in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 2000.

(iii) The Union Bank of India Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 3(h)/13-8-2000 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd December, 2000.

(iv) The Union Bank of India (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. OSR/17 in Gazette of India dated the 9th December, 2000.

(v) The Union Bank of India (Officers) Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. OSR/16 in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000.

(vi) The Union Bank of India Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 3(a)/13-8-2000 in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000.

(vii) The Bank of Baroda Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. HO: OSR&IR:27/108G/2642 in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000.

(viii) The Syndicate Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. 4268/0089/PD/IRD(O)/Reg. 6(2) in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 2000.

(ix) The Bank of India (Officers') Service (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. P:IR:SAH:1174 in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 2001.

(x) The Punjab and Sind Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. DAC/MISC/2001/2809 in Gazette of India dated the 5th February, 2001.

(xi) The Canara Bank Officer Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. IRS:124C:6479: NAK in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001.

(xii) The Dena Bank Employees' Pension (Amendment) Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. Pen/Amend//01/2000 in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 2001.

(8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 52 of

the Small Industries Development Bank of India Act, 1989:—

(i) The Small Industries Development Bank of India (General Regulations), 2000 published in Notification No. F.No. LD 63/Legal in Gazette of India dated the 13th November, 2000 together with a corrigendum thereto.

(ii) The Small Industries Development Bank of India Employees' Gratuity and Superannuation Fund Regulations, 2000 published in Notification No. Advt-III/IV/139/2000/Exty. in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3651/2001]

(9) A copy of the Notification No. SBD No. 12/2000 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd December, 2000 making amendments in Regulation 38 of State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur/ Hyderabad/Indore/Mysore/Patiala/Saurashtra/Travancore Officers' Service Regulations, 1979 under sub-section (4) of section 63 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Bank) Act, 1959.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT 3652/2001]

12.02 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Sixth Report

[English]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH (Mandi): Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) — "Telecommunication Services in Rural Areas."

12.2½ hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Action taken Statements

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI (Nainital): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table (Hindi and English versions) of the Statement showing further follow up action taken on the recommendations contained in chapter 1 and final replies in respect of Chapter V of the following Reports:

(1) 7th Report of PAC (12th Lok Sabha) on "Union Government Appropriation Accounts (1994-95)—Defence Services".

(2) 5th Report of PAC (12th Lok Sabha) on "Union Government Appropriation Accounts (1994-95)—Postal Services".

12.03 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

Forty-sixth, Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth Reports

[English]

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI (Kutch): I Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Commerce:

(1) 46th Report on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Department of Commerce (Ministry of Commerce and Industry);

(2) 47th Report on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (Ministry of Commerce and Industry); and

(3) 48th Report on Demands for Grants (2001-2002) of the Ministry of Textiles.

12.03½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

Action taken Statements

[Translation]

SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY (Bahraich): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statements (Hindi & English versions) on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 7th Report (13th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 6th Report (13th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants—2000-2001 of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilisers, Department of Fertilisers.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Matters under Rule 377, listed for the day, may be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

(i) Need to take suitable steps to check increase in the population of our country.

[English]

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk): There has been unabated increase in the population of our country. Concerns have been expressed all around over this increase. We must get very serious about this and devise measures or incentives for adoption of small families.

Muslim families have already been convinced about the need of small families and they have started going in for this

(ii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of M.P. for construction of a bridge on Chambal river at Ushedghat between Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK ARGAL (Murena): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the then Prime Minister late Shri Rajiv Gandhi had laid foundation stone for construction of a bridge on Chambal river at Ushedghat between Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. However, the construction work on this bridge has not been started still date. With the construction of bridge of Ushedghat, transportation will be started among Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh, Murena in Madhya Pradesh and lakhs of people will be benefited by it. At present, there is temporary bridge which is dismantled during rains. Lakhs of rupees are spent annually on this work.

I request Central Government to take initiative for the construction of bridge on Chambal river at Ushedghat or to release the required funds to the State Government.

(iii) Need to set up growth centers at Nawada, Gaya and Aurangabad in Bihar.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (Nawada): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after reorganization of Bihar, only few industries have been left in rest of Bihar though there is large scope for the development of agro based industries and Food Processing Industries in these areas. Through you, I would like to request the Ministry of Industry to identify the Kovakoal, Govindpur, Rajolli, Nawada, Fatehpur, Gaya, Aurangabad and Dihri aan soan areas situated adjacent to the Jharkhand State and to establish industries on large scale there. As per the present policy of Central Government, three growth centers should be set up at Nawada, Gaya and Aurangabad without any delay.

(iv) Need to connect Ajmer in Rajasthan by Air.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Sir, Ajmer has been an important city from historical, educational and cultural points of view. It is also known for its religious tolerance and communal harmony. Every year lakhs of devotees from inside the country and abroad visit this city to offer their prayers at the shrine of Hazarat Moinudin Chisti. Similarly, lakhs of devotees visit the famous pilgrim centre, Pushkarji situated near Ajmer city and is also known as 'Thirthguru'. Ajmer is well connected with the prominent places of our country by rail and road. However, in the absence of any air service, tourists have to take the air-route via Delhi-Jaipur followed by the road connection to reach Ajmer.

Several hon'ble Presidents and Prime Ministers who visited Ajmer have realized the need of airport at Ajmer and have given assurances to connect the city by air route. National Airport Authority has already conducted the survey in this regard and has finalized the site for airport. Previous and present State Government of Rajasthan have requested the Central Government for the construction of airport at Ajmer connecting it by air route.

Therefore, Central Government is requested to include the construction of airport at Ajmer in the plan and an airport be constructed there as early as possible so that it may be connected with air route.

(v) Need to take suitable steps to make Kalinga Iron Works at Barbil, Orissa, viable.

[English]

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (Keonjhar): Kalinga Iron Works, Barbil which was considered as a reputed plant and earned its fame in the international market for producing high grade iron, is now passing through a severe financial crisis. As many as twenty three hundred employees who are working in that plant are even not

*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

getting their salaries and wages regularly, as the plant is on the verge of closure. Unless the management of the plant is revamped and incentives are granted to that plant, it may be declared closed any day. This will lead to a great uncertainty of the future of the poor workers as most of them belong to SC/ST and other downtrodden communities.

In view of this, I request the Union Government that the factors which have led to the uncertainty of the plant are identified and steps are taken to revamp the functioning of Kalinga Iron Works at Barbil without any further loss of time.

(vi) Need to review the implementation of health schemes being undertaken in Madhya Pradesh with assistance of World Bank.

[Translation]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Central Government are providing basic health services and other medical facilities to Madhya Pradesh for the eradication of contagious and other diseases. In order to take maximum benefit from these programmes like Family Welfare Programme, AIDS Control Programme, National Leprosy Eradication Programme, National Tuberculosis Control Programme, Malaria Control Programme and Prevention of Blindness, their periodical monitoring and review is essential as World Bank is providing assistance to these programmes. At present, these programmes are confined to few districts of Madhya Pradesh. These programmes should be implemented in other districts also like Mandsaur, Neemach, Ratlam and Ujjain etc. so that these districts which are not getting World Bank and Central Government's assistance, could get the benefit of these programmes and may also participate in National Health Programme.

Therefore, I request the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to accept the request of Madhya Pradesh Government regarding implementation of centrally sponsored health schemes with the assistance of World Bank so that Mandsaur, Neemach, Ratlam and Ujjain districts of Madhya Pradesh could be benefited by them.

(vii) Need to release adequate funds to acute drinking water problem in Holenarasipura taluk in Karnataka.

[English]

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (Hassan): The entire Holenarasipura Taluk is facing a severe shortage of drinking water. More than 50% of the villages in this taluk are not getting potable water. The women have to walk several kilometers to fetch drinking water. There are borewells in some of the villages of Holenarasipura Taluk. But unfortunately more than 75% of these borewells are out of order. This is the pathetic condition of the people in most of the villages. In this regard, we have represented to the Centre several times. The water of Netravathi is not being utilised fully. A substantial quantity of water goes to Kaveri river which ultimately reaches the sea. This wastage of water can be avoided by allowing it to flow to Holenarasipura. The height of this area is about 150 feet and hence flow of water will not be a problem. In fact, this kind of arrangement has been made in some districts of our State.

I, therefore, urge upon Hon. Union Minister concerned to look into this urgent matter and release substantial funds for providing drinking water to the entire area of Holenarasipura.

(viii) Need to distribute foodgrains under Annapurna Scheme to the destitutes and disabled persons.

SHRI R.S. PATIL (Bagalkot): Last year, the Government of India was magnanimous in announcing the Annapurana Scheme to supply 10 kg. rice to the people who are not covered under the National Old Age Pension Scheme. The Union Ministry of Rural Development took pride in launching this scheme one year ago, i.e. from 1.4.2000.

The irony of the whole Scheme of Annapurna is that in most of the States the beneficiaries have not been identified. The district administration should be held responsible if they say that they cannot identify people for this Scheme because it is their duty to identify the persons and to give pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme. Apparently, this seems to be a populist Scheme but unfortunately and ultimately the Scheme is bound to die its natural death.

I, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Union Minister of Rural Development to take an immediate decision to distribute foodgrains under Annapurna Scheme to the destitute and disabled persons.

(ix) Need to allocate funds for early completion of new rail line between Bidar and Gulbarga in Karnataka.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI (Gulbarga): The State Government of Karnataka had proposed a new

railway line between Bidar and Gulbarga in Karnataka. The location survey had already been conducted and completed and the report submitted to the Railway Ministry. About Rs. 50 lakhs were also spent in constructing this line. The Government of Karnataka had also sent a communication to the Government of India in this regard on 3.2.2000. This railway line is very important for Gulbarga District as there are a number of technical colleges and many industries have been set up in the Gulbarga District. The Karnataka Government have urged the Railways to provide funds for constructing this line in 2000-01 and 2001-02 Railway Budget. But it has not been considered by the Railways. The work on this project has already started but due to lack of funds this line is not being completed.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to kindly consider and make provisions in the Budget for constructing this railway line at an early date.

(x) Need to release funds to Government of Karnataka for running pre-examination training centres for SCs/STs

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur): The State Government of Karnataka is running five pre-examination Training Centres in places of (i) Indiranagar, Bangalore; (ii) Sampangiramanagar, Bangalore; (iii) Mysore; (iv) Dharwar; and (v) Gulbarga. In all these centres, the training is imparted to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates for appearing various competitive examination for employment. While the centre at the Indiranagar, Bangalore is imparting training to only those candidates who are appearing at All India Service Examinations, the other centres impart training in respect of examinations conducted by various recruitment authorities.

The State Government of Karnataka has earmarked a sum of Rs. 125 lakhs in the Budget 2000-01 for running of these centres and also for imparting training to the candidates. The grant-in-aid to be received from Government of India was worked out on the basis of the 2000 and the total amount comes to Rs. 18,74,025/-. In spite of several reminders, the Government of India has not so far released the amount.

I, therefore, urge the Government to kindly release this sum which is required for running of these training centres for the benefit of SCs and STs.

(xi) Need for excavation by Archaeological Survey of India at Awantikapuri in Azamgarh district of U.P.

[Translation]

DR. BALIRAM (Lalganj): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards village Awank (Avantikapuri) under the development block 'Rani ki sarai' situated in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh. While undertaking excavation in this village in June 2000, Archaeological department have found some coins which were supposed to be in circulation during 10th and 11th century along with the bricks used in building construction during Gupta period.

As per the experts of Archaeological Survey of India, ruins of a large temple of Gupta age is supposed to be burried under the newly built temple. On the basis of the bricks of a famous water pond named as Janmaijaya yagnay kund situated in front of the temple, that old temple is believed to be belonging to Kushan era. A two-meter wide wall situated at 35 Mts. in the north side of the temple has been found which is also supposed to be belonging to Kushan era. 6-7 pieces of sprinkler and a terracotta seal of Kushan era has also been found which points towards the existence of a royal palace. In Sirsal area of village Avank, there are two places with the name of Kotiya which indicates towards the presence of a fort belonging to some ruler. Both of them were constructed at the same period.

Through you, Sir, I demand from the Government to undertake the excavation by Archaeological Survey of India in village Avank under development block 'Rani ki sarai of district Azamgarh and to develop it as a tourist spot and the village should be named as 'Avantikapuri.'

(xii) Need to advise Government of Chhatisgarh to share Mahanadi water with Orissa.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttuck): Recently there has been acute water crisis in the Mahanadi basin area. The Orissa Government had requested the Water Resources Ministry in July 2000 for issuing a direction to the Madhya Pradesh Government to allow the flow of certain amount of river water to Orissa during non-monsoon period for irrigation and power generation. It is an admitted fact that 30 major and medium irrigation projects and 10 barrages have already been constructed by erstwhile Madhya Pradesh Government in the upper catchment area of Mahanadi intercepting the inflow of water to the Hirakund reservoir. Besides 4 more medium irrigation projects were under construction and there were proposals for construction of 5 new dams and one barrage.

I would urge upon the Government to impress upon the Government of Chhattisgarh not to construct dams and barrages without consulting the Orissa Government and to work towards an agreement for sharing of Mahanadi water. As there is no inter-state agreement of Board to advise sharing of Mahanadi water, I urge upon the Government to take up the matter and direct the Chhatisgarh Government to allow flow of water to Orissa in Mahanadi during the summer season.

(xiii) Need to connect Sikkim by air.

SHRI BHIM DAHAL (Sikkim): Sikkim has been fast developing as a tourist destination. It has tallest Indian peaks and majestic mountains, lakes, flora-fauna, trekking routes and eminent centres of Mahayana Buddism.

It is border State and one can have panoramic view of China from Nathula pass. The Government of India has been kind enough to grant permission to the domestic tourists to visit places which were prohibited earlier. They can now go well up to India-China border.

But the absence of air service has been a great bottleneck for the State. Therefore, till such time an airstrip is ready, a 15-16 seater helicopter service may be given to the State with adequate Central subsidy.

(xiv) Need for strict implementation of laws made for benefit of SCs/STs.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): All the Central Ministries and the State Governments should formulate special component plan TSP and ensure allocation of funds in proportion to the percentage of population.

Posts reserved for SCs and STs should be filled up only by candidates belonging to these communities. In case of non-availability of candidates among SCs or STs, these vacancies/posts should be exchanged only between these two communities.

A comprehensive Bill may be urgently introduced with regard to all the cases of inclusion/exclusion in Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes with an objective to cover all the houseless among them within a period of 5 years.

The implementation of PCR Act and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (POA) Act, 1989 should be made more strict and involvement of people's representatives in their implementation should be ensured.

The payment of scholarship to the students belonging to SCs and STs may be made on quarterly basis and its quantum should be linked up with price index.

It is requested that necessary action may kindly be taken in this regard immediately.

12.05 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: As the hon. Members are aware, the Finance Bill, 2001 is listed today for consideration and passing. In order to enable more Members to participate in the discussion, I propose to allow 'Zero Hour' only upto 1230 hours today. The House may take up consideration of the Finance Bill, 2001 at 1230 hours and there may be no Lunch Break today. I hope the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today there is Maharashtra bandh. I have given a notice also in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Geete.

[Translation]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA (Jhabua): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I too have given the notice.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhuria I have told you that you will get a chance.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I protest of anti-labour policies adopted by the Government of Maharashtra, all political

parties have called for Maharashtra bandh today. Railways, Airlines, bus-service, shops everything is closed today. Industries are getting closed because of wrong policies of the Government of Maharashtra. Several Industries are planning to go out from Maharashtra. It has created a dangerous situation for labourers. According to old policy, if an industrialist or an owner of an industry, where above 100 labourers were employed, wanted to closed down the unit, it was mandatory for him to take permission from the Government. But, now the Government of Maharashtra have amended said Act and now as per latest provision, if more than 300 labourers are employed in an industry, permission is required before closing down such industry, but if the number of labour employed is below 300, then there is no need to take such permission from the Government. This decision of the Government of Maharashtra has put entire industrial world and the labourer class in crisis. All political parties have declared a state wide bandh in protest of this decision. Today, anti-labour policies are being framed all over the nation, consequently entire labour force has started feeling itself insecure. To protect the interest of labourers there is need for the Union Government to interfere in this regard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I urge hon. Prime Minister to make a statement in the House to protect interest of labourers. I am making this demand in the House.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon Prime Minister should make a statement...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rawale, I cannot compel the hon. Prime Minister.

Now, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have called Shri Dasmunsi.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give you the floor one-by-one.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, during Question hour you had said that you would give me a chance during Zero Hour....*(Interruptions)* It is a very important matter.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, you will get a chance. How can give the chance to all the hon. Members?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will get a chance, Shri Pappu Yadav. You sit peacefully and observe the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are all other things unimportant?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, I will not approve of your conduct here. I will give you a chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Mohan Rawale, you are also disturbing the House.

[Translation]

You get up every now and then, you would not give chance to others.

12.09 hrs.

RE: NEED TO WITHDRAW CERTAIN CIRCULARS OF DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AFFECTING INTERESTS OF SCs/STs IN SERVICE MATTERS

[English]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE (Solapur): Sir, I have requested Shri Dasmunsi...*(Interruptions)* I should be given an opportunity to speak about an issues concerning the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Shinde.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please.

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you and the hon. Prime Minister. In view of the importance of this matter, hon. Prime Minister in present in the House since this matter relates to promotion and general employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Former Prime Minister, Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi once took up this issue and launched a nation wide drive to fill backlog vacancies of SCs/STs. Present Prime Minister had also taken similar decision. An assurance was given in this regard during the conference of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission that we will never go to the well. During our Golden Jubliee we have assured that we would not got to the well. But, when atrocities were being committed on scheduled caste and scheduled tribe servicemen, we became so agitated that all Members including from BJP and all other parties went to the well. I wanted an assurance in the interest of service of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from hon. Prime Minister, who gave it promptly, therefore, I am grateful to him. As far as 3-4 OM's issued by the Department of Personnel are concerned, hon. Prime Minister made good efforts for withdrawing one of these circulars. But how much time you would take in withdrawing rest circular. Three, six and eight months have passed, even cabinet decision was taken once, but orders are not being issued. I would only say that it is Prime Minister wish and will, and I will not blame him. He wants to help dalits. I would like hon. Prime Minister to take steps in this direction, then only I would believe that the Prime Minister and the Government have soft corner for SCs, STs and other minorities. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, even the Prime Minister has said, but we do not know what happens in the Department. Not commenting unnecessarily, I would like to say only this much that I am interested in our people getting justice and employment. I urge hon. Prime Minister to assure as to when orders withdrawing OM's would be issued so that the injustice being done to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees comes to an end.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pravin Rashtrapal, Shri Manikrao Gavit, Shri Ramdas Athawale and Shri K.H. Muniyappa have given notices on the same subject. I allow them to associate themselves on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, I have allowed them to associate themselves on this issue.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please, go back to your seats. The hon. Prime Minister is on his legs.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Hon. Prime Minister, please withdraw the OM...*(Interruptions)*

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by hon. Shindeji is very important. There is no difference of opinion over this issue between the Government and the opposition. The Government desire that the condition of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should improve. Justice should be done to SC/ST employees and justice means that we should try to rectify the system whereby injustice has been done to them or they have been neglected. The policies have been framed with this objective. But often, these policies are challenged in court of law. The House may remember that the Government twice brought Constitution (Amendment) Bill, which was passed with consensus since there was no difference of opinion about that. The third point raised by him is regarding jobs. The matter is under consideration of the Government. The problem is that the matter is in the court before the Constitution Bench. We expect a favourable decision from there very soon. Government is committed in this regard. We wanted to bring such a bill prior to the current budget session of the Parliament, however, we are making efforts once again and seek your support in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (Mumbai South Central): Sir, Maharashtra Government is adopting anti labourer policy...*(Interruptions)* Unemployment is on the raise among the labourers. Hon. Prime Minister is present in the House, I would like to have an reply from him...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I cannot compel the hon. Prime Minister to get up and react for anything and everything.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am drawing your attention continuously for the last 5 days towards the issue of Bihar. Bihar has become a serious issue for the country. Yesterday also 6 persons belonging to Dalit community were killed in district Sasaram. 5 days ago, 213 houses of most backward and dalit people were set on fire in Jangltola and a child was thrown into fire. There is no exaggeration of saying that Bihar Government is protecting the culprits. The situation in Bihar is so worse that since Panchayat elections have started and three level of Panchayati elections are still to take place, more than 200 people have already been killed. It is difficult to say that how many murders will take place but no village in Bihar has been left where incidents of firing is not taking place, where communal riots are not erupting and where frenzy and terrorised atmosphere is not being created. Not only the criminals also but the Government machinery, Government workers and Ministers and MLAs are also involved in it openly. Candidates are being murdered there. Election Commission restrained a Minister from visiting a constituency but he avoided it and reached there and was even involved in firing. Situation is so volatile there that no representatives of people is safe there and it is really difficult to express the actual situation prevailing there...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, I have given the floor to Shri Pappu Yadav. Please do not interrupt him.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: I demand an enquiry from the Union Government. Shri Pramod Mahajan is present in the House. I am tired of raising this issue again and again. I have requested to hon. Home Minister time and again....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please speak about what you want from the Government.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: The House should protect Bihar. A report on the situation of Bihar should be sought from the Bihar Government. It is obvious that the report sent by them will not be authenticated, therefore, a Parliamentary Committee or a Committee of the Ministry should be sent there. The Central Government should be apprised of the situation prevailing there and stringent action is required to be taken in this regard. People's representatives are not safe there. Security of Members of opposition is withdrawn and they are threatened to be killed. Conspiracy was hatched to kill Shri Anawarul Haque, Sushil Modi and Shahabuddin...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, you have raised the matter. Now you resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav you have submitted your views to the Government.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, large number of houses have been set on fire, MPs and MLAs are being threatened...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav I have given you the floor but you will have to obey the Chair. I called you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am talking about the problem of Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have to take serious note of your conduct. I have called you. You have already taken up the matter. Do not interrupt like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The entire House is interested in the matter pertaining to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given you the floor but it does not mean that you dishonour the Chair. It is Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak but I would like to say that a Parliamentary Committee be constituted to protect the people of Bihar. Shri Pramod Mahajan is present in the House. Through you, I would like to request him to announce the Constitution of Parliamentary Committee in this regard. *...(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Sir, farmers in the entire country are facing problems. We give notices to raise their matters in the House but we are not given the opportunity to speak. We are not given time to raise their matters. If such a practice continues, I would like to know for what purpose we have been elected. Farmers have elected us as their representatives. We want to raise their problem but you are not giving us the time.

Sir, the crops of wheat and rice are not being procured. Prices of fertilizers, diesel and kerosene have been hiked. The Government has fixed the support price of wheat but procurement is not being done in Uttar Pradesh. I would not sit without presenting my view even if you throw me out of the House. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will give you the floor.

...(Interruptions)

12.22 hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon'ble members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do not compel me like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is it the way you have to raise the matter? I will not give the floor to you if you behave like this.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, please hear me. I called Mr. Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi.

.. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Look here for a moment. I called Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde to speak on the matter of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. I gave him the floor. After him, I will be giving the floor to you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do you want to raise the matter?

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I would like to raise the issue of farmers in the House....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, I have given you the floor.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right, he wants to react to whatever he said.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Kunwar Akhilesh Singh, I have told you that you will be given the opportunity to speak but I have already given floor to Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi prior to you. Please go back to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Akhileshji, I have told you that you will get the chance to speak. If you continue

to behave like this, it would be difficult to run the zero hour. What is all this? Why are you not understanding my point? I have told you that you will definitely get the chance to speak but first let Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi raise his issue. After him, you will get the opportunity to speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my submission is that a Parliamentary Committee should be constituted for Bihar and shri Pramod Mahajan who is present in the House should assure the House in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Pappu Yadav, I cannot compel the Minister.

...(Interruptions)

12.24 hrs.

At this stage Kunwar Akkhilesh Singh and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member towards the fact that Parliamentary Committee is not constituted by any Ministry. Only the hon. Speaker is able to constitute such a committee....*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, to maintain law and order in Bihar during elections, the Bihar Government had demanded 10-12 companies of security force, but Central Government did not provide ...*(Interruptions)*

12.25 hrs.

At this stage Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon'ble Members came and stood near the Table of the House.

...(Interruptions)

12.25$^{1}/_{2}$ hrs.

At this stage Shri Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav came and stood near the Table of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rahuvanshji please go back to your seat.

...(Interruptions)

At this stage Shri Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav went back to his seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issues raised by Shri Pappu Yadav...*(Interruptions)* I will bring the issues to the notice of the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL (Chandni Chowk): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the words used by Shri Raghuvansh ji should be expunged from the proceedings...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister has stated that Home Minister will be informed in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

12.27 hrs.

At this stage Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh went back to his seat.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what Shri Raghuvansh ji has stated should not be included in the Proceedings....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Vijay Goel, please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is most unfortunate. Even the ruling Party Members are disturbing like his.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH (Machhalishahar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of farmers should also be taken up....*(Interruptions)* Farmers are dying in Uttar Pradesh...*(Interruptions)* You had called Shri Sumanji to speak...*(Interruptions)* I have given the notice for adjournment motion also in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI (Bijnor): The entire Bihar has been ruined...*(Interruptions)* What is this...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is happening here? You belong to the ruling party. At least you must have some patience.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House through you to one very important issue....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Vijay Goel, please resume your seat. What is going on in this House?

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV: Please save Bihar....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: What are you doing? Will you not allow me to speak?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what Shri Raghuvansh ji has stated should be expunged from the proceedings....*(Interruptions)* How they will teach us discipline though he himself is in the panel of Chairmen...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What are you doing now? You are also interrupting the proceedings.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Please allow Shri Dasmunsi to speak. It is a serious matter....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will be expunging anything that is objectionable. Why are you interrupting the House like this?

...*(Interruptions)*

12.29 hrs.

RE: ALLEGED TAPPING OF TELEPHONE AND THREATENING CALLS TO MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House....*(Interruptions)* Why do you like to do this every time?...*(Interruptions)* Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the House to a serious matter. Besides being a Member of this House, I am to discharge a serious obligation being the Chief Whip of the principal Opposition Party, on the mandate of my Party, from time to time on different issues.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, a few days before, to get out of the impasse, with the joint cooperation of the Treasury Benches and us, and on the reply of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition replied to the hon. Prime Minister listing out certain business items, like the stock scam, telecom scam etc. Being a Member of the House, I tried to discharge my responsibility by referring the matters relating to telecom on 17th before the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee's Report placed on the Table of the House yesterday says, "The whole process seems to lack transparency."

After the Demands for Grants were disposed of in the House, I went back to my house around 7.30 p.m....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH: I have to raise an important issue regarding the farmers of Uttar Pradesh.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, after discharging my duties as a Member, I went back to my house....*(Interruptions)* It is the issue of prestige for all the members. Threatening call started coming from the corporate Mafia. I am staying alone in my house. My wife and my son are in my constituency. The threatening caller enquired, "Where is your son?" Then, I started observing the calls. The tone was harsh, and the phone was tapped.

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

At 7.00 p.m. in the evening, just like *Tehelka* episode, a man approached the gate of my house with a thick packet load, as if it is loaded with notes or something else. The CRPF *jawan* at the gate said, "Whom are you searching for?" He said, "We are searching for Shri Munsi." The CRPF *Jawan* said, "He is in Parliament." Then, he said "Okay, take it, and give it to him." The *jawan* said, "I cannot take it; you have to open it." They kept it there. Two or three persons were there. One could not be identified because it was difficult for the *jawan* to identify who were all there. A packet was kept there. I went back to my home at 7.30 p.m. The CRPF *jawan* told me, "This is a packet lying for you." It is a huge packet. I just tore the corner and I found hundreds of letters with various bogus names threatening me, cautioning me, and questioning me. I presume, Sir, there was a camera, as if something was being handed over to me. Instantly, within ten minutes, I sent it to the Speaker's house with a letter and a copy marked to the police station. Soon after that, up to 3.00 a.m. in the morning, there were not only threatening calls, but also they said that they know where my son was staying at that moment and in which village. They knew everything. That was the kind of pressure put on me.

I am not questioning or making an allegation against an individual. Sir, if the Chief Whip's telephone is being tapped in this way, if I take up an issue in the Parliament and if pressure is being mounted in such a manner, then it will be difficult not only for me, but also for any Member of Parliament to function in this House. Therefore, Sir, I instantly sent the whole folder to the hon. Speaker. If forensic testing is done, fingerprints could be found and we can came to know who came and delivered this. I gave the whole of lot to the hon. Speaker yesterday in the night. I wrote a letter to the hon. Speaker instantly, within half-an-hour. I presume, Sir, they came with a design, with a camera. The security *jawan* told me that they stayed there for two minutes, and they started smiling and said, "A lot of things are here; your MP will be happy." This is how they did it. In the letter which I wrote to the hon. Speaker, I enclosed a copy of their letter. The name could not be traced anywhere. The computer-printed name on the main and inside envelopes is similar. So, it was orchestrated and operated from one centre.

This is the fate of the Members of Parliament. Yesterday, after the tabling of the Twenty-second Report on Telecom, these things started mounting.

Sir, I do not like to waste the time of the House. I desire, the Government through their appropriate agencies should inquire into this matter. If an MP talks on telecom and his phone is tapped, if an MP raises an issue and he is threatened by the organised Mafia, everybody knows it then it will be very difficult for the Members of Parliament to discharge their obligations here.

I think, this matter should be taken up and inquired into. I am grateful to the hon. Speaker for allowing me to raise it in the House. I have sent a copy of my letter to all the concerned.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Sir, this is a matter of serious concern — I am sure, the Members of the Treasury Benches and the Government also will appreciate the gravity of the situation — if the Chief Whip of the principal Opposition, for having raised the issues relating to telecom, could be threatened in this fashion. Sir, the Government also should make a statement, and the Chair should come to the rescue and have the entire matter inquired into. At this rate, none of us can raise our voices in this House.

[Translation]

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Dasmunsi ji has raised a very serious issue. It creates a big hurdle in the freedom and functioning of Members of Parliament. The matter should be taken seriously. If Member belonging to any political party is threatened in this manner for having raised the issues in the House and is restrained from doing his work, I think it is a serious blow to this House and to our democracy. The Government should conduct a probe into the matter and persons involved should be punished stringently...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Balia, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi is a very serious one. Government and especially you Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, should take it with the same seriousness. Government should order an inquiry into the matter. It has happened not for the first time. A very peculiar situation has come up in the country that pressures are mounted by the big industrial houses. There was a family in 1968 which used to mount pressure and there was another family doing so in decade of 70. However, these days another industrial house has emerged which pressurise the Government, the House and even the financial institutions. Everybody feel helpless against him. Attention should be paid towards the point raised by Shri Dasmunsi because it seems that our political life, our Parliamentary conventions are being controlled by a few people. I would like to request the

Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to discuss the issue with hon. Prime Minister and Home Minister. I do not know how the matter will be investigated but the issue raised by Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi does not pertain to him only rather it is the question of future of the nation and the question of Parliamentary convention...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Shri Chandrdashekhar and Shri Malhotraji have put forth their views on the issue raised by Shri Priyaranjan Dasmunsi. The matter should be taken up seriously. An hon. Member has a privilege to discharge his duties. Why a Member is being threatened while discharging his duties. It was happened in 1993 also. You were also a Member of the House. I was threatened for raising an issue of electing a big industrialist as M.D. by making fake members. Even my car was chased up to the gate of Parliament House. Investigations were held in this regard. I had raised the issue of privilege. Why such things are happenings? I request the Government to take the matter seriously, so that the matter could be resolved and Member are not pressurised by the industrial houses in performing their Parliamentary duties. Not only the probe should be conducted but hon. Members should have the full freedom to raise any issue. If such pressures will continue to be mounted on the Government, how the Parliamentary democracy will survive in the country. It would be impossible for the Members to discharge their duties properly.

It is not a question of the Government only but it relates to the entire House. I have heard hon'ble Chandrasekharji, he is a highly respected person. The House too, should consider it. I would like to submit that it is a very important matter for the House. My submission is that since it is not a question of any party or any individual, therefore, the entire House should sit together and discuss it. The House should take it seriously....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN alias PAPPU YADAV (Purnea): Let us not play into the hands of capitalists. Members should not become tools in the hands of capitalists....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Pappu Yadavji, you comment on everything.

[English]

DR. S. VENUGOPAL (Adilabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi is a very senior Member of this House. He has explained how he received threats up to 3 a.m. last night, and how he had requested the Prime Minister and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, after receiving the packet, the hon. Member has handed over it to the hon. Speaker.

We request the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and also the hon. Prime Minister to kindly immediately intervene in the matter and enquire about it. The full protection should be given to the hon. Member, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, to his son and all the other family members. It is a very serious issue and we all the Members associate with it.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the issue raised by the hon. Member, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi is a very serious and sensitive one. The person behind the scene should be brought to book. The House should give full protection to Shri Das Munsi and his family members.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, before you react, I would say that you must have seen the sentiments expressed by the House. Such incidents will be a direct threat to the fabric of our democracy. The threat given to his son and also the entire family may kindly be taken serious note of. Whatever appropriate inquiry the Government intends to do, that can be done. But I would like the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to react to this.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi has raised this issue today though yesterday night itself. He had written a letter to the Lok Sabha Speaker about the incident immediately after the incident took place. Late in the night he despatched a copy of that letter to me also so that I could take action on it. As Shri Chandasekharji has said that we raise a point in the House according to our intellect and discretion which we feel is appropriate, over which we hold discussion in the House. It is the fundamental right of a Member of Parliament to raise any issue in the House which he feels is appropriate. It may benefit some and harm others. Whatever Shri Dasmunsiji said here must be based on his information. Consequently, someone has threatened him and his family. I, on my behalf, and on behalf of the

[Shri Pramod Mahajan]

Government, agree with the concern expressed by the House over this issue. If any person affected by our discussion in the House threatens us, then, an impatient and aggressive M.P., may take up the cudgels with him and if an M.P. feels scared then it may affect this freedom of thought and expression. So it is a very serious issue from the point of view of functioning of the Parliament and its freedom of speech and expression because the Constitution provides that whatever we speak here cannot be challenged in any court of law. Freedom of speech is our fundamental right bestowed upon us by our Constitution. If anyone challenges it outside the House or tries to prevent us from discharging our duty, it is condemnable and we should resist such attempts. Priya Ranjan ji has handed over all relevant documents to hon'ble Speaker. He has reported to the matter to the police also. Just now, Shri Chandrasekhar has asked him to meet the hon'ble Prime Minister and the Home Mjnister and he has suggested to provide a security cover for his family, I want to assure him that without waiting for dispatch of documents from the hon'ble Speaker, I would myself collect all the documents from him. I would myself handover the letter of Shri Dasmunsi to the hon'ble Home Minister and request him that this matter may be thoroughly investigated so that no Member of Parliament faces such sort of problem in future. We will contact the Government of West Bengal, keeping in view, the gravity of threat to his family, and take precautionary measures.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, untimely rain has caused great loss to farmers. Adequate number of procurement centres have not been opened by the Government. The farmer going to these centres for selling wheat is either bringing his wheat back or. . .*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): It would be convenient for the Members if an announcement is made about the time when there would be voting on the Budget.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Have a little patience.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Sir, the FCI has not opened the required number of procurement centres and I feel that it is being done deliberately to put farmers in trouble. In place of Minimum Support Price of Rs. 610 per quintal, the farmers are compelled to sell their wheat to the middlemen or commission agent at just Rs. 500, 550 or 560 per quintal. In fact, neither the Government have opened adequate procurement centres nor has it godowns for storage of grants. The Government do not intend to procure. It is a very serious matter. Farmers cultivated wheat through hard labour. Marriage season is on, and during season the farmer repays his loan. The farmers are victimised from all sides. The Government is deliberately harassing the farmers. I urge upon the Government to open adequate number of procurement centres and make cash payment to farmers and provide immediate protection to them.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have also given a notice on this subject.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, he has given a notice on this subject.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, the Government of India declared MSP of Rs. 610 per quintal for wheat quite late. Agricultural production cost is increasing constantly because of the wrong policies of the Government. Increase in price of fertilizers, diesel, petrol and kerosene have led to increase in production cost, whereas the Government did not declare remunerative price in comparison to cost. Though the Government declared minimum support price but it has not made proper arrangements for procurement in any State of India including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh so far. Consequently the farmers are compelled to sell their wheat through middlemen at Rs. 500, 510 per quintal. In case of Kharif crop also, the Government had declared support price of paddy at Rs. 510 per quintal but the farmers were compelled to sell it at Rs. 350 per quintal through middlemen. Wrong policies of the Government caused great loss to farmers and now even in Rabi season the farmers are again suffering great losses in the absence of fixation of remunerative price of wheat. Therefore, the farmer is not only worried, but is uncertain also about his future. Agriculture is facing a new sort of crisis. Under constant pressure from WTO, every year the Government keeps reducing agriculture subsidy. The countries, under whose pressure our Government is reducing subsidy, provide maximum subsidy to their agriculture sectors. Countries like Amenca, Canada, Japan or other European countries provide maximum subsidy to agriculture whereas the Government of India is gradually reducing subsidy thereby increasing production cost. Today, the Government do not have more than 20 per cent storage capacity in comparison to production. The Government even if it desire, cannot store the entire produce. Now, there is only one way out to

save the farmer and that is to provide additional subsidy on the price of agricultural inputs thereby reducing production cost. Until and unless the farmers are provided additional subsidy and production cost is brought down and production increased, the farmer of the country cannot face world level competitions. Therefore, today, through this House, I urge upon the Government to make arrangements, for procurement or wheat at support price to save Indian agriculture besides formulating a new agriculture policy and provide as much subsidy to our farmers as is being given in other countries.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Why is the Government sitting pretty on an issue concerning farmers?...*(Interruptions)* The Government is a mute spectator...*(Interruptions)* The Government expresses its opinion on other issues but does not bother about issues relating to the farmers....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Raghuvansh Prasad ji, he is speaking on the same issues.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you want to ask anything, you too, would get a chance. You know, you are required to give a notice for this purpose.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Miryalguda): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (Chhapra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what sort of words hon'ble Member is using. He speaks whatever he likes...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, you may leave it to me. I will take care of it.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to Shri Jaipal Reddy.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I completely agree with the views expressed by my hon. colleagues in regard to the unprecedented plight in which the farmers are finding themselves. May I further say that what they have said is not only true of wheat, but it is also equally true of paddy? I myself visited the market-yard in my own Constituency, Miryalguda. While the support price is Rs. 540 for paddy, the price getting secured by the farmer in the market is around Rs. 440 or Rs. 450. This is much less than what it was just six months back. The Rabi crop is just now arriving.

May I also tell you that the price of land in my area in the last one year has come down by more than 40 per cent? This is a very serious problem. I think, the Government should take a very serious view of this matter. As has been mentioned, the subsidy in the developed countries is getting retained, if not increased, while this Government — my friend Shri Yashwant Sinha who likes my phrase of fiscal terrorism — is out to cut down the subsidy. This year, of course, he paid it for urea. But the fact remains that the subsidies on farmers are getting reduced, while minimum support price is not being made available. When we all became Members of Parliament just one-and-a-half years ago, the price available for paddy in the market at that time was Rs. 700. Today, they are getting even much less, although the costs of diesel, fertiliser and all other inputs have gone up considerably. This is the situation which we all of us need to the take note of.

I am sure that there is an agreement in the House across the spectrum, across all parties. I am sure, the Members of the ruling party will be in total agreement with me. I think, the Government must announce a package of emergey measures in regard to this.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Shri Akhilesh ji raised a very important issue relating to the farmers. As I had said, problems of farmers have increased manifold in recent past. Therefore, the Union Government, State Government and all political parties should come together to find a way out as farmers are the backbone of our economy. I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Agriculture Minister, Finance Mnister and the Minister for Consumer Affairs who are present in the House, and have been listening to all this, towards this issue.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Shri Shanta Kumar ji's attention also.

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I have called his name also. I would like to draw his attention also. At least Shri Jaipal Reddy liked the decision taken by the Government regarding urea and thus I am grateful to him. In case of urea once or twice our Government hiked the price but rolled back later on. But the party to which he has switched over raised price innumerable times which I am unable to count. Still he has agreed to consider it if there is a consensus.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, until and unless we provide additional subsidy to farmers, we cannot solve their problems.

12.54 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, 2001

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up item no. 12, Finance Bill, 2001. If the House agrees, we may allot five hours for all the three stages of the Finance Bill. That is, four hours for the general discussion on this, half-an-hour for clause by clause consideration and another half-an-hour for the third reading stage of the Bill. Voting may begin at 5 p.m.

Now, the Finance Minister.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Swai Madhopur): Sir, I had raised an issue relating to sale of nine girls in Rajasthan...*(Interruptions)* Sir, it is a very serious matter that nine girls have been sold....*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Let us begin discussion on Budget now we would take it up tomorrow.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We have already gone to the next item.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while moving the Finance Bill for consideration, with your permission, I would like to say a few words.

In my Budget proposals, I had announced several major changes in the taxation structure and procedures. On the excise side, I had introduced a single rate of CENVAT that applies to most of the commodities. I rationalised the regime of special excise duties. On direct taxes, I have maintained the stability of rates. These proposals have been widely acclaimed by the trade and industry. I have, however, also received representations and suggestions from different quarters with regard to a few aspects fo changes that I introduced in the excise and customs duty structure. Many hon. members have also written to me. I express my gratitude for their suggestions and advice.

Sir, on careful consideration of all aspects, I propose to announce a few modifications in my Budget proposals.

12.56 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

Regarding indirect taxes, I had proposed to impose 16 per cent excise duty on branded readymade garments and accessories. It has been argued that restriction of the levy to branded garments and accessories alone would cause distortions and manipulations. Taking these arguments into account, I propose that all garments, branded or unbranded, would be subjected to excise duty at 16 per cent. However, clothing accessories, raincoats and undergarments will be exempt from the new levy. The small scale excise duty exemption scheme would be applicable to garments also. The modified scheme will be effective from 1st May, 2001.

The House will recall that I had proposed an ad-valorem structure of excise duty for independent textile processors. While some have welcomed the abolition of chamber-based duty, some others have pleaded for its restoration. I am convinced that an ad-valorem duty regime is to be preferred to compounded levy system. However, I have received strong representations that the smaller processing houses are yet to prepare themselves fully to meet the threat of competition and to absorb new technology. I am not inclined to restore the chamber-based duty for all independent textile processors. However, processors whose investment on plant and machinery does not exceed Rs. 3 crore would be allowed the option to pay duty on chamber basis. The rate of monthly payment for those who exercise this option would be increased by Rs. 50,000 in each of the two pre-Budget slabs. No abatement for closure of a stenter or removal of a chamber would be allowed. This change will be effective from 1.5.2001.

I also propose to exempt footwear made exclusively of plastic materials and of retail sale price up to Rs. 125 per pair from the nominal excise levy of four per cent ad-valorem that I had proposed in the Budget.

13.00 hrs.

In my budget proposals, I had announced that the ball and roller bearings shall not be eligible to the scheme of SSI exemption. As a special dispensation I propose to exempt units producing ball and roller bearings upto Rs. 25 lakhs per annum from excise duty. This will help tiny units. This new scheme will be operational from 1.5.2001.

To encourage indigenous shipping companies to acquire new ships, it is proposed to abolish the 5 per cent customs duty on ships that was introduced in this budget.

The customs duty on metcoke is proposed to be reduced to 5 per cent on actual user basis to steel plants to help improve their viability.

The concessional rate of duty of 55 per cent for the import of crude palm oil by sick vanaspati units was proposed in the budget. It is proposed to abolish the concessional rate of duty with a view to avoid discrimination.

The CVD of 16 per cent on 12 critical items of textile machinery including shuttleless looms is proposed to be abolished in order to promote capital investment and modernisation of textile mills.

The House may recall that in my budget proposals, I had proposed to increase the basic customs duty on second hand cars and two-wheelers to 105 per cent. My colleague, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, has suggested that in a similar manner the apprehensions of imports of Completely Built Units of cars and two-wheelers need to be addressed. Taking this into account, I propose to increase the basic customs duty on CBUs of cars and two-wheelers from 35 per cent to 60 per cent.

In my budget proposals I had proposed to reduce the customs duty on telecom equipment from 25 per cent to 15 per cent. However, the duty on parts and components was retained at 15 per cent. I am informed that equalising the duty rates would affect the domestic telecom equipment to their substantial disadvantage. In order to prevent the loss of production of this segment, I propose to reduce the customs duty on specified parts of telecom equipment other than Populated Printed Circuit Boards to five per cent.

As a fillip to the IT industry, I propose to add 32 specified items in the list of machines and equipment that are allowed to be imported at a low rate of five per cent basic customs duty.

Changes in excise and customs duties mentioned above, except a few that are effective from 1.5.2001, will come into force tomorrow. Copies of notifications will be laid on the Table of the House in due course of time. These changes do not have any appreciable revenue implications and are broadly revenue neutral.

Coming to Direct Taxes, Sir, after considering the various representations received from different quarters, I also propose to make some changes in my proposals relating to direct taxes.

Under the existing provisions, the exporters are required to pay tax on 40 per cent of their income for the current year, the percentage increasing to 60 per cent, 80 per cent and 100 per cent for the next three years. Keeping in view the difficulties of these taxpayers, I propose to re-phase the withdrawal provisions through backloading. For the current financial year, they will now be taxed to the extent of 30 per cent of their profits and the percentage of their taxable income will increase to 50 per cent, 70 per cent and 100 per cent respectively for the next three years.

I also propose to modify my proposal for tax deduction at source on interest payments. The limit of TDS is being raised from Rs. 2500 earlier proposed, to Rs. 5000.

In the Finance Bill, I had proposed a reduction in the limit of deduction of interest income under section 80L from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 9,000. To provide further relief to the taxpayers, I propose to revise the limit to Rs. 12,000. The additional deduction will be with regard to interest on government securities.

At present for salaried taxpayers, standard deduction up to Rs. 25,000 is available for persons having income up to Rs. 1 lakh and up to Rs. 20,000 for persons having income from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh. In order to give relief to salary earners, I propose to raise the limit of Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 which will now be available for income up to Rs. 1,50,000. For persons having income from Rs. 1,50,000 to Rs. 3,00,000, the limit is being raised from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000. Those having the income from Rs. 3 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh will continue to enjoy the existing deduction of Rs. 20,000. While this would result in a revenue loss of about Rs. 1000 crore,

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

it would concomitantly lead to additional retention of income in the hands of the assessees in this class to the same extent.

While introducing the Finance Bill, I had proposed two dates for filing of returns — 31st July for non-corporates and 31st October for corporates. I now propose that the due dates for filing of returns in respect of non-corporate taxpayers whose accounts are to be statutorily audited will also be 31st October, in line with the due date for corporates.

The funds enjoying exemption under section 10(23C) are proposed to be put at par with the charitable institutions claiming exemption under section 11, in respect of accumulation of their income. These funds like the charitable institutions will be allowed to accumulate 25 per cent of their income without any time limit. Accumulation of income beyond 25 per cent would be restricted to five years.

Charitable trusts and funds will be required to publish their accounts only if their annual receipts exceed Rs. 1 crore, as against the present limit of Rs. 10 lakh proposed in the Bill.

To facilitate de-mutualization and corporatisation of stock exchanges, it is proposed to provide that transfer of assets in such an arrangement shall not be liable for capital gains taxes.

Transfer pricing provisions are proposed to be modified to clarify that these regulations shall also apply to transaction between the Head Office and its branch and that adjustment made to the transfer price in the case of one enterprise shall not by itself form the basis of consequential adjustment in the case of the other enterprise.

There are also other amendments resulting in minor modifications.

Sir, with these modifications, I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2001-2002, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER: So, there are no concessions to the hon. Members.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Motion moved:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2001-2002, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur): Sir, as the time is going to be limited, with your permission, I would like to read out my speech.

The task of the Finance Minister is quite onerous. We understand his difficulties and sympathise with him. What he has done has been praised by some. But the meek and weak ones in the society have no voice. They keep quite and suffer. They have no felt very convinced about the usefulness of the budgetary provisions for them. Some have spoken about their difficulties. In the House, there would be a few members who would take cudgels on their behalf. When they give vent to their feelings and assessment, the government would do better to understand their points of view and accommodate them to the extent possible, and not to brush them aside or try to defend their own views like lawyers in the courts of law. If the views expressed by the members of other parties are accepted to the extent possible, the budget would become more acceptable to the people and the result that would come out of it would become more acceptable to the people and to all of us. Sometimes, it is done. Sometimes, it is not done. And so, the results are commensurate with what is done, and what is not done. What is proposed to be done for the development of infrastructure, for broad band network, and internet services, for power generation, transmission and distribution network, for housing, for tea industry, for scientific research in some areas, for knowledge industry, for rural electrification, for integrated handling, storage and transportation of food grains and some such other measures cannot be found fault with.

Let us hope that they may be used to increase production and productivity and not misused to manipulate the capital market. Modifications now suggested by the hon. Minister are also welcome.

The capital market should develop. Capital should become available for the development of industry trade, technology, agriculture etc. But, at times it is found that capital market is manipulated to earn unequitable profits and in the process the common man, who is not of manipulative nature, who trusts others easily, suffers and losses the savings of his life. The results of such manipulation cannot help the development of industry and trade. They sap the enthusiasm of common citizens and ultimately affect the short term and long term developmental activities and process. Those who want to

manipulate and earn do not care what happens to others. They care for their profits and gains. The Government, the Parliament and the people at large cannot neglect the common man. They have to protect him. They should not throw him to the wind blowing in the market. If they do not do it, they can be blamed for dereliction of their duties. That has really happened in the past few days. The Government should take necessary steps to remedy the situation, to protect the unsuspecting investors, and establish the true credibility to the capital market. If necessary, laws should be made and amended to strengthen SEBI and other organisations to protect the investors. The matter should be fully inquired into. A parliamentary probe can be allowed and corrective and punitive steps can be taken to remedy the situation and book and punish the manipulators and wrong doers. Let us hope that the Government may not flinch from doing its duty in this respect.

The concessions and assistance proposed to be given to the industry and trade may be expected to help the productive activity and the economy. But would they help? Would they achieve these objectives? For industrial development, the emphasis is placed on capital only. There is nothing to help the workers and the officers. The labour is not favoured in any way. The interest on their provident and pension funds is reduced.

It is proposed that enterprises that employ more than one thousand workers only would be subject to Industrial Disputes Act and not those that employ one hundred workers. The Government wants to dilute the Contract Labour Protection Act. And the Government wants to introduce such other modifications in laobur laws of the country and call these attempts as labour law reforms. We do not understand how they can be recognised as labour law reforms. They are bound to frustrate the officers and workers in the industry. By creating conditions in which the officers and workers in the productive activities become frustrated the feel disenchanted, how can the industrial development take place?

For developing industry, agriculture, services and other capabilities in the field of production, in the present times technologies of advanced nature are required. What has been provided in the budget for this propose is too little and too inadequate. Some provisions are made for helping the electronic and genetic science and technology developing activities. But what has been done is not sufficient. It is not going to help. In fact, massive efforts, large sums of money, clear planning and futuristic vision are required.

They do not appear in the design of the Government, which would not help our country to come on par with the advanced countries of the world. In this situation, we would be scared of WTO, the competition and the challenge that the globalisation flings at us. and they would not be properly faced by us. These are the reasons because of which the targets fo the rate of growth in industrial davelopment are not met and industrial development is showing signs of sluggishness.

Next, I come to development of agriculture. The fact that the agriculture in India is the mainstay of our country's economy and that, around 70 per cent of its population depends upon it, should never be forgotten. Like industry, it needs capital, new technologies, advance planning, irrigation on a massive scale, electricity, education, transport, which should not be missed. What is done in these respects through the Governmental designs and plans is not satisfacotry. Waht is the quantum of credit facility provided for the agriculturists in the country? It is in the vicinity of Rs. 50,000 crore only. Is it sufficient? Can it meet the requirements of this sector? If not, why steps are not being taken to provide it on a higher scale? The capital investment in agriculture is on sliding slope. It affects irrigation, and facilities, mostly required for agricultural development. The banks are asked to provide 18 per cent of the total loan given by them to the agriculturists. The public sector banks have given loan to the extent of 14 to 15 per cent. The private sector banks have given loans to the extent of four to six percent. The NABARD was asked to get the funds to the extent of 18 per cent from the banks and provide the same to the agriculturists. That is not done satisfactorily. Why is this aspect not studied by the Government and effective steps are not taken? Is it because those who are in the farming activity are a silent lot, unagitating, ungrumbling, given to content, and cooperative in nature? The Government wants to collect income-tax from NABARD, National Housing Bank, Small Industries Development Bank, as it does from other banks. Is it necessary? The Government has reduced the tax on the income of the lotteries. And it wants to reduce the funds available to these banks which want to help agriculturists, housing activities, and small scale industry. This approach cannot be appreciated by the people who are not strong and wealthy, to whom many concessions have been given, to which we may not object. But we are certainly sour because those who need the help most are denied the assistance and favourable planning by the Government.

Now, I come to deficit. The Government is worried about the deficit. It should be. It wants to reduce it to acceptable levels. It should do it. We cannot object to

[Shri Shivraj V. Patil]

their desire to reduce it to the acceptable level. But how does it want to do it? The means it wants to use for doing it are disinvestment, reduction of subsidies and downsizing the Government. These are the routes it wants to follow to reach at its goal of reducing the deficit. These means are discussed more than other means which can be used. While doing so, it is forgotten that it is not sufficient to rely upon them only, that it is necessary to adopt other means and methods to achieve the objective. It is forgotten that these means are of negative nature and they are not of positive nature.

It should not be forgotten that disinvestment without proper policies, the disinvestment of profit-making enterprises, the disinvestment of enterprises which are meant to provide impetus to development in other fields, not only to earn profit, cannot help, cannot reduce the deficit. But this is exactly what the Government is doing.

And so, we warn the Government, that this approach with respect to disinvestment to help some, may not be useful to many and to the economic activity in the country. Let us use the strength and capacity of the private sector to the fullest. But, let us not in the process, reduce the strength and capacity of the nation which appears to be happening because of the wrong routes followed in this respect.

The subsidies are provided to help the weaker sections in the society, to encourage the common man in many fields, to do economic and social justice. The benefits that arise out of them may not be visible in the shape of profits earned, and in such other shapes. But, they help to reduce frustration, they help to maintain law and order in the society, they help to get the citizens to join the mainstream of economic and social development. Steps to rationalise them, to see that they reach the targeted groups should be welcome. But steps which are relevant to other developed countries, and which are not in tune, with the Indian realities, need not be taken at the instance of others, who do not grasp the Indian realities. It is fortunate that these arguments appear to have been heard to some extent, and drastic plans to reduce subsidies insensitively have not been drafted and implemented. Let us hope that the common man may not be forgotten. Let us hope that the only relevant and correct policies are made and implemented in a just manner.

The downsizing has become the *mantra* of the Government which it chanted every now and then. It is good that some Members of the establishment do not fully subscribe to downsizing, and subscribe to rightsizing. We have to help those who do not have properties, those who want to live honestly, by working and earning their bread, if not butter with the sweat of their toil. If we threw them out of their jobs, we would not have done justice to them. We have enough things to do, to develop our economy and our country. They should be properly employed, and continued in jobs which are meant to help us in all respects. Instead of doing it, if we allow retrenchments, and throwing out of jobs of the employed, we would be inviting trouble for ourselves. Let us not forget this.

There are many things which can be done to reduce the deficit. The capacities which we have established in many fields are not used to the extent to which they can be used. The water in the irrigation dams is not used to the extent to which it can be used. In some cases, only 40 per cent of it is used. The power plants work at 40 to 50 per cent of their capacities in some parts of the country. Certainly they can be made to function at 60 to 80 per cent of their capacities. In some parts of the country, the theft of the power has risen to 40 to 50 per cent of its production. Certainly, that can be stopped. The projects which are in the process of being established are suffering from cost overruns and time overruns. About 200 projects are suffering from the cost overruns, to the extent of Rs. 43,000 crore. Certainly steps can be taken to reduce the cost and time overruns. The FCI suffers from huge damages to the grains stored in their godowns. We are told that the damages suffered are to the tune of 10 per cent of stocks stored. They are many such other things of this nature, which can be handled to enhance production, and to reduce the deficit. The deficit can be reduced only by producing more and in a cost and time effective manner, by using modern means of management, by enthusing the people, and by employing the advanced technologies, by entering into new areas of production and development, by having a vision which is bold, and useful. Instead of doing these things, instead of governing properly, if the Government wants to reduce the deficit by following artificial, negative means, it would not succeed.

It would sink deep in the quagmire of economic inefficiency, deficit and popular frustration of the poeple. Let the Government govern properly and jointly. The task of reducing the deficit should be done by all the Ministries and the Ministers of the Government. It cannot be done by the Finance Ministry or the Finance Minister alone. If it is done through the efforts of the Finance Ministry and the Finance Minister alone, what would be achieved would not be of lasting nature, would be very artificial, would be unjust to the weak and meek and the non-speaking

ones. Let the task of reducing the deficit be done by all the sectors in the society, by all the Governments in the country on the principles and designs suited to the country and not through borrowed principle or as per the views of others who do not know the nature of the ethos of the Indian people and the realities of the country. We may hear them, heed their views, but we should not be cowed down by their designs and plans. Individuals, shops and industries of small and big magnitude plan their development, their activities in the future to save time, energy and material that are available to them and to produce the best possible results of accpetable nature by adopting correct directions, policies and principles. The plans need not restrict the activities of the individuals, enterprises and Governments. They can give directions, they can encourage cooperation and coordination in economic activities. If planning is a must for the development of an individual, that of a shop or an industry, it is certainly a must for the development of a State or a country. Therefore, a negative attitude towards it should not be allowed to develop. It should be properly used, it should be based on modern principles and realities, but it should not be made ineffective.

In the past, Approach Papers were prepared by the establishment and discussed by the Government and the representatives of the people before they were used to make the Plans. Now they are not properly discussed by the Government also. They are not certainly discussed by the legislators. The plans were discussed by the Government and the legislatures and the people at large extensively before they were adopted and implemented. They were discussed in NDC meetings also. Now that does not appear to be happening.

The Mid-Term Appraisals of the Plan performance were also presented to the Members oof the Legislature. They were discussed. The Government could be held accountable for its non-performance or wrong performance in different fields. But that also does not happen these days. The targets fixed by the Government in Plans are not adhered to. They are reduced. The expenditure figure becomes fatter and fatter, but the achievement figures become leaner and leaner. Only a few days back, in this House we were told that the target of the Ninth Five Year Plan of producing 43,000 MW of electricity was, in the first instance, reduced to 28,000 MW and, in the second instance, it was further reduced to 20,000 MW. This is happening in all fields, whether it is in the field of irrigation or agriculture, or industry or social sector. We do not get an opportunity to discuss them in the House, which is not correct, which is counter-productive for the Government and for all of us here.

Therefore, we should discuss the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan, if not in this Session, at least in the next Session. We should discuss the Approach Paper prepared for making the Tenth Five Year Plan and the Tenth Five Year Plan itself. The discussion of this nature would hold a mirror to the Government and the country to see their performance and would help to take corrective steps in time. If we do not do that, the performance of the Government may be ismal in all fields. The rate of growth of economy may not reach the target figures in agriculture, industry, technology development, social sector and the deficit would increase and not get reduced. These are, unfortunately, not the directions, which are visible through the efforts of the Government. Therefore, all the good that is tried to be done is buried under the debris of all the misdirections, wrong policies and inactions of the establishment.

Let us, therefore, be imaginative, innovative, bold and hardworking in the field of production, just and considerate in the field of distribution and treat the mighty and weak in a manner which would help them and not get inclined only to the fortunate ones. Let us not forget that capital is necessary, but it is not only ingredient that can bring about economic and other kinds of development. Let us remember that good quality of governance and management, the new ideas and technologies and the cooperation and enthusiasm of all those who are involved in productive and other activities are needed.

Let us hope that this would be brought about, and this would be done and would happen.

I would like to make only two more points and then, I would conclude my statement on the Finance Bill.

The acrylic fibre industry is required to pay higher taxes. This is an industry that helps the common man in the country. Now, imposing the higher taxes on acrylic industry will not help those who are in the industry. I would request that this increase in the taxes on this industry should be reduced.

The last point that I want to make is that the trusts are asked to publish their accounts in the newspapers. Some modification in this respect has been suggested by the hon. Minister. But that is not sufficient. If the accounts are required to be published in the newspapers, the cost of publishing these accounts would be enormous. The very fact that the accounts are known to unscrupulous elements in the society will create problems for those who really want to use the instruments of trusts to help the society as a whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Is it about the NGOs?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The trusts are required to publish their accounts in the newspapers. Now, it is said that if the income of the trust is beyond Rs. 1 crore, they would be required to do so. Even Rs. 1 crore for a trust activity these days is not correct. The Parsee Trust and many other trusts and educational trusts have requested that this kind of requirement should not be there. A gist of it can be published. The certificate given by the auditor and things like that can be published. I think, this request from them deserves our attention and it should be accepted.

I again request that persons like those who are in the acrylic fibre industry or small-scale industry should be helped. An impression has already gone and if they are not helped, it would be strengthened that we are inclined to help those who do not really need the help. And we are not trying to help those who need the help. The acrylic industry is a small-scale industry. It helps the poor people especially those living in the villages and using the raw material there. These things should be done.

[Translation]

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Jaunpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all I express my gratitude to you since you gave me an opportunity to speak on Finance Bill 2001-2002. Prior to me, hon'ble Patilji, a senior Member of the House, who had been Speaker of this House has spoken. Before I start my speech, I would like to quote respectable Sant Trivalloor, who said that the land bears the weight of a person also who digs it. Similarly, we should bear with creative criticism and adopt a positive attitude towards that. Perhaps this is the most important aspect of this House. I treat Shri Patil's views as suggestion that we should have discussion on various issues and the atmosphere should be conducive to discussion. When Shri Patilji was the Speaker of the House, the atmosphere used to be ideal for discussion. It is true that we gather a lot through discussion. At least there should be an opportunity to have discussion on the country's Budget. I am grateful to the Members of the Congress Party who accepted the suggestion of hon'ble Speaker to do away with Impasse and have discussion on Budget. People were concerned a lot throughout the country that the discussion on Budget is not going to be held and if the Budget is passed without any debate, it would send a wrong signal to the public and how we would be able to raise our issues and hon'ble Finance Minister will not be able to hear suggestions from Members so as to carry out some amendments, if the deems necessary. But this moment is very important. Impasse in Parliament was quite unfortunate and a solution to the logjam coud be found out through intervention of the hon'ble Speaker and good sense that prevailed on Congress. And thereby we are discussing the Budget today. Alongwith the Congress party, I am grateful to you, too, since you are the custodian of the House.

When this Budget was presented by the hon'ble Finance Minister, I do not think there was any objection to this Budget from any quarter. Almost everyone praised this Budget. Not only this, this time maximum attention was paid toward a particular class the farmer, rural people and agriculture labour which had been neglected since long. But this time maximum attention has been paid towards agriculture. During Zero Hour, my colleague expressed concern regarding agro-products. Since I was born in a peasant family, and have experience in this field I understand what are the problems of a famrer? He does not produce wheat and paddy only, he produces a lot more. His source of income are fruits, vegetables and other crops cultivated by him. So far only wheat crop was treated as a produce and not other crops and the Government never bothered about it.

But, in this Budget this aspect has been considered as to how we can preserve fruits and vegetables, and make proper storage facilities for these products. For this purpose, the Government have made a provision for advancing soft loan with an element of concessions thereon. At least in case of marginal farmers, which constitute only 20 percent of farming community, who cultivate only fruits and vegetables there is a need of not only making arrangement for preserving his product but also to provide him remunerative price of his product, because these products, especially fruits and vegetables are such that these cannot be stored for long. Therefore, there is a need to make marketing arrangements of these products. In fact, the Government should procure these items and make arrangements of its marketing thorugh railways. During peak season, when these products arrive in the market, they are dam cheap whereas in other big markets they are damn cheap whereas in other big markets same items are sold at very high price. When new potato crop arrives, it fetches hardly Rs. 1 or $1^1/_2$ a kilo whereas in cities like Delhi and Mumbai, it may be sold around Rs. 10-12 a kilo. In such a situation, if arrangements can be made for transportation of such crops, I am sure even small and marginal farmers can face the challenges that come their way.

When hon'ble Finance Minister was presenting the Budget, the country was facing two great crisis. First Gujarat was devastated by an unprecedented earthquake. The entire State was badly hit. Patilji knows, what a

pitiable situation arose when Latur was hit by an earthquake. I too, accompanied by a saint had gone to Gujarat. Gujarat tragedy was more severe than this. The Government was not prepared to meet that tragedy, there was no financial arrangemnet also. In the wake of unprecedented devastation the Government imposed a surcharge of just two percent and the Government could come over the tragedy with the cooperation from the Public. People of our country deserve lot of thanks for their kind gesture who contributed open heartedly though they were poor and took the crisis as if it had befallen on them. I do not think any State or district is left in the country that did not contribute generously to overcome this crisis. Everyone contributed and faced the crisis.

And second crisis is still before us. That crisis is thrust upon us by WTO, whose seeds were sown during Tenth Lok Sabha when hon'ble Patil ji was the Speaker of the House. Today, that seed has taken the shape of a tree. It has come before us a challenge today. First of April, 2001 is the day of great challenge for us. This day may be a day of crisis for us, at the same time it may turn out to be a day of blessing. We know that restriction have been lifted on imort of items consequently now foreigners would be able to sell their products in our country I know a period of six years was enough for us and we should have prepared ourselves during these six years to face the challenges of an open market. Though, Shri Patilji was concerned about it, but what the Government had been doing during that period. When we signed WTO agreement, we know that 6-8 years were still available for us to get ourselves prepared before the agreement could come into effect. In fact, though we knew it yet failed to prepare ourselves keeping our economic policies in mind and that is why we are apprehensive today. But, I am sure, that present Budget provides us enough scope for tackling all these problems.

This is true that the Government should be downsized. Unduly large size fo the Government, as Shri Patil ji has expressed his concern, increase unproductive expenditure.

We should be serious about bringing down unwanted, unproductive expenditure. On the question of bringing this wasteful expenditure down, Shri Patil ji has some reservation on retrenchment of Government staff but at the same time, it would have been more effective if he had suggested some other way out. But he is in favour of cutting down expenditure. I would like to say that it is our misfortune that after independence. We treat Government service as the only employment. Service is not an employment. In Eastern-Uttar Pradesh, the area I hail from, there was a poet named Ghagh in a village called Gawain, who had said that.

[Translation]

He had said — "Uttam Kheti, Madhyam Baan, Nishidh Chakri, Bheekh Nidan". i.e. the best occupation is agriculture, second is trade and the third is service, but this country considers service as its main occupation. All persons engaged in Cultivation, or trade, or industrial activities, or running cottage industries have gone into one job, i.e., services. We leaders belong to villages. We are born and brought up in rural areas and have been elected from rural areas. Today, people in villages are not willing to engage themselves in farming. Infact agriculture is a sort of Industry, they also have a highly fertile land, but they do not cultivate it.

It is very unfortunate that people after attaining more and more education, deviated from the path of conventional industries and proceeded towards services, that too either of a Babu (Clerk) or, a teacher in a school, or peon etc. and considered this their livelihood. Infact this can be livelihood for a person, but can prove to be baneful for nation as a whole. But the service should not be taken as a synonym of employment. Hon. Patil ji was saying the same thing right now, perhaps he considers service as a synonym of employment. I want to say that the time has come when the people should change their definition of employment and prepare themselves accordingly. The Government's responsibility is not to ensure prosperity of the nation. Though Government can extend its co-operation in the prosperity of the country, but they are not almighty God that they can eliminate poverty from the country with surety. Poverty of the country can be eliminated only when every person of the country makes his own effort at his own level. Only then we would be able to lessen our dependence on services.

As the recruitment in the Government Services decreases gradually, so would the problem of employment lessen and people would go in the direction of productivity. The decision not retrenchment by the Government, in order to reduce the Government expenditure by lessening the number of Government Services would kindle Purusharth i.e., diligence, industriousness and a zeal of the country to explore new occupations amongst the people. Patil ji is one of the learned persons not only in this House, but all-over the country. We all know that 'Dharma' (duty), 'arth' (pecuniary benefits), 'Kama' (sexual contentment) and 'Moksha' (attaining salvation) together constitute 'Purusharth' (A hard working person). Arth (Pecuniary benefits) is one component of 'Purusharth. Arth is not wage for obtaining Purusharth, it is one of the components of Purusharth. And in order to obtain it, one needs to enlighten himself to the fact that why one can

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not earn his livelihood himself. Can't we look after and support our family through natural resources. If we had given importance to 'Purusharth', we would not have been lacking in water ponds in the country. Today, big rivers are being converted into ponds, it is really surprising. Ponds are getting dried, and colonies are being developed in their place. Ponds are becoming colonies and rivers are becoming ponds. When all such things are being made, then I wonder how shall we obtain water through dams. We need to recharge the natural resources of the earth. It is the same country where planting of trees was considered to be a philanthropic act. Today, even after launching a drive of tree plantation, we have not been successful in our goal. What is the reason, whether a petty work of planting trees or exploiting the natural resources do not come in the parameters of 'Purusharth', we used to call this land 'Mata' (mother). It has been asserted in our ancient Vedas- "Putro aham mata Prithvi, putro aham prithviah", meaning thereby, we all are sons of this earth. Even today there are a few people, who get up in the morning and worship the earth further it is said — samudre varunah name Parvataste mandalah, Vishnupatiyau namah namaste. If we had considered the earth, our mother, we would have never exploited its natural resources, but we would have grown vegetation in order to make the natural resources prosperous.

Recently, one of my friends was talking about urea. I don't think that subsidy on urea is beneficial for the farmers, rather it is ten percent beneficial for the farmers and 90 percent for the people running urea industries. Why don't we encourage biological fertilisers, i.e., manure. It we had done so, then not only the fertility of land, or its productivity would have increased, but new non conventional energy sources would also have been developed. But we paid no heed towards this direction and remained dependent upon the conventional energy sources. An initiative has been taken, a Path has been paved and I do not want to praise all that with closed eyes, but with open eyes, i.e., in my full consciousness and I know that the facts in them have made a direction in which we shall have to take some during steps in order to over come the economic crisis prevailing in our country as also faced by the entire world. I know that India is a very prosperous market, its desire and potential for development still persist. But, we may hand over this potential to some MNC, which may then exploit our needs and requirements, would definitely never happen. We shall have to make a parallel arrangement and it is only agriculture through which we can obstruct their path, and there is no other way. We can develop in the fields of trade or industry, when our agricultural sector will flourish and the farmers of this country will become independent.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the area I represent consists of 372 such villages, which leaving aside metalled roads do not have access to any kuchha path even people walk for miles to reach there. Now you can think well that even after 53 years of independence, there are no paths for access to these villages. I am thankful to hon. Prime Minister and hon. Finance Minister for having given some consideration in this direction. Now it has been understood that a road plays very important role in developing the infrastructure facilities. Pradhamantri Gram Sadak Yojana (Prime Minister Rural Road Scheme) has been made for village comprising a population of one thousand people as also a few village comprising a population of only 500 people, infact this would be a revolutionary step. This would not only provide employment to the unemployed, but the farmers would be able to take their product to mandis as well, which is a need of the times.

We are really unfortunate that the basic problem of drinking water still persists here. We have not been able to provide mere drinking water to our people. Therefore, we shall have to give priority to provide drinking water vis-a-vis irrigation facility and shall also have to maintain the water level beneath the earth.

Moreover, arrangements have been made to store rainwater and provision in the Budget for all these purposes has also been made. Arrangements have been made to make water potable and tap every source, be it rain water or water beneath the earth for irrigation and drinking purposes.

Likewise be it, higher education or secondary education, or agricultural labourers of any unorganised sector, all aspects have been conisdered in it. Due consideration for the first time has been given to higher education, which would facilitate those brilliant students who used to strive for scholarship for higher education. Today, if they wish, they can get upto Rs. 15 lakh as loan and can repay it when they undertake some job, or profession, or occupation. If they want to study in the country, they can get 7.5 lakh rupees and infact no security has been fixed for them for taking loan upto Rs. 4 lakh. Similarly in secondary education, it has been proposed to give Rs. 100 per month as assistance to the children belonging to middle class and poor families. This would definitely bring sea change in the field of education and brilliant students would come forward as they would get opportunities to study. Till date, the labourers in unorganised sectors were working in big factories, where unions fought for their rights, but relief has been given to those agricultural labourers also who work in field and sometimes do not even get bread due

to rains or thunder storm etc. and thus become a victim of starvation. It has also been decided that these labourers working for so many years would get a pension of Rs. 100 per month after the age of 60 years.

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(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

Similarly, proposal has been made with regard to empowering the women. A woman is an aura which is full of energy. And this energy has continuously been ignored. We could not understand this great soul, but now this Budget has provided for various schemes which would be for the benefit of the women. Women of this country would definitely get power and would come forward in development of this country. In this Budget we would utilise all the preparation, will-power, and resolutions made to combat the challenges of World Trade Organisation. We shall have to curb all challenges of the World Trade Organisation and would not let our country get affected by it. Special arrangements have been made for matters related to Patent rights. One Directorate has been set up for this purpose which would check that some one else may not usurp the patent rights of products exclusively produced in India. We are aware of the initiative taken by the Government of India in the field of Information technology. We can understand this through an illustration. Ten years back the share of India in this trade was merely 15 crore rupees, but today, this share has increased upto 6000 crore rupees. Now the share accounts for 6 arab rupees. This is not a small achievement. Hon. Finance Minister has achieved success in controlling the fiscal deficit, today we have a huge amount of foreign exchange and have become independent in foodgrains. This has not occurred all of a sudden, but is the result of a plan, resolution, an outlook and a deep understanding and if the House adopt a liberal attitude and we proceed with a sensible approach, then India in the future, can not only become independent, but can trend on the path of greater development because we all know that border areas of our country are in quite a tensed situation. You can see that not ony the western frontier, but now even the frontiers are facing the same disturbances. I feel that this is being viewed separately, may be internationalisaton of Taiwan is taking place or the Talamini conspiracy is making a headway in the entire Indian borders. Bangladesh border has also become disturbed. If the budgetary allocation for defence of the country is not increased, then it would not be possible to maintain the morale of our soldiers deployed there and would also not be able to provide them with necessary arms and resources.

Alongwith this, the hon. Prime Minister, with regard to scientific achievements, had said- "Jai Vigyan (Encouragement to scientific achievements) should also be added alongwith 'Jai Jawan' 'Jai Kisan, a slogan which had earlier been given by Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. A long time has passed, but no work was undertaken in this field, but after our hon. Prime Minister came to power, a lot of difference can be seen and today, we are playing an important role in space science, we have become sixth power in the world. India has achieved success in space science and nuclear science. But I wish that keeping the provisions of the Budget in view attention of the scientists should be diverted towards increasing the agricultural products, cottage industries and small industries and conservation of irrigation resources and natural resources in the country. If we undertake work in this field then this would definitely enable India to successfully combat the challenges before it. If hon. Finance Minister successfully maintains the fiscal deficit, then I am sure that he would also be successful in reducing it in future. If he maintain this resolution, then he would definitely be successful in this.

With these words, I would conclude by saying my last point. All this money and resources have been given to us by the almighty God. If we make an honest approach towards the resources given to us by God, then we would never be lacking in anything, as no one has an exclusive right on money. It belongs to the God only — "Ishawasyamidam Sarwam yatkinchit Jagatyam Jagat, Tein Tyakten Bhunjitha Ma Gridhah Kasyaswid Dhanam". Money does not belong to anyone and also should not belong to anyone. An amount worth 110 crores dollars of India is increasing in the banks of foreign countries. It is really surprising. Money belongs to India, but is deposited in other foriegn countries, what is this? This is exclusively India's property. Rajaprath born in the Raghuvansha, has once said- "yaawatmriyate Jatharam Tatsatvan Hidehinam" i.e., a person should have a right only on the amount which caters to his hunger and not more than that. It is very unfortunate for a country to where so much of honest approach has been made towards the pecuniary aspect in the past and which now has become corrupt from economic point of view. We should, therefore, make a resolution for economic morality, economic spirtualism and economic resolution. Manu had asserted — "Praatrotthaya Arth Kamayanu Chintayate" meaning thereby — where on the one hand we should deliberate upon religion in the morning. We should vis-a-vis deliberate upon our finances also. Infact deliberation on economic apsect has not been made in our country and that is why we are suffering. If we would have resorted to morality and honesty, a situation of theft and

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corruption would not have been created in the country and we would not have doubled each other. If today, we create an environment of honesty and morality, then we shall definitely make our country independent in every aspect. With these words, I extend my thanks to you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI SUBODH ROY (Bhagalpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am sorry to say that I cannot support the Finance Bill-2001-2002 from any quarter because this Bill is anti people, anti-farmer and anti-labourers. This Bill has been drafted on the dictate of the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the multinational corporations. Though apparently, this Bill has a blanket of the beautiful and ever appealing concepts of globalisation, liberalisation and privatisation, yet it is like a den picher filled with

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poison from inside. Farmers, labourers, craftsmen, the people belonging to scheduled caste and scheduled tribe section of society comprise that community of India which has always made sacrifices for the country. All these persons have realised that this budget has nothing to offer except inflation, hunger and starvation unemployment and an all pervading atmosphere of discontent and disappointment. Why this government is not in a position to clarify its position in regard to presenting such a budget? Why the farmers are committing suicides? Till when these poor farmers and weavers will continue to commit suicide. Crores of unemployed youth who listened to the speech delivered by hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee from the ramparts of the red fort with passion and hope in their eyes are still without any means of earning their livelihood. The hon. Finance Minister has prepared a budget which has such draconion provison that the factory owners of the factories employing less then one thousand workers can throw out any worker out of job at his will. What a policy of 'Hire and fire' it is! The youth who had voted for BJP and NDA government in the previous election, have now started to blame themselves for doing so. The couplet "Hamdard Samjha tha jise, wahi apana dushman Nikla' is very apt in this regard. The very party and the government on which they had possessed their hopes and reposed in faith proved to be the biggest traitor. The virtual flood of series of scams like Tehlaka, share scam, reliance scam etc have confirmed that this government has even surpassed the Congress government regime of 45 years in the matter of corruption. This government has shown so much affinity for corruption and scams that it is accepting with ease everything including the evil of bribery rampant at such a large scale. The government with its eyes wide open is a mute spectator to the phenomenon.

Sir, now all the people have started to feel that the Budget of the Government of India is not meant for crores of poor, weavers and poor farmers but has been drafted keeping in view the interests of big capitalists, industrialists and corporators. Hence they have been given a rebate to the tune of 5500 crores but the interest rate on small savings has been reduced. Waht a big blow this has dealt to the poors. How much symapthy this budget has in sotre for the poor is evident from the fact that the systems which used to feed millions of poor persons is now being dismantled. Today, the State governments have been entrusted with the responsibility of procuring foodgrains from the farmers. The plight of the farmers became evident by the way all the parties took their stand supporting their cause. The condition of the farmers have gone from bad to worse in Bihar, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and several other States but this budget has nothing to offer for them so as to prevent their suicide spree. A lot of fraud takes place while the farmers receive loans from the banks. Big traders exploit them and their lifelong earnings come to a naught for they do not get any price for their crop.

Millions of our agriculture workers remain idle for many a months in the year. How can their condition improve in such a scenario? Their womenfolk are forced to live a life full of humiliation and contempt. How will their condition improve? This budget has no answer to all these burning questions. Hence I am of the view that the Budget is not in the interest of the common man.

Sir, the discussion on disinvestment had also taken place yesterday in the House and I have heard all the views expressed in this regard from time to time. A deep rooted conspiracy has been hatched by forcing to close down our swadeshi factories and industries which were a symbol of our self reliance and national pride. Today, the same industries have bowed out of the competition in front of big multinational companies which have expanded their network in the country after India signed the GATT agreement and became a member of WTO regime. The doors of the country have been opened wide for everything foreign in the name of new exim policy owing to which our industries in rural areas are being ruined. The place of yesterday's prosperity in villages has been taken by poverty, destitute, lawlessness, disorder and chaos. The rising stream of terrorism, crimes and failure of law and order has made it amply clear that if investment are not increased in rural sector and the steps are not taken to improve the condition of the agriculture labourers, weavers and farmers, the day will not be far off when the entire country will be in flames. Merely constructing high rise buildings in metropolitan cities like

Delhi and Mumbai is not going to help remove poverty and hunger from our country. The need of the hour was to make arrangement for providing food and shelter to the millions of hungry and homeless and to secure the future for their coming generation but the government have been gone one step ahead of Changhez Khan and Nardirshah in commiting atrocities on and commiting mayhem against the poor. Never before such a doom of inhuman atrocities and crueelty has taken place in independent India which has been taking place in the metropolitan, city like Delhi. The Finance Minister claims that the poverty has decreased but the wrong figures about the number of poors are being presented. The policy of the government borders on not implementing the poverty alleviation programmes in an effective manner, not to mobilise resources to fight the problems like poverty and hunger and not taking care of the interests of the workers employed in big industries. This government is obsessed with the concept of disinvestment and privatisation which are nothing but the means to worsen the condition of the millions of poor people of the country. This is the policy of doom adopted by this government. This is not the path country's development, prosperity and self reliance.

It has been said that the government did an outstanding job in combating the earthquake crisis in Gujarat. This was also discussed in the House. If you look at the entire proceedings, you will come to know the reality. Approximately 300-400 crores rupees were sent to the Prime Minister" Relief Fund by crores of people including the poor persons like rickshaw pullers, field workers, workers in kilns and our womenfolk. Though even the foreigners extended their help in this regard, yet we are begging for more where have we lost our respect and self esteem.

A catarrophic situation arose in Bihar due to floods and lakhs of persons were ruined due to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, though the hon. Union Minister visited Bhagalpur and other flood affected areas yet he did not announce to provide a relief of even a single pie. Same is the situation in West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. The current drought situation in Rajasthan and the response of the Union Government to tackle it reveals that the policy of the government is anti people and anti-poor. This government is not one to provide relief during emergency. This Government is a symbol of insensitivity, cruelity and apathy.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say in the last that though I used to think that the era of cruelty and insensitivity is over, but the regime of present government has proved that the rule of BJP is even more inhuman and full of atrocities against the common man. It reminds me of the couplet.

"Jise hum dost samjhe the, woh dushman nikla,

Jis par Rahber ka yakeen tha, woh Rahajan nikla.

With this, I conclude.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Finance Bill, 2001.

There are many good things in the Bill and the hon. Finance Minister was hailed by all sections of the people saying that it is a progressive Budget and a step towards eliminating poverty and other maladies.

I a not going to repeat all those things that have been stated in the Budget speech. However, there are certain measures that have been taken in the Budget, which proved to be very momentous, but for a very short duration. It is because later on, we have seen scam in the capital market and also the fall of the rupee that we have not seen before. There was a crash in the share market and we have also seen that some of the small investors have committed suicide. We were not able to protect the small investors and we were not able to protect the downfall of rupee. These are some of the things that we experienced immediately after the presentation of the Budget.

In our country, two-thirds of the population depends on agriculture and only one-third of the population is otherwise engaged. This is the duty of the Government to protect the majority of the people of this country who are poor. We have also seen that agricultural produce has come down to 199 million tonnes this year, compared to 209 million tonnes in the previous year.

Why has this happened? We have to do some soul search on this. Why is the productivity coming down? Why is there no market for the produce that our farmers are producing? Where is the deficiency? Is the deficiency not in our public distribution system? On the one hand, we say there is surplus and, on the other, there are starvation deaths. The godowns are full, but the poor people's stomachs are empty. This has to be sorted out. We have to take steps for this. Many people have applauded the Prime Minister's *Antyodaya Anna Yojana* launched in 1999. This is a very good programme. But it is not enough. It should reach the poor people. The godowns have to be made empty. We have to distribute

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

the foodgrains. If we do not distribute the majority of the stocks that are piling up in our godowns, later we have to throw them out in the sea. The FCI's stocks should be distributed on first-come-first-serve basis. But we are not distributing the foodgrains. There are no godowns and we are storing the foodgrains outside the godowns. Let that be distributed to those who are ready to take them because everybody is not prepared to take that rice and wheat. The *Antyodaya Anna Yojana* should be implemented vigorously with the help of the States. The public distribution system is run by the State Governments. But at the Centre, we have a Minister for public distribution System. We have a Civil Supplies Minister. He has to monitor the programmes. We have to work together. The Centre and the States should not blame each other. Unless we work together and unless the stocks are removed, there will be no improvement. Everyday we are raising this issue in the House. The Members from Northern States say that wheat is not being sufficient procured, and the Members from Southern States say that more rice has to be procured. These stocks have to go to the right people for consumption. We have to improve the consuption. When compared to neighbouring countries our per capita consumption is much less. Certainly, the poverty that we are estimating is far lower in figures than the physical presence. This has to be rectified. Some steps have to be taken for this.

Now, I come to fiscal deficit. One of the root casues for this country's maladies is the fiscal deficit. We are not able to control it.The Fiannce Minister says that it is five per cent, but the States also have five per cent fiscal deficit. So, both together, today the fiscal deficit is ten per cent. The hon. Finance Minister himself had stated that the most serious problem concerning this economy is the poor state of fiscal health, both at the Centre and in the States. This is a confessional statement. Corrective steps have to be taken. Otherwise, the problem will become more serious. With the rupee depleting, our foreign debt burden will be much more. It is a cause of concern. How can we get rid of foreign debt burden? We are not able to increase the agricultural production, but majority of the population is involved in agriculture. we are not able to buy their produce. These two problems together are leading our country to a dangerous situation.

Coming to WTO, time and again we are talking about these problems. Now, the Quantitative Restrictions have been removed. Anything can come to our country, right from chicken legs to rice and wheat. Unless we control the situation and unless we make proper inroads into the system, we may be landing in a difficult situation. Anxiety has been shown in the first meeting at Prague and in the second meeting at Seattle. After the 13th Lok Sabha was constituted, our representatives also attended the meeting in Seattle. They were not allowed to come out of the meeting hall by the demonstrators stating that WTO is a weapon for the developed countries and that it is not in favour of developing countries. They expressed concern about that. Very recently, a meeting of countries belonging to American continent was held in Quebec, Canada. There was a large gathering of the poor people in Quebec. They said that all these developed countries want to ride on the developing countries. This is a caution and our people will be suffering much unless the Government takes certain corrective steps regarding the inflow of goods and commodities.

Merely increasing the customs duty alone will not be sufficient. In certain things, if need be, we have to resort to anti-dumping measures also.

Our colleague, Shri Shivraj Patil, has given another example of acrylic fibre. Duty on the raw material, that is the acrylic fibre is higher than the customs duty on the manufactured acrylic cloth. Is it not strange? The duties are much higher on the raw materials than on the finished products produced by our artisans....*(Interruptions)* I have been given only seven minutes. I need another five minutes. We are discussing an important subject. I hope you will allow me to continue...*(Interruptions)* So, this has to be checked up.

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (Thane): Is anybody taking cognisance of the points the Member is raising? He has raised very essential points. I do not think anybody is serious about the suggestions given by the hon. Members in the House.

[Translation]

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am noting that.

[English]

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: If the Government turn a deaf ear to my suggestions, it is for them to decide.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government is not serious about budget.

[English]

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Sir, the youth in this country are disillusioned.

Everywhere we talk of down sizing. We should not down size. But we should size it rightly. It is because right sizing is more important so that more and more youth of this country could get employment. The Government, instead of reducing the retirement age, has increased it thereby creating more and more older people. The youth are becoming much more older and older without getting a job. Everywhere, there is frustration. Even after attaining the age of 35 years, many people are not married because there are no jobs for them. In one way, it is good as we can control the population. But we are not able to do that also. The population of this country has touched more than a billion mark. So, how youth will be taken into confidence. They are the future of this country. This country's wealth is its youth. We have to see that they are properly engaged in some productive activity. The Government says that it will reduce unemployment. But what about the measures for that. How are they going to be employed? Is it not the duty of the Government to see that these millions and millions of youth are employed productively? The Government should take some corrective steps in this regard also. As regard deficit financing, unless a thrift is maintained by the Government in bringing down the cost of so many things, we may not have the necessary funds.

Sir, I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for reducing the dividend tax to 10 per cent. But he should remove it totally. It is a measure to create more capital. You are taxing at the company's level and you are again taxing at the individual level by way of income tax.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: It is not taxed at the level of individual. It is only one time tax at the corporate level.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: I am referring to income tax.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: That is what I am clarifying. When that income travels to the individual, it is free of tax in his hands.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: I would suggest that it should be totally removed so that more capital could be available for investment and the companies will be induced to give more and more dividend. That dividend will be available for re-investment.

As regards interest rates, the hon. Minister has rightly reduced the interest rates on savings. But at the same time, the Government should also think of reducing the interest rates on the borrowings also so that our products could become competitive. Today, we say that we have to compete globally. But we are charging 14 per cent interest. He has reduced it by one and a half per cent. We welcome it. But unless it is further reduced, our products cannot compete in the international market. We are feeling difficulty in export. We are not even able to export agricultural products. It is because the cost of agricultural crop is also high. There should be a comprehensive insurance for the agricultural products. The NABARD and other institutions should be given a free hand to give credit liberally at a much lower rate to the farmers.

Today, the farmers are not having Kisan Cards. Everybody can have a Kisan Card. Those who are having land, should be provided with kisan Cards. Then only the majority of the population would be able to enjoy the measures of this Government. Otherwise, it will be very difficult for them.

Now, I come to BALCO. They have been caught doing insider trading. We must have transparency at our end also. You should select such a party which is having integrity. That party has been caught for insider trading to boost up shares. It made money. They wanted to invest that money. Ultimately, the Government will earn bad name.

I would request the hon. Finance Minister to take all these suggestions into consideration. We are with him always on any progressive step that is being taken by him. With these words, I support the Finance Bill, 2001.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to participate in the debate on the finance bill 2001-2001. India is predominantly an agrarian country. The soul of India lives in her villages. The budget of a Government is the economic document of that Government. The economic document of this Government, presented by the hon. Minister does not present any effective solution to the ill effects, the challenges posed by the globalisation and economic liberalisation. In his budget, hon. Minister seems to have forgotten the fact that 75 out of 100 people of this country live in villages. He does not even think of villages. The Hon. Minister of Finance has not introduced any novel idea, but he has only presented the old philosophy of this Government in his budget. Sir, it is a matter of serious concern that his Government is compromising the economic interests of this country through its policy of disinvestment and by selling the

[Kunwar Akhilesh Singh]

national assets worth millions and billions of rupees at peanuts. The Government talks of giving jobs to the youth but their budget clearly shows that they are trying to downsize job opportunities. The entire House will have to rise above party lines and find out a way to meet the challenges of World Trade Organisation in the this age of liberalisation and globalisation. With regard to that, I think that we would not be able to put our country on the right track unless we are able to strike a balance between our revenues and expenditure. We have to monitor our income and expenditure. We also have to take hard decisions to reduce the expendiutre accruing on the administrators and higher officials posted in the districts as well as the capital, Delhi. Hard decisions are also needed with regard to excessive spendings on the Ministers of the Union as well as States. Frankly, I would also say that we, the Members of Parliament will also have to become role models by reducing our own expenditure. When the country was facing the foodgrains crisis and the threat perception was looming large on the borders, too, the then Prime Minister Late Lal Bahadur Shastri had given the slogan of Jai Jawan Jai Kisan. He had exhorted to the people to observe fast of one day in a week in order to face the foodgrains crisis. His slogan was adopted and followed in toto by the people, because there was no difference in what he said and what he did. As long as there is difference in the word and deed of the Government, we would not be able to honestly implement our policies and plans. Therefore, what we need today is to take initiative and become an example worth emulation while implementing rules and guidelines. First of all, you have to act as a role model. Do they know the expenditure incurred on the Central Secretariat per day? If that expenditure can be reduced by just 10 percent, a huge amount can be saved. With the money thus saved, we can develop a new half of such a big State as Uttar Pradesh. We won't be able to put the economy of our country on the right track, unless we invest in productive activities. It is a matter of concern that we are reducing investment on productive Sector and increasing it in unproductive sectors. You will have to think over it and take hard decisions. Economic liberalisation and globalisation are posing grave challenges to our farmers. We are continuously withdrawing the concessions given to the agriculture sector under pressure from the developed countries with a view to get more loans. It results in our farmers getting left behind in the world market. Other countries such as U.S.A., Japan, Canada or the European countries are providing so many concessions to their agriculture sector that their cost of production is going down and because of huge investment, the production is increasing. When the cost of production is falling, and production is increasing, naturally the product will be cheaper. During the last budget session, the prices of fertilizers, diesel, Kerosene oil and manures were increased on the plea of making good the fiscal deficit. I don't know whether the deficit was controlled or not but I do know that this measure has increased the cost of production for the farmers and the increase in support price of wheat and paddy is not adequate to square it up.

I want to say clearly that no Government, whether it be of Sonia Gandhi ji, or of Mulayam Singh Yadav ji or of Atal ji, will be able to store all the produce of the farmers. So what is needed is that we should also give protection to our farmers in the same manner as developed countries are promoting the interests of their farmers in the world market competitions by reducing their cost of production through giving them concessions and subsidies. If the farmers are not given protection, they can't be saved from destruction. Today, the farmers of the country are forced to commit suicide. Farmer has to take loans but he is not able to clear his debt with the help of his produce as he is not able to raise the required money by selling off his produce. I humbly seek to remind the hon. Minister of Finance that the hon. Prime Minister had called upon the farmers to promote horticulture.

Hon. Chinmayanand Swami had also stressed the need to focus our attention on horticulture in place of wheat and paddy. Wheat and paddy are relatively non-perishable items and of the Government is not able to procure and store them will will they be able to store fruits and vegetables, which are highly perishable, once the farmers switch over to horticulture. Fruits get spoiled in two three days while vegetables get spoiled in 24-36 hours. If proper arrangements for their storage are not made the condition of farmers can only be imagined. At present the farmers are able to sell of their produce at Rs. 4.50 or 5.25 against the support price fixed at Rs. 6 per kg and get back what he had invested or may be a little less. But once they switch over to horticulture they won't even be able to get back their investment, therefore, before going for any new option first you shall have to ensure that Government is able to protect farmers once they go in for increasing the production of fruits and vegetables.

Recently what happened to potato is known to all. Potato is relatively non-perishable item and when the Government was not able to protect this item, then we will have to think how will it protect other vegetables. Same is the condition of onions, we will have to adopt a clear cut policy with regard to agriculture. The farmers of the country producing oilseeds have to face fresh

challenges from foreign products as import of palm oil is continuing from Indonesia and Malaysia. We used to grow oil seeds as crop but at present the condition of oilseed cultivators is pitiable.

Therefore I request that subsidy to the agriculture sector will have to be increased by saving money from expenditure on administrators and on military. We also have to keep in mind the theory of demand and supply Chinmayanand Swami ji was saying that fruits and vegetables are cheaper in villages than in Delhi. If the supply fo these items is inceased in Delhi, their rates would go down and not even the transportation cost would be recovered. Therefore, the farmers would be benefitted only when a clear cut system is put in place for the areas having surplus production and the areas having inadequate production.

Sir, I want to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance. You have freed the stock market from the clutches of brokers but this step was taken very late. Action has still not been taken against the people like Shankar Sharma and the bear cartel. It ought to have been taken by now. The hon. Minister, will succeed in his aims only when he will implement his policies properly. Shri B.P. Verma is the living example of how customs officials indulge in corruption at the borders, at the airports etc. I want to say that customs officials indulge in corruption everywhere be it India-Nepal border or the airports, the traders are harassed and discouraged. They are compelled to do things improperly and then bribe is extracted from them. You will have to curb such activities. This will results in more honesty in the business world and it will be more convenient for them. It will be a great achievement. We have heard of Tehelka. Com in defence deals. It is not new, taking of commission has already been proved in Bofors gun deal. If only the money of commission in defence deals is saved, then I say frankly, we can reconstruct smaller States such as Kerala. Corruption is increasing in our society. It is a matter of concern. To remove this problem we have to take hard steps and hard decisions. I don't want to go into the controversy, but I just want to say that the country is passing through economic crisis and to get over it you will have to take hard decisions and you will also have to think about giving economic facilities to lower and downtrodden sections of our society.

Sir, various States are implementing schemes under RIDF with the assistance of NABARD. If you review such schemes, you will come to know about the extent of misuse of funds. Effective steps should be taken to stop that. You don't take measures on the plea that centre's job is to provide funds and not to interfere in their work. If you review the implementation of such schemes anywhere, be it in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, or any other State, the true picture will emerge. I want to tell you that PWD in Uttar Pradesh is spending Rs. 10 lakh for constructing one KM length of roads. Please set up a Parliamentary Committee to probe it. I challenge you that the same work can be done in private sector at an expenditure of Rs. 7 lakh. If I am proved wrong, I am ready to resign my seat. I tell you, that funds are being looted in the name of development. It has to be controlled and money thus saved will have to be invested in other works. You are giving funds directly to voluntary organisations, but just a few of them are doing good work. There are many such organisations which are misusing the money given by the Government of India. Justice with the country can only be done if severe action is taken against the corrupt and the people who are misusing the public money.

Sir, I would like to conclude after making one more point. They have not made adequate provisions in the budget to protect the farmers. Outstanding dues against the capitalist houses of the country run into billions and trillions of rupees. They are not taking steps to recover that amount. On the other hand, if there is a due of even Rs. One-two or five thousand against our farmers, the tehsil Amil lodges them in a dirty cell emitting foul smell which is not fit even for keeping an animal. The animals, if kept there, will break loose and break away. They will have to part with this biased mentality. They will have to keep in view the circumstances under which the farmer is not able to pay his debt. I want to say in clear terms, that the way the farmer is forced to commit suicide under pressure of debt and to cultivate land even after suffering losses, there is only one way out and that is their debt should be waived off. Besides, their cost of production should be lowered by giving subsidy to them. But I feel that they will not incorporate farmer friendly provisions in your budget under the pressure of World Trade Organisation and multinational companies. They have not incorporated them as yet and they do not plan to do so. Therefore I strongly oppose this Finance Bill.

[English]

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE (Thane): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am standing in support of the Finance Bill, 2001. The Finance Minister is the guardian of the country's economic well being. The Finance Minister has looked at the Budget not just as an annual routine, it is a report card on accountability and lays down the agenda for future. This Budget has a vision as well as surgical

[Shri Prakash Paranjpe]

implementation, which is a rare combination. Though, we are supporting the Budget, we are putting forth certain suggestions, and I am quite hopeful that our Minister will try to adopt the same in his final speech.

I was just studying the Budget of Malaysia. The drastic changes in their taxation policy have changed their economic rate of their poverty to extremity. You will be surprised to know that they have adopted a number of measures for changes, but I am only narrating one out of that. The Malaysian Government declared 1999 as tax-free and also said that there will be no corporate tax and no income tax for one year. You will be surprised to know that because ofthis measure, their poverty line which was 17 1 per cent in 1990, has come down to only six per cent.

The income tax was introduced in 1961. Since then, 1,132 amendments have taken place. I am of the opinion as to why we should not try like Malaysia — abolish the income tax for two years, take a general survey and make the tax more simplified. Can we introduce tax on expenditure instead fo tax on income? We introduced tax on income. If I change the range, I am trying to avoid my extra income to avoid tax. Tax on expenditure will definitely earn more revenue. Take a pause for two years on income tax, survey the income tax totally, you will be surprised to know that even the Department was not aware that they have made 1,132 amendments. That means, an average of 30 amendments every year, which the department is not aware; nor the CAs in many place are aware. How will the taxpayer know about it? So, my view is that reducing the tax rate will not reduce the revenue. Make the tax more simplified so that a common man will understand as to why he is paying, as to how he is paying and as to when he has to pay.

I hope that you will understsand the importance, and I request your department to really learn, to study the Malaysian Budgets of 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 to know as to what measures and drastic changes they have recommended to improve their economy.

We have mentioned some important points. I your speech, you have already given cognisance to that. I am very much thankful to you that you have withdrawn the five per cent customs duty on shipping industry.

But you have left out one thing. The concerned Minister has requested you in this regard. All the transporting equipment gave got depreciation to the tune of 40 to 50 per cent, but in shipping industry it is only 25 per cent. I would be very much thankful to you if you could make the depreciation in the shipping industry also to the level of 40 or 45 per cent.

Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister, as far as the tax on processing units in concerned. There is a number of processing units located in my constituency. I had personally gone and seen their functioning. Two years back, the Finance Minister did not wish to have a *danda raj*, and introduced a tax on chamber basis. Now, after two years, you are again going back to the old system. You have stated in your speech that wherever the chamber is worth Rs. Three crore, they can pay the tax on chamber basis, but he has forgotten one thing here or his department has not brought to his notice, the advantages of the system which he had introduced in 1998. When it was a tax on chamber basis, it was corruption-free, there was zero litigation and not even a single show-cause-notice was issued in two years. There was a reduction of tax for collecting, there was a tax incentive for higher production, the levy was fixed and there was a saving of power and oil resulting in foreign exchange savings. There were no other hassles and there were fresh investments to the extent of Rs. 2,000 crore in these two years.

Sir, the Finance Minister would be surprised to know that there was an increase in the income tax collection because of this taxation system and in Surat alone, the collection of income tax has increased to the tune of 31 per cent. I would request the Finance Minister to extend this facility of chamber base excise duty for a further period of two years. I am quite sure that the NDA Government would be ruling for the balance period of four years and, he, in person, would be our Finance Minister for the balance period of four years also. I hope that a person of his nature, who would be continuing as the Finance Minister for a further period of four years, would understand our problem and do justice. I would, once again, request him to extend this facility for a further period of two years. I would request him to get the benefits received by the Department of Revenue and then come to a final decision. I would be very much thankful to him, if he could extend this facility for two more years.

Sir, I now turn to tax deducted at source. It was deducted on interest received on savings, if it was above Rs. 10,000. I was reduced to Rs. 2,500 and in his speech he has said that he has now increased it to Rs. 5,000. But due to the Voluntary Retirement Scheme, a number of people are taking retirments and tax is deducted at source when they get the retirement benefit under VRS. This money is then kept in the bank, but he would be deducting tax again at the rate of 10 per cent on the

interest received on this amount. So, he is taxing those people twice, once when they get their retirement benefits and again when they deposit that money in the bank. So, it is the demand of my party and of all the people that the previous system, of tax deducted at source on interest on savings, if it is above Rs. 10,000, should be continued.

Sir, the NPA of banks is Rs. 58,000 crore now and I have written a letter to you about two months back. After every two years, the Finance Minister is offering VDS and encouraging the people to convert their black money into white money and giving them some concessions. I would like to submit that out of Rs. 58,000 crore of NPA, about 40 per cent is interest over interest and the principal amount is hardly Rs. 35,000 crore. I would like to know whether the Finance Minister will be able to bring a scheme whereby all the people who have got loans can pay for one year, simple interest before 30th September in any form, either in white money or in cash or in gold and the Department of Income Tax will not question them from where they brought this money to refund the loan. By introducing such a scheme, I am quite hopeful that the loan recovery would be quite faster and effective.

I would like to give a suggestion to the Finance Minister regarding imposition of a fresh tax, as he is giving ample concessions to agriculture and food processing industry. Why can he not impose a tax on vacant land? The people should be made either to grow or build on vacant land and keeping vacant land should be made a crime. The vacant land should be taxed as much as possible so that the people would be forced to grow or build on such vacant lands.

I have already given him some suggestions regarding Rule 173 (b) on excise and on appointment of a panel of auditors for SSI units.

15.00 hrs.

The SSI units have to keep their accounts for four or five years. The Excise officials will go any time and ask them to dig out their accounts, and they will say, "These are the mistakes you have made. Now, you have to pay the tax with penalty." After four years, if you are asking the SSI man to pay tax with penalty, the entire profit that he has earned will go only in penalty. So, can you have a panel of auditors just like a panel of lawyers so that the accounts will be audited within one year? If any mistakes are there, then these should be rectified within one year. I have also written a letter to you three months back, but unfortunately, I have not heard anything from you.

This Section 173(b) says that the person who is manufacuturing the goods, has to declare what he is going to manufacture. As per the classification, the Excise people have to inform him at what rate he has to pay the tax. But for months and years together, he is not informed at what rate he has to pay the tax. After one or two years, the Excise people will tell him that on such-and-such item he was to pay 18 per cent whereas he has paid only 12 per cent, so, he has to pay the difference of six per cent tax with hundred per cent penalty. Can you not make a rule for declaration under Section 173(b) so that within 15 days, the Excise people must inform the manufacturer at what rate he has to pay the tax? This is an administrative change. I hope a person of your nature will understand what I want to say.

For the last four years, any Government coming to power always talks of interests of minorities. In the House of 540 Members, we 24 MPs are in minority. The lowest number of voters in a constituency is 37,000. An MP representing that constituency gets Rs. 2 crore. The highest number of voters in Outer Delhi is 28,30,000. In my constituency, the number of voters is 27,70,000. I also get Rs. 2 crore.

For the last three years, I have been writing to everybody, including the Speaker, the Minister of Finance and other Ministers concerned. But what has happened? Only my letters have been brought from one Department to the other Department. May I request you to have some more money based on the number of voters? I have given a chart also: for voters up to 15 lakh, the amount could be Rs. 2 crore; between 15 to 20 lakh, the amount could be Rs. 3 crore, between 20 to 25 lakh it could be Rs. 4 crore and for a constituency having 25 lakh voters and above, the amount could be Rs. 5 crore.

Only 24 MPs are representing constituencies having voters above 15 lakh. So, we are in minority. Can I expect justice from you so that these 24 minority MPs will be given some extra money for development? You will be happy to note that I have spent 70 per cent of my funds in the rural area. Yesterday only, I got a message from my Collector. The entire school building in the rural area was to be constructed for Rs. 24 lakh. He has given the sanction. I will be thankful to you if you can give justice to we 24 MPs by increasing the amount under the 'MPLAD'.

[Shri Prakash Paranjpe]

Lastly, I want to say that in this Budget, you have given advantages and encouragement to the agriculture sector and industries allied with agriculture. The people are quite happy. I repeat again about 10 per cent tax to be deducted at source. Earlier, the limit was Rs. 10,000. It is my personal request and also that of my party to restore that limit up to Rs. 10,000 only.

[Translation]

KUMARI MAYAWATI (Akbarpur): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, the budget presented by hon. Finance Minister reflects the Manuvadi mentality of the Government. While formulating the budget, the interests of all sections of the society have not been taken into consideration. The Budget has been formulated keeping in view the interests of some special sections of society and some special areas. Special interest has not been shown towards the economic development of crores of people belonging to Bahujan Samaj-Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribe, other backward classes, religious minorities, Sikhs, Parasis, Christians and Buddhist etc. which comprise 85 per cent of our population.

15.06 hrs.

(DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA *in the Chair*)

The schemes which have been presented in the Budget for economic upliftment of these sections are very old and are obsolete. Not a single new scheme has been evolved in this budget for their development. A large portion of our population has been ignored in respect of economic development. And these sections of our society are worst affected with poverty. Concrete steps have not been taken by the Government to remove the poverty and special steps have not been taken to remove the unemployment though Government have accepted in economic survey that unemployment has been increased in the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Government had made a commitment in the National Agenda that one crore people will be provided employment every year but I think that Government have failed to fulfil that commitment. Government have failed to generate employment opportunities in other sectors except that of Information Technology. Unemployment is increasing in the country and, as a result, the crimes are also increasing on a large scale. Unable to get the jobs and down with poverty, people are compelled to adopt wrong path for their livelihood. As a result of which crimes increase on a large scale and Government spend crores of rupees to curb them.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think poverty can be removed and crimes can only be checked if Government provide more funds to generate employment.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, no interest has been shown in the budget for the development of rural areas. If our villages are not developed, it will affect 75-80 per cent people of our country. I know the actual condition of rural areas as I hail from rural background. Rural Development Schemes formulated by the Government do not reach there. Also the funds for these schemes are not allocated in proportion to the population, consequently rural people could not get the benefit of these schemes. Small funds allocated in the budget for rural development could not be used for this purpose. Therefore, my submission is that Government should pay more attention towards the development of rural areas and more funds should be allocated in Budget for this purpose. It will be in the interest of the country.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, no special arrangements have been made in the budget for women, child development and youth welfare. It has been stated in the Budget that Government expenses will be reduced. My party is also in its favour, but the way losses are incurring in every sector, even this claim will not be achieved. It has been mentioned in the budget that the number of Central Government employees will be reduced by 2 per cent annually. Besides budget also proposed to make reduction in pension and reducing rate of interest. LTC has been banned for two years, but I think it will not make any difference. LTC has been banned for Government employees for two years without considering its impact on tourism. While taking any decision one must consider both aspects of profit and loss connected with it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I appreciate some good decisions taken by the hon. Minister in this budget. Prices of cigarette, bidi and pan masala which are harmful for human health has been hiked. It is a good step. However, prices of tea and coffee has also been hiked which is not a commendable step. Increased prices of coffee may not affect the poor people because they do not prefer coffee instead they like tea. Therefore, prices of tea should not be increased as it directly affect the poor people. My submission is that Government should reconsider it.

Besides, farmers have not been given due consideration in the Budget. The provision made for agriculture sector are just opposite to the agriculture policy announced by the Ministry of Agriculture last year. No special package has been provided to the farmers. Government should pay attention towards farmers also. It

seems to me that Government did not pay attention towards the issues of national interests while formulating the budget. Government have paid more attention to disinvest the public sector. Public sector is being privatized on a large scale. My party is not against it. We have no objection if they decided to privatise any sector in the interest of the nation. Keeping in view its economic aspect and the losses while privatising any unit, the interest of those sections of the society should be taken into consideration who are not getting benefit from it because people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes are getting reservation in Government services but not in private sector. It was mentioned by me during the last session and an hon. Member has also mentioned it yesterday that such people should be provided reservation in private sector but the Government is not paying adequate attention towards it. I hope that hon. Finance Minister will think over this matter seriously and talk to Prime Minister in this regard. Privatisation in the interest of nation will be welcomed. My submission is that no arrangements have been made to provide reservation to crores of dalit, exploited and backward people in the private sector. I request the hon. Finance Minister to talk to hon. Prime Minister to provide them reservation in public sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

KUMARI MAYAWATI: Special relief has been provided to foreign companies in this budget, therefore, small scale entrepreneurs are very distressed. The Government has not shown any interest to provide incentives to small scale entrepreneurs. My submission to hon. Finance Minister is that he should consider each and every aspect of this Budget. The Government have not taken any special interest for the upliftment and development of the down-trodden communities which need it most. Such sections of the society should also be considered and any possible amendment or addition be made in this Bill.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, over five decades, successive Congress Governments had before them certain long-term objectives which were sought to be achieved by policies which were grounded in the reality of India as it was at the time of Independence, but with a vision towards which we moved decisively over the years. The mixed economy was part of it. Poverty alleviation and the challenge of dealing with poverty as a national problem was a priority. And more than anything else, the realisation that 80 per cent of our people lived in the villages, that rural India was really the India that had to be targeted, were all kept in mind when policies and programmes were drawn up. It is not a small achievement, if I may say so, in a country where more than two-thirds of the population was living in grinding poverty at the time of Independence, that over these years, we were able to get two-thirds of that population, in spite of huge population increases, to reach a level where they became part of the middle-class, and reduced the number to less than one-third, as far as poverty figures were concerned.

I am not going into many technicalities because I am not an economist like we have in the House, but I say that the economy had grown from stagnation to dynamism. The last year of the Rajiv Gandhi Government saw a GDP growth rate of 10.5 per cent. Even in the 1990s, I must say that we maintained, over that period, a growth rate of seven per cent for three consecutive years, the last years that the Congress Government was there.

The Prime Minister has spoken, the Finance Minister has spoken about their target of nine per cent growth rate to be reached, or maybe higher if the Minister wishes so, but my point is that you have not been able to cross six per cent over the last four years that you have been the Finance Minister. We are told at every point that 'whatever is going wrong is because you brought in the WTO; we are following your policy. What you started, we are continuing.' I am sorry, this is where I wish to differ to say that everything is because of WTO is also not correct. You have to have the capacity to be able to protect national interests, when you have the leverage and the leeway to be able to fix your own targets and to work accordingly. You had time till 2003, but you decided two years ahead to go ahead and close the options you had in 2001. We know that you had the opportunity to renegotiate bilaterally or otherwise the WTO Agreements which were going to affect our national interests, but in 2001, you closed your options.

Sir, also with WTO, other countries are protecting their national interests, their own national industry and particularly, subsidising agriculture. But the World Bank pundints around keep telling us, I have seen the reports, 'that subsidy on food is now outdated, we need gradually to move into the open market economy'. Survival of the fittest seems to have become the slogan today in a country where large numbers of people will not survive market competition and not be able to meet the challenge.

Sir, I do not know how much time I have, so I will try to be as brief as possible. I want to say that the

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

NDA Government came in with a promise of a "Government with a difference". There is a lot of difference, I must say. As the saying goes in the streets.

[Translation]

preach one thing, practise differently.

[English]

All your policies and programmes are opening the doors to the multinationals, to the big business houses, to investment from everywhere, while on the other hand, the slogans have all the time been *Swadeshi*, *Swadeshi*, and *Swadeshi*.

I do not wish to quote. But the rally of your own trade union, the BMS in Delhi has perhaps been a much stronger expression of anger of the people than the Congress has ever expressed in Parliament or outside. I do not wish to quote this. It is because this has appeared in *The Hindu* which is not any kind of a paper to be ignored. So, the facts must be correct. All that the president of the BMS has said is what we have been crying hoarse about all the time.

Sir, I would like to refer to the basic issues. I would like to start with down-sizing the Government. I was the Minister for Personnel for five years. We made a commitment in the National Development Council about 30 per cent reduction of higher level posts in Delhi. I am glad that the Minister of Personnel is here and, I think, she also is committed to this. But we know how it works. I would like to say that on the one hand you are talking about down-sizing the Government at Delhi, but on the other hand you are multiplying the number of Ministries and Ministers. Ministries have been divided and bifurcated in order that you may give posts and positions to all the partners of the NDA Government who have to be accommodated. The Ministers are openly saying, in Press conferences, that they have no work. There was one Minister who admitted

[Translation]

I have no work to do, I go to office and work for the Constituency and then come to the residence.

[English]

They themselves have said that they have got no work but they are just Ministers.

This is the condition of your Government that talks about down-sizing the Government. I am glad that you have talked about merging of the Ministries, reducing staff and so on. Please do it by doing away with the Ministries, that are not really necessary, and with them perhaps some Ministers as well. That would, I think set the example before you send out the people in the public sector with VRS because you are intending to down-size the establishments and because you want to send your bureaucrats home. I have no problem in that. But again, look at your double-speak. You have increased the retirement age.

[Translation]

Have extended to 60 years.

[English]

Government said that they would create about one crore jobs in a year. That is not happening.

[Translation]

Under the VRS the people are getting retired and are going to their home.

[English]

There has been neither generation of nor increase in employment. But on the other hand, I must say there have been multiplicity of regulatory bodies and post-retirement slots for retiring people. The retired bureaucrats either go as ambassadors, or they go to the WTO or to the World Bank. Their places are fixed even before they retire. I wish, you could show the same enthusiasm in closing down the Ministries and Departments that you are showing in winding up the Public Sector and the profit making undertakings. It is because the burden of multiplication in the bureaucracy is a dead weight on your shoulders, we would fully support you in your effort to down-size the bureaucracy. I for one have struggled for five years to implement the commitment we made. But I am sorry that it did not happen. I think there are many Departments and many Ministries that really are not necessary when most of the subjects of these Ministries have got transferred to the States and the States are handling them totally.

[Translation]

The Ministry of Fisheries is in Delhi. I do not know whether the Minister has even visited any area near a river or not?

[English]

But there are still Ministries like the Fisheries and the Tribal Development. I do not really understand as to what they do... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

The same thing I had asked to the Minister when he was speaking about the coastal area whether he knew anything about the coastal area?

[English]

Sir, only yesterday we had a debate on the issue of disinvestment. I would not like to go into the whole debate again. But the reply of the Minister to the debate was shocking. Being a disciplined person and as so many

other people were in front of me, I did not disturb the proceedings. The Minister was simply asked

[Translation]

What is the policy, what is your policy regarding the disinvestment, what was your reply in this regard?

[English]

The Minister said that the policy of the Government was made known in answers to questions in Parliament. Did he mean that one judge a policy of the Government from the answers a Minister gives to the Starred and Unstarred questions? Is that a reply from the Government in Parliament?

We asked for a white paper: it did not come. We asked for a Standing Committee on Disinvestment: it did not come. We do not want to criticise the Government. Let the Government tell us what the policy is. Let the policy be circulated to us and let use see it. When we asked whether the Government thinks there was any distinction among different kinds of PSUs like profit-making ones, loss-making ones, those that were taken over by the Centre, and others, the Minister said that there was no difference among them and that they are all treated equally. He said that all of them were judged on the same yardstick whether it is BALCO, Modern Foods, whether profit-making or loss-making. We asked as to what was the difference between disinvestment and privatisation. He said that there was no difference between disinvestment and privatisation. He said that unless we gave the major share to the bidder, he won't bid and so we have to tell them to come and take it all. Only then they will come and give money. Is this the way the Government of India should talk about its policy on disinvestment?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I need five minutes. Give me five minutes of my party's time please. I will not say anything irrelevant. I will finish as fast as possible. Very few women speak on the Budget anyway.

I am just saying that the public sector has played a role. You cannot just sell it off because you do not like it or because you think you have to raise money. I feel that the time has come when the Government must look at the public sector disinvestment programme with a certain amount of transparency. Let all of us be taken into confidence. Let the Government work out a consensus and work on it. Let this not be made into a matter of eternal fight between the Government and the rest. I would like that the public sector be given autonomy, professional management capacity which they were used to. Let not just *babus* be entrusted with them. Let Joint Secretaries be not sent as Chairmen of Air India.

[Translation]

Some one is transferred from one place to the other.

[English]

How can they run these professionally if they are not meant to be running these industries? We may have made the mistake and you are making the same mistake. Please professionalise the public sector and see that the units which are making profits are allowed to survive.

Coming to small scale sector, I quoting what I have quoted to the Prime Minister in a letter I wrote to him. A delegation of the small-scale industry comprising women and men called on an officer in the Ministry because they were asked to meet him. Do you know what the reply of that officer was to that delegation? He said to them, "You are anyhow dying. Why are you making a noise about it? Die gracefully." This was what a bureaucrat said to the delegation of small-scale industries. I have given the name of the officer to one of the Ministers. Is there any way out? Thousands and thousands of people are employed in this sector. Thousands and thousands of small people have invested their money in the small scale industry. You cannot tell them that because of the opening up of the economy, they should close down and go home.

I am going to give you two or three points of your Budget which have upset us. You have imposed four per cent excise on candles. Candle-makers are small people. On footwear costing less than Rs. 125 you have imposed four per cent excise.

[Translation]

Who are they who use footwear costing less than Rs. 125.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Today it has been removed.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Was removed?

[English]

I am sorry, I was not present. I am glad that you have removed it.

Fourteen items have been removed from the list of items reserved for the small-scale industry. On the other hand, excise duty on soft drinks has been brought down from 40 per cent to 32 per cent. On cars it has been brought down by eight per cent. This is done to keep the sections which are opinion-makers, happy.

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

[Translation]

They are the people who take soft drink, and who must be made pleased as they are urban people.

[English]

People involved in small-scale industry are suffering. I think the Minister has a duty to protect them by giving them the support they need.

I want to make a mention of the definition of rural industries.

[Translation]

What is the definition of the urban area.

[English]

An area with less than 20,000 people is defined as a rural area for this purpose. Women's units making, for instance, detergents in small groups do it in the rural areas. They pay no excise. But, because the population has increased in those areas and crossed 20,000 mark, they are now told that they no longer are rural based, that they have come within the municipal limits, and so that they must pay excise duty.

How can they survive in their work without paying this? Today, because the population has increased, they say, "you must pay the excise". So, the women had to close their units. It is not their fault if the population of the area has gone up and the municipality has been declared under some notification. So, I am appealing to the hon. Minister to kindly look into this aspect in order to protect the small scale women units.

Sir, as far as the workers are concerned, in regard to the Industrial Disputes Act, I must say that the hon. Minister, in his Budget Speech, is taking the decision on matters which are before the National Labour Commission. How can he do that? These issues of the Industrial Disputes Act and the Contract Labour Act are all before the National Labour Commission. But the hon. Finance Minister in his Budget Speech, has given a decision that

[Translation]

it will be amended, will be changed, thousands of workers will be rendered jobless in the industrial establishments it will not affect others.

[English]

The National Labour Commission is looking at all these issues. To add to their miseries of being sent home, he has also now reduced the interest rates on their life savings, in the provident fund.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member's time is over.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are ringing the bell and making me nervous. But my last point is about the public distribution system and food security. We struggled for years not to beg for food so that this country could be fed with the Green Revolution. But he has increased the prices of food grains for the poor in the PDS with the result, people are not able to buy them. Stocks are rotting, eaten by rats and rodents. They cannot export it, as their production cost is too high. The stocks are lying. They do not have godowns. Now, when the new crop comes what will they do? They will transfer it to the States.

[Translation]

The Govt. will disband FCI. You do the same in the States. There is no Godown in the States also. All of a sudden we can not instruct the State to prepare Godown by magic. Similar is the problem there.

[English]

They are transferring the responsibilities to them. They do not have the infrastructure or the capacity to procure. Farmers are committing suicide. No stocks are being procured.

It seems that there is a method in the madness

[Translation]

that FCI has to be closed and PDS is to be discontinued. If the confusion is created then everything will be closed.

[English]

I am speaking about the tears of the poor who will go hungry because of this mismanagement. I am not saying, "give it to the rich". Let the PDS go to the BPL families. Give to the under poverty line families. Sir, they should not wash their hands and shirk their responsibility of giving food to them.

About the food which is rotting. I would suggest that they should introduce a scheme of "food for work". They should distribute food in the drought-hit areas.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are delivering good speech but the problem is that there is voting at 5 pm and before that hon'ble Minister of Finance is to give reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The matter is related to the women.

[English]

Sir, they have chosen 650 blocks for womens empowerment. I am not aware of the programme. Two years ago, they merged all the programmes and made it the *Swarna Jayanati Programme.* But nobody knows, what is *swarana* about it, nobody knows, what is *jayanti* about it. The progrmme does not exist.

[Translation]

The guidelines have not been issued, are not being implemented, no one understand as to what is the programme. There is one new empowerment has been taken up. I am the chairperson of the Committee on Women Empowerment but I have not been consulted. There are 650 blocks of women empowerment.

[English]

Sir, can he, promise that women Members of Parliament will, at least, have one or two blocks in their constituencies selected as the pioneer blocks where we, the women Members will do something and show to them what needs to be done. Tell them to use our services as we will do something out of this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have said that I should conclude, and I shall conclude now though I have a lot of thing to say. But lastly, there is one thing which I would tell to the hon. Finance Minister. Their Economic Survey says that "in the last six years, poverty has come down in the country by an astounding 10 per cent — from 37 per cent to 27 per cent".

You have said the same in your Budget speech:

"Poverty has fallen from 36 per cent in 1993-94 to 26 per cent or less now."

This is some magic! But the Minister of Finance has not read the key given in *The Economic Survey* document, which is very important. I am quoting from pages 193-194 of your own document:

"The NDA Government has changed the methodology of estimating poverty ratio. In consequence, because of the changes in the methodology of data collection, these estimates may not be comparable to the earlier estimates of poverty."

When your own survey says that the methodology has changed and you cannot compare, you have said that it has come down. I would therefore request the hon. Minister of Finance to clarify this point. Poverty has not come down as you have claimed justifying why your investment has gone down. I think, it is not proper to mislead the country in your Budget speech when your own *Economic Survey* gives the key explanation that the methodologies are different.

I thank you for your patience Sir and I hope that the hon. Minister would look at the problems of the weaker sections and protect them.

15.42 hrs.

[Translation]

(SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA *in the Chair*)

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria): Madam, the discussion on the Money Bill is being held in the House and it is very important discussion but it should not be evaluated in isolation. Each year's budget is a milestone. I would like to tell that there is a ray of hope in the fifth or fourth budget that has been presented by the hon. Finance Minister. When the Minister of Finance was to present the Budget in the House on 28 February, there were so many apprehensions in the minds of the people regarding the outcome of the budget. The hon. Minister had two options before him. One was to present a bold and progressive budget incorporating all opportunities and the second was to present a defensive budget in which the Government would shield itself by way of increasing the taxes. I remember when the Minister of Finance, after finishing the part "a" of the budget and at the beginning of part 'b' had remarked — 'Let me drink water then I will wipe my seat as after this many people will sweat'. But the budget that was presented thereafter was a pleasant surprise to almost all section of society. I would like to tell that whether it is farmer, or businessmen or industrialist or the housewives everyone praised the budget. I would also like to quote the 'Economic Times' in this regard which is, of course, not a paper of Bhartiya Janta Party. It wrote —

[English]

"Shotgun Sinha-II Fires Round-II Reforms".

[Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi]

[English]

I am not saying this as a commendation to the Minister of Finance. I am talking of ten years and round II reform. I am talking in that context where each year's budget is considered as the milestone. I would like to congratulate the Finance Minister that he has provided relief to all in the budget whether it is market, or the personal tax payees or the agriculture sector. It is being said that the rural sector and the agriculture sector have not been taken care of in the Budget. I am of the opinion that out of the total gross domestic products Rs. 1,16,314 crore come from the revenue which is 4.7 percent of the gross domestic products. This deficit will probably increase in the States.

As per the target of the budget projections, there should be increase in the revenue and more and more people should get employment. Just now Margaret Alvaji told that job opportunities are shrinking but I will talk about it later on. You had told that there should be simplification of the system and the honest tax payers should be honoured. There were few points that you had said. I would like to say that these things are happening. Only the tax payers are not being honoured in the country as it should have been. Even now, income tax officers treat tax payers as the criminal. The number of tax payers has increased from one crore to 23 crore. For this I would like to congratulate you once again, however, I feel that the existing number of tax payers may increase to five crore in one-two years if the campaign to give proper respect to the tax payers is launch and tax payers should be considered a respected person of our society as the Indians are hunger of respect. You should contrivive some way and means to honour them. Only the increase in the revenue cannot be its sole objectives, rather there are other objectives of it but especially the increase in the revenue is also an important objective in itself which can be achieved through several ways. I feel that India is an agricultural country where rural economy is very important so unless there is speedy development of rural and agricultural sector, the country can not develop. It is our misfortune that many of our Finance Ministers are the products of Harvard. I am not against it, however, their approach is that our country will progress only when the trade increases. I absolutely disagree with it because if there is shortfall in our agricultural production our trade will be severely affected by it and we may not progress at all. I do not understand why people are criticising the budget as in my opinion if there is anything conspicuous in the budget, it is this that much importance has been given to the agriculture. I think that Rs. 64 thousand crore have been allocated to the farm sector. The Minister of Finance had told about the credit card and had assured that within three years, every farmer will be given a credit card and along with it the farmers will also be insured. The farmers feel uneasy when it comes to insurance so it will be good if they are covered under the insurance along with the credit card.

Madam, one can criticise the Prime Minister's rural road scheme under which Rs. 2500 crore have been allocated for the rural road construction, but I feel that in no budget in the past, such a big amount has been released by the Centre as yet for the development of rural areas. Just now, Mani Shanker ji asked as to where is that amount and where has it been spent? What is the present position? It is not the expenditure that is important in everything. It is not feasible to allocate Rs. 2500 crore at a time to any one and to make claim that we have done our duty. It takes some time in the allocation of funds and its actual utilisation in the field. My submission is that even if it is taking some more time but the scheme should be implemented in a matured way because Rs. 2500 crore is a big amount which should be utilised properly for the rural development. So you should not worry for that.

As far the issue of electrification of 80 thousand villages are concerned, how can we oppose this scheme. I do not hold the view that the earlier Government did not do anything. But if any village remains unelectrified even after 2001 then it is really a matter of shame for we leaders. In our own country some parts are progressing very fast while some other areas are not progressing with that pace. China and some other countries are also facing the same problem but right now, we will have to take care of such situation and will have to take some measures to remove this inequality.

The position of food grains and our economy has improved to some extent but further improvement is required in this regard. The Government is severely criticised for this. The price rise of the onion topples the Government of Delhi and if the price of potatoes fall people start crying that the farmers are committing suicide.

There is no proper recovery in the field of banking and keeping in view the ground reality in this regard, there is need to strengthen the system.

The issue of Swadeshi and Videshi are often discussed here but it is not proper for them to criticise 'Videshi' approach who, infact, had opened the door for the foreign companies.

The employment generation does not mean only the Government services. Even if the trade of the fruit

increases in the villages then it is also a part of the employment generation. I have firm belief that there is better prospect of employment generation in the field of agriculture and small scale industries. It is not possible to provide that much of employment in the Government sector.

I had a lot to say about the disinvestment and the privatisation but there is lack of time, so I would like to submit that the present budget is good that has been welcomed by all and it will be better if the budget is passed unanimously.

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Madam, the discussion is being held in the House on the budget and I rise to express my view on the budget. I blame the hon. Minister because he has violated propriety. Prior to the budget presentation, he had time and again announced that the taxes on the companies and the individuals would not be reduced so the black money increased and I blame the hon. Minister for this. I would like to cite one example in this regard where 40 year back the Minister of Finance of England had violated the norm.

Once, prior to presenting the budget in the House, the Finance Minister, Mr. Huge Dalton told the reporter of the Evening Star, who was smoking cigarette that today he might smoke as many cigarettes as he could because from next day that would be costlier. Having heard this, the reporter at once went to his office and reported in the paper that the tax on the tobacco was going to be increased and the cigarette would be costlier. The Minister had to resign on account of this as he had leaked the budget. Following this tradition, our Finance Minister should also resign.

The Minister of Finance had promised to provide Rs. 10 thousand crore for the revival of sick units but only Rs. 250 crore were allocated. In the event of disinvestment of the public sector undertaking big business houses purchase the shares that further increase the loss of the company. Presently, almost all the profit making industries have been disinvested and loss making industries stand closed. It is not proper.

The Government of India had given counter guarantee to Enron. The financial condition of the Maharashtra Government is in bad shape. The consumers would have to pay for electricity at the rate of Rs. 7.75 per unit. You should nullify your agreement with Enron.

Recently, it was published in the newspaper that the big business houses have praised the budget but today the farmers, workers and the tribal people are starving. The Minister of Finance did not think about them. Just now, one hon. Member was praising the budget, however, I do not find anything worth praising in the budget. The poor people continued to become poorer and rich people become richer. So I condemn the budget in strongest term. I demand that the hon. Minister should resign.

16.00 hrs.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Madam, I would like to express my views in brief and would like that the hon. Minister should remove my doubts regarding the budget while making reply to the questions. It is commendable that the hon. Finance Minister has made efforts to provide several benefits to the farmers like the insurance of the farmers and removing the dearth of capital for the farmers and has also made a provision of Rs. 78 crore in the budget for the loan for cold storage. But the attention has not been paid to the basic needs of the farmers as it should have been done. More and more priority should be given to the economic growth in the budget. It is the main concern about the budget. There is no mention of any long term scheme for protecting the farmer from drought and the flood. No special attention has been paid towards this that the farmers may get the remunerative price to their products whether it is sugarcane or wheat or paddy or oil seeds or pulses or any other commercial crops.

Madam, very little efforts have been made to discourage the imports of the agriculture products coming in the country while no apparent measures have been taken in the budget to protect the farmers from the provisions of the WTO. The first phase of 1991-2000 is over and there is no mention as to what are the future prospects in the coming second phase 2001-2010. Before this only it is mentioned that the process of liberalisation will be taken up seriously in the second phase. What has to be done? The first phase elapsed without any substantial achievement, what was done? There was a decline in the agricultural productivity. I am not telling this, rather it has been indicated in the economic survey. Since there is lack of time so I will not go in detail, however, it is a fact that the agricultural productivity has declined. Similarly, there is decline in the prices of the agricultural products. It is a fact that the farmers are not getting the remunerative prices for their products whether it is wheat, rice or sugarcane. The price of manufactured goods have increased. It is fact that we are coalition partner of the NDA Government and extending our support to them and are equally responsible for the deeds but if such things happen then history will never forgive us.

[Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav]

Madam, the price of the tractor is increasing. The prices of the agricultural equipment used by the farmers are increasing. The prices of all the manufactured goods are increasing, whether it is fertiliser or pesticides which are used by the farmers, its prices are increasing. The cost price of the agricultural products are increasing while the price of the farmers produces like wheat, sugarcane, paddy, oil seeds, pulses and commercial crops are constantly declining. The farmers are being exploited on all accounts. The tax on irrigation is increasing. The area where the irrigation facilities is not available, the farmers have to irrigate it on its own. The agricultural production of the farmers have declined which is evident. I would like to present the actual position as it will take time to give facts and figures in this regard. It is due to the poor conditions of the agriculture that agricultural labourers are migrating to the urban areas in search of job opportunities. The agriculture labourers are migrating in large number from the villages. Whether the Government have any plan to check this trend?

Madam, I would like to ask the hon. Minister of Finance whether there is any coordination between the agriculture policy and the industrial policy and what is reason of reduction in the CD ratio? I would like to explain it with the help of an example of a State. By the way I have data of CD ratio of all the States however, I would not like to take more time of the House in explaining those figures. The House must aware of the fact whether the Government is increasing the investment or decreasing the investment.

I would like to tell that the investment in Bihar is being decreased and there is only 12 per cent investment in the agriculture sector for the entire country. It is amazing. While the investment is only 12 per cent, 20 crore people are engaged in agricultural activities. It has not been stated in the budget by the hon. Minister of Finance rather it has been clarified in the Agriculture policy. 76 per cent people of the country are directly or indirectly engaged in the agriculture sector. Now the definition of the BPL has become common and it seems that attention has not been paid to this definition in the National Agriculture Policy.

Madam, just now, I was telling about the bank. The CD ratio of bank in Bihar has come down to 24 per cent only. It is a different thing that as per the guidelines of the RBI, more and more investment should be made in the remote and backward areas but that ratio has been left to 24 per cent only. Earlier, it was decided that it should be in the ratio of 60 and 40 and as per that out of the total deposit in the State, 60 per cent will be given to the State concerned but only 24 per cent was given to them. I would like to ask the hon. Finance Minister whether it will not adversely affect the people of Bihar. I feel that whether it is Bihar or any other State, its economy will be shattered.

Hon. Finance Minister has rightly stated that it will be the second phase of Budget. The shadow of National Agriculture Policy is clearly visible in second phase of the Budget. I am saying this because agriculture policy has also emphasized on these points. First is that agriculture should also be given the status of industry, which will affect our conventional system of agriculture. Secondly, while giving the status of industry to agriculture, it will need a huge investment of capital for which multi-national companies will be invited and local and private investment will be reduced.

Madam, Chairperson, hon. Finance Minister hails from my State. He is a wise person. He uses his wisdom and discretion while taking decisions. Therefore, I would like to request him that investment by multinational will lead to intrusion of capitalists in agriculture sector. After independence agriculture was the only sector where capitalists could not enter and till now we were able to talk about our self-reliance and sovereignty but now it would not be possible. Now only the affects of WTO will be discussed. Whatever I am saying is based on facts. That's why I am mentioning these facts.

Madam, the third point is about technological development in the agriculture sector. The word technological development has been coined very wisely. It is a very good technique to capture the agriculture sector. Media people give emphasis on technological development in the country. However, the country has witnessed its consequences in the form of 'Tehelka'. This is the ill effect of technology development. We are not against the technology development but it should be in a right manner. The present era of information technology should be developed in such a way that there is full transparency in Government System. Why the Government feel so disturbed when such a transparency emerged before the public in Tehelka episode? A new era will emerged and a way out will have to be found to maintain the prestige, dignity and sovereignty of the country.

Madam, will multi-national companies not enter our country in the name of technological development in agriculture sector. I would have liked to speak about it in detail but there is shortage of time. I just want to say that, hon. Food Minister is present in the House. A foreign company named 'Cargil' is trying to capture the entire stock of foodgrains of our country.

I am talking about a foreign multinational company. There is shortage of time otherwise I would have discussed the manner in which foreign companies are affecting our industries...*(Interruptions)*. Leave it now. I would not speak on it here in the House, rather I would raise it in Standing Committee. I know my limits. In the above mentioned context, I would like to state that the current budget should be analysed in this perspective. The current budget emphasized only on two points. One is how to provide capital to the farmers. That means, to promote the contract system and corporate farming. There is no need to analyse it. Though a discussion has been held in detail on it and a logic will be given in this regard, but I do not want to go into that. I talk simple things as I am not an intellectual. I talk about villages. Secondly, special emphasis has been given in the budget to promote the export of agriculture commodities. How should it be compensated? It is being stated that by lifting the quantitative restriction, exports will be promoted. Export will be promoted in such a manner that our farmer will be able to compete in international market. But developed countries of the world provide so much subsidy, directly or indirectly, to the agriculture sector that our farmers can never compete in international exports. On the other side, imports are also affecting them. I would like to cite an example in this regard. At present, quantitative restriction has been lifted from 1429, sensitive commodities which include agriculture commodities textile etc. This policy was adopted in 1991 during the regime of Shri Narsimha Rao. GATT agreement was also signed at that time.

I would like to suggest the hon. Finance Minster that anti-dumping duty should be imposed in our country to protect the farmers and their produce. Arrangements should be made for close monitoring to save our country from becoming the dumping ground. Therefore, anti-dumping duty should be imposed so that our country may not be used as a dumping ground for foreign foodgrains. Countervailing duty should be imposed and effective and regular monitoring should be done so that such goods may not enter our country, which would result in losses to our farmers. At present support price for wheat has been fixed at Rs. 610 per qu. though in the international market, it has been fixed at Rs. 400—450 per qu. It will not have much effect. Therefore, some special provisions or some safety provisions should be brought for the protection of farmers. I want to say this because just now he has mentioned that import duty on Soyabeen in 45 per cent. As per the ceiling fixed by WTO, import duty has to be fixed at 45 per cent. In case of other commodities, import duty has been fixed, 80-90 and even at 170 also, but in case of Soyabeen, bound restriction of WTO had to be observed. Even though there is an emergent provision, can it not be raised at world forum because Soyabeen is protein rich diet. The way women and children in our country are victim of malnutrition, we should promote its farming and import duty on Soyabeen should be raised by more than 45 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Due to this competition, all units of Soyabeen have been closed.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I would like to speak on two points. I will not take much time of the House, rather I will take only two minutes. I will sit down just now, if you order now, I would like to state that hon. Minister has very kindly announced in this budget to provide 55 per cent relaxation in import duty for the sick vanspati units. This announcement was made on 28th February, 2001 and on 1st March, 2001, the Revenue Department issued the notification regarding this relaxation. After 15 days, guidelines were formulated by Directorate of Vanaspati on 16th March. However, these guidelines are very ambiguous. SICA was formed to define the sick industry but outside the perview of SICA, some stringent guidelines were made like the iron fitted gate guidelines in a manner that no sick unit will get the chance to revive or receive any other concession. Therefore, hon. Minister should consider this also.

Regarding BPL, I would like to state that this subject pertains to the Planning Commission. Hon. Finance Minister does not make estimates for BPL. This job is assigned to the Planning Commission. Planning Commission is more capable but how we will understand the estimates prepared by the Planning Commission. A national sample survey was held in 1993-94 through Lakadwala expert Committee which reported that the estimated percentage of BPL in the country was 35.97 per cent. Approximately 32 crore people are living below poverty line in this country. After 1994 till 1996-97, the Department used these estimates. Within 2 to $2^1/_2$ years the percentage of people living below poverty line magically reduced from 36 to 26 per cent. How much poverty alleviation took place? Have the poor people been able to get the 2400 calories food? Are the poor people getting adequate employment opportunities and has their purchasing power been enhanced? How these statistical figures were changed by adopting new standards? I fail to understand how the Planning Commission reduced the figures from 36 per cent to 26 per cent when poverty could not be alleviated, employment opportunities were not generated and the purchasing power of the poor people...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have also said that criteria has been changed.

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: I think it should be considered again, otherwise a commission should be set up on the issue of fraud committed against poor people by the Planning Commission.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Devendraji was talking about BPL. What is the use of speaking when there is no one in the House eager to listen and to think over what you are saying?

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: In the same way, you have no value and listeners in Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: We are against the Finance Bill presented in the House when initially the budget was introduced, it seemed that "Jhamar Jhoomar Mein Reejhe Re Duniya" i.e. the Government has drafted a very good budget. However, the truth about the budget has been revealed now. No section of society in the country except the capitalists and the multinational companies is happy with the budget. I would like to know from the Finance Minister as to why there is no mention of unemployment in the Budget. It was mentioned in the agenda of the NDA Government that unemployment will be removed but there is no mention about the measures to do away with unemployment in the Budget. The hon. Members do not read the contents and first start thumping the tables expressing their thanks. There is neither any vision nor any mention for removing the unemployment in this Budget. Are the service class happy over this Budget? The interest rate on their PF savings has been reduced. Almost every one is unhappy over the presentation of such a budget. Even the interest rate on savings in banks has been reduced. The common man used to manage this saving after a lot of efforts...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him finish, hon. Minister has to reply.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: This Government is against the interests of the farmers and the unemployed...*(Interruptions)* When the NDA Government assumed power, the hon. Minister used to say during his speech that we will double the production of foodgrains in ten years. However, the production has decreased by 110 lakh tonnes this year and it was reduced by 70 lakhs tonnes in the previous year. Is the trend towards the decrease in production or double increase. What is the reason behind it? Jaswant Yadavji asks me to speak in favour of farmers. India today favours BJP, not our parties.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not disturb the House this way. This is not right. Raghuvansh Prasadji, you address the Chair.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It was on cover page. 'India Today' "Kheti Kare so Mare" What can be more saddening than the fact that the farmers are committing suicides during the regime of this Government for the Government in anti-farmer. This issue is discussed in the House but the Government is not ready to take any action in this matter. This Government serves the interests of the capitalists like Reliance only. Now talking about farmers...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't dwell upon this issue.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Now I will talk about Bihar. You were asking about Bihar.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not need to address him, address the Chair.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: During his replies on Budget speech previous year, when asked about reason for withholding of Rs. 500 crore allocated to Bihar under the item of Panchayati Raj, the hon. Finance Minister said that the Government will consider releasing the said amount of the State Government approach in this matter. Now the Panchyati elections have taken place ...*(Interruptions)*. Do the Union Government don't want to release that amount for Bihar? The State Government have also approached you in this regard...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister is sitting here to give replies, why are you replying?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The Minister of Rural Development was saying that the funds were not released as Panchayat elections were not held in Bihar and no Zila Parishad body was constituted there. Only the funds for one year instead of five year were released. However, the funds for the four years were withheld by the Government owing to the malafide intention the Union Government harbour against Bihar If analysed it will become evident that Government is not only anti-poor and anti-farmer but also anti-Bihar. The Government has been withholding Rs.500 crore allocated to Bihar and is not ready to release it....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Gopalganj): It is the people of Bihar who are the part of the Government. How can they be the enemy of Bihar?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You address the Chair.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Those from Bihar who are the Ministers in this Government are socially ostracised from Bihar. They are serving their interests, not of Bihar. Neither are they providing justice to Bihar, otherwise even after the election we have 40 MPs out of 54. I am talking about the united Bihar including Jharkhand. The matter must be investigated for each department from every angle. The Minister of Agriculture from Bihar. An allocation of 5000 crore rupees for agriculture was made during the Ninth Year Plan. Bihar being equal to 1/10 of the country should have been allocated an amount of 500 crore rupees but an allocation of only 54 crore rupees was made out of which only 25 crore rupees have been received. The way, how can one prevent Bihar from becoming poor and more backward, if the Government of India do not give the due of Bihar and keep on doing injustice to it...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER: How much was made from the fodder scam?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please sit down.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Bungling involving huge funds of money was done in the share scam, the hon. Prime Minister kept mum over PMO scam. Scam over scams like PMO scam, share scam, telephone scam, food grains scams are taking place and only Union Government is responsible for them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: It has been imposed through Tehelka episode that as to which of the Minister is corrupt to what extent let the debate over Tehelka take place, then I will expose that it is the Government of scams.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You conclude quickly and do not talk to them.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I want to raise the question of the plight and suffering being faced by the people of Bihar in the House which is the Supreme body for debate and want to reveal it here that 10 crore people of Bihar are not getting justice.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: He is talking about Bihar. The hon. Minister of Finance also belongs to Bihar though now he belongs to Jharkhand. I would like to submit to him that he should soon announce to release the outstanding dues of Bihar.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: The 500 crore rupees belong to both the States i.e. Bihar and Jharkhand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You speak on budget.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Chairman Sir, if we look at the seventh, eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans, the cumulative sum of the denied share of allocations to Bihar comes to rupees ten thousand crore i.e. Bihar should have been given ten thousand crore rupees more as allocation covering this entire period of these three five Years Plan.

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Though he talks about farmer, he has remained confined to the issue of Bihar alone.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Bihar has suffered a loss of ten thousand crore rupees. The Government of India have denied its share to Bihar. Government of India owes ten thousand crore rupees to Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do not talk about Bihar, you are a very senior Member, you talk about Budget.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Bihar also owes a debt of ten thousand crore rupees to Government of India. As Bihar has been denied its share equivalent to ten thousand crores under the centrally sponsored schemes of seventh, eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans, I demand from the Government to write off this amount. You do not have to spend anything to do so. The MPs of the treasury benches should support it....*(Interruptions)*. Is there anyone to associate himself with me....*(Interruptions)*. Keeping in view the criteria of economic indicators for providing special status to the States, this Government should ponder over the possibility of including Bihar in this category of States on the ground of its limited resources of revenue earnings. Two third of our total resources have gone to Jharkhand. Hence I demand to provide special status to Bihar on the lines of Jharkhand by examining the applicability of economic indicators or Bihar will remain a crisis ridden State and its people will keep on facing the problems....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE: If Bihar gets the funds, will you support the Budget?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You resume your seat, why are your disturbing him.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I want the information from the hon. Finance Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You talk to the Finance Minister. Raghuvansh Prasad Singhji, now you conclude.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Now, Yadavji was asking me to speak about the farmers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have said a lot about the farmers.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Surplus production of wheat took place in five States the procurement of wheat takes place in all the States except Bihar. How can it take place this time when it has never been taken place in the part. Not even one sixth of the 43 lakh tonnes of wheat produced in Bihar was procured. One crore and 23 lakh tonnes of paddy was also produced in Bihar.

Farmers were compelled to sell half of their produce. The traders did hoard the rice by transporting it to other States. However, only a negligible amount of 8 thousand crores tonnes rice was procured in Bihar out of total production of one crore twenty three lakh tonnes. This Government is indulging in such kind of partisan behaviour against Bihar and is doing great injustice to the farmers of Bihar. The farmers from Kerala to Bihar producing coconut, oil crops, foodgrains, fruits and vegetables have been facing the onslaught of the WTO regime. This Government has failed to take measures for protecting the farmers and the small scale industries from becoming the victims of WTO provisions and still claim that they are poor...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. Now you please conclude your speech.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Is there anyone who can give reply to any of my questions. The people who are living below poverty line are getting wheat at the rate of Rs. 4.50 per kilogram under PDS...*(Interruptions)*. The Government is selling the wheat to the traders at a rate of Rs. 4.15 in the name of exporting it while the people living below poverty line are getting this wheat at the rate of Rs. 4.50...*(Interruptions)*. A confused ruler, a chaotic state...*(Interruptions)*. And the Government says that it will export wheat...*(Interruptions)*. Is there anyone who can give reply to my question...*(Interruptions)*. We have not seen so much lawlessness. The Government is running Antodaya Scheme. In our country 6 crore families are living below poverty line...*(Interruptions)*. The Government have instructed to identify the poorest 1 crore out of these 6 crore families. How will they do it? The poor are being looted. Injustice is being done to the poor people therefore we are against this kind of Finance Bill and this Bill should not be passed. Since this budget is anti-farmer, anti-poor, and no section of society is happy with it....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Time is running out, now you please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Sir, hon. Minister of Finance is present here. An estimated amount of Rs. One lakh crore lies deposited in Swiss Bank, the Banks of Nepal, UAE, USA and other countries in the shape of black money. The long list of such affluent people who have accumulated a huge amount of black money by having nexus with international criminals, drug paddlers and arms dealers include the names of many industrialists, mafia groups and officials who took advantage of the lacunae present in our system by indulging in tax evasion, corruption, misappropriation and embezzelement. I would like to ask the hon. Finance Minister whether he has taken any step to check this menace and whether the Government has any knowledge in this regard.

I would be grateful if the Government give reply in this regard.

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH (Satna): Madam Chairperson, I rise to support the Finance Bill presented by hon. Minister of Finance. When the Finance Minister presented this year's budget, the country was faced with adverse situation. Gujarat was hit by earthquake, while Orissa had already suffered an unprecedented tragedy and the other parts of the country were reeling under a drought situation and besides these the country is also under the debt burden of Rs. 13 lakh crores.

We started obtaining loans from seventh decade. We are giving 69 per cent of our total revenue as interest to the World Bank. Despite all such odds, the Budget presented by the Finance Minister has been welcomed by almost all sections of the society. I am happy that the Congress Party, which is the opposition party, has also not said anything against this budget. Though the opposition, whose job is to criticise the Government, has

done so but on the whole they have welcomed the Budget presented by the Finance Minister. The Budgetary provision for rural development has been enhanced from Rs. 4500 crore to Rs. 5000 crore. Similarly, NABARD has reduced the interest rate from 11.5 per cent to 10.5 per cent for farmers. It has also been proposed to provide credit cards to all the farmers during the next three years. Arrangements have also been made to provide loans for cold storages at the rate of 5 per cent interest in rural areas. The hon. Finance Minister has announced to set up agro-clinic centres for agriculture graduates. Rs. 700 crore have been provided for Dhar Water Management for Eastern India. 32 crore rupees have been allocated for the development of horticulture in North East. An announcement of Rs. 2500 crore has been made to link the villages of India with roads. Besides he has said that the Government proposes to connect the villages, having more than 1000 population, with roads by the end of 2003 and those having population of 500 or below by the end of 2007. I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to ensure the participation of MPs in provisions made by him for rural roads and rural development. The reason is that the States are governed by the parties other than those who were ruling in the centre and they have their own problems. Secondly, the State Governments spend the money of one head under another head. The hon. Member Chennithalaji had also expressed his views over the resolution presented in the House in this regard. It is very unfortunate that only 56 per cent of the total funds allocated for rural development are being spent. My friend was saying that the outstanding amount should be given to Bihar...*(Interruptions)*. I am supporting your point. In Bihar, Panchayati Raj elections were held very late. It is a different thing that violence is taking place there, violence takes place in other States also. Elections should be held properly and the powers should be given to Panchayats however centralisation of power is wrong. I hope that the subsequent Government will pay attention towards the rural development for which initiative is already taken. Likewise, there is a need of rural electrification. Not to speak of States even Delhi is facing electricity crisis. The Government have made provision of Rs. 750 crores for rural electrification. We accept that the provision made for rural electrification is far less and there is need to enhance it. The Government have given an assurance to provide electricity in 80,000 villages during next 6 years. We hope that the Government of India will be successful in achieving its target with the cooperation of State Governments and State Electricity Boards. You have given an assurance to provide electricity in SC and ST regions and reconstitution of State Electricity Boards. We hope that the Government will take effective steps in this direction.

You have said that the participation of States should be ensured in the management, procurement and distribution of foodgrains but it is my experience that this system may fail in many States. In many regions the foodgrain supply is not able to reach as black marketing takes place in cities. Therefore, I would like to say that the Foodgrain Distribution Committees should be constituted in which participation of SC, ST and poor people should be ensured. Not only the sarpanch of Gram Panchayats but also the sarpanch of Gram Sabhas should be taken into confidence and should be given powers. Inspite of all these problems, out of total budget of Rs. 3,75,323, the hon. Finance Minister has provided 1 lakh 100 crore for plan expenditure and the remaining amount for non-plan expenditure. The Government have increased 16 per cent amount in the budget for the schemes of Union Territories which is only 13,862 crores...*(Interruptions)*

Hon. Minister, Sir, it is a matter of concern that the country is heavily indebted...*(Interruptions)*. I am not blaming any particular State Government for this but it is a fact that the large amount of debt has been taken in the name of building infrastructure but so far nothing has been accomplished in this regard. I only want that these funds should be spent for building infrastructure and that the country should be self-sufficient.

Hon'ble Minister, I am definitely affiliated to your party but I am very much worried about this fact that unemployed persons have not been taken care of in the budget, though you have declared in your election manifesto to provide employment to one crore unemployed persons. But no provision has been made for them in the budget...*(interruptions)* You had promised to curtail government expenditure but this expenditure has increased this year as compared to the last year. Gandhiji's statue has been installed in front of the House and I would like that the Government should encourage measures of austerity. The curtains used in Lok Sabha should be of Khadi handloom cloth. The expenditures with regard to Members of Parliament and Government employees is consistently increasing and this is required to be controlled. The subsidy should be diverted for some constructive works and it should be spent on productive works and for construction of ponds and canals. The subsidy should be utilized for making provision of drinking water and on developmental works. I am not for providing subsidy to the farmers having tractors but for marginal farmers. The farmers are the backbone of this country's economy and what you are doing for them in this budget. I would like that the Hon'ble Minister of Finance to formulate a policy for poor and marginal farmers and

[Shri Ramanand Singh]

unemployed persons of this country and make provisions for them in the budget of forthcoming years.

With these words, I welcome the budget presented by Hon'ble Minister of Finance and hope that he will assure of fulfilling these demands in his reply to this debate on the budget.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you disturb, I cannot call you please.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Madam Chairperson, when the hon. Finance Minister presented this year's Budget, he earned encomiums from the industry chieftains. Lavish praise was showered on him. The Budget was hailed as a wonder Budget. But the very next day, that euphoria began to dissipate as more and more people began to come to terms with the fine print of his Finance Bill. By this day, the intervening events have rather exposed the hon. Finance Minister's proclaimed determination "to put an end to a system where pressure groups or lobbies could influence decision making."

By now it is regretfully clear that the Government has rather abdicated its role in economic development. The financial proposals of the Government may have cheered the big industrialists, but they have sapped the vitality of the small and the medium industry, besides crushing the common man.

Madam, lakhs of people have been completely ruined and many have even been driven to commit suicide as a result of the stock market crash. This scam has been of unprecedented magnitude. Yet, the government continues to bask in the glory of complacence. It continues to praise itself, to sing itself and if we remind the Government of its declaration to set up a Joint Parliamentary Committee to probe into the scam, an impression is given as if we are guilty of blasphemy.

There is widespread disillusionment and dissatisfaction all around. One does not have to labour hard to see the deep-rooted pro-rich and anti-poor bias in the Government's fiscal policy. To secure nine of ten marks from the captains of industry, Shri Yashwant Sinha has forsaken the common man. There is a cut in the exercise duty on cars while the poor cannot afford even a bicycle. There is a cut on the duty on glazed tiles which adorn the bathrooms of the rich while the poor are forced to defecate in the open. I also cannot understand the reason for reduction in customs duty on gold. Is this the priority concern of the Government? I would like to know from the hon. Minister.

The country today is faced with a host of problems. But there is no indication at all whether the Government is capable of coming to grips with the same. The growth rate is declining, the fiscal deficit continues to bedevil our fiscal management, non-generation of employment is discouraging, the stock market has crashed, scams are unfolding and there is no apparent desire to fight corruption. There is misuse of MODVAT. There are whopping non-performing assets of the banks. All this, perhaps, does not worry the Government.

In his financial proposals, the hon. Minister is silent about evasion of taxes and black money. According to a study, black money in the country is about 40 per cent of the GDP which comes to about Rs. 8,000 crore per annum. Nothing has been attempted to strengthen the provisions of the Income-tax Act for tackling the black money.

The exemption limit on interest earned for TDS has been brought to Rs. 2,500. This will put pensioners, clerks and others with limited means of income under the TDS, though they may not be covered by the income-tax net. This will certainly hurt the genuine non-assessees.

The hon. Minister has taxed every conceivable service, including small-time photography and videography, without appreciating the hassless which petty self-employed persons will have to face at the hands of corrupt excise officials. I do not question the need to broaden the tax base. Efforts have got to be made to encourage people to pay taxes voluntarily. But, at the same time, taxation should not be punitive or unbearable.

Today, the sum total of taxes which the common man — I repeat the common man-pays as the percentage of his total earnings is much more than what the rich man pays. Therefore, there is merit in the demand to raise the income-tax exemption limit to Rs one lakh. A person earning this amount finds it extremely difficult to support his family to provide them food, clothing, shelter, education and medical care.

When he already pays taxes in many other forms, he should at least be exempted from income tax. Madam, I have sent a notice for an amendment to this effect to the Schedule of the Finance Bill. I would urge the hon. Minister to accept this and accordingly incorporate the consequent changes, wherever necessary. The loss on

this account can be made good through an efficient administration.

I did want to refer to quite a few matters, but I am conscious of the time constraint. So, to conclude, I would only say that look from any angle you wish at the financial proposals of the Minister, the approach of the Government is nothing but disappointing. Therefore, it is difficult to support the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has to reply.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Madam, the discussion was to start at 12.30 p.m. It started only at 1.15 p.m. You cannot curtail the time of the Members to speak on the Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not curtailed anybody's time. We have exceeded the time. Time from 4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. is extra time.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: From our side, five names were given, but five Members have not spoken. I want to speak...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry. I can only stick to the time given to each Party and not the numbers. Three people have spoken.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, the budget for this year presented in the House is the budget which will turn a poor poorer and a rich richer. This budget should have provided for some mechanism to scale down the black money. It is the need of the hour. You have been in power for three years. As per data presented by you, only 26 per cent people out of 100 crore population of this nation fall under BPL. Given the 100 crore population, this data is incorrect. As per my data at least 50 crore people are living below poverty line in this country. They require upliftment, but Yashwant Sinhaji, neither your government nor this finance bill is empowered enough to uplift these people. Today, rich people are making money by wrong means. These people should be brought to book but you cannot do it alone. It requires us to replace you and only then they can be exposed. Yashwant Sinha Saheb, I have come here to awaken the entire nation against your budget and I am going to oust your Government now itself. I have come here to ensure the peaceful conduct of business of the House and now I am going to see your Government going down. Yashwant Sinha Saheb, alone you can do nothing. I am aware that you have sympathy for the poor of this country but Advaniji and your other allies are not supporting you. This is the cause of your discomfort and since you are sitting in treasury benches, therefore, we are also uncomfortable. This is how the business is going on. Yashwant Sinha ji, if the poor of this country are not provided with shelter then you can't reach your destination. Pramod Mahajanji, if the poor and dalits of this country do not get food then we shall show you the door in the ensuing elections. I would like to say that this budget should make suitable provision of funds for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes under special component plan, keeping in view their population. I have already mentioned this point. Hon'ble Prime Minister has given assurance in this regard but this Finance Bill does not have any such provision. Therefore, I would like that there is a need to make provision for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and people living below poverty line in both the budgets i.e. central and State as well. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister of Finance what he is doing for this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sinha Saheb is preparing reply.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I know what he is going to reply but whether I would get the reply to my question or not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get reply to all your questions.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I oppose the Finance Bill presented in the House because it is against the interest of the poor. If your Government remains in power, then I request you to present a better budget in ensuing year and if not then I would tell you as to how to present a better Bill.

[English]

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Madam Chairman, due to paucity of time, I shall only make a few points.

One is, the customs duty on cocoa has not been increased and as a result a lot of people, small and marginal growers of cocoa, are put in great difficulty. Big companies like Nestle and Cadbury are making huge profits. They are getting Rs. 400 per kilogram of chocolate.

[Shri P.C. Thomas]

whereas the farmer is getting only Rs. 30 or Rs. 38. They are importing large quantities. Therefore, the import duty must be higher for cocoa.

Another point is with regard to rubberised coir. As you know, coir is produced from the husk of the coconut. It is actually thrown out, but now it is being used in a very big way. A lot of employment has been created because of this. Therefore, I would like to submit that the four per cent excise duty imposed on coir and rubber, which are purely agro-based industries, should be withdrawn. Here also, a lot of employment is being created, and it is an eco-friendly industry.

Thirdly, the industry that produces rubber threads in India is also facing a lot of problems. One aspect which you have to revise is with regard to the excise duty which has been imposed.

The next point is with regard to caprolactam which is a product of FACT, which is one of the largest public undertakings in which some life has to be infused. The import duty on caprolactam, which has been reduced, may have to be increased to safeguard the interests of the domestic industry, which is doing very well and which has to be helped in other ways also.

Another point is with regard to excise duty on tea and coffee. The growers of tea and coffee are in great difficulty. Therefore, the excise duty which has been imposed on tea must be withdrawn.

I am only making the points because of paucity of time.

With regard to footwear, I would submit that the footwear worn by normal people, workers and poor people, costs between Rs. 40 and Rs. 125. I would submit that this labour-oriented industry must be saved.

17.00 hrs.

Madam, I would now like to refer to the sick *vanaspati* units. We already have brought this point to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister...*(Interruptions)* Shri Balu, I would just require one minute. This is a very important point

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Baalu, he wants the hon. Finance Minister to listen to him.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, the *vanaspati* units have been given a special consideration. It is a good thing if the Government is trying to boost the sick units. The crude palm oil import is the basis of the crisis in the coconut and other edible oil industry. Now, 75 per cent import duty has been imposed on this. Our submission, on behalf of the farmers, would be that the import duty should be hiked. A reduction in the import duty has been proposed for the sick vanaspati units. This, I am sure, would be mis-utilised. It would be good if the sick units could be helped in some other ways. But reducing the import duty for them may not be right step. I think, it would result in large scale import.

Madam, there are many pensioners who have been affected as a result of the reduction in the interest rate to 9.5 per cent in the Provident Fund.

Madam, there is a new provision in the Finance Bill — I think, in clause V — in regard to the charitable institutions...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order please.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I would like to submit that it has been proposed that if the turnover of a charitable institution or a NGO is more than Rs. 10 lakh, then it has to publish it in the newspapers. My point is that if you are asking them to publish it in the newspapers, then that would be a burden on many of the NGOs and charitable institutions that are doing a good job. There should be transparency but to say that they should advertise in the newspapers would be too harsh on them. If at all you have to persist with it, then you must help them to get it published in the newspapers. The limit of Rs. 10 lakh is a meagre amount and Government should re-think on this aspect. There are many charitable organisations in the country that are rendering a yeomen's service to the society.

Madam, my next point is on rubber. India is producing rubber in larger quantities...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I think, you are not being fair to the Member who is speaking. Please have some patience to listen to him.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Madam, one lakh seventy thousand tonnes of rubber are in excess. Now the only way to help the natural rubber growers — of whom 90 per cent are very small and marginal farmers and who are facing the threat of a lowered price from Rs. 70 per kilogram to Rs. 22 — is to make a hike in the duty on

the import of rubber. I think, the hon. Finance Minister would have to do something about it. But that has not been done in this Budget. The import duty on rubber is 25 per cent. I know the hon. Finance Minister would say that it cannot be hiked because of the restrictions of the WTO at this stage. But I would like to submit that the excise duty on many of the rubber manufactured goods using rubber latex — which are from our agricultural produce — should be revised. That would give a boost to the big industries as well as to the small manufacturers.

I would submit that this matter has to be taken up at the WTO, if necessary. I say this because this is an agricultural produce but this has been mentioned, unfortunately, as a commercial produce. How can rubber which is planted by a small farmer, which becomes ripe after seven years only, be treated as a commercial produce? Latex is extracted from the rubber tree after the labourer puts in hard work. It is a poor labourer's output. So, this issue should be taken up wherever necessary. It should be ensured that it is treated as an agricultural produce on record also. The import duty should be hiked on this. We have a grave threat of large-scale imports, bearing zero duty or half duty, from SAARC countries and Sri Lanka. This issue also has to be taken up. There are provisions for taking up such matters with the concerned country when the domestic production is affected. As far as coconut and rubber are concerned, I would request the hon. Minister to do something. I hope that he would do something immediately in this Finance Bill, in the Budget, and also in the steps that he is going to take, to save the farmers.

My last point is with regard to under-invoicing. Under-invoicing is something which is taking place in regard to all imports. In many cases imports are going on without the real price being stated. In case of imports of the produces that are not produced in India at all, the Finance Ministry officials have allowed under-invoicing. For example, poppy is not produced in India at all. In some cases of poppy imports, even after showing the price correctly and after providing evidence, the officials say that the price is not correct. They say that the import is under-invoiced and, therefore, the imported material cannot be taken delivery of. This is with regard to a produce which is not produced in India. However, with regard to those produces which are being produced in India, many of the officials of the Revenue Department are not much eager to see that illegal imports do not take place. I would request the hon. Minister to give specific instructions to the concerned officials in this regard.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Hon'ble Minister has sent a wave of happiness among all the sections of Indian people by preparing a growth and progress oriented budget. In my opinion this budget is capable and impartial. This budget is also opening new horizons of hopes. The budget presented in the House contains many facilities related to agriculture and farming sector which safeguards the interests of the farmers. Therefore, I congratulate hon'ble Minister of Finance for this. Hon'ble Minister has tried to carry forward the reforms going on in the economic sector and market. Till now all Finance Ministers have been exercising their discretionary powers and granting rebates in custom duty in order to benefit the others. But this time Hon'ble Minister of Finance has prepared a budget giving goodbye to his discretionary powers and thus saving crores of rupees to the exchequer for which he must be appreciated. I hope that he will continue to save in the same way in future also. In addition to this, he has made provision for harsh punishment to those who don't pay taxes. This will result as a deterrent to the tax evaders and thus reduce their number. By reducing excise duty to 8 per cent on cotton yarn, cooking gas, kerosene oil and diesel engines upto 10 horse powers and reducing cost of pickles, juice and sauces etc. and giving tax rebate on flowers and vegetables, the Minister has given relief to the poor people. In addition to this, hon'ble Minister of Finance has tried to keep peace at homes as he took care of women in the budget which is also commendable.

The custom duty on gold has been reduced from Rs. 400 to 250 per ten grams. This will not only encourage the import of gold jewellery but also enable the Indian women to wear gold ornaments a bit more comfortably which are dearer to them even in comparison of their husbands.

This budget boosts the morale of armed forces of our country since their allocation has been increased. By making provision of allocation of Rs. 31773.16 crore the morale of the three arms of our armed forced namely Army, Airforce and Navy defending the frontiers of this country, has been boosted.

I would again congratulate the hon. Minister for levying 15 per cent surcharge on tobacco and pan masala since this will deter the people from using these intoxicants or will compel them to abandon smoking. Similarly the steps taken by the Minister to make our public healthy and powerful are evident enough to see our women and children a happy lot.

[Shri Ratilal Kalidas Varma]

17.12 hrs.

(Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

I would like to speak on Gujarat. Though a surcharge of two percent on income tax was imposed to mobilize the revenue for earthquake hit Gujarat, yet there is a need for more funds for Gujarat. There is need to construct lakhs of houses there. Though assistance from many countries have been received, people of Gujarat are hoping to get more assistance from Government of India. Gujarat is the leading State of the country in cooperative sector People from the entire country used to visit Gujarat to closely observe the functioning of its cooperative sector. But a few days back a crisis was witnessed in Mahavpura Cooperative Bank. If this bank closed down, then it will prove a jolt for all the banks of cooperative sector in Gujarat. Hence it is necessary to keep it functional for which either financial assistance or bank guarantee has to be provided to it by the Government of India or the Reserve Bank of India.

Several minor irrigation projects are going on in Gujarat. Everywhere in Gujarat, scarcity of water is being felt. There is dearth of drinking water in many States of India, but Gujarat has done exemplary job in this regard by successful completing many minor irrigation projects. There is a village called Khopra in my constituency, Gaddha. The people throughout the country visit this village to see its irrigation projects. The network of these kinds of irrigation project, ponds, check-dams on rivers and nullahs should be prepared in the entire Gujarat Government. I hope that the Government of India will provide maximum financial assistance for doing so.

Today in the morning, the issue of the mortality among women during the delivery was raised. Gujarat Government have made a lot of efforts and succeeded in bringing a fall in the figures of mortality rates. Gujarat has proved number one in regard to welfare activities. I submit to the hon. Minister to encourage the health development activities in Gujarat by allocating more funds to it.

The ball bearing units having an annual turnover of 25 lakhs rupees have been exempted from paying excise duty. I request to raise this limit up to one crore rupees. The hon. Prime Minister has announced for providing relief to the SSI Units having an annual turnover of our crore rupees, up from the earlier level of 50 lakh rupees. I also request the Union Government to abolish the EXIM duty on the products of these units.

Custom duty should also be increased on Soda ash.

[*English*]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (Patan): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for allowing me to speak on the Union Budget. At the outset, through you, I want to ask pointed questions to the Union Finance Minister. Why is he misinforming and misdirecting the Indian Parliament for the last two years? My question is, why the actual and revised figures for 1999-00 and 2000-01 are not provided in this year's receipt Budget.

If not today, the answer may be given after seven days. I do not mind that but let Parliament be given the reasons.

If you refer to the figures in the Budget, right from 1997-98 to 2000-2001, for four particular items, that is, total import duties, total refunds of import duties, total duty drawbacks and net total import duties, the figures of 1997-98 and 1998-99 is the same. Even the revised figures for 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are the same and also the Budget figures for 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 are the same. How can there be the same figures in the column of refund, in the column of duty drawbacks, in the column of total import duties and also in the column of net total import duties? The hon. Minister of Finance may kindly reply to this specific question.

The Indian Finance Minister has glorified his own Budget in the last para of his speech:

> "This is a Budget for carrying forward the second generation of economic reforms. This is a Budget for growth. This is a Budget for equity with efficiency. This is a Budget for a new deal to the people of India in the new millennium".

He has himself glorified the Budget but we know the results within two months from the presentation of his Budget. It is very easy to use the word 'people'. Even this House is called the 'House of People'. According to me 'people' are those who wait in the queues for buses, those who wait at the railway stations and even after purchasing tickets do not get their seats in the trains of the Indian Railways. They are the real people, the people residing in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh suffering out of droughts for the last two years, the people in the Indian villages who have no drinking water throughout the year. ...*(Interruptions)* We have ruled but not all over the country. You have also ruled some of the States. Please listen to me.

I have categorised the Indian people into different categories. They are the people residing in rural areas, the women, the children, the landless workers, the unemployed youth, the disabled particularly the blind, ex-Army *jawans*, war widows, other widows, aged people living all alone, those who earn their livelihood by carrying out the world's oldest profession of prostitution, the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and minorities and backward classes. These are the weaker sections of our society. I want to know from the hon. Minister of Finance what provision he has made in the Budget for these specific 14 categories of people, who are known as weaker sections of the society.

The Budget was no doubt welcomed by the industrialists, the NRIs and by those who conduct meetings in five-star hotels. I want to invite the attention of the Indian Finance Minister to para 52 of his Budget speech where he has taken the privilege to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, which is an Act passed by this Parliament. The limit of 100 workers has been raised to 1,000. He has given the power to the factory owners that they can lay off the factories without permission from the Government. He has taken this privilege. He has crossed the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Labour and in his Budget speech he has made a direct amendment.

When the banks were nationalised by Parliament, the Banking Service Recruitment Board was created because of the nationalisation of banks. In good olden days prior to nationalisation, every bank was a bank of a particular community. It was a bank of a particular State; it was a bank of a particular region.

If you go to the Bank of Baroda or to the Bank of Saurashtra, you will find that people from a particular caste or class or people from a particular region are getting jobs. If you go to Dena Bank, you will find that people from a particular community or a particular class or a region are getting employment. It was only after nationalisation that people belonging to various classes or castes or regions, through the Banking Service Recruitment Board, were getting an opportunity to enter the nationalised banks. What right has the Finance Minister got to give powers to the banks and the Indian Banks Association to make recruitment and to scrap the Banking Service Recruitment Board? We want a specific reply from the Indian Finance Minister.

Now, I want to only refer to the provisions made for important sector. Let us take the example of Department of Social Justice and Empowerment. The provision during the last year was Rs. 1,350 crore and this year also, the provision made is for Rs. 1,350 crore. It is not a single rupee more nor a single rupee less. The bureaucrats have prepared the Budget. What was the provision made last year? It was the same figure. Let me inform the Indian Finance Minister that Shri Suraj Bhan who is a Governor appointed by the BJP has given a figure officially that in this country, there is a total of 46 crore acre of cultivable land lying vacant as wasteland. The Indian Finance Minister has provided only Rs. 1 crore for land reforms in this country. I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister, whether one can have land reforms in this country by having Rs. 1 crore only? The provision for this year is Rs. 1 crore; the provision for the last year also was Rs. 1 crore; the provision for the year before last was also Rs. 1 crore. I want an answer from the Indian Finance Minister. Why does the figure for land reform remained at Rs. 1 crore and why does the figure for the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment remained at Rs. 1350 crore?

My fried from Gujarat was asking for more money. Let me inform my friends in the BJP about the money given by the Government of India to the worst drought-hit and earthquake-affected people of Gujarat. Till date, the Government of India has given only Rs. 500 crore as *ad hoc* payment. It is not from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund and it is not from any other Head. It is given as *ad hoc* payment ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: This is a very important point. An amount of Rs. 342 crore is given by the Rural Development Ministry. So, in all, an amount of Rs. 842 crore has been given to Gujarat. On the other hand, the BJP Government of Gujarat has given a written report to the Central Government that the total loss of public and private property in Gujarat on account of earthquake is worth Rs. 22,000 crore. But the Government of India of the same party has given only a pittance of Rs. 500 crore to the Government of Gujarat.

The Government of Gujarat has admitted that the figure of people who are dead is 20,000. The actual figure may be more. The Government of Gujarat has promised that the kith and kin of those who were killed will be paid a compensation of Rs. 1 lakh. I have got the figure. Out of these 20,000 who died three months ago, the Government of Gujarat has paid the compensation of Rs. 1 lakh to only 8,000 people. I want to know from the Government of Gujarat through the Government of India, why it is not paid to all those who died. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude. The next speaker is Dr. B.B. Ramaiah.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: I am concluding. ...*(Interruptions)* I want to make only one important item regarding Budget. ...*(Interruptions)* I will take only one minute.

The hon. Minister has imposed two per cent surcharge on account of Gujarat earthquake. I want to know from the hon. Minister, whether the amount of Rs. 13,00 crore, which will be collected because of this, will be transferred to the Government of Gujarat or it will be transferred only to the Natural Calamity Fund.

According to my information, the first instalment has already arrived. But that money has been transferred to Natural Calamity Fund. I, as a Member of Parliament from Gujarat, demand that the entire money which is collected in the name of Gujarat earthquake should be transferred directly to the Government of Gujarat and not to the Natural Calamity Fund.

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Sir, first of all, I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister for reducing surcharges on direct taxation and also for the relief that he has given in indirect taxation and dividend taxation. It is really a right direction in which he has moved. Not only that, he has also taken a right direction in the matter of interest rates of banks which has become an absolute necessity for this country to survive and to compete with the international market. Today, we are having competition. I feel that the growth rate should not be less than nine to ten per cent. I am sure that he would try to achieve that.

I have only a few items on which I would like to express my opinion. One is about agriculture. About 65 per cent of the people depend on agriculture in our country. They are producing the crops with great difficulty and hardship. In spite of that, they are able to produce substantial amount of agricultural products. Today, they are able to produce in surplus, whether it is rice or wheat or sugar. But what we need today is a proper price which is absolutely essential for them to survive and to improve their productivity and growth. I think the FCI should be able to procure aggressively and try to at least pay the minimum price fixed by the Government.

The main constraint that the FCI faces today is its godown capacity. For the last 10 years, we have not been able to expand our godown capacity. Production is going up. So, that is the main constraint. We should take some initiative and encourage more godowns to be built up.

For the agricultural production to survive we need cold storage. Today, in Karnataka tomatoes are sold at just half a rupee. The State Government is not able to do anything. I would say that the food processing industry should be encouraged so that we are able to make tomato ketch-ups, soup, juice and things like that. This is not the case with tomatoes only but with various other products. We have to see that the agriculture should be encouraged in different directions in order to see that the growth sustains in this country.

Today, the surplus production requires export support. We cannot export in the international market with our present price structure. We need to have some subsidy for export, as is the case in other countries. NABARD is giving substantial support for agricultural growth and I am very happy about it. Crop insurance has to be stabilised. Unless crop insurance is improved substantially, there will not be much agricultural development. Earlier we were giving a lot of support to drip irrigation but somehow this has not been working well now. This will not only save the water supply but also help in agricultural production. So, I am sure the hon. Minister takes this into consideration.

So far as the supply of essential commodities to common man is concerned, I would like to say that when production goes up, the prices come down. In order to make sure proper supply of essential commodities to common man, we need cold storage. I would also like to say a word about the infrastructure. This has become absolutely necessary for the agricultural growth and development. The power projects, roads, ports and the like things about which we have been thinking for the last ten years and still thinking, have not been able to come to the desired level. Unless we build up these things, we will not be able to achieve the desired growth. Today, both agriculture and industry are suffering because of the power problem and other transportation difficulties.

As far as the textile industry is concerned, it has suffered a lot after the recent Budget. This is one of the largest export earning sector which is earning more than Rs. 40,000 crore. I think, we have to do something for the textile industry. Tourism is a very encouraging industry in the world today. I am sure we should be able to give a little more thrust to this. I would also like to see the small scale sector grow, which is also earning export for the country. The excise duty has become a big problem. We should see that the small scale sector not only survives but also is made export-oriented. The major petrochemical industry is severely affected by the latest

liberalisation policy adopted by the Government. We have to protect it by whatever method we can; be it by increasing the excise duty or the anti-dumping duty or by giving excise duty concession.

The States are also finding it difficult to sustain their economy. The other day we discussed that minimum 33 per cent of the share be passed on to the States. I think it is very important. I hope the Finance Minister will take these things into consideration in the Finance Bill. The stock market is also affecting our control. SEBI should be strengthened substantially and given more power, otherwise, the stock market will affect the industrial growth and development.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the Finance Minister.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar): Sir, I may be allowed to speak ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA (Guna): You should yield to the lady Member.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): I can even yield to you, Shri Scindia, if you ask.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: I just wanted to ask the Finance Minister, through you, that in the Budget—we were reading out the other day-there was a provision for employment of one crore of people every year in this country, but instead of generating that one crore of employment in this country we have retrenched people through the voluntary retirement scheme. By thrashing out the public sector, most of the people employed in this country have been retrenched or unemployed. At the moment, India is facing two major problems of population and unemployment. I would like to know by which means and by what method the Minister is thinking of generating employment for one crore people every year.

Since the Minister comes from the State of Bihar, the other thing is importnat, till the other day he was also a part of us. Today, the maximum unemployment is perhaps in that State. We had a project which was sconceptualised in 1989, known as the power project of Bihar. It was the only ray of hope for generating employment opportunities for the poor and the downtrodden. That project also has been shelved aside probably because we are not a part of the NDA Government.

Would the Minister take note of it and see to it that he does not have a partisan approach to a thing like the common man's future and, therefore, ensure that Bihar gets some, employment and some industry? There should be some opening for the people of Bihar.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the 19 Members, including the brief intervention by Shri Raghunath Jha, for their enormous and very substantial contributions to this debate on the Finance Bill. But before I come to the issues which have been raised, I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to the hon. Speaker, to the hon. Leader of the House and to the hon. Leader of the Opposition for having made it possible for us to hold this discussion in this spirit. I think we will continue to transact the business in this House in the same manner in future.

Sir, this discussion was on the Finance Bill and as we all know, the Finance Bill contains the taxation proposals of the Budget. But perhaps because of the fact that we could not discuss the Budget in this House in the last part of the Session, hon. Members of this House have picked up issues which have a general bearing on the Budget that I have presented. There were a few Members, and I am particularly referring to Shri Paranjpae, who discussed the taxation proposals in particular, which is what, as I said, the Finance Bill is all about.

I would like to take the fact that other Members did not spend much time on the discussion on the taxation proposals as an indication of the general acceptance of the taxation proposals of my Budget, cutting across party-lines in this House. But I would like to take a moment of your time in pointing out the basic philosophy which is behind the taxation proposals that we have enunciated in this year's Budget. As I had mentioned in my Budget speech, the moderate rate of taxes, simplification of taxation, doing away with exemptions and making the whole tax administration as friendly to the tax-payer as possible, were the guiding principles of my tax proposals. I have, in my introductory remarks while moving the Bill for consideration earlier this afternoon, suggested some changes. Those changes also, I believe, have been widely welcomed.

If you look at the process that we adopt in our democracy about the preparation of the Budget, then you will realise why it becomes essential and necessary for the Finance Minister to move amendments to his taxation proposals when the Finance Bill is taken up for consideration. I am referring to the mystery, the confidentiality, the secretiveness which surrounds the preparation of Budget in our system. I am raising this point deliberately. In other democracies, to the best of my knowledge, Budget making is a very open exercise. The Budget is openly discussed, the taxation proposals are discussed amongst Members of Parliament and amongst various interest groups. The proposals are put before the people also and their response is invited. Then only the Budget is finalised, as we are doing through our process today in a much more transparent and open manner.

This is my fourth Budget and I recall, except perhaps this year when the voices were muted, every time the Finance Minister comes with his Budget, invariably a point is raised by various Members that the Budget has been leaked. I think all sections of the House have to put their heads together. I am deliberately raising this issue to demystify the Budget to make it more transparent and more open, so that we will not be concerned, on the one hand, on the part of the Government to keep everything close to our chest and, on the other, do not take anybody

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

into confidence and think that those of us who make the Budget have all the wisdom in the world. I am prepared to share the Budget making exercise with the various political parties, with other groups and in the process make the Budget making exercise more transparent and more open.

What is the dilemma that a Finance Minister faces every time he makes a Budget? It is not peculiar to me. On the one hand, the Finance Minister is expected to make available resources, moneys and allocations in a much larger measure than he does through the Expenditure Budget. On the other hand, there are demands that the tax rates should be brought down, that a specific exemption should be given, etc. So, it is always very difficult for any Finance Minister to make ends meet in this kind of a situation where the pressures are, on the one hand, for reducing taxes and, on the other hand, to raise the expenditure.

I am not aware of any magic trick which a Finance Minister can adopt to make this possible and that is why, we improvise. And if we improvise, then that issue is raised in various ways before this House. I think the time has come when we should apply our mind as a nation to the goings-on in the financial sector and Budget-making not only of the Central Government but also of the State Governments. It is because we have reached such a situation. Indeed, as has been pointed out by various hon. Members, if you look at the fiscal deficit of the country as a whole it almost ten per cent of our GDP. If it is ten per cent of our GDP, then it is really a matter of serious concern. And that is why, in this Budget speech, you will recall that I had tried to present this picture in very simple terms of how much do we receive, how much are we required to spend and what is the borrowing that all this entails.

I have raised the issue of inter-generational equity. I said, in the present generation, we have really no right to impose this burden on future generations by borrowing with both hands without discrimination and leaving the burden for the future generations. Sir, I would like that this matter should be debated. It is not an issue of whether we have reduced an outlay under a particular head or we have reduced the taxes. The whole issue of management of economy of this country is something which calls for much greater and urgent building of national consensus than has been possible so far. Therefore, I am appealing to all Members of the House to please cogitate about this issue and think about it seriously. Let us come up as a body with solutions which would make it possible for us to keep the finances and the deficit within manageable limits.

The Government, on its part, has come up with Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Bill. I had introduced it in the winter Session of Parliament. Under the Bill, we are going to assume certain responsibility. The Bill is under the consideration of the Standing Committee. The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance initiated the discussion today. I hope it will be possible for the Standing Committee to favour us with their Report in this regard very soon so that the Government could bring this Bill before both the Houses of Parliament. It could be adopted as a piece of legislation and we could get the better of this longstanding problem.

Before I come to other issues, I think there is one issue which has been bothering Mr. Pravin Rashtrapal since yesterday. I saw him getting agitated about it and when he got an opportunity to intervene in the debate, he raised that issue once again. I may point it out because when we, as Members of Parliament, entirely depend on what we have read in a newspaper or any magazine, we tend to get misguided at times and that is exactly what has happened in this case. In the Budget which was presented last year, a typographical error had crept in the Receipt Budget. When I saw that this magazine had blown it beyond proportion saying that this is some kind of a cook-book and that we are so careless that we are repeating the same figures, I was myself concerned. Therefore, I decided to check it myself and found that there was a typographical or printing mistake in the Receipt Budget. The moment we realised this, we came to Parliament and presented a corrigendum in both the Houses of Parliament. The corrigendum is here in my hands and the letter that we had written to the magazine is also in my hands. The magazine did publish the letter that we sent. But what was the reply of that magazine? They said that the revenue officials with whom they checked had not heard of this corrigendum.

If they had only bothered to telephone anyone in the Ministry, we would have clarified that was a printing mistake which had been corrected within a few days of the Budget presentation. It happened just in one document of the Budget. It did not happen over a period of time. There was no question of four years. That mistake was corrected last year itself. I would like to assure Shri Rashtrapal that this year the Budget is according to the format of the Budget. In every document of the Budget, wherever we have to give the actual figures, the Budget Estimates, the Revised Estimates and the Budget Estimate of this year, we have given them. These are the four columns in which we have given all the figures as in the past. There has been no attempt on our part to hold back the actual figures. So, that was a point which I wanted to clarify because I thought he was a little bit concerned about this.

Shrimati Margaret Alva was talking about growth rates. She said that high rates of growth had been achieved during the regime in which she was a Minister. And, she is very much concerned that somehow that momentum has got lost. Let me share some figures with the House. In the decade of 1990-1999, what was the growth rate in various major economies of the world? In

France, it was 1.7 per cent; in Germany, it was 1.5 per cent; in Indonesia, it was 4.7 per cent; in Japan, it was 1.4 per cent; in Pakistan, it was 4 per cent; in the Russian Federation, it was minus 6.1 per cent; in Thailand, it was 4.7 per cent; in the U.K., it was 2.2 per cent and in the USA, it was 3.4 per cent. There were only three countries in this decade which had crossed the figure of 6 per cent. China, which led the race, was at 10.7 per cent, followed by Malaysia which was at 6.8 per cent, followed by India which was at 6.1 per cent. That is why, among these major economies, India has always been regarded as one of the fastest growing economies of the world in the decade of the 90s. I mean there were three Governments during this period. So, I am not saying that we have done greatly and somebody else has done poorly. I am saying that as a nation, we can be justifiably proud of the fact that we have been amongst one of the fastest growing economies. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The growth rate was 7 per cent when we were in power in 1996. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: If you just have one minute's patience, I would tell about it. I was coming to that. I knew the position . ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Perhaps, it is not proper to compare the figures of developing economy to those which are highly developed economies. I mean, it is totally irrelevant. You have to compare your figures as of today to the earlier figures achieved in our national context. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Yes. I know about it. I did not lay a trap for you, Shri Scindia. It was not my intention to quote these figures and lay a trap for you. But you have raised exactly the point which I have in my mind. I was coming to it myself.

What was the growth rate that we experienced in this decade? I have the annual figures here. Let us forget about 1991-92 because that was a crisis year. The growth rate was down to 1.3 per cent. It went up to 5.1 per cent in 1992-93; it went up to 5.9 per cent in 1993-94; it went up to 7.3 per cent in 1994-95; and continued to remain at 7.3 per cent in 1995-96. In the two years of Congress rule, it crossed 7 per cent. For two years, it was below 6 per cent. I am not counting the year 1991-92 because it was a crisis year. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: If you allow me for a minute, I would like to say that as far as the economic statistics are concerned, there is a time-lag involved. If you move a particular policy in year one, it takes effect really in year three. Therefore, please see what the effects of Congress rule are right up to 1997-98. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Not beyond. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Then, comes your disastrous nosedive. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I do not want to enter into an argument with you on this.

I would be very happy if somebody could guide me and tell me as to when exactly the impact of the Congress Government's economic policies ended. You are claiming that the impact continued when Shri Chidambaram became the Finance Minister during the U.F. Government, and the growth rate shot up to 7.8 per cent in 1996-97. If one has to believe you, then, it was the result of your policies. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: There was a time-lag. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I agree. So, the impact of the beneficial economic policies of the Congress rule continued beyond 1995-96 when they demitted office in the first year of the U.F. rule. Is it right? In the second year of the U.F. rule, which is 1997-98, the growth rate dipped to 4.8 per cent. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Let us not make light of it. ...*(Interruptions)* Please take it seriously. ...*(Interruptions)* Every economist worth his salt knows that there was a time-lag of at least one year when economic policy makes its impact felt It is a very serious subject.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The first Government led by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, assumed office in late March, 1998. When we came into office, I remember looking at those figures. The growth rate that we had obtained as a country in the preceding year was 4.8 per cent. This is what we got when we assumed office. Shrimati Margaret Alva was saying that while they had achieved a continuous growth rate of over seven per cent, we have not been able to achieve six per cent growth rate. I just want to ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I said seven per cent.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: She said that they had achieved for three years seven per cent growth rate and we have not even been able to achieve six per cent. In 1998-99, the growth rate of the economy was six per cent; in 1999-2000, it was 6.4 per cent; and in 2000-2001, for reasons which I have just now explained, it is estimated to be six per cent. In the three years of the rule of the two Governments of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, there has been no year where the growth rate is less than six per cent. It has been either six per cent or more. That too, in the face of a severest national and international challenges. This is more important. I have repeatedly said in the House that there has not been one year - 1998-99, 1999-2000, and 2000-2001 - which can be described as a normal year. Not one year has been a normal year. If despite all these challenges we are achieving this growth rate, then, I think, it is not something we can be ashamed of. I am saying it is inadequate. I am the first person to admit that this growth rate is not sufficient for the kind of problems that this country is facing. Therefore, we have to achieve the target which the Prime Minister has laid and has set for all of us, that is, nine per cent growth rate on an average in the first decade of the 21st century. That is the target. ...*(Interruptions)*

If you shut your eyes in a dark room, Shri Bansal, you will see nothing. If you are determined to close your eyes in a dark room, I cannot help you. This is as far as growth figures are concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*

Many Members in the Opposition have raised the issue of the poverty figures. Now, anyone who is even briefly familiar with the manner in which the Government of India collects statistics is aware of the fact that the National Sample Survey Organisation is not a creature of the Government of India and the poverty figures are collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation. Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav also raised this issue. It is not a question of whether the Planning Commission deals with it or I deal with it. But the fact remains that the National Sample Survey Organisation has conducted, as it always does, the survey on the basis of large samples for the *quinquennium*, the five yearly survey of poverty in this country and the National Sample Survey Organisation was headed by a very distinguished economist, who, unfortunately, is not amidst us any more, because he passed away, Dr. Prabin Bisaria. He was the head of the National Sample Survey Organisation and it was under his leadership that the poverty figures have been collected for the five years, after 1993-94 and in that they adopted a different method.

Sir, I am mentioning it because, again, Shrimati Margaret Alva was referring to this also–she had some piece of paper in her hand and she said that we have said this in the Economic Survey–but the fact of the matter is that in the earlier years, the survey was carried out on the basis of a 30-day recall period. It will mean that the enumerator, the investigator, will go out to somebody and ask: "what did you eat in the last 30 days?" If you were to ask me what I ate in the last 30 days, I will not be able to recall. Therefore, the world over, the recall period has been now limited to 7 days. But, in this country, we were carrying on with the method of 30-day recall period. What the latest survey of the National Sample Survey Organisation did was, they said: "all right; we will have a 30-day recall and we will also have a 7-day recall". So, they carried out the survey both on the basis of a 30-day recall, which is comparable with the past and a 7-day recall, which was an innovation and on the basis of both, they came to the conclusion about the number of people living below the poverty line. The difference between the two sets of figures was very marginal and, therefore, they said that the poverty level now, that of people living below the poverty line in this country, has come down to anything between 26 and 27 per cent. Now, there is a saying: "lies, damn lies and statistics". We can say what we lie, but we have not changed the system. This is the manner in which the Government of India has been collecting its statistics ever since and this is the manner in which statistics are being collected, the figures are being collected even today and, therefore, unless somebody comes up with something else, which is worthwhile, we have to go by the findings of this survey.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Do not misquote me. What I said was that the Economic Survey itself–I quoted it–at page 193-194 gives a footnote, which says, because of the changes in the methodology of data collection, these estimates may not be strictly comparable to the earlier estimates of poverty. I am not saying it. I am quoting the footnote in the Economic Survey, which says the methodology has changed and, therefore, these estimates and these figures cannot be compared with earlier figures.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: What document is that?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am talking about your Economic Survey, which has a footnote.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: What document do you have in your hand?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am quoting from the Economic Survey. It has been quoted from the Economic Survey. I am giving the page numbers also. It is there on page nos. 193-194. You check it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

I am quoting this foot-note from your survey.

18.00 hrs.

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I have the *Economic Survey* in front of me. That is why I have caught hold of it. ...*(Interruptions)* There are three footnotes in this document. I do not find in this what she has read from her document. ...*(Interruptions)* This is the *Economic Survey*. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Is it from the *Economic Survey* or from an article? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: It is not my intention to embarrass the hon. Member. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: It is a property of the House. Please send it to the Deputy-Speaker. ...*(Interruptions)* It is misleading the House. ...*(Interruptions)* Who has written that article? ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA (South Delhi): Sir, she has to produce that document. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: She has already quoted.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister is replying.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: It is not my intention to join issue on such a small matter. . .*(Interruptions)* I was only trying to clarify the manner in which the Government collected its statistics and, in this particular case, by an independent agency. We should not rubbish that very casually. ...*(Interruptions)*

I explained it also. ...*(Interruptions)* That is why I took time to explain to the House the difference in approach.

Naturally, in this House, on every occasion and on this occasion also, much concern has been expressed about the suffering of the *Kisans*. Cutting across party lines, the Members from this side also have spoken.

(*Translation*)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Finance the reasons and motive of the Government for adopting a new formula of calculating the average of 30 days instead of the earlier one involving the calculation of average by National Sample Survey taking into account the average of the entire year for determining the economic status of the people and putting them in BPL and APL categories?

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, on the question of agriculture and the concern that has been expressed here, a charge which has been levelled against this Government is that we are not concerned with agriculture. I am not going into the issue that has been raised by our friend, Shri Subodh Roy.

(*Translation*)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the speech delivered by Subodh Royji can be compared to an over used record whose sound loses it pitch owing to its repeated use. Hence I think that I need not give reply to the issues he has raised. He has said all those things because some misconceptions have taken firm grip on his mind and pschye and he has not able to get rid of these ideas. However, I would like to say this much only. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUBODH ROY (Bhagalpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has no answer to my question, hence he does not want to apply.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not want to waste the time of the House by replying to the issues raised by him. It is not that I have no answer. Instead I do not want to reply.

SHRI SUBODH ROY: Hon. Finance Minister Sir, it does not matter. You do not want to give reply to my questions, but at least reply to what Thengadiji wants to ask.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I will give reply to his questions to him.

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

18.05 hrs.

(MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*)

[*English*]

What I have said about agriculture in this Budget has to be seen in the context of what I have said for agriculture in my three previous Budgets.

It has to be seen in the context of the National Agricultural Policy, which this Government for the first time brought before the Parliament. No other Government had prepared the National Agricultural Policy. The credit for preparing the first ever National Agricultural Policy goes to this Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

(*Translation*)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: What were its consequences? Today, the farmer is dying ...*(Interruptions)*. Today the farmers are compelled to commit suicide. You are conspiring to ruin the farmer. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: If the previous Governments were so much concerned of and sympathetic to the cause of the farmer then at least you could have put up this thing before them. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not right, you resume you seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, all kinds of policies except Agriculture policy were formulated in this country. However, it was the Vajpayee lead NDA Government, which formulated a National Agriculture Policy for the first time. The House might be aware that when I presented my first budget. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have participated in debate, then why are you raising the questions.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: When I presented my maiden Budget 1998, that time I had thought of Kisan Credit Cards. Today humbly I would like to tell the House that upto 28th February, one crore and 24 lakh Kisan Credit Cards have been issued whose total worth is Rs. 23, 690 crore. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUBODH ROY: How many farmers have been murdered. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH; Please tell how many farmers are left without credit cards. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record, except Finance Minister's reply.

*(Interruptions)**

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Akhilesh, it is not proper. You may ask later on, not now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am a responsible Minister of the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Finance Bill is an important subject.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Finance Bill is an important subject.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: What I say, I would say on the basis of facts. If these facts pinch you, I don't have the remedy for that. You should take care of it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is not Question Hour session.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there was a talk of prices. Regarding the price of wheat and rice, I would like to clarify what had been the condition during last 20 years. During five years period from 1981-1985 on an average the price of wheat increased by Rs. 35 per quintal. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Please tell its production cost also. ...*(Interruptions)* If you do not provide exact figures, we would definitely ask. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Akhilesh, it is not okay, please sit down.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a question of farmers. If the House is mislead, you think we would just sit quietly. ...*(Interruptions)*

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* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: If you do not agree with it, you may go out.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down, what are you doing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Everyday you are doing like this. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking about production cost. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It has become your fashion, everyday you act like this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was reading out figures. During 1981-1985 on an average price of wheat increased by Rs. 35 per quintal. During five years period between 1986-90 on an average it increased by Rs. 31 a quintal. During 1991-95 when Congress was in power wheat price increased by Rs. 167. Congress deserves congratulations, they did a commendable job. There was a steep hike of Rs. 167 during 1991-95. During that period, your party was in power for two years. ...*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: We reduced fertilizer price during our regime. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Akhilesh ji, understand, it is not that difficult to handle you in the House. It is not okay.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Rs. 32 went up to Rs. 167, and in next five years, that is from 1996 to current year, 2001, the increase in these five years was Rs. 230 per quintal the highest ever. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me to speak only for a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Not now, speak later on. First take permission from the Chair.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: What happened in case of rice?

[*English*]

During 1981-85 it was Rs. 32, during 1986-90, it was Rs. 48, during 1991-95 it was Rs. 155, during 1996-2001 it was Rs. 170. This is the figure for rice. This is the kind of support price that we have extended. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Please tell how much production cost has increased. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: You are telling as if there used to be no increase in production cost earlier.

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing. If you need any clarification you may ask later on.

(Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: What is this confrontation?

(Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: You are preparing Budget under the pressure of WTO. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You must have some patience.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the fact of the matter is that, as I have said in my Budget speech, we have moved from being a shortage economy to being a surplus economy in agriculture and we are still trying to deal with the situation with the tools of the past. That is the difficulty of the policy. And that is why, the policies

[Shri Yashwant Sinha]

are now being changed. I have, therefore, forthrightly talked about the management of post harvest technology. In Budget after Budget, I have talked about the management of post harvest technology, why is it that we have laid such emphasis on storage, and why is it that we are laying such emphasis on processing. It is because we want the farmers to get adequate price, economic price for their produce, and that can happen only when they can keep their produce. I have reduced the rate of interest on the bank charges. I have given enough encouragement to the private sector to set up storage facilities and transportation facilities in the rural areas including the cold chain.

I have said in this Budget that there will be no excise duty, there will be zero excise duty on the processing of fruits and vegetables. This is the encouragement that has been given to the processing of perishable agricultural produce. And this coupled with what we are doing for watershed development and what we are doing through the accelerated irrigation benefit programme, all this is going to meet the requirements of farmers, which is basically water for irrigation of their fields, money for buying inputs, agricultural inputs, and marketing of their produce, and processing of their produce. I would only like to say that if the previous Governments had indeed this vision, and if they had bothered in the same manner in which we are concerned about these problems, then 53-year down the line, we would not have been today discussing this issue in this House, and India would have been, from the point of view of agricultural economy, a developed country like we should have been. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is not yielding. Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[*Translation*]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: In protest of this policy of the Government, I and other Members from my party walk out.

18.15 hrs.

Kunwar Akhilesh Singh and some other hon'ble Members then left the House.

Dr. Raguvansh Prasad Singh and some other hon'ble Members then left the House.

* Not recorded.

Shri Subodh Roy then left the House.

Shri Hari Shankar Mahale then left the House.

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I have one word about the management of the food economy. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, you are a senior Member.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: This Budget contains some thought about the management of the food economy. As I have said in my Budget speech, we will discuss this with the State Governments and try to arrive at a consensus which will be acceptable to them and acceptable to us. But let me mention this in this House because the question of food for work was raised. There are five drought-affected States. They are Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan which are badly affected by drought. Some of them are running second and third years. What is the decision that we have taken in the Government of India? To begin with, we shall give to each State Government one lakh tonnes of foodgrains, wheat or rice, free of cost. It is free of cost that we are making these foodgrains available to the State Governments. ...*(Interruptions)* For that we have said, it is open-ended. Let the State Governments utilise this food on Food-for-Work Programme. Our godowns are open for them. They can pick up whatever quantity they want.

We have a plan which is under discussion for extending it to all these State Governments who want to begin the Food-for-Work Programme in their States. Additionally, to meet the criticism that while foodgrain is rotting in our godowns and people are going hungry, I will tell you what is the plan which my colleague, the Food Minister, has come out with. It is *Antayodaya Anna Yojana*. Is it something that we should make fun of? It is for the poorest of the poor. There are one crore families in this country for whom we are saying we will make foodgrain available—wheat at Rs. 2 and rice at Rs. 3. That is the new system which has been started, which has already been inaugurated by the hon. Prime Minister. It is depending on the manner in which the States are proceeding. Half the country is already taking advantage of this new scheme.

In my 1999 Budget, I talked of the *Annapurna Anna Yojana*, where I said that we would make available 10 kilos of foodgrains free of cost to every old-age pensioner

in the rural areas. That scheme also is now going on. So, we are using this grain to make it available to the needy people and to the needy States. It is our desire not to keep this foodgrain in our godowns but use it as much as possible. Part of it is also being exported.

Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh has gone away but he raised the issue. ...*(Interruptions)* You are making it. He said, 'you are exporting it at Rs. 4.15 and you are selling it to the poor people, people below the poverty line, at a larger price.' We are making the foodgrain available to the State Governments at Rs. 4.15. Anything which is being added to the price is being added to it by the State Governments taking into account their own requirements.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Where is *Annapurna Anna Yojana*? None of us have seen it in our State.

[*Translation*]

Please ask him whether it has come to his State. For the last one year, it has not come to our State.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Can you point out a single State where the scheme is in operation?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy, he is not yielding. He has not completed his speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Will you point out a single State where the scheme is in operation? I come from Andhra Pradesh. It is not in operation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He is not yielding. He has not completed his speech.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bhuria, please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record please.

*(Interruptions)**

* Not recorded

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The scheme has been formulated. The schemes have been communicated to the State Governments. As far as the drought-affected States are concerned, we were reviewing the position. If I am not mistaken and if my memory serves me right, three lakh tonnes of foodgrains have already been lifted by the State Governments and the Food-for-Work Programme is going on in various States. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: All MPs from Madhya Pradesh had gone. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, in response to other issues, I would like to say that. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kantilal Bhuria, you are participating in the debate and also making noise. What is this? Please resume your seat.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow me.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is not yielding. He has not completed his speech.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, he is yielding. Mr. Minister, the scheme has been formulated, the scheme has been communicated, but it has not been implemented. I challenge it here. ...*(Interruptions)* Let the hon. Minister of Finance say on this. ...*(Interruptions)* Let him point out a single State where it has been implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy, please take your seat.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Shri Yashwant Sinha, communication and formulation are not the same as implementation. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Jaipal Reddy, please take your seat.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, what he has agreed to is on one thing.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: Hon'ble Finance Minister is misleading the House.

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing. Please sit down.

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA: The Government of Madhya Pradesh had sought Rs. 715 crore for drought relief. All the MPs had made a request. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I think what this needs is that the people like hon. Member Shri Kantilal Bhuria need to be taken on a study tour of the States where this scheme is implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, let there not be any running commentary. You have participated in the debate also.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Then he will be convinced. ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

Axioms need no proof.

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Shri Jaipal Reddy, both the schemes are implemented in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let there be no cross talk.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: No, it has not been implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. There are a number of suggestions which have been made. I remember, Shri Shivraj Patilji has talked about acrylic fibre. He has sent me the papers. I will look into this. Kumari Mayawati raised the issue of tea and coffee and she said that tea is generally used by poor people. I have done nothing in this Budget to raise the prices of tea. No duties, no taxes have been raised either on tea or on coffee.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: The excise duty on tea may be withdrawn.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Excise duty withdrawal is another issue. But I have done nothing to raise the prices. It was a very popular thing for hon. Member Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal to say that we have reduced or brought down duties on cars but we have done nothing about bicycles. Cars or automobiles in this country were being charged duties at 40 per cent excise duty which was the highest. In the course of rationalisation, I have brought it down to 32 per cent. On bicycles, there is no excise duty. So, what do I do? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: What I said was about your concern for the poor vis-à-vis that of the rich. I gave that example. I did not refer to any excise duty on bicycle. Please to not mislead us. ...*(Interruptions)* Please do not mislead the House. I know what I said. I am very clear as to what I said. I said that the rich people are the favourite people for you. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Sir, my question on employment generation has not been answered. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Madam, he is not yielding. Please take your seat.

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: I have just given the example. The poor people are defecating in the open. That is what I said. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: This charge is very easy to make because this is one charge that you can level against any one in the Government without having an iota of evidence. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: As I said, the poor people are defecating in the open. What do you say about it? ...*(Interruptions)*

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Bansal ji, what are you doing, he has not yet concluded his reply.

[*English*]

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: The poor people have been taken more care of in the past three years than what they have been taken care of in the last fifty years. Let me make it clear. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: You have twisted my words on your own. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I have one last word.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Sir, please allow me for a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Athawale, the hon. Minister has not yielded. Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, this Budget was prepared in the shadow of the aftermath of the Gujarat tragedy.

Therefore, I have said what the Government had done and was proposing to do, in my Budget Speech, but I would just like to take a few minutes because Shri Pravin Rashtrapal has raised this issue.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: I want a reply also.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: That is what I am coming to.

Sir, one or two days after the Gujarat tragedy, I had made a statement that we shall be approaching international multilateral agencies for assistance and I am glad to be able to tell the House that as I had said then, responding to the request of the Government of India, the World Bank has sanctioned one billion dollars, which is Rs. 4,700 crore, as aid to Gujarat, and the Asian Development Bank has already agreed to give us 500 million dollars worth of assistance for Gujarat. Separately, the two housing agencies, the National Housing Bank and the HUDCO, have been allowed to raise Rs. 2,000 crore through tax-free bonds. We have made money available to the Gujarat Government. When the Prime Minister went there, he announced assistance of Rs. 500 crore immediately on the spot and another Rs. 330 crore have been released. We have assured the Government of Gujarat that money will not be a problem, that the Government of India is fully behind the Gujarat Government in making funds available for rehabilitation.

Now, I am coming to the point which Shri Rashtrapal has raised about the two per cent surcharge. Let me explain briefly what is the policy which has been laid down by the Eleventh Finance Commission in this regard. The Eleventh Finance Commission has said that there will be a corpus of RS. 500 crore only, which will be called the National Calamity Contingency Fund. My colleague, the Agriculture Minister, who is the Chairman of the Committee on this at the Central level, is sitting here.

You will recall that I had provided for Rs. 500 crore for the corpus in the Winter Session of Parliament. I came to Parliament and secured your approval for imposing a tax of one per cent by way of surcharge on corporate tax, through which we were hoping to replenish this amount. This money has already been spent and, therefore, we came again to you and we took your permission to raise money for Gujarat Earthquake relief through a two per cent surcharge on income tax, and my estimate was that we would be able to raise Rs. 1,300 crore. This is a surcharge that we have continued in the current year also. The total amount, which will be to the extent of Rs. 2,600 crore, will also be made available only to Gujarat. Let me make it very clear. There is no question of diverting this money. But the only difference that I have with Shri Rashtrapal is that it will go to the National Calamity Contingency Fund because that is the Fund at the Central level, and through that Fund, it will go to Gujarat. Let us not quarrel about these small things. The money is going to Gujarat. We are not even taking our administrative charge from it. So, do not bother about it.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: The question is that a Committee of five Chief Ministers will decide.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: No, it is not so. It has all changed. It is not a Committee of five Chief Ministers; it is a Committee headed by Agriculture Minister which consists of Finance Minister and Deputy-Chairman of Planning Commission. The three of us can meet any day and give the money to whoever needs it, and that is exactly how we are doing it very speedily and very conscientiously.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: This two per cent surcharge should go to Gujarat.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I am assuring you, I am saying it on the floor of the House. What greater assurance do you need?

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL: Thank you.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, a number of other suggestions have been made, of which I have taken note. There are other larger issues and specially, hon. Shri Shivraj V. Patil has raised the question of ethics in economics. He has raised the question of World Trade Organisation and the question of discussing here the Five Year Plans and the mid-term review of the Plans. A number of other issues have been raised by friends cutting across party lines. Kumari Mayawati has particularly raised the issue of the rural sector and the weaken section. Let me say on behalf of the Government that....

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: What about my question of employment generation. It has not been answered. This is a major question. Will the hon. Minister just reply to that?

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Shrimati Shyama Singh, you are just getting little impatient. I was reserving that for the end because you were the last speaker.

These are issues which have been debated in this House from time to time. I do not want to take your time. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE: The chamber-based tax on textile processing industries should be extended for two more years.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I have said that all the suggestions which have been made have been taken note of by me. Now, coming to the last part which Shrimati Shyama Singh referred to, that is, the question of employment generation. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Before that, regarding garment industry, so many representations have been made.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: When I moved the Bill for consideration, I have already announced this.

On the general issue of employment generation, we have repeatedly said that employment generation is at the very core, at the centre of our economic policy. This Government does not want jobless growth and, therefore, we have done a great deal. You are saying where is that one crore. Because anyone who takes VRS is before us, they are larger than life, but the jobs which are being created are not before our eyes because that is not making news. If we are spending Rs. 2,500 crore every year on rural roads if we are going to build 7,000 kilometres of national highways under the Prime Minister's Programme of National Highways for which contracting has been done and the rest of it is going to be completed by 30th June, and the work is in progress, if the housing is picking up, if software exports are taking place, if IT-enabled services are happening in this country, if all this is happening and the economy is growing by six per cent, this is not being done by ghosts, this is being done by people, and those people are getting employment. The figures take a little time in coming because if I were to give you any figure, then you will say, "What is the basis for that?" I do not want to give you a figure which is not based on some survey. I am awaiting those figures. I can say with some confidence that all the economic activity which is taking place, the kind of encouragement that we have given to the small-scale sector, the kind of encouragement that we have given to the informal sector through the self-help groups–for instance, look at the number of self-help groups that they have formed in Andhra Pradesh, in Gujarat, in Tamil Nadu. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: In Andhra Pradesh, their number is 3,50,000.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Just imagine the number of families who have augmented their income. There is a burst of activity in the rural areas as a result of this. Therefore, Sir, my plea is that employment is being generated substantially. The figures will take a little time; I do not want to say anything in an irresponsible fashion. But the Government is fully aware of the fact that the end result of all economic policies has to be employment and, through employment, the common man, the poor man of India, should be benefited. That will continue to be the thrust of our policy under the leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Let me assure the House once again that we have delivered in the past, and we shall continue to deliver.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shivraj Patil.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I will just have to clarify one thing, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I have called the name of Shri Shivraj Patil.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL (Latur): Sir, we have not criticised everything that is contained in the Budget, but there has been a uniform criticism levelled against the Budget.

The uniform criticism is that many concessions have been given for the industries and for developing the capital market but there are no visible concessions in the Budget that would go to show that some relief has been given to the common man. There are no visible concessions that would go to show that the farmers could get relief and that employment could be generated. The hon. Finance Minister has explained the employment would be generated by implementing...*(Interruptions)* the Prime Minister's *Yojana* for constructing roads for villagers. He has also said that there would be time required for generating that employment and this would trickle down in due course of time. But there is no scheme in the Budget that could directly help to remove unemployment. The charge and complaint that has been made, not only

by the Members of Parliament of this party but by other parties, is that there is nothing visible in the Budget to show that it would help the common man, or help to generate employment, or help the agriculturists...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, we have pointed out that income tax on lottery has been reduced, customs duty on cars has been reduced and at the same time, the interest rate in the Provident Fund also has been reduced. The NABARD, the small scale industries and the Housing Bank would now be charged with income tax. These organisations would have to pay income tax. These taxation provisions go to show that care has been taken to help those who are well to do but enough care has not been taken to help those who really need the help. This aspect has not been explained by the hon. Finance Minister. We expected that he would, in clear terms, explain these issues rather than just referring to the performance in other years. He should have explained these things by referring to the provisions in the Budget itself.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 2001-2002, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: The House would now take up clause by clause consideration.

Clauses 2 and 3

Income Tax and Amendment of Section 2

MR. SPEAKER: 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 4

Amendment of Section 9

Amendment made:

"Page 4, line 17, *after* "commercial or scientific equipment", *insert*

"but not including the amounts referred to in section 44BB". (22)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 5

Amendment of Section 10

Amendments made:

Page 5, line 5, *for* "clause shall be", substitute "clauses shall be". (23)

Page 5, *after* line 9, *insert*—

"(23*BBE*) any income of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority established under sub-section (*1*) of section 3 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.". (24) 41 of 1999

Page 5, *for* lines 10 to 14, *substitute*—

'(*e*) in clause (23C),-

(*a*) in the third proviso,-

(*i*) in clause (*a*), after the words "the objects for which it is established", the words, figures and letters "and in case where more than twenty-five per cent of its income is accumulated on or after the 1st day of April, 2001, the period of the accummulation of the amount exceeding twenty-five per cent of its income shall in no case exceed five years: shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002;'. (25)

Page 5, *for* lines 23 to 29, *substitute*—

'(*b*) after the eighth proviso, the following proviso shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002, namely:-

"Provided also that where the total receipts of the fund or institution referred to in sub-clause (*iv*) or of any trust or institution referred to in sub-clause (*v*) or of any University or other educational institution referred to in sub-clause (*vi*) or of any hospital or other institution referred to in sub-clause (*via*) exceed one crore rupees in any preceding year, the fund or trust or institution or University or other educational institution or hospital or other institution, as the case may be, shall-".'. (26)

Page 5, line 50 *after* "business referred to in sub-section (*4*) of section 80- IA", *insert* "or a housing project referred to in sub-section (*10*) of section 80-IB". (27)

Page 6, line 5, *for* "providing credit rating", *substitute* "enhancing credit". (28)

Page 6, *for* lines 9 and 10, *substitute-*

"Provided that this clause shall not apply to any income arising from transfer of units of the Unit Trust of India or of a mutual fund, as the case may be.". (29)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 6

Amendment of Section 10A

Amendment made:

Page 6, *for* lines 22 to 24, *substitute-*

'(*i*) below Explanation 1, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided that nothing contained in this *Explanation* shall apply to any change in the shareholding of the company as a result of-

(*a*) its becoming a company in which the public are substantially interested; or

(*b*) disinvestment of its equity shares by any venture capital company or venture capital fund.". (30)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 6, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 6, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 7

Amendment of Section 10B

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, before I move Amendment No. 31, I would like to say something. On MPLADS we have had a meeting under your chairmanship. Let me explain to the hon. Members of the House that there is a Committee headed by the hon. Speaker which takes decisions in these matters. This request also must be addressed to that Committee. I cannot substitute for that Committee. So, let the Speaker take care of it....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, you are not properly discharging your duties in the House as Members of Parliament but you are asking for more power!

Amendment made:

Page 6, *for* lines 41 and 42, *substitute-*

(*i*) below *Explanation* 1, the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:-

"Provided that nothing contained in this *Explanation* shall apply to any change in the shareholding of the company as a result of:-

(*a*) its becoming a company in which the public are substantially interested; or

(*b*) disinvestment of its equity shares by any venture capital company or venture capital fund.". (31)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 7, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 and 9 were added to the Bill.

Clause 10

Amendment of Section 12A

Amendment made:

Page 7, line 13, *for* "ten lakh rupees", *substitute* "one crore rupees". (32)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 10, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 10, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill.

Clause 12

Amendment of section 16

Amendment made:

Page 7, *for* lines 23 to 28 *substitute-*

'12. In section 16 of the Income-tax Act, for clauses (i) and (ii), the following clauses shall be submitted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002, namely:- Amendment of section 16.

"(i) in the case of an assessee whose income from salary, before allowing a deduction under this clause,-

(A) does not exceed one lakh fifty thousand rupees, a deduction of a sum equal to thirty-three and one-third per cent of the salary or thirty thousand rupees, whichever is less;

(B) exceeds one lakh fifty thousand rupees but does not exceed three lakh rupees, a deduction of a sum of twenty-five thousand rupees;

(C) exceeds three lakh rupees but does not exceed five lakh rupees, a deduction of a sum of twenty thousand rupees;

(ii) a deduction in respect of any allowance in the nature of an entertainment allowance specifically granted by an employer to the assessee who is in receipt of a salary from the Government, a sum equal to one-fifth of his salary (exclusive of any allowance, benefit or other perquisite) or five thousand rupees, whichever is less;".'. (33)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 13

Amendment of Section 17

Amendments made:

Page 7, *for* lines 34 to 38, *substitute-*

'(B) in the proviso, for the words "the Employees' Stock Option Plan or Scheme of the said company", the words "any Employees' Stock Option Plan or Scheme of the company offered to such employees in accordance with the guidelines issued in this behalf by the Central Government" shall be substituted.'. (34)

Page 7, line 39, *for* "(*vii*)", *substitute* "(*v*)" (35)

Page 7, line 41, *for* "(*viii*)", *substitute* "(*vi*)" (36)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 13, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 13, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 14 to 20 were added to the Bill.

Clause 21

Amendment of Section 32

Amendment made:

Page 9, *for* lines 16 and 17, *substitute-*

'(a) in sub-section (1), in clause (ii),-

(A) in the first proviso, in clause (a) after the figures, letters and words "28th day of February, 1975", the words, figures and letters "but

before the 1st day of April, 2001" shall be inserted;

(B) after *Explanation* 4, the following *Explanation* shall be inserted, namely:- '. (37)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 21, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 22 and 23 were added to the Bill.

Clause 24

Insertion of new section 35 DDA

Amendments made:

Page 9, lines 47 and 48, *omit* "with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002." (38)

Page 10, *omit* lines 1 and 2. (39)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 24, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 24, as amended was added to the Bill.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, please allow Shrimati Margaret Alva to make her point.

MR. SPEAKER: But I cannot allow her to make her submission now.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: You may allow her in the end, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80 (i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 40 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 40 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 24A and B

Amendment made:

Page 10, *after* line 4, *insert*—

Amendment of section 36.

'24A. In section 36, in sub-section (1), in clause (vii), after the proviso, the following Explanation shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted with effect from the 1st day of April, 1989, namely:-

"*Explanation*—For the purposes of this clause, any bad debt or part thereof written off as irrecoverable in the accounts of the assessee shall not include any provision for bad and doubtful debts made in the accounts of the assessee."

Amendment of section 43.

24B. In section 43 of the Income-tax Act, with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002,—

(a) in clause (*l*), after *Explanation* 11, the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:— .

"*Explanation* 12.—Where any capital asset is acquired by the assessee under a scheme for corporatisation of a recognised stock exchange in India, approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India

established under section 3 of the Securities
15 of 1992 and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, the actual cost of the asset shall be deemed to be the amount which would have been regarded as actual cost had there been no such corporatisation.";

(b) in clause (6), after Explanation 4, the following *Explanation* shall be inserted, namely:-

"*Explanation* 5.—Where in a previous year, any asset forming part of a block of assets is transferred by a recognised stock exchange in India to a company under a scheme for corporatisation approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India established under section 3 of the Securities
15 of 1992 and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, the written down value of the block of assets in the case of such company shall be the written down value of the transferred assets immediately before such transfer.". (40)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 24A and B be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 24A and B was added to the Bill.

Clause 25 was added to the Bill.

Clause 26

Amendment of Section 44AB

Amendment made:

Page 10, *for* lines 25 to 28, *substitute*-

'(ii) "specified dated", in relation to the accounts of the assessee of the previous year relevant to an assessment year, means the 31st day of October of the assessment year.'. (41)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 26, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 26, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 27

Amendment of Section 47

Amendments made:

Page 10, *for* lines 30 to 33, *substitute*—

'(a) in clause (iii), in the proviso, for the words, "the Employees' Stock option Plan or Scheme", the words "any Employees' Stock option Plan or Scheme of the Company offered to such employees in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Central Government in this behalf" shall be substituted.'. (42)

Page 10, after line 35, *insert*-

'(c) in clause (xiii), with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002,—

(*i*) for the portion beginning with the words "where a firm is succeeded" and ending with the words "intangible asset to the company", the following shall be substituted namely:—

"any transfer of a capital asset or intangible asset by a firm to a company as a result of succession of the firm by a company in the business carried on by the firm, or any transfer of a capital asset to a company in the course of corporatisation of a recognised stock exchange in India as a result of which an association of persons or body of individuals is succeeded by such company:";

(*ii*) in the proviso,—

(*A*) in clause (*a*), after the words "liabilities of the firms" the words "or of the association of persons or body of individuals" shall be inserted;

(*B*) after clause (*d*), the following clause shall be inserted namely:-

"(*e*) the corporatisation of a recognised stock exchange in India is carried out in accordance with a scheme for corporatisation which is approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India established under section 3 of the Securities and Exchange
15 of 1992 Board of India Act, 1992.". (43)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 27, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 27, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 28 to 31 were added to the Bill.

Clause 32

Amendment of Section 55

Amendment made:

Page 11, for lines 35 to 37, *substitute*—

Amendment of section 55.

'32. In section 55 of the Income-tax Act, in sub-section (2), with effect from 1st day of April, 2002,—

(a) in clause (a), after the words "goodwill of a business", the words "or a trade mark or brand name associated with a business" shall be inserted;

(b) after clause (aa), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:-

"(ab) in relation to a capital asset, being equity share or shares allotted to a shareholder of a recognised stock exchange in India under a scheme for corporatisation approved by the Securities and Exchange Board of India established under section 3 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, shall be the cost of acquisition of his original membership of the exchange." (44)

15 of 1992

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 32, as amended, stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 32, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 33 to 38 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of rule 80 (i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of the rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No 45 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of the rule of 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 45 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 38A

Amendment made:

Page 12, *after* line 20, *insert*—

Amendment of section 80HHC.

'38A. In section 80HHC of the Income-tax Act, in Sub-section (*1B*) for clauses (*ii*), (*iii*) and (*iv*) the following clauses shall be substituted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002, namely:-

"(*ii*) seventh per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2002;

(*iii*) fifty per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2002;

(*iv*) thirty per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2004.". (45)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 38A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 38A was added to the Bill.

Clause 39

Amendment of section 80HHE

Amendment made:

Page 12, *for* lines 21 to 26, *substitute*—

"39. In section 80HHE of the Income-tax Act,- Amendment of section 80HHE.

(a) after sub-section (1), the following Explanation shall be inserted, namely:-

"*Explanation.*-For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that the profits and gains derived from on site development of computer software (including services for development of software) outside India shall be deemed to be the profits and gains derived from the export of computer software outside India.";

(b) in sub-section (1B), for clauses (ii), (iii) and (iv), the following clauses shall be substituted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002, namely:-

"(ii) seventy per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2002;

(iii) fifty per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2003;

(iv) thirty per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2004.". (46)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 39, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 39, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Motion Re: Suspension of Rule 80 (I)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 47 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 47 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 39A

Amendment made:

Page 12, *after* line 26, *insert*—

'39A. In section 80HHF of the Income-tax Act, in sub-section (1A), for clauses (ii), (iii), and (iv), the following clauses shall be submitted with effect from the 1st day of April, 2002 namely:- Amendment of section 80HHC.

"(ii) seventy per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2002;

(iii) fifty per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2003;

(iv) thirty per cent, thereof for an assessment year beginning on the 1st day of April, 2004.". (47)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 39A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 39A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 40 and 41 were added to the Bill.

Clause 42

Amendment of Section 80L

Amendment made:

Page 14, *omit* line 10. (48)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 42, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 42, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 43 was added to Bill.

Motion Re : Suspension of Rule 80(I)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 49 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 49 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 43A

Amendment made:

Page 14, after line 21, insert-

Amendment of section 90

'43A. In section 90 of the Income-tax Act, the following *Explanation* shall be inserted and shall be deemed to have been inserted with effect from the 1st day of April, 1962, namely:-

"*Explanation.*-For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that the charge of tax in respect of a foreign company at a rate higher than the rate at which a domestic company is chargeable, shall not be regarded as less favourable charge or levy of tax in respect of such foreign company, where such foreign company has not made the prescribed arrangement for declaration and payment within India, of the dividends (including dividends on preference shares) payable out of its income in India".' (49)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 43A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 43A was added to Bill.

Clause 44

Substitution of new Section for Section 92

Amendments made:

Page 16, *after* line 26, *insert-*

"Provided further that where the total income of an associated enterprise is computed under this sub-section on determination of the arm's length price paid to another associated enterprise from which tax has been deducted under the provisions of Chapter XVIIB, the income of the other associated enterprise shall not be recomputed by reason of such determination of arm's length price in the case of the first mentioned enterprise." (50)

Page 16, line 46, after "means a person", *insert* "(including a permanent establishment of such person)". (51)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 44, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 44, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 45 to 53 was added to the Bill.

Clause 54

Amendment of Section 139

Amendment made:

Page 20, *for* line 15, *substitute*—

"(a) where the assessee is—

(i) a company; or

(ii) a person (other than a company) whose accounts are required to be audited under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force; or

(iii) a working partner of a firm whose accounts are required to be audited under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force,

the 31st day of October of the assessment year;". (52)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 54, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 54, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 55 to 59 were added to the Bill.

Clause 60

Amendment of Section 15A

Amendment made:

Page 22, line 4, *for* the words "Notwithstanding anything contained in", *substitute* "Without prejudice to the provisions of". (53)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 60, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 60, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 61 to 63 were added to the Bill.

Clause 64

Amendment of Section 194A

Amendment made:

Page 22, *for* lines 28 to 33, *substitute*—

'64. In section 194A of the Income-tax Act in sub-section (3), in clause (i), in the proviso, the portion beginning with the words "the provisions of this clause" and ending with the words "has been substitute and" shall be omitted with effect from the 1st day of June, 2001.'. (54) Amendment of Section 194A.

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 64, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 64, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 65 to 67 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re : Suspension of Rule 80 (i)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 55 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in

Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 55 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 67A

Amendment made:

Page 23, *after* line 13, *insert*—

Amendment of section 197.

'67A. In section 197 of the Income-tax Act, in sub-section (I), after the figures and letter "194D", the figures and letter, "194H" shall be inserted with effect from the 1st day of June, 2001.'. (55)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 67A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 67A was added to the Bill.

Clauses 68 to 126 were added to the Bill.

Motion Re : Suspension of Rule 80(I)

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: I beg to move:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 56 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do suspend clause (i) of rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha in so far as it requires that an amendment shall be within the scope of the Bill and relevant to the subject matter of the clause to which it relates, in its application to Government amendment No. 56 to the Finance Bill, 2001 and that this amendment may be allowed to be moved."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 126A

Amendment made:

Page 32, *after* line 42, *insert*,—

Validation of certain exemption given to polytan in powder or granule form.

126A (New)

'126A. (1) The amendment of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. G.S.R. 168(E), dated the 1st March, 2000 made by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) No. G.S.R. 98(E) dated the 15th day of February, 2001, which was issued in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 25 of the Customs Act, granting exemption from customs duty leviable under the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act and additional duty of customs leviable under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Customs Tariff Act on import of "Polytan in powder or granule form" by Sports Authority of India or a National Sports Federation under a certificate issued by the Sports Authority of India for laying synthetic tracks and artificial surfaces for use in a national or international championship or competition to be held in India or abroad shall be deemed to be and always to have been for all purposes validly, come into force on and from the 1st day of December, 2000 at all material times.

(2) Refund shall be made of all such duties which have been collected but which would not have been so collected if

the amendment referred to in sub-section (1) had been in force at all material times.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 27 of the Customs Act, an application for the claim of refund of the duty of customs or the additional duty of customs, as the case may be, under sub-section (2) shall be made within one year from the date on which the Finance Bill, 2001 receives the assent of the President.

(4) For the purposes of sub-section (1), the Central Government shall have and shall be deemed to have the power to amend the notifications referred to in the said sub-section with retrospective effect as if the Central Government had the power to amend the said notifications under Sub-section (1) of Section 25 of the Customs Act, retrospectively at all material times.'. (56)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That new clause 126A be added to the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

New Clause 126A, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 127 to 129 were added to the Bill.

Clause 130

Amendment of Act 32 of 1994

Amendments made:

Page 33,—

in line 26,—

(i) *for* "automobile manufacturer", *substitute* "motor vehicle manufacturer";

(ii) *for* "automobile manufactured", *substitute* "motor car or two wheeled motor vehicle manufactured". (57)

Page 35,—

in line 36,—

for "by a port", *substitute* "by a port or any person authorised by the port". (58)

Page 38,—

in line 3,—

for "policy holder", *substitute* "policy holder or insurer". (59)

Page 38,—

in line 7,—

for "by a port", *substitute* "by a port or any person authorised by the port". (60)

Page 38,—

in line 9,—

for "automobiles", *substitute* "motor cars or two wheeled motor vehicles"; (61)

Page 38,—

in line 33,—

for "and", *substitute* "and includes". (62)

Page 39,—

in line 18,—

for "commission", *substitute* "commission, fee or any other sum". (63)

Page 39,—

in line 21,—

for "automobile", *substitute* "motor car or two wheeled motor vehicle". (64)

Page 39,—

in line 28,—

for "automobiles", *substitute* "motor cars or two wheeled motor vehicles". (65)

Page 40,—

omit lines 13 to 16. (66)

Page 40,—

for lines 27 to 29, *substitute*—

'(k) in section 77, for the words "two thousand rupees", the words "one thousand rupees" shall be substituted;' (67)

(Shri Yashwant Sinha)

19.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, are you moving your amendments?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Yes, I am moving the amendments.

I beg to move:

Page 35, line 30,—

omit "any professional photograher or" (1)

Page 37, lines 36 and 37,—

for "in any manner"

substitute "the value of which exceeds five thousand rupees" (2)

Page 37, lines 48 and 49,—

for "in any manner"

substitute "the value of which exceeds five thousand rupees" (3)

Page 37, lines 50 and 51,—

omit "or agency in relation to any kind of sound recording" (4)

Page 38, line 30,—

omit "any professional videographer or" (5)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments No. 1 to 5 moved by Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That clause 130, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 130, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 131 to 135 were added to the Bill.

First Schedule

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, are you moving your amendments?

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Yes, I am moving my amendments.

I beg to move:

Page 43,—

for lines 9 to 15, *substitute*—

"Rates of income-tax

(1) where the total income does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000	Nil;
(2) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,20,000	10 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000
(3) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,20,000 but does not exceeds Rs. 1,70,000	Rs. 2,000 plus 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,20,000.
(4) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,70,000	Rs. 12,000 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,70,000" (6)

Page 43, line 21,—

for "sixty thousand"

substitute "one lakh twenty thousand" (7)

Page 43, line 23,—

for "sixty thousand"

substitute "one lakh twenty thousand" (8)

Page 43, line 24,—

for "one lakh fifty thousand"

substitute "One lakh seventy thousand" (9)

Page 43, line 25,—

for "one lakh fifty thousand"

substitute "one lakh seventy thousand" (10)

Page 43, line 28,—

for "sixty thousand"

substitute "one lakh twenty thousand" (11)

Page 43, line 30,—

for "sixty thousand"

substitute "one lakh twenty thousand" (12)

Page 43, lines 31 and 32,—

for "one lakh fifty thousand"

substitute "one lakh seventy thousand" (13)

Page 43, line 33,—

for "one lakh fifty thousand"

substitute "one lakh seventy thousand" (14)

Page 43, line 34,—

for "one lakh fifty thousand"

substitute "one lakh seventy thousand" (15)

Page 43, line 8,—

for "35 per cent"

substitute "32 per cent" (16)

Page 47,—

for lines 17 to 23, *substitute*—

"Rates of income-tax

(1) where the total income does not exceed Rs. 1,00,000	Nil;
(2) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000 but does not exceed Rs. 1,20,000	10 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,00,000
(3) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,20,000 but does not exceeds Rs. 1,70,000	Rs. 2,000 plus 20 per cent of the amount by which the total income Exceeds Rs. 1,20,000.
(4) where the total income exceeds Rs. 1,70,000	Rs. 12,000 plus 30 per cent of the amount by which the total income exceeds Rs. 1,70,000 (17)

Page 47, line 29,—

for "sixty thousand"

substitute "one lakh twenty thousand" (18)

Page 47, line 34,—

for "sixty thousand"

substitute "one lakh twenty thousand" (19)

Page 47,—

for line 36,—

substitute "income of one lakh twenty thousand rupees by more than the amount of income that exceeds one lakh twenty thousand rupees." (20)

Page 47, line 52,—

for "35 per cent."

substitute "32 per cent." (21)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendments No. 6 to 21 moved by Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal to the vote of the House.

The amendments were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the First Schedule stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The First Scheduled was added to Bill.

The Second Schedule to the Eighth schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am not raising any new point. Since the House felt that I was misleading the House, I just wanted to clarify my point. Here is the Economic Survey...*(Interruptions)* I would like to go right on the record.

[Translation]

I showed it to the Finance Minister also. I did wrong, I read out footnote,

[English]

but it is not a footnote. It is an explanatory note. What I said was that, because of the changes in methodology of data collection, these two sets of estimates may not be strictly comparable to the earlier estimates of poverty. I am just putting the records straight. I am not going beyond that.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Frankly, I was misled or I misread. I was looking at the footnote. I have seen the paragraphs that the hon. Member had mentioned. It is paragraph 10.15.

[Translation]

AN HON'BLE MEMBER: It is a printing mistake.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: It is not a printing mistake.

If you read the whole paragraph, you will see that they are comparing the figures of poverty according to the thirty-day recall and seven-day recall. When they are talking about the seven-day recall, they are saying that because of this innovation, these figures are not strictly comparable. So, the comparable figures are based on thirty-day recall. Whereas the figures which cannot be compared or should not be compared strictly are the figures based on the seven-day recall. That is the point which I am trying to explain.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

19.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, April 26, 2001/Vaisakha 6, 1923 (Saka).

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