

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



Gazettes & Debates Unit
Parliament Library Building
Room No. FB-025
Block 'G'

(Vol. XVI contains Nos. 22 to 31)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 50.00

EDITORIAL BOARD

G.C. Malhotra
Secretary-General
Lok Sabha

Dr. P.K. Sandhu
Joint Secretary

P.C. Chaudhary
Principal Chief Editor

Y.K. Abrol
Chief Editor

A.P. Chakravarti
Senior Editor

P. Mohanty
Editor

(Original English Proceedings included in English Version and Original Hindi proceedings included in Hindi Version will be treated as authoritative and not the translation thereof.)

CONTENTS

Thirteenth Series, Vol. XVI, Sixth Session 2001/1923 (Saka)

No. 27, Monday, April 23, 2001/Vaisakha 3, 1923 (Saka)

SUBJECT	COLUMNS
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTION	
*Starred Question Nos. 501-503	8-29
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS	
*Starred Question Nos. 504-520	29-60
Unstarred Question Nos. 5243-5472	60-323
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	323-328
COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES	
Thirteenth Report and Minutes and Study Tour	328
STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 65 DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2001 RE: CELLULAR TELEPHONE SERVICE	
AND	
STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR DELAY	
Shri Ram Vilas Paswan	329
STATEMENTS CORRECTING REPLY TO	
(I) STARRED QUESTION NO. 210 DATED MARCH, 12, 2001 RE: DEVELOPMENT AND UPGRADATION OF AIRPORTS	
AND	
(II) STARRED QUESTION NO. 220 DATED MARCH, 12, 2001 RE: EXODUS OF PILOTS—LAID	
Shri Sharad Yadav	329-331
MOTION RE: TWENTIETH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE	331
MATTERS UNDER RULE 377—LAID	332-338
(I) Need to promote export of sugar	
Shri Mansinh Patel	332
(ii) Need for proper maintenance of Mahatma Gandhi Setu on River Ganga in Patna, Bihar	
Dr. M.P. Jaiswal	332

The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

(iii)	Need for construction of National Highway Between Umerpara and Ambaji in Gujrat	
	Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava	332-333
(iv)	Need to establish a Central Agriculture Research Institute in Bahraich district, U.P.	
	Shri Padam Sen Choudhry	333
(v)	Need to develop Sawai Madhopur railway junction in Rajasthan as a model railway station	
	Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena	333
(vi)	Need to restore Jal Dhara Yojana in Jharkhand	
	Shri Ram Tahal Chaudhary	333-334
(vii)	Need to restore service of Gondwana Express running between Nagpur and Nizamuddin	
	Shri Vilas Muttemwar	334
(viii)	Need to include synonyms of Meda Community of Karnataka in the list of Scheduled Tribe	
	Shri S.D.N.R. Wadhyar	334
(ix)	Need to provide more funds to Government of Rajasthan for providing relief to the people affected by drought in southern Rajasthan	
	Shri Tarachand Bhagora	335
(x)	Need to include Bhuban town in Dhenkanal Parliamentary Constituency, Orissa under Centrally Sponsored integrated small and medium town Development scheme	
	Shri K.P. Singh Deo	335
(xi)	Need for early repatriation of Reang refugees camping in Tripura to Mizoram	
	Shri Samar Choudhary	336
(xii)	Need to safeguard the interests of Powerloom/Handloom workers in Bhagalpur, Bihar	
	Shri Subodh Roy	336-337
(xiii)	Need to strengthen Cooperative Banks by providing financial assistance	
	Shri K. Yerrannaidu	337
(xiv)	Need for a cantonment at Kaimur hills in Rohtas District, Bihar	
	Shri Ram Prasad Singh	337
(xv)	Need to save Moradabad in UP from recurring Floods	
	Shri Chandra Vijay Singh	338
STATEMENT BY MINISTER		
RECENT INCIDENTS AT INDIA-BANGLADESH BORDER		338-340
	Shri Jaswant Singh	338-340
	Shrimati Sonia Gandhi	340-341
	Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav	341-342
	Shri K. Yerrannaidu	342
	Shri Subodh Roy	343
	Shri Mohan Rawale	343-344
	Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh	344

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, April 23, 2001/Vaisakha 3, 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 soldiers of Bangladesh have killed our soldiers....(Interruptions) Their bodies have been mutilated(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Prakash Ambedkar, I have to say something on your own notice.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Shinde, I have to say something.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (FIROZABAD): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the wheat crop of farmers is being looted ... (Interruptions) Wheat grower is disturbed.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: The way the Pakistani forces have deceitfully killed our soldiers, similarly Bangladesh soldiers have killed our soldiers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You please sit down.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you should listen to us. Our soldiers have been killed in a very brutal manner.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There must be some order in the House.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Prakash Ambedkar, Shri Shinde, I am on my legs.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am asking him to resume his seat. Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Two notices have been given. One is regarding suspension of the Question Hour by Shri Mohan Rawale, and the other is regarding Adjournment Motion by Shri Prakash Ambedkar. Both the notices have been rejected by the Speaker.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Let me complete what I have to say, Shri Ambedkar.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Government has intimated to the Speaker that after the Question Hour, it is also equally keen to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Government has intimated to the Speaker in this regard.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Defence Minister will be making his statement after the Question Hour, and you can also raise the matter at that time.

Now let us take up Question Hour

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: When Bala Saheb Thackeray talks patriotism he is deprived of his right to vote and when our soldiers are getting killed in this manner our Government is doing nothing except writing letters.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the matter is so serious ... (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Why question was not raised in the House when we had given notice (Interruptions) our soldiers are being badly treated in Bangladesh.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, discussion should be held over this.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (GOPALGANJ): The Government should give statement in this regard ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something. Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please hear him.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I do not want to speak much over this. I would only like to say that the question which hon. Raghuvansh Prasadji has raised is a serious one. It would be better if the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs give its reply. Today there is resentment in the entire country over this issue. Entire country wants to know as to why the Bangladeshis have killed our soldiers in a brutal manner but so far no serious efforts have been made by the Government in this regard. This question relates to the country. At present hon. Raghuvansh Prasadji is with Congress. He is saying that this issue should be raised after 12 o'clock. The House would not continue after 12 o'clock(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Minister will be making a statement at 12 o'clock. That has already been informed to the Speaker and I will call Shri Mohan Rawale, Shri Prakash Yashwant Ambedkar and you also at that time.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the country is not safe in the hands of this Government.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This is a very serious question. Entire House wants to know about this.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you please pay attention towards this. This is a serious question which relates to the security of the country. The country is not safe in the hands of this Government be it Bangladesh or Kargil. On the other hand, farmers are being ruined. The House would not continue after 12 o'clock. If you give us an assurance that the House would continue even after 12 o'clock and you will give us an opportunity to express our views, then we are already to sit here(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If you allow the House then only the House can continue its proceedings.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we want that Debate should be held over this. We are ready for that but you should give guarantee that(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am here to run the House after 12 o'clock. But if you allow the House then only the House can continue its proceedings.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the country is not safe in the hands of this Government.(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: You ask congress people whether they will allow the House to continue its proceedings or not?(Interruptions)

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are ready for it if the House continue after 12 o'clock.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The time for asking one question is already over.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the discussion should be held over this only after reaching an understanding with Congress... (Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Bangladesh is behaving in an unfriendly manner under this regime(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please hear the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, let us have Question Hour now. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs wants to say something.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is happening? Will you not allow anyone else to speak.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: I have sore-throat.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I also have sore-throat.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I myself and

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

our Government agree with the concern which all members of the House have expressed in regard to the incident that took place at Bangladesh Border. This is not the right place to give reply of all those allegations which have been levelled. Therefore, I do not want to indulge in the debate. On behalf of the Government, I can only say that immediately after the Question Hour, the Minister of Defence should come here.
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: First you listen to the hon. Minister. What are you doing?

(Interruptions)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Our soldiers are being treated so badly in Bangladesh that it is intolerable.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do not interrupt. Let him complete.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Lal Muni Chaubey, please go to your seat.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Raghuvansh Prasad ji, you are a senior member.

[English]

Please resume your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI. PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Sir, not only that, he cannot use such a language.

MR. DEPTUY-SPEAKER: What words has he used ?

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: He has said* for other Members.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No such word will go on record.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Why are you coming between me and the Chair. ... (Interruptions)

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA (MEERUT) :*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All those words will be expunged.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, you please ask him to apologize. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhadana, you have to withdraw your words.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please withdraw the words.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please ask him to withdraw those words.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am asking him to withdraw the words.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

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

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please help me, Shri Pramod Mahajan.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you please go to your seats?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bhadana, please express a regret.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

** Not recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have not said with such intention but the way the members of Ruling Party are behaving in this House. ...*(Interruptions)* If the members of ruling party and the Minister give orders to the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)* I have not said like this but even then I apologize for that. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, is there any decorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Yes, there is decorum,

[English]

He has expressed a regret. Now, 'Question Hour'.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the way the Members of the Congress Party are speaking, if I too start doing the same, then he will take exception to it. You please tell him not to speak like this. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have expunged all those remarks.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would not like to further aggravate the dispute, neither I have given order nor I would like to do so. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is very unfortunate.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: I had said only this that in normal course, one Member does not address other Member**. I had drawn your attention to this effect but probably he might have meant something else and would have said like this. By the way, my father does not have any estate what to talk of this Chair so I do not care much about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I was telling that I share the concerns that have been expressed regarding the Bangladesh and I would like to inform the House that exactly after the Question-Hour, the Minister of Defence will come and give the statement regarding the situation. Thereafter, the Members are free to hold discussions and to express their concerns in this regard. However, I would like to say only this in this regard that it is a very sensitive issue and so there should be consensus in the House regarding the present issue. I would also like to request the members that while holding discussion in this matter, they should also keep in mind the situation under which the Bangladesh came into existence and also our relations with Bangladesh may not be adversely affected on account of this ...*(Interruptions)*

11.17 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Contracts to Malaysian Companies for Road Project

*501. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Questions No. 203 on March 12, 2001 regarding Development of Road Projects by Joint Advisory Council and state :

- (a) the rates at which the contracts have been given to the Malaysian companies along with the total cost of each Contract;
- (b) the names of these six Malaysian companies;
- (c) the amount invested in these projects by each Malaysian company;
- (d) whether any of these six Malaysian companies has asked for Government's permission to give contract to Indian companies;
- (e) If so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the percentage of work for which the permission has been sought and granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI):

[Translation]

- (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) As on 12 March 2001, five Malaysian companies were involved in nine contract packages. Details are in Annex I.

- (d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f): Details are as under :

	Contract Package	Percentage of sub contract	
(i)	Gurgaon-Kotputli Section of NH-8	1.7%	of contract value
(ii)	Ranigunj-Panagarh Section of NH-2	0.2%	-do-
(iii)	Eluru-Vijayawada Section of NH-5	15.4%	-do-
(iv)	Chennai-bypass NH-4 and 45	20%	-do-

Annex - I

Asked by Shri Naresh Puglia Regarding Contracts to Malaysian Companies for Road Project

Sl No.	Contract Package	Length (in kms)	Awarded Cost (Rs. Cr)	Rate per Km. (Rs. Cr)	Name of the Contractor	Name of Indian Company & its share	Name of the Malaysian Companies & their share
1.	Gurgaon-Kotputli NH-8 (Haryana, Rajasthan)	126	265	2.1	BSC-RBM-PATI (Indian-Malaysian Joint Venture)	B. Seenaiiah Company Ltd. (BSC) — 50%	(i) Road Builder Malaysia (RBM) — 2.5% (ii) Progressive Automation Technology International (PATI)-25%
2.	Raniganj-Panagarh NH-2 (West Bengal)	42	161	3.8	BSC-RBM-PATI (Indian-Malaysian Joint Venture)	B. Seenaiiah Company Ltd. (BSC) — 50%	(i) Road Builder Malaysia (RBM) — 25% Progressive Automation Technology International (PATI) — 25%
3.	Barwa Adda-Barakar NH-2 (Bihar)	43	134	3.1	BSC-RBM-PATI (Indian-Malaysian Joint Venture)	B. Seenaiiah Company Ltd. (BSC) — 50%	(i) Road Builder Malaysia (RBM) — 25% (ii) Progressive Automation Technology International (PATI) - 25%
4.	Eluru-Vijayawada NH-5 (Andhra Pradesh)	72	147	2.0	Mandhucon-Binapuri (Indian-Malaysian Joint Venture)	Mandhucon — 51%	Binapuri Holdings, BHD — 49%
5.	Chilakauripet-Vijayawada-Package-1 (Km 358 to Km 380 of NH-5) (Andhra Pradesh)	25	60	2.4	IJM-Gayatri (Malaysian-Indian Joint Venture)	Gayatri — 40%	IJM Corporation Berhard — 60%
6.	Chilakauripet-Vijayawada-Package-2 (Km 380 to Km 396 of NH-5) (Andhra Pradesh)	16.8	59	3.5	IJM-Gayatri (Malaysian-Indian Joint Venture)	Gayatri — 40%	IJM Corporation Berhard — 60%
7.	Chilakauripet-Vijayawada-Package-3 (Km 406 to Km 421 of NH-5) (Andhra Pradesh)	13	55	4.2	IJM-Gayatri (Malaysian-Indian Joint Venture)	Gayatri - 40%	IJM Corporation Berhard - 60%
8.	Chennai Bypass Phase-I NH-4 & 45 (Tamil Nadu)	19	50	2.6	IJM-Satyam (Malaysian-Indian Joint Venture)	Satyam- 51%	IJM Corporation Berhard - 49%
9.	Nellore Bypass (BOT Project) NH-5 (Andhra Pradesh)	15	BOT		United Infrastructure (Malaysian)		United Infrastructure Resource Pvt. Ltd. - 100%

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I had asked a question on 12 March and it was stated addressing to the hon'ble Chair that if I need further information then I should refer the question to the Minister. Through you, I would like to submit that the work for the construction of Super express highways and national highway are being carried out speedily and the hon'ble Prime Minister has announced that efforts will be made to build super express highway from Kashmir to Kanyakumari at the earliest. It is quite ironical that the reputed Indian construction companies are getting contracts in abroad in bigger nations and they are invited there to work while the contract for building national highways and super express highways in the country are being awarded to the construction companies of a tiny country, Malaysia. I would like to submit that hon'ble Minister has recently taken charge of the Ministry and so he is not much aware of the term and conditions of the contracts. Through the House, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister that he should go deep into the matter as to why the Indian companies could not participate in the bidding and get the contracts for construction of highways. The terms and conditions of the contracts were such that only the foreign companies could grab the contracts by way of paying heavy price for it. Moreover, what is more unfortunate thing is that the contracts are bagged by the foreign companies and the projects are being executed by the Indian companies. The entire works are being executed by the Indian companies on sub-contract basis. Through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister as to how much amount have been invested by the Malaysian company as per the terms and conditions of the contract and how much machinery have been employed by the company. It constitute part (a) of the question.

[English]

I have asked my questions in six parts that is (a) to (f), so I have a right to ask my supplementary in parts too.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have a right to ask two supplementaries.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask whether the Malaysian companies have sought permission from any particular Ministry of Government of India regarding giving subcontracts to the Indian companies. If so, the companies of which countries have applied for that and when the permission was given. In part (c) of the question, it has been asked as to what were the terms and conditions of the contracts that no Indian company could use it in the bidding

to win the contract? I would like to urge upon the Minister to reply part (a), (b) and (c) of the question.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to clear the subject matter as probably there are some misconceptions in this regard. Earlier too, I had tried to explain the bidding procedures but once again I am repeating the same thing that these are international biddings in which Indian companies, as well as foreign joint ventures all are permitted to participate. There are some pre-qualifications i.e. terms and conditions for participating in the bidding. The terms and conditions are available at the websites as well as in the newspapers.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: But why are you not telling it to the House. The House would like to know about it. Will we have to access the website? If you are replying in the house in a responsible manner, then let the House know about the terms and conditions of the biddings. We are not interested to visit your website. If we have to visit your website, then why are we elected as the Members of Parliament?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He will give the details now.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Earlier too, in course of replying to the question, he had escaped the details about the terms and conditions of the bidding and now he is telling to visit website. Now I will have to visit the website. You please protect me.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is giving the details.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, earlier also when I was telling him about the procedure, he told me that it is available in the written form and that I am misguiding him by way of explaining him the procedure, and I am going by the procedure. Now he is telling that I am not explaining him about the procedure. I have already told him about the conditions of the world Bank in this regard. There are two three points in the conditions of the world Bank. First condition is that the company has done certain percentage of the work that is to be given on the contract i.e. certain proportion of work has been completed by the company. Second Question relates to status of the cash flow, what is your financial condition that has to be clarified. The third condition is related to the status of resources, manpower, machinery and equipments.

Besides, if you need further details in this regard, then there is one entire volume of a book having 150-200 pages that supplies each and every details about the pre-qualification of the bidding procedure. However, I cannot give you the entire details. There are mainly two-three things. I had given its details on 12th March also but at that time you did not permit me to say. I would like to submit that it is in fact your misconception that the Indian companies are not being permitted to participate in the bidding. I am giving you only figures. Recently, after 12 March, four tenders have been floated and out of that in first two tenders, the forms were issued to seven Indian companies but only one offered its bid.

Even after granting permission 6 companies did not offer any bid. In the second tender 17 persons have been given tenders. Only 7 Indians offered bid. In the third only 10 have been given and none of them offered any bid and in fourth, 40 have been given and only 7 offered bid. Therefore, it is wrong to say that Indian people are not being given the tenders. It is a very big project worth Rs. 60,000 crore comprising of 13,300 kms. And that is why tenders are floated at different places as per the convenience. You can see that we invite tenders from 40 Indian people and only 7 offer their bids.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: They cannot do so because your term and conditions is as such.

[English]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I need your protection. Let me reply properly.

[Translation]

Please try to understand that only 40 persons could qualify as per the terms and conditions. Why don't you understand? Can we ask them forcibly to offer bids. It only 7 out of the 40 qualified persons offered bids? Previously, there were very strict terms and conditions of the World Bank. Now you said that what are we doing. World Bank had a condition that if a work worth Rs. hundred crore has to be done, then one should have 80 per cent of working capacity as a pre requisite qualification. We have reduced it to 40 per cent. We have also brought the money aspect 70 per cent. We have eased the terms and conditions of the World Bank. So, we are making all these efforts. We wish that Indian companies should be involved in this and the Government have also helped us in this regard. Indian people did not have machinery, they could not buy big machinery. The present Government have waived off the customs duty and have given unexpected rebate in the Income tax. A rebate for 15 years has also been given in the present budget. ...*(Interruptions)* You do not want to listen.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, have you answered part (a), part (b) and part (c) of his first supplementary? Now, second supplementary.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: I can give many more statistics. Our Government is willing to involve more and more Indian people and a large number of people participating in it are Indians. I can give one more detail in order to make them understand.

[English]

Sir, we are running 82 contracts including Malaysian companies today.

[Translation]

There are in all 56 Indian companies. Total Foreign companies, are 9 and total International and Joint ventures are 17 they are not merely Malaysian but others too.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, 56 out of 82 are Indian companies working on this. How can they say that Indians are not working. I request the hon. Member not to create such atmosphere. We wish that our Indian people may work there.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I also wanted to know from the hon. Minister through you that what is the amount spent by Malaysian company in this and how many machines have been imported, but he did not reply to this part of my question.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have furnished all information in the appendix attached with my question. I request the hon. Speaker to go through my entire reply and may read the charts attached to it, in fact entire information sought by him has been furnished in it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, you put your second supplementary. Have you asked your second supplementary?

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: No. Now I am going to ask.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, there is a tendency that the questioner makes a statement and a speech. Also the Minister equally makes a longer speech. Hon. Member, you make your question concise and the Minister will give reply.

[Translation]

There should not be a lengthy speech.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether the foreign companies have invested the amount and machinery as told by them; because as per my information, these companies are getting their work done by Indian companies and *vis-a-vis*, I would also like to know as to whether the Government as per its comments on 'swadeshi', would consider all types of such contracts to be given to Indian companies.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now he has put a specific questions.

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is not right that the foreign companies have not invested and installed the money and machinery as per their commitment. I have given details of this in the appendix attached to my answer, I do not want to repeat it, Out of the eight Malaysian contractors, five Indian contractors are in major partnership i.e. there are 50, 51 and 52 per cent shares and 40 per cent shares are in rest of the three. They are investing their money and machinery in it.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Indian companies are participating in these contracts. But due to the big packages, there is an uproar. Why are the Indian companies not participating? It is because there are big packages. In turn, ultimately after the joint venture, they are giving it to sub-contracts. Instead of that, even for big packages, you can allow small packages. Even Indian companies are also most capable. We are importing good machinery. Due to the condition of big package, more companies are not participating. So, instead of big packages, you can divide in into two. Then, Indian companies will also participate. Work will also be going up.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: The suggestion is very good. We have been appreciating it. I just want to let the hon. Member know our efforts. Out of the projects that are going on, there is only one above Rs. 500 crores for which there is an MoU between us and the Malaysians. There are only three contracts between Rs. 300 crore and Rs. 400 crore. There are only 13 contracts between Rs. 200 crore and Rs. 300 crore. There are 23 contracts between Rs. 100 crore and Rs. 200 crore. Below Rs. 100 crore, there are 42 contracts out of 82. We are very much interested in reducing and trying to do that.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister that considering most of the projects and schemes pertaining to the development of Bihar have almost been put into the cold storage, in the National Highway, NH-1, which is running from Aurangabad in Central Bihar to Rajura, the work was supposed to have been taken up four months ago. As yet, we know nothing about it. Is the Government really having intention of having this project developed in the National Highway one?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Rather she wants to know whether the Malaysians are interested in that or not.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Considering all the projects in Bihar have been put as under, is this just coming up?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have already asked the question. Let us hear the answer.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: With due respect to the hon. lady Member, this question pertains to the Malaysian contract. Whatever she has said I have made a note of it. I will send a response to her.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We want to know whether the Malaysians are interested in that or not.

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether it is a fact that the Malaysian companies, which have been awarded contracts, have no work experience and are obtaining these contracts by giving forged certificates as published in some newspapers? That is why contracts of this country are being sub-contracted with the road-builders. Whether the hon. Minister is aware of this fact and whether his Ministry has drawn its attention towards the newspapers? If so, whether you are going to hold an enquiry against those six companies and whether the hon. Minister is aware of the forged certificates given by them? If so, whether he is conducting any enquiry in this regard?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is answering your question.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as per the orders 50 per cent of the total contracts can be given on sub contract. Details of all sub contracts so far given, have been mentioned here. I am well aware of the apprehensions of the hon. Members and are keeping an eye so that unauthorised sub letting may not take place. We are also taking action, wherever required. One or two things were brought into my knowledge and I have taken action on that. We had desired that only authorised sub contracting should be done.

[English]

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: The hon. Minister has given a table of various works and the contractors for them. He has not mentioned anywhere about the present state of affairs.

Secondly, Nellore bye-pass is the ninth work, which was there under discussion for a long time. It is in the district headquarters of both myself and the hon. Minister Shri Venkaiah Naidu here. It is mentioned here that there is no joint venture; there is only Malaysian contractor and it is BOT—Build, Operate and Transfer. Why was he not able to get an Andhra contractor when he got all Andhra contractors, as she (Mrs. Margaret) was telling? There is nothing wrong in it. We are proud of it.

I would like to know what is the state of affairs and what is the situation in regard to that Project. Why was he not able to get an Andhra contractor or an Indian contractor?
...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Why only 'Andhraites'?
...(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: There are two parts of the questions.

First, he wanted to know as to what is the present state of affairs. I want to assure the 'Minister' about the present state of affairs ... (Interruptions) I am sorry, the former Chief Minister.
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The 'Minister' is not on this side!
(Interruptions)

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: Yes, Sir. I am so impressed by him. I want to assure the hon. Member that the Prime Minister's project—National Highway Development Project (NHDP)—is going on very well. All the awards on GQ will be completed by June and we will complete the work by December, 2003. There are initial problems, but in the long run these will be completed. The present state of affairs is very good.

Secondly, as far as Nellore bye-pass is concerned, I agree that it is a bad case. It started in 1995. You are asking as to why Indians are not coming. There were four Indian companies, which came, and the rate of one of the companies was the lowest. There was no foreign venture. Thereafter, after discussion, that company had some problems and various discussions went on. In 1996, it was decided that this Malaysian Company in consultation with other people, who are Indian Companies, would start the work. Eventually in February, 1998, the contract was given to this company, which is Malaysian company.

Now, this company has not been working properly. It has not started the work. We have given the company notices and as on today, we are at a stage when we want to cancel this Malaysian contract and open it for other tenderers. That is the present state of affairs.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: M/s Gayatri was awarded in the beginning.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: I know. M/s. Gayatri refused to take it.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: Then, what is the penalty?

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: The penalty is that this company has got its deposit with us. We are going to forfeit its deposit, which is around Rs. 50 lakh.

Printing of Postal Stamps

*502. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any scam in the printing of postal stamps has come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (c) the total amount spent on printing of postal stamps during each of the last three years?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

No Scam in the printing of postal stamps has come to the notice of the Government. The total amount spent on printing of postal stamps during each of the last three years is as follows:

Year	Amount
1998-1999	Rs. 2,29,42,068.50 p
1999-2000	Rs. 5,28,70,281.60 p
2000-2001	Rs. 1,72,47,268.50 p (till February, 2001)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in reply to my question hon. Minister has replied that no scam has come to the notice of Government in the printing of postal stamps. On the other hand, the Government has replied to the Question Number 111 asked by Shri Sheesh Ram Singh Ravi on 21st July, 2000. In that reply, Government had admitted that

16 such cases have come to light and CBI and police are inquiring into them. According to the reply, action were taken against 32 persons. Out of these 19 are outsiders and 13 are Department personnel. Action is also being taken against 22 employees of the Department. Through you, I would like to know from the Government—which reply is true? The one given on 21st July, 2000 or the one given now. Government is deliberately covering up the issue in spite of serious allegations of misappropriation and scams.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He wants to know which of the replies is wrong.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I would like to know whether hon. Minister would inform the House after taking action against the official who misled the hon. Minister and tried to save the conspirators of the scam.

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR: We will inquire into this and as I have said no such case has come to our notice.(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: It is his reply and I will give it to him(Interruptions)

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR: On what subject it is ?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: It was published in 19.3.2001 edition of 'Hindustan' that a postage stamp printed in the memory of freedom fighters and issued on 28-29th January, and on which picture of Yogendra Shukla, Balkuntha Shukla and Jubba Sahni are printed is being forged and sold in the Market. It was especially mentioned that a large number of postage stamps of that series has been purchased from the Parliament Street post office. The pictures printed on those stamps get obliterated if they are put in water for more than five minutes. Whether Government is aware of it or not? If not, whether Government would conduct an inquiry on the basis of newspaper report and if so, by what time the House will be informed of the result of the inquiry.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not feeling well but still I would like to reply in one sentence. Government was informed that some of the stamps, published in the memory of Yogendra Shukla, if put in water, get discoloured. This was inquired into and proved false. As you are aware, the postage stamps are printed in the press at Nasik. Some printing works are also done by private presses approved by the Reserve Bank. But Department has conducted an inquiry into that particular case which you mentioned.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Shri Prabhunath Singh asked just one question. The Government's reply was that no case of this nature came to the

notice of Government which merited inquiry. You said that inquiry was conducted. He has given some concrete proofs regarding the scam. Now that it has come to your notice, will you conduct an inquiry into it?

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I repeat that the question raised by hon. Member was pertaining to forgery of Kisan Vikas Patra and Indira Vikas Patra. This question relates to the printing of postage stamp. As far as printing of postage stamps is concerned, it is done at two places—one at Nasik and the second by the private presses. It is true that the cost of printing in Nasik is very high—it is about three to four times high. The cost of printing one lakh stamps in Nasik is around Rs. 63,000 while it is only Rs. 16,000 in case of printing by private parties. Still, we have to do printing work from Nasik because that press is owned by the Government. The printing work is entrusted to private parties only when the press at Nasik given in writing that their machines are out of order. To ensure transparency, only those private presses are entrusted the work which are approved by the Reserve bank of India. Private parties are doing the printing work at only one-fourth of the cost and I can assure you that no scam has taken place and none is expected to occur. As far as the issue of forged stamps or as far as the quality of Yogendra Shukla's picture is concerned, Government always conduct an inquiry into that as well as other issues relating to quality aspects of stamps.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you I want to know from the Government that according to reply given by it, total expenditure was Rs. 2,29,42,068.50 in 1998-99. It was somewhat less in 2000-2001, but during 1999-2000, total expenditure was Rs. 5,28,70,281. Whether more stamps were printed during the year, in memory of great lives or monuments. It would be better if you throw light on the number of stamps printed in a series.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The answer only reflects the payment made during each year. The payment may include the dues of last year also, and it does not necessarily mean that so many stamps have been printed during the year. As far as the printing of stamps in memory of great lives is concerned, it is of two types. One is postage stamps which are of permanent nature. Annually we print about 295 crore postage stamps. Another type is special postage stamps which we occasionally issue on great personalities. These are called special stamps. Its printing depends on the number of potential buyers. Usually four lakhs are printed but sometimes one lakh stamps are also printed. Last time we had printed a stamp in memory of Raj Kumar Shukla of Bihar. One lakh stamps were printed but the demand was of more stamps. However, some stamps are permanent, such as those published in memory of Baba Saheb

Ambedkar or Gandhiji. Stamps are printed on the basis of demand but we have recently decided that not less than four lakh postage stamps would be printed if they are being printed on great personalities. As far as the issue of expenditure raised by you, we sign contracts and have to pay every year as per the bills received. Sometimes it is more and sometimes it is less.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it seems that once again officials have misled the hon. Minister. The earlier question, if we observe it, was :

[English]

"Whether the duplicate postal stamps are in circulation in the country;

If so the number of cases that have come to the notice of the Government and action taken thereon."

[Translation]

The reply of this part is :

[English]

"In the last three years only 16 cases were reported on fake stamps in the country from different Postal Circles and immediate actions were taken in this regard. All these cases were reported to the Police. CBI and Police authorities have arrested 32 persons involved in the cases 19 outsiders and 13 departmental officials. All the arrested officials have been suspended. Police and CBI investigations in these cases are in progress.

The Department has simultaneously initiated action and identified 19 more officials' involvement. Thus, out of 22 officials, action has been initiated against 19 officials. In the case of the remaining 12 officials, on account of police enquiry being in progress..."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha, you please ask your supplementary and not read the entire statement given in the answer.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I know.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: This is the reply of Government, not mine. Government has given this reply to this House and such cases have been found to occur in Assam, Delhi, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar, Maharashtra, U.P., Dimapur in North-Eastern States. However, the officials have again misled him and said that stamps are altogether a different matter. Now you decide what is wrong and what is right?

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You may ask your supplementary.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: I am providing you more information than the Government.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What do you want to ask?

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Recently some cases of scams have been unearthed wherein Government employees were arrested and then suspended, whereas the official reply was that there was nothing of that sort. So, I would like to know the truth, whether scams have been unearthed or not. If so, what action you would initiate against the persons who misled the House.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: The question is (English) whether any scam in the printing of postal stamps has come to the notice of the Government.

[Translation]

I have said, 'No'. No scam took place in printing of stamps(Interruptions)

There is so much transparency in printing that the question of a scam does not arise.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: This statement was also made by you, you may see it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You give it to me. What he is telling(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You please hear him fully.

[Translation]

Mr. Minister, I have already read it out, there is no need to re-read it.

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: You may ask as to why incorrect reply is being given.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha, let him answer.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Raghunath Jha, let him complete his answer.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir these are separate questions. One out of these two is duplicate. What Shri Raghunath is saying in this question.

[English]

whether duplicate postal stamps are in circulation in the country.

[Translation]

First question is—whether a scam in printing took place or not(Interruptions)

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Circulation of fake currency itself is a scam.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister has replied to the question. The point being raised by you is not related to it.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : When postal stamps are released anyone may manage duplicate copy of those. As soon as such matters are brought to the notice of the Government we hand over the matter to CBI for investigation. It is a separate matter relating to printing. In that question it has been asked whether any type of scam took place or not. I replied, 'No'.

[English]

National Conference on Spectrum Management

*503. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) called upon the Government and the Telecom Industry to work together for a new frequency allocation plan in the National Conference on Spectrum Management convened by the FICCI recently;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestions given by TRAI at the conference;

(c) whether the TRAI have any proposal to free incoming calls in cellular;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Chairperson, TRAI, while delivering the inaugural address in the conference on spectrum management held on 28th March, 2001 *inter-alia*, mentioned that users of spectrum and the Government should work together on a frequency allocation

plan. The Chairperson, TRAI also mentioned about the need to establish a future oriented spectrum management system based on sound and transparent principles known to all stake-holders as also to establish a body for efficient spectrum management and to have a policy which prevents grabbing and retaining the spectrum.

TRAI is presently preparing a consultation paper relating to the Calling Party Pays (CPP) regime in Cellular Mobile Telephone Services, so as to obtain the views of all stakeholders on the issue. The CPP regime contemplates making incoming calls free for the called mobile subscriber.

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether in the case where cellular operators and basic service providers do not come to some understanding, the Group of Ministers on Telecom and Information Technology will come forward for a compromise formula which should be acceptable to both the sides? What are the views of the Government in this regard, at present?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): A meeting of Group of Ministers is going on in this connection. At this stage, it would be premature to say as to what is being discussed in the Meeting.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: He would like to provide telephone facility at the rate of 40 paise per call in rural areas. Hon'ble Minister, please think of rural areas.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, please do not interrupt.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What is it that you are doing?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Rudy, what is it that you are doing? If you want to ask a supplementary, I will give you a chance, but you should not do like this.

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: The Government Departments which were allocated spectrum decades ago but failed to utilise it judiciously should be asked to vacate them for a new frequency allocation. What are the Government's views in this regard?

SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR : Actually, during the Inaugural Address in the FICCI Conference, the Chairperson of the TRAI expressed both the things that the users of the spectrum and the Government should work together. That was mentioned in

his address. The Chairperson also mentioned about the need of established future oriented spectrum management system. The rest of the portions is totally under the jurisdiction of TRAI, and they are contemplating on free incoming call system.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, is it not shocking and scandalous that instead of the Ministry itself determining what our policy should be, whether our laws are being obeyed or not, and what is in the national interest, they are leaving it to two sets of capitalists—and basic operators and the cellular operators—to come to an agreement among themselves and merely endorse this? Is this the manner in which this country should be run? Are they not just playing one set of capitalists against another, sometimes, taking one and, sometimes, taking the other, instead of having a policy of their own, instead of having a law of their own, and instead of running the telecommunication business in the country in the national interest? Is this the way the Government should be functioning?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: You insist upon calling a thing by another name, but in fact that is not so(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: He is not answering my question. Please ask him to answer my question. He has himself said that he was leaving it to the basic operators and the cellular operators to arrive at a consensus among themselves. Why should they be arriving at a consensus?(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Aiyar, he is answering your question.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I never asked about elephants. I asked about telecommunications. Please ask him to answer my question.

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I want to answer the question.

[Translation]

I would like to say that only limited issues are under consideration of Group of Ministers. I do not understand why Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsiji has not asked a question relating to that(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Do not worry, I would speak and I would speak so loudly that the Government would fall (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : No question has been asked about the matter under consideration of Group of Ministers, but I would like to tell you about the background. The matter is that when we migrated to revenue sharing from old Licence regime,

Rs. 5800 crore were outstanding towards cellular operators. They were unable to pay that amount. Under those condition, when the matter was at a standstill, we switched over to new regime and asked them to repay entire outstanding amount in new financial year. They repaid Rs. 7300 crores, entire money with interest. Our hon'ble Members raised the matter that if two Licence holders can pay Rs. 7300 crore, then four licence holders(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: The reply you have given does not relate to my question.(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, he could not understand my question. I want your permission to speak in Hindi, since he does not understand(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: I am understanding.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, what should I do. He is not replying to what I have asked.(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is coming to your question. He is going to answer your question. He is not running away from it. Let us hear him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, let me wait for his answer(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He says that he is coming to your question.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: If you want reply in one line or one word this supplementary does not pertain to this question.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, let him answer my question. He has not answered my question....(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I would like to know two things from the hon. Minister....(Interruptions)

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Sir, I have the right to ask questions(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, my first question is whether in determination of Spectrum rate of frequency, the observation made by the TRAI had been placed before the Cabinet and got approved or not. And secondly(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Dasmunsi, you ask only one supplementary.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, it is ten times more scandalous than the Tehelka expose*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

It is a great Tehalka*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are asking supplementary in parts as (a) and (b).

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, secondly, whether in calculating the rate of frequency, with full mobility, worth Rs. 7,400 crore, the Government was deprived—in the short cut route process of 'first come first loot' theory not 'first come first served'—of Rs. 13,000 crore or not. Let the Minister say 'yes' or 'no'*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, I wanted to give same reply. Initially I replied the same thing but shri Mani Shankar Ji thought the reply was relating to his question. I know it when.

[English]

The Government provided rebate to cellular operators in migration package there was uproar from opposition*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, how could the Minister avoid every question?*(Interruptions)* This is not the way ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, you are protect the House. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY- SPEAKER: He has already answered it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I wrote to the hon. Prime Minister about it*(Interruptions)* He has avoided the whole question.*(Interruptions)* Sir, I wanted to know whether it was approved by the Cabinet or not.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is directly coming to your question.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Sir, Shri Dasmunsi ji's allegation is totally baseless. I donot know that***(Interruptions)**

* Not recorded.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, I challenge it*(Interruptions)* Let there be a Committee*(Interruptions)* Sir, I take exception to it.**

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

*(Interruptions)**

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: Sir, he has to withdraw his words*(Interruptions)* Sir, it is a question of my privilege*(Interruptions)* Sir, this Minister has recklessly ruined the Exchequer on this 'first come first loot' basis*(Interruptions)* Sir, I say this on record*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has already answered it. Yes, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudl.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, it is a question of Rs. 13,000 crore.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Sir, when rural telephony is going to take off, the opposition is trying to stop this great exercise.*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I would like to know whether it was approved by the Cabinet or not*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has already answered your question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, I would like to seek your protection.*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already protected you. He has already answered it. He has answered your question.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: He has said the other way round.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has said that the allegations you have made are baseless.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI: I will give notice for a privilege motion. Without the approval of the Cabinet, the Minister has taken a decision which involves loss to the treasury of the country to the tune of Rs. 12,000 crore.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question has been answered. If you want to give a notice for privilege motion

* Not recorded.

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

against any Minister, you can do so. It is your sweet will and pleasure. Your question is answered.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Sir, when rural telephony in this country is going to take off, what are the limitations in bringing the WLL to the poor man of the country?
....(Interruptions)

[Translation]

What is the difficulty in providing telephone in rural remote areas?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister may send the reply in writing.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translations]

Linking of River Basins

504. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to inter-connect the river basins to save the country from famines and floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have identified the river basins with surplus water and with scarce water separately; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and the Central Water Commission formulated in 1980 a National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages inter linkages among the various Peninsular rivers and among the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. The Plan envisages 17 water transfer links under the peninsular rivers development component and 14 water transfer links under the Himalayan rivers development component. To follow it up, the Government of India established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July 1982 to *inter-alia* carry out the water balance and feasibility studies of the National Perspective Plan. The pre-feasibility reports of all the 31 links

have been completed. The feasibility report of 5 links under the Peninsular rivers development component have also been completed.

(c) and (d) The names of the above proposed 31 inter-basin transfer links from the presently assessed surplus basins to deficit basins are given in the statement attached.

Statement

List of proposed Water Transfer links for which pre feasibility reports have been prepared by NWDA

1. Mahanadi (Manbhadra)-Godavari (Dowlaiswaram) link
2. Godavari (Polavaram)-Krishna (Vijaawada) link
3. Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Pulichintala) link
4. Par-Tapi-Narmada link
5. Ken-betwa link
6. Kalsindh-Chambal link
7. Pamba-Achankovil-Vaippar link
8. Godavari (Inchampalli)-Krishna (Nagarjunasagar) link
9. Damanganga-Tansa link
10. Bedti-Varda link
11. Netravati-Hemavati link
12. Krishna (Nagarjunasagar)-Pennar (Somasila) link
13. Krishna (Srisaillam)-Pennar (Podattur) link
14. Krishna (Almatti)-Pennar link
15. Pennar (Prodattur)-Cauvery (Upper Anicut) link**
16. Pennar (Somasila) - Cauvery (lower Anicut) link**
17. Cauvery (Kattalai) - Vaigai (Gundar) link

Himalayan Rivers Development Component

1. Kosi-Mechi link
2. Kosi-Ghaghra link
3. Gandak-Ganga link
4. Ghaghra-Yamuna link
5. Sarda-Yamuna link
6. Yamuna-Rajasthan link
7. Rajasthan-Sabarmati link

8. Chunar-Sone Barrage link
9. Sone Dam-Southern Tributaries of Ganga link
10. Brahmaputra-Ganga link (Manas-Sankosh-Tista-Ganga)
11. Farakka-Sunderbans link
12. Ganga-Damodar-Suarnarekha link
13. Subarnarekha-Mahanadi link
14. Jogighopa-Tista-Farakka link

[**These two links have been combined into one link, renamed as "Pennar (Somasila)-Cauvery (Grand Anicut) Link"]

Note : Pre-feasibility studies for all above links completed.

Development Activities in Tribal Areas

*505. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the developmental and other facilities related works in the tribal areas have been stopped on account of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government so far to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU):

(a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) The Act does not prohibit any non-forestry activity in forest areas but only regulates indiscriminate and unnecessary diversion of forest land which may adversely affect ecological balance and the environmental stability. The Act also aims at sustained supply of forest usufructs to local communities and safeguarding reduction in the extent of natural forests.

Every proposal requiring forest land for non-forestry purposes is considered on merit and in case the diversion is necessary and unavoidable, permission is accorded with suitable conditions keeping due regard to environmental security of the area. Since 1980, under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, more than 6000 proposals for developmental and other facilities related works involving about 4.94 lakh hectare forest land has been approved by the Ministry.

[English]

Atmospheric Pollution in Delhi

*506. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Toxicologists at All India Institute of

Medical Sciences (AIIMS) have pointed out that Delhites are slowly being exposed to poison through the air, water and food as reported in the Asian Age dated March 21, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to save people of the Capital from such types of pollution?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU):

(a) and (b) According to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, the contents of the news item are general opinion on the subject and seems to have been based on the brochure circulated for the National Workshop and Conference on poison control which was held on 30-31st March, 2001.

(c) The specific steps taken by the Government to control pollution in Delhi include the following:-

(1) The Government has formulated a comprehensive Policy for Abatement of Pollution that lays stress on both the control and preventive aspects of pollution.

(2) Environmental epidemiological studies have been initiated in different parts of the country to find out the impact of pollution.

(3) A Status Paper on pollution in Delhi with an Action Plan for its control has been prepared and the same is under implementation.

(4) The ambient air quality of Delhi is monitored regularly through a network of monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme.

(5) Ambient air quality standards and emission standards for industrial units have been notified.

(6) Emissions from highly polluting industrial units and thermal power plants are regularly monitored and action is taken against the defaulting units.

(7) Unleaded petrol is now available throughout the country. Sulphur content in petrol/diesel also has been reduced.

(8) Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. More stringent emission norms have also been notified.

Investment in Telecom Sector

*507. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government's investment in the telecom sector has gone up during the year 2001-2002;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the share of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) therein;
- (d) whether the private sector has expressed its

interest to meet the target of \$ 69 billion by 2010 and to achieve the target of 15 per cent teledensity; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the target is likely to be achieved?

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

(b) In BE 2000-01, the investment of the Government in Telecom sector which includes the Department of Telecom Services and Public Sector Undertakings attached to the Department, was Rs. 19441.67 crores whereas in BE 2001-02 the investment proposal is Rs. 20298.84 crores which is 4.4% more than the previous year. The unit-wise investment is as follows :-

(Rs. Crores)

	BE 2000-01	BE 2001-02
1. Department of Telecom/Telecom Services	16000.00	0.00*
2. Wireless Monitoring Services	10.00	10.00
3. Wireless Planning and Co-ordination	5.00	95.00
4. Telecom Engineering Centre	0.00	4.00
5. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India	2.00	4.00
6. Centre for Development of Telematics	(included in 1 above)	52.00
Total Department of Telecommunications	16017.00	165.00
7. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	0.00*	16574.00
8. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	2155.00	1600.00
9. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited	1163.34	1814.66
10. Indian Telephone Industries Limited	90.00	125.00
11. HTL Limited	16.33	20.18
Total Telecom Public Sector Undertakings	3424.67	20133.84
Grand Total	19441.67	20298.84

* Corporatisation of Department of Telecom Services/Department of Telecom Operations to form Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited was with effect from 1/10/2000.

(c) The total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow in private telecom sector from August 1991 to January, 2001 is estimated at about Rs. 4,882.7 crores, which is in addition to the above.

(d) New Telecom Policy enunciated in May 1999 envisages a tele-density of 7 per hundred population by the year 2005 and 15 per hundred population by the year 2010. It is estimated that for meeting these targets an investment of

approximately US \$ 37 billion by the year 2005 and US \$ 69 billion in the next 5 years i.e. by 2010 would be required. The Government has solicited private sector investment and hence taken a number of steps including opening up of cellular and basic telephony, National Long distance (NLD) and other value added services to private sector participation. Private Sector has shown keen interest for participation in the development of telecom sector.

At present there are over 22 licencees for mobile cellular service with a customer base of 3.4 million as on 28/2/2001.

There are also 6 operators of basic services operational with customer base of over 2 lakhs.

(e) With the current trends of growth, it is expected that the above targets of tele-density will be achieved.

[Translation]

Use of Ash in Construction of Roads

*508. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) has recommended for the use of ash in construction of roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the thermal power plants are likely to provide ash free-of-charge; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the manner in which the Government are likely to meet the ash requirement for road construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Road Research Institute, has recommended for use of fly ash in construction of roads. Fly ash has been used in Okhla fly over approach embankment, Hanuman Setu approach embankment, Second Nizamuddin bridge approach embankment, Sarita Vihar fly over approach embankment, plant road at Budge-Budge in Kolkata, Dadri in Uttar Pradesh and at Chandrapur in Maharashtra, etc.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, Thermal power plants provide fly ash without any payment, as per the Ministry of Environment and Forest's notification dated 14.09.1999.

[English]

Losses incurred by Indian Airlines

*509. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is likely to suffer a net loss of Rs. 251 crore during the fiscal year 2001-2002 as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated March 16, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have

decided to take any corrective measures to save the Airlines from such huge losses;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether radical changes are proposed to be made in the administrative set up of the Indian Airlines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines prepared its Budget Estimates in early March 2001 for financial year 2001-02. The Budget estimates a loss of Rs. 251.50 crores for financial year 2001-02.

Assumptions

The Budget Estimates were based among others on following important assumptions which affect financial performance of Indian Airlines:

1. Available aircraft capacity

Existing aircraft fleet will be increased by:-

(a) to continue to dry lease for two years two Airbus A-300 aircraft taken on lease on 1998-99

(b) dry lease of two Airbus A-320 aircraft from April 2001

(c) dry lease of two more Airbus A-320 aircraft from November 2001

(d) dry lease of five B-737 aircraft by Alliance Air.

2. Exchange rate

Average foreign exchange rate of 1 US dollar=Rs. 47 during the year.

3. Aviation Turbine Fuel

Deregulation of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF).

4. Fare increase

No general fare increase across total network.

Assumptions that have come in to effect

1. Available Aircraft Capacity

(a) Indian Airlines is extending dry lease of two Airbus A-300 aircraft for two years after expiry of previous agreement in May and June 2001.

(b) Of the two Airbus A-320 aircraft proposed on dry lease from April 2001, first aircraft has arrived on 20th April 2001 and the second will arrive within a fortnight.

- (c) Representatives of the Leasing Company for five B-737 aircraft have advised that they will hold discussions with Indian Airlines in the week of 23rd April 2001, for early delivery of five B-737 aircraft to Alliance Air. Indian Airlines will invoke the penalty clause for any delay in delivery of aircraft.

2. Exchange Rate

Foreign exchange rate of 1 US Dollar has increased from Rs. 44 last year to Rs. 47.

Aviation Turbine Fuel

Government has announced a Policy of deregulation of Aviation Turbine Fuel.

Impact of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) Prices on Financial Performance

The prices of ATF before 1st April 2001, were covered under 'Administered Price Mechanism'. The price of ATF was increased on two occasions in the year 2000, first increase of 18% came into effect on 23rd March 2000 and the second increase of 25% came into effect on 30th Sept. 2000. Additionally certain States had increased Sales Tax on ATF during last financial year. Besides increase in ATF prices by the Government of India for domestic operation, the ATF prices of international operations both bonded price ex-India and at foreign stations had gone up substantially during year commencing April, 2000. The financial impact for Indian Airlines of these revisions in ATF prices was as under:

Particulars	ATF Price Rupees per Kilolitre	Financial Impact in Rupees Crores	
		2000-01	2001-02
Domestic			
Before 23 March, 2000	15180	—	—
After 23 March, 2000 (increase of 18.1%)	18000	92	92
After 30 September, 2000 (increase of 25%)	22500	73	146
International			
Before April, 2000	11900	—	—
ATF ex-foreign station	9200	—	—
During 2000-01			
Bonded ATF ex-India	16400	39	39
ATF ex-foreign station	12775	27	27
		231	304

The above estimates do not include financial impact on Alliance air.

Impact of ATF Price Increase on Budget Estimates

The budget estimates for the year 2001-02 were however prepared by taking into account a reduction in ATF prices on account of proposed de-regulation of ATF prices by Government from April, 2001. The reduction in expenditure on this account during 2001-02 was estimated at Rs. 70 crores. The net financial impact of revision in price of ATF, therefore, for the year 2001-02 stood reduced as under:

Financial impact indicated above	—	Rs. 304 crores
Less likely savings on account of de-regulation (estimates at the time of preparation of Budget)	—	Rs. 70 crores
		Rs. 234 crores

The loss of Rs. 251.50 crores was, therefore, based on assumption of additional financial impact of ATF price increases of Rs. 234 crores.

Kandhar hi-Jack and Patna Accident of B-737 Aircraft

In spite of the aforesaid increases in ATF prices and increase in cost of other inputs, Indian Airlines did not take the soft option of increasing its fares last year in view of decrease in its passenger carriage on account of Kandhar hi-jack and accident of a Boeing 737 aircraft at Patna on 17th July 2000. The confidence of the travelling public was naturally affected due to Patna accident which resulted in substantial drop in passenger carriage by Indian Airlines.

Daily Passenger Carriage of Indian Airlines

The daily passenger carriage of Indian Airlines from July to March for last two years is as under:

Month	2000-01	1999-2000
July	18,878	19,841
August	17,942	20,478
September	18,425	19,903
October	19,859	20,589
November	23,130	23,226
December	24,403	23,919
January	23,409	20,877
February	22,902	21,786
March	20,880	19,675

Measures Taken by Indian Airlines

The management of Indian Airlines took a number of steps in consultation with the Ministry of Civil Aviation including:

- refurbishment of its Boeing 737 fleet
- more stringent application of maintenance norms
- improved inflight services etc.

The combined effect of these measures was return of passengers to Indian Airlines. This change is clearly seen in the above details of daily carriage of passengers of Indian Airlines. Indian Airlines achieved these results in spite reduction in its aircraft fleet by one Boeing-737 aircraft. Indian Airlines, therefore, decided at the time of preparation of budget in March, 2001 for the year 2001-02 to wait for changes in fuel prices because of likely announcement of new deregulation policy by the Government.

Additional Measures to Reduce Losses

In order to overcome the situation, Indian Airlines has prepared a suitable strategy to further improve its performance and productivity especially in terms of cost control and higher revenue yield. The Board of Indian Airlines has approved a flexible fare policy to be adopted by the company after obtaining the approval of the Government. The implementation of the flexible fare regime will result in higher realization of revenue. Indian Airlines will take necessary steps to monitor and control its costs and revenue which are as under :

Better Fleet Utilisation through :

- improvement in the productivity of Pilots, Aircraft Engineers
- Night flights on certain domestic sectors
- Increased international operations
- Better scheduling of aircraft and route planning
- Capacity deployment in alignment with market requirements.

Improvement in the Quality of Product through :

- Improvement in on-time performance and general improvement and upgradation of services to the users.

Marketing Initiatives:

- Code sharing with the foreign airlines
- High level of participation in CRS
- Various promotional Schemes including corporate incentives.

Cost control measures:

- Control of overtime, casual labour, hotel/travel expenditure
- Freeze on recruitment unless absolutely necessary for operational reasons
- Fuel monitoring and tankering
- Control on material consumption
- Review of uneconomic flights
- Inventory management
- Strict control over crew lay over expenditure
- Cost effective outsourcing of services

(d) and (e) Indian Airlines has taken steps to downsize its top management by reducing the sanctioned strength of Directors from the existing 28 to 23 and that of General Managers to 52.

Indian Airlines has also taken the following steps to contain its manpower:

- (i) Ban on direct recruitment from outside other than critical areas like Operations and Engineering.
- (ii) Roll back of retirement age from 60 to 58 years.
- (iii) Outsourcing of non-core activities such as crew pick-up, telecall etc.
- (iv) Re-deployment of manpower.
- (v) Voluntary Retirement Scheme proposed to the Government for employees other than Pilots, Engineers, Technicians and other licensed categories.

Disinvestment of MTNL

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken a final decision in regard to disinvestment of the shares of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL);
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) The percentage of disinvestment and the benefits accruing therefrom to the Government; and
- (d) the manner in which the pension and other benefits of the MTNL staff are likely to be protected alongwith the position of the staff on deputation with MTNL?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM

VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) The present government holding in MTNL is 56.25%. No decision has been taken for any further disinvestment.

At present the Government employees who are absorbed in MTNL will get the pension and other benefits for the period of service rendered in Government prior to their absorption, as well as for the period they render their service in the PSU in accordance with the prevailing Government Rules. The staff/officers who are on deemed deputation with MTNL and are not absorbed in it will get the pension and other benefits as are applicable to other Central Government employees.

[Translation]

Norms for Engagement of Private Air Booking Agencies

*511. DR. BALIRAM :

SHRI JAI PRAKASH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the private agencies which are engaged in booking of air tickets for different airlines, State-wise;

(b) the number of such agencies to whom approval has been given to book air tickets from their own office during

the last one year, State-wise;

(c) the norms laid down for engaging such private agencies;

(d) whether the Government propose to open such more agencies for Indian Airlines/Air India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the number of agencies, state-wise, engaged in booking of air tickets for Indian Airlines (for domestic sales) and Air India (IATA approved) is attached. Information in respect of private airlines is not maintained as Government does not regulate their commercial matter.

(c) Indian Airlines appoints passenger sales agents on need and merit basis subject to eligibility criteria and requirements as laid down in the guidelines issued by it on 1.7.1999. Criteria for the accreditation and retention of the IATA agency list, are provided for in the IATA Agency Procedures Manual Area-3:

(d) and (e) Appointment of fresh agencies is an ongoing process and applications in this regard are considered under the laid down guidelines/criteria.

Statement

No. of Agencies, State-wise, engaged in air ticket bookings

Sl. No.	Name of States	Indian Airlines (Domestic)		IATA approved Agents	
		No. of passenger Sales agents (PSA)	PSAs who book air tickets from own office	IATA approved agencies for issue of air tickets	IATA Approval Given
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	94	10	78	8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	49	2	2	—
4.	Bihar	12	1	2	—
5.	Chhatisgarh	4	—	—	—
6.	Delhi	247	9	350	22
7.	Goa	31	2	23	3
8.	Gujarat	109	4	117	10

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Haryana	16	2	8	4
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5	—	—	—
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	26	2	2	1
12.	Jharkhand	15	—	1	—
13.	Karnataka	119	9	118	12
14.	Kerala	94	5	119	9
15.	Madhya Pradesh	26	2	12	2
16.	Maharashtra	349	32	462	35
17.	Manipur	8	—	—	—
18.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—
19.	Mizoram	—	—	—	—
20.	Nagaland	3	—	—	—
21.	Orissa	18	1	3	—
22.	Punjab	15	—	38	4
23.	Rajasthan	38	3	10	2
24.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—
25.	Tamil Nadu	156	10	169	17
26.	Tripura	9	1	—	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	63	1	22	3
28.	Uttaranchal	3	—	2	—
29.	West Bengal	116	9	87	10
Union Territories					
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6	—	1	1
2.	Chandigarh	13	—	8	—
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—
4.	Lakshadweep	1	—	—	—
5.	Pondichery	7	—	5	—
6.	Daman and Diu	—	—	—	—

[English]

Level of Ground Water

*512. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be
pleased to state:

(a) whether ground water-level in some parts of the
country has gone down rendering hand-pumps and tube-wells
useless;

(b) if so, the names of areas identified with reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any action plan to overcome this problem;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount earmarked for the purpose, State-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (e) The long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in various parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 meters (1981-2000) has been observed in these States/UT are indicated in the statement attached. As per information, handpumps/tubewells installed in some areas in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, NCT of Delhi, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal are reportedly in-operative as a result of decline in the ground water level. The decline in the level of ground water is mainly due to withdrawal in excess of annual recharge, variation in the amount and distribution of rainfall, reduction in recharge of ground water due to increased urbanization, deforestation and adoption of water intensive cropping by farmers.

Water being a State subject, action to augment the ground water resources is to be taken by the concerned State Governments. The Government of India extends financial/technical assistance to the States to facilitate such action. The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" on pilot basis with a view to assess the efficacy of various recharge structures in some 'Over-exploited' and 'Dark' blocks of the country. The results of the scheme have been found to be very encouraging. The Government has earmarked an

amount of Rs. 25.00 crore during the IX Five Year Plan for the scheme. The steps taken by the Union Government to check the decline in ground water level include:-

- (i) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.
- (ii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories including to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.
- (iii) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

The Ministries of Rural Development and Agriculture are also implementing various programmes in the country having a water conservation component. These programmes are :-

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPA)
2. Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Project.
3. Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR)
4. Watershed Development Project for control of shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSA) in North-Eastern India.
5. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)
6. Desert Development Programme (DDP)
7. Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP)

Statement

Name of the State/ut/district having pockets with fall in ground water level of more than 4 metre (1981-2000)

State	Fall in Water Level
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahaboobnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddy, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.

1	2
Bihar (including Jharkhand).	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum.
Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi.
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskanta, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagarh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar.
Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendragarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar.
Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamaraajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kapor, Tumkur, Uttar Kanada.
Madhya Pradesh	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chindwara, Damoh, Datia, Devas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsinghpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nasik Osmanabad, Amravati, Aurangabad, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Thane, Satara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal
Orissa	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jaipur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nawapada, Nowrangpur, Sundargarh, Suvarnapur.
Punjab	Amritsar, Bhatinda, Fatehgarh, Ferozpur, Jalandhar, Kapurtala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawashahar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajasmand, Sikar, Udaipur.
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharamapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pudukkottai, Sivaganga, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvarur, Tuticorin.
Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Badaun, Bijnor, Bulandshahr, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Moradabad, Rai Berell, Saharanpur, Unnao.
West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Medinapur, N-24 Parganas, Purulia.
Pondicherry	Pondicherry

Child Labour Projects

*513. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether during last year the ILO Chief visited the child labour projects being implemented in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the MOU signed extending India's participation in the international programme on elimination of child labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) As per the information received from the ILO, DG, ILO visited in February, 2000 a child labour project in East Delhi, being implemented by an NGO, Jigyansu Tribal Research Centre, where non-formal education was being provided to rag picking children.

(c) The extension of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Labour, Government of India and the ILO expired on 31.12.1999. Further extension of MOU was signed on 17.02.2000, in the presence

of the DG, ILO, extending the life of the International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) for two years up to 31st December, 2001 in the first instance and thereafter for one year, ending 31st December, 2002, by mutual agreement.

Report on Conservation and Protection on Animals

*514. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have submitted a report on the proposed steps for proper protection and conservation of the animals in National Zoological Parks within stipulated time as directed by the Supreme Court in the month of January, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the said report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU):

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. An affidavit has been filed in the Supreme Court on 19.01.2001 by the Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority. The Affidavit placed before the court details the outcome of the meeting of Forest Secretaries of different States/UTs which was held under the chairmanship of Secretary (Environment and Forests) Government of India on 27.11.2000 to discuss the situation arising out of the deaths of tigers in zoos in the country. Member Secretary, along with his affidavit has also filed the minutes of the meeting taken by the Secretary, (Environment and Forests) to apprise the court of the various measures for improvement of zoos on which there was a consensus amongst the participants. These decisions are summarised below:

1. No new zoo should be established in the public sector for the time being. Situation could be reviewed after 4-5 years.
2. The veterinary officers should be inducted in the field of zoo management at a younger stage and allowed to continue as long as they wish. In-situ promotions may also be considered.
3. The need for fixing minimum qualifications for zookeepers should be examined with a view to get improved inputs from them about the behaviour and status of health of the animals.

4. State governments should allow the zoos to utilize financial assistance released by the Central Zoo Authority on 100% funding pattern directly without going through the state budgetary process.

5. The zoos should have a definite exchange programme of animals in the interest of conservation. No price should be charged by the donor zoo from other zoos in the public sector.

6. Central Zoo Authority should be more proactive regarding enforcement of exchange programme of animals amongst the zoos in the interest of wildlife conservation.

7. The State Governments should create appropriate infrastructure for improved upkeep and health-care of zoo animals. Whenever, Central Government stipulate creation of additional post, it should be willing to provide 100% funding for the same.

[Translation]

Water Management

*515. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are providing any financial assistance under the Command Area Development Programme to farmers to ensure their participation for better water management;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States in which the Command Area Development Programme is being implemented at present?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Water Resources is providing financial assistance, under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, to the registered and functional Water Users Associations through the concerned State Governments. The central assistance is provided for such associations as a one time "Functional Grant" at the rate of Rs. 500/- per hectare, which is shared at the rate of Rs. 225/- per hectare each by the Centre and the State Government; and Rs. 50/- per hectare by the Farmers Associations. The amount so provided is required to be deposited in the bank and the interest accrued thereon is to be used for activities of the Association.

Presently the Command Area Development Programme is being implemented in 28 States and 2 Union Territories, details of which are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State
1.	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Assam
4.	Bihar
5.	Chattisgarh
6.	Goa
7.	Gujarat
8.	Haryana
9.	Himachal Pradesh
10.	Jammu and Kashmir
11.	Jharkhand
12.	Karnataka
13.	Kerala
14.	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Maharashtra
16.	Manipur
17.	Meghalaya
18.	Mizoram
19.	Nagaland
20.	Orissa
21.	Punjab
22.	Rajasthan
23.	Sikkim
24.	Tamil Nadu
25.	Tripura
26.	Uttaranchal
27.	Uttar Pradesh
28.	West Bengal

Sl. No.	Name of Union Territories
1.	Dadra and Nager Haveli
2.	Daman and Diu

[English]

Soil Erosion in Coastal States

*516. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether several areas of Coastal States are facing acute water logging and soil erosion problem;

(b) If so, the details of those areas, State-wise; and

(c) the effective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, some areas of the maritime States/ U.T. of West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Pondicherry are facing the problem of water logging and soil erosion. Details of these areas state-wise are given in the attached statement.

Flood Control including water logging problem and soil erosion is a State subject. The responsibility of planning, funding and execution of schemes related to these works primarily lies with the concerned State Governments.

However, at the Central level, in so far as the problem of water logging is concerned, the Ministry of Water Resources have taken preventive measures in the form of Command Area Development (CAD) — activities like construction of field channels and field drains, warabandi for equitable distribution of water, land levelling and shaping, adoption of suitable cropping pattern for scientific use of water for its efficient utilization. This would help in promoting the judicious use of water. At places where water logging has already taken place, remedial measures are being taken for which a new component "Reclamation of water logged areas in irrigated commands" has been included under the CAD programme since 01.4.1996. Under this component, 50% central assistance is admissible to State Government on matching basis. At present, the norm of central assistance is @ Rs. 6000/- per hectare or 50% of the total cost of the reclamation whichever is less.

As regards soil erosion in the coastal States, the following two centrally sponsored schemes have been formulated by the Central Government.

(a) Critical anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States and raising and strengthening of existing embankments along Kosi and Gandak rivers, estimated cost Rs. 159.33 crore (Central Share Rs. 128.50 crore). This scheme includes West Bengal for providing central assistance for river erosion works. This scheme has been approved by the Government and is in operation.

(b) Critical anti erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga basin states, estimated cost Rs. 39.97 crore (Central share Rs. 30 crore). This scheme has been approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee and is awaiting the approval of the Full Planning Commission.

While provision for river erosion in respect of West Bengal is covered under the scheme at Sl. No. (a) above, the provision for sea erosion for all the maritime States/U.T. and river erosion for such states other than West Bengal has been made in the scheme at Sl. No. (b) above.

Statement

State-wise details of water logged areas as assessed by the working group (1991) constituted by Ministry of Water Resources and the area liable to floods (including soil erosion) as assessed by Rashtriya Barh Ayog (1980) in respect of maritime States/U.T.

S.No.	State/U.T.	Water logged area (M.ha.)	Area liable to floods (including soil erosion) (M.ha.)
1	2	3	4
1.	West Bengal	—	2.65
2.	Orissa	0.19626	1.40
3.	Andhra Pradesh	0.26640	1.39
4.	Tamil Nadu	0.01619	0.45
5.	Kerala	0.01161	0.87
6.	Karnataka	0.02454	0.02
7.	Goa	—	—
8.	Maharashtra	0.01535	0.23
9.	Gujarat	0.17259	1.39
10.	Pondicherry	—	0.01
Total		0.70294	8.41

[Translation]

Inadequate Telephone Facility

*517. DR. ASHOK PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone facilities in some States are lowest in term of population of those States;

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

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the said facilities particularly linking of every village panchayat with telephone facility in those States?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The details of State-wise tele-density are as per statement attached. There are nine States with a tele-density less than the national average. In many of these States it has not been possible to extend the communication network expeditiously primarily on account of reasons like difficult terrain, the need to spread the network to remote and inaccessible areas, lack of other infrastructure facilities like power.

All possible steps are being taken to expedite the growth of the network in these States so that communication facilities become available on demand by the end of year 2002 in accordance with the provisions of NTP-99. For the year 2001-2002, the following targets have been fixed by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited to increase telephone facilities:-

(i)	DELs (Direct Exchange Lines)-	72.30 (lakhs)
(ii)	Transmission :	
	Optical Fibre Cable	126000 (Route Kilometres)
	Microwave	7500 (Route Kilometres)
	Total	133500 (Route Kilometres)
(iii)	VPTs (Village Public Telephones)-	144000

Statement
State-wise tele density as on 31.03.2001

S.No.	Name of State	Projected population 31.03.2001	Total DELs	Tele density Per 100 Persons
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	394000	30076	7.63
2.	Andhra Pradesh	76392000	3071899	4.02
3.	Assam	26492000	352239	1.33
4.	Bihar	101819000	950325	0.93
5.	Gujarat	49308000	2633533	5.34
6.	Haryana	20120000	853104	4.24
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6805000	359750	5.29
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	10071000	173533	1.72
9.	Karnataka	52720000	2466212	4.68
10.	Kerala	32602000	2435912	7.47
11.	Madhya Pradesh	81189000	1632823	2.01
12.	Maharashtra	93684000	5969707	6.37
13.	North East	12822000	246475	1.92
14.	Orissa	36156000	548657	1.52
15.	Punjab	24701000	1705700	6.91
16.	Rajasthan	54509000	1395445	2.56
17.	Tamil Nadu	63386000	3724886	5.88
18.	Uttar Pradesh	174290000	2886050	1.66
19.	West Bengal	80561000	2148651	2.67
20.	Delhi	14366000	2498919	17.39
	Total	1012387000	36083896	3.56

Note : Gujarat state includes Dadar Diu, Daman & Nagar Haveli (U.T.).

Kerala State includes Lakshadweep (U.T.).

Maharashtra State includes Goa and Mumbai.

North-East telecom circle includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalay, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura States.

Punjab State includes Chandigarh (U.T.).

Tamil Nadu State includes Chennai and Pondicherry (U.T.).

West Bengal State includes Calcutta and Sikkim State.

Bihar State includes Jharkhand State.

Madhya Pradesh State includes Chattisgarh State.

Uttar Pradesh State includes Uttranchal State.

Private Courier Service

*518. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Postal Department has been affected due to the increasing private courier services in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government have constituted any special task force for speedy delivery of mail;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to check the callousness of the postal employees?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM

Mail Volume (in crores)

Category of Mail	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Registered and Unregistered Articles	1495.74	1509.64	1574.92	1576.64	1578.15

The Department has taken several steps to provide speedy delivery of mail which *inter-alia* include:-

1. Segregation of mail into Rajdhanl, Metro, Green and Business mail channels to ensure expeditious processing and transmission of mail.
2. Installation of Automatic Mail processing Centres at Chennai and Mumbai.
3. Computerization of registration sorting and computerization of transit mail offices.
4. Transmission of money orders through Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT) and Extended Statellite Money Order Stations (ESMOs) to ensure quick transfer of Money Orders.

Besides, the Department undertakes regular monitoring of mail routing and delivery by posting Test Letters and Trial Cards and Live Mail Surveys at regular intervals both in rural and urban areas to identify weak links and streamlining and improving mail transmission and delivery. Surprise checks on delivery of mail by supervisory staff and officers are also ensured in a regular manner.

VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) The Department of Posts, realizing the need of customers for fast, reliable and time bound services, introduced various premium products including Speed Post, Express Parcel Post, Business Post etc. The growth of the Business services during the last few years has been very encouraging and is furnished below:

Revenue in	Revenue in	Revenue in
1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
Rs. 103.15 crores	Rs. 141.76 crores	Rs. 222.44 crores

Mail volume has also witnessed consistent growth in the last few years as seen from table given below:

In the area of Speed Post, the network of Speed Post Centres has been expanded. To enhance the satisfaction of the customers, delivery system has been restructured by creating nodal offices with dedicated delivery staff and by mechanizing wherever possible, the delivery beats.

Periodic drives are launched for effective and prompt settlement of complaints. Strict disciplinary action is taken against the staff found responsible for dereliction of duty.

[English]

Post and Telegraph Offices in Rural Areas

*519. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita availability of post and telegraph offices in the rural sector in comparison to urban sector at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more post and telegraph offices in the rural sector during the current year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) **Department of Posts**

As on 31.3.2000, India has 138149 Post Offices in rural and 16402 Post Offices in Urban areas. A post office serves on an average a population of 5462 and an area of 21.26 Sq. Kms. Population served per Post Office in rural areas is 4540 whereas the same in urban areas is 13240 (1991 census).

A target of opening of 500 Extra Departmental Branch offices (EDBOs), 50 Departmental Sub Offices (DSOs) and 2000 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) has been tentatively fixed for the current year i.e. 2001-2002 of the Ninth Five Year Plan for the whole country. The post offices are opened as per projected targets on norm based justification, subject to availability of resources.

Department of Telecom

One Telegraph Office serves 15443 population in the rural area as compared to one Telegraph Office serving 27986 population in urban area (figures based on 1991 census).

With the expansion of Telecom Network and introduction of STD and FAX facilities the demand for telegraph offices is steadily decreasing. Therefore, no specific targets have been fixed. The telegraph offices are provided as per demand and justification.

Direct Exchange Line

*520. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) the targets fixed and achieved in providing of Direct Exchange Lines with equipped capacity by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) during 2000-2001;
- (b) the reasons for not achieving the targets; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The target fixed and achievement made in regard to providing of Direct Exchange Lines with Equipped Capacity by the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

(BSNL) during 2000-2001 is as under:

	Target	Achievement	%of Target
Direct Exchange Lines	5350000	5629255	105.2
Equipped Capacity	6700000	6664850	99.5

The overall DELs target for the country has been exceeded. The equipped capacity target of BSNL for the country has been almost achieved. A marginal shortfall in Equipped Capacity has occurred due to delayed supply of equipment.

The shortfall in achievement of Equipped capacity will be made good during the first Quarter of 2001-2002 as part of the ordered equipment is likely to be received by that time.

Audit Objection Relating to Telecom Department

5243. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Audit Report of Comptroller and Auditor General relating to National Telecom Policy 1999, has made some objections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) Sir, a paragraph titled "Package of concessions to existing Cellular and Basic Telephone Service Operators" (paragraph No. 14) has been included in the Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 1999 (No. 6 of 2000). The para, *inter-alia*, relates to migration of existing Basic and Cellular Service Operators to the revenue sharing regime of new Telecom Policy, 1999.

Government does not agree with the observations made by Comptroller and Auditor General of India. The Government considers that the policy regarding migration of the existing licensees to the New Telecom Policy, 1999 (NTP-99) regime of revenue sharing arrangement was formulated as a result of informed and institutionalised decision in best public interest making pragmatic adjustments warranted by ground

realities in relation to the Telecom Industry. The uniform application of NTP-99 which was desirable to provide a level playing field to all operators, was also aimed at ensuring accelerated growth of telecom sector by bringing in multipoly, better accessibility and improved/cost effective service to customers and this midcourse correction was considered an important instrument to achieve the objectives of the said policy.

Disinvestment of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

5244. SHRI AMIR ALAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employee unions of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has formed a joint front to try and stop the disinvestments of Government majority equity in it;

(b) if so, the details alongwith their grievances thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Executives and Non-Executives of MTNL have formed a joint front against:

(i) alleged disinvestment of MTNL shares.

(ii) Review and reversal of the existing decision to make payment of pension and other retirement benefits from a Pension Fund.

(c) (i) As of now, there is no proposal to disinvest the MTNL Shares.

(ii) As per Department of Pension and pensioners Welfare OM dated 1.6.2000, the PSUs only have to make payment of pension and other retirement benefits to the absorbed employees and not the Government. Accordingly, to ensure continued and uninterrupted payment of pension and retirement benefits to the MTNL employees, it has been decided, in consultation with the recognised

union(s) of MTNL, to create a Pension Fund under the Chairmanship of CMD, MTNL which would have also members from DOT and the recognised union(s) one each from Delhi and Mumbai Units.

Setting up of Post Offices

5245. SHRI A. NARENDRA:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed and the achievements made in setting up of post offices in urban, rural, tribal and hilly areas of States and Union Territories during the Eighth and Ninth Plan Period;

(b) the steps being contemplated by the Union Government to take up the remaining work in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the same is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Targets fixed and achievements made for opening of post offices in urban, rural, tribal and hilly areas of Postal Circles during the Eighth and Ninth Plan are given in statements I and II.

(b) and (c) Delivery and collection of mail is provided to all urban rural, hilly, tribal, desert and in-accessible areas of the country. The three norms on which the proposals, for opening of post offices are examined relate to distance, population and income. The post offices are opened on norm-based justification subject to availability of plan targets and esources. A target of opening of 60 Extra Departmental Branch offices (EDBOs) in the North Eastern Region and 440 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices (EDBOs) in the rest of the country, 4 Departmental sub offices (DSOs) in the North Eastern Region and 46 Departmental Sub Post Offices in rest of the country and 1765 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) has been fixed for the current year i.e. 2001-2002 of the Ninth FiveYear Plan.

Statement-I

Circle-wise Breakup of Post Offices opened during 8th Five Year Plan (1992-93 to 1996-97)

S. No.	Circles	Target 1992-93		Opened 1992-93		Target 1993-94		Opened 1993-94		Target 1994-95		Opened 1994-95		Target 1995-96		Opened 1995-96		Target 1996-97		Opened 1996-97	
		Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19	5	6	9	17	5	12	5	2	5	Nil	4	2	5	5	2	2	5	6	6
2.	Assam	27	3	27	3	25	3	26	3	5	4	Nil	1	4	4	Nil	1	2	4	10	4
3.	Bihar	70	8	67	2	90	8	90	5	3	11	Nil	1	10	11	Nil	Nil	10	11	23	13
4.	Delhi	Nil	5	Nil	9	Nil	6	Nil	1	Nil	10	Nil	3	Nil	10	Nil	Nil	1	10	Nil	4
5.	Gujarat	25	5	74	7	20	8	15	Nil	5	12	Nil	2	4	12	Nil	4	5	12	14	20
6.	Haryana	10	3	10	3	10	5	16	2	2	12	Nil	4	2	10	1	2	4	10	7	9
7.	Himachal	15	1	24	1	15	2	90	3	12	6	Nil	Nil	7	10	Nil	2	4	10	23	3
8.	J&K	5	1	6	Nil	5	1	23	1	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil	2	2	2	Nil	Nil
9.	Karnataka	15	5	39	10	15	6	11	9	1	11	2	3	1	10	1	4	2	10	9	18
10.	Kerala	10	3	Nil	Nil	20	3	29	1	3	12	1	Nil	1	9	Nil	18	1	9	3	12
11.	M.P.	55	5	111	7	35	5	35	11	5	9	Nil	Nil	9	9	Nil	6	9	9	17	9
12.	Maharashtra	55	10	114	10	80	11	92	12	10	6	Nil	1	9	12	Nil	7	9	12	31	12
13.	North East	35	5	79	2	40	4	40	6	1	1	Nil	1	4	4	1	Nil	2	4	4	3
14.	Orissa	40	5	40	8	35	4	42	4	4	4	Nil	1	4	4	Nil	Nil	4	4	12	Nil
15.	Punjab	10	3	28	3	10	3	7	2	3	5	1	4	2	4	1	2	2	4	6	5
16.	Rajasthan	60	6	244	9	30	5	30	5	5	12	2	Nil	5	10	Nil	6	5	10	12	6
17.	Tamil Nadu	14	7	30	4	10	4	14	4	2	5	3	4	2	4	3	2	2	4	7	4
18.	U.P.	75	10	100	11	93	12	95	13	14	19	Nil	4	12	16	Nil	3	12	16	38	9
19.	W.Bengal	60	10	92	1	50	5	37	5	3	4	1	Nil	2	4	Nil	Nil	2	4	3	2
Total		600	100	1091	99	600	100	704	92	80	150	10	33	80	150	12	61	80	150	225	139

Statement-II

Circle-wise break up of Post Offices opened during 9th Five Year Plan

S.No.	Circles	Target 1997-98		Opened 1997-98		Target 1998-99		Opened 1998-99		Target 99-2000		Opened 99-2000		Target 2000-01		Sanctioned* 2000-01	
		Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So	Bo	So
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	2	10	3	10	2	10	2	15	2	4	3	15	2	3	2
2.	Assam	25	2	18	3	54	5	54	5	50	4	24	7	30	3	30	3
3.	Bihar	40	5	31	4	72	2	72	2	50	3	51	Nil	53	5	70	1
4.	Delhi	5	2	5	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	2
5.	Gujarat	25	2	18	3	31	2	31	2	30	3	28	2	20	3	8	3
6.	Haryana	15	2	13	2	13	3	13	3	15	2	12	1	15	2	1	1
7.	Himachal	10	2	4	Nil	7	1	7	1	7	1	2	1	7	1	2	1
8.	J&K	15	1	11	1	23	1	23	1	15	1	14	1	5	1	5	1
9.	Jharkhand													22	2	Nil	1
10.	Karnataka	30	5	24	5	12	4	12	4	21	3	21	3	21	2	21	2
11.	Kerala	10	2	7	1	12	3	12	3	4	2	4	2	4	2	4	1
12.	M.P.	37	2	41	2	50	5	50	5	40	4	40	4	40	3	40	3
13.	Maharashtra	35	3	34	4	69	3	69	3	50	2	50	3	60	2	60	7
14.	North East	25	3	18	3	54	3	54	3	40	2	19	3	40	2	4	3
15.	Orissa	27	2	21	3	10	2	10	2	14	2	14	2	10	2	10	2
16.	Punjab	17	2	12	2	12	2	12	2	10	1	9	1	14	2	12	2
17.	Rajasthan	33	2	33	1	30	1	30	1	27	2	24	1	20	2	20	2
18.	Tamil Nadu	21	2	21	3	10	2	10	2	15	2	15	2	15	2	15	2
19.	U.P.	70	6	57	6	82	3	82	3	50	3	10	2	50	3	51	1
20.	W. Bengal	50	3	24	4	43	4	43	4	43	9	41	9	55	7	Nil	7
Total		500	50	402	52	598	50	598	50	500	50	386	49	500	50	360	47

*Shows Achievement as on 28.3.2001.

**Policy for Promoting Manufacturing Base
for Telecom Products**

5246. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have prepared a long term policy for promoting manufacturing base for high technology telecom products;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the fresh steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, New Telecom Policy, 1999 stipulate that with a view to promoting indigenous telecom equipment manufacture for both domestic use and export, the Government would provide the necessary support and encouragement to the sector, including suitable incentives to the service providers utilising indigenous equipment.

- (c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.
- (d) The following incentives are already allowed to the manufacturers of the telecom equipment:-
 - (i) No industrial license is required for the manufacture of telecom equipment.
 - (ii) 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is permitted in the telecom equipment manufacturing sector on automatic basis.
 - (iii) The dividend income and the capital invested in telecom manufacturing is fully repatriable.
 - (iv) Technical know-how fee of upto US\$ 2 million, net of taxes can be paid on an automatic basis. In addition, royalties upto 5 per cent on domestic sales and 8 per cent on export sales, are also permitted
 - (v) The Government has constituted Development Council for Telecom Sector under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. The Development Council will recommend measures for the growth of telecom manufacturing sector and service sector.

Incentives to Agents

5247. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have discontinued incentives/commissions to agents collecting deposits through Post Office Saving Schemes upto Rs. 5 lakhs;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir. A few representations have been received.

(d) In view of the reply to (a) above, no action is required on these representations.

[Translation]

Annual Production of BALCO

5248. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of employees working at present in Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO);
- (b) the amount disbursed per year as salary to the employees of BALCO;
- (c) the annual production of BALCO in terms of tonnes during 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001; and
- (d) the amount of loss incurred so far due to its workers' strike and closure of factory?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) The Number of employees working at present in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) is 6398 as on 31st March, 2001.

(b) The amount of Rs. 148 crores (approximately) is disbursed per year, as salary to the employees.

(c) The annual production of saleable aluminium metal during the last three years is as follow:

Years	Production (in tonnes)
1998-99	91,844
1999-2000	94,345
2000-2001	86,532

(d) The amount of loss incurred so far owing to the workers' strike and stoppage of production in the Korba unit is estimated to be Rs. 70 crores, upto 15th April, 2001.

[English]

Conference on Protection of Wildlife

5249 SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of State Forest Ministers held in Coimbatore in January, 2000;

(b) If so, the details of recommendations/decisions taken thereon;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which these recommendations are likely to be implemented to protect the Wildlife?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The conference unanimously adopted the 'Coimbatore Charter' covering afforestation, joint forest management, forest fire control, drought prone areas, strengthening of infrastructure, wildlife conservation, environmental laws, solid waste management, environmental education and awareness, river cleaning programme and international issues.

(c) and (d) The following resolutions adopted in the Coimbatore Charter' pertained to wildlife conservation:

(i) The ban on recruitment of forestry personnel shall be lifted and the vacancies filled up immediately on the lines of Police Department. The field formations shall be reorganized into viable units and be provided with adequate mobility, fire arms and effective communication network.

(ii) An effective mechanism for intelligence gathering and data base of habitual offenders should be developed for preventing wildlife crimes.

(iii) Adequate expertise shall be developed for prosecuting offenders and training be organized for undertaking investigations.

(iv) Steps shall be taken immediately for designating special courts for wildlife offences.

(v) Create effective enforcement infrastructure both within protected areas and outside protected area to prevent poaching.

(vi) Existing provisions for payment of compensation in the cases of deaths due to wild animals were emphasized, with the objective of ensuring compliance by the State/Union Territories Governments.

(vii) An appropriate insurance scheme for compensating damage to agricultural crops falling within five kilometers of national parks and sanctuaries.

Implementation of the recommendations is the responsibility of State Government. Government of India provides financial and technical assistance for infrastructure, weapons, communication equipments, vehicles and for other activities related with conservation of wild animals and their habitats.

Telephone Connections to Post Offices in Bihar

5250. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:

SHRI NAGMANI:

Will the Minister COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone connections have been provided to all the post offices in Bihar and Jharkhand States;

(b) If not, the number of post offices yet to be provided with this facility; and

(c) the time by which the said facility is likely to be made available to the remaining post offices in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 6427 post offices in Bihar and 2483 post offices in Jharkhand States are yet to be provided with telephone facility.

(c) Telephone connections to the post offices not having the same are provided by Telecom authorities subject to the availability of resources.

Progress of Tada Ichapuram NH-214

5251 SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of progress of Tada-Ichapuram National Highway 214; and

(b) the action taken for extension of the said Highway from Panarru to Ongole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Tada-Ichapuram is a section of NH-5 and not of NH-214. The stretch-wise details are as under:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| (i) Tada-Nallore | Concession Agreement for BOT signed. |
| (ii) Nellore-Chilikaluripet | Contracts are to be awarded. |
| (iii) Chilikaluripet-Eluru | 4-laning is progressing. |
| (iv) Eluru-Rajahmundry | Contract finalised. |
| (v) Rajahmundry-Ankapalli | Contract to be awarded. |
| (vi) Ankapalli-Vishakhapatnam | Already 4-laned. |
| (vii) Visakhapatnam-Ichapuram | Contracts for 172 km, out of 233 km finalised. |

(b) There is no proposal to declare Panarru-Ongole road as National Highway.

Survey Regarding Mineral Resources

5252 SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Forest Survey of India has completed mapping and assessment of mineral resources of Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh; and
- (b) if so, the details of the potential of mineral resources in the above States?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Forest Survey of India has not undertaken any work of mapping and assessment of mineral resources of Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. However, Forest Survey of India, undertook a study, in collaboration with Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Nagpur, to assess the extent of forest cover in areas leased for mining in three mineral rich States namely Bihar (erstwhile), Madhya Pradesh (erstwhile) and Orissa. The study was undertaken for formulation of a long term strategy for forest conservation vis-a-vis mining activities. The study shows that in 353 mining leases, covering an area of 90,695 hectare in 1994, 53,217 hectare of leased area was under forest cover out of which 71% was dense forest and 29% was open forest.

National Service Schemes

5253 SHRI SUSODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of

YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated to bring youths of country in the process of national building on voluntary basis;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have reviewed the working of National Services Schemes (NSS) and its achievements;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make NSS meaningful and to bring more youth power under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHA KRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, A new Scheme called National Reconstruction Corps (NRC) has been formulated to bring the youth of the country in the process of National building on voluntary basis. The Scheme will be implemented in 80 selected districts of the country beginning from the current financial year. Under the Scheme one Project Officer and 100 volunteers for each of the selected districts will be recruited on contract basis for a year. The Project Officer and the volunteers will be engaged in the implementation of the various Schemes/Projects in the Ministries/Departments of Government of India/State Governments.

(c) The Government has got the National Service Scheme evaluated by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) New Delhi in 1996-97.

(d) IIPA study evaluated the organisational structure and programme, assessed the achievements, limitations and possibilities of the Scheme during the period 1969-1997. Most of the recommendations contained in the evaluation study done by IIPA have been/are in the process of being implemented by the Ministry.

(e) To make NSS more meaningful and to bring more youth power under the Scheme, recently Ministry has raised the scales of assistance for regular and special camping programme under the Scheme. Ministry is also increasing the number of NSS volunteers every year.

[Translation]

Youth Hostels

5254 SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of youth hostels set up so far in the

country, State-wise and location-wise; and

(b) the number of hostels proposed to be set up, State-wise and location-wise?

AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Total number of youth hostels set up so far in the country is 63. A statement-I indicating details is attached.

(b) The details of youth hostels proposed to be set up are given in the attached Statement-II.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH

Statement-I

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Youth Hostel Constructed	Location of Youth Hostel (s)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4	Secunderabad, Vijayawada, Tirupathi, Vaisakhapatnam
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	Naharlagun
3.	Assam	4	Nawgaon, Guwahati, Golaghat, Tezpur
4.	Bihar	1	Patna
5.	Gujarat	1	Gandhinagar
6.	Haryana	4	Panchkula, Kurukshetra, Bhiwani, Gurgaon
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	Dalhousie, Bilaspur
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	3	Patintop, Nagrota, Srinagar
9.	Karnataka	3	Mysore, Hassan, Tirthahameshwar
10.	Kerala	3	Trivandrum, Ernakulam, Calicut (Kozhikode)
11.	Maharashtra	1	Aurangabad
12.	Manipur	2	Imphal, Ukhru
13.	Meghalaya	2	Shillong, Tura
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2	Bhopal, Jabalpur
15.	Nagaland	2	Mokokchung, Kohima
16.	Mizoram	1	Aizwal
17.	Punjab	4	Ropar, Amritsar, Sangrur, Patiala
18.	Rajasthan	2	Jaipur, Jodhpur
19.	Tamil Nadu	4	Chennai, Madurai, Thanjavur, Trichy
20.	Uttar Pradesh	4	Agra, Mussoorie, Uttarkashi, Nainital
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	Port Blair
22.	West Bengal	3	Darjeeling, Churulia, Burdwan
23.	Pondicherry	1	Pondicherry
24.	Tripura	1	Agartala
25.	Orissa	4	Puri, Joshipur, Gopalpur-on-Sea, Koraput
26.	Goa	2	Panaji, Padam Mapusa
27.	Sikkim	1	Namchi
Total:		63	

Statement-II**A- Youth Hostels Under Construction**

S.N.	Name of State/UT	Number	Location of Youth Hostel (s)
1.	Uttar Pradesh	4	Allahabad, Lucknow, Almorah, Varanasi
2.	West Bengal	2	Bakkhall, Kaikhali
3.	Orissa	1	Bhubaneshwar
4.	Karnataka	2	Karwar, Sogalu
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2	Warangal, Nagarjunasagar,
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	Manali
7.	Sikkim	1	Gangtok
8.	Kerala	1	Wayanad
9.	Maharashtra	1	Buldana
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2	Khajuraho, Orchha
11.	Manipur	3	Thoubal, Bishunupur, Churachandpur
Total		20	

B- Youth Hostels Approved in Principle (Construction yet to be started)

S.N.	Name of State/UT	Number	Location of Youth Hostel
1.	Bihar	1	Kishanganj
2.	Gujarat	4	Junagarh, Bhavnagar, Saputara, Pavagadh
3.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	Leh
4.	Maharashtra	1	Navegaon
5.	Madhya Pradesh	4	Indore, Gwalior, Raipur, Chitrakoot,
6.	Meghalaya	1	Cherapunji
7.	Rajasthan	3	Udaipur, Kota, Ajmer
8.	Uttar Pradesh	2	Bareilly, Ballia
9.	Tripura	1	Udaipur
10.	Tamil Nadu	3	Uthagamandalam (Ooty), Rameswaram, Coimbatore
11.	Punjab	3	Jalandhar, Anandpur Sahib, Muktasar
12.	Mizoram	1	Kolasib
13.	Haryana	3	Sirsa, Sonapatana, Rewari
Total		28	

[English]

Linking of Rivers

5255. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency has prepared six feasibility reports out of the proposed 16 interlinking projects;

(b) if so, whether a study was made on diversion of water from surplus basins to drought prone areas by interlinking major rivers of the country;

(c) if so, whether the study also includes construction of reservoirs to store flood water to improve drought-prone areas;

(d) if so, the time by which the reports are likely to be received; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and the Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages inter linkages among the various Peninsular rivers and among the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for optimum utilisation of water resources. The Government of India has established National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July 1982 to inter-alia carry out the water balance and feasibility studies of the National Perspective Plan. Comprehensive studies have been made by NWDA regarding interbasin transfer of water incorporating the diversion of water from surplus basins to deficit basins/drought prone areas by interlinking major rivers of the country. The proposals of interbasin water transfer schemes mostly envisage using existing storage reservoirs or storage reservoirs proposed to be constructed by the States under their plan proposals. Construction of storage reservoirs, as part of the project proposals, is also envisaged, wherever necessary. The Plan envisages 17 water transfer links under the Peninsular rivers development component and 14 water transfer links under the

Himalayan rivers development component. The pre-feasibility reports of all the 31 links have been completed.

(d) and (e) It is programmed to complete all the feasibility reports of identified interbasin water transfer link schemes under Peninsular Component by the year 2004 and those for Himalayan Component by the year 2008. Implementation of water transfer link proposals is inter alia linked to how soon the detailed project reports with estimate of cost are prepared after consensus is reached among the concern States and availability of funds for their implementation.

[Translation]

Setting up of Telephone Exchanges

5256. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up telephone exchanges in all the Blocks of Shekhpura and Lakhisarai districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for setting up telephone exchanges in the said districts and providing better telephone services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) All block head quarters of Shekhpura and Lakhisarai districts have been provided with telephone exchanges. New exchanges are proposed to be set up as per details given in the attached statement.

(c) Following steps have been taken for setting up telephone exchanges :

(i) The equipment for setting up the new exchanges in under the process of procurement. All the exchanges in the above districts will be expanded depending upon their capacity utilisation and pending demands of new telephone connections.

(ii) Transmission media has been planned. Most of the existing media have already been replaced by Optical Fibre Cables (OFC). The media of the remaining exchanges is also being replaced as per details given in annexure-I.

Statement**(a) New C-256 exchanges proposed to be set up.**

Sl. No.	Name of Place	Name of Block	Name of District
1.	Noama	Halsi	Lakhi Sarai
2.	Lohan	Ariari	Shekhpura

(b) Replacement of existing media with OFC.

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Name of District	Existing Media
1.	Hathiana	Shekhpura	U/G Cable
2.	Mehus	Shekhpura	U/G Cable
3.	Ghat Kusumbha	Shekhpura	4/4 UHF
4.	Shekhopur Sarai	Shekhpura	2/2 UHF
5.	Kajra	Lakhisarai	2/2 UHF

Pending Cases in Labour Courts

5257. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pending cases in the labour courts in the tribal areas of the country including the Pandharpur region of Maharashtra as on date, State-wise;

(b) the number of labour suits disposed of during the last three years in the said areas, State-wise; and

(c) the action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to dispose of the labour suits of the said areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) CGITs, are set up in those areas/regions where there is a strong presence of industries and workforce irrespective of the area/region being tribal or non-tribal.

Statement showing the number of cases pending as on 31.12.2000 and number of cases disposed during the last 3 years.

Name of The CGIT-cum-Labour Court	Cases disposed of during the year			Cases pending as on 31.12.2000
	1998	1999	2000	
1	2	3	4	5
Asansol	67	25	—	409
Bangalore	77	293	6	515
Calcutta	104	100	28	200@
Chandigarh	45	126	23	1787
Dhanbad-I	10	36	89	1539
Dhanbad-II	95	135	—	1364
Jabalpur	—	—	72	1367
Kanpur	322	399	122	620
Mumbai-I	53	66	40	204
Mumbai-II	100	126	127	278

1	2	3	4	5
New Delhi	244	25	97	1087
Jaipur	—	18	96	125
Nagpur	—	—	60	294
Lucknow	—	—	26	213
Chennai	—	—	26	63
Hyderabad	—	—	—	—
Bhubaneswar	—	—	—	34
Total	1117	1350	812	10,099

@ as on 31.12.2000

(c) **Step taken by the Ministry to expedite disposal of Industrial Disputes:** The Ministry does not normally interfere with the functioning of the CGITs as they are quasi-judicial bodies. However, the following steps are taken from time to time to see to it that the pendency does not remain at an alarming level.

- (i) Expeditious steps are being taken to fill up the few vacant posts of Presiding Officers in the Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts after observing all necessary formalities.
- (ii) The need to reduce pendency of Industrial Dispute cases in the Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts is also impressed upon the Presiding Officers by taking up the matter with them from time to time.
- (iii) A meeting of all Presiding Officers was held on 06.04.99 in which the need to dispose of pending cases was impressed upon.
- (iv) Departmental manual of procedure for use of Presiding Officers in CGIT-cum-Labour Courts has been finalised. It is expected that this manual would be useful for the Presiding Officers to dispose of cases quickly.
- (v) Certain amendments have been proposed in the I.D. Act, 1947 to relax the qualifications of Presiding Officers so that vacancies could be filled up without delay. Besides, the CGIT-cum-Labour Courts will also be given more powers to implement their awards.

[English]

Flights on Bhubaneswar-Banaras-Delhi Sector

5258. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any request to provide Airlink from Delhi to Bhubaneshwar via Banaras besides the existing one ;

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

(c) the time by which the said airlink is likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Airlines are free to operate on any route/connect any place as per their commercial judgement subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes. Indian Airlines has no plan at present to airlink Bhubaneshwar via Varanasi from Delhi due to very low passenger demand from Varanasi to Bhubaneshwar.

Four Lining of Ambala-Chandigarh and Chandigarh-Ludhiana Roads

5259. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have considered the need to four-lane the Ambala-Chandigarh and Chandigarh-Ludhiana roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal to build fly-overs at critical and busy points on these roads;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of annual volume of traffic on these two roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Feasibility Study and preparation of Detailed Project Reports for 4-laning of Ambala-Kalka section of NH-22 and Zirakpur-Chandigarh-Kiratpur section of NH-21 is at present in progress. There is no proposal for 4 laning of Chandigarh-Ludhiana section of NH-95 at present.

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal to build any fly-over on these roads.

(e) The details of Average Daily traffic on these roads is as under:

	Passenger Car Units (PCU)/day	
(i)	Ambala-Kalka Section (NH-22)	25282
(ii)	Zirakpur-Chandigarh Section (NH-21)	30374
(iii)	Chandigarh-Ludhiana Section (NH-95)	12017

Wage to Unskilled Women Labour

5260. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that some State Government are not paying equal wage to unskilled women labourers than men labourers;

(b) if so, the details of such States; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to remove this discrepancy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for payment of equal remuneration to women for the same work or work of similar nature. The Central Government is the appropriate Government in relation to any employment carried on by or under the authority of the Central Government or railway administration, or in relation to a banking company, a mine, oilfield or major port or any corporation established by or under a Central Government Act. In respect of all other employments, the State Governments are the appropriate governments. Under the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 and the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Officers of the appropriate Government notified as Inspectors make inspections and prosecute those found violating provisions of the Act. The Central Government monitors implementation of the Acts.

Upgradation of National Highway No. 52

5261. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has sanctioned Rs. 250.80 crore for repair of National Highways in the North-east;

(b) if so, whether National Highway-52 between Tezpur to Junai has been in a very bad condition;

(c) if so, the amount of expenditure estimated to be incurred in upgrading the same to NH-standards; and

(d) the amount earmarked for the purpose indicating details of modifications required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) The Government allocated a sum of Rs. 57.13 crore for maintenance and repair of National Highways in the North-East during 2000-01.

(b) National Highway No. 52 between Tezpur and North Lakhimpur is a two lane road and is in traffic worthy condition. The section from North Lakhimpur to Jonai is a single lane road and is being maintained in traffic worthy condition except for a stretch of 4km, which is affected by river Jia Dhol.

(c) and (d) The development of the National Highway 52 from Tezpur to Jonai is being carried out in phases based on availability of funds.

[Translation]

Optical Fibre in Rajasthan

5262. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some telephone exchanges in Rajasthan have been connected with the optical fibre;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be connected with the optical fibre by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 2061 total telephone exchanges, 951 telephone exchanges are connected with Optical Fibre.

(c) 996 Number of Telephone exchanges are proposed to be connected with optical fibre by the end of Ninth five year plan, subject to timely availability of material.

[English]

Renovation of Hotels of HCI at Mumbai

5263. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hotel Corporation of India has chalked out any programme to renovate and upgrade its rooms facilities in Hotels upto international standards;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of rooms upgraded so far particularly in Mumbai in different Hotels of HCI;

(d) the total expenditure incurred by HCI on Mumbai Airport and Juhu Centaur; and

(e) the other steps being taken by the Government to attract more foreigners to Government owned hotels by providing more facilities to them?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Renovation in all the three properties viz. Centaur Hotel Mumbai Airport, Centaur Hotel Juhu Beach and Centaur Delhi Airport has been proposed during this year.

Number of rooms upgraded to international standards in two hotels of HCI in Mumbai are as follows :—

(i) Centaur Hotel Mumbai Airport : 60 Guest rooms alongwith shafts and corridors at an approximate cost of Rs. 440 lakhs.

(ii) Centaur Hotel Juhu Beach : 40 Guest rooms with shafts and corridors. Work for 41 guest rooms and 3 nos. suits is in progress. The approximately cost is Rs. 462 lakhs.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Jharkhand

5264. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Jharkhand State as on March 31, 2001, district-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The number

of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections in Jharkhand State as on March 31, 2001 is 13322. The district-wise status is given in the statement attached.

(b) The following steps have been taken by the department to clear the waiting list:

(i) Exchange equipment required for opening new exchanges and expansion of existing new exchanges is under the process of procurement.

(ii) Laying of under ground cable has been planned.

Statement

District-wise Waiting List

Sl. No.	Name of District	Waiting List
1.	Dhanbad	1621
2.	Bokaro	2114
3.	Hazaribagh	885
4.	Giridih	150
5.	Chatra	25
6.	East Singhbhum	2376
7.	West Singhbhum	404
8.	Ranchi	1112
9.	Lohardaga	77
10.	Gumla	182
11.	Palamu	260
12.	Garhwa	20
13.	Deoghar	2411
14.	Dumka	447
15.	Sahabganj	423
16.	Koderma	115
17.	Pakur	65
18.	Godda	635

[English]

Reclamation of Degraded Forest Land

5265. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the annual target of reclamation of degraded forest land;

(b) the funds required and made available for the purpose during Eighth and Ninth Plan;

(c) the area reclaimed so far; and

(d) the strategy worked out to achieve the annual target?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (d) Annual targets for reclamation of degraded forest land are dependent on the availability of funds for the centrally sponsored and State Plan afforestation schemes. The central assistance provided to the State Governments for this purpose during the Eighth Plan and earmarked in the Ninth Plan (including 2001-02) under the major afforestation schemes of the Ministry of Environment and Forests (viz. Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Projects Scheme, Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Projects Scheme and Conservation and Development of Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme) is Rs. 413.79 crore and Rs. 550.35 crore respectively. The area coverage under these schemes during the Eighth Plan was 8,11,056 hectares, while in the Ninth Plan the target for physical achievement has been pegged at 6,65,394 hectares. To improve the implementation of afforestation projects in the field, people's participation through Joint Forest Management has been made an integral part of these schemes in the Ninth Plan.

[Translation]

Cost of Telecom Equipments

5266. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cost of imported telecom equipments is cheaper than those of indigenously manufactured;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for producing such equipments at cheaper rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) The cost of telecom equipment depends upon various factors such as source of technology, indigenous availability of raw material/ components, volume of production i.e. economy of scale, customs and excise duties etc. The equipment which are being manufactured with indigenous know-how and involve large scale of indigenisation are generally cheaper than those imported from outside. However, in case the Indian manufacturer has to pay technical know-how fee and royalty towards technology transfer and having higher import content, imported equipment may be cheaper than indigenously manufactured telecom equipment.

(c) Though, in the deregulated environment, the Government has no role to play in controlling the price of telecom equipment, the following steps taken by the Government would result in producing such equipment at cheaper rate :-

(i) No industrial license is required for the manufacture of telecom equipment and, therefore no restriction on number of manufacturing units for a particular product. This would generate competition and result in reduction in cost.

(ii) India has committed reduction of customs duty on IT products to zero in a phased manner as per Information Technology Agreement under WTO. This commitment also envisages reduction of customs duty on components for the IT products including telecom equipment. With the reduction of customs duty on the inputs, the cost of indigenous telecom equipment would reduce further.

(iii) The Department of Telecom has requested State Governments to reduce sales tax on telecom products.

(iv) Telecom R&D Council had been set up to promote indigenous product development.

[English]

ESIC Strike

5267. SHRI Y. V. RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees of Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) went on strike for one day in March, 2001;

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

(c) whether the recommendations of the committee appointed to consider the Implementation of fifth pay commission in regard to employees of ESIC have not been implemented in the corporation; and

(d) if so, the Government's response in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Under Section 17 of the ESI Act, 1948, Salary, allowances and other conditions of services of the employees of the ESI Corporation are required to be in accordance with the rules and orders applicable to the employees of the Central Government drawing corresponding scales of pay. Accordingly,

benefits of the accepted recommendations of the Vth Central Pay Commission have been extended to the employees of the ESI Corporation and arrears in this regard have since been paid to the employees in December, 1997. The Pay Committee constituted by the ESIC has, inter-alia, recommended grant of 50% fitment benefit, grant of higher pay scales of certain categories of staff including Additional Commissioners, upgradation of post of Record Sorter and its redesignation as Record Keeper, extending the benefit available to Group-A Organised Service Officers of the Central Government to Group-A officers of the Corporation etc. Keeping in view the legal provisions of the ESIC Act and also the benefits already extended to the ESIC employees on the basis of the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission so far, it have not been found feasible to accept the recommendations of the Pay Committee.

Railway over Bridges on National Highway No. 5

5268. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded necessary sanction for two road over bridges at railway crossings on the National Highway-5 between Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada for ensuring uninterrupted flow of Traffic between Madras and Kolkata;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Two road over bridges on Eluru bypass falling on Visakhapatnam-Vijayawada Section of National Highway-5 have already been constructed. In addition, 3 more are sanctioned.

(b) The details are as under :

(i) Km.490/15-491/1 of National Highway-5 between Eluru and Denduluru stations: completed.

(ii) Km. 477/3-4 of National Highway-5 between Nuzvid and Vaturu stations completed.

(iii) Km. 291.4 near Tuni - sanctioned

(iv) Km. 322.750 near Ellemanchalli - -do-

(v) Km. 344.885 near Bayyavaram - -do-

(c) All the road over bridges are scheduled for completion by December, 2003.

Rehabilitation of Free Bonded Labourers

5269. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any suggestion from the Andhra Pradesh Government to enhance the unit cost for rehabilitation of free bonded labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon in view of high cost purchase of land, agricultural implements, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) Requests for enhancement of the rehabilitation assistance to freed bonded labourers had been received from various State Governments including the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Based on the consultation held with the representatives of the State Governments, rehabilitation assistance has been enhanced from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 20,000/- per freed bonded labourer with effect from May, 2000.

Telephone Fault Rate

5270. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone fault rate in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) areas is more than in the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down fault rate in MTNL areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The fault rate of MTNL, Delhi is higher than the fault rate to DoT (Now BSNL) areas. However the fault rate of MTNL, Mumbai is 11.3%, which is less than the all-India average fault rate of 12.5%.

(b) The fault rate can be mainly attributed to the following reasons :

- Poor quality of drop wire.
- Faults in instruments.
- Cable length being more.
- Adding more pillars at same place and interconnecting them through pipes.
- Very little introduction of new technologies in the external plant.

(c) The following steps have been taken to improve the fault rate.

- (i) External plant is being rehabilitated.
- (ii) All paper core underground cables are being replaced with Jelly filled/optical fibre cables.
- (iii) Liberalized policy to replacing old/faulty telephone instruments
- (iv) Opening of more Remote switching Unit (RSU) and Digital Line concentrators (DLC).

Civil Pilots Training Institute at Muzaffarnagar, U.P.

5271. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan for extending air services in the country to meet with various needs including disasters and tourism;

(b) if so, plan of the Government in the matter, state-wise; and

(c) whether the Government propose to build an airport for Civil pilot training at Muzaffarnagar in UP to cater to the local requirements of Roorkee and Rishikesh towns?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Airlines operators are free to operate to any place/on any route as per their commercial judgement, subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specified category of routes. Air services are supplemented by non-scheduled operators who provide aircraft on charter basis for various other needs. In addition Indian Airlines operates

additional services, whenever required, to meet the emergencies arising due to natural calamities and disasters. After the recent earthquake in Gujarat Indian Airlines had operated 184 additional flights from 26th January 2001 to 14th February 2001.

(c) Airports Authority of India has no such proposal.

Basic Telephone Services

5272. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the basic telephone services of 40 circles in different States on 20 years lease basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof circle-wise and company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) 40 Letters of Intent have only been issued to 3 applicant companies namely M/s Tata Teleservices limited, M/s Reliance Communications Pvt. Limited and M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd. against their applications for licences to provide basic telephone service in various service areas as per details in statement attaches. In case, the said applicant companies succeed to sign the licence after compliance in respect of payment of applicable entry fee, submission of requisite bank guarantees and other requirements then the validity of such licence agreement shall be for a period of 20 years initially.

Statement

Name of the Applicant Company	Letter of Intent (LOI) Issued for
M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd	Orissa, West Bengal (including Kolkatta and Sikkim), UP (East), Madhya Pradesh (including Chhatisgarh), Bihar (including Jharkhand), U.P. West (including Uttaranchal), Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu (including Chennai & Pondicherry), Delhi, Maharashtra (including Mumbai and Goa), Gujarat, Karnataka.
M/s Reliance Communications Private Ltd.	Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh (including Chhatisgarh), Bihar (including Jharkhand), Orissa, U.P. West (including Uttaranchal), Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra (including Mumbai and Goa), Karnataka, UP East, West Bengal (including Kolkatta and Sikkim), Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu (including Chennai and Pondicherry)
M/s HFCL Infotel Limited	Tamil Nadu (including Chennai and Pondicherry), Kerala, UP West (including Uttaranchal), Karnataka, Haryana, Delhi, Maharashtra (including Mumbai and Goa).

Illegal trade in Wildlife

5273. SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a raid made by CBI near Nagpur and tiger skins alongwith other animals parts have been seized in March, 2001 in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some foreign smugglers have been found to be involved in the crime; and

(d) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken to check such type of crimes in future?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The details of seizure made by officers of Central Bureau of Investigation in March, 2001 at Nagpur are given in the statement attached.

(c) No conclusive evidence to prove involvement of foreign smugglers in this case has been received.

(d) The action taken to check wildlife crimes are as follows:

(1) Steps taken at the State level:

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(2) Steps taken at National level

i. Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

ii. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

iii. Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries

and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers of eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

iv. A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

v. Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

vi. A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and out side protected areas.

vii. Minister of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(3) Steps taken in International level.

i. Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

ii. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Nepal has been signed by India to establish a joint Task Force to check the trafficking across the borders.

iii. Indo-Chinese Protocol in tiger conservation Article of the protocol inter-alia stipulates joint measures to crackdown illegal activities of poaching of tigers, smuggling and selling the tiger bones and other parts of the tiger as well as its derivatives

iv. A Global Tiger Forum Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

Statement

Details of seizure made by Central Bureau of Investigation in March, 2001 at Nagpur.

Sl. No.	Item Seized	Action taken
1	2	3
1	Tiger Skin-1 Nos Tiger skull - 5 Nos. Tiger bones - 23 Kgs. Antlers - 1.9 Kgs. Tiger claws - 10 Nos. Tiger Teeth - 3 Nos.	2 persons arrested
2.	Leopard skin - 4 Nos.	4 persons arrested

Clearance to Tailpond Dam Power House

5274. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether environmental clearance for Tailpond Dam Power House at Nagarjunasagar project in Andhra Pradesh has been pending clearance; and

(b) if so, the action taken to expedite the clearance of the project?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The project authorities have been requested on 12.2.2001 to furnish additional information.

Expansion and Development to National Highway-2

5275. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be please to state :

(a) whether due to expansion and development of National Highway-2 from Durgapur to Panagarh, petrol pumps located at Highway have been affected; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per policy, a licence deed valide for 3 years has to be signed for forming approach road from National Highways, which stipulates that the licensee has to remove the approach road at his own cost, if required for widening.

Oil companies have been asked to take necessary action for renewal of licence deed for their petrol pumps/ratail outlets.

Civil Aviation Projects for Andhra Pradesh

5276. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the civil aviation development projects taken up at the beginning of the Ninth Five Plan in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether the works on these projects are going on as per the schedule;

(c) if so, the details of the projects completed, under progress and likely to be completed during the remaining period of the plan;

(d) the total amount sanctioned for each projects so far; and

(e) the efforts being taken by the Government to complete these project in time ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Airports Authority of India (AAI) have undertaken following developmental projects in Andhra Pradesh at the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan :

(i) In Hyderabad airport construction of new Integrated International Terminal building, modification/expansion of existing domestic Terminal building, installation of four Aerobridges and profile correction of existing runway associated pavements have been completed at a total cost of Rs. 50.78 crores. Techno economic feasibility study has been undertaken for extension of existing runway to 10500 feet, so far Rs. 1.00 crores has been sanctioned.

(ii) In Vijayawada airport strengthening of runway, modification/renovation of existing Terminal building and construction of new Apron and linked Taxiway have been completed at a total cost of Rs. 8.55 crores.

(iii) In Visakhapatnam airport expansion and modification of existing Terminal building for 400 passengers is at preliminary stage. Amount sanctioned is Rs. 1.00 crore. There is plan to develop this airport for AB-300 class of aircraft operation by constructing a new runway for which

Techno economic feasibility study has been undertaken. Amount sanctioned is Rs. 1.00 crores, so far.

(iv) In Tirupathi airport, a new Terminal building for 300 passengers has been developed and Apron and linked Taxitrack expanded at a cost of Rs. 18.66 crores.

(v) In Rajamundry airport works are awarded for recarpeting the existing runway, construction of linked Taxitrack, new Apron and construction of boundary wall. So far, Rs.7.66 crores has been sanctioned for the project. Work is likely to be completed by March, 2002.

(e) All the projects are monitored continuously and progress reviewed periodically.

[Translation]

Earthquake Resistant Building at Airports

5277. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of airports are under the control of Airport Authority of India presently;

(b) the profits, earned by these airports during the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and likely to be earned during the year 2001-2002;

(c) whether the Government propose to make buildings at airports with earthquake resistant to tackle natural calamity;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) There are 11 international airports, 85 domestic airports and 26 civil enclaves at defence airfields which are maintained and managed by the Airport Authority of India (AAI).

(b) The profit earned by the AAI from these airports is Rs. 211.38 crores for the year, 1999-2000 and the likely profits are Rs. 234.26 crores for 2000-2001 as per Revised Estimates and Rs. 251.30 crores for 2001-2002 as per Budget Estimates.

(c) to (f) All buildings/Structures constructed at the airport of AAI have been designed to resist/withstand earthquakes and these structures are designed conforming to Indian Standard Code No. 1893.

[English]

Tree Plantation

5278. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and category of different trees planted in the country including the total area covered by them during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) the targets fixed for plantation of trees for 2001-2002;

(c) the estimated funds to be spent for the purpose;

(d) whether there is a sharp decline in some of the trees' stocks particularly teak; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to increase the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Under the Twenty Point Programme, targets for afforestation and tree planting are fixed annually in terms of seedling distribution for planting on private lands and area coverage through afforestation on public lands, including forest lands. Achievement of tree planting/afforestation made under Twenty Point Programme during 1997-2001 are given in statement. Species planted are decided by the implementing agencies keeping in view the local climatic and edaphic conditions. Plantation of indigenous species is encouraged.

(b) and (c) Annual targets for the Twenty Point Programme are fixed as per availability of funds under the relevant Central and State Plan Schemes. Targets for 2001-02 will be fixed accordingly.

(d) and (e) System of stock taking of trees in the forests has not been developed by any State in the country. The information about tree stocks is, therefore, not available either with the States or the Centre.

Statement*** Achievements of Tree Planting Activities Twenty Point Programme (TPP) during 1997-2001**

Seedlings in lakhs/Area in hectares

Achievements (1997-98)		Achievements (1998-99)		Achievements (1999-2000)		Achievements* (2000-01)	
Seedling Distribution*	Area**	Seedling Distribution	Area**	Seedling Distribution*	Area**	Seedling Distribution*	Area**
10335.63	965638.15	9377.86	1105275.67	11814.13	1424214.29	8505.39	757052.55

* Seedling Distribution: for planting on private lands - under Point No. 16A of the TPP.

** Area: coverage on public lands including forest lands - under Point No. 16B of the TPP.

@ Progress Reports from all States and Union Territories have not been received.

**Conversion of two Lane National Highways
into four Lane in Karnataka**

5279. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to convert 625 kms stretch of two-lane National Highways in Karnataka into four lane stretches by the National Highways Authority of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated cost of project;

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the National Highways Authority of India has also sanctioned a project for construction of by-passes in the State;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether survey on these projects has been completed; and

(g) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 625 Km, a length of 63 km has already been four-laned and the remaining 562 km is being 4-laned at an estimated cost of Rs. 2,410 crore.

(c) The project is scheduled for completion by December 2003.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) Bypasses for Tumkur, Sira, Balgaum, Ranibennur, Haveri, Devanahalli Yelahanka are proposed. Survey for all except Tumkur has been completed.

(g) Construction of Sira bypass has already started. The work on the remaining 6 bypasses is to commence during the current year 2001-2002.

Limited Mobility Telecom Services

5280. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the State where limited mobility telecom services through the wireless in local loop system have been provided at present; and

(b) the date on which the said system is effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) :

Name of the service provider	Name of the State	Date from which the limited mobility service through Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) is effective
Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	Haryana	27.3.2001
Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	Delhi	7.4.2001
M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd.	Punjab	27.1.2001
M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd.	Rajasthan	27.1.2001
M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	18.3.2001

International Flights from Cochin to Gulf Countries

5281. SHRI GEORGE EDEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start new flight in gulf countries from Cochin International Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Air India propose to start two additional flights from Cochin to destinations in Gulf Countries effective May 2001 in addition to the 15 International services being operated at present by Air India and 13 international services by Indian Airlines.

Acquisition of Aircraft by Alliance Air

5282. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Alliance Air has decided to take 5 Boeing 737-200s on lease;

(b) if so, whether this is likely to cover more destinations/routes; and

(c) if so, the new routes/areas that are proposed to be served by Alliance air ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Indian Airlines had executed a Letter of Intent for dry lease of five Boeing 737-200 aircraft with M/s. GIAL. As per the lease contract signed in December 2000, deliveries of these aircraft were to commence in 3rd/4th week of December, 2000. In spite of continuous follow-up, M/s. GIAL have failed to deliver any aircraft due to problems at their end. There are inbuilt penal clauses in the contract to take care of non-fulfilment of conditionalities including delayed delivery of aircraft by the Lessor.

Telephone Connections

5283. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to do away with the practice of charging registration fee for booking of telephones in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes,

Sir, for Delhi and Mumbai where Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is operating, it has been decided to make registration for New Telephone connection as free w.e.f. 1.5.2001.

For the remaining parts in the country with Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, it has been decided not to charge such fee in the area where telephones are available 'On Demand'.

Construction of New Runway and Terminal Building at Chennai

5284. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airport Authority of India plans to construct a new runway and a new terminal building at Chennai airport;

(b) if so, the time by which the work on the project is likely to be commenced; and

(c) the expenditure involved in it ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) : The existing Anna International Terminal is being completely renovated and upgraded at a cost of Rs. 79.66 crores which is likely to be completed by December, 2002. There is no plan, at present, to construct a new runway.

[Translation]

Rest Houses

5285. SHRI SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated any policy to enable the Members of Parliament to stay in the rest houses of the Department of Telecommunications;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Department of Telecom has set up Holiday Homes/Inspection Quarters for its own employees.

Almatti Dam

5286. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE :

KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently given its verdict in regard to the Almatti Dam dispute;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government for ensuring the implementation of the verdict?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in respect of petition filed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India under Article 131 of the Constitution against the Government of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Union Government of India in the matter of violation of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal Award by the States of Karnataka and Maharashtra and inter-alia observed that "there is no bar for raising the height of the Dam at Almatti upto 519.6 metre subject to getting clearance from appropriate authority of the Central Government and any other statutory authority of the Central Government and any other statutory authority required under law". Upper Krishna Stage-II Multipurpose Project (Irrigation Portion) with Almatti Dam full reservoir level (FRL) at 519.6 metres and costing Rs. 2385.86 crores (1998-99 price level) has been accorded the investment clearance by the Planning Commission.

[English]

Disputes on Sharing of Rivers Water

5287 SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister has asked the Northern States to resolve their long-pending issues relating to sharing of rivers water;

(b) if so, the extent to which these States have taken initiatives to resolve the issues;

(c) whether the Minister's urgency to resolve the issues was in the context of his stress for a coordinated approach by these States to make more efficient use of available rivers water;

(d) if so, whether any concrete suggestions or steps have been suggested by the Prime Minister to all the concerned States to resolve the water disputes;

(e) if so, whether the Government have agreed to provide help and assistance to these States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Referring to the existence of an institutional arrangement comprising some States for good neighbourly coordination, the Prime Minister stated in his speech during the inauguration of Panorama and Science Centre at Kurukshetra on 6.3.2001, that it is necessary for the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi and Punjab to frame joint policies on some issues. Emphasizing better use of water, he observed that several issues of irrigation and river disputes are pending while water is draining into the sea and the fields are going dry. With specific reference to the need for time bound policies for the National Capital Region, the Hon'ble Prime Minister suggested the Chief Minister of Haryana may take initiative in this regard. Recalling that Chief Minister of Haryana is considering to convene a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the region, the Prime Minister wished that such a meeting is held.

(d) to (f) Dedicating the Ranjit Sagar Dam in Punjab to the Nation on the 4th March 2001, the Prime Ministers had also mentioned that if the Chief Ministers of the region could discuss and come to an agreement on the issues, Centre would extend all help in this regard. As desired by the Prime Minister earlier, the Central Government has been endeavouring to discuss and arrive at a negotiated settlement on water related issues of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan through a meeting of their Chief Ministers.

[English]

Telecom Facilities

5288. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which are lagging behind the national average in setting up of optical fibre network;

(b) the number of "Server Farms and Web Hosting" centres set up in the country so far; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the pace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Optical Fibre Network is being set up to augment connectivity of the

exchanges with reliable media. Provision of connectivity depends upon a number of factors like geographical area, number of exchanges, physical terrain etc. Progress of all Circles in this respect is satisfactory. As per the plan of BSNL, all the exchanges are to be connected with reliable media (Optical Fibre Cable, Microwave and Satellite systems) by March, 2002.

(b) and (c) BSNL has not set up any "Server Farms and Web Hosting" centre so far.

Farakka Barrage Project

5289. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether navigation is being hampered due to heavy siltation in the lock channel approach of Farakka Barrage Project;

(b) if so, whether dredging activities/measures have been taken to clear the channel in front of Farakka Barrage Project; and

(c) if so, the detail thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Sometimes during the lean months the depth of water in the navigation channel of Farakka Barrage Project becomes less than 2m which is the minimum depth required of navigability.

(b) and (c) Maintenance dredging has been carried out in the vicinity of the lock channel by the Inland Waterways Authority of India in 1999 to improve the water depth.

Amount Spent of NALCO

5290. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state the amount spent on the NALCO at Damonjodi in Orissa for its peripheral developments during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : The amount spent by NALCO on peripheral development at Damanjodi in Orissa is as follows :

1998 - 99	Rs 88 lakh
1999 - 2000	Rs. 127.66 lakhs
2000 - 2001	Rs. 165 lakhs

Maintenance of Lakes and Rivers

5291. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided funds for maintenance and beautification of lakes and rivers in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made in this regard during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The National Lake Conservation Plan for conservation of 10 urban lakes including Dal and Nagin Lakes in Srinagar was considered by Government on 29.12.1997 when it directed that the proposal be brought up for consideration after a fresh appraisal of the scheme in the light of a firm tie up of external financial assistance for financing National Lake Conservation Plan. However, Government simultaneously approved, in principle, the proposal to take up the scheme for conservation of the Dal Lake and decided that an amount upto Rs. 20 crore may be spent on land acquisition which are considered absolutely necessary by way of advance action for speedy implementation of the scheme in so far as it relates to the Dal Lake. An amount of Rs. 75 crore has been released during the period from 1997-98 till date by the Planning Commission as additional central assistance through the Annual Plan of Jammu and Kashmir for conservation of Dal and Nagin lakes. A Detailed Project Report for conservation and management of the Dal and Nagin Lakes has been prepared at an estimated cost of Rs. 162.87 crore (without land cost component). An amount of Rs. 1.20 crore has been spent on the preparation of this report which has been sent for the comments of the state government on 14th November, 2000. In addition, an amount of Rs. 0.76 crore has been released during the last three years for conservation and management of Wullar Lake under a separate scheme called conservation of wetlands. The activities undertaken for Wullar Lake management include catchment area treatment, soil conservation, dweeding and desilting.

The Jammu and Kashmir Government submitted a pre-feasibility report in December, 1997 on the pollution abatement of river Jhelum in four towns namely, Anantnag, Srinagar, Sopore and Baramulla at an estimated cost of Rs. 248.42 crore. An amount of Rs. 5 lakhs was released in February, 1998 to Jammu & Kashmir Lakes and Waterways Developments Authority for preparation of this pre-feasibility report. The proposal was returned to the state government for their comments in June, 1998 as it was not found sustainable in view of the high cost of operation and maintenance.

Installation of Surveillance Cameras at Airport Terminals

5292. DR. RAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA :
DR. D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to install surveillance cameras at airport terminals to supervise and survey the entire area for any suspicious object or persons loitering around;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the manner in which the security around cafeteria, book stores etc. is proposed to be tightened?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Surveillance cameras for closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system are presently in use at Terminal-1A, 1B and Terminal-2 of Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport, Terminal-2C of Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport and domestic terminal of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International (NSCBI) Airport. The installation at NSCBI International Terminal is in the final stage. New Surveillance CCTV system with provision of common control room to be used by Customs, Immigration, Security and Airports Authority of India (AAI) are likely to be commissioned by the end of July 2001 at Terminal 1B, domestic arrived terminal, and Terminal-2 of IGI Airport, Terminal 1B, Terminal-2A of Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, the domestic terminal of NSCBI Airport, domestic and international terminals of Chennai airport and the domestic and international terminal of Thiruvananthapuram airport.

(d) Cafeteria, book stores etc. are located in the terminal area, where security is provided through a number of measures including access control, posting of surveillance teams, installation of CCTV cameras etc.

Encroachment of Land of A.A.I.

5293. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether land belonging to Airport Authority of India (AAI) in Hyderabad has been encroached upon;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal to rehabilitate the encroachers at other sites in Hyderabad and Government of Andhra Pradesh has allotted land for them;

(d) if so, whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the A.A.I. to provide infrastructural facilities at the new sites; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the A.A.I. thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD

YADAV) : (a) and (b) About 97 acres of land belonging of Airports Authority of India (AAI) at Hyderabad airport are under encroachment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) A rehabilitation plan was finalised in 1994 at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.63 crores out of which Rs. 4.58 crores was agreed to be paid by AAI. AAI had deposited Rs. 1.25 crores in May, 1994 for this purpose. However, the State Government later informed that the cost of rehabilitation had increased and requested AAI to contribute Rs. 17.74 crores towards the cost of houses and other amenities. Since the contribution requested from AAI is too high and there is no immediate requirement of the land for operational purposes. AAI is not in a position to bear this high additional cost. Moreover, Government has already approved the proposal of the State Government for a new airport of international standards at Shamsabad.

Construction of International Airports

5294. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to build second International Airport in the cities where already one exists;

(b) if so, the names of such cities, State and Territory-wise; and

(c) the target date fixed to complete the project along with the estimated amount involved and the facilities to be provided on each such Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, State Government of Maharashtra has plans to develop a second airport at Navi Mumbai to meet the long term air traffic requirements. The State Government has been asked to complete the proposed technical/traffic studies and then send a formal proposal for the consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

Projects Sanctioned for Civil Aviation in Jharkhand

5295. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

SHRI P.R. KHUNTE :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the projects sanctioned for the development of civil aviation facilities in Jharkhand during the Ninth Five-Year Plan;

- (b) the details of the projects on which the work has since been started;
- (c) whether the work is in progress as per the scheduled programme; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken and proposed to be taken for completion of the projects within the stipulated time?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) The details of projects sanctioned for Ranchi Airport in Jharkhand (State) are as under :—

- (i) Runway soil erosion control work at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.82 crores. The work is progressing as per schedule and is expected to be completed by June, 2001.
- (ii) Construction of canopy in front of Terminal Building towards city side is expected to commence shortly and is expected to be completed by December, 2001.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Theft of Telephone Cables

5296. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI AHSOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether incidents of telephone cables theft has been increased in Mumbai, Pune and Delhi during the recent past;

(b) If so, the names of telephone exchanges of these cities along with the amount of losses suffered as a result thereof during 2000-2001 and till date, exchange-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to curb such thefts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) No increase in telephone cable thefts have been reported in Pune in recent past. But in Delhi and Mumbai units of MTNL, there has been an increase in the incidents of the theft of telephone cable.

(b) The details are given in statements I & II for Delhi & Mumbai units of MTNL respectively.

(c) The following steps are being taken to curb such thefts.

- (i) Round the clock patrolling
- (ii) Locking of Manholes
- (iii) Co-ordination with police authorities
- (iv) Reduction of length of underground cables by providing more number of Extension Network Concentrators (CNEs) & Digital Line Concentrators (DLCs)

Statement-I

Details of Cable Theft Cases Exchange-Wise for the Year 2000-01

MTNL DELHI

Name of Area	Name of Exchange	No. of Cable Thefts	Loss involved in Rs.
1	2	3	4
Central	Kidwai Bhawan	1	8,712
	Lodhi Road	6	1,21,000
	Rajpath	1	42,000
	Total	8	1,71,712
Eastern	Idgah	5	76,002
	Tis Hazari	5	84,166
	Total	10	1,60,168
Trans Yamuna	Laxmi Nagar	1	20,685

1	2	3	4
	Mayur Vihar	2	76,000
	East Loni Road	2	52,000
	Total	5	1,48,685
North	Badli	7	82186
	Bawana	4	76255
	Alipur	6	24896
	Narela	11	91100
	Total	28	274437
South-I	Bhikaji Cama Place	7	76,407
	Hauz Khas	16	5,31,180
	Chattarpur	8	69,203
	Vasant Vihar	2	16,000
	Chanakya Puri	3	24,000
	Vasant Kunj	4	31,849
	Total	40	7,48,639
South-II	Tuglakabad	5	86,772
	Nehru Place	11	62,290
	Tekhand	11	2,85,100
	Okhla	8	1,50,214
	Sarita Vihar	2	10,275
	Total	37	5,95,101
West-I	Dwarka	10	35,000
	Janakpuri	7	45,050
	Delhi Cantt.	3	5,408
	Shadipur	1	8,177
	Nazafgarh	5	2,11,686
	Pankha Road	1	5,789
	Total	27	3,11,110
West-II	Nangloi	5	53,550
	Rajouri Garden	6	59,000
	Total	11	1,12,550
	JP-SITA	1	4,000

1	2	3	4
GM(Transmission)	CHY-BCP	2	9,000
Jn. Cable	JP-AYA AGR	2	10,400
	Ld. RD-GHITRONI	1	6,250
	OK-NP	1	1,100
	CHY-HK	1	6,000
	Total	8	36,750
	GRAND TOTAL	174	25,59,152

Statement - II*MTNL Mumbai*

Sr.No.	Exchange Name	No. of thefts	Amount involved (in Rupees)
1.	Vile Parle	5	1,10,869
2.	Bandra Kurla Complex	9	2,29,760
3.	Chembur	4	1,42,013
4.	Ghatkopar	1	33,933
5.	Powai	2	1,00,000
6.	Gokuldham	4	21,187
7.	Mulund	5	99,145
8.	Thane Churaj	5	77,425
9.	Murol	2	75,204
10.	Panvel	1	9,64,656
11.	CBD Belapur	5	2,86,800
12.	Rabale	5	14,000
13.	Nerul	2	16,000
14.	Turbhe	5	38,200
15.	Kulumboli	4	2,49,799
16.	Taloja	2	10,000
17.	Urun	1	10,000
	Total	62	24,78,991

[Translation]

Telephone Connections to Senior Citizens

5297. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether separate waiting list is prepared for providing telephone connection to senior citizens;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time fixed for providing telephone connection after registration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) No separate waiting list is maintained for Senior Citizen for provision of telephone connection. However, senior citizens are eligible to register their demand for one telephone connection under Non-OYT-Special Category, which is a priority category.

(c) No time frame has been fixed for providing telephone connections to Senior Citizens. The connections are released according to waiting list position under Non-OYT-Special Category as and when exchange capacity is available.

[English]

Multipurpose Dams in Arunachal Pradesh

5298. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have any proposal to construct multipurpose dams in Arunachal Pradesh to control flood in flood prone areas of North-Eastern region; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With intention of taking up the following Multipurpose Projects in Arunachal Pradesh, the Brahmaputra Board is conducting surveys and investigations for preparation of Detailed Project Reports.

- (i) Lohit Dam Project
- (ii) Dalbang Project
- (iii) Noa-Dihing Project
- (iv) Kameng Project

In addition to the above, the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation under the Ministry of Power are also involved in

detailed survey and investigation of six multipurpose projects three each on Dehang (Siang) and Subansiri rivers.

Flood moderation would be one of the benefits envisaged in the above projects.

Maintenance of National Highway-37

5299. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that after the inauguration of Narnarayan Setu on NH-37 at Goal Para in Assam over the river Brahmaputra during 1998 becomes more important as it is the only shortest route to Guwahati and other capital cities of North-Eastern States;
- (b) whether the condition of NH-37 including bridges and culverts are in very bad shape;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Bridge approach to the Narnarayan Setu have become no man's land and neither the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) nor the Railways are taking initiatives for its maintenance;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Union Government have made any Budgetary Allocation for the reconstruction of NH-37 during the current financial year;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) NH 37, including bridges and culverts, is being maintained in traffic-worthy condition within the availability of funds.

(d) and (e) The approaches of the Narnarayan Setu form part of National Highway No. 37 (South Bank) and NH 31B (North Bank) and are entrusted to the State PWD of Assam for maintenance.

(f) to (h) Allocation of budget is made State-wise and not NH-wise. An amount of Rs. 70.00 crore has been earmarked for development of National Highways including NH 37 in the State of Assam during 2001-02.

National Highway No. 29

5300. SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a portion of National Highway No. 29 near Kaudiram, Gorakhpur has badly damaged due to flood in 1998;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to repair the National Highway No. 29; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The damaged portion of National Highway No. 29 near Kaudiram, Gorakhpur has been repaired.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Allocation for New Roads in States

5301. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to States for construction and maintenance of National Highways during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, and the actual amount spent during these years, State-wise; and

(b) the length of roads constructed in each State with the help of above amount alongwith the width of the roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Details are at statement I to III.

(b) The development of National Highways is a continuous process. The funds allocated to States on year to year basis are utilised for the various on going improvement works like widening, strengthening, construction of bridges etc. The achievement during 1997-2000 is as under :

S.No.	Scheme	Unit	Performance for First three Years (1997-2000) of the Ninth Plan
	Normal NH works		Achievement (Km / Nos)
1	Widening to two lanes	Km	862
2	Widening to four lanes	Km	290
3	Strengthening weak 2 lanes	Km	1629
4	Bypasses	No.	5
5	Major Bridges	No.	36
6	Minor Bridges including ROB's	No.	149
7	Improvement of Riding Quality	Km	2434

Statement - I

Regarding Allocation for New Roads in States

Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 1997-98

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	Allocation for Construction	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5957.19	5200.16	3898.00	3507.24
2	Assam	1860.80	1388.24	1162.55	1215.98
3	Bihar	1952.00	2094.54	3410.77	3410.77
4	Chandigarh	30.00	29.20	71.00	42.93
5.	Delhi	800.00	858.21	330.20	264.80

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Goa	971.56	1003.02	450.39	430.34
7.	Gujarat	4322.42	4916.93	3756.96	3835.81
8.	Haryana	10040.00	10191.24	772.34	845.19
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1700.00	1664.94	2034.32	2034.32
10.	J & K	150.00	25.50	87.40	8.00
11.	Karnataka	4236.78	4085.64	3002.90	3059.13
12.	Kerala	8042.48	8182.48	2268.11	2702.97
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4657.06	4215.68	3313.78	3313.78
14.	Maharashtra	8062.43	8062.43	5157.68	5157.68
15.	Manipur	702.19	670.06	277.03	277.21
16.	Meghalaya	979.50	900.51	584.54	512.72
17.	Nagaland	100.00	134.77	37.11	42.22
18.	Orissa	6475.20	6417.39	2522.00	2537.05
19.	Pondicherry	70.00	15.38	29.96	13.58
20.	Punjab	5378.88	4977.53	1357.75	1400.13
21.	Rajasthan	4315.83	4521.80	3641.71	3536.19
22.	Tamil Nadu	2567.92	1948.93	2981.37	2525.58
23.	Uttar Pradesh	12535.27	11899.20	4949.19	4703.98
24.	West Bengal	7335.00	7641.88	3264.94	3832.06

Statement - II*Regarding Allocation for New Roads in States**Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 1998-99*

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4879.82	4273.04	4568.40	4069.47
2	Assam	2661.10	1517.99	2815.51	2282.33
3	Bihar	3417.35	3238.60	3336.97	3336.97
4	Chandigarh	82.00	70.82	48.04	45.40
5.	Delhi	1400.00	1225.54	210.00	209.82
6.	Goa	1100.00	1172.54	617.08	617.08

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	Gujarat	6628.54	9332.70	3296.94	3296.94
8.	Haryana	7588.50	6913.18	1239.42	1040.32
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2500.00	2500.00	2256.01	2256.01
10.	J & K	100.00	6.15	129.65	4.51
11.	Karnataka	3709.01	3772.04	3111.75	3065.34
12.	Kerala	7080.16	8820.63	2090.63	2090.63
13.	Madhya Pradesh	8247.73	7932.47	3945.04	3787.80
14.	Maharashtra	11382.63	11659.74	4957.67	4957.67
15.	Manipur	700.30	828.29	365.59	365.59
16.	Meghalaya	1060.50	911.03	625.80	620.50
17.	Nagaland	200.00	210.87	382.90	382.90
18.	Orissa	9726.82	8711.02	2761.15	2760.77
19.	Pondicherry	100.81	86.30	64.18	18.06
20.	Punjab	7148.88	7672.10	1538.81	1440.83
21.	Rajasthan	4605.81	4620.18	3718.19	3642.29
22.	Tamil Nadu	3921.27	3652.38	3740.00	3597.85
23.	Uttar Pradesh	12649.35	10722.86	6128.44	6071.10
24.	West Bengal	10150.94	8394.40	2757.83	2757.83

Statement - III

Regarding Allocation for New Roads in States

Allocation for Construction/Development and Maintenance of National Highways during 1999-2000

(Rs. in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of States/UTs	Allocation for Development	Expenditure	Allocation for Maintenance and Repair	Expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5707.87	3736.51	6897.26	5067.65
2.	Assam	4239.32	2769.61	5420.00	3068.35
3.	Bihar	6117.52	5950.16	11907.64	9059.08
4.	Chandigarh	100.00	73.93	141.50	118.30
5.	Delhi	700.00	422.13	139.84	133.27
6.	Goa	1700.02	1670.19	1426.69	1048.64
7.	Gujarat	8851.90	8683.39	3820.17	3660.72

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Haryana	10000.00	9046.65	2011.70	1544.73
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4000.00	3502.72	2726.24	2428.44
10.	J & K	100.00	0.91	302.36	23.99
11.	Karnataka	6113.84	6846.09	8445.04	6815.98
12.	Kerala	12837.07	10808.59	5309.00	4769.37
13.	Madhya Pradesh	12334.80	11546.69	6573.14	6038.04
14.	Maharashtra	17808.08	16662.16	8648.63	8528.70
15.	Manipur	1014.15	894.90	876.08	584.60
16.	Meghalaya	1785.28	1372.61	1305.89	814.84
17.	Mizoram	300.00	282.90	780.00	538.41
18.	Nagaland	800.00	886.17	924.63	1021.63
19.	Orissa	9228.02	9198.19	5638.24	4713.20
20.	Pondicherry	319.46	281.27	269.00	152.27
21.	Punjab	5300.10	4233.38	1635.80	468.77
22.	Rajasthan	5214.02	4311.94	7820.00	6336.13
23.	Tamil Nadu	6754.08	5348.20	13479.66	12160.40
24.	Tripura	50.00	0.00	24.00	24.00
25.	Uttar Pradesh	12647.45	11776.30	10179.49	10118.81
26.	West Bengal	8818.02	8072.55	6260.00	4756.96

Deployment of Policemen at Airports

5302. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT:

SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the jawans of the Madhya Pradesh police are deployed as guards at different airports in the State;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has requested the Union Government to reimburse the expenditure so incurred on such guards;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which reimbursement is likely to be made to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) At all operational airports except Bhopal in Madhya

Pradesh, State Police personnel are deployed for security duties. At Bhopal airport, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has been deployed w.e.f. 16.3.2000 in place of State Police to perform security duties.

(b) to (d) The expenditure incurred by State Police on security functions at the airports, is reimbursed by Airports Authority of India (AAI). Information regarding the claims of the State Government is being collected.

[English]

Agreement with British Government for Road Safety

5303. SHRI. T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been entered into with the British Government for promotion of road safety;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have proposed to include road safety norms in the school curriculum; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Utilization of River Water

5304. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made by the Government to properly utilise the water of rivers in the country; and

(b) the achievements made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Water resources development including construction of storages for utilization of water is taken up by the State Government as per their own priorities. Upto 1995, a live storage capacity of 177 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) has been created by construction of large dams in the country. Besides, projects to add an additional storage capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and 132 BCM are under planning. The replenishable ground water is of the order of 432 BCM, out of which about 154 BCM has been developed for use. With the help of these storages and other minor irrigation schemes an irrigation potential of 90 Million hectare (Mha) has been created upto the end of the Eighth Plan against the ultimate irrigation potential of 139.9 Mha in the country.

Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge. Assistance is also extended to State Government under Command Area Development Programme for bridging the gap between potential created and utilized. For early completion of ongoing irrigation projects Government of India is extending assistance to State Governments under

Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme.

As a long term measure, National Water Development Agency established in 1982 under Ministry of Water Resources have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins. The agency has completed pre-feasibility studies of all the 17 water transfer links under the Peninsular rivers development component and 14 water transfer links under the Himalayan rivers development component. Feasibility studies of 5 water transfer link have also been completed.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

5305. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the allocation of funds for rehabilitation of bonded labourers is very meagre;

(b) if so, the amount spent during the year 2000-2001 and the reasons for not spending the entire amount allotted for the purpose;

(c) the number of bonded labourers identified in the country, State-wise; and

(d) the number out of them rehabilitated so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The allocation of funds for rehabilitation of bonded labourers is made on the basis of a rehabilitation scheme which has been revised since May, 2000 after detailed consultations with the Planning Commission and the State Governments. As per the revised scheme a subsidy of Rs. 20 thousand is given for the rehabilitation of each bonded labourer and the State and Central Governments make matching contributions for this purpose except in the case of North Eastern States where Central Government contributes 100% of the rehabilitation cost. All identified and released bonded labourers are to be rehabilitated and the amount allotted is to meet the cost of their rehabilitation as per the scheme. During the year 2000-2001, the budget allocation for the rehabilitation of bonded labourers was Rs. 575 lakhs against which the Central Government released a subsidy of Rs. 920.64 lakhs which amounts to 160% of the budget allocation.

(c) and (d) Bonded labourers identified and rehabilitated State-wise so far are given in statement.

Statement**[Translation]**

Name of the State	Number of Bonded Labourers	
	Identified and Released	Rehabilitated
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	36,289	29,552
Bihar	13,082	12,368
Karnataka	62,727	55,231
Madhya Pradesh	12,822	11,897
Orissa	49,871	46,843
Rajasthan	7,478	6,321
Tamil Nadu	63,894	61,729
Maharashtra	1,384	1,300
Uttar Pradesh	27,797	27,797
Kerala	823	710
Haryana	544	21
Gujarat	64	64
Arunachal Pradesh	3,526	2,992
Total	2,80,411	2,56,825

Telephone Connection in Maharashtra

5306. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra as on date, district-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections provided during the last three years and till date, district-wise; and

(c) the number of telephone connections proposed to be provided during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) There are 278191 persons in Maharashtra and 10941 persons in Goa on waiting list for telephone connections in Maharashtra Telecom Circle as on 31.3.2001. District-wise details is enclosed at statement.

(b) The number of telephone connections provided during the last three years is as given below:

	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
Maharashtra	326724	437790	620112
Goa	18624	19100	25001

District-wise details is enclosed as statement.

(c) About 627300 Direct Exchange lines are planned to be provided in Maharashtra and 22700 Direct Exchange Lines in Goa during 2001-2002.

Statement

District-wise details of Number of Persons on Waiting List for Telephone Connections as on date, No. of Connections Provided during the last three years in Maharashtra

SL.No.	Name of SSA	No. of Persons on Waiting list as on 31/3/2001	No. of Telephone Connections Provided last three years and till date		
			1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Ahmednagar	26910	10060	25070	36398
2	Akola	5455	8043	7199	13100
3	Amravati	4026	6455	8088	12467
4	Aurangabad	13112	7257	15029	24244
5	Beed	4373	2800	5310	11379

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Bhandara	2350	3400	5007	7351
7.	Buldhana	2172	4810	6606	11145
8.	Chandrapur	3516	6450	5497	11010
9.	Dhule	3878	7011	7703	15505
10.	Gadchiroli	1081	1201	1003	2497
11.	Goa	10941	18624	19100	25001
12.	Jalgaon	11551	13000	15392	24622
13.	Jaina	2868	2251	3225	6065
14.	Kalyan	27625	50515	68376	60939
15.	Kolhapur	11969	15001	17504	35079
16.	Latur	11742	4800	7109	17001
17.	Nagpur	13881	18200	17148	28251
18.	Nanded	12704	7018	7478	14509
19.	Nasik	11652	25125	32020	43909
20.	Osmanabad	5258	2310	3505	8794
21.	Parbhani	6384	4000	6115	11864
22.	Pune	34258	65400	90151	85633
23.	Raigad	4180	9210	8903	13430
24.	Ratnagiri	5445	7587	8110	12640
25.	Sangli	8371	16002	25029	40419
26.	Satara	9548	10051	12008	25010
27.	Sindhudurg	4394	3604	3033	5802
28.	Solapur	23441	6813	15151	24786
29.	Wardha	2524	3320	5516	7848
30.	Yavatmal	3523	5030	5505	8415
Total		289132	345348	456890	645113

[English]

Accidents in Coal and Non-coal Mines and Factories

5307. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increase in the number of

accidents in coal and non-coal mines and harbours and factories;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to minimise these accidents; and

(d) the facilities provided to the family members of the labourers/workers who die in mine and other accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952 and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the management for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the DGMS inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliance with the safety provisions, and to take action as provided for under the Mines Act, 1952, in case of default. Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as :

- (i) Conference on safety in mines;
- (ii) Self-regulation by managements;
- (iii) Workers' participation in safety management;
- (iv) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels;
- (v) Training of work persons;
- (vi) Observance of safety weeks and safety campaigns;
- (vii) National Safety Awards.

The provisions of Safety and Health of workers employed in Factories are contained in the Factories Act, 1948. Specific provisions relating to safety and hazardous Processes are contained in Chapter IV and IV-A of the Act. In order to ensure the compliance of the provisions of the Act, the Factory inspectors visit the factories and conduct inspections. In case of contravention the Occupier/Manager of the factory are prosecuted and cases launched in appropriate courts.

As regards the safety of Dock workers, the Dock workers (Safety, Health, and Welfare) Act, 1986 is applicable in major ports. The Inspector of Dock Safety enforces the provisions of the said Act. The Inspector of Dock Safety undertake inspection of ships/docks/hazardous installations including pipelines regularly. Wherever any deviations/shortcomings are observed, the same is immediately brought to the notice of the concerned authorities in order to rectify the deviations and to improve the working conditions.

The safety laws relating to Mines, Docks and Factories are kept under constant review and amended from time to time.

(d) The amount of compensation and other facilities are paid to the injured or family of the deceased under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 and the Employees State

Insurance Corporation Act, 1948, the implementation of which falls under the Jurisdiction of the State Governments.

[Translation]

Construction of Four Lane National Highway between Delhi and Jaipur

5308. SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHRY:

DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of four lane National Highway between Delhi and Jaipur has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which the work is likely to be completed; and

(d) the estimated amount to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (d) The Stretches of the National Highway, connecting Delhi-Gurgaon and Kotputli-Jaipur (Amer) had already been 6/4 laned. Four-laning of the section between Gurgaon-Kotputli (126 Kms) has also been completed substantially. Only minor works like pavement markings, signages and turfing are in progress, which are expected to be completed by the end of April, 2001. The estimated cost for completion of the project of four-laning of Gurgaon-Kotputli section is about Rs. 380 crores.

Temporary Workers Working at Par with Permanent Workers

5309. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that temporary workers of big industries in the country are not being provided salary at par with the permanent workers of the industry;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of these temporary workers;

(c) whether the Government are also aware of the decision given by the Supreme Court in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to implement the said decisions; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) In the Central Sphere Industries

no complaints or disputes regarding discrimination in the rate of wages/salaries between temporary and permanent workers have been received from any union or individual workers nor any inspecting officer has detected any such discrimination in salaries between the temporary and the permanent workers employed on same work or work of similar nature. In organised industries like coal, steel, cement, the wages of the workers are fixed through bi-parite or tri-parite settlements. In these agreements no discrimination in salaries is shown between temporary and permanent workers of comparable skill. In industries, which fall in the scheduled employments under the Minimum Wages Act, the rates of minimum wages fixed under the Act are uniformly applicable to temporary as well as permanent workers. If the temporary workers claim that they are not being paid wages on par with permanent workers, they can approach the Labour Courts under Section 33(c) (2) of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for relief or raise industrial dispute through trade union before the conciliation officer concerned.

(c) to (e) There are number of cases wherein the High Courts and the Supreme Court have pronounced Judgements directing payment of equal wages for equal work irrespective of classification of the workers such as temporary, permanent etc. As the details of the case are not given, it is not possible to know as to which particular case of Supreme Court has been referred to.

[English]

Closure of Chitradurga Gold Mines

5310. SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hutti Gold Mines has sought the permission of the Government to close the Chitradurga gold mines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) M/s Hutti Gold Mines Limited requested for permission to close Chitradurga Gold Unit. The permission was not granted as the application was found as pre mature.

Pending Projects of NHPC

5311. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several sanctioned projects of National Power Corporation (NHPC) are awaiting environmental clearance;

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

(c) whether the environmental clearance takes undue time adversely affecting the viability of projects;

(d) if so, whether there is a proposal to make clearance time bound; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Only one project of National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) namely Parbati Hydroelectric Project State-II in Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh is awaiting environmental clearance.

(c) to (e) As per the provisions of EIA notification, 1994 and its subsequent amendments, decision on a proposal for environment clearance is required to be taken within 90 days from the date of receipt of all requisite information.

[Translation]

National Telephone Service Committee

5312. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a 'National Telephone Service Committee'; and

(b) if so, the objective thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The telephone network as well as the consumer base covered by it across the country, in the decade of nineties, has increased manifold and the pace is ever increasing. The Government have been feeling the impending need to associate the consumer's representatives from the length and breadth of the country in supplementing the department's efforts towards improving the telephone services so as to make them of comparable international standards. It is with this objective, the Government has constituted the National Telephone Services Committee.

[English]

Polluting Cities

5313. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of cities in India having pollution more than the permissible limit;

(b) whether any attempt has ever been made to check

the pollution as also to counter its effect on the social life of the masses; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The pollution levels reach critical levels in certain areas of the following cities:—

States/U.Ts.	Cities
Bihar	Patna
	Dhanbad
	Jamshedpur
Delhi	Delhi
Himachal Pradesh	Parwanoo
Karnataka	Bangalore
Maharashtra	Sholapur
	Nasik
	Pune
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
	Indore
	Bhilai
	Raipur
Rajasthan	Alwar
	Udaipur
	Jaipur
	Jodhpur
	Kota
	Madurai
Tamil Nadu	
Uttar Pradesh	Dehradun
	Gajraula
	Kanpur
	Varanasi
	Lucknow
West Bengal	Calcutta
Chandigarh	Chandigarh

(b) and (c) The steps taken by the Government for Prevention and Control of Pollution include the following :

— Steps have been taken to Control Pollution from 17 categories of highly polluting industries.

— To promote pollution prevention in small scale industries, a number of waste minimization circles have been set up various parts of the country for adoption of clean technology, better work practices and energy conservation techniques.

— For control of pollution from automobiles, stricter emission standards, introduction of unleaded petrol in major cities, installation of catalytic converters, introduction of low sulfur fuels and improvement in the fuel quality have been undertaken.

— Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) in cluster of small scale industrial units have been set up in most of the areas.

— A Network of ambient air and water Quality Monitoring Stations has been set up throughout the country.

— Effluent and Emission Standards have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, for different categories of industries. Besides, standards for ambient air and water quality have also been notified.

— Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards have taken action against defaulting industrial units.

[Translation]

Schemes for Bansagar Project

5314. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the dates from which the schemes submitted by Madhya Pradesh Government about Bansagar Project are lying pending with the Union Government for approval; and

(b) the them by which the said schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Unit I Dam and Unit III Power Component of Bansagar Project are already approved. The techno-economic clearance for Unit II-Canal portion in Madhya Pradesh has been given subject to environmental clearance.

[English]

Telugu Ganga Project

5315. SHRI P. D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Telugu-Ganga Project is lying incomplete due to non-clearance by the Central Water Commission;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the project to supply water from Krishna river to Chennai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Clearance of the Project is linked with submission of detailed project report after resolution of inter-State issues by Andhra Pradesh with the co-basin State of Karnataka and Maharashtra.

(c) Tamil Nadu Government is getting its share of Krishna Water from Andhra Pradesh as per the agreement between the Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu Governments depending upon the quantum of Krishna Water available in the reservoirs of Andhra Pradesh under Telugu Ganga Project System.

National Environmental Protection Agency

5316. SHRI KAMAL NATH:

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Environmental Protection Agency to protect environment;
- (b) if so, the broad outlines of the same;
- (c) whether the Government would provide extra funds to the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Board for effectively playing their roles; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Central Pollution Control Board is a Grants-in-aid organisation of the Ministry and sufficient funds are being provided to this organisation for its activities. The State Pollution Control Boards are also given financial assistance by this Ministry for abatement of pollution.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Mandavi

5317. SHRI MANSINH PATEL:

SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of applicants waiting for telephone connections in various telephone exchanges under Mandavi region of Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, exchange-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list and expand telephone exchanges in the said region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. There is waiting list of 9337 in Mandavi (Surat) region of Gujarat.

(b) The Exchange wise details are given in the attached statement.

(c) The waiting list is likely to be cleared progressively in the said region by increasing the capacity of the existing exchanges and by opening of new exchanges by 11002 lines subject to availability of Under Ground Cable and Switching equipment during 2001-2002.

S. No.	Name of the Exchange	Waiting List
1	2	3
1.	Bardoli	591
2.	Madhi	460
3.	Kadod	15
4.	Varad	30
5.	Sarbhon	324
6.	Wankaner	133
7.	Kadodara	1318
8.	Palsana	343
9.	Gangadhara	263
10.	Valod	191
11.	Buhari	201
12.	Bajipura	257
13.	Dolvan	153

1	2	3
14.	Rnkitalav	5
15.	Nizar	58
16.	Vyara	755
17.	Uchchal	96
18.	Ukal	226
19.	Ambia	101
20.	Mandal	36
21.	Ukhalda	51
22.	Morthana	43
23.	Shampura	11
24.	Karjan	71
25.	Mahuva	541
26.	Karchelia	171
27.	Valvada	185
28.	Anawal	73
29.	Mandvi	438
30.	Awadi	114
31.	Bodhan	21
32.	Areth	149
33.	Tadkeshwar	72
34.	Anumala	316
35.	Bedkuvadoor	62
36.	Dolara	123
37.	Ghata	56
38.	Kukarmuna	68
39.	Kathor	187
40.	Sevni	65
41.	Dhatwa	7
42.	Kamrej	615
43.	Fort Songadh	342
Total		9337

[English]

Limited Mobility on W.L.L. System

5318. DR. V. SAROJA:

SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

MOHD. SHAHABUDDIN:

SHRI J.S. BRAR:

SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) have recommended limited mobility on Wireless on Local Loop (WLL) services;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the cellular industry has opposed the said recommendations;

(d) If so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government have taken any action on the demands of cellular industry;

(f) If so, the details thereof;

(g) If not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether the private Fixed Service Providers (FSPs) propose to introduce limited mobility at the rate of Rs. 1.2 per 3 minute call and with a monthly rental of Rs. 250 in Punjab and Rajasthan;

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

(j) the steps proposed to be taken to introduce said tariff facility in all other States in the country immediately;

(k) whether the Government have referred the matter of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) based limited mobility service to the Group of Telecom and IT convergence; and

(l) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) recommended to allow usage of hand held sets by the subscribers of basic Telephone Service Providers on Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) systems within the local areas, i.e. Short Distance Charging Areas (SDCAs).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Cellular industry has pleaded that the above said recommendation of TRAI would jeopardize the future growth of cellular industry as it would amount to encroachment

in their domain. The Cellular industry has also moved the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT), a statutory Tribunal, in this regard. The matter is presently before the Tribunal.

(e) and (f) In order to ensure level playing field so as to take care of the interests of cellular industry, the Government has accepted the policy changes and concessions recommended by TRAI for cellular industry.

(g) Does not arise in view of (e) and (f) above.

(h) to (j) The charging of tariffs for the services, publication of tariffs, notifications, provision of information, number of point of interconnection, the charges for access or interconnection with other networks, quality of service etc. shall be as per orders/regulations/directions/determinations issued from time to time by TRAI under the provision of TRAI Act, 1997. At present, TRAI has permitted to charge calls from WLL subscriber @ Rs. 1.20 per unit call, which will be applicable wherever this service is made available.

(k) and (l) The subject matter has been referred for review by Group on Telecom and Information Technology Convergence (GOT-IT), which has been asked to submit its report by 30th April, 2001.

Irregularities in Finalisation of Tenders

5319. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Telecommunications (DoT) had invited tenders for procurement of new technology exchanges as brought in the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) report for the year 1999;

(b) if so, the irregularities noticed in the finalisation of the tenders; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to curb them and bring transparency in DoT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Audit has observed some irregularities such as, incorrect assessment of import content, delay in finalisation etc. for New Technology Tenders. All the observations/issues raised by audit were examined and reply was sent to the Audit indicating that there has been no irregularities in finalisation of New Technology tenders.

(c) procurement procedures of New Technology Equipment has already been modified and streamlined. Vendors are asked to quote import content in their Bids and Bill of Material is finalised prior to the opening of tender for expeditious evaluation and to bring transparency.

[Translation]

Mahi Project in Madhya Pradesh

5320. SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahi Project in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh has been started;

(b) If so, the amount made available for the first phase of this project;

(c) the amount proposed to be made available to start work on the second phase of the said project;

(d) whether there has been inordinate delay in the completion of the second phase under which the main dam is proposed to be constructed;

(e) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the time by which the work on the first and the second phases of the said projects is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The latest estimated cost of the whole project is Rs. 265.75 crore of which an expenditure of Rs. 54.48 crore has been incurred till March, 2000.

(c) to (f) Irrigation being a state subject, the responsibility of planning, funding, execution and maintaining all types of irrigation projects including flood-control and drainage primarily rests with the respective State Government.

[English]

Inadequate Air Services on various Sectors

5321. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of complaints for inadequate air services on different sectors of the country have been received by the Government during the last three years;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any action on these complaints; and

(d) If so, the details thereof sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Requests from the local people, representatives of people and local bodies/fora for airlinking particular places/augment air services and introduction of air services have been received from time to time.

(c) and (d) The representations are passed on to the airline

operators. Airlines operators are free to provide/augment air services to specific places/sectors depending upon traffic demand and commercial viability subject of course to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines which provide for certain minimum operations in specific category of routes.

Decline in Water Level in Rajasthan

5322. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether constant fall in ground water level in Rajasthan has cast its impact on agricultural production as well as on intensive crop cycle;

(b) if so, whether there is every possibility of shortage of potable water in future where ground water is the only source of irrigation;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have formulated any comprehensive action plan for utility of water shed management and water harvesting techniques to recharge the ground water level in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir. Due to the consecutive drought for the last 3 years and fall in the water level in the State of Rajasthan, the agricultural production in the State has declined.

(b) and (c) Rajasthan depends on ground water to the extent of 80% for drinking purposes and 59% for irrigation purposes. Ground water is being over-exploited all over the State except in the districts of Ganganagar, Hanumannagar, Bikaner and Jaisalmer. In such areas where ground water recharge is meagre, there is possibility of shortage of potable water in future due to irrigation using ground water.

(d) and (e) Water being a State subject, action to augment the ground water resources is to be taken by the concerned State Governments. To improve the ground water levels, the Government of Rajasthan has started rain water harvesting under the Famine Relief Operation. The State Government is also preparing a master plan for each district about recharging ground water.

The Government of India extends financial and technical assistance to the States. To that effect, the Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" on pilot basis with a view to assess the efficacy of various recharge structures in some 'Over-exploited' and 'Dark' blocks of the country. The Government has earmarked an amount of Rs. 25.00 crore

during the IX Five Year Plan for the scheme. The Central Ground Water Board have sanctioned 11 proposals in the State of Rajasthan for artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting. Similarly, the Ministries of Rural Development and Agriculture are also implementing various programmes in the country having water conservation component. These programmes are:

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Area (NWDPA).
2. Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Project.
3. Integrated Watershed Management in the Catchment of Flood Prone Rivers (FPR).
4. Watershed Development Project for control of shifting Cultivation Area (WDPSA) in North-Eastern India.
5. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP).
6. Desert Development Programme (DDP).
7. Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP).

Varahi Dam Project

5323. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the height of the Varahi dam in Karnataka has been reduced to lessen the impact of submergence in the catchment area;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to allocate adequate funds for the construction of dam during 2001-2002, considering the vast irrigation potential of the dam; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Modified Project Report of Varahi project has not yet been submitted by the State Government to the Central Water Commission.

(b) and (c) Since irrigation is a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding and execution of this project primarily rests with the State Government.

[Translation]

Review of Forest Policy

5324. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to review the forest policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the background thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to update the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 under the proposed review; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The review of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 is at a nascent stage.

Misuse of Coin Dial PCO Boxes

5325. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints of telephone calls made by mischievous elements from Coin Dial PCO boxes by inserting iron volcer and fake coins in those boxes in Mumbai and other cities; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check said incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) In some cases fake coins/iron washers are found in the coin boxes by the field units at the time of collecting coins from PCO boxes. One complaint has been received during the last one year in MTNL Delhi and no such complaint has been received by MTNL Mumbai and other cities.

(b) The following steps are being taken to check such incidents:

(i) Regular inspections by field staff

(ii) Replacement of CBT-80 PCOs with CBT-95 in which this type of fraud is difficult.

[English]

Protection of Andaman Marine Wealth

5326. SHRI D.V.G. SHANKAR RAO:

SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI:

SHRI K. BALARAMA KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether gangs from Myanmar, Indonesia and

Srilanka are having a free run of India's exclusive economic zone and looking seabed treasure like sea cucumber and cut down trees of the Andaman Islands;

(b) If so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether Diglipur and Mayarwende islands have lost almost all tree wealth; and

(d) If so, the action taken by the Government to save marine wealth?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Vessels from Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand and other neighboring countries do visit the Andaman Islands and sometimes manage to take sea cucumber and other marine products. Occasional cutting of trees is also resorted to by them for meeting their camping requirement and for repairing/ construction of boats.

There are reports of felling of trees in Diglipur and Mayabunder Islands by old revenue settlers and encroachers. The Forest Department maintains regular establishments in each of these islands and take adequate measures to protect forest and wildlife resources. Intensive patrolling is done by the staff to prevent illegal activities on these islands.

Action taken by the Government to save marine wealth of Andaman Islands include:

(i) Indian Navy and Coast Guards maintain constant vigil around the islands.

(ii) Regular aerial surveillance and patrolling of Exclusive Economic Zone is done by Indian Navy and Coast Guards.

(iii) Regular anti-poaching operations are carried out by Coast Guard. 150 boats have been seized and 1197 foreign nationals have been arrested by them since 1996.

(iv) Police Department provides protection to natural resources of these islands.

(v) Forest and Environment Department has deployed protection staff in main islands for the prevention of illegal activities.

[Translation]

Development of National Highways

5327. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the details of programme and provision made by the Government for the development of National Highways during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI

B.C. KHANDURI) : Improvement works like widening, strengthening, riding quality, construction of bridges etc. estimated to cost Rs. 3051.47 crore are proposed to be undertaken on National Highways in the country during 2001-2002 as per state-wise details are given in the attached statement. It is too early to indicate the provisions in the Annual Plan for the year 2002-2003.

Statement

Annual Plan 2001-2002

S.No.	State	Plan Provision (Rs. Crore)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	140.00
2.	Assam*	548.58
3.	Bihar	83.50
4.	Chandigarh	8.38
5.	Chhattishgarh	84.45
6.	Delhi	21.91
7.	Goa	33.75
8.	Gujarat	145.04
9.	Haryana	75.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	82.25
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	9.50
12.	Jharkhand	71.05
13.	Karnataka	123.60
14.	Kerala	178.26
15.	Madhya Pradesh	115.75
16.	Maharashtra	94.04
17.	Manipur	44.00
18.	Meghalaya	124.90
19.	Mizoram	28.40
20.	Nagaland	38.00
21.	Orissa	160.40
22.	Pondicherry	16.50
23.	Punjab	92.39
24.	Rajasthan	144.20
25.	Tamil Nadu	171.40
26.	Uttar Pradesh	199.80
27.	Uttanchal	98.88
28.	West Bengal	117.55
Total		3051.47

* Includes Plan provision for construction of Bogibeel Bridge for Rs. 435 Crs.

Telephone Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh

5328. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to expand the existing telephone exchanges network in Madhya Pradesh during 2001-2002;

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

(c) the names of places in Ratlam and Ujjain districts where new buildings of telephone exchanges have been constructed and are functioning at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 155000 Direct Exchange Lines are planned to be provided during 2001-2002 in Madhya Pradesh. The requirement of Net Capacity and Location-wise details are under finalisation.

(c) In Ratlam district at Jaora and in Ujjain district at Mahidpur city, the departmental buildings have been constructed and Telephone Exchanges are functioning.

At Tal and Alote in Ratlam district and at Tajpur in Ujjain district the departmental buildings have recently been constructed.

[English]

STD/ISD/PCOs BOOTHS

5329. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCOs booths running in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh at present;

(b) the number of booths proposed to be installed in the current year;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose;

(d) the number of persons of the waiting list for telephone connections in the district till date; and

(e) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 1225, STD/ISD/PCO booths are functioning in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh as on 31.3.2001.

(b) During the current year it is proposed to install 100 PCOs. The number may increase if demand from more applicants is received.

- (c) No specific funds are allotted for this purpose.
- (d) 1517 persons are in the waiting list for telephone connections in the said district as on 31.3.2001.
- (e) The waiting list is to be cleared progressively by March, 2002.

Telecommunications Service Through Satellite

5330. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to agreement signed between the Government and the basic telephone operators, no clause has been incorporated for providing telecommunications services through satellite channels in the event of natural calamities;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to review the agreement;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Although the Licence Agreement for basic telephone service stipulates that licensee shall make its own arrangements for all infrastructures involved in providing the service yet the situations like natural calamities are covered under another specific provision also whereby the Licensor has a right to take over the service, equipment and networks of the licensed basic telephone service operator, either in part or in whole of the service area as per directions, if any, issued in the public interest by the Government in case of emergency or war or low intensity conflict or any other eventuality. Provided any specific orders or direction from the Government issued under such conditions shall be applicable to the licensed basic telephone service operators and shall be strictly complied with.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Financing Agency for Development of Rural Telephony

5331. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a separate financing agency is proposed for the development of rural telephony;
- (b) whether the revenue returns from rural telephony are less than of urban areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to expand and make rural telephony more economical?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The average revenue per line per month from rural telephones is about Rs. 207/- compared with over Rs. 700/- per urban telephone. This makes the earning from rural telephones less than one-third of what is earned from telephones in the towns.

(d) A large number of small and medium exchanges are being set up in rural areas. These will be supplemented by new technologies like Centre for Development of Telematics Time Division Multiple Access Point to Multi-Point (C-DOT TDMA/PMP), Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) and Satellite for remote areas of the country, that are being inducted in rural network to achieve the targets in the rural areas. Cost effective technology will be deployed as per terrain in rural areas.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Uttar Pradesh

5332. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH:

SHRI AMIR ALAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of irrigation projects lying incomplete in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) the date on which these projects were started and the target fixed for their completion;
- (c) the reasons for delay in their completion;
- (d) the original cost and estimated actual cost thereof on their completion; and
- (e) the names of irrigation projects in Uttar Pradesh likely to be completed during Ninth Plan district-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a), (b), (d) and (e) As per the information available, the details of the ongoing Irrigation Projects in Uttar Pradesh (before reorganization) together with original and latest estimated cost, Plan of starting and target for completion and Irrigation Projects likely to be completed during ninth plan are given in the statement.

(c) Since Irrigation is a State subject, the responsibility for planning, funding and execution of all types of irrigation projects including flood control and drainage primarily rests with the State Government.

Statement

Details of Incomplete Irrigation Projects of Uttar Pradesh (Before reorganization)

Sl.No.	Project Name	Estimated cost Rs. in crore		Started in Plan	Target for completion (IX Plan of Beyond)	Districts benefited
		Original	Latest			
Major Projects						
1.	Maudha Dam	66.82	127.90	V	IX	Hamirpur
2.	Madhya Ganga Canal	66.01	615.00	V	IX	Bulandshahar, Agra, Aligarh, Mathura, Etawa, Mainpuri
3.	Sarda Shayak	64.84	1290.00	III	IX	16 districts#
4.	Saryu Nahar	78.68	2810.00	V	Beyond IX	Bahraich, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur
5.	Eastern Ganga Canal	48.46	579.00	V	IX	Bijnor
6.	Sone Pump Canal	5.64	72.55	V	Beyond IX	Mirzapur, Sonebhadra
7.	Gyanpur Pump Canal	110.51	159.88	V	IX	Mirzapur, Allahabad,Sant Pandavnagar.
8.	Lakhwar Vyasi	140.97	578.40	V	Beyond IX	Saharanpur, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Ghaziabad
9.	Jamrani Dam	61.25	433.00	V	Beyond IX	Nainital, Rampur, Bareilly
10.	Rajghat Dam (U.P. Share) (IS)	123.22	133.08	V	IX	Lalitpur, Jalaun, Jhansi, Hamirpur
10.	Rajghat Canal (UP)	126.43	230.95	V	IX	
11.	Bansagar Dam (U.P. Share) (IS)	91.31	234.00	V	IX	Allahabad, Mirzapur
11.	Bansagar Canal (UP)	159.52	268.00	V	Beyond IX	
11.	Bansagar Canal (MP)(UP share)	27.92	27.92	V	IX	
12.	Tehri Dam (UP share)	197.92	711.14	79-80	Beyond IX	17 districts \$
13.	Jarauli P.C.	47.92	48.22	90-91	IX	Fatehpur
14.	Providing kharif Channels in Hindon Krishna Doab	15.53	56.00	79-80	IX	Meerut, Muzaffarnagar
Medium Projects						
1.	Guntanala Dam	1.85	24.00	VI	IX	Banda
2.	Pathrai Dam	12.54	48.33	VII	IX	Jhansi

The districts benefited are Faizabad, Sultanpur, Jaunpur, Allahabad, Ballia, Lakhimpur, Azamgarh, Ghazipur, Sitapur, Lucknow, Raibareilly, Barabanki, Varanasi, Pratapgarh, Ambedkarnagar and Mau.

\$ The districts benefited are Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Mathura, Agra, Etah, Etawah, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, Moradabad, Bijnor, Kanpur, Fatehpur and Allahabad.

[English]

Vande Mataram Programme

5333. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had organised a month-long Vande Mataram Programme throughout the country during November-December, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have succeeded in achieving the aims of the programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to organise more such programmes in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) to (d) The Vandemataram Programme was organised from 11th December, 1999 to 12th January, 2000. The main objective of the programme was to motivate the youth of the country to take up positive community action, imbibe good citizen qualities, inspire them to dedicate themselves for national reconstruction and to take up challenges in the field of nation building.

Broadly, the set objectives were achieved through various programmes organised throughout the country. The message of Vandemataram was carried through Jathas in 97 Universities, through Nehru Yuva Kendras Volunteers, National Service Scheme (NSS) students, National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets and Scouts and Guides. 154 Vahinis took out Jathas to sensitize people on socio-economic issues confronting the country. Traversing 1,62,522 kms, these vahinis visited 11,263 villages, towns and slums holding corner meetings, and exhibiting street plays and patriotic film shows disseminating the message of the Campaign. On midnight of 31st December 1999, all over the country, 1059 pledge taking functions were organised in 364 districts.

(e) There is no proposal to organise any such programme in the near future.

(f) Does not arise.

[Translation]

EPF Provision for Workers in Courier and Sanitation Services

5334. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have issued orders to enforce the provisions of Employees Provident Fund in organisation providing couriers, sanitation and cleanliness services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of such organisations providing sanitation and cleanliness services who are violating the provisions of Employees Provident Fund till date; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) A notification extending provisions of the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, to establishments engaged in rendering cleaning and sweeping services, courier services etc. was issued on 22nd March 2001. As provisions of the Act are applicable to the said establishments from 1st April 2001, it is too early to identify incidence of their default or take action against them at this stage.

Declaration of Road as National Highway

5335. SHRI RAMESHWAR DUDI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road leading to Indore via Bikaner-Nokha-Nagaur-Ajmer was declared as National Highway; and

(b) if so, the time by which the construction of the same is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: (a) The stretch from Bikaner-Ajmer via Nokha and Nagaur is connected by NH-89, Ajmer-Ghat Bilod by NH-79 and Ghat Bilod-Indore by NH-59.

(b) Development of National Highways is a continuous process. Works on National Highways are taken in Annual Plans based on the inter-se priority and subject to overall availability of funds.

[English]

DTH Platform by VSNL

5336. SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) propose to set up Direct to Home (DTH) platform in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith their advantages and cost thereof;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up; and

(d) the step taken by VSNL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) VSNL is examining financial viability to equip its existing KU-band earth station in Greater Kallash, New Delhi for full fledged DTH platform. VSNL being an existing infrastructure provider, it will provide a neutral DTH platform to all Indian Broadcasters. The estimated cost is Rs. 100 crores.

(c) By the end of year 2001, depending on the viability of project.

(d) VSNL is in the process of examining the above business case.

Violation of Wildlife Laws

5337. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up special cells to register cases of violation of wildlife laws in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States where rampant violation of wildlife laws have been found to have taken place; and

(d) the steps taken in this direction to deal with such cases sternly?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to set up a cell for registering cases of violation of wildlife laws in the country at Government of India level. The Government has under consideration a proposal to create a small outfit for intelligence gathering on serious wildlife crimes.

(c) Significant number of wildlife crimes have been reported from Uttaranchal, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal during last few months.

(d) The steps taken to prevent and control such crimes are as follows:

(1) Steps taken at the State level:

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(2) Step taken at National level

i. Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

ii. Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

iii. Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz. Project Elephant, Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries and Eco-development around Protected Areas for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the States for providing effective protection to wild animals. Financial assistance is, in particular, being provided for raising 'Strike Forces' and providing arms to the protection staff for combating the organised poachers. Assistance is also provided for giving rewards to the informers for eliciting information about poachers and smugglers.

iv. A Special Coordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, Environment & Forests, Government of India, for control of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

v. Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

vi. A National Conference of Forests and Environment Ministers of State Government was held on 29th and 30th January, 2001. It was

resolved to organise existing protection staff into viable formations for effective control of poaching and to create enforcement infrastructure both within and out side protected areas.

- vii. Ministry of Home Affairs has written to all the State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(3) Steps taken at international level.

- i. Government of India seeks international co-operation under the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.
- ii. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Nepal has been signed by India to establish a joint Task Force to check the trafficking across the borders.
- iii. Indo-Chinese Protocol in tiger conservation Article of the protocol inter-alia stipulates joint measures to crackdown illegal activities of poaching of tigers, smuggling and selling the tiger bones and other parts of the tiger as well as its derivatives.
- iv. A Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries has been created for addressing international issues related to Tiger Conservation.

[Translation]

Privatisation of HCL

5338. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to privatise the Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Malazkhand Copper project is also proposed to be privatised;
- (d) if not, whether in view of the quality production of the Malazkhand Project the Government propose to set up a smelting plant there; and
- (e) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for setting up of a smelting plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided the following disinvestment strategy

for Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL):

Phase-I: The Khetri unit of HCL alongwith Taloja Plant will be formed into a separate company. The assets of these units will be valued and will form 40% contribution from HCL in a new company in which 51% equity will be injected by a strategic partner.

Phase-II: The remaining portion of HCL comprising the Indian Copper Complex (ICC) and the Malanjkhanda Copper Project (MCP) will be restructured by closure of unviable mines in a phased manner with consequent separation of surplus manpower under Voluntary Retirement Scheme. HCL will then look for one more strategic partner for 51% disinvestment in the remainder of HCL.

The Phase-I process of disinvestment of HCL is at an advanced stage and is likely to be completed within the current financial year.

(c) As per disinvestment strategy, the Malanjkhanda Copper Project (MCP) alongwith Indian Copper Complex (ICC) will be restructured in Phase-II. The process of implementation of Phase-II of disinvestment of HCL will be taken when the process of Phase-I of disinvestment is over.

(d) and (e) In view of Govt.'s decision of disinvestment of HCL, there is no proposal for setting up a smelting plant at MCP.

Nexus Between Cricket Players and Mafia

5339. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Cricket Players have any nexus with international Mafia dons; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) In Chapter VI, "Conclusions" of the CBI Report on Match Fixing and Related Malpractices it is indicated that there are clear signals that the underworld mafia has started taking interest in the betting racket and can be expected to take overall control of this activity, if not checked immediately with firm hand. No specific details are, however, indicated in the report.

[English]

Cellular Telephone in N.E.R.

5340. SHRI RAJKUMAR WANGCHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any private company has been

authorised for operating the cellular telephone in the North East Region (NER);

(b) if so, the reasons for such companies restricting their operation in one or two cities of the region; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to expand their operation in all the States of the region especially in Arunachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) is restricted at present, in North East Region including Arunachal Pradesh due to special circumstances prevailing in the region. Recently, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has also been given license for providing CMTS in North Eastern Region. BSNL has plans to provide Cellular Service in major towns/cities of North Eastern Region totalling to 49 towns subject to necessary clearance.

[Translation]

Pending Road Project in Bihar

5341. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals of Bihar Government regarding road projects are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, the number of projects approved so far and the number of projects pending with the Government; and

(c) if so, the time by when the Government intends to approve the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. 36 proposals amounting to Rs. 74.20 crores have since been sanctioned against Annual Plan 2000-2001 provisions.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Workers Under Unorganised Sector

5342. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether 90 per cent workers in the country are under the unorganized sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government are aware that there is a wide gap between the minimum wages fixed by the

Government for workers working in various sectors;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct or have conducted any survey in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The fixation of minimum wages under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 depends on various factors including socio-economic and agro-climatic conditions, prices of essential commodities, productivity, paying capacity and local conditions influencing the wage rate etc., varying from state to state and industry to industry. As a result, there is some disparity in the minimum wages throughout the country. To make an assessment of the extent to which the provisions of the Act have been enforced in the various Scheduled employments in different parts of the country, the Ministry of Labour conducts evaluation studies on the implementation of the provisions of the Act. The reports of the studies are forwarded to the State Governments for further necessary action.

Disinvestment of Air India and Indian Airlines

5343. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for disinvestment of Air India, Indian Airlines and Hotel Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been finalised;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the progress made in the matter so far;

(e) whether the employees/unions have protested against the privatisation of the above undertakings; and

(f) if so, the grounds of their protest?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In the case of Air India, it has been decided that (i) Government equity be brought down to 40%; (ii) 40% of the equity to be disinvested in favour of a strategic partner; (iii) upto 10% of the equity to be offered to employees; (iv) 10% equity to be sold in capital market to financial institutions and/or public and (v) Foreign holding in case of

strategic partner not to exceed 26% of total equity. As regards Indian Airlines, it has been decided to reduce the GOI equity to 49% through sale of 26% stake to a strategic partner within the parameters of the Domestic Air transport policy and 25% equity to domestic financial institutions, employees and other investors. In the event of the strategic partner being a joint venture with an element of foreign holding, the limit of foreign holding would be 40% of the bidder's equity (26%) i.e. 10.4%. In respect of HCI, the Government has approved in principle to disinvest HCI and also decided that the revenue realized will accrue to Air India. In all these proposals, Global Advisors have been appointed to assist the disinvestment process.

(d) In response to the public advertisement inviting Expressions of interest, response from the prospective parties were received. Thereafter, Bid Packs containing information Memorandum, Confidentiality Agreement, drafts to the share Purchase Agreement and Shareholder Agreement have been issued to certain prospective bidders. The job undertaken by the Advisors is proceeding as per schedule and the prospective bidders, who have been allowed to the data room have started due diligence.

(e) and (f) No Employees and Unions of Air India have raised objections against disinvestment process. As regards Indian Airlines only one union out of the eight recognised Unions/Associations has objected to the Disinvestment proposal. In HCI, the Union/Associations have objected to the disinvestment proposal.

Bhima Irrigation Project

5344. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bhima Irrigation Project in Karnataka has been lying pending with the Union Government since 1997;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clear the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Bhima Flow Irrigation Scheme and Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme were received in the Central Water Commission (CWC) in 11/85 and 12/85 respectively and they were sent back to the State Government in 1988 due to non-compliance of CWC observations for more than one year. The Bhima Lift Irrigation Scheme is being processed on chapter by chapter basis at present. Some additional data required for finalization of the Design flood requested from State Government in June, 1996 is still awaited. Clearance of these projects depends, *inter-alia*,

upon the compliance of the observations of the various central appraising agencies by the State Government.

Establishment Under EPF/M.P. ACT

5345. DR RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government propose to take over some more establishments employing 20 or more persons under the EPF and Miscellaneous Provisions Act with effect from April 1, 2001;
- (b) if so, the classes of such establishments; and
- (c) the total number of workers are likely to be benefited with this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) A notification has been recently issued by the Govt., for extending provisions of the EPF and MP Act, 1952 to the establishments of private sector aircraft/airlines and to the establishments engaged in rendering courier, cleaning and sweeping services. As provisions of the Act have become applicable to the said establishments from 1.4.2001, it is too early to precisely estimate the number of workers likely to be benefited through the said notification.

Free/Concessional Tickets For Families of Employees

5346. SHRI GUTHIA SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the policy of the Indian Airlines and Air India in regard to the free and concessional travels allowed to the staff and their families;
- (b) the policy of giving free and concessional travels allowed to the retired staff and their families;
- (c) the total amount involved in providing these concessions by the Indian Airlines and Air India;
- (d) whether self supporting and major sons and daughters are also allowed free and concessional travels;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken to stop it?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The policy of providing free and concessional travel allowed on Air India and Indian Airlines to staff and their families as well as to the retired staff and their families are given in the statement.

- (c) The passages granted for travel on routes of Air India/Indian Airlines are subject to load i.e. on space being

available in the aircraft after all paying traffic is accommodated at the station of emplanement or at intermediate stations. As such there is no revenue loss at any time due to staff travel.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. However, in Air India, in the case of unlimited quota passages i.e. after completion of 25 years of

services, the passages from this quota cannot be transferred to sons who are above 21 years of age and married daughters. The serving and retired staff are allowed to transfer their passage entitlements in favour of children as per the policy of the company.

Statement

Policy of providing free and concessional travel on Air India/Indian Airlines to working as well as retired staff and their families.

Air India

Scale of Air Passage Concessions for working Staff

After Completion of Service of	Passages (International) concession in value%				Passages (Domestic within India) Concession in Value %				
	No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.1	No.2	No.3	No.4	No.5
1 Year	100	60	10	Nil	100	85	85	85	Nil
2 Years	100	80	30	10	100	80	85	85	85
3 Years	100	100	50	30	100	100	85	85	85
4 Years	100	100	70	50	100	100	85	85	85
5 Years	100	100	90	70	100	100	95	85	85
6 Years	100	100	90	90	100	100	95	95	85
onwards									

Scale of Air Passage Concessions for retired staff					Scale of Air Passage for spouse of deceased employees				
20 Yrs. service	100	90	90	Nil	20 Yrs.	100	90	Nil	
25 Yrs.	100	100	90	90	25 Yrs.	100	90	90	
For children, sons below 21 yrs and unmarried daughters only can avail. of domestic unlimited passages		95% Domestic unlimited passages			For Children, sons below 21 yrs. and unmarried daughters only can avail of this facility.				

Indian Airlines

The policy of the Indian Airlines regarding free and concessional travel allowed to staff and their families is as under:

On completion of	Free	Concessional	
		95%	85%
A. For staff upto Grade 16 A (upto to the level of Chief Managers) on subject to load basis.			
Below 5 years of services	2	—	3
5 years of service	2	1	2
7 years of service	2	2	1

10 years of service	2	3	—
20 years of service	2	4	—
25 years of service	2	5	—
B. For Directors/GMs and Dy. GMs (irrespective of length of service)	2	5	—

C. For Chairman/MD - Unlimited on Firm basis (for self and family).

The policy of providing free and concessional travel to the retired staff and their families is as under:

Upto Grade 16 A (subject to load basis)	Free	Concessional	
		95%	85%
Retired on completion of 15 years of service	1	2	—
After 20 years of service	1	3	—
After 25 years of service	2	4	—
Dy. GMs/GMs/Directors (irrespective of length of service and subject to load basis and Dy. MDs and above (on firm basis)			

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Madhya Pradesh

5347. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of irrigation projects of Madhya Pradesh which were funded by the Union Government during the last five years; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Union Government to complete the work of Bina River Project, Rajghat Project on Bebas river, Nirandpur dam, Dwiriyā dam and Aparchandia dam at Shahgarh in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) 10 Nos. of Irrigation Projects of Madhya Pradesh have received Central Loan Assistance amounting of Rs. 501.153 crore under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme during the last 5 years.

(b) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding execution and maintenance of irrigation projects including flood control and drainage rests primarily with the respective State Government. The allocation under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is made on a years to year basis for those ongoing irrigation projects, which satisfy the AIBP criteria and are proposed by the State for such projects in their respective annual plans and also keeping in view the State specific ceiling of Central Loan Assistance prescribed by the Planning Commission for the year.

[English]

Seizure of Animal Gall Bladders and Intestines

5348. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have seized 10 gunny bags of animal gall bladders and intestines weighing over 850 kg. from Raxual Railway Station in east Champaran on the Indo Nepal Border as reported in the Pioneer dated April 7, 2001;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) A consignment containing animal gall bladders and intestines weighing 860 kg. has been seized at Raxual Station in Bihar. The samples from the seized material have been sent to Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun for identification of the species to which the organs pertain. Further action will be taken on receipt of report from WII.

Multi point Connectivity Based Cellular Service in Andhra Pradesh

5349. DR. B. B. RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cellular operators are pleading for Multi point connectivity in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether in the absence of multipoint connectivity the two service providers are charging different rates for the same service;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government to bring parity in their charges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Both the existing private cellular operators in Andhra Pradesh Telecom Circle viz. Bharti Mobile Limited and Tata Cellular Limited were provided multiple points of inter connection with PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) based on their request subject to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) guidelines of technical integrity and technical feasibility. Recent determination of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) dated 8th January, 2001 regarding provision of point of interconnection and routing of traffic has been challenged before the TDSAT (Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal). Hon'ble TDSAT has stayed implementation of the said determination of TRAI. Therefore, no, further point of inter-connection are being provided by BSNL to any cellular operator, matter being sub-judice.

(b) to (d) Tariff for CMTS is regulated by TRAI Cellular Service Providers are also permitted to offer alternate tariff packages in addition to mandatory standard tariff package, subject to reporting requirement to TRAI.

Construction of Road with Japanese Assistance in Orissa

5350. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for construction and widening of Kendrapara-Indupur-Ratnagiri Road, Salepur Kuonpal-Balichandrapur-Lalitgiri-Udaygiri Road in Orissa with Japanese assistance; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C.KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir. The roads mentioned do not fall on the National Highway network. As such the development and maintenance thereof is the responsibility of the State Government of Orissa.

(b) Does not arise.

Promotion of Traditional Games

5351. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of plans formulated for promoting traditional games in rural areas;

(b) whether the rural youth have ever been given the opportunity to participate in sports tournaments outside India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the items of the sports in which they have participated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Government of India is already implementing the following schemes for promoting traditional games in rural areas as well as in urban areas of the country:

I. Assistance to the National Sports Federations: Under the scheme financial assistance is provided for promotion of traditional sports such as Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and Ataya Patya.

II. Rural Sports Programme: The scheme contains following two sub-components under which traditional sports disciplines are played besides the selected disciplines:

(i) Rural Sports Tournament: Under the Component, besides organization of sports tournaments of selected disciplines and other traditional games like Athletics, Tug-of-war, Archery, Hockey, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, Weightlifting, Volleyball, Wrestling and Football, the State Governments organize many other indigenous sports, popular in the area at block, district and State levels.

(ii) Sports Festival for North Eastern Region: Under the component, North East sports Festival is organized involving sports persons from the North-East States every year. Besides the selected disciplines, viz. Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Football, Hockey, Judo, Table Tennis and Weightlifting, Sports disciplines that are popular in these States, are included in the Festival.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of India clears teams of various recognized sports disciplines from time to time for participation in various sports events, organized at international level. The teams contain sports persons coming from rural as well as urban areas.

Indo-German Aviation Treaty

5352. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indo-German aviation treaty has been reviewed by the Government recently;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features of the treaty;

(c) whether the foreign airlines have been demanding more routes in India; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the benefits to India in according such approvals?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) During the bilateral air services consultation with Germany held on 5-6 February, 2001, it was agreed that the designated airline of the Federal Republic of Germany will be allowed to operate seven additional services in a phased manner against the unutilised entitlement of the Indian side subject to commercial arrangement between the designated airlines of the two countries. Bangalore was also granted as an additional point of call to the designated carrier of Germany without any 5th freedom rights.

(c) and (d) The operations of foreign airlines to/from India are governed by the bilateral agreement between India and the country concerned. Such agreements are reviewed from time to time taking into account the growth in traffic and suitable quid pro quo to the Indian carriers.

Cellular Tariff

5353. SHRI J. S. BRAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has made cost based study of Cellular Tariffs;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a proposal under consideration to reduce cellular/airtime tariffs;

(d) If so, the details thereof, and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had conducted a cost based study of cellular tariffs in 1998-99 and

issued a Consultation Paper dated 9th September, 1998 on telecom pricing containing details of the cost study. Based on this study, tariffs for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service were notified in TRAI's Telecommunication Tariff Order (TTO), 1999.

(c) to (e) Following migration from a fixed license fee to revenue sharing regime effective from 1st August, 1999, license fee payable by operators has reduced, for the present. Benefits of this reduction have been provided to subscribers by way of reduced rental with effect from November, 1999 and by way of reduced airtime from February, 2000 by service providers. TRAI has also notified the TTO (Twelfth Amendment) Order, 2001 which contains details of refunds to be made to the cellular subscribers. In addition, TRAI is keeping the tariff situation under constant review for introducing further changes in the cellular tariff, if necessary.

Construction of National Highway from Shimiguri to Gangtok

5354. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from Sikkim Government for construction of National Highway from Shimiguri to Gangtok;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether there is any proposal to handover National Highway 31A to CPWD; and

(e) If so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) There already exists National Highway No. 31 between Shimiguri and Sevoke and No. 31 A between Sevoke and Gangtok. However, a proposal was received from Government of Sikkim in November, 1998 for construction of an alternative National Highway from Shimiguri to Gangtok. Subsequently Government of Sikkim requested in July 2000 to drop this proposal as the alternative route was not considered feasible. This was accepted by the Ministry.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Nagpur Flying Club

5355. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nagpur Flying club remained closed for almost six years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether State Government of Maharashtra is considering to handover this club to private parties; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This flying club remained closed due to non-availability of serviceable aircraft.

(c) No such proposal has been received in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation from the Government of Maharashtra.

(d) Does not arise.

Gold Reserves in Karnataka

5356. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether exploration for the gold reserves in Karnataka have shown any positive result;

(b) if so, the quantity of gold yielded from Kolar, Hatti and Ramagiri gold mines during the year 2000-2001;

(c) whether the Geological Survey of India has pointed out that total indigenous production of gold is quite minimal in contrast to the huge demand; and

(d) if so, the extent to which the new explorations are likely to enhance indigenous gold production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) Geological Survey of India has estimated the total reserve of 9.863 million tonnes of gold ore in different blocks of Karnataka with a grade from 0.89 gm/tonne onwards.

(b) The production of gold during the year 2000-2001 from Kolar, Hatti and Ramagiri gold mines was 65 kg, 1476 Kg (upto Feb., 2001) and zero Kg respectively.

(c) Monitoring of indigenous production and estimating demand of gold in the country are not the accredited functions of Geological Survey of India. However, there are no firm estimates of demand of gold in country. Very rough estimates suggest that the annual demand of gold in the country is about 600 tonnes whereas the average indigenous production during the period 1997-2000 was of the order of 2.9 tonnes. However, total indigenous production of gold in country during 2000-01 has declined in comparison to this average.

(d) The exploration/exploitation of the gold deposits is governed in accordance with National Mineral policy, 1993 and Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation), Act, 1957. According to this Policy, gold which was hitherto reserved for exploitation by the Public Sector, has been thrown open for Private Sector participation, both domestic and foreign. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 was amended in December, 1999 to make the provisions more investor friendly.

[Translation]

Setting up of Bauxite Based Aluminium Factory in Madhya Pradesh

5357. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether bauxite is found in abundance in Satna district of Madhya Pradesh particularly in Chitrakoot area;

(b) if so, whether bauxite is sent to BALCO from Satna;

(c) whether the Government are considering for setting up of bauxite based Aluminium factory at Chitrakoot; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) purchased 17,100 tonnes of bauxite from Satna District during 2000-2001.

(c) and (d) Central Government has no proposal to set up aluminium plant in Public Sector at Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Implementation of Water Transfer Link Proposals

5358. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the detailed project reports embodying implementation of water transfer link proposals after consultations with the concerned State Governments have since been prepared; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir. The proposals for inter linking of rivers are at the feasibility report stage.

(b) Does not arise.

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Recovery of Outstanding Dues

5359. **SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether crores of rupees of the Indian Airlines are outstanding against the ticket agents of the airlines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Indian Airlines to recover the outstanding amount from these agents;

(d) whether there is any proposal to handover these agencies to the educated unemployed youths; and

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) As on 31st March, 2001 Indian Airlines had to recover about Rs. 3.60 crores from the Agents. A statement showing the amount recoverable from the defaulting Agents is attached. Necessary legal action/recovery proceedings have been initiated in all cases as indicated in the statement.

(d) and (e) Indian Airlines has laid down guidelines for appointment of Passenger Sales Agents. Passenger Sales Agents are appointed at various stations as per Indian Airlines' needs from amongst the applicants fulfilling the requirement prescribed.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Agency	Amount Outstanding (Rs. Lacs)	Period of Outstanding	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Abroo Travels Chennai	0.37	1998-99	Decree obtained in favour of IC
2.	Menaka Travels, Hyderabad	12.36	1992-93	Decree obtained in favour of IC
3.	Silver Streak, Chennai	2.15	1995-96	Decree obtained in favour of IC
4.	Sagar Travels, Chennai	1.64	1996-97	Court Case under process
5.	Panorama Trvls. Vizag	0.29	1996-97	Court Case under process
6.	United Tours, Calicut	0.40	1997-98	Court Case under process
7.	Travel Point, Hyderabad	9.01	1997-98	Court Case under process
8.	Eastman Tours & Travels, Chennai	1.29	1998-99	Matter pending with TAAI
9.	Sagar Travels, Chennai	20.82	1998-99	Court Case under process
10.	Shibi Travels, Chennai	1.32	1998-99	Matter pending with TAAI
11.	Calicut Tours & Travels, Calicut	9.70	1999-2000	Legal Action initiated
12.	Palladium Travels, Bangalore	20.49	2000-01	Claim with AIP-9
13.	R.K. Travels, N. Delhi	4.31	1991-92	Under legal proceeding/court case
14.	Travel Mart, N. Delhi	5.55	1991-92	Under legal proceeding/court case
15.	MAC Travel, Allgarh	7.75	1991-92	Under legal proceeding/court case
16.	Razdan Travels	21.94	1993-94	Under legal proceeding/court case
17.	Shah Travel, Srinagar	14.04	1992-93	Under legal proceeding/court case
18.	A.S. Travels	3.91	1995-96	Under legal proceeding/court case
19.	Combined Travels	2.06	1997-98	Under legal proceeding/court case

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Winfield Travels	43.07	1997-98	Under legal proceeding/court case
21.	Blue Bird Travel, Srinagar	0.40	1998-99	Under legal proceeding/court case
22.	Asha Travels, Jammu	1.06	1998-99	Under legal proceeding/court case
23.	Tina World Travels	5.15	1998-99	Under legal proceeding/court case
24.	Senior Travels, Mumbai	0.66	1994-95	Under legal proceeding/court case
25.	Real Value, Mumbai	38.63	1998-99	Under legal proceeding/court case
26.	Olympic Express	1.29	1998-99	Under legal proceeding/court case
27.	Ravi Travels, Pune	57.02	1997-98	Under legal proceeding/court case
28.	Hallmark Travels, Mumbai	8.26	2000-01	Bank guarantee being invoked
29.	Osho Travels, Mumbai	0.42	2000-01	Bank guarantee being invoked
30.	Asiatic Travels, Mumbai	4.06	2000-01	Under legal proceeding/court case
31.	New Maharaja Travels, Baroda	15.23	2000-01	Proposed legal action
32.	Piercy Exlm Fin. Calcutta	11.49	1999-2000	Under legal action
33.	Travel Bureau, Dimapur	4.85	1998-99	Under legal proceedings
34.	Asco Travels, Gauhati	5.43	1991-92	Under legal proceedings
35.	Ganesh Travels, Agartala	5.66	1993-94	Under legal proceedings
36.	Laxmi Travels, Agartala	7.60	1998-99	Under legal proceedings
37.	Mintri Travels, Bagdogra	7.74	1998-99	Under legal proceedings
38.	Safari India, Ranchi	1.57	1999-2000	Under legal proceedings
39.	Continental Travels, Gauhati	1.06	1999-2000	Under legal proceedings
Total		360.04		

IC-Indian Airlines.

TAAI-Travel Agents Association of India.

AIP-9-IATA agency for administration of IATA approved agents.

Ongoing Irrigation Projects

5360. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the ongoing irrigation projects under execution in the drought affected States of Orissa, Rajasthan and Gujarat;

(b) the progress made so far in each project;

(c) the estimated cost of these projects;

(d) the funds allocated to these projects, till-date; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) The details of ongoing major irrigation projects in the drought affected State of Orissa, Rajasthan and Gujarat are given in the enclosed statement.

(e) The completion of projects depends, *inter-alia*, upon the adequacy of funds to be made available for the projects by the respective State Governments.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Latest Estimated Cost	Cumulative Expenditure up to March, 2000	Proposed outlay for 2000-01	Ultimate Irrigation Potential	Potential created upto March, 2000	Target for completion IX Plan/ beyond IX Plan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Orissa							
1.	Upper Indravati						
	(a) Dam	176.16	126.94				
	(b) Irrigation	718.70	368.56	20.00	218.60	65.60	IX Plan
2.	Lower Indra	211.70	8.72	12.50	38.87	—	Beyond IX Plan
3.	Upper Kolab						
	(a) Dam	48.81	53.71	—	—	—	—
	(b) Irrigation	239.00	266.92	18.00	88.76	62.83	IX Plan
Rajasthan							
1.	Jakham	104.00	105.20	3.00	23.50	23.50	IX Plan
2.	Mahi Bajaj Sagar	799.04	458.13	50.00	109.19	89.61	Beyond IX Plan
3.	Som Kamla Amba	207.48	199.08	6.50	18.79	17.64	IX Plan
4.	IGNP Stage-II	2267.44	1564.24	177.00	964.00	605.00	Beyond IX Plan
5.	Narmada (SSP) (IS)	1462.00	170.25	58.71	73.00	0.00	Beyond IX Plan
6.	Sidhmukh Nohar	309.00	246.55	50.00	67.36	0.00	Beyond IX Plan
Gujarat							
1.	Panam	106.79	113.65	0.00	43.68	42.39	IX Plan
2.	Sabarmati	123.57	125.23	0.00	62.39	62.23	IX Plan
3.	Karjan	280.98	305.93	0.00	70.38	66.67	IX Plan
4.	Sipu	102.44	108.60	0.00	22.08	21.15	IX Plan
5.	Sardar Sarovar (IS)	23602.96	9370.42	3300.00	1792.00	75.58	Beyond IX Plan
6.	Bhatpur	125.20	1.55	0.10	21.22	—	Beyond IX Plan

[Translation]

Battery Operated Telephone

5361. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the villages in Dhule district of Maharashtra where battery operated telephone based on Tower System have been set up;

(b) the number of telephones out of order in the said district as on March 31, 2001;

(c) whether the system has not been successful;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The names of VPTs working on MARR system in Dhule District of Maharashtra Telecom Circle is enclosed in the attached statement.

(b) 75 number of MARR VPTs are out of order in Dhule District as on 31/03/2001.

(c) and (d) The functioning of MARR VPTs has not been fully satisfactory.

The main reasons are :

(i) Reliability of MARR VPT System is not up to the mark.

(ii) Un-Reliable Power Supply at the village level are also responsible for the high VPT Fault rate. VPTs which depend on power supply for re-charging of their Battery are more susceptible to faults due to the extended period of power failure and subsequent non-charging of Batteries.

(iii) Maintenance problems due to non-availability of proper approach roads to reach the VPT locations.

(iv) Poor maintenance support from suppliers.

(e) The following steps have been taken to ensure smooth functioning of the VPTs:

1. Testing of VPTs are carried out daily from the exchange. Any VPT not responding on two consecutive days are being treated as faulty.

2. Testing of MARR links are carried out daily from the base Station.

3. Meter readings are checked fortnightly and low reading is taken as an indication of the system not performing properly and are being specially checked.

4. VPT holders have been asked to book their fault at telephone exchange/JTO in charge.

5. Repair centres are in process of being set-up in each circle.

6. AMC has been entered into with many suppliers of the system.

7. SSA Heads are holding meetings with villagers to sort out the grievances.

8. Flying squads have been constituted at circle/ TCHQ level.

9. Following new technologies are being tried in the network for induction:

- WLL (Wireless in Local Loop)
- C-DOT — TDMA PMP System (C-DOT developed Time Division Multi Access Point to (Multipoint system)
- Satellite Base Terminals for remote and inaccessible areas.

10. Unserviceable MARR System are proposed to be replaced.

Statement

Names of VPT on MARR System in Dhule District Maharashtra Telecom Circle

(Ltr. No. CGMT/MH/CS/PQ/DY. NO. 5361/13th LS/VI/2001 DT. 19/4/2001

Sl. No.	VPT Name					
	(SDCA-Sindkneda)	(SDCA-Kusumba)	(SDCA-Sakri)	(SDCA-Pimpalner)	(SDCA-Shirpur)	(SDCA-Dhule)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Achchhi	Amode	Aichale	Amali	Adhe	Ajang
2	Akadsa	Chhavadi	Akkalpada	Chlipada	Ahiyapur	Ajnale

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3	Amalthe	Ghanegaon	Ambemohar	Dapur	Ajanad	Amdad
4	Amarale	Hatti BK	Astane	Dholipada	Ambe Tanda	Anchade
5	Arave	Lamkani	Balsane	Dholivihir	Bhortek	Arni
6	Babhalde	Lonkhede	Behad	Dhongade	Borgaon	Babhulwadi
7	Bhilaned		Burudkhe	Jamkhel	Borpani	Balhane
8.	Chandgad		Chinckheda	Jamzira	Chakdu	Dahyane
9.	Chimthawal		Chipalipada	Kadwale	Chandpuri	Dhamane
10.	Daswel		Darkhel	Khandbara	Chandse	Dhandane
11.	Degaon		Datarti	Kokangaon	Chandsurya	Diwanmala
12.	Dhavade		Devjipada	Lagadwal	Davilvihir	Gadutar
13.	Dongargaon		Dhangai	Machmal	Dondwade	Gotane
14.	Hispur		Dhavalivihir	Maujipada	Fattehpur	Haranmal
15	Hol PB		Domkani	Mohane	Gartad	Henkalwadi
16.	Humbarde		Hatti Kh.	Pargaon	Hated	Hingane
17.	Jakhane		Isarde	Selbari	Jaitpur	Junnar
18.	Jasane		Jaibhim	Shewage	Jalod	Kalkhede
19.	Kalgaon		Jambhore	Sitarampur	Jamniyapani	Kasvihir
20.	Kalmadi		Jamda	Sukapur	Jamnyapada	Kundane (War)
21	Kamkhede		Jamkikadhare	Virkhel	Japore	Morshewadi
22.	Kampur		Kadhare	Zanzale	Jathode	Nandane
23.	Kanchanpur		Kuruswade		Johide	Narvhal
24.	Kharde BK		Kuttarmare		Junisangvi	Nimkhedi
25.	Kumbhare		Mahatmapur		Khambale	Padalde
26.	Lohgaon		Mahir		Khurkhal	Ranmala
27.	Mhalsar		Nadse		Lauki	Raver
28.	Nevade		Nagpur		Manjari	Sadgaon
29.	Parsole		Navapada		Manjaribardi	Sanjori
30.	Pimparkheda		Nilgavhan		Mukhed	Saundane
31.	Rahimpur		Pangan		Nandarde	Sawalde
32.	Ranjane		Panhalipada		Nimzari	Sawali Tanda
33.	Rewadi		Perejpur		Parshipada	Sayane
34.	Sahur		Petale		Pilode	Sukwad PR Dangari

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Sarve		Phopade		Pimpri	Tamaswadi
36.	Satare		Pinjarzadi		Rohini	Tikhi
37.	Shenwade		Raipur		Rudawali	Tisgaon
38.	Sondale		Rajanipada		Samriyapada	Udane
39.	Sonewadi		Saltek		Tajpuri	Vajirkheda
40.	Suray		Satmane		Tembhe BK	Varkhede
41.	Tamthare		Sayyadnagar		Ukhalwadi	Wadel
42.	Tawkheda PN		Surpan		Upparpind	
43.	Vadade		Tamaswadi		Vanawal	
44.	Vadli		Tembhe		Varzadi	
45.	Vaghode		Titane		Wagbarda	
46.	Valpur		Umbrandi		Wakpada	
47.	Valkhede		Vardhane			
48.	Varzadi		Varsus			
49.	Vasmane		Vasantnagar			
50.	Vikhurle		Vasdare			
51.	Vikwel		Ziranipada			
52.	Waghadi KH					
53.	Zirve					
54.	Zotwade					

[English]

Runway at Bangalore International Airport

5362. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce one more runway at Bangalore International Airport to cater the increasing traffic till the completion of the second international airport; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to see that the runway Bangalore at international airport is completed within the stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Bangalore International airport belongs to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Airports Authority of India (AAI) maintains a Civil Enclave at this airport. At present, Government has no plan to develop one more runway at Bangalore International airport.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Upper Sakari Project in Bihar

5363. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Upper Sakari project in Bihar is lying pending with the Government for approval; and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The modified project report for Upper Sakari Project was received by the Central Water Commission from Government of Bihar in January, 1998. Comments of the different specialized Directorates of Central Water Commission were forwarded to State Government during period 6/98 to 7/98 for compliance.

which is still awaited. Clearance of the project depends *inter-alia*, upon the compliance of observations of various Central appraising agencies by the State Government.

Setting up of Post Offices

5364. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal to open new post offices in the States particularly in tribal and dalt dominated areas is pending for clearance;

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

(c) whether any target has been fixed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) Collection and delivery of mail services are provided to every village in the country. The opening of post office is a norm based activity. The three norms on which the proposals for opening of post offices are examined relate to distance, population and income. Post offices are opened on non-based justification subject to availability of plan targets and resources. The population norm in hilly, tribal, desert and inaccessible areas is a minimum population of 500 in an individual village or 1000 in a group of Village. The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office is required to be 3 kms. The minimum anticipated income is required to be 15% of the cost. A tentative target for opening of 60 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in North Eastern Region and 440 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices in rest of the country, 4 Departmental Sub-Post Offices in North Eastern Region and 46 Departmental Sub Post Offices in rest of the country has been fixed for the year 2001-2002. Of these, post offices will be opened in tribal, hilly desert and inaccessible areas where justified subject to availability of resources.

Out-of-Turn Allotment of Telephone Connections

5365. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to allot out-of-turn telephone connections to the soldiers deputed at the borders is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are also including the personnels of paramilitary forces under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) Guidelines already exist for grant of out of turn telephone connections to Public Servants performing arduous nature of duties but not provided with telephone at residence by their employers. It covers Defence/Para-Military personnel.

[English]

Increase in Fare by Indian Airlines and Air India

5366. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines/Air India have increased its fare in different sectors; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Effective 1st January, 2001, Air India have increased all fares from India to world wide destinations by around 10% due to rise in fuel cost. Indian Airlines have not increased fares since October, 1998.

No Objection Certificate by AAI to Enable Maharashtra Government

5367. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any request has been received by the Airport Authority of India (AAI) for issue of no objection certificate in order to enable Maharashtra Government to implement its Slum Rehabilitation Scheme for the slums located on the land belonging to AAI in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government on the request of the State Government; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However Airports Authority of India (AAI) in association with Slum Rehabilitation Authority, a Government of Maharashtra agency and Shivashahi Punarvasan Prakalp Limited, a wholly owned Government of Maharashtra company has initiated action for removal of about

2116 encroachers from the land which is required for extension of taxi track.

[Translation]

Sariska Tiger Project

5368. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount provided by the Union Government to the Rajasthan Government for the Sariska Tiger Project during the last three years;

(b) whether the Union Government are contemplating to make it a National Park;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be converted into a National Park; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The funds provided during last three years to Sariska Tiger Reserve under Centrally Sponsored Schemes are as below :

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Scheme	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Project Tiger	58.895	111.94	177.38
2.	Eco development	51.943	15.28	—

(b) to (d) Preliminary notification has been to declare 273.83 sq. kms. of Sariska Tiger Reserve as National Park in the year 1982.

[English]

Encroachment of Land in Mumbai

5369. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total land of Airport Authority of India (AAI) at present under encroachment;

(b) whether the Government have any action plan to clear the land from encroachers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government are going to commercialise the AAI land in Mumbai and has appointed consultants for this purpose; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and total amount likely to be earned by the AAI by its commercialisation?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Approximately 160 acres of Airports Authority of India (AAI) land is under encroachment by slum dwellers at Mumbai Airport. AAI jointly in association with Slum Rehabilitation Authority (SRA), a Government of Maharashtra agency and Shivashahi Punarvasan Prakaalp Limited (SPPL), a wholly owned Government of Maharashtra Company has initiated action for removal of about 2116 encroachers from the land which is required for extension of taxi-track.

(d) and (e) No Sir, The land getting cleared from encroachments under Phase-I is going to be utilised for operational purposes only.

P.F. Rate of Interest

5370. SHRI AMIR ALAM:

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Provident Fund Trustees has recommended a cut of 0.75 per cent in the interest rate at 10.25 per cent on the statutory savings by employees against the lowering of 1.5 per cent on most administered rates proposed by Finance Ministry in the Budget for 2001-02;

(b) whether the special meeting of the Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund has also recommended a higher interest rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund in its meeting held on 23.3.2001 has made a recommendation for crediting interest in accounts of the EPF subscribers @ 10.25% per annum for the year 2001-2002. The recommendation of the CBT has since been referred to the Ministry of Finance for necessary action.

Amendments of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to Check Pollution

5371. SHRIMATI D.M. VIJAYA KUMARI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Motor Vehicles Act has amended for implementing the introduction of LPG as auto 1. using replaceable cylinder to reduce pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which the amendment is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C.KHANDURI: (a) to (c) The Motor Vehicles Act has been amended in August, 2000 to allow use of environmentally friendly fuel including LPG for automotive purposes. Detailed guidelines about use of LPG are expected to be notified shortly. No decision has yet been taken regarding use to replaceable LPG gas cylinders.

[Translation]

Clearance to Rail Project

5372. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Madhya Pradesh relating to construction of 235 Km. railway line between Delhi-Rajhara-Rajghat-Jagdalpur for environmental clearance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have accorded approval to the said proposal; and

(d) if not, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No Madam Railway projects do not require environment clearance under Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994. However, Madhya Pradesh Government had submitted a proposal for diversion of 259.54 hectare forest land for construction of Dall-Rajhara-Rowghat-Jagdalpur railway line under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. This proposal has been rejected on merit on 3.8.1999.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Similipal Forest Reserve

5373. SHRI TRILOCHAN KANUNGO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of 'flora and fauna' found in Similipal Reserve Forest-cum-National Park and National Tiger Sanctuary;

(b) whether they have been duly registered and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of schemes prepared and provisions

made for the preservation, protection and scientific growth of Similipal Forest Reserve?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The important Flora and Fauna of Similipal Tiger Reserve are given in the statement attached.

(b) There is no system of Registration of 'flora and fauna'. However, they have been documented in the management plan and Status Report of Project.

(c) For the preservation protection and scientific growth of Similipal Tiger Reserve, the Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Project Tiger and Eco development around National Parks and Sanctuaries including Tiger Reserves are being implemented. The funds released during the IXth Five Year Plan are as below:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Scheme	Released 1997-98	Released 1998-99	Released 1999-2000	Released 2000-2001
Project	49.30	67.65	84.46	83.31
Tiger				
Eco - development	25.625			35.0

Statement

The important Flora and Fauna registered from Similipal Tiger Reserve consists of mainly 1076 species of plants, of which 92 species are orchids having similarities to the Northern and Southern Indian orchids, 7% of the Indian species of flowering plants and 8% of orchids of India are found in Similipal. Some of the important tree species are *Shorea robusta*, *Terminalia sp.*, *Pterocarpus marsupium*, *Anogeissus latifolia*, *Scheelechera oleasa*, *Adina cordifolia*, *Toona ciliata* (rare), *Michlia champaca*, *Mangifera indica*, *Bombax ceiba*, *Caraya arborea*, *Dillenia pentagyna*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Gaurga pinnata*, *Almnea latifolia*, *Cleistanthus collinus*, *Gardenia gummifera*, *G. latifolia*, *Coromandelica*, *Syzygium cumini*, *Sterculia urens*, *Baswellia rerrata*, *Dalbargia G. turgide*, *Erythrina suberosa*, *Cochlospermum gossypium*, *Helicteres isora* and *Nyctanthes arbotristis*. Orchids commonly found belong to the genera *Acampe*, *Bulbophyllum*, *Cymbidium*, *Liapris* and *Vanda*. Common grasses are *Imperata cylindrica*, *Themeda gigantea* and *Saccharum spontaneum*.

The main Faunal wealth consists of 42 species of major mammals, 242 species of birds and 30 species of reptiles recorded so far in the Reserve. Out of the Indian checklist, Similipal has 7% reptiles, 20% birds and 11% mammals. Some

of the important mammals are : Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) including melanistic forms, Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Elephant (*Elephas maximus*), Sambar (*Cervus unicolor*), Barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*), Bison (*Bos gaurus*), Jungle cat (*Felis chaus*), Wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), Giant Squirrel (*Ratufa indica*) and Common langur (*Presbytis entellus*).

Work on National Highway-2

5374. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to sub allot the work of National Highway-2 in the running over Durgapur to Panagarh in West Bengal to the private companies on negotiation basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for not assigning the work to public sector company such as HSCL, Durgapur Unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RET.D.) SHRI B. C. KHANDURI): (a) The 4-laning work of National Highways-2 from Durgapur to Panagarh in West Bengal has been allotted to a Joint Venture M/s BSC-RBM-PATI (JV). The work is nearing completion. No work on this stretch is proposed to be sub-allotted.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Optical Fibre in A.P.

5375. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning at present on optical fibre in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to modernise transmission links to some exchange by optical fibre during 2001-2002; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) 1959 exchanges are connected by optical fibre in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Yes, Sir 117 remaining exchanges are planned to be connected with optical fibre or Radio by March, 2002.

(c) It is planned to provide reliable media to the remaining exchanges (including new exchanges proposed) by March, 2002 subject to availability of resources. The existing exchanges working on reliable media other than OFC media will be provided with OFC subject to justification and availability of resources.

The position as on 31/3/2001 is as follows:

Exchanges with Optical Fibre media 1959

Exchanges with Radio media 656

Exchanges with other reliable media 17

Exchanges on non-reliable media 117

Total Exchanges 2759

Kiosks to STD/PCO Operators

5376. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to provide kiosks to STD/PCO operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other incentives to be provided to said operators by BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The STD/PCO operators are permitted to upgrade the PCO as Internet Dhaba/Public Tele Info Centre. For rural block headquarter, all Internet Dhabsas are given unlimited Internet access free of charge and also 25% of the telephone network access charges as commission.

Telephone Exchanges

5377. SHRI GEORGE EDEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for the development of various telephone exchanges under Ernakulam District is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said proposal has been cleared; and

(d) if not, the time by which the said proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Kerala Telecom Circle has planned to open new exchanges/expand the capacity of existing telephone exchanges under Ernakulam District by about 1.4 lakh lines at 67 locations.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The proposal is under consideration in BSNL Headquarter and will be cleared in due course.

Assistance for Construction of Coastal Highways

5378. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided financial assistance to certain States and Territories for construction of coastal highways in their respective areas;

(b) if so, the assistance provided during the last three years, State and Territory-wise;

(c) whether similar assistance has also been provided to Maharashtra during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

Statement

Allocation of funds for development of National Highways in various States during the last three years

Amount in Rs. Lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4879.82	5707.87	11188.26
2.	Assam	2661.10	4239.32	5253.64
3.	Bihar	3417.35	6137.52	6927.56
4.	Chandigarh	82.00	160.00	144.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	1227.80
6.	Delhi	1400.00	700.00	483.00
7.	Goa	1100.00	1700.02	2300.00
8.	Gujarat	6628.54	9851.90	9999.97
9.	Haryana	7588.50	10066.01	10100.00
10.	Himachal Pradesh	2500.00	4000.00	4415.00
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	100.00	100.00	250.00
12.	Jharkhand	—	—	2200.00
13.	Karnataka	2700.00	6103.24	8104.00
14.	Kerala	70.08	12837.07	8878.03
15.	Madhya Pradesh	8247.73	12334.80	13472.11
16.	Maharashtra	1200.00	1780.08	21236.20
17.	Manipur	700.30	1014.15	851.31

(b) Not applicable in view of (c) above

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RET'D.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development of National Highways including those running along the coast. The funds are allotted to various States for the development of National Highways as a whole including the funds for the National Highways which run along the Coast.

(b) to (d) A Statement giving details of allocation of funds to States for development of National Highways during the last three years is attached.

(e) Does not arise.

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI

1	2	3	4	5
18	Meghalaya	1060.50	1785.28	1708.34
19.	Mizoram	0.00	300.00	1000.00
20.	Nagaland	200.00	800.00	1500.00
21.	Orissa	9726.82	9228.02	10046.89
22.	Pondicherry	100.81	319.46	200.00
23.	Punjab	7148.88	5300.10	5365.00
24.	Rajasthan	4605.81	5214.02	8720.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	3921.37	6754.08	10342.21
26.	Tripura	0.00	50.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	12649.35	12647.45	14949.76
28.	Uttaranchal	—	—	199.35
29.	West Bengal	10150.94	8818.02	12800.00

Supply of Power to Kolar Gold Mines

5379. SHRI C. SREENISVASAN:

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARASU:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Gold Mines Limited have issued instruction to the Karnataka Power Corporation to stop supply of Power to the Kolar Gold Mines, and the township around Kolar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the estimated loss to the exchequer as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) and (b) Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) supplies 25 Hz and 50 Hz power to Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML). The 25 Hz power has been used for running mines and plants. The 50 Hz power has been available for township around Kolar Gold Fields. BGML requested KPTCL to stop supply of only 25Hz from 1.4.2001 consequent to permission to close BGML under Industrial Disputes Acts, 1947. Thus supply of 50 Hz power remains unaffected.

(c) No, Sir. There is no loss to the exchequer.

Reduction in Customs Duty

5380. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH:

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had reduced the customs duty on import of raw material for manufacture of underground cable;

(b) if so, whether Department of Telecommunications (DoT) did not take full advantages of the said reduction and made excess payment to the manufacturers/suppliers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and extent of loss suffered as a result thereof;

(d) whether the Government have enquired the matter;

(e) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government on the responsible officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government had reduced the customs duty on import of raw materials for manufacture of PIJF U/G Cables.

(b) The Department of Telecommunications had taken full advantages of reductions in customs duty during the last four years and didn't make any excess payment to the manufacturers/suppliers.

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

(d) Not applicable in view of (c) above.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

(f) Not applicable in view of (e) above.

[Translation]

Reduction of Air Fare for Tour Packages

5381. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tour packages for visiting foreign countries are cheaper as compared to those for 'Bharat Bhrahman' (touring India);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to reduce the air fare for attracting more passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATIONS (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Air fares for visiting any country are determined a International Air Transport Association (IATA) Coordinating Conference unanimously by all airlines operating in that area. Fares for tour packages are agreed upon based on market potential as well as economic situation of the country involved and therefore, in some cases it is cheaper for Indians to visit foreign countries while in some cases it is cheaper for tourists to come and visit India.

Domestic air fares are not regulated and airlines keep adjusting their fares as they perceive the market from time to time.

[English]

Import of Aluminium

5382. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated production of aluminium annually at present in the country;

(b) the details of aluminium imported/exported during each of the last three years, till date,

(c) whether India's aluminium import is likely to rise in the next three to four months due to closure of BALCO;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check the rise in import of aluminium?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) The production of Aluminium during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-

2001 is as under:

Year	Production
1998-99	541459
1999-2000	619741
2000-2001	642844 (Prov.)

(b) Figures of Aluminium Imported/exported during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as under:

Year	Import of Aluminium (in thousand tonnes)	Export of Aluminium (in thousand tonnes)
1997-1998	70	82
1998-1999	95	75
1999-2000	80	120

NALCO, the main exporter of Aluminium has exported 118,869 Tonnes of Aluminium during the year 2000-2001

(c) to (e) The Import/Export of Aluminium metal has been kept under Open General Licence (OGL) as per the Government of India Export-Import Policy. No new steps are required in view of the loss of production in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO).

[Translation]

National Highways Development Schemes in J & K

5383. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the targeted development schemes relating to National Highways has not been achieved so far in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the target set during the last three years and the percentage of work completed so far;

(c) the reasons for this poor performance; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite development of the National Highways network in the country with specific reference to Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) No, Sir. The targets of development schemes have substantially been achieved.

(b) and (c) The targets and achievements for the improvement works on NHs in J&K for last three years are as under :

Year	Formation (in Kms)		Surfacing (in Kms)		Major Bridges (in mts)	
	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievements	Target	Achievements
1998-99	—	—	50.00	58.10	15.00	—
1999-2000	—	—	31.06	41.52	7.09	9.00
2000-01	17.30	18.30	55.55	56.62	140.00	140.00

(d) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and works are taken up in Annual Plans keeping in view Traffic needs, inter-se priority and overall availability of funds. The Annual Plan for the Year 2001-2002 provides for sanction of works for an amount of Rs. 2395.97 crores including Rs. 83.50 crores for the State of Bihar.

[English]

Human and Gosikhurd Irrigation Projects

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND FORESTS (SHRI B. KHANDURI) : The Minister of Road Transport and Forests is pleased to state: (a) Whether the Government has received any proposals for Human and Gosikhurd Irrigation Projects, if so, the details thereof; and (b) if so, the details thereof; and (c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND FORESTS (SHRI B. KHANDURI) : The Minister of Road Transport and Forests is pleased to state: (a) Whether the Government has received any proposals for Human and Gosikhurd Irrigation Projects, if so, the details thereof; and (b) if so, the details thereof; and (c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

The Gosikhurd Irrigation project was accorded clearance under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 on 19.2.1988. Due to technical reasons for non-alignment of canal, the State Government submitted two revised proposals for the canal segment from 0-10 K.M. and 11-25 K.M. Both the revised proposals have been approved by the Ministry.

Agreement with European Union for Air Safety

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND FORESTS (SHRI B. KHANDURI) : The Minister of Road Transport and Forests is pleased to state: (a) Whether the Government has received any proposals for Human and Gosikhurd Irrigation Projects, if so, the details thereof; and (b) if so, the details thereof; and (c) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the India and European Union have agreed to jointly spend Rs. 140 crore under the EU-India Civil Aviation Cooperation Projects;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement;

(c) the areas where the above amount is proposed to be spent; and

(d) the details of its impact on the country's Civil Aviation Sector?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Government of India have signed an agreement for a Joint Civil Aviation Project with the European Union, the total expenditure for which is likely to be 32 million EURO. The Project envisages conducting workshops, seminars and courses in various aspects of Civil Aviation like aviation safety, airline management, air traffic management, airport activities, Pilots/Instructor training, product support and maintenance in airline industry etc. The project will increase Indian awareness of the EU industry practices including airworthiness, safety regulations and standards and will improve and safeguard standards of aviation safety in the region. Further, the project will provide for the development of Indian companies in the sector to enable full growth potential to be met in part through the assistance in the development of airports management, modern product support, maintenance and overhaul techniques and commercial pilot training.

[Translation]

Assessment of Expenditure on Road Construction

5386 SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment in regard to the expenditure to be incurred on road construction;

(b) If so, the details thereof along with the estimated amount spent on the construction of per kilometre of two lane, four lane and six lane roads;

(c) whether the said expenditure differs from State to State in different circumstances; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: (a) Government have assessed that an investment of Rs. 1,65,000 crore is required to be made in a phased manner for removal of deficiencies and ungradation of existing National Highways, including Rs. 54,000 crore for National Highways Development Project (NHDP).

(b) Construction cost would depend on various factors like terrain traffic, type of soil, extent of culverts/bridges specifications etc. Approximate cost per km for 2-lane, 4-lane and 6-lane road may be Rs. 1.25 crore, 4 crore and 5.5 crore respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As indicated in part (b)

[English]

Linking of Road Network with Major Ports

5387. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action plan to link road network with the major ports;

(b) whether their feasibility studies has been completed;

(c) if so, the names of ports in Gujarat to be linked with road network; and

(d) the details of the consultancy assignment awarded/being awarded and further scheduling in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI: (a) Government has planned to develop road linkages to major Ports namely Kandla, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mormugao, New Mangalore, Cochin, Tuticorin, Chennai and Ennnore, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Haldia and Calcutta. The road linkages identified for development include stretches of National Highways as also State Roads. The details of stretches are given in the statement attached.

(b) Feasibility studies for Haldia, Visakhapatnam, Chennai, Ennore, Mumbai and Jawaharlal Nehru Ports have been completed. Execution work related to improvement of road connectivity to Kandla and Mormugao Ports are under progress. Feasibility studies for rest of the ports are under progress.

(c) Improvement of road connectivity to Kandla Port in Gujarat is being implemented by way of four laning of Samkhiali-Gandhidham section of NH-8A.

(d) Consultancy assignments for Feasibility studies and Detailed Engineering for development of adequate road connectivity to all the major Ports have been awarded.

Statement

Port Connectivity Projects

S. No.	Port	Likely stretch/stretches	Length in km.
1	2	3	4
1.	Calcutta	NH-34 (from Barasat Bypass to Calcutta Dock via Kamalgaji and Joka)	60
2.	Haldia	NH-41 (from Kolaghat on NH-6 to Haldia)	55
3.	Paradip	NH-5A/SH-12 (from km. 0 to km. 74)	74
4.	Vishakhapatnam	State Road	2
5.	Chennai and Ennore	Chennai-Ennore Expressway	6

1	2	3	4
6.	Tuticorin	NH-7A (Tuticorin-Tirunelvall section)	51
7.	Cochin	NH-47 (from km. 348/382 to km. 358/300 including 5 bridges)	10
		NH-47A (entire stretch)	8
8.	Manglore	NH-17 (Kasargodu-Mangalore-Udupi section) and NH-48 (Mangalore-Bentwal section)	60
9.	Mormugao	NH-17B (from Port to Verna Junction on NH-17)	18
10.	Jawahar Lal Nehru Port	NH-4 B (entire stretch) SH-54 (from km. 5/000 to km 13/000) Amra marg	26
11.	Mumbai	NH-3/NH-4	30
12.	Kandla	NH-8A Samkhiali-Gandhidham	56

Revenue Share for Vsat Service Providers

5388. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA:

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications

(d) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had recommended a three-tier licence fee system; and

(e) If so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) The existing structure of licence fees for 64 Kbps Closed User Group (CUG) data network via INSAT satellite

(iii) For 4th and 5th year Rs. 75 lakhs p.a.

(iv) For sixth year Rs. One crore p.a.

(d) The structure of licence fees for VSAT services as recommended by TRAI for basic rate bearer service i.e. 64 Kbps is as follows:

1 to 500 VSATs Rs. 20,000 per VSAT p.a., with a minimum of Rs. 30 Lakhs p.a. ##

501 to 1000 VSATs Rs. 15,000 per VSAT p.a., with a minimum of Rs. 100 Lakhs p.a.

Above 1,000 VSATs Rs. 10,000 per VSAT p.a., with a minimum amount of Rs. 150 lakhs

TRAI has also recommended that an additional licence fee be charged in the form of a surcharge per VSAT for higher than basic 64 Kbps) bearer service on the CUG which is as follows:

(i)	Above 64 Kbps and upto 128 Kbps	Rs. 10,000
(ii)	Above 128 Kbps and upto 384 Kbps	Rs. 20,000
(iii)	Above 384 Kbps and upto 512 Kbps	Rs. 50,000

TRAI has recommended that (i) for inclined orbit operation, a 25 per cent discount on the per VSAT licence fee and (ii) no licence fee for "Receive Only" terminals.

(e) New guidelines for VSAT services are likely to be finalized shortly.

Training of Forest Officials

5389. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received funds from World Bank for training of forest officials;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas of training and the number of officials trained during each of the last two years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information in this regard is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

On-Going Projects Funded by C.R.F.

5390. DR. BALIRAM:

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the on-going projects funded by the Central Road Fund in various States as on date, State-wise;

(b) the details of estimated cost, funds released and utilized during the last three years till date under each of these projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Details of on going work funded from the Central Road Fund (CRF) in various States alongwith the sanctioned cost is at statement-I. The details of funds released during the last three years both under old and new CRF is at statement-II. Central Road Fund is non-lapsable and funds are utilised by State Governments on sanctioned works.

(c) The works are in various stages of progress and are likely to be completed in the next two years.

Statement - I

(Rs. in Crore)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Works in progress as per earlier CRF		Works sanctioned under CRF Act, 2000	
		Nos.	Sanctioned Cost	Nos.	Sanctioned Cost
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16	43.36	57	238.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	1.18	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Assam	8	2.42	22	29.85
4.	Bihar	3	9.08	29	51.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	—	—	16	67.50
6.	Gujarat	13	10.49	71	46.19
7.	Haryana	3	1.75	3	5.20
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	—	—	12	33.90
9.	Jharkhand	—	—	5	26.75
10.	Karnataka	8	8.74	32	45.72
11.	Kerala	9	19.99	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	2.88	29	141.63
13.	Maharashtra	36	42.09	2.7	108.81
14.	Manipur	1	0.46	3	3.96
15.	Meghalaya	2	2.91	6	7.70
16.	Mizoram	1	0.28	1	3.02
17.	Nagaland	3	0.47	6	5.34
18.	Orissa	5	16.87	—	—
19.	Pondicherry	1	1.05	—	—
20.	Rajasthan	9	7.39	37	53.53
21.	Sikkim	—	—	8	1.91
22.	Tamil Nadu	5	4.29	255	156
23.	Tripura	1	1.40	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	2	11.69
25.	Uttaranchal	—	—	11	10.92
26.	West Bengal	5	20.15	—	—

Statement-II

Amount in Rs lakhs

Sl. No.	Name of State/U.T.	Old CRF			New CRF
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,6131	2,239	1000,00	2720,00
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0,7889	0,00	371,00
3.	Assam	0,3443	0,2652	0,00	503,00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Bihar*	0,0231	0	0,00	856,00
5.	Chattisgarh**			0,00	768,00
6.	Goa	0,0209	0	0,00	131,00
7.	Gujarat	6,1391	3,0499	0,00	2336,00
8.	Haryana	0,3312	0	0,00	1047,00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0,0649	0	0,00	348,00
10.	Jammu and Karhmir	0,0152	0	0,00	1028,00
11.	Jharkhand*			0,00	607,00
12.	Karnataka	2,4567	0,1601	232,50	1917,00
13.	Kerala	1,8704	0,1219	0,00	923,00
14.	Madhya Pradesh**	0,2527	2,8702	0,00	2084,00
15.	Maharashtra	0,158	9,6114	0,00	3627,00
16.	Manipur	0,0511	0,2624	0,00	111,00
17.	Meghalaya	0,5526	0,0811	0,00	149,00
18.	Mizoram	0,0532	0,0394	0,00	202,00
19.	Nagaland	0,3217	0,0492	0,00	85,00
20.	Orissa	1,5575	0,1614	0,00	970,00
21.	Punjab	1,9281	0,1256	0,00	1433,00
22.	Rajasthan	1,2746	1,3802	128,25	2527,00
23.	Sikkim	0	0,1456	1,97	37,00
24.	Tamil Nadu	4,0139	1,3054	0,00	2234,00
25.	Tripura	0,1939	0,0394	3,44	64,00
26.	Uttaranchal***			0,00	367,00
27.	Uttar Pradesh***	2,8521	2,6427	256,01	2932,00
28.	West Bengal	1,3217	0,951	87,95	1191,00
UTs					
29.	A&N Islands	0,0022	0	0,00	58,33
30.	Chandigarh	0,5977	0	0,00	101,00
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0,1315	0,00	40,67
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0,0777	0,00	30,00
33.	Delhi	0,2625	0	0,00	1068,34
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0,00	2,33
35.	Pondichery	0	0	0,00	73,00
Total		29,2524	26,4992	1710,12	32941,67

*Till 1999-2000 Bihar includes Jharkhand also.

**Till 1999-2000 Madhya Pradesh includes Chattisgarh also.

***Till 1999-2000 Uttar Pradesh includes Uttaranchal also.

[English]

New National Highways in Gujarat

5391. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat is having the longest Coast line in the country and being in proximity of all the States, traffic playing through the State has been increased tremendously;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to extend some additional grants to develop certain roads leading to ports as National Highways; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has planned to develop road linkages to major Ports in the Country including Kandla Port (Gujarat).

(c) Improvement of road connectivity to Kandla Port in Gujarat is being implemented by way of four laning of Samakhiali-Gandhidham Section of NH-8A.

Development of Mining Industry in Orissa

5392. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government for the development of mining industry in Orissa;

(b) the details of minerals exported from Orissa during each of the last three years; and

(c) the total income earned by the State Government as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Government of India had announced the National Mineral Policy, 1993 for development of mining sector in India including the State of Orissa. The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 was amended in January, 1994 and subsequently in December, 1999 followed by amendments in the Rules framed under the Act to make the legal framework investor friendly and hassle free. Similarly the policy for encouraging private investment has been increasingly liberalised over the years.

(b) and (c) Information on export of minerals and income earned thereof is not maintained State-wise.

[Translation]

Task Force

5393. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a task force to provide telecommunication facilities in all the villages of the country;

(b) if so, whether the task force has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendations made therein;

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (e) Task Force teams were set up in the circles having large number of uncovered villages. The aim of Task Force team is to plan village public telephones in the remaining uncovered villages and closely monitor the progress to achieve the targets set up by the Government.

Fire in Forests

5394. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of fire in the forests and the estimated loss suffered during the last three years and current year, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for protection of forests from fire?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The management of forest resources at the field level is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The forest fire incidents are not recorded and compiled at the Government of India level. However, the Government of India had assessed the losses for forest fires based on the satellite imagery and work done by the Forest Survey of India. Around 3 million ha. of forest area is annually affected by forest fires in the country, causing a loss of around Rs. 440 crores.

(b) The Central Government is implementing a Plan scheme 'Forest Fire Control and Management' since 8th Five Year Plan with 100% Central assistance to the States. The situation was reviewed in 1999 and a Master Plan was prepared,

envisaging assistance to the State Governments based on identification of fire prone areas. The Plan involves assistance to the Joint Forest Management Committees for fire prevention and control, taking help of the latest satellite remote sensing technology in monitoring of forest fires and assessing the losses, preparation of fire danger rating systems and use of other traditional methods.

[English]

Amendment to Environmental Laws

5395. SHRI C.N. SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to amend certain environmental laws; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the growth in industrial, transportation and other economic activities and services, the Government has initiated a process of assessing various aspects related to enhancing the efficacy of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

Cellular Service

5396. SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce the Global system for Mobile Communications based cellular service in Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi regions of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) GSM Mobile service is to be started at the district headquarters in the first phase. The following district Headquarters in the region are proposed to be covered:

Bhawanipatna (Kalahandi District)	—1000 lines
Bolangir	—1000 lines
Koraput	—1000 lines

Following additional towns in the region shall be covered in the 2nd phase:

Nowrangpur, Jaypure, Boriguma, Kotpad of undivided Koraput District, Junagarh and Kesinga of Kalahandi District.

Conversion of Ageing Aircraft to Freighters

5397. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines and Air India have decided to convert ageing a-300s alongwith B-737-200s to freighters;

(b) if so, whether the job has been allotted to some agency; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated amount involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Availability of water Resources

5398. SHRI RAMSHEETH THAKUR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to assess the availability of water resources in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) As per the assessment made by the Central Water Commission in 1993, the average annual flow in the river systems of India is about 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM), of which 1122 BCM is utilizable comprising of about 690 BCM as surface water and 432 BCM as replenishable Ground Water.

Reconstruction of Roads in Assam

5399. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the worst condition of roads from Karbala (Goalpara) to Tikrikillah via Khalisharvita, Agita to Medhipathar and Nandanpur to Fakirganj in Assam;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to reconstruct these roads as well as bridges in the Assam; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the

country. The Roads Karbala (Goalpara) to Tikrikillah via Khalisharvita, Agita to Medipathar and Nidanpur to Fakirganj in Assam do not form part of the National Highway network.

Trees on National Highways

5400. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no trees on both sides of the National Highways in the country especially on National Highways No. 1 and 2 starting from Delhi to Karnal and Delhi to Agra side;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to bring the National Highway No. 1 at par with National Highway No. 2?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) By and large there are trees on both sides of the National Highways in the country although number of trees varies from reach to reach. These are relatively less in number in the reaches where four laning work has been completed recently including National Highway-1 and National Highway-2 where 4-laning has been done. More trees are being planted for recouping the same in recently completed four lane sections.

(c) The section of National Highway-2 from Delhi to Agra has recently been developed and shrubs have been grown in the median. However the section of National Highway-1 is at present under development and adequate shrubs will be provided in the median.

Unutilised Rain Water

5401. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of unutilized rain water wasted to the sea every year; and

(b) the action proposed by the Government to attain sustainable development of water resources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) India receives an average annual precipitation of 4000 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which also includes snow-melt. Out of this 3,000 BCM occurs during monsoon. As per the latest assessment of the Central Water Commission in 1993, the average annual flow in the river-systems of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. Water resources development including construction of storages for utilization of water is taken up by

the State Government as per their own priorities. Upto 1995, a live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been created by construction of large dams in the country. Besides, projects to add an additional storage capacity of about 75 BCM are under construction and for 132 BCM are under planning. With the help of these storages and other minor irrigation schemes an irrigation potential of 90 Million hectare (Mha.) has been created upto the end of the Eighth Plan against the ultimate irrigation potential of 139.9 Mha the country.

As a long term measure, for the sustainable development, National Water Development Agency established in 1982 by Ministry of Water Resources have formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development which envisages interlinking between various peninsular rivers and Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins. The Agency has completed pre-feasibility studies of all the 17 water transfer links under the peninsular rivers development component and 14 water transfer links under Himalayan rivers development component. Feasibility studies of 5 water transfer links have also been completed.

For sustainable development of water resources in the country, Government of India is also promoting rain water harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof-top rain water harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development, for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Government and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge. Assistance is also extended to State Governments under Command Area Development Programme for bridging the gap between potential created and utilized. Further, the Government of India has been extending financial assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme since 1996-97 to State Governments to help them complete early the ongoing irrigation projects.

Irrigation Projects in Tamil Nadu

5402. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:

SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of schemes started for completion of irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu particularly in tribal and backward areas during the last three years;

(b) the details of projects sanctioned and the amount allocated to them;

(c) whether these projects are likely to be completed as per schedule; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) The details of 9 numbers approved irrigation schemes being executed under World Bank assisted Water Resources Consolidation Project and 2 numbers unapproved medium

schemes are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Irrigation being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding, execution and maintenance of all types of irrigation projects including flood control and drainage primarily rests with the respective State Government. The completion of the projects depends, *inter-alia*, on the adequacy of the funds to be made available for the projects by the State Government of Tamil Nadu.

Statement

(Rupees in Crore)

S.No.	Name of Project	District Benefited	Drought /Tribal (D/T)	Latest Estimated Cost	Expenditure to end of 12/2000	Command and Area in Ha.	Likely Completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Advinainar Koil	Tirunelveli	D	59.12	28.43	2276	2001-2002
2.	Gridhamal	Virudunagar	D	2.57	2.41	1251	2000-2001
3.	Kodumudiar	Tirunelveli	D	20.29	7.21	2117	2001-2002
4.	Mordhana	Vellore	T	81.87	46.42	2870	2001-2002
5.	Nambiyar	Tirunelveli	D	15.49	11.88	1281	2001-2002
6.	Poigaiyar	Kanyakumari	D	11.38	9.77	488	2000-2001
7.	Rajathopekanar	Vellore	T	2.56	1.92	219	2000-2001
8.	Spothuparai	Madurai	D	30.72	26.97	965	2000-2001
9.	Vadakkupachayar	Tirunelveli	D	39.52	24.62	1780	2001-2002
10.	Irukkangudi	Virudunagar	D	Unapproved	—	—	—
11.	Nanganjiar	Dindigul	—	Unapproved	—	—	—

Modernisation of ATC

5403. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to modernise Air Traffic control (ATC) at major airports of the Country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the modernisation programme is going as per the schedule;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken to complete the modernisation work of ATC in time?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (e) Modernisation of Air Traffic Control (ATC) at major airports of the country is a continuous process which is taken up on the basis of operational requirements. At present, replacement/installation of following equipments have been taken up by the Airports Authority of India for modernisation work at major airports:

(i) Instrument Landing System (ILS) — Agartala, Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bhopal, and Dimapur. (ii) Instrument Landing System co-located with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)—Bhavnagar, Dibrugarh, Jammu, Lilabari, Lucknow and Silchar. (iii) Flight Data Processing System (FDPS) — Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Chennai and Nagpur. (iv) Automatic Message Switching System (AMSS)—Ahmedabad, Allahabad,

Bangalore, Kolkata, Chennai Cochin, Goa, Guwahati, Hyderabad and Lucknow. (v) Doppler Very high frequency Omni Range (DVOR)—Chennai, Dibrugarh, Jammu, Mumbai, Port Blair, Ranchi and Raipur. (vi) Doppler Very high frequency Omni Range co-located with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)—Lilabari. (vii) Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)—Aurangabad, Bhubaneswar Chennai and Dimapur. (viii) Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR)—Varanasi. Other requisite equipments have also been installed wherever necessary.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in Bihar

5404. DR. M.P. JAISWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of irrigation projects of Bihar which have not been completed;

(b) the dates on which these projects were started and the time by which these were likely to be completed;

(c) the reasons for delay in completion thereof; and

(d) the original cost and the actual cost on completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a),(b) and (d) There are 8 Major and 7 Medium Projects in Bihar under construction excluding Bansagar Dam Project in Madhya Pradesh for which only the cost of dam is being shared by Bihar Government. The details of these projects are given in a statement attached herewith.

(c) Since Irrigation is a State subject, the responsibility for planning funding and execution of all types of irrigation projects including flood control and drainage primarily rests with the State Government.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Ongoing Projects	Started in Plan	Estimated cost (Rs. in crore)		Target for completion (IX Plan or Beyond)
			Approved Original	Latest	
A	MAJOR PROJECTS				
1.	Upper Kiul	V	8.07	109.93	IX
2.	Barnar	V	8.03	230.43	Beyond IX
3.	Bateshwarashthan Pump Ph.I	V	13.88	175.85	Beyond IX
4.	Bagmati	V	5.78	154.73	Beyond IX
5.	Durgawati	V	25.30	266.97	IX
6.	Gandak Ph. II	VII	UA	578.27	Beyond IX
7.	Kosi Eastern Canal Ph. II	VII	UA	156.32	Beyond IX
8.	Western Kosi Canal	III	13.49	693.88	Beyond IX
B	MEDIUM PROJECTS				
1.	Bilasi	AP 78-80	1.46	19.61	IX
2.	Bateshwarashthan Pump Ph. II	V	2.97	37.87	Beyond IX
3	Dhakranalla Pump Ph. I	AP 78-80	8.43	173.60	Beyond IX
4.	Dhakranalla Pump Ph. II	VII	4.76	11.48	Beyond IX
5.	Malai	VII		12.08	Beyond IX
6.	Orni	V	2.96	50.12	Beyond IX
7.	Sindhwarni	VI	4.45	34.10	Beyond IX

UA - Unapproved

[English]

Satyam Committee

5405. DR. N. VENKATASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Satyam Committee set up on the functioning of ESI hospitals and dispensaries have made some recommendations for the improvement of hospitals and dispensaries;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the committee;

(c) the details of recommendations implemented so far; and

(d) the number out of them which have not been implemented along with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The recommendations of the Satyam Committee have been referred to the ESI corporation for taking necessary action. The recommendations of the Committee regarding enhancement of ceiling on expenditure on medical care from Rs. 500/- to Rs. 600/- per insured person per annum, issue of photo-identity cards to IPs and family members, creation of medical posts as per the prescribed norms, enhancement of in-house capabilities of ESI hospitals, introduction of a Health Record Booklet for each beneficiary, non-reservation in favour of small scale industries for supply of medicines, multi-level quality control checks, deterrent penal action for supply of sub-standard drugs, purchase of medicines in strip packs, adequate delegation of powers to facilitate local purchase of medicines, uniformity in OPD timings etc. have been accepted and forwarded to the concerned authorities for implementation. Some recommendations like grant of exemption from ESIS on unanimous request of employer and employees, matching contribution from the Central Government etc., involve amendment of the ESI Act and therefore it has not been found feasible to implement such recommendations for the present.

Telephone Connections to Post Offices in Maharashtra

5406. SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone connections to all the post offices in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said facility is likely to be provided in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) A policy decision has been taken to provide telephone connections to all departmental post offices.

(b) 145 departmental post offices in the State of Maharashtra are still to be provided with telephone connections by the Telecom authorities subject to availability of resources.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections in Himachal Pradesh

5407. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Himachal Pradesh at present, district-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections provided during the last three years and till date, district-wise;

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

(d) the number of applications received under discretionary quota in the State during the last three year till date; and

(e) the number of telephone connections provided under the said quota during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) The number of persons on waiting list for telephone connections as on 31-3-2001 in Himachal Pradesh as per the District-wise details given below:

S.No.	District	No. of Person on waiting list (as on 31.3.2001)
1	2	3
1.	Kangra	12897
2.	Chamba	1329
3.	Kullu	1006
4.	Lahaul-Spiti	538
5.	Mandi	4344
6.	Bilaspur	3407
7.	Hamirpur	5164
8.	Una	3973
9.	Shimla	3778

1	2	3
10.	Kinnaur	530
11.	Solan	1979
12.	Sirmaur	1870
Total		40815

(b) The number of telephone connections provided district-wise during last three years is as under:

S.No.	District	No. of Telephone Connections provided during		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
1.	Kangra	9459	13781	13079
2.	Chamba	758	2707	2586
3.	Kullu	2878	2625	3246
4.	Lahaul-Spiti	466	1050	533
5.	Mandi	5207	7069	7455
6.	Bilaspur	2143	3790	3775
7.	Hamirpur	3417	5810	6608
8.	Una	2975	5174	5742
9.	Shimla	7240	7795	8510
10.	Kinnaur	1714	2014	1021
11.	Solan	3795	4497	5876
12.	Sirmaur	3188	3715	3330
Total		43217	60027	61761

(c) The existing waiting list is likely to be cleared by March, 2002 subject to the availability of equipment and other associated material.

(d) The number of applications received under discretionary quota in the state during the last three years is as under.

Year	No. of Applications received
1998-99	244
1999-2000	520
2000-2001	970
Total	1734

(e) The number of telephone connections provided under the said quota:

Year	No. of Telephone Connections Provided
1998-99	244
1999-2000	512
2000-2001	664
Total	1420

Laboratories for Dangerous Organisms

5408. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of laboratories authorised to culture the dangerous organism and undertake research thereon in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the private pharmaceutical companies have also been authorised in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether these laboratories have also been authorised to export and import the micro organisms;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details regarding culture and research on such organisms?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests issued a notification granting recognition to 99 laboratories in the country for allowing the use of pathogenic microorganisms or genetically engineered organisms or cells for research purposes. These laboratories have been notified in accordance with the Rule 7 (2) of the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms promulgated under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The State-wise list of these laboratories is given in the statement attached. Some private pharmaceutical companies have also been included in this list.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do no arise.

Statement

State-wise list of laboratories authorised to use pathogenic microorganisms or genetically engineered organisms or cells for the purposes of research

Name of State	Name of laboratory
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	1. Andhra University, Visakhapatnam.
	2. Bharat Biotech International Ltd Hyderabad.

	1	2		1	2
		3. Brilliant Industries Ltd., Sanathnagar, Hyderabad.	Delhi	1. All India Institute of Medical Science, New Delhi.	
		4. Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.		2. Centre for Biochemical Technology, Mall Road, Near Jubilee Hall, Delhi.	
		5. Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh.		3. Indian Agricultural Research Institute Pusa Road, New Delhi.	
		6. DONO Vaccines and Biologicals Private Ltd., Bagh Amberpet, Hyderabad.		4. International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, P.B. 10504, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New Delhi.	
		7. Directorate of Rice Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad.		5. Indian Institute of Technology, Hauz Khas New Delhi.	
		8. Indian Immunologicals, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad.		6. Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.	
		9. International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics, Patancheru, Andhra Pradesh.		7. National Institute of Communicable Disease, 22, Sharnath Marg, P.B. No. 1492, Delhi.	
		10. MAHYCO Research Foundation Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Limited, Kamlapuri Colony, Hyderabad.		8. Ranbaxy, A-2, Phase-I, Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi.	
		11. National Research Centre for Sorghum, Rajendra Nagar, Hyderabad.		9. Tata Energy Research Institute, Darbari Seth Block, Habitat Centre, Lodi Road, New Delhi.	
		12. Osmania University, Centre for Plant Molecular Biology, Deptt. of Genetics, Hyderabad.	Goa	1. Goa University, Goa.	
		13. Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.	Gujarat	1. Amul Research and Development Association, Amul Dairy, Anand, Gujarat.	
		14. Shantha Biotechnics Private Ltd., Banjara Hills, Hyderabad.		2. Cadila Healthcare, 244, Ghodasar Maninagar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.	
		15. Transgene Vaccine Ltd., Hyderabad.		3. Cadila Pharmaceuticals Private Ltd., 244, Ghodasar Maninagar, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.	
		16. University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.		4. Torrent Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Ashram Road, Ahmedabad, Gujarat.	
Assam	1.	Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat.		5. M.S. University of Baroda, Baroda.	
Bihar	1.	Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur.		6. SUN Pharmaceuticals Industries Ltd., Akota, Baroda.	
	2.	Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Patna.			

1	2	1	2
Haryana	1. CCS Haryana Agriculture University, Hissar. 2. Hybrid Rice International Ltd., Gurgaon. 3. National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal.	Kerala	1. Cadbury-Kerala Agriculture University Co-operative Cocoa Research Project, Thrissur, Kerala. 2. Indian Institute of Spices Research, Calicut. 3. The Rubber Research Institute of India, Kottayam.
Himachal Pradesh	1. Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla. 2. Council of Scientific of Industrial Research Complex, Palampur, Himachal Pradesh. 3. Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Department of Biotechnology, Nauni, Solan.	Madhya Pradesh	1. High Security Animal Disease Laboratory, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bhopal.
Karnataka	1. Centre Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore. 2. Tissue Culture Division and Biotechnology Centre, Mysore, Bangalore. 3. Indo-America Hybrid Seeds, Bangalore. 4. Indian Institute of Horticulture Research, Bangalore 5. Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. 6. Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, Bangalore. 7. The Kasturba Gandhi Medical College, Manipal. 8. National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore. 9. RALLIS India Ltd. Agrochemical Research Station, Bangalore. 10. Syngene International Private Ltd., Hebbagodi, Bangalore. 11. University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad. 12. Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Hebbal.	Maharashtra	1. Ankur Seeds Private Ltd., Nagpur, Maharashtra. 2. Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, Mumbai. 3. Bombay Veterinary College, Mumbai. 4. Cancer Research Institute, Tata Memorial Centre, Parel, Mumbai. 5. FDC Ltd., Jogeshwari (W), Mumbai. 6. Hoechst Schering Agro Evo Limited, Andheri (E), Mumbai. 7. Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd., Mumbai. 8. Agarkar Research Institute, Pune. 9. National Centre for Cell Science, Ganeshkhind, Pune. 10. Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. 11. USV Ltd., Mumbai. 12. Wockhardt Research Centre, Aurangabad. 13. National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur.
		Orissa	1. Central Rice Institute, Cuttack. 2. Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar.

1	2	1	2
Pondicherry	1. Vector Control Research Centre, Indira Nagar.	7. Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow.	
Punjab	2. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Mohali.	8. Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izzatnagar.	
	3. Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.	9. National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow.	
Rajasthan	1. University of Rajasthan, Jaipur.	West Bengal	1. Calcutta University, Calcutta.
Tamil Nadu	1. Anna University, Centre for Biotechnology, Chennai.	2. East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., Calcutta.	
	2. Entomology Research Institute, Chennai.	3. Jadavpur University, Calcutta.	
	3. Madurai Kamraj University, Madurai.	4. Tata Tea Limited, Calcutta.	
	4. Rasi Seeds Company Ltd., Attur, Salem Dist.	5. Indian Institute of Chemical Biology, Calcutta.	
	5. SPIC Science Foundation, Guindy Chennai.		
	6. Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Madhavaram, Chennai.		
	7. Sugarcane Breeding Research Institute, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.		
	8. Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.		
	9. University of Madras, Taramani, Chennai.		
Uttar Pradesh	1. Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.		
	2. Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow.		
	3. Central Institute of Medical and Aromatic Plants, Lucknow.		
	4. Central Jalma Institute for Leprosy, Agra.		
	5. Dabur Research Foundation, Ghaziabad		
	6. G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pant Nagar.		

[English]

Afro-Asian Games

5409. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to hold first afro-Asian Games at New Delhi in November, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether special financial allocation has been made for this purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of other steps proposed to be taken for smooth organisation of the games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Games were to be held in November, 2001 at New Delhi in eight disciplines by inviting qualified teams from Asian and African countries.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has made special financial allocation of Rs. 20.00 crores for the conduct of the Games in the current financial year. For upgradation of infrastructure, Government provided sufficient funds during the last financial year to SAI from the allocated budget. SAI, will be provided further funds for the purpose of upgradation of infrastructure during the current financial year, if required.

(e) The Government has initiated action for upgradation of infrastructure and smooth conduct of games. A

Steering Committee for infrastructure has been notified. The constitution of the Organizing Committee for conduct of the games has also been under discussion with the IOA. However, keeping in view the current status for holding the 1st Afro Asian Games, Government has decided that it would be appropriate to defer the Games. Indian Olympic Association has accordingly been advised to suggest new dates for holding the Games.

[Translation]

Irrigation Schemes

5410. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of irrigation schemes to augment the irrigation capacity alongwith the externally aided schemes of different States lying pending with the Union Government for clearance;

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

(c) the reasons for delay in according approval to these schemes;

(d) the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded to these schemes;

(e) the number of projects/schemes under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit programme (AIBP) likely to be given approval during the current year alongwith the time by which a

final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(f) the funds likely to be made available to different States particularly Madhya Pradesh under AIBP during the current year indicating the time by which the funds are likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) the details of 32 (17 major and 15 medium) Extension, Renovation and Modernisation schemes to augment the irrigation capacity received in the Central Water Commission from different State Governments is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) Irrigation being a state subject, the primary responsibility of planning, funding, execution and maintaining all types of irrigation projects including flood control and drainage primarily rests with the respective State Government. Clearance of irrigation projects depends, *inter-alia* on the promptness with which State Government responds to the comments of the appraising agencies.

(e) and (f) The allocations under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) are made on year to year basis for those ongoing irrigation projects which satisfy the AIBP criteria and are proposed by the State, subject to availability of funds and the budget outlays provided by the State for these projects in their respective annual plans and keeping in view State ceiling of Central Loan Assistance prescribed by Planning Commission for the year.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Project	State	Major/ Medium	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Krishna Delta System Modernisation (ERM)	Andhra Pradesh	Major	659.16	B
2.	Modernisation of Machchu-I (ERM)	Gujarat	Major	8.12	B
3.	Modernisation of New Pratap Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	18.42	A
4.	Modernisation of Dadi Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	10.91	A
5.	Modernisation of Nandi Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	6.61	A
6.	Modernisation of Lar Canal (Pulwama) (ERM)	J&K	Medium	37.05	A

233	Written Answers	VAISAKHA 3, 1923 (Saka)			To Questions	234
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7.	Modernisation of Ahji Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	7.96	A	
8.	Modernisation of Lar Canal (Budgam) (ERM)	J&K	Medium	6.63	A	
9.	Modernisation of Sonaman Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	4.58	A	
10.	Modernisation of Mavahual (ERM)	J&K	Medium	7.00	A	
11.	Modernisation of Martand Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	17.72	A	
12.	Remodernisation of Dab Canal Ganderbal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	5.40	A	
13.	Modernisation of Babul Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	4.77	A	
14.	Modernisation of Kathua Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	15.68	B	
15.	Modernisation of Zaingir Canal (ERM)	J&K	Medium	13.66	B	
16.	Imp. Taladanda main Canal and distributory No. 12 (ERM)	Orissa	Major	57.06	A	
17.	Upper Indravati Extn. Project (ERM)	Orissa	Major	136.67	B	
18.	Upper Koab Extn. Project (ERM)	Orissa	Major	71.66	B	
19.	Imp. To Sason Canal System of Hirakund Distributory System (ERM)	Orissa	Major	34.92	B	
20.	Imp. Salki Irrigation Project (ERM)	Orissa	Major	10.80	B	
21.	Modernisation and Extension of Badshahi Canal (ERM)	Punjab	Medium	11.77	A	
22.	Punjab Irrigation project (Lining of channels) under RIDF fund (ERM)	Punjab	Medium	49.02	A	
23.	Raising lining of Bhakra Main Canal (ERM)	Punjab	Major	20.46	B	
24.	Kandi Canal Extn. from Hoshlarpur to Balachaur (ERM)	Punjab	Major	147.12	B	

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	Indira Gandhi Nahar Stage-I (ERM)	Rajasthan	Major	121.92	B
26.	Rajasthan Water Sector Restructuring Project (ERM)	Rajasthan	Major	733.60	B
27.	Mod. of Cauvery Delta Phase-I (ERM)	Tamil Nadu	Major	78.80	B
28.	Increasing Capacity of Bhupali Pump Canal (ERM)	Uttar Pradesh	Major	64.86	A
29.	Raising of Meja Dam (ERM)	Uttar Pradesh	Major	65.00	B
30.	Lining of Channel in Bundelkhand (ERM)	Uttar Pradesh	Major	57.37	B
31.	Mod. of Agra Canal (ERM)	Uttar Pradesh	Major	74.16	B
32.	Mod. of Kangsabati Res. (Phase-I) (ERM)	West Bengal	Major	471.90	A

Status

(A) Under correspondence.

(B) Put up to Advisory Committee and accepted subject to observations.

*[English]***Study on Water Management**

5411. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study on the water management in the country to combat the mismanagement of available water resources; and

(b) the details of the available water for irrigational purposes at present, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The water made available through major, medium and minor irrigation projects has created irrigation potential approximately of 94.73 m. ha. Upto the end of 1999-2000. The State-wise details are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

State-wise Irrigation Potential Created upto 1999-2000

(In thousand hectares)

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Irrigation Potential created upto the end of 1999-2000 (Provisional)		
		Major & Medium Projects	Minor Irrigation Projects	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	3389.20	3045.87	6435.07
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	93.49	93.49
3.	Assam	202.19	600.18	802.37
4.	Bihar	2887.39	5236.76	8124.15
5.	Goa	17.43	21.20	38.63
6.	Gujarat	1398.22	1973.61	3371.83
7.	Haryana	2090.94	1608.84	3699.78
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.15	156.50	167.65
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	176.69	378.85	555.54
10.	Karnataka	1846.63	1570.90	3417.53
11.	Kerala	589.54	623.96	1213.50
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2398.30	2696.92	5095.22
13.	Maharashtra	2851.00	2858.20	5709.20
14.	Manipur	80.00	70.39	150.39
15.	Meghalaya	0.00	51.79	51.79
16.	Mizoram	0.00	14.69	14.69
17.	Nagaland	0.00	72.75	72.75
18.	Orissa	1695.22	1431.48	3126.48
19.	Punjab	2532.25	3398.86	5931.11
20.	Rajasthan	2363.28	2438.59	4801.87
21.	Sikkim	0.00	28.66	28.66

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Tamil Nadu	1549.31	2119.73	3669.04
23.	Tripura	4.35	105.73	110.08
24.	Uttar Pradesh	7670.00	25095.05	32765.05
25.	West Bengal	1575.49	3567.37	5142.86
Total States		35328.58	59260.37	94588.95
Total UTs		21.61	118.72	140.33
Grand Total		35350.19	59379.09	94729.28

Development of Road as Mechanised Technology

5412. SHRI SAIDUZZAMMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Indian conditions tarred roads have a rather limited life-span and generally work out to be a poor investment as compared to cement concrete roads existing in some parts of India and in affluent countries like USA;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to develop the mechanised technology for road building as USA has developed which is very efficient and speedy with some one mile construction in 8 hours shift;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Cement Concrete roads and bituminous roads both have relative advantages and disadvantages. The life cycle cost of a cement concrete road is generally lesser than that of bituminous road. Bituminous roads

have the advantage of stage construction and hence lesser initial cost.

(c) to (e) Mechanised construction is being encouraged in road building.

Development of National Highways

5413. SHRI MANSINH PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the development of National Highways during the Ninth Five Year Plan together with shortfall;

(b) the prospective plan for its development during the plan;

(c) whether such projects are being discriminated against vis-a-vis other infrastructure projects on account of 10% charge being levied on the gross receipts collected by BOT (Built, Operate and Transport) operators so as to strengthen the financial base of the National Highways Authority; and

(d) the names of private parties allowed to undertake the construction work on the National Highways as envisaged by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) A Statement-I giving details of the targets fixed for the development of National Highways during the 9th Five Year Plan is attached.

(b) Development works costing about Rs. 3,000 crore have already been sanctioned during first four years of Ninth Plan and it is proposed to sanction the works amounting to about Rs. 3,051 crore during 2001-2002.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) A Statement-II giving names of projects given under scheme of Built, Operate and Transfer as also names of private parties is attached.

Statement-I

Physical targets/achievements for the Ninth Five Year Plan of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for projects on National Highways

S. No.	Scheme	Unit	Ninth Plan Target (1997-2002) Km/ Nos as Plan document	Performance for period (1997-2001) of the Ninth Plan		Achievement of the targets for first four years of Ninth Plan (%age-wise)	Shortfall in achieving the targets for first four years of Ninth Plan (%age-wise)	Target 2001-2002
				Target	Achievement			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Widening to two lanes	Km	1194	1293	1261	98	2	452

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2.	Widening to four lanes	Km	202	215	337	157	0	51
3.	Strengthening weak 2 lanes	Km	2908	2554	2579	101	0	370
4.	Bypasses	No.	20	28	6	21	79	7
5.	Major Bridges	No.	40	84	49	58	42	27
6.	Minor Bridges including ROB's	No.	226	281	232	83	17	67
7.	Four laning under NHDP			454	375			410

* Achievement for the year 2000-2001 is upto Feb. 2001.

In addition to above, riding quality of 2434 Km have been improved during 1999-2000 and about 6000 Km during 2000-2001.

Statement-II

S. No.	Project Name	NH No.	State	Contractor
1	2	4	5	6
1.	Thane-Bhiwandi Bypass	3 & 4	Maharashtra	Ideal Road Builders, Mumbai
2.	Chalthan ROB	8	Gujarat	M/s Ashvika Construction Co. Pvt. Ltd. Vadodara
3.	Udaipur Bypass	8	Rajasthan	M/s ATLANTA Construction Company (I) Ltd. Mumbai
4.	Construction of six Bridges	5	Andhra Pradesh	PVR Industries, Hyderabad
5.	Coimbatore Bypass	47	Tamil Nadu	L&T Ltd, Chennai
6.	Durg Bypass	6	Madhya Pradesh	M/S Sancheti Ltd. Nagpur
7.	Narmada Bridge	8	Gujarat	L&T Ltd. Chennai
8.	Nardhana ROB	3	Maharashtra	M/S Ayushajay Construction Pvt. Ltd., Indore
9.	Patalganga Bridge & ROB	17	Maharashtra	Ideal Road Builders Mumbai
10.	Hubli-Dharwar Bypass	4	Karnataka	Nandi Highways Developers Ltd. Pune
11.	Nellore Bypass	5	Andhra Pradesh	United Infrastructure Resource Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai
12.	Koratalaiyar Bridge	5	Tamil Nadu	M/S Zoom Developers Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai
13.	Kambatki Ghat Tunnel & Road	4	Maharashtra	Ideal Road Builders, Mumbai
14.	Nasirabad ROB	6	Maharashtra	Ashoka Buildcon Pvt. Ltd, Nasik
15.	Wainganga Bridge	6	Maharashtra	Ashoka Buildcon Pvt. Ltd, Nasik
16.	Mahi Bridge	8	Gujarat	M/s Vijay M. Mistry and Raj Kamal Builders Ahemadabad
17.	ROB at Kishangarh Bypass	8	Rajasthan	MSK Projects (India) Ltd. Vadodara

1	2	4	5	6
18.	Bridge Across River Watrak	8	Gujarat	L&T Ltd. Chennai
19.	Moradabad Bypass	24	Uttar Pradesh	SPV* with NHAI
20.	ROB at Dera Bassi	22	Punjab	M/s R.S. Builders, Ludhiana, Punjab

*SPV Special Purpose Vehicle.

Telecom Dispute Settlement Appellate Tribunal

5414. DR. V. SAROJA:

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) in all the States particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have set up these TDSATs with the intention of quick and efficient redressal of mechanism for the telecom sector as reported in the "Times of India" dated March 21, 2001;

(d) if so, whether TDSATs, have been successful to settle the cases;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. In exercise of the powers conferred by section 14 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997), the Central Government had established the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal vide notification dated 29th May, 2000. In terms of Section 14B (3) of the Act, the jurisdiction of the Appellate Tribunal may be exercised by the Benches thereof to be constituted by the Chairperson of the Tribunal. The Benches of the Appellate Tribunal shall ordinarily sit at New Delhi and such other places as the Central Government may, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal, notify. At present the Appellate Tribunal is functioning at New Delhi.

(c) The dispute settlement function was, *inter alia*, strengthened as part of the amendments carried out last year to the TRAI Act. Accordingly, as per sections 14(a) and (b) of the TRAI Act, 1997, the Telecom Disputes Settlement and

Appellate Tribunal has been established to adjudicate any dispute between a licensor and a licensee, between two or more service providers, between a service provider and group of consumers, and to hear and dispose of appeals against any direction, decision or order of TRAI.

(d) to (f) After the establishment of the Appellate Tribunal, it has received six petitions and six appeals, and has started hearing of cases. In a few cases, interim orders have also been passed. Besides these, the Appellate Tribunal has also received sixteen petitions transferred from TRAI under Section 14M of the TRAI Act.

[Translation]

Recognition to National Sports Associations

5415. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed for the recognition of National Sports Associations;

(b) the number of sports associations recognised till 1990-2000;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to the corruption in issuing the grants to the sports associations in the year 1999-2001;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have investigated into the matter; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN):

(a) Guidelines for granting recognition to National Sports Federation as provided in the Scheme for Assistance to National Sports Federations are given in the statement.

(b) Till 1999-2000, 61 Sports Federations have been recognised.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. Government have received pseudonymous complaints alleging release of grant-in-aid to

various newly recognised National Sports Federations in violation of guidelines. This matter was examined in depth and it was found that there were some contradictions in the provisions of the Guidelines—"Assistance to National Sports Federations", which governs the financial assistance to National Sports Federations. It was due to this that confusion arose in payment to newly recognised federations. However, there was no wilful or deliberate flouting or malafide on the part of any official. After examining the matter it has been felt that the Scheme needs to be suitably amended so that in future there is clarity in interpreting the Scheme and newly recognised National Sports Federations can avail of grant-in-aid from Government immediately after recognition.

Statement

Guidelines for Recognition of National Sports Federations

1. Introduction

- 1.1 It has always been the policy of Government of India to support and encourage the voluntary organisations for development of games and sports in the country.
- 1.2 Over the years, a flexible and federal structure of autonomous sports bodies has already emerged for several sports disciplines.
- 1.3 Generally, the voluntary sports body at National level (hereinafter referred to as Federation has a corresponding State/UT level body affiliated to it which in turn, has affiliated District level/local level voluntary sports bodies.
- 1.4 Several National level Federations have already been recognised by the Union Government for the development of a particular sport in each case. They are also being assisted financially and otherwise.
- 1.5 Informally, the criteria for recognition of such Federations were based on experience gained in the process over a period of time.
- 1.6 The present Guidelines are being issued, with a view to codify the requirements for granting recognition at the discretion of the Government to National level Federation.

2. Nomenclature and Meaning :

- 2.1 The Guidelines shall be called, "The Guidelines for Recognition of National Sports Federations."
- 2.2 Recognition shall mean recognition of the

leadership of the Federation in the development of a particular sport in the country.

3 Eligibility:

- 3.1 The Federation should have a legal status as a voluntary registered body, not being a proprietary concern or partnership firm and should exist and function for the sole purpose of the development of that discipline of sports whose name it bears.
- 3.2 The Federation should have an exhaustive written Constitution in unambiguous terms providing for its efficient functioning, in particular, election of office bearers, truly representative character of the General Body, protection of the interest of players, promotion of the Game, maintenance and audit of accounts, moving of no confidence resolutions etc.
- 3.3 The Federation must have actively existed for more than three years on the date of application for recognition. Its various business meetings, as required under its Constitution, should have been duly held.
- 3.4 At the time of applying for recognition, the Federation/Association should have affiliated Units in atleast 2/3rd of total States/UTs of India.
- 3.5 Tenure of the Office-bearers: The tenure of office-bearers shall be in accordance with the Government Orders issued under letter No. 11-4/74-SP.I dated 20th September, 1975. As per above Orders, office-bearers of NSFs may hold office for one term of four years and may be eligible for re-election for a like term or period provided the office bearers have secured not less than 2/3 votes of the members. However, no such office-bearers shall hold office consecutively for more than two terms or eight years.
- 3.6 No office bearer of a National Federation shall office simultaneously, in any other National Federation, excepting the Indian Olympic Association.
- 3.7 The Federation should have the accepted mercantile system of accounting. The accounts should be maintained properly and audited annually by registered Chartered Accountants.
- 3.8 The Federation should have held, unless exempted for technical reasons, annual National Championships for specified age-group at the

- Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior levels, consecutively for the three years preceding the year in which recognition is sought. These competitions should be organised through Inter-District Competitions in each State/UT.
- 3.9 The membership of the Federation should be confined to the corresponding State/UT and other special units affiliated (like Sports Control Boards etc.) and where Federation grant membership to individual clubs or individual persons, such membership does not confer on such members the right to vote in any of the Federation's meetings.
- 3.10 At the National level, there will be only one recognised federation for each discipline of sport. Only the duly recognised National Sports Federation would be entitled to financial grants as admissible. Only one State/UT Association from each State/UT shall be admitted as a member of the Federation, provided it has a minimum of 50% of the district level Associations affiliated to it. Any organisation of an all India standing and connected with the sport may be given the status as that of a State or that of a U.T. and admitted as affiliated Member. Other categories of membership may also be given but while each affiliated State/UT Unit shall have a right to cast vote in the General Body Meetings, no other class of Member(s) shall have any right to vote, in the Federation's meetings. While granting recognition/affiliation to a State/UT Association, the National Federation should take into consideration the representative character of the State/UT Association so as to ensure that only truly representative body of the game gets the recognition/affiliation.
- 3.11 Federations are required to have the headquarters of the paid Joint Secretary/Assistant Secretary at Delhi, to avail themselves of the reimbursement of his salary/allowances. For this purpose, the Federation should have a proper office at Delhi.
- 3.12 There would be only one recognised Federation for each discipline of sport, irrespective of the fact that the particular sport caters to youngsters, men, women or veterans. However, this condition shall not apply to Federations already recognised by the Department.
- 3.13 The Federations are required to intimate Government well in advance about its General Body Meeting and other Meetings where election of office bearers and other important decisions are to be taken. Wherever considered necessary, the Government will have the right to send its observer to the above meetings.
- 3.14 The Federation shall update their accounts immediately after completion of the financial year and bring out annual report covering salient features of their activities during the year. The Federation shall appoint a practicing Chartered Accountant to audit their accounts. The records and accounts of the Federation will be accessible to the Government and these shall have to be produced as and when asked to do so.
- 3.15 Where an international federation for the sports exists, the National Federation must be affiliated to the respective international federation.
- 3.16 Wherever the National Federation is affiliated to an international federation, it must provide the Department with an attestation from the international federation certifying that the National Federation is a member in good standing.
- 3.17 The Federation must be autonomous and resist all pressures of any kind, whatsoever, whether of a political, religious, racial or economic nature.
- 3.18 The federation must hold a General Body Meeting at least once in a year and a special meeting convened over four years (or earlier as required under the tenure of office bearers) to elect the members of the Executive Body including the President, Secretary etc.
- 3.19 The State level associations which are affiliated to the National Federation should in turn have a minimum number of affiliated district-level associations (say 50% of the districts in the State.)
- 3.20 Inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit as members of the respective sports federations on a tenure basis. The strength of such prominent sportspersons with voting rights should be a certain minimum percentage (say 25%) of the total members representing the federation and selection of such sportspersons should be in consultation with this Department.

4. Application:

- 4.1 The Application for recognition should be submitted in duplicate in the prescribed Proforma to the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India. All the columns of application should be filled up in all respects. Attested/true copies of all the required documents must be enclosed.
- 4.2 All other material information relevant to the issue of recognition should be submitted alongwith the Application. Nothing should be concealed which, if revealed later, would render the Federation liable for cancellation or withdrawal of its recognition.

5. Granting of Recognition:

- 5.1 Recognition of a federation shall not be a matter of right and shall be purely at the discretion of the Govt. of India who may grant recognition subject to such terms and conditions as it deems fit.

6. General:

- 6.1 All correspondence shall be made at the address of the Federation, as mentioned in the Application. Any change of address shall be promptly notified in writing to the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.
- 6.2 The Federation shall abide by all the Guidelines of the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, as issued from time to time.

[English]

Utilisation of Air Traffic Rights by Air India

5416. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Air India is not able to utilise half of its air traffic rights;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have taken any action to enable Air India to utilise its full traffic rights; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (d) International Air Services to/from India are governed by Air Services Agreements (ASAs) which are concluded bilaterally with various countries based on the principle of reciprocity and fair and equal opportunity. These

ASAs, *inter-alia*, specify the frequencies/capacity that can be operated by the designated airlines of the two sides. At present, the Indian Carriers are utilising 39% of our capacity entitlements available under the various ASAs, with Air India's utilisation being 26% and Indian Airlines's 13%. Apart from the capacity constraints being faced by Air India, the level of utilisation of entitlements by AI is influenced by two factors viz (i) the Quantum of 3rd/4th freedom traffic to support the utilisation of entitlements; and (ii) Profitability of AI's operations on the concerned route. Due to a limited fleet, Air India has not been able to optimally utilise all the traffic rights. In order to augment its fleet, Air India has already taken two aircraft on dry lease from Singapore Airlines and has also signed lease agreement with GECAS for two more aircraft which are expected to be delivered in the month of May, 2001.

Laying of Optical Fibre Cables

5417. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had decided to lay Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) for about 375 Km route in Barmer district during 2000-2001;
- (b) if so, whether only 125 Km route has been covered till date;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to complete the work within the time frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 146 Km. of Of. cable has been laid and out of which 113 route km. optical fibre cable has been made operational during the year 2000-2001.

(c) and (d) There was shortage of optical fibre cable due to non-acceptance of tendered prices by various vendors against 24F/12F optical fibre cable tendered during 2000-2001. Fresh global tenders and local tenders have been called to procure additional cable required so that the requirement of circles could be met.

Strikes and Lock-Outs During 1999

5418. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been increase in the number of strikes and lock-outs during 1999;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the mandays lost on accounts of

strikes and lock-outs in 1999 as compared to figurs for the year 1998?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) According to provisional information compiled by Labour Bureau, the number of strikes and lockouts registered a decline from 1097 in 1998 to 927 in 1999. Mandays lost due to strikes and lockouts, however, increased from 22.06 million in 1998 to 26.79 million in 1999. Increase in mandays lost due to strikes was mainly on account of personnel matters whereas increase in mandays lost due to lockouts was because of indiscipline and violence.

[Translation]

Foreign Assistance for National Highways

5419. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foreign assistance is being sought for construction of National Highways;

(b) If so, the names of the National Highways and the foreign countries/institutions from which assistance is being

sought alongwith the extent thereof;

(c) the date on which this assistance was obtained and the percentage of work completed so far, National Highways-wise;

(d) whether the construction work on certain high-ways is progressing behind the schedule;

(e) whether the Government have held any officer responsible in this regard; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details are given in the statement attached.

(d) There have been some delays in activitiles like cutting of trees, shifting of utilities, payment problems by State Governments and slow progress by Contractors.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl.No.	Lending Agency	Loan Signing Date	Loan Amount	National Highways No.	Progress
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	World Bank (Second Package)	June 1992	US\$ 306 Million	1 (Punjab/Haryana) 2 (West Bengal) 3 (Madhya Pradesh) 5 (Orissa) 8 (Maharashtra)	All the works are nearing completion.
2.	World Bank (Third Package)	August 2000	US\$ 516 Million	2 (U.P., Bihar, Jharkhand)	Recently awarded.
3.	ADB	March, 1995	US\$ 245.0 Million	2 (Bihar) 2 (West Bengal) 5 (Andhra Pradesh) 8 (Haryana/Rajasthan) 9 (Andhra Pradesh)	85% 80% 53.3% 99.7% 97.4%
4.	ADB	October, 2000	US\$ 180.0 Million	8 (Maharashtra/Gujarat)	Recently awarded.0
5.	JBIC	January, 1994	Jap. Yen 10037 Million	27 (U.P.)	3%
6.	JBIC	January, 1994	Jap. Yen 11360 Million	5 (Andhra Pradesh)	47%

1	2	3	4	5	6
7.	JBIC	February, 1995	Jap. Yen 5836 Million	5 (Orissa)	8%
8.	JBIC	February, 1995	Jap. Yen 4827 Million	24 (U.P.)	48%

ADB - Asian Development Bank.

JBIC - Japan Bank for International Cooperation.

Wastage of River Water

5420. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of river water usable for irrigation goes waste in the country and the river water that flows to Pakistan;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government for optimum use of river water for irrigation in the country during the last three years; and

(c) the details of further steps proposed for the same during 2001-2002 and 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) India receives an average annual precipitation of 4000 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) which also includes snow-melt. Out of this, 3000 BCM occurs during monsoon. As per the latest assessment of the Central Water Commission 1993, the average annual flow in the river systems of the country is assessed at 1869 BCM. Out of this the utilisable surface water is assessed at 690 BCM. The annual replenishable ground water resources is about 432 BCM. In addition, about 200 to 250 BCM can be utilized through interbasin water transfer from the surplus river basins to the deficit river basins. As per the Indus Waters Treaty, the entire waters of Ravi, Beas and Sutlej rivers are utilizable by India except for national use by Pakistan and the entire waters of Indus, Jhelum and Chenab rivers are utilizable by Pakistan except for some used by India. The annual outflows into Pakistan through Sutlej are ranging from 1.33 BCM to 10.28 BCM (average of about 5.43 BCM) as observed at Ferozepur and though Ravi are ranging from 0.007 BCM to 4.10 BCM (average of about 1.97 BCM) as observed at Madhopur.

(b) Water resources development, implementation and funding for irrigation purposes is taken up by the State Governments from their own resources as per their priorities. During the last three years, additional irrigation potential to the tune of 5.17 million hectare has been created in the country. For optimum use of river water for irrigation in the country, the main thrust of the Government of India in the last three years

has been on expeditious completion of on-going Irrigation projects. Under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) launched in 1996-97 with a view to complete on-going irrigation projects in time-bound manner, so that their benefits could be accrued at the earliest, Central Loan Assistance (CLA) to the State Governments have been provided in the last five years amounting to Rs. 5878.048 crore. Additional irrigation potential of 786.375 thousand hectare has been created upto the end of 1999-2000.

(c) Besides taking policy and programme initiatives towards long term action, steps contemplated/proposed by the Government of India for implementation in the coming years are restoration and rehabilitation of old tanks/minor irrigation systems through participatory approach; rationalization of water charges; formation of Water Users' Association and empowering them for collection of water charges and maintenance of water works; providing financial assistance for operation and maintenance of created irrigation and water supply facilities; bridging the gap between potential created and utilized through assistance to State Governments under Command Area Development Programme; regulating ground water extraction and implementation of schemes for 'Artificial recharge of Ground Water'; promotion of the micro systems for water harvesting through the traditional and the modern methods; popularizing 'Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting' technology; promoting methods of conservation of water through re-cycling and re-use; improving water quality in rivers and other water bodies; strengthening measures/programmes for minimizing soil erosions, deforestation, flood proofing, siltation in river beds, etc.

Ultra-Low-Sulphur Diesel

5421. DR. LAXMI NARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ultra-low-sulphur diesel is more suitable than C.N.G. in place of petrol and diesel as fuel for vehicles; and

(b) if so, the details of availability of ultra-low-sulphur diesel in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Suitability of any auto fuel like petrol, diesel, CNG depends on various factors like type of vehicle, its engine technology and design, maintenance requirement, performance, reliability, costs, local conditions, etc. At present, diesel with sulphur levels of 500 parts per million (ppm) maximum is available in Delhi and Mumbai. It will be available in Kolkata and Chennai from 1.7.2001.

[English]

**Amendment to Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
for CNG Run Buses**

5422. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating a proposal to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to bring the buses running on Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) under the ambit of the STA permit conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the amendment is likely to be finalised; and

(d) the details of directives issued by the Supreme Court with regard to the running of CNG operated buses in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amendment seeks to authorise State Transport Authorities to issue route permits and fix fares in respect of buses running on CNG mode.

(c) The necessary Bill for the said purpose has already been referred to the Parliament for consideration and passage.

(d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 26.3.01 has granted limited extension of the deadline in certain specified cases till 30.9.2001 to such buses and autos which carry a permit or authorization signed by Principal Secretary, Transport, Delhi Administration. Such relaxation is to apply only to those cases where a firm order for conversion to CNG/other clean fuel mode has been placed and affidavit to that effect filed before the Supreme Court on or before 31.3.2001.

Domestic Internet Exchanges

5423. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Domestic Internet Exchanges established/being established in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase their speed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) is already serving as internet exchange point for smooth flow of internet traffic in country. VSNL has set up robust domestic backbone by employing synchronous Transport Module (STM-1) transmission links (155 Mbps) to inter link its various Gateways at New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Bangalore, Ernakulam etc. VSNL is continuously gearing itself to upgrade its domestic backbone to improve the speed of internet exchange in India. To achieve this objective, VSNL has increased its total domestic backbone capacity/speed from 209.1 Mbps as of 31st March 2000 to 1055.1 Mbps as of 31st March 2001.

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) is in process of establishing National Internet Backbone (NIB) for carriage of internet traffic. It aims at providing easy interconnect point to the Internet Service Providers (ISPs) besides establishing Points of Presence (POPs) for BSNL as an Internet Service Provider. The National Internet Backbone (NIB) can serve as an Internet Exchange Point for all ISPs connecting on the NIB. The backbone presently has a capacity of 8 Mbps and will go up to 155 Mbps progressively. Initially 34 Mbps connectivity has been provided to the International Gateways at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Bangalore and Pune.

As per Internet Service Providers Association of India, there is an ongoing programme to develop and promote neutral facilities for internet exchange wherein various ISPs can inter-connect with one another depending on mutual understanding, thus, ensuring the best routing of domestic traffic and save on precious international bandwidth.

Tendu Leaf Workers

5424. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations from tendu leaf workers in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Projects for Development of Civil Aviation in Uttar Pradesh

5425. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects approved for the development of civil aviation in Uttar Pradesh during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the names of the projects on which work has been started and whether work on these projects is going on as per the schedule; and

(c) if not, the steps taken and proposed to be taken to complete these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) During the 9th Five Year Plan, the following projects for development of Civil Aviation have been approved in U.P. : At Lucknow Airport: (i) Expansion of apron and resurfacing of Taxi Track has been taken up and is likely to be completed by June, 2001, (ii) Construction of boundary wall around the newly acquired land is in progress and is likely to be completed by May, 2001. (iii) Construction of new Technical cum Control Tower is at a preliminary stage. (iv) Extension of runway to 9000 ft. for operation of AB-300 class of aircraft is likely to be awarded by June, 2001. At Varanasi Airport: (i) Special repairs to Runway 09 is in progress and is likely to be completed by May, 2001, (ii) Construction of boundary wall around the newly acquired land has been awarded and is likely to be completed by July, 2001. (iii) Extension of runway to 9000 ft. for operation of AB-300 class of aircraft and strengthening of

existing runway, provision of shoulders, construction of new Terminal Building to handle domestic and international flights are at a preliminary stage.

[English]

Utilization of Funds for Development of Environment and Forests

5426. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:

SHRI RAMANAND SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to the various States for the development of environment and forests during each of the last five years and current year, State-wise;

(b) whether some of the State Governments have not fully utilised the funds allocated for the purpose;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and to provide pollution free environment?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The funds allocated to the various States for the development of environment and forests during each of the last five years, State-wise are given in the Statement. Allocation of funds during current year for the States is yet to be made.

(b) to (d) Funds are released to State Governments after details of expenditure are received. The funds so allocated do take into account the requirements for mitigating pollution.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Scheme	States	Funds Allocation/Released				
		1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Modern Forest Fire Control Methods	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	14.16	16.00	20.00	
	Arunachal Pradesh					22.35
	Assam					15.50
	Bihar			28.35	10.41	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Chhatisgarh					44.00
	Goa					15.00
	Gujarat	15.73	23.73	39.06	18.00	26.28
	Haryana					11.67
	Himachal Pradesh		19.75	17.37	31.38	31.97
	Jammu and Kashmir					32.70
	Jharkhand					42.15
	Karnataka	6.48	23.41	39.00	34.04	33.55
	Kerala	10.05	21.22	22.49	25.52	15.30
	Madhya Pradesh	43.40	11.58	22.81	20.97	41.75
	Maharashtra			8.97	10.00	191.29
	Manipur					34.00
	Meghalaya					23.89
	Mizoram					24.60
	Orissa	31.89		23.42	20.40	9.10
	Rajasthan					22.68
	Sikkim					25.00
	Tamil Nadu			15.60	25.80	8.85
	Tripura					32.40
	Uttar Pradesh	18.01	37.11	36.82	20.00	6.40
	Uttanchal					56.40
	West Bengal					34.85
Association of Scheduled Tribes and Rural Poor in Regeneration of Degraded Forests on Usufructs Sharing Basis	Andhra Pradesh	10.01		6.55	19.66	21.76
	Arunachal Pradesh				8.18	22.81
	Bihaar	29.44	34.09	32.86		19.52
	Gujarat	7.81		14.04	15.00	32.76
	Jammu and Kashmir			12.17	16.00	47.08
	Karnataka	11.41	5.70	18.72	38.72	25.00
	Madhya Pradesh	71.83	47.40	48.01	50.00	70.00
	Maharashtra	45.32		5.00	37.94	20.10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Manipur			9.36	26.33	25.00
	Mizoram			6.55	18.02	19.98
	Nagaland			6.00		9.80
	Rajasthan	1.40		15.91	32.06	25.00
	Tripura			4.55	8.00	9.25
	West Bengal				7.06	7.61
Conservation and Management of Wetlands	Andhra Pradesh			8.89	23.80	
	Assam					14.80
	Gujarat					7.00
	Himachal Pradesh	12.00	34.80	12.76	46.50	
	Jammu and Kashmir	41.00		45.87		45.50
	Kerala					33.33
	Manipur	110.00	97.65	67.48	97.28	70.00
	Orissa				36.00	55.00
	Punjab	5.40			20.30	70.55
	Rajasthan				36.76	
	Tripura			5.00	15.00	15.00
Project Elephant	Andhra Pradesh	11.20	18.90	30.21	11.86	46.30
	Arunachal Pradesh	36.50	—	10.08	19.30	89.81
	Assam	—	—	29.60	25.15	45.00
	Bihar	—	—	40.00	26.00	-
	Jharkhand	—	—			5.00
	Karnataka	119.82	51.79	40.00	85.00	51.00
	Kerala	71.96	76.87	143.40	63.55	66.05
	Manipur		—			1.00
	Mizoram		—			1.00
	Meghalaya	2.39	12.31		20.68	35.73
	Nagaland	6.08	—	11.00	40.00	35.17
	Orissa	—	48.40		25.00	29.75
	Tamil Nadu	15.00	30.60	69.28	48.21	50.00
	Tripura					2.00
	Uttar Pradesh	84.31	111.95	95.00	155.81	80.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Project Tiger	Uttanchal	—	—			20.00
	West Bengal	62.76	84.72	78.44	76.01	79.04
	Andhra Pradesh	16.87	10.70	18.01	29.04	45.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	20.00	20.00	47.68	30.59	32.61
	Assam	40.43	45.08	35.00	87.29	156.10
	Bihar	88.31	36.75	153.99	165.95	87.08
	Karnataka	45.30	25.00	69.34	167.0P	193.36
	Kerala	32.88	34.95	39.19	43.66	50.00
	Madhya Pradesh	141.57	133.78	225.12	332.16	428.35
	Maharashtra	48.11	60.53	110.74	134.76	141.44
	Meghalaya	—				1.50
	Mizoram	8.36	12.45	9.65	21.43	27.54
	Orissa	28.37	49.30	67.65	84.45	82.46
	Rajasthan	131.27	149.88	472.26	222.59	291.70
	Tamil Nadu	28.80	45.60	32.50	58.78	40.00
	Uttar Pradesh	108.26	125.01	199.75	234.23	181.65
	West Bengal	104.67	58.95	179.98	137.14	98.18
Eco Development Project	Andhra Pradesh	22.03	25.40	40.02	44.53	33.55
	Arunachal Pradesh	2.19	5.00	15.23	13.82	31.83
	Assam	8.80	10.25	42.34	32.00	45.51
	Bihar	5.25	50.00	104.98	238.39	153.99
	Gujarat	—	360.00	161.00	698.84	684.95
	Himachal Pradesh	—	58.40		86.84	66.00
	Jammu and Kashmir	—	22.49		13.70	
	Karnataka	9.88	84.65	452.35	1068.95	634.87
	Kerala	9.10	449.50	449.50	439.02	715.25
	Madhya Pradesh	26.30	101.33	431.76	481.00	326.53
	Maharashtra	9.80	7.43	41.88	96.15	27.00
	Manipur	—	4.75	10.40	10.11	21.44
	Meghalaya	—				21.52
	Mizoram	—	10.50	2.00	64.55	118.05
	Nagaland	—		10.00	8.00	23.25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Orissa	—	45.77	22.60	12.00	56.16
	Punjab	—	9.14	10.20		
	Rajasthan	26.76	50.00	158.00	150.00	531.28
	Sikkim	—		5.85	32.63	29.60
	Tamil Nadu	—	4.12	18.10	31.96	6.30
	Tripura	—		44.40		20.00
	Uttar Pradesh	13.27	41.45	101.86	66.51	113.74
	West Bengal	28.66	443.52	502.09	561.69	530.39
Beneficiary Oriented Scheme for Tribal Development	Karnataka	22.08	25.00		68.50	64.65
	Madhya Pradesh	77.92	45.00	350.00	201.08	200.00
	Maharashtra					46.00
	Orissa		40.00			
Integrated Afforestation and Eco Development Project	Andhra Pradesh	211.51		143.51	149.65	246.55
	Arunachal Pradesh	74.32	65.21	14.94	57.87	51.99
	Assam	34.90	55.35	50.00	67.15	52.25
	Bihar	29.36	69.35	13.20	60.69	47.56
	Gujarat	0.00	36.63	13.00	58.94	221.45
	Haryana	149.40	62.00	109.93	81.29	77.60
	Himachal Pradesh	80.42	0.00	52.28	37.92	78.91
	Jammu and Kashmir	314.88	169.66	288.37	364.09	326.85
	Karnataka	209.98	143.72	37.42	160.36	167.43
	Kerala	31.57	135.15	199.35	346.14	486.09
	Madhya Pradesh	211.20	279.02	231.27	352.83	327.66
	Maharashtra	6.62	71.46	84.28	17.18	225.68
	Manipur	261.50	98.30	283.72	468.73	328.11
	Meghalaya	16.31	0.00		10.21	14.70
	Mizoram	81.50	77.11	96.26	147.56	149.42
	Nagaland	0.00	0.00		38.60	73.64
	Orissa	6.40	0.00	176.60	239.66	729.00
	Punjab	97.50	57.54	57.83	28.62	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rajasthan	263.09	242.25	253.39	376.57	432.67
	Sikkim	179.65	91.00	214.59	109.82	183.01
	Tamil Nadu	0.50	0.00	18.02		84.55
	Tripura	30.35	65.00	58.57	37.77	91.51
	Uttar Pradesh	1049.66	229.95	385.00	367.71	396.40
	West Bengal	118.20	15.64	125.60	170.64	121.60
	Pondichery	0.00	0.00			20.12
Area Oriented Fuelwood and Fodder Project	Andhra Pradesh	122.74	144.88	89.79	69.92	146.38
	Arunachal Pradesh	12.23	6.00		7.00	9.28
	Assam	120.66	70.00	83.95	89.69	42.83
	Bihar	75.00	17.40	37.18	190.94	30.00
	Goa	6.61	5.00	3.00	5.69	2.89
	Gujarat	122.73	135.98	157.10	212.45	206.27
	Haryana	255.73	194.38	261.00	265.69	323.20
	Himachal Pradesh	190.00	142.08	58.20	181.78	132.96
	Jammu and Kashmir	72.01	120.33	42.31		
	Karnataka	245.39	195.31	74.45	153.70	70.00
	Kerala	103.30	87.17	106.96	75.61	65.03
	Madhya Pradesh	482.82	210.18	500.50	388.13	300.00
	Maharashtra	78.67	75.00	27.91	120.91	18.53
	Manipur	146.82	100.00	128.75	127.54	47.90
	Meghalaya	74.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Mizoram	275.00	244.12	211.91	173.22	147.81
	Nagaland	10.00	0.00	4.23	10.87	9.00
	Orissa	138.20	91.14	69.21	116.53	96.12
	Punjab	50.00	169.14	20.98		0.00
	Rajasthan	256.62	304.61	263.35	160.00	7.18
	Sikkim	74.00	69.99	67.18	69.52	55.54
	Tamil Nadu	132.95	133.45	84.24	93.03	100.59
	Tripura	55.19	94.30	33.19		60.00
	Uttar Pradesh	360.47	212.44	205.62	329.02	153.43
	West Bengal	151.64	134.68	168.99	197.10	178.61

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Non-Timber Forest Produce	Andhra Pradesh	59.00	46.39	36.86	119.13	168.00
	Arunachal Pradesh	25.84	0.00	5.00	30.00	0.00
	Assam	15.00	13.50	14.00	25.00	74.00
	Bihar	0.00	14.00	14.00	0.00	60.00
	Goa	8.45	8.22	10.87	12.13	32.06
	Gujarat	111.13	57.68	58.66	116.65	191.62
	Haryana	39.95	36.30	38.25	29.44	44.35
	Himachal Pradesh	43.08	28.63	4.00	32.19	34.99
	Jammu and Kashmir	149.86	97.05	151.35	187.85	110.00
	Karnataka	30.00	43.00	53.87	51.34	81.63
	Kerala	20.16	10.35	4.00	13.10	45.50
	Madhya Pradesh	54.25	71.00	69.80	77.50	187.50
	Maharashtra	20.00	38.51	48.66	0.00	127.00
	Manipur	71.36	18.00	47.24	53.94	118.37
	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	38.00
	Mizoram	8.50	17.90	25.00	53.45	88.82
	Nagaland	10.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	64.00
	Orissa	78.60	48.00	102.88	86.08	162.20
	Punjab	80.00	29.50	4.00	0.00	25.00
	Rajasthan	47.30	58.61	130.40	116.21	125.40
	Sikkim	113.00	32.50	61.31	102.00	198.44
	Tamil Nadu	15.00	0.00	33.00	0.00	47.38
	Tripura	8.00	6.35	10.15	17.25	17.15
	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	53.00	0.00	5.00	78.00
	West Bengal	61.65	21.47	59.70	71.74	79.00
Taj Protection Mission	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	0.00	3200.00	1250.00	2103.25
Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	Andhra Pradesh	52.06	43.39	50.72	87.54	186.07
	Arunachal Pradesh	36.46	27.95	57.91	50.98	121.12
	Assam	0.00	54.62	58.05	53.44	317.20
	Bihar	0.00	6.00		27.85	21.02
	Goa	10.14		11.07	21.30	10.50

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Gujarat	52.73	17.00	13.80	22.10	65.27
	Haryana	11.04	14.57	37.20	21.55	28.35
	Himachal Pradesh	12.10	61.50	49.80	47.46	165.30
	Jammu and Kashmir	13.94	124.70	7.00	5.55	0.00
	Karnataka	225.85	78.17	84.12	100.32	307.18
	Kerala	34.96	49.29	49.35	59.97	102.62
	Madhya Pradesh	41.87	195.66	35.93	152.20	182.19
	Maharashtra	13.81	48.84	27.78	123.43	90.96
	Manipur	23.01	13.50	19.64	13.28	41.78
	Meghalaya	2.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.36
	Mizoram	4.60	13.48	8.45	12.30	102.31
	Nagaland	4.31	15.29	9.00	9.70	31.85
	Orissa	8.38	34.22	68.73	94.74	3.50
	Punjab	0.00	14.03	8.65	11.57	26.39
	Rajasthan	37.03	82.34	89.52	66.54	116.00
	Sikkim	15.29	12.51	11.00	12.00	97.45
	Tamil Nadu	20.25	61.28	74.63	61.18	89.83
	Tripura	2.29	29.81	0.00	19.97	21.90
	Uttar Pradesh	56.00	112.11	89.57	117.81	144.60
	West Bengal	39.31	69.69	72.96	55.20	90.22
	A&N Islands	0.00	20.56	0.00	22.00	50.00
	Chandigarh	0.00	12.00	0.00	28.00	0.00
National River Conservation Plan	Andhra Pradesh	210.00	200.00	0.00	677.89	0.00
	Bihar	300.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	286.12
	Delhi	462.50	82.59	200.00	125.00	67.50
	Gujarat	300.00	650.00	220.00	1713.62	0.00
	Haryana	6337.60	2585.00	2650.00	1482.00	600.00
	Karnataka	115.00	0.00	90.00	435.65	309.00
	Madhya Pradesh	71.56	124.00	500.00	1150.27	698.43
	Maharashtra	12.79	100.00	0.00	233.00	700.00
	Orissa	12.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	77.00
	Punjab	450.00	0.00	500.00	1295.00	651.80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rajasthan	0.17	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
	Tamil Nadu	85.62	0.00	90.00	649.57	1355.00
	Uttar Pradesh	2035.27	5413.50	5350.00	6846.51	3085.60
	West Bengal	429.62	2.21	400.00	400.00	150.00
Central Zoo Authority	Andhra Pradesh	44.75	43.75	27.25	25.40	69.75
	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	8.12	12.27	9.68	19.36
	Assam	0.00	19.56	0.42	0.00	89.82
	Bihar	15.75	0.00	31.70	15.45	0.00
	Gujarat	10.00	21.00	45.43	62.07	95.67
	Jharkhand	20.37	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00
	Karnataka	4.37	6.00	10.90	208.50	43.00
	Kerala	0.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	46.40
	Madhya Pradesh	16.87	29.69	50.50	21.00	35.85
	Maharashtra	27.67	20.51	0.00	12.61	12.61
	Manipur	4.51	0.00	4.57	0.00	49.15
	Mizoram	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	62.50
	Nagaland	2.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
	Orissa	16.00	7.35	3.00	65.50	44.00
	Punjab	0.00	41.75	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Rajasthan	11.42	0.50	0.85	102.40	7.02
	Sikkim	0.00	8.88	0.00	19.38	48.64
	Tamil Nadu	9.22	16.43	48.75	154.00	46.50
	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.34	18.84
	Uttar Pradesh	15.00	38.50	23.65	56.86	10.00
	West Bengal	21.61	29.31	78.85	34.37	72.34
	A&N Islands	0.00	0.00	53.00	28.74	15.65

[Translation]

WLL System Based Mobile Service by B.S.N.L.

5427. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is planning to make available Wireless on Local Loop (WLL) mobile services all over the country on lower rates as compared to other cellular operators;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this plan is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has already planned to provide Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) service in major cities of the country. The city-wise details are given in the statement attached. The said service has already been commissioned in Allahabad and Gurugram. The installation/Commissioning of WLL in other cities is under progress and likely to be completed during 2001-02. The case for provision of WLL service in other parts of the country is under process.

Statement

S.No.	Proposed city for WLL
1.	Calcutta
2.	Madras
3.	Bangalore
4.	Hyderabad
5.	Ahmedabad
6.	Kanpur
7.	Jaipur
8.	Ernakulam
9.	Pune
10.	Indore
11.	Patna
12.	Ludhiana
13.	Lucknow
14.	Gurgaon
15.	Chandigarh
16.	Guwahati
17.	Allahabad
18.	Shillong
19.	Sindhudurg

[English]

Commercialisation of Services of MTNL and BSNL

5428. SHRI G.PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to commercialise the services of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) MTNL and BSNL are providing following services among others to their subscribers on commercial basis:

1. Fixed Telephone service through Digital Switches.

2. Internet Services

3. Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN)

4. Intelligent Network (IN)

5. Leased lines

6. Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) services

7. Dynamic STD/ISD controlled facility

8. Wake up alarm facility

9. Call alert (hunting) facility

10. Call transfer facility

11. Calling Line Presentation (CLIP) facility

12. Abbreviated dialing facility

13. MTNL has already started GSM Cellular Services and BSNL is planning to provide this during the current year.

14. BSNL is also providing India's X.25 based Public Switched Public Data Network (I-Net) services.

Sharing of Krishna River Water

5429. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh received its share of Krishna river water during the monsoon season as per Bachawat Award; and

(b) if not, the action the Union Government are contemplating to release its share of waters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal has determined the 75% dependable flow of the river Krishna upto Vijayawada as 2060 TMC and out of this quantity, Andhra Pradesh was allocated 800 TMC besides return flow and liberty to use the remaining water in any water year without acquiring prescriptive rights. Year-wise or season-wise allocation has not been made by the Tribunal.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Participation of Indian Cricket Team in Tournaments

5430. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Cricket Team has not been permitted to participate in the tournaments to be held in cities such as Sharjah, Singapore and Toronto;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total revenue loss to be suffered by the Cricket Control Board as a result thereof; and
- (d) the action proposed to be taken by the Government to Compensate this loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) The Government has recently decided that India should not participate for three years in any cricket match to be played at non regular venues. This decision has been taken considering all aspects of the issue.

- (c) The information is being collected from BCCI.
- (d) At present, Government has no proposed plan to compensate this loss.

Youth Programmes

5431. SHRI RAMSHAKAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Youth programmes being implemented by the Government;
- (b) whether youth of the country are not aware of these programmes; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make youth aware of such programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Information is given in the statement attached.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Most of the Schemes being implemented by Government have an in-built component of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) which provides for creating awareness about the Schemes. Youth Clubs affiliated with NYKS and NSS units also create awareness about various Government programmes affecting young people.

Statement

- (a) Details of programmes for youth being implemented by various Government departments are as follows :

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(a) National Service Scheme :

The National Service Scheme aims at involving student youth on a voluntary basis. Presently, National Service Scheme is being operated in 175 Universities and 22 Senior Secondary Councils.

The National Service Scheme has two types of programmes, which are undertaken by its volunteers. They are regular activities and special camping programmes. The scheme has tremendous educational value in exposing the students to the experience of different problems of the community.

(b) Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) :

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan is an autonomous organisation under the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports. NYKS operates through more than 8 million rural youth through a net work of about 1.6 lakh village based youth clubs. NYKS adopts the strategy of awareness and mobilisation of rural youth for socio-economic development work in villages with emphasis on voluntary action. The various youth related schemes being implemented by the NYKS are vocational training, work camps through voluntary donation of labour, rural sports and adventure, national integration, promotion of traditional and folk arts and culture etc.

(c) Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations working in the Field of Youth :

The scheme aims at involving voluntary agencies in the field of vocational training, youth leadership training programmes. Assistance is given to voluntary organisations to conduct vocational training programmes to promote self-employment.

(d) Scheme for Training of Youth :

This scheme aims at motivating young people through the spread of knowledge by participating in vocational training courses based on local needs and talents. Financial assistance can be availed by voluntary organisations, educational institutions, Nehru Yuva Kendras and State Government/UTs.

(e) Special Scheme for Promotion of Youth Activities among the Youth of Backward Tribes :

The scheme aims at the development of tribal areas as well as the youth of backward tribes based on the needs and potential by conducting

vocational training programmes, exhibitions, national integration camps and programmes on general awareness.

(f) Scheme for Exhibition for Youth :

The scheme aims at organising active and energetic propagation through the media of exhibition, the principles of tolerance, harmony, national unity, solidarity and peaceful progress. The programmes/activities includes exhibition on folk dance, folk songs, paintings, art and crafts, books and various development and youth related schemes.

(g) Promotion of National Integration :

The scheme provides the framework for greater exchange and understanding among the youth of the different regions of the country and for greater involvement of voluntary agencies in the task of promoting national integration and communal harmony through the organisation of camps, inter-state visits, seminars, conferences, research publications, regional and zonal festivals, cultural programmes for combating communalism, regionalism, linguistic chauvinism and other divisive tendencies.

(h) Promotion of Adventure :

The scheme aims to create and foster amongst the youth a spirit of risk-taking, cooperative team work, endurance and encouraging quick, ready and effective reflexes in challenging situation by undertaking adventurous activities like mountaineering, trekking, rowing, rafting, hiking, exploration for collection of data, study of flora and fauna in mountains, desert and the seas; coastal sailing, etc. and also training of youth people to undertake such activities.

(i) Construction of Youth Hostels :

The scheme aims at promoting youth travel and youth activity programmes by making the youth hostels function as a nodal point for promoting youth activities. The Central Govt. bears the cost of construction of the youth hostels while the State Govt. provides land free of cost, water and electricity connection, approach road and staff quarters and also bears the initial operational cost of hostels.

(j) Scheme of Assistance to Youth Club and Sports Club :

This scheme has got three components :

(i) Awards to Outstanding Youth Clubs :

The Scheme aims at recognising the contribution of youth clubs and motivating them for more active participation in nation building. Awards are given away at District, State and National level.

(ii) Financial Assistance to Sports Clubs :

This aims at promoting Nodal Voluntary Sports Club/Sports Centers, one in each block in a phased manner.

(iii) Financial Assistance to Youth Clubs :

The principal objective of this scheme is to encourage and assist newly established Youth Clubs so that they can effectively take part in nation building activities and for promoting organised youth club movement across the country.

(k) National Service Volunteer Scheme (NSVS) :

This scheme aims at providing opportunities to students, generally speaking those who have completed their first degree, to involve themselves on a voluntary basis in nation building activities for a specific period on a whole time basis. The beneficiaries of the scheme include Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme, Bharat Scouts and Guides, select NGOs working in the field of youth and State Governments.

(l) National Reconstruction Corps (NRC) :

The NRC Scheme has been launched as a Central Sector Scheme in June 1999 on a pilot basis for two years in 80 selected backward districts of the country. The aim of the scheme is to provide an opportunity to matriculate youth to participate in the process of national building.

(m) SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme :

The scheme aims at providing training to sportpersons in the age group of 14 to 21 years. These trainees are assessed in their chosen disciplines and finally selected to undergo in house training at various SAI centres. At present 17 sports disciplines being implemented under these centers are Athletics, Archery, Basketball,

Badminton, Boxing, Cycling, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Handball, Judo, Swimming, Kabaddi, Volleyball, Wrestling, Weight lifting, Canoeing and kayaking and Rowing.

(n) Sports Talent Search Scholar Scheme :

The schemes aims at recognising achievements of young sports persons showing outstanding performance at National and State levels. The scholarship is of three categories :

- (i) State level Scholarship, under which scholarship @ Rs. 450/- per month i.e. Rs. 5400/- per annum will be provided to sports persons excelling at State level.
- (ii) National level Scholarship, under which scholarship @ Rs. 600/- per month i.e. Rs. 7200/- per annum will be, provided to sports persons, excelling at National level.
- (iii) University/colleges level Scholarship under which scholarship @ Rs. 750/- per month i.e. 9000/- per annum will be provided to sports persons excelling in university and colleges.

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(a) Adult Education :

National Literacy Mission has adopted the campaign model as the principal strategy for eradication of illiteracy throughout the country. The literacy campaigns are area-specific, time-bound and are delivered through voluntarism, cost-effective and outcome-oriented methods. The National Literacy Mission aims at imparting functional literacy to the 15-35 age group in order to achieve the threshold, sustainable level of 75% literacy by the year 2005.

(b) Scholarships :

The department of education administers scholarships/fellowship programmes meant for Indian students for further studies/research in different universities/institutions in India and abroad. These include programmes sponsored by the Government of India and those offered by foreign countries.

(c) Vocationalisation of Secondary Education :

The main objectives of the schemes are to enhance individual employability, reduce the

mismatch between demand and supply of skilled manpower and provide an alternative for those pursuing higher education without particular interest or purpose. There is also a centrally sponsored scheme of prevocational education at lower secondary stage for imparting training in simple marketable skills to the students of classes IX and X, to develop vocational interest and to facilitate students in making a choice of vocational courses at the higher secondary level.

MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(a) Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) :

The scheme aims at the development of rural infrastructure at village level by restructuring the erstwhile Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY). The primary objective of the scheme is the creation of demand driven community village infrastructure including durable assests at the village level with a view to enabling the rural poor to have more opportunities for sustained employment. The secondary objective of JGSY is generation of wages employment for the unemployed poor in the rural areas. The youth belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families are also beneficiaries under the scheme.

(b) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) :

The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has been launched w.e.f. April 1, 1999. By merging and integrating erstwhile programmes such as Integrated Rural Development Programme, Development of Women and Children in rural Areas, Training of Rural Youth for Self—Employment, Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans, Ganga Kalyan Yojana and Million Wells Scheme. The scheme aims at establishing a large number of micro enterprises in the rural areas with the objective of bringing every assisted family above the poverty line in three years. The group (SHG) approach which is central to the scheme can be adopted by rural youth for sustainable self-employment and income generation.

(c) Employment Assurance Scheme :

The primary objective of the scheme is creation of additional wage employment opportunities during the period of acute shortage of wage employment through manual work for the rural

poor living below the poverty line. The secondary objective is creation of durable community, social and economic assets for sustained employment and development. The scheme is open to all the rural poor including the youth who are in need of wage employment.

Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries) :

The Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) was launched on 2nd Oct., 93 with the objectives of assisting educated unemployed youth in setting up self employment venture during the VIII Plan and create employment opportunities.

The educated unemployed youth within the age group of 18-35 years (18-40 years for the NE States) having family income upto Rs. 24,000 p.a. (upto 40,000/- p.a. for North East States) are assisted to set up self employment venture costing upto Rs. 1 lakh for business activities (upto Rs. 2 lakhs for other service activities) in all economically viable activities except direct agriculture operations. For partnerships, project costing upto Rs. 10 lakh are covered.

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(a) Opportunities for Young Scientists :

The Scheme aims at motivating and encouraging young scientists to take up research and development (R&D) as a career and to engage them in the field of science by providing opportunities for pursuing exciting and innovative research ideas, interaction and exchange of ideas with the scientific community at the national and international levels and their involvement in national S&T development process.

(b) Kishore Vigyanik Protsahan Yojana :

The scheme target the young science students at the school and college/M.Sc. level. The scheme provides tuition fees, scholarship and financial support to such students for various HR development activities that include orientation visits and summer training in R&D labs/industries/NGOs, participation in exchange programmes with other countries, publication of papers and reports, acquisition of books and periodicals in science and technology etc.

(c) Young Scientists in Societal Programmes :

The scheme aims at giving opportunities to young scientists for pursuing innovative research ideas for solving day-to-day problems faced by the

weaker sections of the society through application of S&T and for exchange of ideas with scientists working in the voluntary sector.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(a) Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention :

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a three pronged strategy for tackling prohibition and drug abuse prevention having the following components :

- (i) Building awareness and educating people about ill effects of drug abuse.
- (ii) Dealing with the addicts through a well rounded up programme of motivation, counselling, treatment, follow-up and social reintegration of cured drug addicts.
- (iii) To impart rehabilitation training to volunteers keeping in view to the need build up an educated cadre of drug abuse control operators.

MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(a) Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojna :

The three Urban Poverty Alleviation Schemes, namely Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP), Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP), have been subsumed in the scheme. The scheme aims to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed or underemployed by encouraging the setting up of selfemployment ventures or provision of wage employment. The urban poor youth are also potential beneficiaries under this scheme.

DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(a) Adolescent Girls Scheme :

The scheme is meant for adolescent girls in the age group of 11-18 years aimed at meeting their special needs of self development, nutrition, health education, literacy, recreation and skill formation.

(b) Working Women Hostels :

The schemes aims at providing safe and inexpensive hostel accommodation to working women, single, divorced, married and widowed

who migrate to town and cities, where employment opportunities are available.

(c) Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) :

The scheme seeks to provide new upgraded skills to poor and assetless women in the traditional sectors of agriculture, sericulture, handicrafts, fisheries, dairying, poultry etc. for enhancing their productivity and income generation.

(d) Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) :

It is a National Credit Fund for extending credit facilities to the poor and needy women in the informal sectors.

(e) Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) :

The scheme aims at holistic empowerment of women by creating an organizational base for women to come together, to analyse and fulfil their needs through existing departmental programmes.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Training programmes run by Ministry of Labour

A number of training schemes are being operated under the Directorate General of Employment and Training (DGE&T) to ensure regular supply of skilled manpower to industry at different level. The schemes include vocational training, craftsmen training scheme and apprenticeship training programme.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(A) National Cadet Corps

The National Cadet Corps (NCC) created in 1948 by an Act of Parliament is a scheme exclusively for the student youth. It is an inter-service organisation consisting of Army, Navy and Air Force units. Its principal aims are set out as (i) development of leadership character, comradeship, spirit of sportsmanship and ideal of service; (ii) creation of a force of disciplined and trained manpower which in a national emergency could be of assistance to the country; and (iii) provision of training of students with a view to developing in them officer-like qualities and thus enabling them to obtain commission in the Armed Forces.

Enrolment in the NCC is made in three divisions, namely, Junior Division, Senior Division, and Girls' Division. Girls' Division consists of Junior wings in schools and senior wings in colleges.

Ban on Matches Between India and Pakistan

5432. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL:

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA:

SHRI R.S. PATIL:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to play any game viz. Cricket, Hockey etc. with Pakistan;

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

(c) whether the Government are aware that same decision is being taken by the Pak-Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) No Sir, However, the Government has decided that India should not participate in cricket matches to be played at non-regular venues for atleast three years.

(c) and (d) No such communication has been received from Government of Pakistan. Hence, the question does not arise.

[English]

Barrage Across Tungabhadra River

5433. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to construct a barrage across Tungabhadra River near Hammagi in Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the proposal has been lying pending with the Central Water Commission since 1998; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to expedite the clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Comments of the various appraising agencies on the project proposal were sent between August, 1998 and September, 1999 to the State Government. The State Government is yet to respond to these comments.

(c) Clearance of this project depends, *inter-alia* upon the compliance of the observations of various central appraising by the State Government.

Allotment of Optical Fibre

5434. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:

DR. N. VENKATASWAMY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of optical fibre allotted to each State during 2000-2001;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from the State Governments for the allotment of optical fibre during 2001-2002;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) State-wise details of optical fibre cable allotted to each state during the year 2000-2001 is given in the statement-I attached.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, as per BSNL's plan, allotment to the circles for the year 2001-2002 is given in the statement-II attached.

(d) Global tenders and local tenders have been called to procure optical fibre cable required, so that the requirement of optical fibre cable of the circles could be met.

Statement-I*Allotment for the Year 2000-2001*

Sl No.	Telecom Circle	Allotment in Kms
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5500
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	65
3.	Assam	830
4.	Bihar, Jharkhand	3827
5.	Gujarat	8984
6.	Haryana	850
7.	Himachal Pradesh	850
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	000
9.	Karnataka	7900
10.	Madhya Pradesh Chhatisgarh	8690

1	2	3
11.	Kerala	3324
12.	Maharashtra, Goa	9600
13.	North East (Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Arunachal, Manipur, and Nagaland)	300
14.	Orissa	2100
15.	Punjab	1375
16.	Rajasthan	9340
17.	Tamil Nadu	5200
18.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	6000
19.	Uttar Pradesh (W) Uttanchal	2000
20.	West Bengal, Sikkim	1480
21.	Chennai, TD	550
22.	Kolkata, TD	120
Total		78885

In addition to above, following allotment was given to Project Circles for inter-State/Circle long distance network :

Eastern Telecom Projects	4700
Northern Telecom Projects	5736
Western Telecom Projects	5602
Southern Telecom Projects	5321
NE Task Force Telecom Projects	300

Statement-II*Allotment for the year 2001-2002*

Sl. No.	Telecom Circle	Allotment in Kms.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5900
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	119
3.	Assam	700
4.	Bihar	2975
5.	Jharkhand	1275
6.	Gujarat	9600

1	2	3
7.	Haryana	1651
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1835
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	600
10.	Karnataka	6990
11.	Kerala	1600
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8588
13.	Chhatisgarh	3596
14.	Maharashtra, Goa	11500
15.	North-East. I (Meghalaya) (Mizoram and Tripura)	555
16.	North East. II (Arunachal Manipur and Nagaland)	295
17.	Orissa	3300
18.	Punjab	3722
19.	Tamil Nadu	3650
20.	Uttar Pradesh (E)	12400
21.	Uttar Pradesh (W)	1990
22.	Uttanchal	510
23.	West Bengal, Sikkim	4800
24.	Chennai TD	800
25.	Kolkata TD	300
26.	Rajasthan	9750
Total		99001

In addition to above, following allotment was given to Project Circles for Inter-State/Circle long distance network:

Eastern Telecom Projects	3500
Northern Telecom Projects	5000
Western Telecom Projects	5820
Southern Telecom Projects	5860
NE Task Force Telecom Projects	494

Disparity in Wages in Public and Private Sector

5435. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME :

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH :

SHRI SUBODH ROY :

SHRI ANIL BASU :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any increase in per capita real wages in public sector *vis-a-vis* private sector during the last decade;

(b) whether a disparity has been observed between the wages of the above sectors;

(c) if so, the reasons for such a disparity and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the percentage of expenditure on wages out of the total expenditure in public sector separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Per capita emoluments of Public Sector employees in relation to enterprises and increase in average all India Consumer Price Index (1960-100) are given as follows :

Year	Per Capita Emoluments (Rupees)	Percentage increase in average Index
1990-91	49179	395.31
1991-92	56508	461.98
1992-93	64983	517.19
1993-94	72043	562.50
1994-95	82517	630.21
1995-96	106876	703.13
1996-97	110662	778.65
1997-98	129582	839.06
1998-99	138179	961.98
1999-2000	166592	998.44

The information on per capita real wages in respect of private sector are not maintained.

(b) and (c) The disparity in the public sector and private sector is due to the difference in methods for determination of wages adopted by these sectors. The wage structure in the public sector is governed by the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Enterprises from time to time. In the case of private sector, there are no such guidelines and wages are determined by the employers out of their own profit.

(d) The percentage of wages to total current expenditure in the public sector during 1998-99 was 23.88%.

Data Communication Facility

5436. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has sanctioned the installation of Data Communication Facility with EPABX in January 1992 at Central Water Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune to improve the data communication through existing computer network;

(b) if so, whether only 22 per cent of the ultimate potential of 1200 extensions were utilized rendering a major part of expenditure unfruitful; and

(c) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Yes Sir. Ministry of Water Resources had sanctioned the installation of Data Communication facility with EPABX in January 1992 at Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune. The scheme was meant for replacing the then existing telephone network by a suitable state of the art network and providing telecommunication network for speech and data to meet requirement of voice communication among various officers and data communication between the main computer center and various laboratories.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. In fact CWPRS has procured and paid for the hardware for 352 lines only out of the total capacity of 1200 lines. The number of extensions installed and functional at present are 310 lines i.e. 88% of the available installed capacity. The remote access facility for data communication through EPABX has been tested and found useful.

Sale of Bogus Tickets

5437. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India-Australia Cricket series left behind one more controversy of a financial racket of thousands of bogus tickets sold in Goa;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the further steps taken by the Government so that such incidents not occur in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone Connections in Delhi

5438. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has announced a scheme of current telephone connection in few telephone exchanges in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether MTNL has received complaints regarding corruption in installation of said connections in the capital;

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

(e) the action taken by the MTNL against the errant employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. MTNL Delhi had announced a schedule for providing telephone connection within 7 days in specified localities of Delhi as per statement.

(c) We have received complaints regarding corruption in installation of New Telephone connection in MTNL Delhi.

(d) The total complaints received since 1.4.2000 exchange-wise are as follows :

S.No.	Name of Exchange	No. of Cases
1.	Hauz Khas	1
2.	Nangloi	2
3.	Kanjawala	1
4.	Nehru Place	4
5.	Saraswati Vihar	1
6.	Okhla	1
7.	Mayur Vihar-II	1
8.	Yamuna Vihar	3
9.	Laxmi Nagar	1
10.	Idgah	4
11.	Tis Hazari	1
12.	Pankha Road	2
13.	Najafgarh	2
14.	Delhi Cantt	1
15.	Dwarka	1
	Total	27

(e) The allegations were not substantiated in 15 cases and in remaining 12 cases there was circumstantial evidence of varying degree against 14 officials and action has been taken against them.

Statement

MTNL has introduced current telephone connections in the following exchanges pertaining to the locations mentioned exchange-wise as indicated below :-

1. **Central Exchange** : Janpath, Kidwai Bhavan, Sena Bhavan, Rajpath, Lodh Road, Localities : All.

2. **East**

Idgah Exchange/Gulabi Bagh

Localities : Gulabi Bagh, Sanjay Nagar, Inder Lok, Azad Market, Bahadur Garh Road, Main Sadar Bazar, Bartan Market, New Market, Rousi Mandi, Sadar Thana Road, Qutab Road, Multani Dhanda, Motla Khan, Nabi Karim, Ara Kashan Road, D.B. Gupta Road, Paharganj (Shiela Cinema side), Chooni Mandi, Pahar Ganj (Gali No. 1 to 11) Rajguru Road, Amrit Kaur Market, Shidipura, East Park Road, Gaushala Marg, Doriwalan.

Delhi Gate Exchange Minto Road (RSU)

Localities : Manak Bhavan, Dayal Singh Library, Mahabat Khan Road, Rouse Avenue, New Delhi Railway Station (Ajmeri Gate side), Thomson Road, Kamla Market, Shardanand Market, Sitaram Bazar, Press Road, Mihto Road, Residential Complex, Rajnit Hotel, LNJP Hospital, Guru Nanak Eye Hospital, Pant Hospital, Chitli Quaber, Chooriwalan, Pahari Bhozia, Matia Mahal, Maliwara, Bhozpura, Gali Hira Nand, Gali Chhiplan, Nai Sarak (Delhi Gate Exch side) Katra Hardayal, Katra Piyarelal, Katra Ashrafi, Katra Mohan, Katra Nawab, N.S. Marg, Ansari Road, Lal Quila, New Lajpat Rai Market, Cycle Market (Esplanade Road).

Tis Hazari Exchange and Lothian Road (RSU)

Localities: ISBT, Madrsa Road, Church Road, Old Court Compound GPO Compound, Angoori Bagh, Lajpat Rai Market, Priyadarshni Colony, Kooncha Mahajani, Old Sectt. Kooncha Natwa, Katra Satnarayan, Katra Nageen Chand, Katra Lacewan, Charkhewalan, Naya Bans, Tilak Bazar, Khari Baoli.

3. **Trans Yamuna** : Jafrabad Exchange : Localities : Jafrabad Exchange area.

4. **North-1** : Keshav Puram Exchange

Localities : Lawrence Road, Lawrence Road Industrial

Area, Tri Nagar, Narang Colony, Ganesh Pura, Lekhu Nagar Looor Bagh, Kohat, Lok Vihar, Chander Lok, Raj Nagar, Samrat Enclave, Jhulelal, Sandesh Vihar, Vasudha Enclave, Kapil Vihar, N Block Shakurpur, Shakthi Nagar Exchange.

Satyawati Colony, A/Vihar-III, Shankthi Nagar Extension, SFS flats Ashok Vihar IV DDA Flats, A/Vihar IV, Wazirpur Village, A B-I, B-II BI-IV. C-I CII Blocks of A/Vihar, BA, C.D.E.F. Blocks of A/Vihar, A Block and Commercial Complex WPIA, B Block G.T. Karnal Road, A Block Derawal Nagar, A Block Gujranwala Town, Gur Mandi, New Gupta Road, Priya darshni Vihar, Ishwar Col. A&D Block, Mehendru Enclave, SSI SMI Rajasthan, Udyog Nagar, TPT Centre, A Block GTK, Shalimar Bagh, Halderpur, KP KP Complex, JP, HP, DP, BP and OD Block of Pitampura, Pura Delhi University, Mukherji Nagar, Nirankari Col., Gandhi Vihar.

5 **North II** : Uttari Pitampura Exchange

Localities : Whole Uttari Pitampura

Rohini exchange

Localities : Avantika Enclave, F.M.N.O. Blocks of Mangolpuri, Mangolpur Khurd, Rohini.

Saraswati Vihar Exchange

Localities : C-1, C-2 West enclave Harit Niketan, Sansad Vihar, Mausam Apptt. Mitra Vihar, Shivalik Apptt Rang Mahal Apptt. Xvier Apptt.

Badli Exchange

Localities : Sector 18, Rohini Block A,B,C,D,E, Sector 15 A,B,C,D, Block Modern Apptt Pusa Apptt. Manav Vihar Group Housing Air Sector 16 A,B,F,G Blocks, Swaroop Nagar, Bhalaswa Dairy, Rajeev Nagar, Sanjay Gandhi Transport Nagar to Libaspur on GTK Road) Kerakalan Khera Khurd Badli Indl. area (Ph-I & II)

Bawana Exchange

Localities : Villages : Bawana Pooth Khurd, Sultanpur Debas, Qutab Garh, Harevali, Oachandi Border, Majra Dabas, Chandpur, Kateswara, Mungesh Pur, Darya Pur.

DSIDC Exchange

Localities : Blocks A to H of DSIDC and Village Shahpur Garhi

Main Exchange Narela (end)

Localities : Indira Colony, Bankner, Gautam Colony, Narela Mandi.

6. South-1 :

Exchange : Chanakyapuri, Vasant Vihar, Vasant Kunj, Mahipalpur.

Localities : all.

7. South II :

Nehru Place Exchange

Localities : NP Complex, D.E.F. Blocks, East of Kallash, CC East of Kallash, Mount Kallash, Dayanand Colony, Vikram Vihar National Park, ODS Lajpat Nagar IV, Chirag Enclave, Hemkunt Colony, Krishi Vihar DDA Flats, Masjid Moth GK-II, GK-III, NRI Mandakini, Nehru Apptt. Deshbandu Apptt. Balaji Estate, L-I, L-II block of DDA Kalkaji.

Savitri Nagar and Asiad Exchange

Localities Soami Nagar, S Block PS Park, Sheikh Sarai Phase-I Sadhna Enclave, Asiad Village P.S. Enclave

Sadiq Nagar Exchange

Localities : Ansal Plaza, Anandlok Andrews Ganj Extn. NDSE-II South Extn Plaza I and II Doctors Hostel Masjid moth.

Okhla Exchange

Localities : Maharani Bagh, Friends Colony, Kalindi Colony, New Friends Colony, Sarai Julana, Ishwar Nagar, Sukdev Vihar, Abdul Fazal Enclave, Zakir Nagar, Gaffar Manjil (excluding Hazi Colony) Zakir Bagh.

Sarita Vihar Exchange

Localities : A.D.E.L. Blocks Sarita Vihar, LIK Flats, Sarita Vihar Sec-7 and 8 Jasola Vihar.

Tekchand Exchange

Localities : DDA Flats, LIG and MIG Pul Pheladpur, FBC Blocks Okhla Phase-I, DSIDC phase-I

Tughlakabad Exchange

Localities : RPS Colony.

8. West-I :

Janakpuri Exchange

B-1, B-3, B-3A, B-3B, B-1A, B-1B, B-1C Nangli Zalib Village, Fateh Nagar Village, B-1C Nangli Zalib Village, Fateh Nagar, Community Centre, Prem Nagar, Guru Nanak Pura Shiv Nagar BA, BB, BE Block, Jail Road Bazar. C-3, C-3A, C-5A, C-5B, C-5C, C-5D, C-1, C-2 Pkt-12, C-2D, C-1A, C-4A, C-4B, C-4C, C-4H, C-4B and Central Jail, Nari Niketan, Nirmal Chhaya, DTC Hari Nagar.

Vikas Puri Exchange

Localities : Kesho Pur, JJ-III, JJ-II, J-Block, Himgiri Apptt. Gujrawalan Apptt. Anand Kunj, Kangra Niketan, KG-I, KG-II Vikas Kunj, Shakar Garden, New Krishna Park, AG-1 A Block Vikaspuri, C-Block Site II, III M Block, MG-1, A-1, A-2, A-2A, A-3, A-1B, A-5A, A-5B, A-5C, Asalatpur PG Block District Centre, NPL Society, Laxmi Vihar Apptt. DG-1, Bondela, Krishi Apptt. Jupiter Apptt. Nalanda Apptt. Police Line, Shivam Apptt. Sunrise, DG-III, Panchdeep Apptt. Raksha Vikas Apptt. Ever Shine Apptt. Lok Vihar Apptt. Arjun Apptt. Charak Sadan, Maya Apptt. Mahindra Apptt. Priya Apptt. Parmarth Apptt. F-Block, G-Block Soldiers Tower, Sonia Complex, GG-I, II, III, UIJWAL Apptt. Atrix Apptt. H-I, H-II, H-III Block Neel Kamal Apptt. Triwani NDMC Apartment.

Delhi Cantt Exchange

Localities : Dhaula Kuan, Part-I and II Carriapa Vihar, Kirbi Place, Nav Sena Bagh-II, M.T.Line, K.V.No. 3, C.B. Naraina, Base Hospital, Pratap Chowk, Arjun Vihar, Subroto Park R&R Hospital, Manakshah Marg, Mandir Marg, Church Road, Kabul Lane, New DID Line, P&T Compound and Old Nangal.

9. West-II :

Exchange : Hari Nagar, Paschim Vihar.

Localities : All.

Training Facility to Women Through NVT/RVTIS

5439. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Directorate General of Employment and Training provides training facilities to women through NVT/RVTIs;

(b) If so, whether these institutions are not fully equipped and have vacant posts of teachers; and

(c) If so, the measures taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Directorate General of Employment and Training provides training facilities for women through the National Vocational Training Institute at NOIDA and Regional Vocational Training Institutes located in different parts of the country.

(b) and (c) These Institutes have been provided with the required machinery and equipment as per standard norms laid down by the National Council for Vocational Training, except in

the case of a few newly introduced trades. There have been difficulties, however, in filling up all the sanctioned posts of training staff and the matter is being continuously pursued with the concerned agencies.

Post Office Buildings in Rural Areas

5440. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to construct Post Office buildings in rural areas;

(b) if so, the estimated requirement of fund for the purpose;

(c) whether his Ministry has sent any proposal to the Finance Ministry in this regard;

(d) if so, the response of the Finance Ministry thereto; and

(e) the year by which the Government propose to complete and modernise post office buildings in the rural areas in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to construct post office buildings in rural areas and modernize them as per operational priorities and availability of planned resources. Moreover, most of the basic postal infrastructure in rural areas consists of Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices for which premises are provided by the Extra Departmental Branch Postmasters. Expansion of Postal Network in rural areas has also been undertaken in the form of opening of Panchayat Sanchar Seva

Kendras (PSSK) in Gram Panchayats for which space for operation is provided by Panchayat.

Plantation of Mangroves in Coastal Areas

5441. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase plantation of mangroves in the Coastal areas in the country; and

(b) if so, the programmes drawn up for each Coastal State to increase mangrove plantation during the Ninth Plan and the funds earmarked therefor for each of the States?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Conservation of Mangroves is one of the Thrust Areas identified by the Ministry during the Ninth Five Year Plan. On the recommendations of the National Committee on Mangroves and Coral Reefs, 30 Mangrove areas spread over 9 Coastal States and Union Territories in the country have been identified by the Ministry for intensive conservation and management. Financial assistance is extended to the respective States/Union Territories for implementation of Management Action Plans. The activities include survey and demarcation, regeneration and afforestation of Mangroves, protection measures and eco-development activities including education and awareness related to conservation of Mangroves. Status of grants released to the respective State Governments/UTs for implementation of Management Action Plans on Mangroves during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-1998 to 2000-2001) is given in the statement attached.

Statement

State-wise status of Grants released to the respective State Governments/UTs for implementation of Management Action Plans on Mangroves during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-98 to 2000-01)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. N.	State	Mangrove Area	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001	Total	State Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	West Bengal	Sunderbans	66.82	63.60	44.95	—	175.37	175.37
2.	Orissa	Bhitarkanika	—	—	17.56	—	17.56	
		Mahanadi	—	—	26.50	—	26.50	
		Subernrekha	—	—	—	23.50	23.50	
		Devi	—	—	—	17.25	17.25	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Dhamra	—	—		15.00	15.00	
								99.81
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Coringa	—	10.65	—	31.20	41.85	
		Krishna	—	8.87	—	14.39	23.26	
		East-Godavari	—	8.50	—	14.28	22.78	
								87.89
4.	Tamil Nadu	Pichavaram	10.62	10.60	4.74	16.00	41.96	
		Muthupet	—	8.40	11.46	64.00	83.86	
		Ramnad	—	—	—	4.70	4.70	130.52
5.	Maharashtra	Achra-Ratnagiri	—	—	9.88	—	9.88	
		Devghad-Vijaydurga	—	—	—	9.74	9.74	
		Mumbra-Diva	—	—	—	26.41	26.41	
		Vaitama	—	—	—	14.05	14.05	
		Kundalika-Revdanda	—	—	—	13.52	13.52	
		Vasai-Manori	—	—	—	11.79	11.79	
		Shreevardhan-Varal-Kalsuri	—	—	—	13.49	13.49	98.88
6.	Goa	Goa	8.20	8.95	8.95	12.45	38.55	38.55
7.	A&N Islands	North-Andamans	16.88	—	—	7.64	24.52	
		Nicobar	—	—	—	4.00	4.00	28.52
8.	Gujarat	Gulf of Khambhat	—	—	—	21.64	21.64	
		Gulf of Kutch	—	—	—	66.47	66.47	88.11
	Total		102.52	119.57	124.04	401.52	747.65	747.65

[Translation]

likely to be cleared?

Harvesting of Rain Water

5442. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes are lying pending for harvesting the rain water of the rivers of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the schemes formulated for harvesting the rain water to save Rajasthan from drought and make available water in the State; and

(c) the time by which the Indira Jalothan Yojana is

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) There is one proposal of construction of Earthen Dam and ponds in Chirwara Block of Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan pending with the Central Ground Water Board.

(b) The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" on pilot basis with a view to assess the efficacy of various recharge structure in some 'Over-exploited' and 'Dark' blocks of the country. The Government has earmarked an amount of Rs. 25.00 crore during the IX Five Year Plan for the scheme. Under this scheme, the Central Ground Water Board

has formulated and approved 11 schemes of rain water harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water for the State of Rajasthan. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, Macro Management Scheme in the States covering Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. Construction of water harvesting structure is one of the component of this scheme.

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

[English]

Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

5443. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988;

(b) if so, the details of new provisions proposed to be incorporated in the New Motor Vehicles Act; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Suggestions from various quarters regarding changes in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 have been received and these are under examination with a view to undertake a comprehensive amendment of Motor Vehicles Act. No final view in this matter has yet been taken.

World Class Technology in Telecom Sector

5444. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI:

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU:

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether world class technology has not yet been brought into the country by the existing private telecom units;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any proposal from the foreign units in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Sir, multiple licences have been granted in different service areas of the country for various telecom services, such as, Cellular Mobile

Telephone Service, Basic Telephone Service, Internet Service etc. Multipoly will drive the licensees to use state-of-the-art technology in order to offer improved/cost effective service to their customers in a competitive environment. The licence agreements also specify digital technology as per International Telecommunication Union/Telecom Engineering Centre standards to be used for providing the service, such as for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service.

(b) and (c) Licences are granted to the Indian registered companies, foreign equity participation is permitted upto 49% in most of the services. Any proposal by a foreign partner regarding technology is an internal matter of any company.

Farakka Barrage Project

5445. SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether under Farakka Barrage Project the construction of two bridges on the feeder canal at Amuha and Ghoraipara ghats is under the consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith time taken for completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal to take up construction of the two road bridges at Amuha and Ghoraipara in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

National Child Labour Projects

5446. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Child Labour Project approved by CCEA for the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of National Child Labour Projects set up for the rehabilitation of working children, locations-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the funds allocated by the Government for the rehabilitation of working children during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on January, 1999 approved increase in the number of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPS) to 100 for the duration of Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) Government has sanctioned 100 NCLPs in 13 States for rehabilitation of working children. District-wise details of the NCLPs are given in the statement attached.

(c) The funds released to the National Child Labour Projects for rehabilitation of working children during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Amount
1998-99	Rs. 2731.21 lakh
1999-2000	Rs. 3796.78 lakh
2000-2001	Rs. 3798.24 lakh

Statement

*List of National Child Labour Projects running in 13 States.
(Total Projects in Operation : 100)*

- Andhra Pradesh** : Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Kurnool, Medak, Nalgonda, Khammam, Nellore, Nizamabad, Markapur, Ranga Reddy (Including M.V. Foundation), Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Vishapatnam, Warrangal, West Godavari, Mahaboobnagar, Adilabad. (22)
- Bihar** : Nalanda, Saharsa. (2)
- Jharkhand** : Garwah, Sahibganj, Dumka, Jamui, Pakur, West Singhbhum (Chaibasa). (6)
- Karnataka** : Bijapur, Raichur, Dharwad, Bangalore Rural, Bangalore Urban. (5)
- Madhya Pradesh** : Mandsaur, Gwalior, Ujjain. (3)
- Chattisgarh** : Durg, Bilaspur, Rajnandgaon, Surguja, Raigarh. (5)
- Maharashtra** : Solapur, Thane. (2)
- Orissa** : Angul, Bargarh, Bolangir, Deogarh, Gajapati (Udaigiri), Ganjam, Jharsuguda, Kalahandi, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, Nabarangpur, Nuapada, Rayagada, Sambalpur, Sonepur, Cuttack, Balasore. (18)
- Rajasthan** : Jaipur, Udaipur, Tonk, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Alwar. (6)
- Tamil Nadu** : Chidambarnar (Tuticorin), Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Kamraj (Virudhunagar), Vellore, Pudukkottai, Salem, Tiruchirapalli, Tirunelveli. (9)
- Uttar Pradesh** : Aligarh (including DCCW, Aligarh), Firozabad (DCCW Firozabad), Moradabad (DCCW Moradabad), Varanasi, Mirzapur, Bhadohi, Bulandshahar (Khurja),

Allahabad, Kanpur (Nagar), Saharanpur, Azamgarh. (11)

12. **West Bengal** : Burdwan, Dakshin Dinajpur, Midnapore, North 24-Parganas, South 24-Parganas, Uttar Dinajpur, Murshidabad, Calcutta. (8)

13. **Punjab** : Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Amritsar (3)

Ceiling on Payment of Bonus

5447 SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY:

SHRI SUNIL KHAN:

SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Trade Unions have been demanding to remove the eligibility limit and calculation ceiling under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965;

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

(c) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The Trade Unions have been demanding from time to time that eligibility limit and calculation ceiling under the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 should be removed. The Government is seized of their demands.

Upgradation of State Highway into Four Lane

5448. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent any proposal to union Government for upgradation of State Highway between Bangalore and Mangalore into four-lane expressway on a seven year contract basis;

(b) if so, whether the National Highways Authority of India has agreed to this proposal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Indo-Bangla Joint River Commission

5449. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings of Indo-Bangla Joint River Commission held since 1996; and [English]

(b) the decisions arrived at the meetings on sharing of Ganga water by both the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) Three meetings of Indo-Bangladesh Joint River Commission (JRC) have been held between India and Bangladesh since 1996.

(b) The sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka between India and Bangladesh during the lean season (1st January to 31st May) every year since the signing of the Treaty has been discussed in all the three meetings of RJC. It was also agreed during these meetings that sharing of Ganga waters at Farakka will be done as per the stipulations of the Treaty signed between the two countries in December, 1996.

[Translation]

Telephone Facility

5450. SHRI RAJO SINGH :

SHRI NAGMANI :

Will the MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages having telephone facility in Jharkhand State as on date, district-wise; and

(b) the time by which this facility is likely to be provided in the remaining villages of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 7003 villages in Jharkhand State are having telephone facility as on 1/4/2001 as per details given below :

Sl. No.	Secondary Switching Area (SSA)/District	No. of Villages having Telephone Facility
1.	Daltanganj	718
2.	Dhanbad	1220
3.	Dumka	1195
4.	Hazaribagh	1346
5.	Jamshedpur	1136
6.	Ranchi	1388
Total		7003

(b) All the remaining villages in the Jharkhand State are proposed to be provided with telephone facility by March, 2002.

Rubberisation of National Highways

5451. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to make rubberised the main National Highways in the country;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any such proposal from Kerala Government; and

(d) if so, the position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) In order to provide more durable and better performing roads, the Government has decided to introduce the use of rubber/polymer modified bitumen in at least 10% of periodical renewal works of National Highways and also in bitumenous wearing course of original works on heavily trafficked sections of National Highways. State-wise details are given in the statement attached.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl No.	Name of State	Length (in Kms.) with use of modified bitumen.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43.400
2.	Chhattishgarh	5.000
3.	Chandigarh	0.820
4.	Gujarat	25.500
5.	Haryana	41.387
6.	Maharashtra	43.600
7.	Madhya Pradesh	37.000
8.	Meghalaya	4.000
9.	Nagaland	3.000
10.	Punjab	29.750
11.	Rajasthan	91.500
12.	Tamil Nadu	2.615
13.	Uttar Pradesh	41.500

Outstanding Dues

5452. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited has appointed some agents to recover dues from the subscribers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount due against subscribers at present in Delhi and Mumbai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) Outstanding dues against telephone subscribers as on 31-1-2001 is as under:

Delhi	Rs. 601.86 crores
Mumbai	Rs. 393.28 crores

[Translation]

Construction of Houses for Beedi Workers

5453. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme for construction of houses for beedi workers in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether any scheme has been cleared for construction of houses for beedi workers in Maihar and Nagod towns of Satana district; and
- (c) if so, the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have formulated an Integrated Housing Scheme for beedi and Mine Workers in the country.

(b) and (c) Sanctions have been issued for financial assistance to Beedi workers for construction of 250 houses each in Maihar and Nagod in Satana district.

Communications Development Programmes

5454. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to provide infrastructure for the development of communications and IT network and latest KU band technology and to promote distance

education in Uttar Pradesh; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) There is a proposal to provide 7,50,000 telephone connections, Internet Nodes to all Secondary Switching Areas (SSA's) and Reliable Media including optical fibre to all major exchanges during 2001-2002 in Uttar Pradesh by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL). There is no plans regarding the use of Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSNTL) in KU band during 2001-2002 in Uttar Pradesh by BSNL.

Use of Stimulants by Sports Persons

5455. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Delhi High Court has recently expressed strong displeasure on the attitude of the Union Government and the Sports Authority of India for not furnishing the details of the action taken against the sports persons who have been found guilty of using stimulants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government have taken/propose to take any action against the sports persons found guilty of using stimulants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court asked Indian Olympic Association and Sport Authority of India to provide the names of persons who have been assessed positive during the testing.

(c) and (d) The Government is amending the provisions of existing scheme of assistance to National Sports Federation (NFS) wherein the Government is putting the condition that in order to be entitled to grants, the federations are required to furnish a certificate regarding use of prohibited substances by sports persons.

[English]

Zudpi Jungle in Maharashtra

5456. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Chief Minister of Maharashtra met

him recently and discussed the Zudpi Jungle problem in the State;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken so far by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which the Zudpi jungle issue is likely to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The High Power Committee constituted by the Ministry to resolve the issue of Zudpi jungle land in Maharashtra had identified 1,78,525 ha. Zudpi jungle land with Revenue Department. Out of this 32,229.81 ha. was fragmented holding not suitable for forestry, 27,507.34 ha. was under encroachment and 26,672.13 ha. was already under other non-forest uses thereby adding upto 86,409.28 ha. The Committee have recommended that the Government of India should give permission under Forest (Conservation) Act for de-notification of this 86,409 ha. Zudpi land. It also identified 92,115 ha. Zudpi land suitable for forestry and recommended its notification as Reserved Forest/Protected Forest.

The Central Government after examining the report of the Committee, communicated its decision to the State Government vide its letter No. 4-8/87-FC dated 15.9.2000 to allow 32,230 hectare of fragmented/patchy Zudpi jungle to be recorded as revenue land subject to the condition that it will be used for pasture and grazing purpose only and in no case it should be used for construction and mining. The State was also directed to notify 92,115 hectare as Reserved Forest/Protected Forest. Regarding the other two categories of Zudpi jungle i.e. land under encroachment and land already diverted for non-forestry use after 1992, the Ministry had already requested the State Government vide its letter no. 4-8/87-FC dated 12.02.92 to submit specific separate proposals for regularisation of the same as also for making mutation in revenue records in respect of patchy/fragmented holdings not suitable for management as forests.

At the recent meeting the Chief Minister, Maharashtra was apprised of the statutory requirement under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and further progress will depend on the time taken by the State to submit the said proposals complete in all respects.

[English]

Safety of Mine Workers

5457. SHRI M.V.S. MURTHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have formulated any plan to ensure the foolproof safety for workers in mines and to achieve the ambitious goal of zero accident level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have issued any guidelines/directions to ensure the safety of mines workers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the goal of zero accident level in mines is likely to achieve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) Mining is a hazardous occupation. Condition of the working area with respect to roof/sides keeps on changing as the excavation/drivages are extended into the new ground where the geo-mining conditions may be different.

Provisions for safety of persons employed in mines are contained in the Mines Act, 1952, and the Rules and Regulations framed thereunder. The safety laws are kept under constant review and amended from time to time. The Directorate General of Mines Safety also issues guidelines in the form of circulars to the management for improving safety measures. These provisions are required to be complied with by the mine managements. The officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety inspect the mines periodically to oversee the status of compliancy with the safety provisions and to take action as provided for under the mine Act, 1952, in case of default. Zero rate of accident in mines is very difficult to attain.

However, efforts are made to minimize accidents in mines through various initiatives by Directorate General of Mines Safety.

Besides the legislative measures, the Government is promoting a number of other initiatives, such as:

- (a) Conference on Safety in mines,
- (b) Self-regulation by managements,
- (c) Workers' participation in safety management,
- (d) Tripartite and Bipartite reviews at various levels,
- (e) Training of work persons,
- (f) Observance of safety weeks and Safety campaigns,
- (g) National safety Awards.

[Translation]

Refund of Excess Amount to Consumers

5458. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:

SHRI ZORA SINGH MANN:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cellular telephone operators in Delhi and Mumbai have refunded the excess amount charged from the consumers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of excess amount charged from the consumers in these cities during the recent past; and
- (d) the date on which this amount has been refunded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (d) The Telecommunication Tariff (Twelfth Amendment) Order, 2001 notified on 25.1.2001 by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) specifies the amount of refunds that shall be made by cellular service providers to subscribers of cellular mobile service as a result of reduction in license fee. The Order contains the amount of refund of rental per subscriber as well as refund per minute of use by the subscriber for each company. The aggregate refund amounts for each company and for each service area will depend upon individual subscriber usage during the relevant period. The refund to subscribers in all service areas by each company including Mumbai and Delhi are to be completed within a period of 4 months beginning 1st April, 2001. The methodology for providing refunds has been specified in Telecommunication Tariff (Twelfth Amendment) Order, 2001. A report on actual amount refunded in each service area is required to be provided to TRAI at the end of the stipulated period of 4 months beginning 1st April, 2001. The exact details of the refund effected will be available in due course after the service providers submit their report to TRAI.

[English]

Issuing of OB

5459. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether OB is issued on the day of booking of a new telephone connection;
- (b) if so, the number of OBs issued and the number of new telephone connections out of the total provided in Gujarat during the last six month;
- (c) the reasons for delay in clearing the pending telephone connections; and
- (d) the time by which these connections are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, no specific time period has been prescribed. OBs are issued as early as possible.

(b) In Gujarat, during the last six months, 3,08,796 OBs were issued and 3,12,796 telephone connections were provided which includes execution of carried forward OBs as well.

(c) The delay in clearing the pending telephone connections is due to the following reasons:

- (i) Area technically not feasible.
- (ii) Delay in getting permission from railway and local authority for laying underground cable.
- (iii) Non-availability of connectable capacity.

(d) It is planned to clear the pending OBs as of 1.4.2001 progressively during the current financial year.

Basic Telecom Service Licences to Modi Group

5460. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Modi Group has applied for basic telecom service licences in a big way;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of applications received so far by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) from the said Group for basic telecom licences; and
- (d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) M/s. Modi Corp Limited has applied for licence to provide Basic Telephone Service in ten Service Areas viz., Punjab Karnataka, West Bengal, Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

(d) Final decision is subject to rectification of deficiencies in the applications of the company with reference to the Guidelines dated 25.1.2001 on the subject.

Construction of Dams

5461. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the places where big dams have been constructed in the country as on February 28, 2001;

(b) the storage capacity of each dam;

(c) the total areas of land being used for storage at each dam;

(d) the place where big dams are under construction at present; and

(e) the time fixed for completion of each dam with

storage capacity to be provided therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) The details of 48 numbers completed and 9 numbers ongoing large dams of height 100 m and above or with storage capacity 1 billion cubic metre (b.c.m.) or more have been given in the enclosed statement. The completion of ongoing large dams is, *inter-alia*, linked to the provision of adequate funds by the respective State Government and removal of bottlenecks, if any.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of dam	Year of completion	Gross capacity of reservoir (b.c.m.)	Reservoir area(km. square)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh				
1.	Nagarjunasagar Dam	1960	11.56	284.90
2.	Sriramasagar	1977	3.17	450.82
3.	Srisaillam H.E. Project	1984	8.72	616.00
Bihar				
4.	Malthon Dam	1957	1.36	106.2
5.	Panchet Hill	1959	1.50	152.81
Gujarat				
6.	Ukai	1972	8.51	—
7.	Kadana	1979	1.54	—
Himachal Pradesh				
8.	Bhakra Dam	1963	9.62	168.35
9.	Beas Dam	1974	8.57	260.00
10.	Chamera	1994	0.39	9.50
Jammu and Kashmir				
11.	Salal	1987	0.285	9.37
Karnataka				
12.	Krishnarajasagar	1931	1.37	129.00
13.	Tungabhadra	1953	3.76	390.00
14.	Bhadra Dam	1953	2.02	117.30
15.	Linganamakki Dam	1965	4.44	316.65
16.	Malaprabha	1973	1.07	129.50

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Kidkal	1977	1.44	78.00
18.	Narayanpur	1982	1.07	132.00
19.	Hemavathy Project	1983	1.05	91.60
20.	Supa	1987	4.18	123.00
21.	Mani	1988	1.01	57.00
22.	Lakhya	1994	0.245	5.72
23.	Almatti		6.43	790
	Kerala			
24.	Kakki Dam	1966	0.46	17.51
25.	Idukki Dam	1974	1.99	59.83
26.	Cheruthoni	1976	1.99	59.83
27.	Kulamavu	1977	1.99	59.83
28.	Idamalayar	1985	1.15	28.30
	Madhya Pradesh			
29.	Gandhisagar	1960	7.32	660
30.	Tawa	1975	2.31	200.55
31.	Hasdeo Bango		3.42	—
32.	Bargi		3.92	273
	Maharashtra			
33.	Koyna	1964	2.80	115.00
34.	Paithan	1976	2.85	398.00
35.	Ujjani	1981	3.14	306.50
36.	Isapur	1982	1.25	—
	Orissa			
37.	Hirakund	1957	8.10	727.00
38.	Salandi	1972	5.73	32.30
39.	Balimela	1977	3.61	160.08
40.	Rengali	1985	4.40	353.00
41.	Upper Kolab	1985	1.22	125.00
	Rajasthan			
42.	Ranapratapsagar	1968	2.90	198.29
	Tamil Nadu			
43.	Mettur Dam	1934	2.71	153.46

1	2	3	4	5
44.	Sholayar Dam Uttar Pradesh	1971	0.15	5.26
45.	Ramganga	1974	0.25	19.72
46.	Matatila	1964	1.13	1388.50
47.	Rajghat West Bengal		2.172	2453
48.	Kangsabati Andhra Pradesh	1965	1.04	124.32
49.	Somasila	Under cons.	2.21	212.28
50.	Kandleru Bihar	-do-	1.92	142.32
51.	Ichha at Kuju	-do-	1.04	127.00
52.	Chandil	-do-	1.96	174.10
53.	North Koel Uttar Pradesh	-do-	1.17	71.20
54.	Tehri	-do-	3.54	42.0
55.	Kishau	-do-	1.81	21.70
56.	Lakhwar	-do-	0.58	29.50
57.	Vyasi	-do-	1.16	9.65

Illegal Immigration*[Translation]*

5462. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians lost their lives in a cargo vessel carrying illegal immigrants broke down and sank in the Mediterranean Sea on January 1, 2001; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to eliminate such illegal immigration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) As per available information no Indian has lost his life in the said tragedy.

(b) The steps taken/being taken to prevent illegal emigration of Indian workers include scrutiny of travel documents including employment contracts by the Protectors of Emigrants, before grant of emigration clearance, and further scrutiny of these documents by the immigration authorities at the airports. The State Governments have also been requested to issue instructions right upto the police station level to keep a strict vigil on the activities of the unauthorised agents.

Allotment of EPF Numbers

5463. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has given orders to all the Provident Fund Commissioners for allotment of E.P.F. numbers to the new contractors and other employees after their registration;

(b) if so, the date on which the said orders were issued; and

(c) the number of such people registered and E.P.F. nos. allotted to them, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) In order to remove administrative difficulties in coverage of factories/establishments a letter was issued on 17.1.2001 enabling the Employees Provident Fund Organisation to allot separate PF code numbers to the employers rendering services on contract basis and employing 20 or more persons and having registration as a shop or permanent income tax number or bank account number.

(c) The information about new establishments including those belonging to contractors covered in Feb., 2001 is given in the statement attached.

Statement

Name of Region	No of establishments Covered during the month of Feb, 2001
Andhra Pradesh	136
Bihar	28
Delhi	54
Gujarat	72
Himachal Pradesh	8
Haryana	47
Karnataka	92
Kerala	23
Maharashtra	172
Madhya Pradesh	36
NER	12
Orissa	8
Punjab	64
Rajsthan	24
Tamil Nadu	74
Uttar Pradesh	44
West Bengal	93

[English]

Accidents in Ports/Factories

5464. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an increase in accidents in major ports and factories;

(b) whether the Director General of Factory Advise Services and Labour Institute is not performing the responsibility of safety and working conditions in factories and ports; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government against DGFASLI for failure in performance of its duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Image of AAI

5465. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whehter the Airport Authority of India has a scheme to re-build its image;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the Airport Authority of India is likely to succeed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Corporate image building exercise is a continuous process. Airports Authority of India briefs the media through Press conferences at regular intervals on all important happenings in the organisation. The success of this exercise is overall satisfactory.

[Translation]

Payment of Provident Fund

5466. SHRI RAM TALAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment of provident fund is made within thirty days after applying for the same;

(b) if so, the number of cases reported in which payment of provident fund has not been made within thirty days during the last two years, State-wise; and

(c) the number of officers held responsible for not settling the cases within thirty days, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Employees Provident Fund claims complete in all respects are required to be settled within 30 days from the date of their receipt in the concerned Employees' Provident Fund Office.

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

[English]

Employees Pension Scheme

5467 SHRI BIKASH CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of subscribers ceased their membership of E.P.F. scheme between 1995-96 and 1998-99 as well as the number of pension beneficiaries as on March 21, 1999;

(b) whether a large number of employees covered under pension scheme are not getting their due pension for the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) During the period between 1995-96 and 1998-99, there were 4,94,102 persons who applied for payment of pension under the Employees pension Scheme, 1995. Number of cases settled for pension benefits during the said period was 2,92,600. Under the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995, pension claims complete in all respects are required to be settled within a period of 30 days from the date of their receipt in the concerned EPF office. However, sometimes, settlement of claims is delayed due to incomplete application forms, lack of succession certificate, photographs etc. Sometimes a claim is rejected as the same is not admissible under the scheme. According to available information, necessary arrangement has been made, to ensure payment of pension on monthly basis to the eligible persons. In order to provide prompt service to the EPF subscribers, a massive computerisation programme has been launched in the EPF Organisation.

[Translation]

5468. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:

SHIR VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of mica in the country during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 till date;

(b) the percentage of mica exported out of the total production during the last three years; and

(c) the total foreign exchange earned from its export during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines, the production of mica during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 (upto Feb.) is given below:

(Quantity in Tonnes)

Item	1999-2000	2000-2001
Production		
Mica (crude)	1273	964
Mica (waste and scrap)	1039	879

The figures for production of mica in 2001-2002 is not available. Production estimates of mica are made by IBM on the basis of the information furnished by reporting mines. However, mica is also recovered from secondary sources and tailings, details of which are not maintained. The statistics on export of mica include export of mica in all forms. Hence it is not feasible to relate the percentage of mica exported and the total production of mica. However, as per information furnished by Department of Commerce in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the total foreign exchange earned from exports of mica in 1998-99 is Rs. 7019 Lakhs, in 1999-2000 is Rs. 6354 Lakhs and in 2000-2001 (upto October, 2000) is Rs. 3653 lakhs.

[English]

Employment in Abandoned Mining Townships

5469. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that in normal circumstances, a mining township is destined to die when a mining company depletes the mineral resources and leaves for a new location resulting in social and economic disruption in old township;

(b) if so, whether the Government have contemplated any policy in regard to broad base activities and sources of employment in abandoned townships; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) to (c) Under the National Mineral Policy, 1993, it has been provided that mineral deposits being exhaustible, once the process of economical extraction of a mine is complete, there is need for its closure. Whenever mine closure becomes necessary, it should be orderly and systematic and so planned as to help the workers and the dependent community rehabilitate themselves without undue hardship.

It is known quite in advance before the actual closure of the mines that the mining activity in the area would cease. The mining lease holding Companies facilitate smooth transition through a policy of offering voluntary retirement as well as absorbing the surplus personnel to the extent feasible in other units of the mining company, and in some cases also undertake career counseling on alternative means of employment. The community facilities and services maintained by the mining company are also gradually handed over to other service providers, including the State Government concerned.

Release of World Employment Report 2001 by ILO

5470. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether ILO has released its world employment report 2001;

(b) if so, whether despite the growing potential in information technology to create jobs and super development the global employment picture remain deeply flawed especially in respect of India;

(c) whether the Government have gone through the main aspects of ILO report in regard to India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether inspite of best talent in the IT in India, the country has not provided sufficient opportunities of employment; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The world Employment Report has indicated that global employment situation is improving but remains "deeply flawed" in many areas, but there are no specific references to India in the above remarks.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The World Employment Report has brought out that only about one half of the world's population has access to the electricity, phone-lines and other infrastructure necessary to enable them to adopt information technologies in production and consumption; that leaves a large proportion of the world population at a significant disadvantage. The report also indicates that the software industry in India which grew at an annual rate of over 50% during the 1990's is one of its spectacular achievements and has created thousands of jobs.

(e) and (f) The employment opportunities in IT industry are expanding. However, some of the IT professionals are leaving the country for better employment opportunities. This movement of knowledge workers increases the long-term opportunities of Indian IT companies in the global market. Government of India is adopting measures to strengthen the infrastructure and promoting of venture creation, thereby encouraging IT companies to set up off-shore software development and IT enabled services.

Regional Employment Exchanges

5471. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any request from North-East States for creating regional employment exchanges in each district; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Home Affairs had received a copy of the demands submitted to the Prime Minister by the North-East M.Ps forum. One of these demands included creation of a regional employment exchange. Ministry of Home Affairs have sought comments from concerned agencies/ministers.

[Translation]

P.F. Cases for Payment

5472. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cases relating to P.F. payments are lying pending in different States;

(b) if so, the number of such cases as on date and the reasons for not making the payment State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for ensuring of P.F. payment in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) A statement showing pending Provident Fund claims, region-wise, as on 31.3.2001 is attached. The PF claims complete in all respects are required to be settled with 30 days from the date of their receipt in the concerned Employees Provident Fund Office. However, sometime, settlement of PF claims is delayed due to incomplete application form, lack of succession certificate, photographs etc. A massive computerization programme has been launched in Employees Provident Fund Organisation for prompt settlement of PF claims. Procedures and rules have been reviewed and simplified for facilitating expeditious disposal of EPF claims. Public Grievances machinery has been strengthened and fully computerized. The vigilance machinery has also been strengthened and activated to check and prevent malafide delays in settlement of PF claims. Lok Adalats are being organised in the EPF offices for on the spot redressal of grievances of EPF subscribers.

Statement

Name of Region	No. of Pending PF claims as on 31.3.2001 (Provisional)
Andhra Pradesh	161
Bihar	193
Delhi	828
Gujarat	12,084
Himachal Pradesh	264
Haryana	2069
Karnataka	6242
Kerala	314
Maharashtra	25779
Madhya Pradesh	25
NER	532
Orissa	945
Punjab	1930
Rajasthan	560
Tamil Nadu	8168
Uttar Pradesh	6260
West Bengal	1217

Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Central Zoo Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3571/2001]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun for the year 1999-2000, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, 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 3572/2001]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Almora, 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 G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment and Development, Almora, 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 3573/2001]

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU):

Sir, on behalf of Shri T.R. Baalu, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Pollution Control Board, Delhi, for the year 1999-2000, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3570/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Zoo

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Sir I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, 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 V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida, 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 3574/2001]

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA) :
Sir I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Aluminium Company Limited and the Ministry of Mines, for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3575/2001]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section(1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Vayudoot Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96, along-with Audited Accounts and Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3576/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) SHRI B.C. KHANDURI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R. 208 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 2001 making certain amendments in the Central Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Rules, 1998 under sub-section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3577/2001]

- (2) A copy of the Notification No. S.O. 293(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th March, 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 556(E) dated the 7th June, 2000 issued under sections 7 and 8A of the National Highways Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3578/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Highways Authority of India, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts, under section 24 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Highways Authority of India, 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 3579/2001]

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3580/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1999-2000 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and

English versions) by the Government of the working of the Betwa River Board, Jhansi, for the year 1999-2000.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3581/2001]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAISINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Hindustan Copper Limited and the Ministry of Mines for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3582/2001]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Kolkata, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Jute Corporation of India Limited, Kolkata, for the year 1999-2000, along-with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3583/2001]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Silk Board, 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 Central Silk Board, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.

- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3584/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi, for the year 1999-2000 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 3585/2001]

12.03 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Thirteenth Report and Minutes and Tour Report

[Translation]

SHRI KARIYA MUNDA (KHUNTI): I beg to present the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes including minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sitting of the Committee relating thereto on "Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Second Report (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs (Department of Justice) Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Judiciary with special reference to the appointments in Supreme Court and High Courts;" and to lay Study Tour Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

12.03½ hrs.

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO STARRED
 QUESTION NO. 65 FEBRUARY, 26, 2001 RE: CELLULAR
 TELEPHONE SERVICE

AND

STATEMENT GIVING REASONS FOR DELAY

[Translations]

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM
 VILAS PASWAN): Sir, some typing errors have inadvertently
 crept in the annexure to the reply to Starred Question No. 65
 on 26.2.2001.

Therefore, in the annexure 1 to the reply, under heading
 Value Added Service, the words and figures at Serial No. 4, 5, 7
 and 8 should be read as following:

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| (4) | Calling Line
Identification (CLI) : | Rs. 50 per month; |
| (5) | Voice Mail
Service (VMS) | (a) Rs. 100 per month or
(b) On receipt of
message Rs. 2 per
minute |
| (7) | Call conferencing | Rs. 50 per month |
| (8) | Item-wise Bill
(detailed bill) | Rs. 50 per month |

As soon as the errors were detected action was initiated
 to correct the reply.

12.04 hrs.

[English]

*STATEMENTS CORRECTING REPLY TO STARRED
 QUESTION NO. 210 RE: DEVELOPMENT AND
 UPGRADATION OF AIRPORTS

AND

STARRED QUESTION NO. 220 RE: EXODUS OF
 PILOTS-LAID

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD
 YADAV): Sir, I beg to lay statements regarding:

- (i) correcting the reply given on March 12, 2001 to
 Starred Question No. 210—by Shri Raghuvansh

*Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

Prasad Singh, M.P. and Shri R.S. Patil, M.P.
 regarding Development and Upgradation of
 Airports; and

- (ii) correcting the reply given on March 12, 2001 to
 Starred Question No. 220 by Shri G.S. Basavaraj,
 M.P. and Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi, M.P.
 regarding Exodus of Pilots.

Statement

(i) *Statement Correcting the Reply to starred
 question No. 210 on 12th March, 2001 regarding development
 and upgradation of Airports*

In reply to parts (e) and (f) of the Lok Sabha Starred
 Question No. 210 on 12th March, 2001 regarding Development
 and Upgradation of Airports, it was stated under item No. (ii) :

The runway at Calicut airport in Kerala has been extended
 upto 9000 feet at a cost of Rs. 9.60 crores. There is a plan
 to expand the international terminal building.

2. On scrutiny later, it was found that there was an
 inadvertent error in reply to item No. (ii) of parts (e) and (f) of
 the question. Instead of indicating the correct cost of the project
 of expansion and strengthening of runway as 'Rs. 99.60 crores',
 it was erroneously typed as 'Rs. 9.60 crores'. The error is deeply
 regretted.

3. The reply to item No. (ii) of parts (e) and (f) of the
 question should read as follows:

(e) and (f): (ii) The runway at Calicut airport in Kerala has
 been extended upto 9000 feet at a cost of Rs.
 99.60 crores. There is a plan to expand the
 international terminal building.

Statement

(ii) *Statement Correcting the reply to starred question
 No. 220 in Lok Sabha on 12.3.2001 regarding exodus of pilots.*

In the English version in reply to Parts (a) and (b) of Lok
 Sabha Starred Question No. 220 on 12.3.2001 regarding
 Exodus of Pilots, it was stated:

"During the last 10 years, the main outflow of Pilots was
 during the period 1991 to 1995 when 165 Pilots had resigned.
 However, during the next five years only 21 Pilots had resigned.
 During the years 2000 and 2001 (till date) though 13 Pilots had
 submitted their resignation, only one resignation was accepted
 since the remaining 12 pilots had not given the requisite notice
 period.

No information is available whether the Pilots who left Indian
 Airlines had joined International Airlines."

2. On scrutiny later, it was found that there was an inadvertent error in English version of the reply to the question. The error is deeply regretted.

3. The correct reply to English version of parts (a) and (b) of the question should read as follows:

"(a) and (b) One hundred and eighty six (186) Pilots resigned from Indian Airlines during the years 1991 to 2000 and upto 28.2.2001 in the current calendar year. Of these, resignations of 12 Pilots in the year 2000, who did not give the requisite notice period, have not been accepted. The reasons given by these Pilots are:

Various reasons including personal/domestic	Prevailing conditions in IA to join Air India	Reasons not given	Total
64	37	85	186

Indian Airlines has no information regarding the employment of these Pilots by international airlines. However, of the 186 Pilots referred to above, 12 have rejoined Indian Airlines and 39 have joined Alliance Air on contract basis."

12.05 hrs.

MOTION RE: TWENTIETH REPORT OF
BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND
MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI
PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Sir, I beg to move the following:

"That this House do agree with the Twentieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th April, 2001."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Twentieth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 20th April, 2001."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Item No.15. Matters under Rule 377 listed for the day may please be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

[Interruptions]

12.05½ hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

(i) Need to promote export of sugar

[Translation]

SHRI MANSINH PATEL (MANDVI): A huge quantity of sugar has been stocked and it will get perished like wheat and consequently, the Government of India will have to bear the loss of sugar worth crores of rupees. In this regard, I request the Government to promote its export by giving subsidy on it, which would result in the earning of foreign exchange and farmers would get incentives for sugarcane cultivation also. It will also help in opening of closed sugar mills. As the whole country is aware, that a number of sugar mills are closed leading to difficulties to lakhs of people—be they farmers, mill workers or owners.

Therefore, I request the Union Government to arrange for the export of sugar by providing subsidy on it.

(ii) Need for proper maintenance of Mahatma Gandhi
Setu on River Ganga in Patna, Bihar.

DR. M.P.JAISWAL (BETTIAH): I want to draw the attention of Government towards the dilapidated condition of Ganga bridge, located in Patna over River Ganga, which is popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi Setu. This bridge connects National Highway 19 and National Highway 77. It was constructed in 1982 and is the only bridge to connect North and South Bihar. Its condition is very poor and at some places it is badly damaged. The State Government has even put up a board to the effect that the bridge is in a dilapidated condition. The maintenance and repair of the bridge is vital keeping in view its importance otherwise its fate would be the same as that of the bridge in Korea where half of bridge had fell in the river.

I request the Union Government to take the bridge in its control and get it repaired so as to avoid any major accident.

(iii) Need for construction of National Highway
between Umarpara and Ambaji in Gujarat.

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA (BHARUCH): In Gujarat, the tribal highway runs from Umarpara on the Southern border of Gujarat to Ambaji on the northern Border of Gujarat. Normally, the transportation in Gujarat depends on National Highway No.8 from Dhulia towards Gujarat. There is heavy traffic on this highway and therefore, it is often gets jammed. The burden on this route will lessen with the construction of the tribal State highway. Besides, the industrial development, literacy and other developmental works will be promoted in the tribal areas. It will

also help in establishment of small industries here since the raw material would become easily available.

I request through this House that the process of construction of this highway be started soon so that the development of tribals is ensured.

(iv) Need to establish a Central Agricultural Research Institute in Bahraich district, U.P.

SHRI PADAM SEN CHOUDHURY (BAHRAICH): Following the reorganisation of Uttar Pradesh, the Agricultural University of Pant Nagar now falls under Uttaranchal and the Terai region of Uttar Pradesh does not have any institution for agricultural research and education. Fortunately, in district Bahraich of my Parliamentary constituency there is Girijapuri Central State farm which has thousands of acres of land and where work on evolving new technique for breeding seeds is going on. This region is agriculturally backward. A Terai Agricultural Research Institute is needed for the Agricultural development of this region. Therefore, I request you to sanction the opening of a Central Terai Agricultural Research Institute in district Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh.

(v) Need to develop Swai Madhopur railway junction in Rajasthan as a model railway station.

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (SWAI MADHOPUR): Swai Madhopur has come on the map of the world as far as tourism is concerned. The railway station here caters to the needs of tourists of National Tiger Project but its condition is not good and does not present a good image of the city to the world. The Government should take decision immediately to make this station a model station.

On an average, every year 50000 foreigners visit the tiger project area and lakhs of domestic tourists use this station. However, the station offers practically no facilities. An information centre was sanctioned during last session, but it is yet to be opened.

I strongly demand for declaring the India famous Swai Madhopur junction railway station, Rajasthan as model station.

(vi) Need to restore Jal Dhara Yojana in Jharkhand.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (RANCHI): Most of the area of Jharkhand is hilly region and dotted by forests and small and marginal farmers live there. Jal Dhara irrigation is vital for farmers and tribals of the area as check dams have not been constructed small irrigation projects or large projects have not been implemented and the farmers have to use Jal Dhara Yojana to irrigate their fields. This scheme has been discontinued since 1998-99 which is causing difficulties to the farmers for the irrigation of their fields. Many people, who had dug wells under

the scheme, were not paid the due amount and many wells have become non-functional.

Through this House, I request the Union Government to make payment for the wells dug under Jal Dhara Yojana and also for the construction of check dams. The digging of wells under the schemes should be discontinued so that poor farmers could irrigate their fields in time, since these schemes are vital for the State of Jharkhand.

(vii) Need to restore service of Gondwana Express running between Nagpur and Nizamuddin

[English]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): Sir, from the Railway Budget for the year 2001-2002, I find that the Vidarbha region has not been given adequate facilities in respect of Railways. There is no provision for new trains from Nagpur and no fresh projects for this region has been contemplated. Even, the people of Vidarbha region are being denied with the existing train facility provided to them for the sector Nagpur-Nizamuddin.

The Gondwana Express from Nagpur to Nizamuddin which was started in 1995 as a daily train, was subsequently made biweekly.

There is a lot of resentment among all sections of people for the withdrawal of Gondwana Express, the only direct train connecting Nagpur with the country's capital.

Sir, I would urge upon the Minister of Railways to kindly reconsider their decision and to restore Gondwana Express immediately to run between Nagpur-Nizamuddin biweekly, if not daily.

(viii) Need to include synonyms of Meda Community of Karnataka in the list of Scheduled Tribe

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR (MYSORE): I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India to the need for the inclusion of some communities in Karnataka State in the list of Scheduled Tribes. "Medaara, Medaru, Medari, Buruda and Buddaru these five synonyms of "Meda" community have been left out from the list of Scheduled Tribe. The students and the Government employees belonging to the above synonyms are facing a great hardship as they are treated as general category. Unless the Union Government takes up their cases on priority, they will continue to suffer as they are deprived of the reservation facilities as granted to the Scheduled Tribes.

As such, I demand that the synonyms of Meda community be included in the list of Scheduled Tribe without any further delay.

- (ix) **Need to provide more funds to Government of Rajasthan for providing relief to the people affected by drought in southern Rajasthan.**

[Translation]

SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA (BANSWARA): South Rajasthan is a tribal dominated areas. My Parliamentary constituency Banswara falls in the same area. Dungarpur and Banswara both districts fall under my Parliamentary constituency. At present South Rajasthan is in the grip of severe famine. A famine of such severity has not occurred in the last 100 years. The common men are facing the problem of drinking water, foodgrains and employment. There is no fodder for animals. As a result, cattle are dying. Ponds and wells in the villages have dried up. The greatest problem is that water level has receded considerably and so the hand pumps and tubewells have become non-functional. People of that area also tried to migrate to neighbouring State of Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh but they had to return because famine was there too. People are facing hardships due to non-availability of drinking water, fodder and foodgrains. I request the Government of India to increase the allocation to the maximum possible extent to Rajasthan Government to tackle the famine situation.

- (x) **Need to include Bhuban town in Dhenkanal Parliamentary Constituency, Orissa under Centrally Sponsored Integrated small and medium town development scheme**

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL): The Bhuban Notified Area Council (NAC) came into existence on 5th June, 1972. The total population of NAC is above 20000 and it stretches over an area of 18.04 Sq. Kms. The basic amenities are totally absent in this town. On the other hand, it is gaining prominence day by day because of its close proximity to the proposed steel plant of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. at Dubri. It is located at the border of Dhenkanal, Jajpur and Keonjhar districts. The ongoing Daitarti-Banaspani and Angul Sukinda Road line are not very far from this town. Unless the town is developed in a systematic way, it will not be able to cope up with the basic need of the growing population. The State Government is not able to pay proper attention for the development of the town since it is facing a serious financial crunch.

As such, I demand that Bhuban town in Dhenkanal Parliamentary constituency be included in 2000-2001/2001-2002 financial year under the centrally sponsored integrated small and medium town development scheme.

- (xi) **Need for early repatriation of Reang refugees camping in Tripura to Mizoram**

SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY (TRIPURA WEST) : Since October 1977, Government of Tripura has been facing a problem of influx of Reang Tribals in Tripura from Mizoram. These refugees presently numbering 31,811 (5,885 families) have come gradually over a period of 2 years and are accommodated in six camps in Kanchanpur Sub Division of North Tripura District. The Government of Tripura has taken up the issue of their immediate return with the Government of Mizoram as well as the Government of India. In November, 1997 after persuasion by the Home Ministers of Tripura and Mizoram, 3000 Reangs returned to Mizoram but came back subsequently. There have been a number of meetings regarding their repatriation. Chief Ministers of Tripura and Mizoram met in May, 1998. Union Home Minister held a meeting on 7th August, 2000. It was decided therein that 16000 refugees shall be repatriated by October, 2000. While the rest shall be accepted back by Mizoram after verification within December, 2001. However, nothing happened. The latest decision is that the Joint Secretary (N.E.), Home Ministry shall visit Mizoram in April, 2001 and after consultation draw up a phased repatriation programme. Earlier, in October, 1999, National Human Rights Commission after a spot assessment, had emphasised that it is the constitutional obligation of the Government of Mizoram to take back the Reang refugees and ensure their peaceful resettlement. Even after more than three years, nothing concrete for return of the refugees has yet been done.

I request the Union Government to look in the matter.

- (xii) **Need to safeguard the interests of Powerloom/ Handloom workers in Bhagalpur, Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY (BHAGALPUR): Due to insufficient supply of power, yarn and other necessary items, the world famous silk Industry of Bhagalpur has been badly affected. As a result, weavers working on ten thousand powerlooms/ Handlooms vis-a-vis their families and families of more than 5 lakh poor people associated with this industry are facing the situation of starvation and are fleeing from there under compulsion. Entire business of the area and development process have come to a stand-still. The situation has deteriorated all the more after re-organisation of Bihar as the Union Government have not given any economic package to the state.

I, therefore request the Government to take effective measures for supply of power directly from Kahalgaon NTPC

and for providing yarn in order to improve the said condition.

(xiii) Need to strengthen Cooperative Banks by providing financial assistance

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): The Government of India should encourage Co-operative Banks by assisting them for sustenance as they are serving 11 crore farmers. The Government of India in the past have given Rs. 25,000 crores to Commercial Banks for re-vitalisation. The Co-operative Banks also need assistance in view of liberalisation. Just like Banking reforms for which the Government gave assistance, so also the co-operative banks need reforms. The Jagdish Kapoor Committee set up by the Government in 1999 submitted their recommendations on 27th July, 2000 and subsequently the Government constituted a Committee consisting of representatives of State Governments, Financial Institutions and national level federation to go through the recommendations. That Committee recommended for acceptance of the report but there is no mention in the Budget for uplifting the Co-operative Banks whose role in rural development is very vital. In the last Budget, the Finance Minister assured that funds would be released through NABARD and modalities would be decided by Jagdish Kapoor Committee. As nothing has been done so far, I urge upon the Government to take steps for reforms in Co-operative Banks through one time assistance to the tune of only Rs. 7500 crores for re-vitalisation of the Banks.

(xiv) Need for a cantonment at Kaimur hills in Rohtas District, Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH (ARRAH) : An ancient Rohtasgarh Fort is built on the Kaimoor hill under Rohtas Police station in Rohtas district of Bihar. This fort was built by king Rohitashva. It is a famous tourist centre. Every year thousands of Indian and foreign visitors come here to see it. It has a glorious past. But during the last few years, this fort has become a haven for anti-social elements, news to this effect has been published in many newspapers. It has also been suggested in the Newspapers that 12 Battalions of the army would be deployed to get it evacuated. If the Government do not pay attention in time, then this fort would completely become a haven of criminals and anti-social elements.

Therefore, through you, I request the Government to make an army cantonment on the Kaimoor hills as soon as possible so that this fort could be protected and peace could be restored here.

(xv) Need to save Moradabad in UP from recurring floods

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH (MORADABAD) : Each year hundreds of villages are inundated during the monsoons by water from rivers Ramaganga and Gangan, in Moradabad District of U.P. Experts recommended setting up mud, rubble and stone embankments to prevent recurrence leading to losses and inconvenience to the public. Estimates were made for about Rupees Twenty Eight Lakhs for these works that would, in effect, save crores in damages and in relief measures. No work has been started, no money has been sanctioned to make embankments-leaving Moradabad city and numerous villages at the mercy of floods; water retention; disease causing inconvenience.

I request the Union Government to take steps for construction of embankments on the rivers and save Moradabad from recurring floods.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, the Statement to be made by the hon. Raksha Mantri.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, U.P.) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, today the condition of farmers in the country is very bad, they are living under worse circumstances(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let the hon. Minister of Defence speak. Please first listen to his statement.

[English]

It is the solemn occasion.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the Statement of the hon. Minister.

(Interruptions)*

12.06 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Recent Incidents At India-Bangladesh Border

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : Hon. Member are

aware of the grave incidents on the India-Bangladesh border during 16-19th April, 2001, caused by the unwarranted and unprovoked intrusion by the Bangladesh Rifles forces into the village of Pyriduwah, in the East Khasi Hill District of Meghalaya.

Tension, thereafter, spread to other sectors, including in Assam where there was heavy exchange of fire between the BSF and the BDR in Boraibari on the night of April 17-18. On 18th April morning, one of the BSF patrol parties went missing. Thereafter, we learnt with concern that Bangladesh media had reported a statement by the Director-General, Bangladesh Rifles, that 16 BSF personnel had been killed in an encounter.

The matter was immediately taken up through the regular channels of the BSF as also through diplomatic channels both in Delhi and in Dhaka, to convey our grave concern at this unprovoked and unwarranted intrusion by the BDR and calling for immediate cessation of firing; withdrawal of the BDR and restoration of the *status quo ante*. Confirmation was received from the Bangladesh Government, the same night (18th April), that necessary instructions were being issued for withdrawal of the BDR and restoration of *status quo ante*. This withdrawal was completed by the night 19th April.

When the bodies of our BSF personnel were returned on 20th evening, as demanded by us, shocking marks of injury and mutilation, as also evidence of eight of them having been shot at point blank range were found. In the case of Deputy Commandant Mandal, *rigor mortis* was just setting in, indicating that death had occurred within the last 24 hours. The marks of injury on all bodies were recorded and signed by representatives of both BSF and BDR.

A strong protest was lodged with the Government of Bangladesh at the inhuman treatment of our BSF personnel. We have been assured by the Bangladesh Government that all aspects of these incidents would be investigated, also that the BDR action was taken without their knowledge and was regrettable. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has spoken to Prime Minister Vajpayee last night. The Prime Minister conveyed to her India's deep sense of hurt and anguish over the inhuman treatment meted out to our BSF personnel. Sheikh Hasina stated that she, too, was deeply saddened and concerned by these incidents and confirmed that a full investigation would be carried out into all aspects of the incidents including the mutilation of the bodies of BSF personnel.

Earlier, I had received a call from the Bangladesh Foreign Minister expressing exactly the same sentiment.

I would like to reiterate that strong ties of friendship exist between the two countries, and acts of criminal adventurism should not be permitted to affect these ties. It is now up to the

Government of Bangladesh to act against the perpetrators of these crimes and restore confidence and trust.

The Government of India would like to place on record admiration for the selfless sacrifice of our brave BSF personnel. Our hearts go out to their families.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition wants to make a submission.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (SAMBHAL) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we wish to have friendly relations with Bangladesh but how is it that this friendship is being maintained at the cost of killings of our soldiers.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice in this regard. I should also be given a chance to speak ... (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have given the floor to the hon. Leader of Opposition.

SHRIMATI SONIA GANDHI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the brutal killing of our brave jawans of the BSF by Bangladesh Rifles personnel and the indignities perpetrated on them even as the bodies were being returned have shocked and shaken every one of us, every Indian.

We condemn this inhuman and barbarous act in the strongest terms. I join the hon. Minister of External Affairs in expressing our profound sorrow and deep anguish to the members of the bereaved families. No word of ours can soften the blow that has befallen them.

The Congress Party treats this as a national matter, which impinges directly on our relationship with Bangladesh. We attach great importance to this relationship. At the same time, it is our earnest hope that the Government of Bangladesh, without delay, would constitute an inquiry and bring to book those guilty of this heinous crime. I also hope that such an incident would not be repeated, lest it adversely affects our bilateral relationship.

At this moment, I do not wish to say more except that the hon. External Affairs Minister's statement allays some of our doubts and fears but not all of them. I trust, as more facts come to light that the Government would keep this House informed. Was there an intelligence failure? Was there any slackness in

vigilance? These are grave matters to which this House and the country await answers.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I agree that good relations should be restored between Bangladesh and India. Thousands of our soldiers sacrificed their lives and thousands of millions of rupees were wasted to restore good relations with Bangladesh. We gave refuge to lakhs of Bangladeshi people in our country and provided everything to them including land and property. We are not satisfied with the statement of hon. Minister of Defence in this regard. How the Government have reacted to the brutal killings of our soldiers. We want friendship with them but not at the cost of such inhuman killings. I would like to know the facts in this regard. Same thing is happening in Kashmir also. Friendly relations are being maintained at the cost of the lives of the people of the state and army men.

We do want that India should have good relations with Pakistan and Bangladesh but the way our soldiers were killed, prove that they were caught, oppressed and tortured by them, and ultimately shot dead. Hon. Minister has himself asserted that the soldiers were caught hold of and were shot dead from a very short distance. It is an inhumane and torturous behaviour, it is a conspiracy to resort anti India propaganda in Bangladesh whether only Bangladesh is involved in this incident or any other country is also involved in it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, hon. Prime Minister is sitting here. He should clarify the fact in this regard and should consider this matter seriously. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there is a saying: "Bhaya Bin Preet Na Howe Deva", meaning thereby, that even friendship does not take place without fear. Entire country is aggrieved by this incident and the security forces have been demoralised. You should take an action which may strengthen the security of our country as also maintain the morale of our defence forces. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, borders of our country are not secure in the regime of BJP Government. This is the feeling that prevails in the entire country. We do not want to play politics with the security of our country because it is foremost for us. You will have to be serious in giving your reply in this regard. Therefore, if you cannot give your reply alongwith the facts then give it tomorrow or day after tomorrow positively to the House. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, there should be no negligence with regard to the security of our borders with Bangladesh. Our country has sacrificed many lives for maintaining its friendship with Bangladesh, but Bangladesh, in turn, has adopted an inhumane behaviour with the soldiers of our country. Kindly answer to these facts, keeping in mind the entire state of affairs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mulayam Singh ji, you know that it is not a convention of our House to give clarification or reply on a statement.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, this matter pertains to the security of the country.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have listened to you, the entire House is concerned on this issue, every Member is becoming emotional, we all feel anguished on this. And that is why hon. Minister of defence has given this statement.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I know that it is according to the rules, I have seen the Rule Book. You are right, but we should not look into the rules and regulations when there is a question of country's security. And that is why I would like to know as to why our soldiers were given such an inhumane treatment and killed brutally.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mulayam Singh Ji, this matter has to be dealt with very seriously.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am allowing the hon. Members only to express their concerns, as an extra-ordinary case.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, please resume your seat. Now, Shri Yerrannaidu.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the killing of BSF personnel by Bangladesh Rifles is a very serious matter. It is a heinous crime. We have to deal with it sternly. We have to use our diplomatic relations also. It is a very shocking news. When we are maintaining good relations with that country, why has it happened? In my view, something is wrong somewhere. So, we have to assess the situation. Even while we are maintaining good relations, this has happened and it is a very serious matter.

Everywhere this question is being asked. I went to my constituency and everybody was asking me this question—it is a small country, we are maintaining good relations; when it is so, why did it happen like this? Sixteen BSF personnel were killed in the incident. It is not a small thing. We have to create confidence in them. The Government of India also should take stern action.

On my own behalf and on behalf of my party — Telugu Desam Party — I convey heart-felt condolences to the members of the bereaved families.

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY (BHAGALPUR) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the statement given by the hon. Minister of Defence with regard to the incident that took place at Bangladesh border is not satisfactory. The morale of our army has gone down due to such painful and shameful incidents that have occurred in the recent past. The entire defence system is in disorder. There is no doubt saying that we would like to maintain good relations with our neighbouring countries and good relation should be maintained at any cost. But this fact should also be thoroughly enquired into as to which power is trying to make our relationship harsh and wants to create a bad environment through such a provocative action in the country. The Government should make a clarification in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Government have given a statement in this regard.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir Hon. Minister of Defence has given a statement that this incident took place on 17th April. I had raised this issue on 18th April. Hon. Prime Minister and the Minister of Defence were also Present here. Why did you make a delay in giving the statement? Our soldiers have been brutally killed, boiled water was thrown on them, knives were pierced in their eyes and even their dead bodies were not handed over to their family members, it means they were killed in such a gruesome manner. How a small country dared which got independence due to us, our people sacrificed their lives for them. For how long shall we support non-violence. You will say that I.S.I. is behind this, even it has been published in the newspapers also that ISI is involved in it. ISI activities are going on. I have repeatedly asserted in the House that activities of ISI have increased in our eastern states. Today they have dared to do such a brutal act against us. I urge upon the Government to take action against them. For how long shall we keep on deliberating. We made the Tashkent agreement and the 'Shimla Agreement' but what happened, we penetrated inside in 1947. We released Azhar Masood in Kandhar, but what was the out-come thereof. Our men are being killed by them as well as ISI agency of Pakistan through Proxy was. I demand from the Government to attack on Bangladesh on this incident. Around four crore people from Bangladesh have infiltrated in India. I had raised this issue during the tenure of Shivsena and Bharatiya Janata Party in Mumbai, but many hon. Members of this House had opposed it. When Shri Balasaheb Thackeray a true patriot raised his voice to oust the Bangladeshi people, he was deprived of casting his vote. Bogus ration cards have been issued to four crore people for casting their vote.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have to restrain on it.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Today, the number of people are being killed in the country, how long should we restrain. Such a small country is attacking us.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Mohan Rawale, this is a very delicate issue and we should talk carefully on it.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Should we consider it delicate even despite the fact that they have attacked us.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You please see the statement of the hon. Minister of Defence.

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : They entered the red fort and killed our soldiers, a bomb has been found in the North Block. Parking even then should we keep quiet we should teach a lesson to both Pakistan and Bangladesh.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have given you a chance to speak, you should not do like this.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the inhumane and barbarous treatment meted out to. Our soldiers at the border do not only make us sad, but angry as well. We have made contribution for the independence of Bangladesh, and the time has come when we are seeing this plight. There is a saying in rural areas viz- "Samaya Pare Ki Barambar, Machhi mare lathar" it shows the plight of our soldier on the border of Bangladesh. We are not satisfied with the statement given by the hon. Minister. People of the country would like to know whether our soldiers were unarmed? People say that the common people besieged and killed them. Some say that they were first caught, then beaten up, dragged out and then inhuman treatment meted out to them. We are totally kept under dark on this. We do not know the actual position what is happening on the border. Whether intelligence report has come or not the intelligence report was hushed up. Which department shown carelessness in this regard which did not show activeness. This issue is haunting us. We have read in the newspaper as to how the hands of our soldiers were tied to their backs and inhuman treatment were meted out. How the civilians were bringing the dead bodies of our soldiers on their shoulders like animals. We have received deformed and mutilated dead bodies of our soldiers and we don't understand why the department of Home Affairs, the Department of Defence as also department of Foreign Affairs do not take prompt action. We are apprehensive that today our country is not secured, its borders are not safe. Such a conduct does not boost the morale and psychology of our soldiers. These people have later on made correspondence. Therefore we would like that the truth should come out.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Rajesh Ranjan.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Your name is also there in the Zero hour. I will call you also.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ) : Sir, we had been demanding for the JPC*(Interruptions)*

*ation]***12.26 hrs.**

At this time, Kunwar Akhlesh Singh, Col. (Retd.) Sonaram Choudhary and some other Hon. Members stood on the floor near the Table of the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please go to your seats. I will hear all of you.

*(Interruptions)***12.26½ hrs.**

At this time, Shri Rajesh Ranjan alias Pappu Yadav stood on the floor near the Table of the House.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

12.27 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock On Tuesday, April 24, 2001/Vaisakha 4, 1923 (Saka)

© 2001 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

**Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in
Lok Sabha (Ninth Edition) and Printed at Sunlight Printers, Delhi - 110006**
