

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

## **(English Version)**

**Ninth Session**  
**(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)**



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# LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 2, 2002/Vaisakha 12, 1924 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Two Minutes  
past Eleven of the Clock*

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

## ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

[English]

### Full Freedom To Pipeline Owning Companies

\*521. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has proposed full freedom to the petroleum companies, which own pipelines, on sharing their capacities with other companies after post-price deregulation;

(b) if so, whether pipeline owning companies would be free to allocate their excess capacities to other companies after post-Administered Pricing Mechanism;

(c) if so, whether these proposals are part of the Ministry's recommendations outlining the jurisdiction of the oil sector regulator; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) to (d) Government have decided that the proposed Petroleum Regulatory Board (PRB) can declare a pipeline as common carrier or authorize an entity to lay, build, operate or expand a pipeline as a common carrier. While deciding so, the Board shall be guided by the objectives of promoting competition in marketing among entities, avoiding infructuous investment, maintaining or increasing supplies or for securing equitable distribution and availability of petroleum products and natural gas at fair price throughout the country.

It is proposed that the entity laying, building, operating or expanding a pipeline for transportation of petroleum products and natural gas shall have right of first use for its

own requirement and the remaining capacity shall be used amongst entities as the Board may decide.

The Government have decided to introduce the Petroleum Regulatory Board Bill, 2002 in the current session of Parliament and the final decision on the establishment of PRB will depend upon the approval of Bill by the Parliament.

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the main reasons for considering such decisions and secondly, to what extent such decisions will be helpful to the consumers and people of the remote villages.

SHRI RAM NAIK : The pipelines would be laid on the principle of 'common carrier' because laying of pipelines would need huge investments. If any excess capacity is available, that can be used for others. From this point of view, the 'common carrier' principle is being evolved.

Wherever pipelines exist at present, they will be under the purview of this. If any one wants to have a new pipeline laid, he will have to go to the Regulator. For the purpose of setting up a Regulator, we are introducing a Petroleum Regulatory Board Bill in this Session - next week itself. As and when the Bill is finally approved by the Parliament, it will come into operation, and till then, the Petroleum Ministry will function as the Regulator.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Mallikarjunappa, you may ask the second supplementary now.

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Sir, I am satisfied with the answer given by the hon. Minister.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Sir, there was a proposal by the Ministry of Petroleum to dismantle the APM on 1st of April, 2002. But it seems it has been postponed up to September. What is the reason for delaying or postponing the dismantling and what will be its effect on the companies and the consumers during this period?

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, the APM, the Administered Price Mechanism has been deregulated on 1st April, 2002. At the time of presenting the Budget, the price of crude oil in the international market was to the extent of 20 dollars per barrel and in view of the international circumstances, the prices have gone up to 26 dollars. It is a high increase. We thought that the petroleum oil companies should take into account this increase. When a major event of going into the deregulated scenario is taking place, we advised them that they should try to insulate the customers from the sudden increase. The sudden increase has been because of international circumstances. They, in their wisdom, have taken a decision

that for some time they will insulate the consumers. It is their decision. The Government is not directing the oil companies to do this way or that way but certainly the Government has conveyed that the consumers should be insulated because of this sudden increase in prices.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : In today's newspaper it has appeared that the petroleum and diesel retail prices are likely to be increased. While it was proposed that at least for three months, the prices should be stabilised. Before the proposal was implemented, as per the newspaper report. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have already asked one supplementary question. You cannot ask two.

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Sir, I would like to have a reply from the hon. Minister. A news has now appeared in the newspaper that the price is likely to be increased while the Minister at that time had assured that for three months at least the prices would be maintained.

SHRI RAM NAIK : Sir, I would like to repeat that we have not directed but we have expressed our desire. Since the public sector undertakings are trying to see the Government's desire that the customers are insulated for some time, they will take a decision. Because prices are going up, they will take their own decision. After 1st April, we are not interfering in either the price increase or its reduction.

*[Translation]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Prabhunath Singhji, you gave a written request for supplementary on this question.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Not for this question but for another question related to the Ministry of Defence. I am sorry, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is alright.

SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the issue of capacity sharing was raised in the main question and capacity sharing is being for these three purposes.

*[English]*

(1) utilisation of the optimum capacity of the pipeline (2) to avoid the infrastructure investment, and (3) availability of the petroleum products at reduced price to the consumers.

*[Translation]*

Deregulation era is beginning from 1st April, 2002 but ground reality is that so far no change in its price has been noticed.

*[English]*

It is a win-win situation to all companies and the consumers.

I would like to know the criteria for determining the petroleum product prices at the coastal belt and extreme distant locations.

*[Translation]*

SHRI RAM NAIK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question raised by hon. Member does not relate to the original one but I would try to reply to that. At present oil companies are free to determine their prices. It will be their own decision that there should be uniform prices for the whole country or low prices at places where refineries are located. However, if such a decision is taken then they have to impose transportation charges for the far flung areas like Jammu and Kashmir, Assam etc. It is a commercial decision and in future they will take their decisions in their own ways. We have to keep in mind that after passage of Regulatory Bill, through this whole procedure more profit should not be earned and there should be no excessive consumer exploitation. Regulatory Board will look after this. How the prices are kept low and in case regulation is not done under it then Ministry of Petroleum will work as regulator, we will intervene to that extent only.

*[English]*

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA : I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he is aware that in the deregulated scenario, the Indian Oil Corporation which controls most of the pipelines, will have an un-natural advantage to twist the tail of other companies. What will be the role of Petronet? Is he aware of the recommendations made by a certain Committee of which I happened to be the Chairman in 1997, which recommended that the Indian Oil should be persuaded to sell out these pipelines to Petronet, which is a common company, so that the common carrier principle should be given due application?

SHRI RAM NAIK : I am aware of the report which the hon. Member has submitted in 1997. Thereafter, several Committees were appointed. The Government, the Prime Minister appointed a Group of Ministers in which the Finance Minister, the External Affairs Minister, the Deputy Chairperson, Planning Commission and I was also there. This Group of Ministers took into account all the earlier recommendations and formulated Hydrocarbon Vision, 2025, which is in a way a policy document under which future action will be taken. Under this, this pipeline will be taken as a common carrier.

Yes, IOC has some initial advantage because IOC, up to this time, has been the only one company in India which was included in fortune 500 companies. They also have a big market share. So, they have an advantage but that advantage should not be misused to exploit other companies. From that

point of view only the regulator will do the work. If there is excess capacity, certainly other marketing companies would be entitled to use those pipelines as per the rules finalised by the Regulatory Board.

**SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY :** I would like to know from the Minister and I am talking particularly of Gujarat from where Salar-Mathura pipeline, HBJ pipeline—Hajira-Bijapur-Jagdarpur pipeline - and many other pipelines pass through. A number of incidents have been reported in the recent past of the wide-spread stealing of oil and other things from these pipelines. There was also a very serious accident occurred in Barauch, where a person who was stealing oil was burnt simply because of the force with which the oil came out and caught fire. How many such incidents have been reported to the Ministry and what step the Ministry has in fact taken to ensure patrolling so that stealing of oil from these pipelines does not occur?

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** The fire incident which the Member just now mentioned killed actually three persons. I personally visited the spot because the fire could not be controlled for ten days. ONGC had to bring all the facilities together and finally it was extinguished. What was happening there was that from the oil well some unauthorised connections were taken and there was a fire accident. I was aghast that pipelines of nearly nine to twelve inches were connected to that oil well and oil was being stolen. When I asked the Collector and the Superintendent of Police about it, they said this had been going on. In order that this should not only be regulated but prohibited altogether, I had a discussion with the Chief Minister of Gujarat and subsequently with the Home Minister about the steps that need to be taken.

They are vital installations. From that point of view we had appointed a Committee and that Committee gave its report only last week. That report is being examined. We shall ensure that strict action is taken from our side. These are thefts. In view of this, ONGC, Naval Headquarters, Coast Guards and the Gujarat Government will be working out a joint action plan to ensure that this does not occur in future.

**SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY :** Will you circulate the report to all the hon. Members?

**SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :** For building and construction of huge pipelines, oil companies have incurred huge expenses. One of such pipelines—Kandla-Bhatinda pipeline covering about 900 kms.—is passing through my constituency. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many pipelines are owned by which companies, how much expenses have been incurred and whether these pipelines are fully utilised by those companies or whether there is some capacity

remaining so that they can allow others to carry their goods.

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** There are about twelve major pipelines in the country covering a total length of 5365 kms. Details are there with me, but I do not wish to take much time of the House in reading out those details. Therefore, with your permission, I will pass on the details to the hon. Member.

**SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister the stage of the pipeline from Chennai to Madurai via Trichy and Karur. I would also like to know as to when this would be completed so that Tamil Nadu would start getting the benefits of this pipeline.

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** I do not have the details with me about a particular pipeline. I will pass on the information to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

**SHRI ARUN KUMAR :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there are many safety problems in transportation system of pipeline companies. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what benefit is received by the consumers in return of the investment made in this sector, what is the price mechanism in this regard? A huge amount is being invested in pipeline sector, can this fund not be used for exploration purpose?

**SHRI RAM NAIK :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell that the main advantage of pipelines is that transportation cost is reduced by 50 per cent if petrol and diesel being transported by tankers at present, is transported through pipelines. Secondly, it reduces burden of heavy vehicles like tankers on roads. Thirdly, chances of adulteration are there when oil is transported by oil tankers. The expenditure incurred on transportation of oil through pipelines is negligible. From viewpoint of investment and return, pipelines are quite cheaper and transportation by oil tankers is costlier. Thus, use of pipelines is also in the interest of the country, economy and consumers.

[English]

#### New Foreign Channels

\*522: **SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accorded their approval to start new foreign channels in the country during the current year;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the time by which these channels are likely to be commenced;

(d) the extent to which these channels are useful to the people of this country;

(e) whether the Government have any statistics about the popularity of the Indian Channels; and

(f) If so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) :** (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

(a) to (f) The Government does not accord approval for starting new channels. However, it gives permission to uplink channels from India. So far, the Government has permitted 56 channels to uplink from India. During the current year, 2002 four (4) channels have been permitted. A list of these channels is given in the enclosed Annexure. The Government is not maintaining data on the commencement dates of the TV channels. But as per available information, most of these channels have commenced operation. Apart from providing entertainment, news and current affairs programmes to the people. Uplinking of these channels from India helps in conserving foreign exchange and generating economic activities. There is no arrangement to determine the popularity or usefulness of various channels.

### Annexure

#### List of TV Channels permitted to Uplink their programmes from India

| Sl.No. | Name of the Companies            | Name of the Channels   | Date of Permission |
|--------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1      | 2                                | 3  | 4                  |
| 1.     | Mavis Satcom (Jaya TV) Pvt. Ltd. | Jaya Tv  | 30.3.2000          |
| 2.     | Malayalam Communication Ltd.     | Kairali  | 1.1.2002           |
| 3.     | Vijay Broadcasting Co. Pvt. Ltd. | Vijay  | 9.4.2001           |
| 4.     | TV Today Network Ltd.            | India Today  | 4.12.2000          |
| 5.     | Sun TV Ltd.                      | Sun TV, Sun News, Surya TV, Surya News, SCV, Sun-II, Surya-II, Usha TV, Udaya News, Teja News, Gemini TV, Teja TV, KTV | 26.3.2001          |
| 6.     | Jain Studios Ltd.                | Jain TV  | 4.1.2001           |
| 7.     | Asianet Communications Ltd.      | Asianet (Analog)   | 13.6.2001          |
|        |                                  | Malayalam  | 19.6.2001          |
|        |                                  | Asianet Global (Digital)   | 18.7.2001          |
|        |                                  | Asianet (Digital) Malayalam  |                    |
| 8.     | Udaya TV Ltd.                    | Udaya TV, Udaya TV-II  | 10.4.2001          |
| 9.     | Technology Media Group (P) Ltd.  | TMG Enter.   | 14.6.2001          |
| 10.    | Sky (B) Bangla Pvt. Ltd.         | Akash TV   | 12.4.2001          |
| 11.    | Ushodaya Enterprises Ltd.        | ETV Telugu, ETV Bengali, ETV Marathi   | 6.6.2001           |
|        |                                  | ETV Kannada (In Analog & Digital Mode)   |                    |
|        |                                  | ETV Urdu, ETV Oriya  |                    |
|        |                                  | ETV Gujarati (In Digital Mode Only)  |                    |
|        |                                  | ETV UP (Hindi)   | 20.11.2001         |
|        |                                  | ETV MP (Hindi)   |                    |
|        |                                  | ETV Rajasthan (Hindi)  |                    |
|        |                                  | ETV Bihar (Hindi)  |                    |

| 1   | 2  | 3                        | 4         |
|-----|--|--------------------------|-----------|
|     |  | ETV Punjabi              |           |
|     |  | ETV Tamil                |           |
|     |  | ETV Assami               |           |
|     |  | ETV Malayalam            |           |
| 12. | Raj TV Network Ltd.                        | Raj TV, Raj Digital Plus | 29.3.2001 |
| 13. | Intelevision Ltd.                          | Splash TV, NUM TV        | 15.6.2001 |
| 14. | STV Enterprises Ltd.                       | Punjab Today             | 5.12.2001 |
| 15. | Zee Telefilms Ltd.                         | Alpha Marathi            | 6.12.2001 |
|     |  | Alpha Gujarati           |           |
|     |  | Alpha Bangla             |           |
|     |  | Alpha Punjabi            |           |
|     |  | Zee News                 |           |
|     |  | Zee Music                |           |
|     |  | ZED Tv                   |           |
| 16. | Entertainment Television Network Pvt. Ltd. | ETC - Hindi              | 5.2.2002  |
|     |  | ETC Punjabi              |           |
| 17. | Maa Television Network Ltd.                | MAA TV                   | 9.4.2002  |
| 18. | Diksaat Transworld Ltd.                    | WIN TV                   | 11.4.2002 |

*[English]*

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Sir, I wish to congratulate hon. Minister, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj for her sterling performance in a live interview on Pakistan TV recently. We also cannot forget the damage-control exercise which we had to take after General Musharraf's live interview during the Agra talks.

Shrimati Sushma Swaraj has mentioned that there is no mechanism to control sky invasion of foreign channels. She also says that permission is granted for uplinking channels from India. So, I would like to know the norms which have been laid while giving permission for Uplinking facilities in India.

Secondly, even in countries like the US, it is not easy to get broadcasting licence. I would like to know the steps which are being taken to see that nothing is broadcast against the interests of our country.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have also told in my written reply we do not grant permission to start any new channel but from the side of the

Government of India permission is given for uplinking. Channels which want to uplink from India give application for grant of permission to uplink. For this security clearance from MHA is sought and on receiving security clearance, permission for uplinking is granted. The hon. Member has asked second question that whether any guidelines have been formulated to check the violation of our codes. Through you, I would like to inform the House that there is already a broadcast code and Advertisement code in this country. In common use, we may term them as Indian Channel or foreign channel but actually there is no such classification and commonly this is used for foreign satellite channels. This programme code and Advertisement code is applicable to all. The channels which uplink from India. But the question is about those channels which do not uplink and re-transmit through cable. What programmes are telecast in India can be re-transmitted through cables only. There is also a cable Regulation Act which is applicable to cable operators and satellite channels too. We have a mechanism to monitor that programme code and advertisement code is applied otherwise it can be brought under Cable Act. Through you I would like to tell this House that convergence Commission Bill has already been presented by the Government for monitoring its proper regulation wherein an arrangement for a regulator has been made and at present it is with the Standing Committee. The Government is also

planning to make arrangement for content panel so that not only the carriage but content should also be regularised.

[English]

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister as to how liquor, cigarettes and pan masala advertisements are shown in the channels which are uplinked from India. Is it not against the policy of our Government to put up such advertisements?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has very correctly mentioned it. There is ban on advertisement of liquor under the Cable Regulation Act mentioned by me just now. We have advised all the channels in writing for not telecasting liquor ads since there is ban on it. In spite of this if some complaint is received in this regard and any channel telecast advertisement of liquor and tobacco then action is taken on that.

COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards an important issue. Our border with Pakistan is 2900 km. long and out of it border in my constituency Barmer is 850 km. long. There was a plan to install two high-powered T.V. transmitters with telecasting range capacity of 300 km. but so far their range is only 30-35 km. whereas Pakistan telecasts its mis-information and propaganda against India through its channels. As we all know that our army is deployed on borders and local people say that reception of our channels are not that effective and thus we have to watch their channels. It is my submission that effective steps should be taken immediately to counter Pakistani propaganda. Besides, the low range of TV transmitter, I have come to know that our staff also do not prefer to be posted there. What steps are being taken in this regard.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while associating myself with cause of concern of the hon'ble Member, I would like to tell that those border areas are given preference in our expansion programme where PTV or in North Eastern areas where TV of Bangladesh or Burma are viewed more clearly.

This is a technical point—if the transmitters of PTV are set up along the border their programmes can be watched in India and we can counter it only when we provide our own terrestrial cover through transmitters along the border. As I said, two high power transmitters are proposed to be set up there and so, the problem will be solved.

It is not true that our staff do not go there, rather we try to operate it through local people. In our expansion programme also we are taking up those border areas where Pakistani TV or TV channels of other countries are being seen. I would like to assure the hon. Member that his concern would be addressed soon.

[English]

SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY : Sir, at present, in almost all State capitals of our country, only Low Power Transmitters having a viewing capacity of 10 kilometres area are there through which Metro channel is available. In Kerala, only two HPTs are there, one in Trivandrum and the other in Cochin. The present LPT towers are there, one still not able to cover all the areas of metro cities. I would like to know whether there is any proposal to change the LPT towers into HPT towers.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : As I have already said the terrestrial coverage of DD is 88 percent population. At present 138 transmitters are under ongoing projects out of which 88 are in DD-1 and 50 are in DD-2. Thereafter we would be able to cover 91% population. In the 10th Five Year Plan also, a huge budget has been earmarked for the expansion programme and the coverage target is 100% population. Thus all the projects of converting LPT into HPT, or installing new LPTs, including those in Kerala have been provided for in the 10th five year plan.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : First of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for expressing her desire of taking action on the receipt of complaints under cable code. We have two problems here—one is the propaganda unleashed by channels of other countries against us and the second is that of pay channels. Pay channels fix their rates in an arbitrary manner. What I want to know is whether the Ministry has any regulating mechanism in this regard or is there any law which prohibits the pay channels from changing their rate slabs in an arbitrary manner. Small localities and townships have to suffer due to arbitrariness of cable operators—will the Ministry take action to check the practice.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has raised a very relevant and timely issue. His concern is shared by the press as well as the whole country. I would like to inform the hon. Member that at present there is no such law but through you, I would like to inform the House that I, with the cooperation of the august House would introduce a draft legislation which would authorise the Government to intervene effectively in such cases. We will introduce an enabling provision so that no one indulges in arbitrariness and the common man is able to get entertainment

at affordable and reasonable prices. At present there is no such law, still the Ministry has taken a number of steps to offset the lack of such a law. My effort will be to introduce the law in this very session.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is true that the TV channels have great impact on the society. The hon. Minister informed that more than 56 channels are uplinked in India. The channels show good as well as bad programmes - programmes which are against our culture. In addition, a few channels also show programmes which are detrimental to the unity and integrity of the nation. Some channels show obscene programmes which can be viewed with the whole family with great difficulty.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether there is any committee to assess the uplinked channels with reference to their usefulness to our national interests and their impact on society. Has she received any such report? Besides, is there any law or rule in the country to penalise the Indian or foreign channels if they are found 'prima facie' to be violating provisions of Indian Penal Code or the police are empowered to lodge FIR suo-motu? I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the number of Indian or foreign channels against which criminal cases have been registered and their telecast has been stopped.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has asked a very important question. He has asked whether there is any committee to assess and take action against the channels uplinked in our country. Through You, I would like to tell him that we had contemplated such a committee with the name of Broadcasting council. A Broadcasting Bill had been drafted for this purpose. Then it was said that Press Council is already there. One more body called the Broadcasting Council would be created separately. It would be better to set up an integrated Media Council because I have also heard the cases of obscenity reported in the newspapers. I have taken this proposal into consideration. As I have already said, in the meantime Convergence Bill was introduced. During the discussion on it, the point emerged that when there is already a Press Council then it would be better to set up a Convergence Commission instead of having 3-4 regulatory bodies of Broadcasting Council, Media Council or Convergence Commission. The Convergence Commission would regulate both carriage as well as content. When the issue of advisability of vesting both the powers in a single body was raised, a proposal to set up a content panel came up. The Members of the panel would be scholars from literature, art and science fields. The Committee which was provided for in the Bill could not be formed. In its place, the idea of convergence Commission was mooted. The Convergence Commission is likely to get the power of

regulating both content and carriage. Your concern would be addressed with the appointment of a Regulator through Convergence Commission.

Your second question was whether we have any programme advertisement code or law or rule for taking action on programmes which are found, prima facie, Objectionable—Yes. We do have such provisions.

There are two sections of the Cable Act which I just mentioned. Under Article 19, the State Government are empowered to ban any channel and any cable operator who has been telecasting any obscene material or one which threatens the security of the country or is against the public interest. This power has been vested in the Centre under section 20 and both these powers have been put to use from time to time. He asked how many times action has been taken, I would like to give him two examples in this regard. During Kargil war it was witnessed that PTV was engaged in a propaganda against the country which needed to be checked. The Union Government instructed all the State Governments to ban these channels under section 19 and the State Governments had banned them. When it was felt after the Kargil war was over that it was no longer useful to continue with the ban, it was lifted. Similarly, the Centre had also taken action under section 20. A channel named TB-6 used to telecast its programmes at night and this channel was telecasting its programme in direct violation of the code. It was known as a pornographic channel. As soon as a complaint in this regard was received by the Central Government, the Centre immediately imposed a complete ban on that channel.

SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI : Madam Minister, I had asked that the Police should have the right to register FIR in those cases wherein a prima-facie case is — framed under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : She had said that the State Governments have such power under article 19.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Parliamentarian Shri Tiwariji that as far as IPC is concerned, the FIR can be registered under IPC. SDM, DM and the Commissioner of Police are the competent officers to act under section 19. Hence you can get FIR registered under section 19 of the Cable Act which will be taken notice of.

[English]

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, at present, the current channels, which are in operation, are below the taste of the Indian culture. In the same august House, we have discussed about this several times. So many times, hon. Members had given so many views to control all these things. But the



Government of India has, so far, not enacted any law to control all these channels. I visited so many developed countries. They are also not allowing these types of channels except the programmes on education, local culture and other things. But India is a developing country. We have a vast area and we have different cultures. Even then, we are allowing hundreds of these channels. So, these channels are also not in good taste as far as our culture is concerned. In this scenario, I would like to know when the Government is going to make a legislation without any delay in this regard. So many times, we had discussed this on the floor of the House. We are enacting so many legislations. The legislation on this subject is most important. We have to enact it. Otherwise, it is very difficult to stop all these channels. That is why, my suggestion to the hon. Minister is that if it is possible to bring forward a legislation, without delay, before 17th May, up to which time the House is going to sit, then we can enact the legislation. We are ready to enact the legislation.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I feel that I have already given a detailed reply of this question. As far as enacting a legislation is concerned there is no delay on the part of the Government in it. It has already been introduced. It will be regulated by Convergence Commission Bill. We have already submitted it on our behalf. This Bill is pending before the Standing Committee right now. Hence we will bring this Bill here to get it passed the Standing Committee makes its recommendations on it. Besides, as he said upto the 17th May, I have to say that we can introduce a CAS Bill i.e. Conditional Access system legislation in this session itself to address the problem of arbitrary increase of charges by the Cable operators. However as far his demand to immediately bring the Bill is concerned, I would like to tell him that after Malaysia, India is the first country to take an initiative in this regard. We have already introduced that Bill on our behalf. That Bill is before the Standing Committee and we will bring that Bill here for its passage the day it is sent back by the Standing Committee with its recommendations. There is no delay in it on our part.

*[English]*

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Sir, on behalf of all of us, you may please request the Chairman, Standing Committee on Information Technology, to come up with a report on this subject as early as possible. We will enact it. Otherwise, it will take years together to enact it. There is no meaning in it if we delay it.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I would like to add one more thing in this regard as I have just mentioned that there

will certainly be regulation in it — regulation by viewer's choice because under the conditional access system Bill which we are proposing, we are certainly trying to incorporate this provision in it that only those things will be shown which the viewers and subscribers themselves want to see, and he will have to pay money only for that. The Regulation of Viewers Choice can also be done after this law.

*[English]*

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Sir, a number of channels are already in operation and the same are not controlled. These channels telecast their programmes not from our country but from abroad. Permission was given to these channels to telecast in our country. Have the Government made any assessment about the impact of these channels? I do agree that certain channels like Discovery Channel, National Geographic Channel are highly educative in nature. There are certain foreign channels which are not only highly detrimental to the interests of our culture and society but also to the national interest and patriotism. Are you going to insert a condition to the effect that the telecast of their programmes should be in tune with the national interest and patriotism of our country? Will there be any condition that only after seeking the permission of the Government, channels of other countries can telecast their programmes in our country?

How many channels are there in the pipeline? How many channels are going to be cleared by the Government? What is the thinking of the Government keeping in view the national interest, patriotism and such other things? You cannot allow these channels to telecast their programmes because they damage our culture and patriotism. This is my suggestion.

*[Translation]*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, firstly I would like to say as I had mentioned a bit earlier that when we give the permission for uplinking initially, it has been mentioned in its provision that only such channels can uplink in India which are ready to adhere to our broadcasting and advertisement Code. ...*(Interruptions)* It is not wrong — this is the provision also otherwise the permission cannot be given. Firstly they have to give in writing. Whenever any channel whether it is Indian or foreign ask for our permission at that time have to give an understanding that

*[English]*

I will adhere to the broadcast code and advertisement code of the Government of India.

*[Translation]*

In our Broadcast Code and Advertisement Code, there is guideline that no channel shall broadcast anything against our national interest and also anything obscene or defamatory. Without adhering to these norms permission can not be granted.

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY : There are good foreign channels like Discovery Channel, Animal Planet Channel, and also foreign channels like FTV, MTV, which not in good taste. Moreover, some advertisements, make telephone calls for more fun, are now being telecast through these foreign channels. 'More fun' means sexual conversation. Even one of our Ministers has become a victim. His telephone has been used in this regard. It has been raised by another MP at a Press conference. It is nothing but misusing. What steps have been contemplated by the Government to control these channels? The Government may be in dilemma because there are both good and bad foreign channels.

It was also reported that Shrimati Sushma Swaraj is very much opposed to channels like MTV and other channels. We had appreciated it. What steps the Government is actually going to take in this regard? These are already in operation, creating nuisance so far as Indian culture is concerned.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as he has specifically asked about MTV, a question about STAR T.V. has been asked from that side and along with them Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyayji has asked about AIDS, I would like to give reply to all the three. As far as Sudipji's concern that advertisements on T.V. are shown for telephone calls, I would like to inform that such ads are published in newspapers and not shown on T.V. I would like to tell that the Press Council has taken note of these. Similarly note has been taken of the advertisements which used to be published in the newspapers and all the newspapers have been instructed in writing in this regard. I would also like to tell you that we i.e. VSNL have jammed all such telephones. If someone tries to make a call, the call will not be transmitted. How can he get a response? VSNL have jammed those.

As far as FTV is concerned he might be aware that initially we had held talks with the Director of FTV by summoning him here and had apprised him that such things are being shown on FTV which go against the Indian culture. We also showed the tapes of such programmes to the consultative committee. The Director, FTV had specifically committed that these types of things will not be shown.

The Rio carnival programme shown on FTV is very much against the tenants of Indian culture and not in conformity with it. They did not show it last time but they made the mistake of showing it this time. However I want to tell you that we do not let anything go away unnoticed. As soon we noticed that they have shown it we asked FTV to why it was shown? I can

read out a letter written by them. They have sent us a small letter. I am reading it. -

[English]

"Following to our conversation, please find hereafter our letter of apologies addressed to Her Excellency Shrimati Sushma Swaraj. Again we really regret for this unintentional technical error in broadcasting the Rio Carnival, 2002. We express our sincere apologies to Her Excellency Shrimati Sushma Swaraj and to our Indian viewers."

[Translation]

I would like to tell you that there is not even a single event which we let pass away unnoticed. Similarly a programme titled 'Temptation Island' was shown on Star T.V. we saw their report. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : Have they exhibited the reply sent to you on their TV?

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I do not think there is any need for that.

SHRI S. BANGARAPPA : It is better if you can give a direction to such channels to do so.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : I would convey to them the feelings expressed in the Indian Parliament with regard to showing the letter on screen.

I was telling that we do not let anything go away unnoticed. A programme named temptation island was telecast on STAR TV. We told them this programme was very much against the Indian culture. I would like to tell that under section 20, a committee is constituted under the convenership of Joint Secretary, Broadcasting. We wrote a letter to STAR T.V. that the programme 'Temptation Island' is not in conformity with the Indian culture and violates our broadcasting code. They replied that they did not violate any broadcasting code and we were not satisfied with it. We asked them to send the cassettes of all the eight episodes to us to enable us to review here when no reply was received from their side we sent them a reminder. Now the cassettes have been received. We have sent those cassettes to our review committee by enclosing our copy of codes to them in order to know whether they have violated our code or not. We are waiting for the report of the committee.

I am not disassociating myself from the concern being expressed in the House today but I am heading this department to ensure that every possible action is taken in regard to apprehensions and concerns. I do not leave anything unnoticed and take immediate action. I have given this example because two specific things have been asked here.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Q. No. 523. Shri Sunil Khan.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I do not want to ask any question to him because we, in the Opposition as a whole, do not recognise him as the Defence Minister until he is cleared by Justice Venkataswami Commission of Inquiry. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we want to ask the question. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, the questioner has withdrawn the question. Please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir it tantamounts to making a mockery of the Defence Ministry. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has withdrawn the question.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, why was the question put in when it was not meant to be asked. This is a wastage of the time of the Defence Ministry. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Q.No.524. Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, Q. No.524; Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have gone to the next question.

... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : What is this nonsense. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has withdrawn the question.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I am asking Dr. Tomar to ask his question.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, he is present in the House. ... *(Interruptions)* He is a Member of the House. ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, are you not asking the question?

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do you want to ask the question?

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Kirit Somaiya, please hear me. I am giving a ruling.

*[Translation]*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Sir, you first listen to us and give your ruling thereafter. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Will you please resume your seats? I am on my legs.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Ponnuswamy, please take your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is already a ruling in the House.

... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is a precedent. It says:

"When a Member is present and does not rise to ask his question being called and his presence is taken cognizance of by other Member, his question is treated as withdrawn and answer thereto is not printed."

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The earlier rulings are there. Now, Dr. Tomar.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already read out the precedent. Let us go to the next question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Tomar, if you are not going to ask the question, I will go to the next question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, please ask your Question.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Kirit Somaiya, I have given the ruling. The precedent is there. Are you challenging it?

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There were rulings not only once but many times in this House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, are you asking your Question or not?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Sir, the Member was present and he rose. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already quoted precedent in this House. Earlier a ruling was given by the Speaker on this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : The Member was present and he rose. Sir, kindly see the rule. ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have given the ruling. The precedent is there. Earlier Speakers have given the ruling.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this is our right. ...(Interruptions) Who is he to interfere? ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, you listen us please. ...(Interruptions) You don't listen to what we have to say. ...(Interruptions) Please allow me to speak for a minute. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Prabhunath Singh, the precedents are available here.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, what is this? How can a Member go and consult the Secretary-General after you have given your ruling? ...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Kirit Somaiya, what is this? I have given the ruling after taking his guidance. You are going and consulting him again. Is this the way? This is most unfortunate. This is not proper.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have already given the precedent.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you do not want, I will not proceed.

...(Interruptions)

## WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS

### Financial Losses due to Tourist Trains

\*524. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have suffered huge financial losses on its tourist trains;

(b) if so, the details of such losses suffered during the last three years;

(c) whether the formula adopted by the Railways on sharing ratio with State Tourism departments has not proved worthy; and

(d) If so, the steps contemplated to check such losses in the tourist trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRINITHISH KUMAR):

(a) Only the Royal Orient Express, which runs as a joint venture with the Gujarat Tourism, has incurred losses.

(b) As per available information approximate losses during the last three years i.e. from 1998-99 to 2000-01 are about Rs. 11 crores. The Gujarat Tourism, who operate this service, advised drop in tourist arrivals due to the natural calamities in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) The tourist trains have long gestation period. The formula for sharing ratio is worked out on the basis of capital investments and recurring operational costs. Its worthiness depends on the total revenue generated. The steps taken, in case of less patronage, are curtailment of frequency of services, reduction on operating costs, intensive monitoring, improved marketing, etc.

### Pending Captive Power Plants

\*525. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for setting up of captive power plants, presently awaiting clearance from CEA/State Governments/State Regulatory Commissions;

(b) whether the Government have issued any special guidelines to States for power plants in Special Economic Zones (SEZ); and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) :

(a) Under Section 44 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the State Electricity Boards give consent to setting up of captive power plants by various industries. Consultation of Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is necessary only in cases where the capacity of the captive power plant exceeds 25 MW. Details of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for setting up 4 captive power plants, which have been received recently in CEA for consultation are given below :

| Sl. No. | Details of the Captive Power Plant  | Date of receipt in CEA | Status   |
|---------|---|------------------------|--|
| 1.      | 155 MW Captive Power Plant of M/s. Jayaswal Neco Ltd., Jharkhand              | 18.03.2002             | The State Government have been requested by CEA on 12.04.2002 to furnish justification of the proposal from Demand/Supply angle along with completed data in the prescribed proforma.                    |
| 2.      | 32 MW Bagasse based Co-generation Plant of M/s. Sakthi Sugar Ltd., Tamil Nadu | 02.04.2002             | Under process in CEA.  |
| 3.      | 36 MW Captive Power Plant of M/s. Shree Cement, Rajasthan.                    | 08.04.2002             | Government of Rajasthan have been requested by CEA on 10.04.2002 for awarding 3 copies of the DPR through the Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Ltd. as per Rajasthan Power Sector Reform Act, 1999. |
| 4.      | 45 MW Captive Power Plant of M/s. Chennai Petroleum Corpn. Ltd., Tamil Nadu   | 22.04.2002             | Co-generation status of the project is under examination in CEA.   |

The Final approval under Section 44 of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 will be accorded by the concerned State Governments.

(b) and (c) On July 11, 2001 the Ministry of. Power has circulated a Captive Power Policy prepared in consultation with the CEA to all the State Governments and Union

Territories in which it has been suggested that the units in Special Economic Zones and Industries/entitles may be allowed to set up captive power plants liberally.

#### Task Force for Hydel Power Projects

\*526. SHRI S. MURUGESAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a high power task force for monitoring hydel power schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) Government of India is according high priority to the development of hydro-electric projects in the country. The hydroelectric projects being executed under Central sector, State sector and private sector are being regularly monitored at various levels. A Power projects Monitoring Committee has recently been set up in the Ministry of Power under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (Power) to monitor the power projects both at the approval stage and also while under execution. In addition to this, there is an Empowered Committee for on going power projects chaired by Secretary (Power) and Crisis Resolution Group (CRG), chaired by Minister of Power in respect of private sector projects, besides regular monitoring of the projects by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

Government of India has also introduced three-stage development of hydro-electric projects in the Central Sector with the object of reducing time and cost over-runs during the implementation of these projects. A basin wise 'Ranking Study' of all the balance hydro-electric potential which is yet to be exploited has been carried out by the CEA and discussions with the State Governments have been initiated to finalise an Action Plan for their subsequent development.

#### T.V. Programmes for Remote and Rural Areas

\*527. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 20 lakh people living in remote areas of the country do not get Doordarshan channels;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether this is due to lack of funds; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to provide sufficient funds/subsidy for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) TV programmes of all the 22 channels of Doordarshan, in satellite mode, are available throughout the country and can be received by using appropriate dish antenna system or through cable network. Two channels viz. DD1 & DD2 are transmitted in terrestrial mode also. Population-wise coverage of DD1 & DD2 channels in terrestrial mode is about 90% and 36% respectively and with the commissioning of on-going projects, this is expected to increase to about 91% and 46% respectively.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Adequate funds have been provided for further expansion of coverage during 10th plan. Alternative technology options have also been included to provide coverage to hitherto uncovered areas.

#### Adulteration in Diesel

\*528. SHRI SHANKAR PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a mere mixing of 15 per cent of kerosene with diesel is enough for a petrol pump owner to make a profit of Rs.25,000 per day as reported in the 'Pioneer' dated March 13, 2002;

(b) if so, the fact thereof;

(c) whether the Government's fuel testing laboratory is unable to detect adulteration of this order; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to prevent such adulteration and to provide safe fuel for the public transport in Delhi and other States in order to safeguard the interest of the users and the public in general?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) to (d) Due to similarity of products, there is likelihood that unscrupulous elements may adulterate kerosene with diesel. Adulteration of 15% kerosene can be detected in Government's Fuel Testing Laboratory. Steps such as blue dyeing of PDS Kerosene, periodical inspection of the retail outlets, introduction of tamper-proof locking system for tank-trucks, special vigilance drives, etc. are undertaken by the Oil Marketing Companies. Action is taken by the Companies against erring dealers under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement. Also, under the provisions of the "Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Order, 1993", Oil Companies and State Governments can take action against any dealer

indulging in adulteration. In addition, the Government have also constituted the Anti Adulteration Cell to oversee the issues arising out of adulteration.

[Translation]

#### Priority Projects

\*529. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some railway projects are completed on relative priority basis;

(b) If so, the norms fixed for according relative priority;

(c) the railway projects brought under relative priority during the last one year; and

(d) the percentage of works completed on the said projects during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRINITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d) Prioritisation of New Lines and Gauge Conversion projects has been approved by the Government in November, 1998. As per this, the projects have been prioritised under the following categories :-

#### New Lines

- A1 - Completed projects, residual works in progress.
- A2 - Viable projects/those required on operational considerations.
- A3 - Projects nearing completion and those which will get completed in IX-Plan.
- B1 - Projects in Jammu & Kashmir.
- B2 - Projects in North East Region.

B3 - Projects involving major bridges costing over 100 Crores.

C - Socially desirable projects.

C1 - Projects already cleared.

C1A - Projects having higher priority amongst C1 Category.

C1B - Other Projects not covered in C1A Category.

C2 - Projects yet to be cleared.

C2A - Projects having operational priority, which will go to Category C1A after clearances.

C2B - Other socially desirable projects, which will go to Category C1B after clearances.

#### Gauge Conversion

A1 - Completed projects, residual works in progress.

A2 - Viable projects/those required on operational considerations.

A3 - Projects nearing completion and those which will get completed.

B1 - Projects taken up on strategic considerations.

B2 - Projects in North East Region.

C - Socially desirable projects.

C1 - Projects already cleared.

C1A - Projects having higher priority amongst C1 Category.

C1B - Other Projects not covered in C1A among C1 Category projects.

C2 - Projects yet to be cleared.

C2B - Other socially desirable projects, which will go to Category C1B after clearance.

Following two projects have been added during 2001-02. Progress of these projects is as below :

| S.No.           | Project                       | Category of Prioritisation | Anticipated Cost | Anticipated Expenditure upto March 2002 | Budget Outlay 2002-2003 | Status  |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|---|-------------------------|---|
| (Rs. in Crores) |                               |                            |                  |   |                         |   |
| 1               | 2                             | 3                          | 4                | 5                                       | 6                       | 7   |
| 1               | Koderma-Tilaiya :<br>New Line | A-2                        | 307.71           | 0.01                                    | 10                      | Final location survey is in progress. Land acquisition application filed for 5 villages. Work would be taken up once land is handed over by State Government. |

| 1 | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5    | 6  | 7  |
|---|---|-----|-----|------|----|--|
| 2 | Kaptanganj-Thave-Siwan-Chhapra : Gauge Conversion | C1B | 268 | 0.08 | 10 | Tenders for earthwork and minor bridges processed. |

[English]

#### Financial Assistance for Village Electrification

\*530. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA :

DR. BALIRAM :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide financial assistance to the States keeping in view the slow progress of rural electrification projects;

(b) If so, the amount of assistance provided and utilized, during the last three years and till date, State-wise; and

(c) the amount proposed to be provided during 2002-2003, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) :

(a) to (c) In order to give boost to rural electrification programme, rural electrification has been treated as Basic Minimum Service and has now been included under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) from the year 2001-02. Under this programme, Ministry of Finance have released an amount of Rs. 412.236 crore to the States. The State-wise details of funds released under PMGY for the year 2001-02 for rural electrification are given in the attached statement-I. Besides, Ministry of Finance have also released funds under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) for rural electrification to the States. The State-wise funds released under this programme during the year 2000-01 and 2001-02 are given in the attached statement-II. Ministry of Finance have also released an amount of Rs. 12.96 crores from Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources under PM's package to North Eastern States for electrification of 165 tribal villages during the year 2001-02. The details are given in the attached statement-III.

The Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides loans to the States/State Electricity Boards/Power Utilities under various RE programmes. The State-wise details of funds released by REC for the last three years are given in the attached statement-IV. Government, through REC, provides funds under Kuir Jyoti Programme as 100% grant to the States

for release of single point light connections to the rural families living below the poverty line. The States wise details for the last three years are given in the attached statement-V.

Planning Commission have made an allocation of Rs. 2747.00 crores for all the six components of PMGY including rural electrification, as Additional Central Assistance for the year 2002-03. Under the revised guidelines, the States would have flexibility to decide their interest allocation of ACA among the six PMGY sectors as per their own plan priorities and discretion. The Planning Commission have made a budget provision of Rs. 600 crores as ACA for rural electrification under Minimum Needs Programme for 2002-03. The Government have provided for a new interest subsidy scheme called the 'Accelerated Rural Electrification Programme' in the budget for the year 2002-03 with a provision of Rs. 164 crores.

#### Statement-I

Statewise details of funds released under PMGY for the year 2001-02 for Rural Electrification

|       |                    | Rs. in Lakhs |          |
|-------|--------------------|--------------|----------|
| S.No. | States             | Allocation   | Released |
| 1     | 2                  | 3            | 4        |
| 1.    | Andhra Pradesh     | 1705.00      | 1705.00  |
| 2.    | Arunachal Pradesh  | 684.00       | 684.00   |
| 3.    | Assam              | 6011.00      | 6011.00  |
| 4.    | Bihar              | 2457.90      | 2457.90  |
| 5.    | Chhattisgarh       | 851.70       | 851.70   |
| 6.    | Goa                | 9.00         | 4.50     |
| 7.    | Gujarat @          | 725.60       | 362.80   |
| 8.    | Haryana            | 187.90       | 187.90   |
| 9.    | Himachal Pradesh @ | 100.00       | 100.00   |
| 10.   | J & K              | 1922.00      | 1922.00  |
| 11.   | Jharkhand          | 759.20       | 379.60   |
| 12.   | Karnataka          | 841.00       | 841.00   |



| 1     | 2              | 3        | 4        |
|-------|----------------|----------|----------|
| 13.   | Kerala         | 775.00   | 594.50   |
| 14.   | Madhya Pradesh | 1460.62  | 1460.62  |
| 15.   | Maharashtra    | 1901.08  | 1901.08  |
| 16.   | Manipur        | 600.00   | 600.00   |
| 17.   | Meghalaya      | 600.00   | 600.00   |
| 18.   | Mizoram        | 598.00   | 598.00   |
| 19.   | Nagaland       | 452.60   | 452.60   |
| 20.   | Orissa         | 1703.80  | 1703.80  |
| 21.   | Punjab         | 1488.25  | 1488.25  |
| 22.   | Rajasthan @    | 1080.00  | 1080.00  |
| 23.   | Sikkim         | 0.00     | 0.00     |
| 24.   | Tamil Nadu     | 1173.60  | 1173.60  |
| 25.   | Tripura        | 850.00   | 850.00   |
| 26.   | Uttaranchal    | 976.75   | 976.75   |
| 27.   | Uttar Pradesh  | 9417.00  | 9417.00  |
| 28.   | West Bengal    | 2820.00  | 2820.00  |
| Total |                | 42151.00 | 41223.60 |

@ Additionality of Rs. 10.00 crore released to Gujarat for Gramin Awas.  
 Additionality of Rs. 11.35 crore released to Rajasthan for Nutrition  
 Arrears of Rs. 4.3971 crore released to Himachal Pradesh for Nutrition.

#### Statement-II

*Statewise Disbursed under Minimum Needs Programme for Rural Electrification during each of the last two years.*

| Rs. in lakhs |                   |         |         |
|--------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| Sl. No.      | States            | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
| 1            | 2                 | 3       | 4       |
| 1.           | Arunachal Pradesh | 961     | 961     |
| 2.           | Assam             | 2652    | 2652    |
| 3.           | Bihar             | 3767    | 948     |
| 4.           | Himachal Pradesh  | 72      | 72      |

| 1     | 2              | 3     | 4     |
|-------|----------------|-------|-------|
| 5.    | J&K            | 77    | 77    |
| 6.    | Karnataka      | 7     | 7     |
| 7.    | Madhya Pradesh | 549   | 263   |
| 8.    | Chhattisgarh   |       | 286   |
| 9.    | Manipur        | 131   | 131   |
| 10.   | Meghalaya      | 1872  | 1872  |
| 11.   | Mizoram        | 16    | 16    |
| 12.   | Nagaland       | 38    | 38    |
| 13.   | Orissa         | 1133  | 1133  |
| 14.   | Rajasthan      | 507   | 507   |
| 15.   | Tripura        | 14    | 14    |
| 16.   | Uttar Pradesh  | 4547  | 3923  |
| 17.   | Uttaranchal    |       | 624   |
| 18.   | West Bengal    | 1157  | 1157  |
| Total |                | 17500 | 17500 |

#### Statement-III

*Amount Released from Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources to North Eastern States during the year 2001-02*

| State             | No. of Tribal Villages | Amount (1st instalment) |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Arunachal Pradesh | 60                     | 4.48                    |
| Assam             | 20                     | 0.68                    |
| Meghalaya         | 10                     | 0.75                    |
| Nagaland          | 2                      | 0.35                    |
| Mizoram           | 3                      | 0.34                    |
| Manipur           | 60                     | 5.64                    |
| Tripura           | 10                     | 0.72                    |
| Total             | 165                    | Rs. 12.98 cr.           |

## Statement-IV

## Disbursement of Funds by REC during last three years

|        |                   | Rs. in lakhs |         |         |
|--------|-------------------|--------------|---------|---------|
| Sl.No. | States            | Disbursement |         |         |
|        |                   | 1999-00      | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
| 1      | 2                 | 3            | 4       | 5       |
| 1.     | Andhra Pradesh    | 29435        | 50623   | 68032   |
| 2.     | Arunachal Pradesh | 1481         | 754     | 765     |
| 3.     | Assam             | 0            | 0       | 0       |
| 4.     | Bihar             | 0            | 0       | 0       |
| 5.     | Jharkhand         |              |         |         |
| 6.     | Goa               | 243          | 104     | 188     |
| 7.     | Gujarat           | 36160        | 53572   | 61010   |
| 8.     | Haryana           | 3420         | 9212    | 25113   |
| 9.     | Himachal Pradesh  | 2734         | 4409    | 5535    |
| 10.    | J&K               | 1568         | 3133    | 3556    |
| 11.    | Karnataka         | 25949        | 27086   | 37327   |
| 12.    | Kerala            | 24026        | 46982   | 52221   |
| 13.    | Madhya Pradesh    | 7282         | 131     | 0       |

| 1     | 2             | 3      | 4      | 5      |
|-------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 14.   | Chhattisgarh  |        |        |        |
| 15.   | Maharashtra   | 39842  | 75223  | 55828  |
| 16.   | Manipur       | 1654   | 499    | 0      |
| 17.   | Meghalaya     | 10000  | 0      | 0      |
| 18.   | Mizoram       | 202    | 565    | 507    |
| 19.   | Nagaland      | 465    | 246    | 400    |
| 20.   | Orissa        | 6545   | 1807   | 503    |
| 21.   | Punjab        | 33183  | 58959  | 68828  |
| 22.   | Rajasthan     | 32223  | 70898  | 75400  |
| 23.   | Sikkim        | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| 24.   | Tamil Nadu    | 20727  | 924    | 10800  |
| 25.   | Tripura       | 609    | 643    | 350    |
| 26.   | Uttar Pradesh | 12275  | 0      | 0      |
| 27.   | Uttaranchal   |        |        |        |
| 28.   | West Bengal   | 54     | 43     | 160    |
| 29.   | Other Grants  | 4709   | 5109   | 5580   |
| Total |               | 294786 | 410922 | 472193 |

## Statement-V

## Kutir Jyoti Programme - Connections released and Grant drawn in last three years

(Amount Rs. Lakhs)

| Sl.No. | State             | 1999-2001                               |                                      | 2000-2001                               |                                      | 2001-2002                               |                                      |
|--------|-------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
|        |                   | Single point light connections released | Grant drawn by State Power Utilities | Single point light connections released | Grant drawn by State Power Utilities | Single point light connections released | Grant drawn by State Power Utilities |
| 1      | 2                 | 3                                       | 4                                    | 5                                       | 6                                    | 7                                       | 8                                    |
| 1      | Andhra Pradesh    | 38000                                   | 541                                  | 130000                                  | 1391                                 | 200000                                  | 2000                                 |
| 2      | Arunachal Pradesh | 7772                                    | 60                                   | 6000                                    | 54                                   | 10884                                   | 121                                  |
| 3      | Assam             | 569                                     |                                      | 1888                                    |                                      | 553                                     |                                      |

| 1     | 2                | 3      | 4    | 5      | 6    | 7      | 8    |
|-------|------------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|
| 4     | Bihar            | 41945  | 283  | 25342  | 312  | 54310  | 582  |
| 5     | Goa              |        |      |        |      |        |      |
| 6     | Gujarat          | 5000   | 50   | 4200   | 42   |        |      |
| 7     | Haryana          |        |      |        |      | 3900   | 39   |
| 8     | Himachal Pradesh | 4080   | 38   | 2036   | 32   | 13536  | 182  |
| 9     | J & K            |        |      | 528    | 9    | 1601   | 17   |
| 10    | Karnataka        | 200000 | 1596 | 145087 | 1411 |        |      |
| 11    | Kerala           | 15000  | 150  | 35152  | 550  | 60018  | 1427 |
| 12    | Madhya Pradesh   | 35714  | 573  | 51770  | 20   | 18717  | 100  |
| 13    | Maharashtra      | 35757  | 420  | 14807  | 230  | 4950   | 8    |
| 14    | Manipur          |        |      |        |      | 7420   | 20   |
| 15    | Meghalaya        | 5625   | 45   | 3500   | 29   |        | 25   |
| 16    | Mizoram          | 11500  | 115  | 10000  | 100  | 2820   | 22   |
| 17    | Nagaland         | 11815  | 113  | 12000  | 78   | 3000   | 30   |
| 18    | Orissa           | 5286   | 16   | 41     | 0    | 6000   | 100  |
| 19    | Punjab           | 5000   | 50   | 2500   | 25   |        |      |
| 20    | Rajasthan        | 9940   | 92   | 15012  | 121  | 5000   | 50   |
| 21    | Sikkim           |        | 15   |        |      | 15000  | 150  |
| 22    | Tamil Nadu       | 40421  | 341  | 45919  | 384  |        |      |
| 23    | Tripura          | 19217  | 124  | 13783  | 88   | 42700  | 317  |
| 24    | Uttar Pradesh    | 131    | 3    | 509    | 2    | 9000   | 97   |
| 25    | West Bengal      | 4601   | 84   | 5000   |      | 1688   | 20   |
| 26    | Jharkhand        |        |      |        |      | 1699   | 121  |
| 27    | Chhattisgarh     |        |      |        |      | 7331   | 152  |
| Total |                  | 497373 | 4709 | 524674 | 4878 | 470125 | 5580 |

**Expenditure Reforms Commission**

\*531. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Expenditure Reforms Commission has made a series of recommendations on downsizing the strength of the railway employees/privatization of some of the operations;

(b) if so, the details of the observations/recommendations made by the Commission;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the action-taken/proposed to be taken by the Government on those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) and (b) The Expenditure Reforms Commission in its report, does not mention about downsizing, with specific reference to Railways. However, in their supplementary note titled "Task Ahead" brought out in September 2001, the Expenditure Reforms Commission has mentioned Railways in the context, that only in the case of very large staff oriented services/production organizations like Railways, Ordnance Factories etc. would there be a need for outside professional services, to review the staff strength. No reference has been made by the Expenditure Reforms Commission with reference to privatization of operations in Railways.

(c) and (d) Railways have already been following the policy of rightsizing since over a decade. The staff strength as on 31.03.1990 and as on 31.03.2001 is given below :

| As on      | Total Staff |
|------------|-------------|
| 31.03.1990 | 18,06,724   |
| 31.03.2001 | 15,45,308   |
| Reduction  | 2,61,416    |

Railways have also drawn its road map in the year 2000 itself, whereby decision had been taken to restrict annual intake of staff to a maximum of 1 % of men on roll excluding compassionate appointment, as against the average retirement of 3% per annum. By the end of year 2010, reduction of about 26% in the staff strength has been envisaged.

#### **Luxurious Palace on Wheels**

\*532. SHRI KAMAL NATH :

SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that after seven years, the fully air-conditioned luxurious 'Palace on Wheels' train rolled out on broad gauge and the Railways are yet to work out a mutually acceptable earning sharing ratio with the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation, resulting in substantial financial loss;

(b) if so, the details of losses suffered so far by the Railways as compared to gains to R.T.D.C.;

(c) the ratio of earnings agreed to; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to streamline the system of sharing?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRINITISH KUMAR):

(a) to (d) Since 1995 there was only a provisional remission of revenue on 50:50 basis by the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation (RTDC). There are no losses after 1997-98 even on the revenue sharing ratio of 50:50. It has now been mutually decided, in September 2001, to share the revenue in the ratio of 56:44 between the Indian Railways and the RTDC. The Agreement incorporating the above revenue sharing ratio will be effective from 1.4.2001. This will naturally improve the earnings of the Railways.

#### **Development of Sea Warfare**

\*533. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL :

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of vital role of mines in sea warfare and defence activities, the Government had sanctioned four projects for development of sea mines for Navy from 1984 to 1992;

(b) whether in spite of the fact that 17 years have elapsed and about Rs. 4.14 crore have been spent for this purpose, no progress could be made in this regard;

(c) if so, the reasons for slow progress;

(d) whether the slow progress has not only resulted in reduction of reserved depots of Navy but also affected adversely the war preparedness; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government had sanctioned four projects of development of sea mines during 1984 – 1992.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Out of the four projects sanctioned, the three projects led to production after successful development. The fourth project did not achieve all the objectives and it was partially successful. The total cost of all these projects was Rs. 2.145 crore only.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

#### **Three Corridor Rail Projects**

\*534. SHRI VAIKO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have approved three corridor rail projects (Shahdra-Sahibabad-Ghaziabad

Sahibabad-Tilak Bridge and Minto Bridge and Bijwasan and Gurgaon) to link National Capital Region with satellite towns;

(b) If so, the details of each project including the length, cost and the expected year of completion;

(c) the manner in which the funds for each project is being raised;

(d) the number of commuters/persons, likely to be benefited by each of these projects;

(e) whether there is any proposal before the Railways to extend the same facility to other major cities in the country; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal for extension of Mass Rapid Transport System (MRTS) from Vellacheri to St. Thomas Mount in Chennai. Taking up of the project in the Railway will depend upon the agreement for sharing the cost of the project by the State Government of Tamilnadu, financial viability of the project, availability of funds and requisite clearances.

#### Military Hospitals

\*535. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of military hospitals in the country;

(b) the minimum number of doctors required to man these hospitals along with the present number of doctors in these hospitals;

(c) the number of doctors trained each year by the Armed Forces Medical College, Pune (AFMC);

(d) the number of doctors who leave the defence services each year;

(e) the extent to which medical services have been affected as a result thereof;

(f) whether the Government propose to give more incentives to attract doctors to the defence services and also to increase the capacity of the AFMC so that more number of doctors could be trained there; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) 127 hospitals.

(b) Total authorization - 5382

Total posted - 5242

(c) Graduate doctors - 130

Post Graduate doctors - 85

(d) On an average, 216 Armed Forces Medical Services Doctors leave the Service every year on account of retirement on superannuation, premature retirement/ resignation etc. This includes, on an average, 87 officers leaving the service prematurely.

(e) Keeping in view the annual intake through AFMC, Pune and from the open market, the Armed Forces Medical Services is not substantially affected.

(f) No fresh incentives are under considerations and also there is no proposal to increase the intake at AFMC, Pune, at present.

(g) In view (e) & (f) above, question does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Power Projects by the Multinational Companies

\*536. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals have been received from the multinational companies to set up power projects in the country so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the Government propose to set up some of such power projects in backward areas of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise, particularly in regard to Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) the time by which these projects are likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) :

(a) to (d) Government of India (GOI) announced a power policy in 1991 aimed at encouraging the flow of private capital of the power sector. This policy applies equally to all the States and regions including backward areas. The location of a power

project in a State is determined keeping in view certain essential techno-economic details such as distance from source of fuel, transportation of fuel water availability, feasibility of establishing the project from environmental and forest aspects, feasibility of power evacuation to the load centre, etc. Since the inception of the private power policy and till date, Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded techno-

economic clearance to 58 projects, including those from multinational companies, having an aggregate capacity of 29614.5 MW for which complete Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) had been received. The State-wise details of these 58 projects, indicating their promoters, location and commissioning schedule are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

| S.No.                   | Name of the Project/ Project Promoters/Location                      | CAP (MW) | Commissioning Schedule               |
|-------------------------|--|----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1                       | 2  | 3        | 4                                    |
| <b>Himachal Pradesh</b> |  |          |                                      |
| 1                       | Baspa Stage-II HEP (M/s. JPIL), Kinnaur                              | 300      | Expected by July 2002                |
| 2                       | Malana HEP (M/s Rajasthan Spinning & Weaving Mills Ltd.), Kullu      | 86       | Commissioned in July, 2001           |
| 3                       | Dhamwari Sunda HEP, Shimla   | 70       | Expected by Oct. 2006                |
| <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>    |  |          |                                      |
| 4                       | Vishnuprayag HEP (M/s. JPIL), Chamoli                                | 400      | 60 months from financial closure.    |
| 5                       | Rosa TPP (M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers), Shahjahanpur                  | 567      | 40 months from financial closure.    |
| 6                       | Srinagar HEP (M/s Duncans North Hydro Power Co. Ltd.), Pauri Garhwal | 330      | 62 months from financial closure.    |
| <b>Rajasthan</b>        |  |          |                                      |
| 7                       | Dholpur CCGT (M/s. RPG Dholpur Power Co. Ltd.), Dholpur              | 702.7    | 24-28 months from financial closure. |
| 8*                      | Barsingar TPP (M/s Hindustan Vidyut Corporation Ltd.), Bikaner       | 500      | 38-42 months from financial closure. |
| <b>Chhattisgarh</b>     |  |          |                                      |
| 9                       | Korba (East) TPP (M/s Daewoo Power), Bilaspur                        | 1070     | 41-47 months from financial closure. |
| 10                      | Korba (West) Extn. (M/s. ITPL), Bilaspur                             | 420      | 33-36 months from financial closure. |
| 11                      | Bhilai TPP (M/s Bhilai Power Supply Corpn.), Durg                    | 574      | 39 months from financial closure.    |
| 12                      | Raigarh TPP (M/s Jindal Power Ltd.), Raigarh                         | 560      | 36-39 months from financial closure. |
| <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>   |  |          |                                      |
| 13                      | Mareshwar HEP (M/s. S. Kumars Ltd.), Khargone                        | 400      | 55-56 months from financial closure. |
| 14                      | Bina TPP (M/s Bina Power Supply Co. Ltd.), Sagar                     | 576      | 33-36 months from financial closure. |
| 15                      | Narsinghpur CCPP (M/s. GBL Power), Narsinghpur                       | 166      | 23 months from financial closure.    |
| 16                      | Guna CCGT (M/s STI Power India Ltd.), Guna                           | 330      | 12-25 months from financial closure. |
| 17                      | Pench TPP (M/s Pench Power Ltd.), Chindwara                          | 500      | 38-41 months from financial closure. |
| 18                      | Bhander CCGT (M/s Bhander Power Ltd.), Gwalior                       | 342      | 12-25 months from financial closure. |

| 1                     | 2   | 3      | 4   |
|-----------------------|---|--------|---|
| 19                    | Pithampur DGPP (M/s. Shapoorji Pallonji Power Co. Ltd.), Dhar   | 119.7  | 14-17 months from financial closure.  |
| 20                    | Ratlam DGPP (M/s GVK Power (Ratlam) Ltd.), Ratlam               | 118.63 | 14-17 months from financial closure.  |
| 21                    | Khandwa CCGT (M/s. Madhya Bharat Energy Corp. Ltd.), East Nimar | 171.17 | 22 months from financial closure.   |
| <b>Gujarat</b>        |   |        |   |
| 22                    | Paguthan CCGT (M/s. Gujarat Torrent), Bharuch                   | 654.7  | Commissioned in 1998/1999   |
| 23                    | Hazira CCGT (M/s. Essar Power Ltd.), Surat                      | 515.0  | Commissioned in 1997  |
| 24                    | Baroda CCGT (M/s GIPCL), Baroda                                 | 167.0  | Commissioned during 1997  |
| 25                    | Surat Lignite TPP (M/s. GIPCL), Surat                           | 250.0  | Commissioned during 1999  |
| 26                    | Jamnagar TPP (M/s Reliance Power Ltd.), Jamnagar                | 500.0  | 36-39 months from financial closure.  |
| <b>Maharashtra</b>    |   |        |   |
| 27                    | Dabhol CCGT (M/s. Dabhol Power Co.), Ratnagiri                  | 2015   | Stage-I Commissioned in 1999<br><br>Stage-II was expected in 2001-2002. Construction work has been suspended by the Contractor. |
| 28                    | Bhadravali TPS (M/s Central India Power), Chandrapur            | 1072   | 42-48 months from financial closure.  |
| 29                    | Patalganga CCGT (M/s Reliance Patalganga Power), Raigarh        | 447.1  | 18-24 months from financial closure.  |
| <b>Andhra Pradesh</b> |   |        |   |
| 30                    | Jegurupadu CCGT (M/s. GVK Industries), East Godavari            | 216    | Commissioned in 1997  |
| 31                    | Godavari CCGT (M/s. Spectrum Tech.) East Godavari               | 208    | Commissioned in 1998  |
| 32                    | Vizag TPS (M/s HNPCL), Vishakhapatnam                           | 1040   | 38-44 months from financial closure.  |
| 33                    | Ramagundam Extn. (M/s BPL Group), Karimnagar                    | 520    | 33-39 months from financial closure.  |
| 34                    | Kondapally CCGT (Lanco Industries Ltd.), Krishna                | 350    | Commissioned during June-October, 2000  |
| 35                    | Krishnapatnam 'B' TPP (BBI Power Krishnapatnam Co.) Nellore     | 520    | 36-42 months from financial closure.  |
| 36                    | Vemagiri CCGT (Ispat Power Limited), East Godavari              | 492    | 20-26 months from financial closure.  |
| <b>Karnataka</b>      |   |        |   |
| 37                    | Toranagalli TPS (M/s Jindal Tractebel), Bellari                 | 260    | Commissioned in 1999  |
| 38                    | Mangalore TPS (M/s Cogentrix), South Canara                     | 1013.2 | 33 months from financial closure.   |
| 39                    | Nagarjuna TPP (M/s Nagarjuna Power Corporation Ltd.), Udupi     | 1015   | 38-42 months from financial closure.  |
| 40                    | Bangalore CCPP (M/s Peenya Power), Bangalore                    | 107.6  | 19 months from financial closure.   |

| 1                  | 2  | 3     | 4  |
|--------------------|--|-------|--|
| <b>Tamil Nadu</b>  |  |       |  |
| 41                 | Neyvelli TPS - Zero Unit (M/s. ST-CMS), South Arcot                  | 250   | 34 months from financial closure.  |
| 42                 | Pillaiperumalnathur CCGT (M/s PPN Power), Thanjavur                  | 330.5 | Commissioned in 2000-2001  |
| 43                 | North Madras TPS-II (M/s Videocon Power), Tiruvallur                 | 1050  | 42-46 months from financial closure.   |
| 44                 | Basin Bridge DGPP (M/s GMR Vasavi), Madras                           | 200   | Commissioned in 1998-1999  |
| 45                 | Tuticorin TPP St. IV (M/s SPCI), Chidambaram                         | 525   | 39 months from financial closure.  |
| 46                 | Samayanallur DGPP (M/s Balaji Power Corp. Ltd.), Madurai             | 108   | Commissioned in Oct., 2001   |
| 47                 | Samalpatti DGPP (M/s Samalpatti Power Co.), Dharampur                | 106   | Commissioned in March, 2001  |
| 48                 | North Madras TPP (M/s Tri-Sakthi Energy Private Limited), Tiruvallur | 525   | 37 months from financial closure.  |
| 49                 | Cuddalore TPP (M/s Cuddalore Power Company), South Arcot             | 1320  | 39-44 months from financial closure.   |
| 50                 | Vembar CCGT (M/s. Indian Power Projects Limited), Ramanathapuram     | 1873  | 38-50 months from financial closure.   |
| <b>Kerala</b>      |  |       |  |
| 51                 | Vypeen CCGT (M/s Siasin Energy Pvt. Ltd.), Ernakulam                 | 679.2 | 27 months from financial closure.  |
| 52                 | Kannur CCGT (M/s Kannur Power Projects Ltd.), Kannur                 | 513   | 27 months from financial closure.  |
| <b>Orissa</b>      |  |       |  |
| 53                 | IB Valley TPS (Units 5&6) (AES IB Valley Corpn.) Jharsuguda          | 500   | 33-36 months from financial closure.   |
| 54                 | Duburi TPP Units 1&2 (Kalinga Power Corporation), Jaipur             | 500   | 33-36 months from financial closure.   |
| <b>West Bengal</b> |  |       |  |
| 55                 | Balagarh TPS (M/s Balagarh Power Com.), Hoogli                       | 500   | 33-36 months from financial closure.   |
| 56*                | Bakreshwar TPP (Bakreshwar Power Gen. Co. Ltd.), Birbhum             | 420   | 30-33 months from financial closure.   |
| 57*                | Gouripore TPP (Gouripore Power Company), North 24 Parganas           | 150   | 32 months from financial closure.  |
| <b>Bihar</b>       |  |       |  |
| 58                 | Jojobera TPP (M/s Jamshedpur Power Co.), Jamshedpur                  | 240   | 1st Unit Commissioned in October, 2000<br>2nd Unit Commissioned in August, 2001. |

\* Projects are no longer being pursued by the respective State Governments in the private sector.

[English]

#### LPG Through Pipelines

\*537. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any long term plan to ask PSU oil companies to provide piped LPG gas to domestic consumers;

(b) If so, the companies which have taken the lead in this innovation;

(c) the inhibitions in encouraging piped gas to be used;

(d) whether vested interests in the petroleum sector are obstructing such a policy;

(e) whether the Government are aware that in other countries, LPG is supplied only through pipelines; and



(f) If so, the steps proposed to start development of piped LPG supply to domestic users?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) :** (a) to (f) At present, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are supplying LPG through bulk LPG / cylinder manifold installation (piped/reticulated system) to domestic customers on pilot basis in Visakhapatnam, Bangalore and Mumbai. M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has taken initiative to introduce the reticulated system in individual societies in various cities. In the deregulated scenario, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies would be free to adopt different modes of supply of LPG to the consumers keeping in view their market interest and customers' needs. As per the available information, in some countries distribution of LPG through piped/reticulated system is prevalent.

#### **Harassment of Railway Passengers by Ticket Collectors**

**\*538. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing harassment of railway passengers by ticket collectors and other special squad mobile officers of railways;

(b) whether unfair and frivolous checking has been increasing relating to extra baggage, incorrect entry of age and gender on ticket and other minor and unwarranted enquiries in various long distance trains, particularly in the south bound trains;

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

(d) whether TC and TTE's have been fixed with targets for collecting fines and penalties which is compelling them to harass the genuine passengers;

(e) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) :**

(a) Some complaints regarding alleged harassment of passengers by ticket checking staff come to notice from time to time.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) All complaints are inquired into and suitable action is taken against the staff found responsible for lapses, if any.

(d) and (e) Targets for ticket checking staff are fixed for the staff to achieve certain levels of outputs for the purpose of curbing the irregular travel by passengers.

(f) In order to monitor the working of ticket checking staff, supervisory checks are conducted by various inspecting officials. Mechanism of getting complaints and suggestions also exists to get feedback from passengers. Besides, the Railways have also initiated training programmes in customer care to bring about the attitudinal changes amongst the staff while dealing with the passengers.

#### **1st International Criminal Court**

**\*539. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA :** Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the world's first permanent international criminal court has come into existence;

(b) if so, whether the Britain is in the forefront of moves to set up the International Criminal Court;

(c) whether the US has also agreed for this;

(d) if so, whether 55 countries had ratified the treaty for setting up of new court which will have the power to try people accused of violating international humanitarian law;

(e) whether India has also accepted this proposal; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) :** (a) The world's first permanent International Criminal Court is expected to come into existence by next year.

(b) United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has ratified the Treaty on 4th October, 2001.

(c) United States of America has not ratified the Statute of the International Criminal Court.

(d) So far, 66 countries have ratified the Treaty for setting up of the new Court which will have jurisdiction over crimes such as crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes.

(e) and (f) India has not signed the Statutes of the Court because of certain reservations on principles.

**Performance of DD/AIR Network**

\*540. **SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have in the recent past reviewed the performance of Doordarshan and AIR network in the country in the context of growing competition from private channels;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken to ensure effective coordination between AIR/Doordarshan to take on challenges ahead of them; and

(d) the details of performance reviewed of on-going projects in the country, State-wise particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) The review of the performance of All India Radio and Doordarshan is a continuous process.

(b) The mechanism through which such reviews are done include :

- i) Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology.
- ii) Consultative Committee of I&B.
- iii) Periodic review by the Ministry/Prasar Bharati.

(c) A Resource Centre has been established by Prasar Bharati for optimal utilization of infrastructure available in AIR and Doordarshan. Some areas like news gathering, audience research, sales and marketing etc. have been identified for synergy and better coordination between AIR and Doordarshan. Cross media publicity of AIR and Doordarshan programmes has been initiated to meet the ongoing challenges.

(d) At present, AIR has 47 transmitters and 7 other projects under implementation. This include one project in Maharashtra for replacement of 100KW MW Transmitter at Nagpur by a 300KW MW Transmitter. Doordarshan has 9 studio and 138 transmitter projects under implementation which includes 14 transmitter projects in Maharashtra. These projects are at various stages of implementation in different parts of the country and are expected to be commissioned in phases during the next two years. Statewise details of the projects under implementation are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

| Sl.No. | State             | All India Radio | Doordarshan |
|--------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 1      | 2                 | 3               | 4           |
| 1.     | Andhra Pradesh    | 1               | 10          |
| 2.     | Arunachal Pradesh | 2               | 1           |
| 3.     | Assam             | 1               | 2           |
| 4.     | Bihar             | -               | 2           |
| 5.     | Chhattisgarh      | 1               | 2           |
| 6.     | Delhi             | 4               | 1           |
| 7.     | Goa               | -               | -           |
| 8.     | Gujarat           | 2               | 8           |
| 9.     | Haryana           | -               | 3           |
| 10.    | Himachal Pradesh  | -               | 3           |
| 11.    | Jammu & Kashmir   | 14              | 36          |
| 12.    | Jharkhand         | -               | 3           |
| 13.    | Karnataka         | 3               | 11          |
| 14.    | Kerala            | 2               | 5           |
| 15.    | Madhya Pradesh    | 3               | 3           |
| 16.    | Maharashtra       | 1               | 14          |
| 17.    | Manipur           | 3               | 1           |
| 18.    | Meghalaya         | 2               | 2           |
| 19.    | Mizoram           | 2               | 1           |
| 20.    | Nagaland          | 2               | 2           |
| 21.    | Orissa            | 2               | 1           |
| 22.    | Punjab            | -               | 5           |
| 23.    | Rajasthan         | 1               | 3           |
| 24.    | Sikkim            | -               | 3           |
| 25.    | Tamil Nadu        | 1               | 8           |
| 26.    | Tripura           | 1               | 2           |

| 1                        | 2                             | 3         | 4          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| 27.                      | Uttar Pradesh                 | 2         | 3          |
| 28.                      | Uttaranchal                   | -         | 5          |
| 29.                      | West Bengal                   | 2         | 4          |
| <b>Union Territories</b> |                               |           |            |
| 1.                       | A&N Islands                   | 2         | 2          |
| 2.                       | Chandigarh                    | -         | -          |
| 3.                       | Dadra & Nagar Haveli          | -         | -          |
| 4.                       | Daman & Diu                   | -         | -          |
| 5.                       | Lakshadweep & Minicoy Islands | -         | -          |
| 6.                       | Pondicherry                   | -         | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>             |                               | <b>54</b> | <b>147</b> |

#### **National Oil Museum**

5520. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a National Oil Museum is being set up in Guwahati; and

(b) If so, the details of the blue print of the museum and the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas laid the foundation stone for the K.D. Malaviya National Oil Museum on 3rd January, 2002 at Guwahati. Government of Assam has allotted a plot of land measuring about 10 bighas [13,400 sq. mtrs (approx.)] at Jawaharnagar, Guwahati for the Museum. An architect for the Museum has already been appointed. It is proposed to depict the birth of oil industry in India, history of evolution of this industry through the ages and display substantial number of vintage equipments alongwith relevant photographs and working models, both indoor and outdoor in the museum. The museum would also house an auditorium and a well-equipped library.

[Translation]

#### **Application for Distributorship of LPG/MS outlets**

5521. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited and its ancillary companies during 1998-99 have invited applications for the distributorship of LPG as retail outlets / M.S. Outlet/ L.D.O. dealership;

(b) If so, whether each of the thousand applicants have deposited Rs. 500 alongwith application;

(c) whether only 5% of total applicants have been given dealership even after the lapse of time limit of four years;

(d) the number of slots vacant during 1998 alongwith the number and percentage of persons who got dealership during the said period;

(e) whether the cost of implementation increased to triple during these four years i.e. since 1998 to 2001;

(f) whether revenue loss worth crores of rupees have been suffered due to bureaucracy; and

(g) If so, the steps taken by the Government to make justice to the applicants and to check the delay and fixing accountability in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The application fee for dealership of petroleum products during the year 1998-99 was Rs. 250/- for SC/ST Category applicants and Rs. 500/- for applicants of other than SC/ST category.

(c) and (d) Indian Oil Corporation Limited has allotted more than 70% of Retail Outlets (ROs), 36% of SKO/LDO dealership and 58% of LPG distributorship out of those advertised in the Year 1998-99.

(e) to (g) Increase in cost of setting up of RO/ Distributorship depends upon the variation in cost of land from location to location. IOC has not reported any revenue loss on account of delay in allotment of RO/Distributorship.

[English]

#### **Kerosene Dealership of HPCL in Panipat**

5522. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Kerosene dealerships of HPCL in Panipat Regional Office are running below the economic viability limit;

(b) whether the PSUs specially Indian Oil Corporation Limited had agreed in principal to allow the LPG extension counter or to allow them to convert their uneconomical dealerships into R.O. dealerships or LPG Distributorships throughout the country; and

(c) if so, the prescribed mode and procedure for such conversion and put check on the concerned officer of PSU to avoid unnecessary harassment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) 14 SKO/LDO dealership of HPCL in the Panipat Region are operating below the economic viability levels.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Charging of Transportation Cost

5523. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the oil corporations are charging Rs. 1.18 paisa per kilometer as cost of transportation of PoL products in prices built up of retail price of Petrol and Diesel;

(b) if so, whether the same charges/cost is being repaid to all the transporters in Haryana;

(c) if not, whether the oil corporations are earning profits on this account and is violating the principle "Equal Work Equal Pay" and APM;

(d) whether the Government propose to direct the oil corporations to repay the actual amount to transporters in Haryana; and

(e) if so, the time by which the action is likely to be completed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a), No, Sir.

(b) The transportation charges paid to the

transporters are as per transportation contracts that are finalised by the oil companies with them.

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

#### Police Excesses in Media Persons

5524. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from press/media people against police excesses or high handedness during coverage of various incidents in Tamil Nadu during 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the matter was referred to Press Council for enquiry;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have given compensation/relief to the affected Press/Media people under the various welfare funds; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) Press Council of India has informed that they had initiated suo-motu inquiry into the attacks on media persons of Tamil Nadu by the Tamil Nadu police while the journalists were covering the arrests of Shri M. Karunanidhi, ex-Chief Minister, Tamil Nadu and Union Ministers Shri T.R. Balu and Shri Murasoli Maran and that the Council had also received complaints from Sun TV and the Photographers' Association. The Press Council set up a fact-finding Committee to inquire into the alleged police attacks on the journalists. The said Committee submitted its report and the same was forwarded to the State Government of Tamil Nadu in December 2001 for appropriate action.

(e) No Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

#### Strength of Employees in Railways

5525. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to reduce the strength of employees by freezing the recruitment and forcing them for retirement in the near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) The Railways has decided to rightsize the strength of railway employees by controlling fresh recruitment and through normal process of superannuation and natural attrition only.

(b) Railways has issued orders in August, 2000 restricting intake to 1% of men on roll in the departments directly connected with train operations and 0.5% of men on roll in other remaining departments.

[Translation]

#### Waiving of Interest Against Private Steel Industries

5526. SHRIMATI RENU KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Steel Authority of India (SAIL) has waived the amount of interest on the loans outstanding against the various private steel industries during 2001-2002 directly or by adjusting it in other heads;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount of interest waived of during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) No, Sir. SAIL does not give loan to private steel industries.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

#### Black Marketing of LPG Cylinders

5527. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

DR. M. P. JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the black marketing of LPG cylinders by dealers in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the measures being taken as well as to ensure regular distribution of LPG cylinders; and

(c) the number of complaints received against the LPG agencies and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Regular refill audit / surprise checks and investigation of complaints are carried out by the field officers of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to prevent black marketing of LPG cylinders by the distributors. In the event of established irregularity, action against the erring distributors is taken in terms of Marketing Discipline Guidelines / Distributorships Agreement.

#### Imported Equipments in Mega Thermal Project

5528. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has approached the Ministry of Finance for exemption of custom duty for import of equipments for Mega Thermal Projects;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The revised Mega Power Policy of the Government of India was announced in November, 1998. This policy, prepared in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and other concerned Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, provides for zero custom duty for import of capital equipment for the 14 (5 projects in the private sector and 9 in the public sector) identified thermal mega power projects.

In addition to the above, the Sipat Super Thermal Power Project (4x660 MW) being implemented by the National Thermal Power Corporation in Chhattisgarh, has been accorded mega power project status by the Government of India in December, 2001. The Ministry of Finance have been requested on April 5, 2002 for amending the relevant Custom Notification so as to include the above project in the list of projects for which zero custom duty will be available for import of capital equipment.

#### Cost of Production of LPG

5529. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the basis on which the cost of production per cylinder of LPG is calculated;

(b) whether the cost of production of LPG is more in public sector refineries than the private sector refineries;

(c) if so, whether the subsidy on LPG is on account of inefficient and overstaffing of public sector refineries;

(d) if so, the steps taken to reduce the cost of production of LPG; and

(e) the manner in which the cost of cylinder of LPG will be determined after the dismantling of APM?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Oil refining being a continuous process industry with multi-product output, product-wise cost of production is not worked out. The steps taken to improve the competitiveness of the domestic industry and to reduce the cost of production of LPG *inter-alia* include discontinuation of the cost plus compensation mechanism for the refineries and oil marketing companies with effect from 01.04.98 and 01.04.2002 respectively, improvement in the capacity utilisation of LPG bottling plants by the oil companies etc.

(e) After the dismantling of the APM, for the purpose of computing the subsidy, the cost of cylinder of LPG is proposed to be determined on import parity basis.

#### Calcutta Metro System

5530. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the lift, escalators provided by companies to Calcutta Metro system have been found defective;

(b) if so, the penalty clauses which the Railway had applied to the suppliers;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted to provide sub-standard equipment for the overall operation of Metro Transport System in Calcutta; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir. The lifts and escalators supplied by M/s OTIS Elevator Company (India) Limited and M/s KONE Elevator (India)

Limited have been working satisfactorily in Calcutta Metro System. However, there have been some minor incidences of defects in escalators not attributable to sub-standard quality of equipments supplied by the firms.

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

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The inquiry/investigations conducted for the defects noted in the escalators revealed that the defects had not developed due to the use of sub-standard equipments supplied by the firms, but were on account of water seepage, mal-operation or misuse.

#### Impact on Prices of Crude Oil

5531. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Iraq's refusal to the UN Weapon Inspectors to return has an impact on the prices of crude oil; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) It is believed that differences between Iraq and United Nations Special Commission regarding withdrawal of inspection personnel have had an impact on the prices of crude oil in the international market. However, it is not possible to assess the effect of this factor alone on the crude prices as other factors also effect the oil price trends.

#### FOB at Nandyal Railway Station

5532. SHRI B.V.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a foot over bridge at Nandyal Railway Station from platform No.1, No.2 and No.3 for the convenience of the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be constructed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A work for provision of Foot over Bridge has been sanctioned in 2001-02 at a cost of Rs. 23 lakh.

(c) The tentative date of completion of the work is September, 2002.

[Translation]

#### Allotment of Petrol Pumps

5533. SHRI RAMDAS RUPALA GAVIT : Will the Minister PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of petrol pumps allotted in the country during the last two years, State-wise; and

(b) the number of petrol pumps allotted to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The total number of retail outlets (petrol pumps) allotted in the country during the last two years was as under :-

| Year      | No. of retail outlets allotted. |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 2000-2001 | 539                             |
| 2001-2002 | 965                             |

(b) The number of retail outlets allotted in the country, out of the approved — marketing plans, in the Scheduled Castes(SC)/ Scheduled Tribes (ST) categories, during the last two years was as under :-

| Year      | - No. of retail outlets allotted |    |
|-----------|----------------------------------|----|
|           | SC                               | ST |
| 2000-2001 | 69                               | 41 |
| 2001-2002 | 161                              | 82 |

[English]

#### Shortage of Wagons

5534. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of railway wagons to transport defence forces, heavy tanks and guns to the border;

(b) If so, whether the Government are planning to procure flat cars for transporting tanks and other heavy equipments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the names of the manufacturing units to whom orders are placed/proposed to be placed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Reserve of Oil in Sunderbans, West Bengal

5535. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Geologist of ONGC had claimed availability of a huge quantity of oil in the vast area of Sunderbans in West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Geologist had given enough evidence in support of his claim; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) is not aware of any claim made by any Geologist working in ONGC regarding huge quantity of oil in Sunderbans.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Capacity of Steel Plants

5536. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether many steel plants in the country have exceeded their rated capacity during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many steel plants are facing problems relating to storage and liquidate the finished goods; and

(d) If so, the steps taken in this regards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has reported that two of their steel plants, namely, Bhilai Steel Plant and Vishvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant have exceeded their rated capacities in

respect of saleable steel during the year 2001-02. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) has also reported that production of hot metal liquid steel and saleable steel by their plants exceeded their respective rated capacities during the year 2001-02. Details in this regard are given below :

#### SAIL

(Unit : Thousand tonnes)

| Plant                              | Rated Capacity | Production |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Bhilai Steel Plant                 | 3153           | 3383       |
| Vishvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant | 77             | 88         |

#### RINL

Unit : Thousand tonnes)

| Item           | Rated Capacity | Production |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| Hot metal      | 3400           | 3486       |
| Liquid steel   | 3000           | 3083       |
| Saleable steel | 2656           | 2757       |

(c) SAIL and RINL have not recently reported any instance of facing problems related to storage and sale of the finished goods.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Subsidy on LPG

5537. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Private LPG marketers are threatened to quit following inability of the Government to implement the declared policy regarding withdrawal of subsidy on LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received a memorandum from ILPGIA in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The private LPG marketers, including ILPGIA, have represented *inter-alia* on the issues relating to subsidy on domestic LPG, increase in excise duty, allowing private sector to sell subsidised LPG etc.

(e) The retail selling prices of domestic LPG have been increased in March 2002.

#### Purchase of Stores

5538. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Garrison Engineer (Air Force) Trivandrum placed 22 supply orders worth Rs. 75.44 lakh without establishing the requirement against which the GE received the stores valuing Rs. 81.32 lakh between February and August, 1996;

(b) whether the Garrison Engineer could utilise stores valuing Rs. 3.70 lakh only in a span of two years and stores worth Rs. 12.42 lakh only in a span of two years and stores worth Rs. 12.42 lakh had to be transferred to other formations and stores worth Rs. 65.20 lakh had been lying in the stock as on September 1998;

(c) whether the matter for purchase of stores without requirement has been investigated;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) the action taken thereon;

(f) whether crores of rupees have been spent on avoidable expenditure by purchasing the stores at higher than the market rates from Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF and Super Bazar despite the fact of their rates having been found higher by the CAG and commenting adversely on the Government instructions to purchase items from them only;

(g) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with the concerned in this regard;

(h) if so, the details thereof;

(i) if not, the reasons for not taking up the matter with other Ministries in this regard; and

(j) the steps taken to ensure purchases at competitive rates only?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The Garrison Engineer (Air Force) Trivandrum had placed 22 supply orders. Stores valued Rs. 81.32 lakh had been received.



- (b) (i) The Garrison Engineer (Air Force) could utilise stores valuing Rs.3,69,953.82 in a span of two years.
- (ii) The stores were consumed on the day to day maintenance requirement.
- (iii) Stores worth Rs. 12,42,159.18 have been transferred to other formations.
- (iv) Stores worth Rs. 65.20 lakh have been lying in the stock since September, 1998.

(c) Yes, a Court of Inquiry was ordered by Headquarters Southern Air Command, Indian Air Force, to investigate the matter.

(d) Administrative action has been initiated against the identified defaulters by the department.

(e) Administrative action against each defaulter completed and punishment awarded.

(f) No. As per the orders of the Department of Personnel, the stores are being purchased from Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF, Super Bazar and DGS&D approved Rate Contract.

(g) to (i) Not applicable.

(j) As stated in para (f) above.

#### Computerised Reservation at Railway Stations

5539. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms adopted for providing the computerised reservation facility at railway stations, and

(b) the experience gained by the Ministry in terms of checking the malpractices relating to reservations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) As per norms being followed by this Ministry, all Stations registering reservation-related workload of 100 transactions per day, all District HQs, important tourist destinations and other important Stations qualify for provision of computerised reservation facilities.

(b) The computerization of reservation process has resulted in curbing the malpractices relating to reservations in the following manner :-

- (i) Transparency in the reservation system in the sense that position regarding the availability of confirmed reservation for a particular date can be precisely known which was not possible in the manual system;
- (ii) Provision of facility to seek on line reservation from any counter for any destination and for any train defined on computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) has obviated the need for sending return/onward journey messages;
- (iii) Automatic updation, i.e. the confirmed berths which have been cancelled get automatically allotted to the passengers on RAC (Reservation Against Cancellation) and waiting-list passengers;
- (iv) Elimination of the possibility of manipulation by the reservation staff;
- (v) Record of all the transactions for a particular train location-wise, terminal-wise, time-wise etc. can be taken out for exercising supervision.

#### Renewable Energy Programme

5540. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has chosen the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology as the nodal agency to implement the national programmes for the dissemination of renewable energy in the State;

(b) if so, the details of the programmes undertaken by the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology in Karnataka and the progress on each project; and

(c) the amount of assistance released by the Union Government to KSCST for the implementation of the programmes during 2001-02?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) and (b) The Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (KREDAL), Bangalore, is the designated Nodal Agency for implementation of most renewable energy programmes such as solar, wind, biomass and small hydro power etc. The Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST) is responsible for implementing only the special area demonstration programme and the community, institutional and night-soil-based biogas plant programmes in the State of Karnataka. Under the special area demonstration programme, 10 energy parks have been

sanctioned to the State of Karnataka, out of which six energy parks have been completed and four are under implementation. Under the community, institutional and night-soil-based biogas plant programme, a total of 15 plants have been installed in the State.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 3.34 lakhs has been released to the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology under the special area demonstration programme by the Ministry during the year 2001-02.

#### **New Rail line between Bahadurgarh and Jhajjar**

5541. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received representations from the various organisations and people's representatives for laying of new rail line from Bahadurgarh to Jhajjar in Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) A representation has been received from State Government of Haryana regarding rail link between Bahadurgarh to Kanina via Jhajjar and Kosli. Due to large shelf of on-going projects and severe resource constraints, it has not been found feasible to consider construction of the suggested line.

[Translation]

#### **Captive Power Plants in Delhi**

5542. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Power Regulatory Commission is giving permission for setting up private captive power plants in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred on setting up a private captive power plant and whether the Government are likely to set up such plants bearing its cost by itself or the applicant will himself have to set up such plant bearing the cost by himself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The powers for grant of consent for setting up captive power plants in the National Capital Territory of Delhi have been given to Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) under the Delhi Electricity Reforms Act, 2000. In this regard, DERC has circulated Draft regulations pertaining to submission of application and processing thereof prior to grant of consent. The consumers and stakeholders have been given opportunity to submit their suggestions on draft regulations to the Commission by April 30, 2002 before finalisation of the Regulations.

(c) The Government does not set up captive power plants. Captive Power Plants are generally set up by an industry or a group of industries and the power generated is primarily intended for self-consumption of the industry. The cost of setting up captive power plants is dependent on various factors like the type of project, viz. Hydro or thermal, fuel used, viz. coal, liquid fuel, natural gas, etc., distance of the project from the fuel source, technology used, the mode of financing etc.

[English]

#### **Turn Around Plan of VSP**

5543. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for approval of Turn Around Plan of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the suggestions given by the State Government;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government on the suggestions given by the State Government; and

(d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (d) In March, 1999 the State Government of Andhra Pradesh sought the following dispensations from the Government of India, for RINL (VSP) :

(i) Set-off the accumulated losses

(ii) Approval of capacity expansion

(iii) Provision of Government Guarantee for raising funds, and

- (iv) Extension of Government Guarantee for working capital loan.

A detailed proposal containing the above suggestions was under consideration of the Government at that time. However, after examination, it was not found viable. In the meantime, the Disinvestment Commission recommended writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company as on 31.3.1999 alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity to a strategic buyer. A turn around proposal which inter-alia includes the following is under consideration of the Government.

- (1) Writing off of accumulated losses
- (2) To extend Govt. of India Guarantee for working capital limit of Rs. 500 crs. and providing/extending GOI Guarantee in favour of existing lenders till, disinvestment takes place.
- (3) Subsequent disinvestment of 51% of its shares from the President of India to a strategic partner/buyer.

As efforts towards a consensus between State Government of Andhra Pradesh and Govt. of India is going on, no final decision has been taken in the matter.

#### **Problem being faced by Railway Passengers in getting Reserved Berths**

5544. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether railway passengers have to face a lot of problems in getting their reserved berths though they have valid railway reservations at some railway stations and particularly in railway stations located in New Delhi, Maharashtra and Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received in this regard; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against the errant railway staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Some such cases come to notice from time to time on account of short distance daily passengers forcibly entering some compartments, nominated coaches getting detached due to technical problems and rare cases of errors in database leading to deletion of names.

- (b) No such statistics are maintained.

(c) Strict action is taken against railway staff for their lapses, if any.

#### **Guidelines for Selection of Oil Dealership**

5545. SHRI K.P SINGH DEO :

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have issued fresh guidelines for transparent, uniform fair and faster procedure while selecting dealership for Petrol/Diesel and LPG; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) With a view to streamlining the procedure for selection of dealers/distributors of petroleum products by the Dealer Selection Boards, new guidelines were formulated and issued to the Oil Companies on 9.10.2000. The guidelines prescribe a uniform, transparent and faster procedure for selection of dealers/distributors in a fair manner.

The locations for setting up dealerships/distributorships included in the Marketing Plans are advertised by the Oil Companies inviting applications from eligible candidates. After the scrutiny of the applications, the eligible candidates are interviewed by the DSBs for selection on merit. The following criteria have been prescribed for assessing the inter-se merit of the candidates:-

- (a) Personality, Business ability and salesmanship.
- (b) Capability to arrange finances.
- (c) Educational qualification and general level of intelligence.
- (d) Capability to provide infrastructure and facilities (land, godown, showroom, etc.)
- (e) General assessment.

As per the guidelines reservation of dealerships/distributorships for different sections of the society will be as under :-

- |     |   |   |     |
|-----|---|---|-----|
| (1) | Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs) | - | 25% |
| (2) | Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)         | - | 5%  |

|     |   |   |     |
|-----|---|---|-----|
| (3) | Paramilitary/Police/<br>Govt. Personnel (PMP) | - | 8%  |
| (4) | Defence Personnel                             | - | 8%  |
| (5) | Freedom Fighters (FF)                         | - | 2%  |
| (6) | Outstanding Sportspersons<br>(OSP)            | - | 2%  |
| (7) | Open (O)                                      | - | 50% |

33% of the dealerships/distributorships in each of the above categories will be reserved for women in that category.

#### **Allotment of LPG Agencies/Petrol Pumps to Freedom Fighters**

5546. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Petrol Pumps and LPG dealership allotted to freedom fighters and war widows, are being owned by others whereas on paper they are still in the name of original allottee;

(b) If so, the measures taken to check this malpractice by giving deterrent punishment to such mal-factors;

(c) whether before allotment the candidate's ability to run such agencies is also examined;

(d) If so, the details of the method to examine one's ability; and

(e) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) As per the guidelines laid down for selection of retail outlet dealers, LPG distributors and SKO-LDO dealers, the locations, including those reserved for freedom fighters/ Defence category, for setting up dealerships/distributorships, included in the marketing plans, are advertised by the oil companies inviting applications from eligible candidates. After the scrutiny of the applications, the eligible candidates are interviewed by the Dealer Selection Boards for selection on merit. The following criteria, among others, have been

prescribed for assessing the inter-se merit of the candidates :-

- (a) Personality, Business ability and salesmanship.
- (b) Capability to arrange finances.
- (c) Educational qualification and general level of intelligence.
- (d) Capability to provide infrastructure and facilities (land, godown, showroom, etc.
- (e) General assessment.

#### **Extra Charges on LPG Cylinders**

5547. SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to charge extra amount of Rs.90/- for every LPG cylinder taken in addition to one L.P.G. cylinder per month;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to reconsider the move and exercise stringent measures to ensure that domestic LPG cylinders are not used for any other purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a), No, Sir.

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

(c) Regular refill audit/surprise checks of LPG distributors are conducted by the field officers of the oil marketing companies to check diversion of domestic LPG and in case of any irregularity, action against the erring distributor is taken in terms of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines/ Distributorship Agreement.

[Translation]

#### **Production of Programmes Produced by CPC**

5548. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programmes produced by Central Production Centre (CPC) Doordarshan are not telecast;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Prasar Bharati has intimated that the programmes produced by Central Production Centre are telecast on various channels of Doordarshan like DD-I, DD-II, DD-Bharati, DD-World and DD-Sports.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Nexus Between Prasar Bharati and P.S.B.T.**

5549. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to stop the telecast of obscene and inferior quality programmes on the Doordarshan and Cable TV;

(b) whether any committee has been set up to control it and the members of the said committee along with the qualifications thereof;

(c) whether nexus between Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati and a Delhi based private institution P.S.B.T. has been reported in this connection;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to stop the telecast of such undesired programmes and to check the irregularities being committed in the Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan programmes are regularly previewed for ascertaining that their quality is good and the content is fit for family viewing. The programmes telecast on satellite channels when distributed through cable network are required to subscribe to the Programme Code laid down in the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and the Rules framed thereunder, which inter-alia prohibits carrying of a programme in cable service which contains anything obscene. In case of violation of the provisions of the Act and Rules, action is required to be taken by the authorised officers viz. the District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Magistrates, Commissioners of Police and such other officers as are notified by the Central/State Governments.

(b) The Government has constituted a Committee of Officers from the Ministries of Information & Broadcasting,

Home Affairs, External Affairs, Defence and Law to render advice, where the Central Government considers such advice to be essential and/or desirable, for action to be taken in case of a specific complaint regarding any programme or any channel not being in conformity with the prescribed Programme Code.

(c) No such report has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

### Complaints Against Director of Film Divisions

5550. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a complaint has been filed against the Director of Film Divisions for possessing assets disproportionate to known sources of his income;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether during investigations certain other startling facts about sexual abuse of artists and models etc. come to notice; and

(d) If so, the action taken in the matter by the Government so far?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. CBI has registered a case vide RC.2(A)/2002-Mumbai against Chief Producer of Films Division for accumulating disproportionate assets to the tune of over Rs.17 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The Chief Producer of Films Division has been placed under suspension on the recommendations of CBI.

### Supply of Timber

5551. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Director General Ordnance Services made a payment of Rs. 2.23 crore for 3650 cubic meter of timber to Nagaland Industrial Raw Material and Supply Corporation, Dinapur during 1993-96 but the timber was never supplied;

(b) If so, whether the matter has been enquired into and guilty officials brought to book; and

(c) If so, the present status of the matter?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) Based on indents placed by Directorate General of Ordnance Services (DGOS), the Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals (DGS&D) placed two purchase orders for a total quantity of 11,240 cubic meters of timber, 5240 cubic meters under purchase order No. TP/2/1466, dated 1st May 1991 and 6000 cubic meters under Purchase Order No. TP/2/1472, dated 10th June 1991 on M/s Nagaland Industrial Raw Materials and Supply Corporation Limited (NIRMSC) Dimapur, Nagaland (a State Government Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) for supply of Khasipine Grade I Timber required by various Army Ordnance Depots for manufacture of packing cases.

2. Timbers are procured by concluding a Memorandum of Understanding with State Governments — Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland. In all these cases, the payments were made in advance and subsequently, adjusted as and when supplies are made. Being purchases from a State Government Undertaking, this payment procedure was adopted. The entire quantity of 11,240 cubic meters was accepted in inspection and NIRMSC got full payment for the same. The PSU supplied quantity 7591 cubic meters only against an order of 11,240 cubic meters of timber. The balance quantity though inspected could not be despatched due to unforeseen circumstances viz., flood in North East, booking restrictions and conversion of Railway line from meter gauge to broad gauge.

3. Directorate General of Supply & Disposal is making continuous efforts for the refund of the excess amount paid to the PSU for the unsupplied quantity. Discussions were held with the Government of Nagaland and by the Director General of Supply & Disposal to refund the excess payment.

#### Diversion of Funds to Other Zones

5552. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds sanctioned for Railway projects of various railway zones have been diverted to other railway zones during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total funds out of allocated funds diverted to other heads/divisions/zones along with the reasons therefor, zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Diversion of funds or reappropriations, as permissible under the rules, are resorted to with a view to ensure better utilisation of funds. The necessity for undertaking reappropriations arises due to :

- Some works moving slowly due to delay in land acquisition, contractual problems, court cases etc. as a result the allotted funds become surplus.
- To meet the requirement of additional funds for target-dated projects.
- To meet the escalated cost of materials etc.
- Changes in availability of resources.

(c) The total funds reappropriated during the last three years between various zones were as under :

(Rs. in Cr.)

| Railway            | Amount diverted from | Amount diverted to |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| Central            | 49.73                | 26.33              |
| Eastern            | 109.36               | 20.15              |
| Northern           | 63.03                | 583.26*            |
| North Eastern      | 8.60                 | 35.58              |
| Northeast Frontier | 10.68                | 77.06              |
| Southern           | 31.52                | 65.49              |
| South Central      | 35.97                | 14.06              |
| South Eastern      | 97.31                | 41.12              |
| Western            | 69.90                | 61.88              |

\* Additional funds provided to Northern Railway for providing loan to Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.

#### Financial Assistance for Setting up of Family Courts

5553. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any demand for financial assistance from States and Union territories for setting up family courts and their better functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) States have generally been demanding financial assistance for Family Courts. Recently, a specific request has been received from the Government of Tripura for setting up one Family Court at the State capital Agartala. The State Government of Tripura have requested for releasing the 50% share of the amount of Rs. 24.88 lakhs for setting up of one Family Court.

(c) On the basis of recommendation made by the Parliamentary Committee on Empowerment of Women, the matter has been taken up with all the State Governments/UT Administrations to set up more Family Courts to speed up disposal of family disputes. In order to encourage and assist the States in setting up more Family Courts, fifty percent Central grant is being extended to them for the establishment and running of new Family Courts which are now being set up during the year 2002-2003.

### Construction of ROB/RUB in Gujarat and Rajasthan

5554. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new/pending and on going rail over/under bridge projects in Gujarat and Rajasthan, project-wise;

(b) the funds allocated to each of the project along with the expenditure incurred so far thereon; and

(c) the time by which these ROB/RUB projects are likely to be completed, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) A statement is attached.

(c) Railways constructs the bridge proper (Across Railway Track) and State Govt. constructs the approaches of Road Over Bridges. Railway will complete its portion of work before or alongwith the construction of approaches by the State Government.

### Statement

No New work of ROB/RUB has been sanctioned during the Works Programme of 2002-03 as no proposal was sponsored by the State Govts. of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Details of on-going works sanctioned on cost sharing basis falling in these States is as under :-

|                  |   |                 |                                     | Rs. in lakhs                   |
|------------------|---|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| S.No.            | Name of Work  | Sanctioned Year | Expenditure incurred upto March '02 | Allocation made during 2002-03 |
| 1                | 2   | 3               | 4                                   | 5                              |
| <b>Gujarat</b>   |   |                 |                                     |                                |
| 1.               | Sabarmati-Gandhidham-RUB in lieu of LC No.11                      | 1995-96         | 21.38                               | 38.19                          |
| 2.               | Sant Road-Piplod-ROB in lieu of LC No. 20/B                       | 1991-92         | Nil                                 | 35.96                          |
| <b>Rajasthan</b> |   |                 |                                     |                                |
| 1.               | Sikar yard - ROB in lieu of LC No. 196 at Km. 239/1-2             | 2000-01         | 5.20                                | 150.00                         |
| 2.               | Kota - ROB in lieu of LC No. 109 (Rangapur Road) at Km. 921/12-14 | 1996-97         | 297.36                              | 252.00                         |

| 1  | 2  | 3       | 4    | 5   |
|----|--|---------|------|-----|
| 3. | Hanumangarh - ROB in lieu of LC No. 71A on Hanumangarh-Sriganganagar, Hanumangarh-Suratgarh, Hanumangarh-Sadulpur M.G. Section | 2000-01 | 6.00 | 699 |
| 4. | Lal Sagar (Jodhpur city) RUB in lieu of LC No. C-9 at Km. 4/6-7 on Jodhpur-Jaisalmer section connecting Jodhpur-Nagpur road.   | 2001-02 | 0    | 137 |

In addition to above 9 works of ROB/RUBs in Gujarat and one in Rajasthan are also under construction on deposit terms.

#### Computerised Reservation Facility

5555. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI A. NARENDRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places in the country where computerised reservation facility is available zone-wise;

(b) the zone-wise details of such places, where facility for reservation for return journey is also available;

(c) whether the Government proposed to extend the computerised reservation facility during 2002-03 at various railway stations in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) The list giving names of places - zonewise, where computerised reservation facility is available is given in the enclosed statement-I. The facility for return journey reservations is available at all computerised reservation centres on Indian Railways.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A list of railway stations/locations where computerised reservation facilities are proposed to be provided during 2002-03 is given in the enclosed statement-II.

#### Statement-I

*List of stations/locations where computerised reservation facilities are available as on 30.4.02*

S.No. Location

1 2

#### Central Railway

1 Agra Cantt

2 Ahmadnagar

1

2

3 Ajni

4 Akola

5 Ambarnath

6 Amravati

7 Ashoknagar

8 Babina

9 Badnera

10 Balharshah

11 Ballabhnagar

12 Banda

13 Belapur CBO

14 Betul

15 Bhopal

16 Bhusaval

17 Bina

18 Burhanpur

19 Byculla

20 Chandrapur

21 Chembur

22 Chinchwad

23 Damoh

24 Deccan Gymkhana (Pune)

25 Deolali

26 Dhule

27 Dombivli (Mumbai)

28 Faridabad

29 Ghatkopar (Mumbai)



| 1  | 2                      |
|----|------------------------|
| 30 | Gulbarga               |
| 31 | Guna                   |
| 32 | Gwalior                |
| 33 | Habibganj (Bhopal)     |
| 34 | Hoshangabad            |
| 35 | INS Shivaji Lonavala   |
| 36 | Itarsi                 |
| 37 | Jabalpur               |
| 38 | Jaigaon                |
| 39 | Jhansi                 |
| 40 | Kalyan                 |
| 41 | Katni                  |
| 42 | Khadki                 |
| 43 | Khajuraho              |
| 44 | Khandwa                |
| 45 | Kurla                  |
| 46 | Lalitpur               |
| 47 | Latur                  |
| 48 | Lonavala               |
| 49 | Madan Mahal (Jabalpur) |
| 50 | Maharashtra Assembly   |
| 51 | Maihar                 |
| 52 | Makapur                |
| 53 | Manikpur               |
| 54 | Manmad                 |
| 55 | Mathura Jn.            |
| 56 | Morena                 |
| 57 | Mulund (Mumbai)        |

| 1                      | 2                                |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 58                     | Mumbai CST                       |
| 59                     | Nagpur                           |
| 60                     | Nasik                            |
| 61                     | Nasik CBO                        |
| 62                     | Navy Nagar, Colaba               |
| 63                     | Orai                             |
| 64                     | Panvel (Mumbai)                  |
| 65                     | Pipariya                         |
| 66                     | Pune                             |
| 67                     | Pune Cantonment                  |
| 68                     | Raja-KI-Mandi                    |
| 69                     | Raviwar Peth (Pune)              |
| 70                     | Rewa                             |
| 71                     | Santhra Market (Nagpur)          |
| 72                     | Satna                            |
| 73                     | Saugor                           |
| 74                     | Shankar Seth (Pune)              |
| 75                     | Shirdi                           |
| 76                     | Solapur                          |
| 77                     | Thane                            |
| 78                     | Vashi (Mumbai)                   |
| 79                     | Vidisha                          |
| 80                     | Wardha                           |
| 81                     | Yavatmal                         |
| 82                     | Zonal Training School (Bhusaval) |
| <b>Eastern Railway</b> |                                  |
| 1                      | Andal                            |
| 2                      | Ara                              |
| 3                      | Asansol                          |
| 4                      | Aurangabad                       |

| 1  | 2                        |
|----|--------------------------|
| 5  | Bagbazar (Calcutta)      |
| 6  | Baharampur Court         |
| 7  | Baidhyanathdham          |
| 8  | Baktiarpur               |
| 9  | Bally (Calcutta)         |
| 10 | Ballygunge               |
| 11 | Bandel                   |
| 12 | Bangaon                  |
| 13 | Banka                    |
| 14 | Barasat                  |
| 15 | Barh                     |
| 16 | Barkakana                |
| 17 | Barrackpore              |
| 18 | Behala                   |
| 19 | Bellur Math City Booking |
| 20 | Bhagalpur                |
| 21 | Bhuli                    |
| 22 | Bidhan Nagar (Calcutta)  |
| 23 | Bihar Shariff            |
| 24 | Bodhgaya                 |
| 25 | Bolpur                   |
| 26 | Burdwan                  |
| 27 | Burrabazar               |
| 28 | Buxar                    |
| 29 | Chittaranjan             |
| 30 | Chopan                   |
| 31 | Chowrngee (Calcutta)     |
| 32 | Dakshineswar             |

| 1  | 2                        |
|----|--------------------------|
| 33 | Daltonganj               |
| 34 | Danapur                  |
| 35 | Dankuni                  |
| 36 | Dehri On Sone            |
| 37 | Dhakuria                 |
| 38 | Dhanbad                  |
| 39 | Dimond Harbour           |
| 40 | Dum Dum Airport          |
| 41 | Dum Dum Jn. (Calcutta)   |
| 42 | Durgapur                 |
| 43 | Fairlie Place (Calcutta) |
| 44 | Fatuha                   |
| 45 | Fort William             |
| 46 | Gaya                     |
| 47 | Girdih                   |
| 48 | Hazari Bagh Town         |
| 49 | Howrah                   |
| 50 | Jadavpur                 |
| 51 | Jamalpur                 |
| 52 | Jamul                    |
| 53 | Jasidih                  |
| 54 | Jehanabad                |
| 55 | Jhajha                   |
| 56 | Kalyani                  |
| 57 | Khalgaon                 |
| 58 | Kidderpur                |
| 59 | Kiul                     |
| 60 | Koderma                  |
| 61 | Krishnanagar             |
| 62 | Lalgola                  |

| 1  | 2                        |
|----|--------------------------|
| 63 | Luckeesarai              |
| 64 | MG. Road                 |
| 65 | Mahendrugah (Sat Patna)  |
| 66 | Majerhat (Calcutta)      |
| 67 | Malda Town               |
| 68 | Malda PRS CBO            |
| 69 | Mokama                   |
| 70 | Mughalsarai              |
| 71 | Nabadwaip Dham           |
| 72 | Naihati                  |
| 73 | Nawadah                  |
| 74 | New Farakka              |
| 75 | New Kollaghat (Calcutta) |
| 76 | Parasnath                |
| 77 | Patna                    |
| 78 | Patna Assembly           |
| 79 | Patna Sahib              |
| 80 | Patna Sahib Gurudwara    |
| 81 | Phulwari Sarif           |
| 82 | Port Blair               |
| 83 | Press Club (Calcutta)    |
| 84 | Rajender Nagar (Patna)   |
| 85 | Rajgir                   |
| 86 | Rampur Hat               |
| 87 | Raniganj                 |
| 88 | Russa Road               |
| 89 | Sahibganj                |
| 90 | Satlake (Calcutta)       |

| 1                       | 2                           |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 91                      | Sasaram                     |
| 92                      | Sealdah                     |
| 93                      | Seoraphuli                  |
| 94                      | Sheikhpura                  |
| 95                      | Shyambazar                  |
| 96                      | Singraully                  |
| 97                      | Sonarpur                    |
| 98                      | Tarakeshwar                 |
| 99                      | Tollygunge (Calcutta)       |
| 100                     | West Bengal Assembly        |
| <b>Northern Railway</b> |                             |
| 1                       | Abhor                       |
| 2                       | Aligarh                     |
| 3                       | Allahabad                   |
| 4                       | Allahabad Station 2nd Entry |
| 5                       | Ambala                      |
| 6                       | Ambala City                 |
| 7                       | Amethi                      |
| 8                       | Amritsar                    |
| 9                       | Amritsar Golden Temple      |
| 10                      | Badhol                      |
| 11                      | Bahadurgarh                 |
| 12                      | Bareilly                    |
| 13                      | Barmer                      |
| 14                      | Baroda House (New Delhi)    |
| 15                      | Bathinda                    |
| 16                      | Beas                        |
| 17                      | Bhiwani                     |
| 18                      | Bikaner                     |
| 19                      | Chandigarh Station          |

| 1  | 2                           |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 20 | Chandigarh (Bus Stand) CDG  |
| 21 | Chandausi                   |
| 22 | Churu                       |
| 23 | Dandhrikalan                |
| 24 | Dasuya                      |
| 25 | DCW Patiala                 |
| 26 | Dehradun                    |
| 27 | Delhi Cantt.                |
| 28 | Delhi Station               |
| 29 | Delhi Sarai Rohilla Station |
| 30 | Delhi Shahdara              |
| 31 | Delhi Tourism (New Delhi)   |
| 32 | Deoband                     |
| 33 | DLW Varanasi                |
| 34 | Faizabad                    |
| 35 | Fathepur                    |
| 36 | Ferozepur                   |
| 37 | Ghaziabad                   |
| 38 | Gurgaon                     |
| 39 | Hamirpur                    |
| 40 | Hanumangarh                 |
| 41 | Hapur                       |
| 42 | Hardoi                      |
| 43 | Haridwar                    |
| 44 | Hissar                      |
| 45 | Hoshiarpur                  |
| 46 | IRCA Building (New Delhi)   |
| 47 | Jaisalmer                   |

| 1  | 2                           |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 48 | Jalandhar                   |
| 49 | Jalandhar Cantt.            |
| 50 | Jalore                      |
| 51 | Jammu Tawi                  |
| 52 | Jaunpur                     |
| 53 | Jawaharlal Nehru University |
| 54 | Jodhpur                     |
| 55 | Kalka                       |
| 56 | Kanpur                      |
| 57 | Kanpur Station 2nd Entry    |
| 58 | Karkardooma                 |
| 59 | Karnal                      |
| 60 | Katra                       |
| 61 | Kirti Nagar                 |
| 62 | Kotdwar                     |
| 63 | Kurukshetra                 |
| 64 | Laksar                      |
| 65 | Leh                         |
| 66 | Lucknow                     |
| 67 | Lucknow Station 2nd Entry   |
| 68 | Lucknow Vidhan Sabha        |
| 69 | Ludhiana                    |
| 70 | Mahamandir                  |
| 71 | Makrana                     |
| 72 | Mandi                       |
| 73 | Meerut Cantt.               |
| 74 | Meerut City                 |
| 75 | Mirzapur                    |
| 76 | Modinagar                   |

| 1   | 2                               |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| 77  | Moradabad                       |
| 78  | Mussoorie                       |
| 79  | Muzzafar Nagar                  |
| 80  | Nagur                           |
| 81  | Naini                           |
| 82  | Nangal Dam                      |
| 83  | New Azadpur                     |
| 84  | New Delhi (I.G I. Airport)      |
| 85  | New Delhi (Lajpat Nagar)        |
| 86  | New Delhi (Okhla)               |
| 87  | New Delhi (Supreme Court)       |
| 88  | New Delhi Station               |
| 89  | Nizamuddin                      |
| 90  | Noida                           |
| 91  | Palampur (Himachal)             |
| 92  | Palmarwar                       |
| 93  | Panipat                         |
| 94  | Parliament House                |
| 95  | Pathankot                       |
| 96  | Patiala                         |
| 97  | Pratapgarh                      |
| 98  | Prayag                          |
| 99  | Press Club Of India (New Delhi) |
| 100 | Rae Bareilly                    |
| 101 | Rail Bhawan (New Delhi)         |
| 102 | Rajpura                         |
| 103 | Rampur                          |
| 104 | RCF Kapurthala                  |

| 1                            | 2                             |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 105                          | RDSO (Lucknow)                |
| 106                          | Rewari                        |
| 107                          | Rishikesh                     |
| 108                          | Rohtak                        |
| 109                          | Roorkee Rly. Station          |
| 110                          | Roorkee University            |
| 111                          | Sadulpur                      |
| 112                          | Sahajanpur                    |
| 113                          | Saharanpur                    |
| 114                          | Sarojini Nagar                |
| 115                          | Shimla                        |
| 116                          | Sirhind                       |
| 117                          | Sonapat                       |
| 118                          | Sriganganagar                 |
| 119                          | Srinagar (G.P.O.)             |
| 120                          | Srinagar Cantt.               |
| 121                          | Subzimandi                    |
| 122                          | Sultanpur                     |
| 123                          | Tourist Bureau New Delhi Stn. |
| 124                          | Tuglakabad                    |
| 125                          | Tundla                        |
| 126                          | Udampur                       |
| 127                          | Varanasi                      |
| <b>North Eastern Railway</b> |                               |
| 1                            | Allahabad City                |
| 2                            | Azamgarh                      |
| 3                            | Badshahnagar                  |
| 4                            | Bahraich                      |
| 5                            | Ballia                        |
| 6                            | Balrampur                     |

| 1  | 2                     |
|----|-----------------------|
| 7  | Barauni               |
| 8  | Basti                 |
| 9  | Begusarai             |
| 10 | Betla                 |
| 11 | CCM Office/ Gorakhpur |
| 12 | Chhapra               |
| 13 | Darbhanga             |
| 14 | Daura Madhepura       |
| 15 | Deoria-sadar          |
| 16 | Farrukhabad           |
| 17 | Gazipur City          |
| 18 | Gomti Nagar           |
| 19 | Gonda                 |
| 20 | Gopalganj             |
| 21 | Gorakhpur             |
| 22 | Hajipur               |
| 23 | Izzat Nagar           |
| 24 | Janakpur Road         |
| 25 | Jayanagar             |
| 26 | Kalyanpur             |
| 27 | Kasganj               |
| 28 | Kashipur              |
| 29 | Kathgodam             |
| 30 | Khagaria              |
| 31 | Khalilabad            |
| 32 | Laharia Sarai         |
| 33 | Lakhimpur             |
| 34 | Lal Kuan              |

| 1                                 | 2             |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|
| 35                                | Lucknow City  |
| 36                                | Madhubani     |
| 37                                | Manduadih     |
| 38                                | Masrak        |
| 39                                | Mau           |
| 40                                | Moti Hari     |
| 41                                | Muzaffarpur   |
| 42                                | Nagauchia     |
| 43                                | Nainital      |
| 44                                | Narkatiyaganj |
| 45                                | Nautanwa      |
| 46                                | Pilibhit      |
| 47                                | Rawatpur      |
| 48                                | Raxual        |
| 49                                | Saharsa       |
| 50                                | Samastipur    |
| 51                                | Sitamarhi     |
| 52                                | Sitapur       |
| 53                                | Siwan         |
| 54                                | Sonepur       |
| 55                                | Supaul        |
| 56                                | Varanasi City |
| <b>Northeast Frontier Railway</b> |               |
| 1                                 | Agartala      |
| 2                                 | Alzawl        |
| 3                                 | Alipurduar    |
| 4                                 | Balurghat     |
| 5                                 | Bongaigaon    |
| 6                                 | Cooch Behar   |
| 7                                 | Darjeeling    |

| 1  | 2               |
|----|-----------------|
| 8  | Dibrugarh Town  |
| 9  | Dimapur         |
| 10 | Dispur          |
| 11 | Gangtok         |
| 12 | Guwahati        |
| 13 | Imphal          |
| 14 | Itanagar        |
| 15 | Jaipalguri Road |
| 16 | Jorhat          |
| 17 | Katihar         |
| 18 | Kishanganj      |
| 19 | Kohima          |
| 20 | Lumding         |
| 21 | New Alipurduar  |
| 22 | New Jaipalguri  |
| 23 | New Coochbehar  |
| 24 | Pandu           |
| 25 | Purnea          |
| 26 | Raiganj         |
| 27 | Shillong        |
| 28 | Silchar         |
| 29 | Siliguri        |
| 30 | Tejpur          |
| 31 | Tinsukia        |

**Southern Railway**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| 1 | Alleppey |
| 2 | Alwaye   |
| 3 | Ambur    |

| 1  | 2                       |
|----|-------------------------|
| 4  | Androth (Lakshadweep)   |
| 5  | Anna Nagar (Chennai)    |
| 6  | Arakkonam               |
| 7  | Avadi (Chennai)         |
| 8  | Badagara                |
| 9  | Banasankari (Bangalore) |
| 10 | Bangalore Cantt.        |
| 11 | Bangalore City          |
| 12 | Bangalore Indiranagar   |
| 13 | Bangarapet              |
| 14 | Basant Nagar (Chennai)  |
| 15 | Calicut                 |
| 16 | Cannanore               |
| 17 | Chalakui                |
| 18 | Chenganacherry          |
| 19 | Chengannur              |
| 20 | Chenglepet              |
| 21 | Chidambaram             |
| 22 | Cochin Harbour          |
| 23 | Coimbatore              |
| 24 | Coimbatore North        |
| 25 | Davangere               |
| 26 | Dharmapuri              |
| 27 | Dindigul                |
| 28 | Ernakulam Jn.           |
| 29 | Ernakulam Town          |
| 30 | Erode                   |
| 31 | Feroke                  |
| 32 | Gandhipuram (SAT-CBE)   |
| 33 | Guruvayur               |

| 1  | 2                              |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 34 | Hassan                         |
| 35 | Jayanagar (SBC)                |
| 36 | Kankanadi                      |
| 37 | Kanniyakumari                  |
| 38 | Karaikkudi                     |
| 39 | Karur                          |
| 40 | Kasargod                       |
| 41 | Katpadi                        |
| 42 | Kavaratti (Lakshadweep)        |
| 43 | Kayankulam                     |
| 44 | Koramangala (Bangalore)        |
| 45 | Kottayam                       |
| 46 | Kovilpatti                     |
| 47 | Kumbakonam                     |
| 48 | Kuppam                         |
| 49 | Madras Airport                 |
| 50 | Madras Beach                   |
| 51 | Madras Egmore                  |
| 52 | Madurai                        |
| 53 | Malleswaram                    |
| 54 | Mambalam (Chennai)             |
| 55 | Mandya                         |
| 56 | Mangalore                      |
| 57 | Mavelikara                     |
| 58 | Mayiladuthurai                 |
| 59 | Mettupalayam                   |
| 60 | Minicoy (Lakshadweep)          |
| 61 | Moore Market Complex (Chennai) |

| 1  | 2                         |
|----|---------------------------|
| 62 | Mysore                    |
| 63 | Nagapattinam              |
| 64 | Nagercoil                 |
| 65 | Nagore                    |
| 66 | Palani                    |
| 67 | Palghat Jn.               |
| 68 | Palghat Town              |
| 69 | Pattom (Tiruananthapuram) |
| 70 | Perambur (Chennai)        |
| 71 | Pondicherry               |
| 72 | Pudukottai                |
| 73 | Quilon                    |
| 74 | Rajapalayam               |
| 75 | Ramanathapuram            |
| 76 | Rameswaram                |
| 77 | Salem                     |
| 78 | Salem Town                |
| 79 | Sengottai                 |
| 80 | Shimoga Town              |
| 81 | Shoranur                  |
| 82 | Sivakasi                  |
| 83 | St. Thomas Mount          |
| 84 | Tambaram (Chennai)        |
| 85 | Tellicherry               |
| 86 | Tenkasi                   |
| 87 | Thalakkulam (Madurai)     |
| 88 | Thanjavur                 |
| 89 | Thiruponithura            |
| 90 | Thiruvavur                |
| 91 | Tiruchchirappalli         |



| 1                            | 2                             |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 92                           | Tiruchirappalli Fort          |
| 93                           | Tirumayilai                   |
| 94                           | Tirunagar                     |
| 95                           | Tirunelveli Jn.               |
| 96                           | Tirupattur                    |
| 97                           | Tiruppur                      |
| 98                           | Tiruppur                      |
| 99                           | Tirur                         |
| 100                          | Tiruvalla                     |
| 101                          | Tiruvannamalai                |
| 102                          | Tiruvottiyur (SAT) Mobile PRS |
| 103                          | Trichur                       |
| 104                          | Trivandrum Central            |
| 105                          | Tumkur                        |
| 106                          | Tuticorin                     |
| 107                          | Vijayanagar (SBC)             |
| 108                          | Villupuram                    |
| 109                          | Virudhunagar                  |
| 110                          | Whitefield (Bangalore)        |
| 111                          | Yelahanka                     |
| 112                          | Yeswantpur                    |
| <b>South Central Railway</b> |                               |
| 1                            | A.P.L. Assembly (Hyderabad)   |
| 2                            | A.S.Rao Nagar (Secunderabad)  |
| 3                            | Adoni                         |
| 4                            | Amalapuram                    |
| 5                            | Ameerpet (Hyderabad)          |
| 6                            | Anakapalle                    |

| 1  | 2                        |
|----|--------------------------|
| 7  | Ananthapur               |
| 8  | Aurangabad               |
| 9  | Bapatla                  |
| 10 | Belgaum                  |
| 11 | Bellary                  |
| 12 | Benz Circle (Vijayawada) |
| 13 | Bhavanipuram             |
| 14 | Bhimavaram Town          |
| 15 | Bhoiguda (Secunderabad)  |
| 16 | Bidar                    |
| 17 | Bijapur                  |
| 18 | Chirala                  |
| 19 | Cuddapah                 |
| 20 | Dar-ul-Shafa (Hyderabad) |
| 21 | Dharmavaram              |
| 22 | Dharwar                  |
| 23 | Eluru                    |
| 24 | Gadag                    |
| 25 | Godavari Stn.            |
| 26 | Gudivada                 |
| 27 | Gudur                    |
| 28 | Guntakal                 |
| 29 | Guntur                   |
| 30 | Hospet                   |
| 31 | Hubli                    |
| 32 | Hyderabad                |
| 33 | Jalna                    |
| 34 | Kacheguda                |
| 35 | Kakinada Town            |
| 36 | Karad                    |

| 1  | 2                           |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 37 | Kazipet                     |
| 38 | Khammam                     |
| 39 | Kolhapur                    |
| 40 | Kukutpally (Hyderabad)      |
| 41 | Kurnool Town                |
| 42 | Machilipatnam               |
| 43 | Miraj                       |
| 44 | Nanded                      |
| 45 | Nandyal                     |
| 46 | Narasapur                   |
| 47 | Nellore                     |
| 48 | Nidadavolu                  |
| 49 | Nizamabad                   |
| 50 | Ongole                      |
| 51 | Palakollu                   |
| 52 | Parbhani                    |
| 53 | Parli Valjnath              |
| 54 | Puttaparthi                 |
| 55 | Raichur                     |
| 56 | Rail Nilayam (Secunderabad) |
| 57 | Rajahmundry                 |
| 58 | Ramagundam                  |
| 59 | Renigunta                   |
| 60 | Samalkot                    |
| 61 | Sangli                      |
| 62 | Saroor Nagar (Hyderabad)    |
| 63 | Satara                      |
| 64 | Secunderabad                |

| 1                            | 2                         |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 65                           | Sirpur Khagaznagar        |
| 66                           | Tadipaligudam             |
| 67                           | Tandur                    |
| 68                           | Tanuku                    |
| 69                           | Tenali                    |
| 70                           | Tirumala Hills (Tirupati) |
| 71                           | Tirupati                  |
| 72                           | Vasco-Da-Gama             |
| 73                           | Vijayawada                |
| 74                           | Warangal                  |
| <b>South Eastern Railway</b> |                           |
| 1                            | Adra                      |
| 2                            | Balasore                  |
| 3                            | Bankura                   |
| 4                            | Beharampur                |
| 5                            | Bhadrak                   |
| 6                            | Bhatapara                 |
| 7                            | Bhilai Township           |
| 8                            | Bhubaneswar               |
| 9                            | Bhubneswar Assembly       |
| 10                           | Blits Ranchi              |
| 11                           | Blaspur                   |
| 12                           | Bokaro CBO                |
| 13                           | Bokaro Steel City         |
| 14                           | Chaibasa                  |
| 15                           | Chakradharpur             |
| 16                           | Chandrasekharpur          |
| 17                           | Chindwara                 |
| 18                           | Contai                    |
| 19                           | Cuttack                   |

| 1  | 2                           |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 20 | Dhenkanal                   |
| 21 | Dongargarh                  |
| 22 | Durg                        |
| 23 | Gajuwaka (Vishakhapatnam)   |
| 24 | Garden Reach (Calcutta)     |
| 25 | Gondia                      |
| 26 | Haldia                      |
| 27 | Hatia                       |
| 28 | Hirakund                    |
| 29 | IIT/Kharagpur               |
| 30 | Itwari (Nagpur)             |
| 31 | Jagadamba City BO, VSKP     |
| 32 | Jhargram                    |
| 33 | Jharkhand Assembly          |
| 34 | Jharsuguda                  |
| 35 | Kharagpur                   |
| 36 | Khurda Road                 |
| 37 | Korba                       |
| 38 | Midnapur                    |
| 39 | Muri                        |
| 40 | MVP Colony (Vishakhapatnam) |
| 41 | Naval Base (Vishakhapatnam) |
| 42 | Old Kollaghat (Calcutta)    |
| 43 | Palasa                      |
| 44 | Paradeep                    |
| 45 | Puri                        |
| 44 | Puri City Booking Office    |
| 47 | Purulia                     |

| 1                      | 2                           |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 48                     | Rabindra Sadan (Calcutta)   |
| 49                     | Rai Garh                    |
| 50                     | Raipur                      |
| 51                     | Rajnandgaon                 |
| 52                     | Ranchi                      |
| 53                     | Ranchi CBO                  |
| 54                     | Rayagada                    |
| 55                     | Rourkela - IIND Location    |
| 56                     | Rourkella                   |
| 57                     | Sakchi Area (Sat Tatanagar) |
| 58                     | Sambalpur                   |
| 59                     | Sambalpur Road              |
| 60                     | Shalimar                    |
| 61                     | Simhachalam                 |
| 62                     | Srikakulam Road             |
| 63                     | Tatanagar                   |
| 64                     | Telco (Tata Nagar)          |
| 65                     | Titlagarh                   |
| 66                     | Uluberia                    |
| 67                     | Visakhapatnam               |
| 68                     | Vizianagaram                |
| <b>Western Railway</b> |                             |
| 1                      | Abu Road                    |
| 2                      | Agra Fort                   |
| 3                      | Ahmedabad                   |
| 4                      | Ajmer                       |
| 5                      | Alkapuri                    |
| 6                      | Alwar                       |
| 7                      | Anand                       |
| 8                      | Andheri (Mumbai)            |

| 1  | 2                    |
|----|----------------------|
| 9  | Ankleshwar           |
| 10 | Bandra Terminus      |
| 11 | Bharatpur            |
| 12 | Bharuch              |
| 13 | Bhavnagar            |
| 14 | Bhayandar (Mumbai)   |
| 15 | Bhilwara             |
| 16 | Borivili (Mumbai)    |
| 17 | Chittaurgarh         |
| 18 | Chittor              |
| 19 | Churchgate (Mumbai)  |
| 20 | Dadar                |
| 21 | Dakaniya Talav       |
| 22 | Daman                |
| 23 | Dewas                |
| 24 | Durgapura            |
| 25 | Dwarka               |
| 26 | Falna                |
| 27 | Gandhidham           |
| 28 | Gandhigram           |
| 29 | Gandhinagar          |
| 30 | Gandhinagar (Jaipur) |
| 31 | Hapa                 |
| 32 | Idgah                |
| 33 | Indore               |
| 34 | Jaipur               |
| 35 | Jamnagar             |
| 36 | Jhunjhunu            |

| 1  | 2                                |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 37 | Junagarh                         |
| 38 | Kota                             |
| 39 | Malad (Mumbai)                   |
| 40 | Mandsaur                         |
| 41 | Maninagar (Ahmadabad)            |
| 42 | Mehsana                          |
| 43 | Mhow                             |
| 44 | Mumbai Central                   |
| 45 | Nadiad                           |
| 46 | Nagda                            |
| 47 | Nandurbar                        |
| 48 | Navsari                          |
| 49 | New Bhuj                         |
| 50 | Nimach                           |
| 51 | Padmavati Complex CBO (Vadodara) |
| 52 | Palanpur                         |
| 53 | Paighar                          |
| 54 | Pali                             |
| 55 | Porbandar                        |
| 56 | Pratapnagar (Vadodara)           |
| 57 | Rajkot                           |
| 58 | Ratlam                           |
| 59 | Sabermati                        |
| 60 | Sahar Airport Mumbai             |
| 61 | Sardargram                       |
| 62 | Sawaimadhopur                    |
| 63 | Sikar                            |
| 64 | Surat                            |
| 65 | Surendranagar                    |
| 66 | Udaipur                          |

| 1                     | 2                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 67                    | Udhna               |
| 68                    | Ujjain              |
| 69                    | Vadodara            |
| 70                    | Valsad              |
| 71                    | Vapi                |
| 72                    | Vasai Road (Mumbai) |
| 73                    | Veraval             |
| 74                    | Virar (Mumbai)      |
| <b>Konkan Railway</b> |                     |
| 1                     | Chiplun             |
| 2                     | Kudal               |
| 3                     | Madgaon             |
| 4                     | Panaji              |
| 5                     | Ratnagiri           |
| 6                     | Thivim              |
| <b>Summary</b>        |                     |
| CR                    | 82                  |
| ER                    | 100                 |
| NR                    | 127                 |
| NE                    | 56                  |
| NF                    | 31                  |
| SR                    | 112                 |
| SC                    | 74                  |
| SE                    | 68                  |
| WR                    | 74                  |
| KR                    | 6                   |
| <b>TOTAL LOCATION</b> | <b>730</b>          |

**Statement-II**

*List of stations/locations where computerised reservation facilities are proposed to be provided during 2002-03*

S.No. Location

1 2

**Central Railway**

1 PRS at Daund

| 1  | 2                          |
|----|----------------------------|
| 2  | PRS at Belapur             |
| 3  | PRS at Hinghanghat         |
| 4  | PRS at Sewagram            |
| 5  | PRS at Dholpur             |
| 6  | PRS at Shri Anandpur Trust |
| 7  | PRS at Harda               |
| 8  | PRS at Narsinghpur         |
| 9  | PRS at Baramati            |
| 10 | PRS at Karjat              |
| 11 | PRS at Buldhana            |
| 12 | PRS at Alibagh             |
| 13 | PRS at Usmanabad           |
| 14 | PRS at Chhatarpur          |
| 15 | PRS at Panna               |
| 16 | PRS at Tikamgarh           |
| 17 | PRS at Chitrakoot          |

**Eastern Railway**

|    |                                  |
|----|----------------------------------|
| 1  | PRS at Patna Sectt.              |
| 2  | PRS at Shantipur                 |
| 3  | PRS at Gomoh                     |
| 4  | PRS at Pakur                     |
| 5  | PRS at Murshidabad               |
| 6  | PRS at Vishwabharati CBO         |
| 7  | PRS at Madhupur                  |
| 8  | PRS at Anpara                    |
| 9  | PRS at Durgapur (CBO ADDA Bldg.) |
| 10 | PRS at Renukut                   |
| 11 | PRS at Sindri                    |
| 12 | PRS at Godda                     |

| 1  | 2                |
|----|------------------|
| 13 | PRS at Monghyr   |
| 14 | PRS at Chunchura |
| 15 | PRS at Arwal     |
| 16 | PRS at Bhabhua   |
| 17 | PRS at Shivhar   |
| 18 | PRS at Deoghar   |
| 19 | PRS at Garhwa    |

**Northern Railway**

|    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 1  | PRS at Phagwara                     |
| 2  | PRS at Etawa                        |
| 3  | PRS at Barabanki                    |
| 4  | PRS at Unnav                        |
| 5  | PRS at IIT Kanpur                   |
| 6  | PRS at Dharmasaia                   |
| 7  | PRS at Palam Airport (Domestic)     |
| 8  | PRS at (Aligarh University)         |
| 9  | PRS at Joshimath                    |
| 10 | PRS at Shamli                       |
| 11 | PRS at Mohali                       |
| 12 | PRS at Nazibabad                    |
| 13 | PRS at Satellite Location at Noida  |
| 14 | PRS at Govindpuri                   |
| 15 | PRS at North Campus, Univ. of Delhi |
| 16 | PRS at South Campus, Univ. of Delhi |
| 17 | PRS at JLN Stadium - Delhi          |
| 18 | PRS at Lucknow University (Sat.)    |
| 19 | PRS at BHU University               |
| 20 | PRS at Manali                       |

| 1  | 2                                   |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 21 | Augmentation of PRS at Delhi Cantt. |
| 22 | PRS at Khurja Jn.                   |
| 23 | PRS at Jammu II Location            |
| 24 | PRS at Amroha                       |
| 25 | PRS at Jind Jn.                     |
| 26 | PRS at Firozabad                    |
| 27 | PRS at Bulandshahar                 |
| 28 | PRS at Sirsa                        |
| 29 | PRS at Palam                        |
| 30 | PRS at Una                          |
| 31 | PRS at Suratgarh                    |
| 32 | PRS at Farakhabad                   |
| 33 | PRS at Shikohabad                   |
| 34 | PRS at Shahganj                     |
| 35 | PRS at Sardarshahar                 |
| 36 | PRS at Nihalgarh                    |
| 37 | PRS at Giddarbaha                   |
| 38 | PRS at Muktsar                      |
| 39 | PRS at Moga                         |
| 40 | PRS at Chakkibank                   |
| 41 | PRS at Kapurthala                   |
| 42 | PRS at Merta Road                   |
| 43 | PRS at Marwar Bhinmal               |
| 44 | PRS at Nokha                        |
| 45 | PRS at Sujargarh                    |
| 46 | PRS at Faridkot                     |
| 47 | PRS at Unchahar                     |
| 48 | PRS at Janghai                      |
| 49 | PRS at Ayodhya                      |
| 50 | PRS at Kalpa/Reckong Peo            |

| 1  | 2                    |
|----|----------------------|
| 51 | PRS at Bilaspur      |
| 52 | PRS at Baramula      |
| 53 | PRS at Kullu         |
| 54 | PRS at Almora        |
| 55 | PRS at Ambedkarnagar |
| 56 | PRS at Bijnor        |
| 57 | PRS at Gurdaspur     |
| 58 | PRS at Sangrur       |
| 59 | PRS at Jhajjar       |
| 60 | PRS at Panchkula     |
| 61 | PRS at Kathua        |

**North Eastern Railway**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | PRS at Belthra Road                      |
| 2 | PRS at Udham Singh Nagar (Ruderpur City) |
| 3 | PRS at Kanpur Anwarganj (Sat.)           |
| 4 | PRS at Ramnagar                          |
| 5 | PRS at Bagha                             |

**Northeast Frontier Railway**

|    |                              |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1  | PRS at MLA Hostel            |
| 2  | PRS at Rangyia               |
| 3  | PRS at Malbazar              |
| 4  | PRS at Mariani               |
| 5  | PRS at Karimganj             |
| 6  | PRS at Alubari Road          |
| 7  | PRS at Forbesganj            |
| 8  | PRS at Lower Haflong/Haflong |
| 9  | PRS at Rangapara             |
| 10 | PRS at Badarpur              |

| 1  | 2                       |
|----|-------------------------|
| 11 | PRS at Guwahati Airport |
| 12 | PRS at Thegu            |
| 13 | PRS at Barsoi           |
| 14 | PRS at Arariya          |
| 15 | PRS at North Lakhimpur  |
| 16 | PRS at Haiber Gaon      |

**Southern Railway**

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 1  | PRS at Kodaikannal            |
| 2  | PRS at Pamba                  |
| 3  | PRS at ICF Complex            |
| 4  | PRS at Vellore Town           |
| 5  | PRS at Coonoor                |
| 6  | PRS at Bhadravathi            |
| 7  | PRS at Austin Town (SBC Sat.) |
| 8  | PRS at Kengeri (SBC Sat.)     |
| 9  | PRS at Udthagamandalam        |
| 10 | PRS at Paramakudi             |
| 11 | PRS at Jolarpettai            |
| 12 | PRS at Manamadurai            |
| 13 | PRS at Tiruchendur            |
| 14 | PRS at Hosur                  |
| 15 | PRS at Melmaruvathur          |
| 16 | PRS at Sirkazhi               |
| 17 | PRS at Pollachi               |
| 18 | PRS at Karunagappally         |
| 19 | PRS at Ottapalam              |
| 20 | PRS at Mangalore Sat.         |
| 21 | PRS at Calicut Sat.           |
| 22 | PRS at Podanur                |
| 23 | PRS at Angadipuram            |

| 1                            | 2                             |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 24                           | PRS at Namakkal               |
| 25                           | PRS at Kacnhepuram            |
| 26                           | PRS at Sivaganga              |
| 27                           | PRS at Teni                   |
| 28                           | PRS a. Chamrajnagar           |
| 29                           | PRS at Udupi                  |
| 30                           | PRS at Kanhangad              |
| 31                           | PRS at Varkala                |
| <b>South Central Railway</b> |                               |
| 1                            | PRS at Yerraguntla            |
| 2                            | PRS at Bhadrachalam Road      |
| 3                            | PRS at Tuni                   |
| 4                            | PRS at Mahaboobnagar          |
| 5                            | PRS at Nagarsol               |
| 6                            | PRS at Nalgonda               |
| 7                            | PRS at Manchiryal             |
| 8                            | PRS at Annavaram              |
| 9                            | PRS at Srikalahasti           |
| 10                           | PRS at Kavali                 |
| 11                           | PRS at Chittoor               |
| 12                           | PRS at Miryalaguda            |
| 13                           | PRS at Ghataprabha            |
| 14                           | PRS at Bellampalli            |
| 15                           | PRS at Akividu                |
| 16                           | PRS at Yadgir                 |
| 17                           | PRS at Karwar                 |
| 18                           | PRS at Adilabad               |
| <b>South Eastern Railway</b> |                               |
| 1                            | PRS at Bhandara Rd. Rly. Stn. |

| 1                      | 2   |
|------------------------|---|
| 2                      | PRS at Panskura                                   |
| 3                      | PRS at Shadol                                     |
| 4                      | PRS at Talcher                                    |
| 5                      | PRS at Dhenkanal                                  |
| 6                      | PRS at Kolaghat                                   |
| 7                      | PRS at Bagnan                                     |
| 8                      | PRS at Bishnupur                                  |
| 9                      | PRS at Chas Bokaro                                |
| 10                     | PRS at Kendrapara town                            |
| 11                     | PRS at Jaipur-Keonjhar Road                       |
| 12                     | PRS at Bolangir                                   |
| 13                     | PRS at Mahasamund                                 |
| 14                     | PRS at RDC Office/Cuttack                         |
| 15                     | PRS at Jagdalpur                                  |
| 16                     | PRS at Raipur Town                                |
| 17                     | PRS at Kesinga                                    |
| 18                     | PRS at Chattisgarh Legislative Assembly at Raipur |
| 19                     | PRS at Seoni                                      |
| 20                     | PRS at Korapat                                    |
| <b>Western Railway</b> |   |
| 1                      | PRS at Viramgam                                   |
| 2                      | PRS at Mount Abu                                  |
| 3                      | PRS at Rajendranagar                              |
| 4                      | PRS at Sirohi City                                |
| 5                      | PRS at Rani                                       |
| 6                      | PRS at Bairagarh                                  |
| 7                      | PRS at Godhra                                     |
| 8                      | PRS at Marwar Jn.                                 |
| 9                      | PRS at Okha                                       |



| 1  | 2                         |
|----|---------------------------|
| 10 | PRS at Jawai Bandh        |
| 11 | PRS at Dhrangandhra       |
| 12 | PRS at Beawar             |
| 13 | PRS at Bhachau            |
| 14 | PRS at Dahod              |
| 15 | PRS at Billmora           |
| 16 | PRS at Silvassa           |
| 17 | PRS at ZTC-Udaipur.(Sat.) |
| 18 | PRS at Vastapur           |
| 19 | PRS at Sehore             |
| 20 | PRS at Jhalawar           |
| 21 | PRS at Narnaul            |
| 22 | PRS at Amrell             |

[Translation]

#### **Electrification of Villages with Solar Energy**

5556. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether solar energy plants are proposed to be set up in the non-electrified remote forest villages in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the solar energy plants are likely to be utilized for providing irrigation facility; and

(c) the number of villages in which these plants are proposed to be set up along with the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has initiated a programme for electrification of villages in remote and difficult areas in the entire country, including the state of Madhya Pradesh, through installation of suitable renewable energy systems like solar photovoltaic (Spy) lights and power plants, small hydro power plants and biomass gasifier systems.

According to information furnished by Madhya Pradesh

Urja Vikas Nigam (MPUVN), there are 317 villages in the forest areas of Jabalpur division which are proposed to be electrified through non-conventional energy systems. A majority of such villages can be electrified by solar energy through the installation of solar home systems for lighting, TV and fan in individual households and community systems for street lighting, drinking water supply and micro irrigation. Alternately, a stand-alone centralized solar power plant can be set up in the village to provide all these services. The cost of such power plants is in the range of Rs.3.50-4.00 lakhs per kilowatt. The installation of such systems and power plants, as per the scheme, can be supported by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources to the extent of 50% of the ex-works cost, subject to certain upper limits.

The Ministry has not received any proposal from the MPUVN for electrification of remote forest villages in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. However, the Ministry got a project report prepared in respect of nine villages in Jabalpur and Katni Districts and referred it to the state government for meeting the balance cost of the project. The state government has expressed inability to provide the required funds.

[English]

#### **Outstanding Dues Against Firms/Individuals**

5557. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of outstanding dues pending for recovery against each of the firms/organization/company/individuals of DD/AIR during each of the last three years;

(b) the amount recovered during the current year and the balance of dues still required to be recovered in each case;

(c) the efforts made by the Government for the recovery of dues in each case;

(d) whether certain outstanding dues have been waived off during the last three years due to its non-realisation;

(e) if so, the amount waived off during the said period; and

(f) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that in respect of Doordarshan the outstanding dues (Principal amount) from various producers and agencies is Rs. 169.28 crores as on 31.03.2002 and year-wise break-up is given below :

| Pertaining to year | Amount<br>(in crores of rupees) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Till 1998-99       | 41.64                           |
| 1999-2000          | 10.15                           |
| 2000-01            | 61.35                           |
| 2001-02            | 56.14                           |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>169.28</b>                   |

Detailed list of agencies showing the principal amount outstanding against each is given in the attached statement. Information on the amount recovered during the current year by DD is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

In respect of AIR, information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan suspends/ withdraws accreditation status of companies from time to time, if they do not clear their outstanding. For recovery of outstanding amount, the following steps are taken :-

- (i) Monthly monitoring is done and regular reminders are sent to clear outstanding dues.
- (ii) No fresh programmes /extension of programmes is given to any defaulting agency/producer unless they agree to give advance payment and commit to abide by an agreed payment plan.
- (iii) If the defaulting agencies do not adhere to the payment plan, then the programmes are taken off the air and their accreditation status is cancelled/ withdrawn.
- (iv) On cancellation/ withdrawal of accreditation status, bank guarantees of agencies are encashed.
- (v) To secure Doordarshan's revenue and to cover the credit period, the bank guarantee amount has been enhanced; and
- (vi) Legal proceedings have also been launched to recover the outstandings in some cases.

AIR accepts commercial spots/sponsorships/ sponsored programmes through accredited agencies. The accreditation status of the defaulting agencies is suspended temporarily and bookings accepted on advance payment only till dues are cleared. If any such agency fails to clear the outstanding

dues, its Bank Guarantee is encashed. In cases of dispute in payment, the matter is referred for Arbitration and in some cases, civil suits are also filed to recover the due.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

#### Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sr. No. | Name of Agency         | Outstanding dues<br>as on 31.3.2002 |
|---------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1       | 2                      | 3                                   |
| 1.      | Aallya Productions     | 60                                  |
| 2.      | Advance TV Network     | 213                                 |
| 3.      | Advision Multi Media   | 17                                  |
| 4.      | Anand Advtg.           | 140                                 |
| 5.      | Asian AD Age           | 27                                  |
| 6.      | A4U Multimedia         | 197                                 |
| 7.      | Bala Ji Telefilms      | 111                                 |
| 8.      | Bidhan Advtg.          | 11                                  |
| 9.      | Cinema Vision          | 35                                  |
| 10.     | Clarion                | 6                                   |
| 11.     | Concept Advtg.         | 188                                 |
| 12.     | Copy Desk              | 45                                  |
| 13.     | Corrum Comm.           | 18                                  |
| 14.     | Creative Channel       | 28                                  |
| 15.     | Creative Eye           | 1200                                |
| 16.     | Drishy India           | 294                                 |
| 17.     | Fame Comm.             | 1074                                |
| 18.     | Film City              | 26                                  |
| 19.     | Film Craft             | 647                                 |
| 20.     | First Option Telefilms | 41                                  |
| 21.     | Future Comm.           | 11                                  |

| 1   | 2                    | 3    |
|-----|----------------------|------|
| 22. | G.N. Communications  | 25   |
| 23. | Global Entertainers  | 93   |
| 24. | Govt. of Delhi       | 6    |
| 25. | Guruji Advertisers   | 85   |
| 26. | HMT                  | 3    |
| 27. | HTA                  | 25   |
| 28. | Innovision Film & TV | 25   |
| 29. | Jaya Advtg.          | 49   |
| 30. | Joslin Comm.         | 42   |
| 31. | Kine Scope           | 70   |
| 32. | KLI                  | 122  |
| 33. | Lehar Publicity Ser. | 28   |
| 34. | Magic Box            | 11   |
| 35. | Magna Vision         | 108  |
| 36. | Market Movers        | 311  |
| 37. | Maya Entertainment   | 170  |
| 38. | MBM                  | 163  |
| 39. | Media Asia           | 146  |
| 40. | Moulis Advertising   | 2    |
| 41. | Multi Channel        | 1102 |
| 42. | Neerja Films         | 25   |
| 43. | Network 7            | 20   |
| 44. | NFDC                 | 4700 |
| 45. | Nimbus Comm.         | 612  |
| 46. | Numero Uno           | 1030 |
| 47. | P N C                | 154  |

| 1     | 2                     | 3     |
|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| 48.   | Pas International     | 57    |
| 49.   | Pinky Advertising     | 91    |
| 50.   | Plus Channel          | 1012  |
| 51.   | Prime Time Media      | 20    |
| 52.   | Radha Publicity       | 16    |
| 53.   | Sagar Enterprises     | 590   |
| 54.   | Samvaad               | 49    |
| 55.   | Shree Madhav          | 1156  |
| 56.   | Star Gazer            | 13    |
| 57.   | Tracer Advertising    | 33    |
| 58.   | Trans Link Television | 24    |
| 59.   | Triton Comm.          | 31    |
| 60.   | Universal             | 73    |
| 61.   | Uranus                | 46    |
| 62.   | Vigyapan              | 3     |
| 63.   | W.D. Consumer         | 8     |
| 64.   | World Media           | 132   |
| 65.   | Worldcomm /M          | 58    |
| Total |                       | 16928 |

#### **Railway Corporation for Chennai**

5558. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of a separate Railway Corporation for Chennai where Mass Rapid Transport System is under Operation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Setting up of a separate corporation has not been felt necessary so far due to following reasons :

(i) Phase I from Chennai Beach to Tirumailai is under operation with the train services integrated with the suburban services of the Southern Railway.

(ii) Construction of Phase II of the Chennai Mass Rapid Transit System from Tirumailai to Velacheri is under execution on cost sharing basis between the Railways and state government of Tamilnadu. Both the Governments have been providing requisite funds for construction of the system. The project has been making satisfactory progress with the existing arrangement.

(iii) State Government has not come forward with any proposal in this regard.

#### **FOB at Giddalur Railway Station**

5559. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :

SHRI B.V.N. REDDY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct a foot over bridge and also raise the platform of Giddalur Railway Station under South Central Railway;

(b) if so, the allocation proposed to be made therefor; and

(c) the time by which the work of the project is proposed to be taken up and the target fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) The proposal to raise the platform no.1 from rail level to low level at Giddalur is under consideration for inclusion in the

Local Works Programme of the Zonal Railway for the year 2002-03. There is no proposal for construction of Foot over Bridge at present.

(b) The estimated cost of raising of platform is Rs. 17.30 lakh.

(c) The raising of platform would take approximately one year.

#### **Rail Projects in Karnataka**

5560. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI SHASHI KUMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total length of single and double electrified railway lines in the country, separately, State-wise;

(b) the details of proposals for new rail projects submitted by the Government of Karnataka during the current year along with the proposal approved by the Union Government, Project-wise;

(c) the details of new/on-going rail projects in Karnataka along with the allocation made to each of the project, project-wise; and

(d) the time by which the said projects are likely to be completed, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) As on 31.03.2002, 16001 Route Kilometres of tracks over Indian Railways have been electrified. State-wise information is not available as the figures are not maintained separately.

(b) Government of Karnataka has not submitted any fresh proposal for a new rail project during the current financial year.

(c) and (d) The details of ongoing Railway projects in Karnataka are given below. Target dates of completion wherever fixed are mentioned in the status of the projects :

Rs. in Crores

| S.No. | Pian      | Project                        | YR_APVL | KMS | Anticipated Cost | Anticipated Expenditure upto MAR 2002 | Budget Outlay 2002-03 | Status   |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|-----|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 1     | 2         | 3                              | 4       | 5   | 6                | 7                                     | 8                     | 9  |
| 1     | New Lines | Gadwal-Raichur                 | 1998-99 | 60  | 108.91           | 0.75                                  | 1                     | Final location survey has been completed. Detailed estimate has been sanctioned. Land acquisition work is being taken up.  |
| 2     | New Lines | Hubli-Ankola                   | 1996-97 | 167 | 997.85           | 14.65                                 | 20                    | Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans have been submitted to the State Govt. for part length. Earthwork has been completed in the 1.8 km length where no land acquisition is involved. Work on rest of the section will be taken up once land is made available. Tenders have been processed for earthwork and minor bridges. |
| 3     | New Lines | Gulbarga-Bidar                 | 1997-98 | 140 | 242.42           | 0.64                                  | 15                    | Final location survey has been completed. Plans & estimates are under preparation.   |
| 4     | New Lines | Munirabad-Mehbubnagar          | 1997-98 | 246 | 420.12           | 6.61                                  | 10                    | Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition plans for 11 km from Ginigera end and 15 km from Mahbubnagar end (total 26 km) have been submitted to State Govt. Earthwork and minor bridges between Yermaras and Krishna (16 km) are in progress. This portion will act as double line between Yermaras and Krishna.                        |
| 5     | New Lines | Kottur-Harihar via Harpanhalli | 1995-96 | 65  | 124.03           | 0.21                                  | 7                     | Final Location Survey has been completed. Land acquisition has been processed. State Govt. of Karnataka has shown willingness to share cost of the project to expedite implementation.   |
| 6     | New Lines | Kadur-Chickmagalur-Sakleshpur  | 1996-97 | 93  | 157              | 9.3                                   | 9                     | Earthwork & minor bridges are in progress on 8 km from Kadur end and 5 km from Chickmagalur end.   |

| 1  | 2                | 3  | 4       | 5    | 6      | 7      | 8    | 9   |
|----|------------------|--|---------|------|--------|--------|------|---|
| 7  | New Lines        | Hassan-Bangalore   | 1996-97 | 166  | 412.91 | 56.77  | 8    | Land is available between Hassan and Shravanabelagola (40 km) and Bangalore to Neelamangala (16 km). Earthwork and bridgework in these stretches are in progress.   |
| 8  | New Lines        | Bangalore-Satyamanglam   | 1997-98 | 260  | 255    | 0.28   | 0.25 | Final Location Survey has been completed from Bangalore to Chamranagar and is in progress in balance portion. Land acquisition plans will be prepared once the Final Location Survey is over and alignment has been fixed up.                                       |
| 9  | Gauge Conversion | Solapur (Hotgi)-Gadag  | 1993-94 | 330  | 263.91 | 136.61 | 20   | The work is being done in phases. Solapur-Hotgi (16 km) and Hotgi to Bijapur (94 km) has been completed. Work is in progress on rest of section from Bijapur to Gadag. Funding through KRIDES is being tried with a view to expedite early completion of this work. |
| 10 | Gauge Conversion | Mysore-Chamarajanagar  | 1997-98 | 148  | 175    | 0.1    | 15   | Preparation of Plans & Estimates have been taken up.  |
| 11 | Gauge Conversion | Bangalore-Hubli-Birur-Shimoga  | 1992-93 | 630  | 429.95 | 418.32 | 0.01 | Bangalore-Hubli & Birur & Shimoga has been completed and commissioned. Work is in progress on Shimoga-Talguppa (97 km)  |
| 12 | Gauge Conversion | Arsikere-Hassan-Mangalore  | 1994-95 | 236  | 325.93 | 168.66 | 45   | Arsikere-Hassan-Sakleshpur has been completed. Work is in progress in balance length. Mangalore-Kabakaputtur (40 km) is targeted for completion during 2002-03. Funding is being tried through KRIDE to expedite completion.  |
| 13 | Gauge Conversion | Mysore-Hassan  | 1995-96 | 119  | 193.39 | 184.84 | 0.01 | Completed and commissioned.   |
| 14 | Gauge Conversion | Yelahanka-Chicballapur-patch conversion and Kolar-Bangarpet NG to BG | 1994-95 | 61.9 | 57.54  | 57.5   | 0.01 | Completed and commissioned.   |

| 1  | 2                | 3  | 4       | 5    | 6      | 7      | 8     | 9  |
|----|------------------|--|---------|------|--------|--------|-------|--|
| 15 | Gauge Conversion | Yashwantpur-Salem                                    | 1995-96 | 197  | 176.29 | 175.81 | 0.01  | Work has been completed. However Banyapannahalli-Yeshwantpur is not getting commissioned due to public agitation to get ROB at Hebbal and Lingarajapuram. State Govt. has been approached for its early commissioning. |
| 16 | Doubling         | Hospet-Guntakal                                      | 1996-97 | 115  | 159.1  | 25.13  | 38.35 | Final Location Survey has been completed. Tenders for earthwork and bridges between Hospet and Bellary have been processed.  |
| 17 | Doubling         | Kengeri-Ramnagaram                                   | 1997-98 | 32   | 45     | 0.04   | 9.01  | The work was given lower priority. However Karnataka Govt. has come forward to share 2/3 cost of work. The work is being planned for taking up.  |
| 18 | Doubling         | Yeshwantpur-Tumkur                                   | 1997-98 | 64   | 91.82  | 5.32   | 5     | Contract awarded for earthwork and bridges between Yeshwantpur and Gollahalli for 2 reaches and for S & T works.   |
| 19 | Doubling         | Bangalore-Whitefield-Bangalore City-Krishnarajapuram | 1997-98 | 23   | 85     | 0.0    | 0.01  | Work will be taken up after the necessary clearances have been obtained.   |
| 20 | Doubling         | Whitefield-Kuppam                                    | 1992-93 | 81   | 162.23 | 75.54  | 15    | The work is in progress & the first phase from Whitefield to Bangarapet (47 km) has been completed and commissioned. Further 19 km section is targeted for completion during 2002-03.                                  |
| 21 | Doubling         | Bangalore-Kengeri with Elect.                        | 1995-96 | 12.5 | 20.73  | 0.68   | 5.01  | The work was given lower priority. However Karnataka Govt. has come forward to share 2/3 cost of work. The work is being planned for taken up.   |

#### Sales Tax Paid by Ordnance Factories

5561. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the ordnance factories like Badmal did not register with local sales tax authorities and paid extra sales tax, as pointed out by CAG in its Report No.7 of 1999 in paragraph 64 on page 101;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired and action taken against the persons concerned for causing avoidable loss of revenue to the Government;

(c) whether it has been ensured now that all defence installations are registered with local sales tax authorities;

(d) whether there is an urgent need to review the working of the defence installations to ensure that they function

in a manner to achieve utmost saving in Government expenditure and to amend the rules and regulations coming in the way of smooth functioning; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) All the Ordnance Factories including Ordnance Factory Badmal are registered with the Sales Tax authorities. However, Ordnance Factory, Badmal could obtain sales tax registration only on 25.7.1998 after protracted correspondence with sales tax authorities. Consequently, Ordnance Factory, Badmal had to pay additional sales tax.

(d) and (e) Review of the functioning of defence installations is a continuous exercise.

#### SC/ST Judges in Judiciary

5562. SHRI B.K. PARTHASARATHI :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that judges belonging to SCs and STs in the judiciary is negligible;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) the steps taken by the Government for appointment of SCs and STs in the judiciary in Supreme Court and High Court and setting up of National Judicial Commission and All India Judicial Service; and

(d) the total number of judges belonging to SC/ST appointed in various courts in the country particularly in Maharashtra during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) Appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts are made under articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. No statistics is, therefore, maintained for the number of Judges belonging to SC/ST in Supreme Court of India or the High Courts. There is no proposal currently under the consideration of the Government to reserve posts for SC/ST or women for appointment as Judges of the Supreme Court of India and High Courts.

Government encourages representation of SC/ST, women and other Backward classes in the appointment of Judges and, accordingly addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them, *inter-alia* to locate suitable candidates from the Bar for appointment as High Court Judges. They were reminded last on March 15, 2002.

One of the items of the National Agenda for Governance is to set up a National Judicial Commission (NJC) to make recommendations for judicial appointments in the Supreme Court and the High Courts and draw up a Code of Ethics. The Government is committed to the idea of setting up the Commission to deal with these matters. The setting up of the National Judicial Commission would require amendment to the Constitution of India.

One of the proposals for judicial reforms includes creation of All India Judicial Service. Necessary consultation is in progress with the newly-created States and High Courts.

#### Setting up of Power Grid in Bihar

5563. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up a Power Grid to save the rest of Bihar after bifurcation;

(b) whether there is any progress in this regard and time fixed to implement this projects; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The existing and planned transmission system under Central sector in Bihar are adequate to take care of requirement of the grid even after bifurcation of Bihar

The following schemes have been/are being taken by POWERGRID :-

1. Hathidah River crossing portion of Biharshariff-Begusaral Line - to improve power supply in north Bihar.

Estimated cost : About Rs. 12 crores;

Status - Already completed.

2. Augmentation of existing Purnea S/stn : This involves installation of additional 100 MVA transformer and Loop In and Loop Out of Purnea-Dalkhola line at Purnea (POWERGRID).

This will improve power supply in North Bihar by enabling drawal of more central sector power at Purnea.



Estimated cost : About Rs. 10 crores;

Status- Under construction, completion expected by June, 2002.

3. 400 KV S/stn. at Purnea with LILO of Bongaigaon-Malda 400 KV Line : to inter-connect North Bihar with major power stations in ER and NER.

Estimated cost - About Rs. 85 crores;

Status- Under construction, completion expected by October, 2002.

4. Sasaram-Arrah-Khagaul 220 KV D/c with establishment of new 220/132 KV, 2x100 MVA S/station at Arrah, installation of 400/220 KV, 2x315 MV A transformer at Sasaram and 3rd 315 MVA, 400/220 KV transformer at Biharsharif: LILO of 220 KV SIC Dohri-Sahupuri at Sasaram to provide reliable power supply in trans Sone area and Patna area.

Estimated cost - About Rs. 163 crores;

Status- Under investment approval.

5. Establishment of Load Despatch Centre for Bihar (as a part of ULDC Scheme in Eastern Region).

Estimated cost - About Rs. 60 crores;

Status- Under implementation. Completion expected by December, 2004.

6. Purnea-Muzzaffarpur 400 KV D/C with series compensation: as a part of Tala transmission system, which shall facilitate strong & stable interconnection of North Bihar with rest of the Eastern regional grid.

Estimated cost - About Rs. 600 crores;

Status : Under investment approval.

7. Biharsharif-Muzzaffarpur 400 KV D/c as a part of Tala supplementary scheme, which will provide a strong interlink between North Bihar and South Bihar.

Estimated cost - About Rs. 115 crores;

Status : Under investment approval.

8. Kahaigaon-Biharsharif 400 KV D/c Line (2nd) : to facilitate reliable supply of power to Bihar and Northern region.

Estimated cost - About Rs. 134 crores;

Status: Completion expected by April, 2004.

[Translation]

### Visit to Russia

5564. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether he had visited Russia recently;
- (b) if so, the purpose of his visit;
- (c) whether any agreement has been signed during his visit;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any meeting of the experts was held recently regarding military and Technical Cooperation between India and Russia; and
- (f) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) Raksha Mantri made an official visit to the Russian Federation from 10-13 April, 2002 on the invitation of the Defence Minister of Russian Federation. During the visit both sides discussed matters relating to defence cooperation and the ways to further strengthen the defence ties between India and Russian Federation.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

[English]

### Mismanagement of Commercial Time by Doordarshan

5565. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have taken note of serious deficiencies brought out during test audit in acquisition of telecast rights, marketing arrangements, accounting and billing of commercial time, tariff setting and revenue sharing;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to attend to such glaring deficiencies and avoid a huge revenue loss to the exchequer;

(c) whether Sports Marketing Consortium set up in 1998 was a flawed arrangement in as much as it failed to safeguard the interest of Doordarshan;

(d) whether the arrangement entailed a loss of Rs. 140.88 crore due to underselling of commercial time, loss of opportunity cost, non-recovery of dues, manipulation in acquisition of rights and payment of inadmissible refund;

(e) if so, the steps taken to fix responsibility for such grave loss to Doordarshan along with the names of guilty persons involved therein; and

(f) the ways the Government proposed to make up such a huge loss and to avoid such losses in future?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (f) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (C&AG) in its Report for the year ended March 2000, Union Government (Civil) (Transaction Audit Observation-No.2 of 2001) has pointed out certain irregularities in the commercial transactions of Doordarshan in which it has entailed a loss of Rs. 140.88 crores. The Public Accounts Committee has taken up the above Para of the C&AG Report for detailed examination. Some of the commercial transactions reflected in the C&AG Report are under investigation by CBI. Appropriate action as per laid down procedure will be taken against officers found guilty.

[Translation]

#### **Manufacturing of Indigenous Diesel Engines**

5565. YOGI ADITYA NATH :

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the diesel rail engines manufactured by the various factories in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether all the spare parts used in manufacturing of these diesel engines are indigenous;

(c) if not, the measures being taken by the Government to manufacture the remaining parts in the country itself; and

(d) the time by which the rail engines are likely to be fabricated with all indigenous spare parts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) The diesel rail engines (Locomotives) are manufactured by Diesel Locomotive Works, Varanasi in the country. The diesel locomotive manufactured during last three years are as under :-

| Year      | No. of Locomotives  |
|-----------|---|
| 1999-2000 | 137 (including 5 locos for Non-Railway Customers) (NRCs)      |
| 2000-2001 | 103 (including 5 locomotives for export and 3 locos for NRCs) |
| 2001-2002 | 102 (including 8 Locomotives for export)                      |

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Indigenisation is an on going process. Aggressive indigenisation through vendor inter action, trade fairs etc. is being proved at various levels.

(d) In respect of certain sophisticated spares, economies of scale and huge investment requirement prohibit complete indigenisation. Efforts are made to achieve indigenisation of balance items, in phased manner over a period of approximately 10 years, whenever any new type of loco is pressed in service.

#### **Generation Capacity of Power Plants in North Gujarat**

5567. SHRI MANSINH PATEL : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been no increase in the generation capacity of the power plants in North Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Closure of Thermal Power Stations of DVC**

5568. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of thermal power stations under the Damodar Valley Corporation lying closed for not conforming to norms prescribed by the Pollution Control Department;

(b) the details of monthly financial loss being suffered by the Government on account of the closure of these thermal power stations;

(c) whether prior to closure of the thermal power stations any decision for smooth running of the plant through some alternative method was taken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) Bokaro 'A' Thermal Power Station (3x45 MW + 1x40 MW) of Damodar Valley Corporation has been under shut down since July 2000 due to non-fulfilment of Pollution Control measures. These units were fitted with mechanical dust collector only as per the technology available at the time of their commissioning. As a result, the emission through the chimneys was much above the stipulated limits. DVC has drawn up a comprehensive action plan to revive the first three units including conducting Residual Life Assessment Studies. Further DVC had requested both the State and Central Pollution Control Boards to allow operation of at least two units pending installation of Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) and other devices. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have, however, not allowed operation of any of these units

without the installation of ESPs. All these units have since long outlived their useful economic life and are not considered fit for operation by the CPCB. Hence, the question of financial loss on account of non-operation of the plant does not arise.

[English]

### Expansion of Railway Network in North Eastern Region

5569. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion of rail network in the North Eastern Region during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) If so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) the details of new/ongoing projects in NER alongwith the cost and target fixed for their completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) The details of ongoing projects, with status and targets wherever fixed, in the North Eastern Region are given in the statement attached. The new projects are considered depending upon the operational and other requirements from time to time.

### Statement

#### Status of Projects in Assam and NE Region

| S No. | Plan        | Project                | Year of Approval | KMs | Anticipated Cost | Anticipated Expenditure upto Mar 2002 | Budget Outlay 2002-03 | Status  |
|-------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|-----|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 1     | 2           | 3                      | 4                | 5   | 6                | 7                                     | 8                     | 9   |
| 1     | 1 New Lines | New Maynaguri-Jogigopa | 2000-01          | 245 | 733              | 2.02                                  | 8                     | Final location survey is in progress and report is expected to be available by Dec., 2002.  |
| 2     | 1 New Lines | Harmuti-Itanagar       | 1996-97          | 22  | 156              | 0.04                                  | 4                     | Survey for an alternative alignment from Halem to Itanagar (45 km) was earlier sanctioned at the request of State Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh. However, as now proposed by the State Govt. |

| 1 | 2           | 3  | 4       | 5   | 6     | 7      | 8    | 9   |
|---|-------------|--|---------|-----|-------|--------|------|---|
|   |             |  |         |     |       |        |      | to consider Bedeti as take off point instead of Halem and survey is now being taken up from Bedeti to Itanagar.   |
| 3 | 1 New Lines | Diphu-Karong PH 1  | 1997-98 | 123 | 1600  | 0.01   | 4    | On the request of Govt. of Manipur survey for Jiribam-Imphal as an alternative alignment for linking Imphal has been taken up. Further decision would be taken after survey results are available.  |
| 4 | 1 New Lines | Bogibeel bridge with linking lines between Dibrugarh and North Bank line | 1997-98 | 46  | 1500  | 3.03   | 40   | Final location survey has been completed. Railway has been asked to recast the report for single line rail track and two lane road traffic. Part estimate for earthwork, land acquisition, boulder supply, infrastructure facilities, etc. has been sanctioned. Papers for land acquisition have been submitted to State Government. Contract for part supply of Boulders has been awarded and for earthwork in approach road etc. have been processed. |
| 5 | 1 New Lines | Kumarghat-Agartala   | 1996-97 | 109 | 895   | 200.94 | 80   | Possession of 1860 acres of land out of total of 1950 acres has been taken. Earthwork and bridgework in the entire length is in progress. Detailed investigation for tunnels is in progress. Kumarghat-Manu (21 kms) is targeted for completion during 2002-2003.   |
| 6 | 1 New Lines | Dudhoni-Dopa   | 1992-93 | 155 | 22.23 | 0.52   | 0.01 | Papers for land acquisition were submitted in July 1997. However, Meghalaya Govt. has not made available the land so far for this project due to resistance from local people. Work on this project would be taken up only after the land becomes available.  |

| 1  | 2                  | 3  | 4       | 5   | 6      | 7      | 8    | 9  |
|----|--------------------|--|---------|-----|--------|--------|------|--|
| 7  | 1 New Lines        | Jogighopa-Guwahati   | 1983-84 | 142 | 710.61 | 556.7  | 5    | Completed and commissioned.  |
| 8  | 2 Gauge Conversion | Katakhal-Bairabhi  | 1997-98 | 84  | 200    | 0.0001 | 1    | The work would be taken up once Lumding-Silchar is in advance stage of completion.   |
| 9  | 2 Gauge Conversion | New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon                           | 1997-98 | 280 | 523.82 | 277.49 | 122  | Earthwork, bridgework and other works are in progress. Work is planned for completion during 2003-04.  |
| 10 | 2 Gauge Conversion | Lumding-Silchar with MM to extension from Badarpur to Bhariagram | 1996-97 | 248 | 1596.7 | 114.65 | 70   | 322 hec. of land out of 365 hec. between Lungting to Ditokcherra have been acquired. Earthwork and bridges are in progress. Tender for tunnel between Ditokcherra-Chandranathpur has been processed. |
| 11 | 2 Gauge Conversion | Lumding-Dibrugarh with linked fingers                            | 1993-94 | 628 | 758    | 716.8  | 1.99 | Completed and commissioned.  |

#### Terminal Facilities in Maharashtra Railway Stations

(v) Roha

5570. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(vi) Pune

(a) the details of the railway stations in Maharashtra in which the terminal facilities are available at present;

(vii) Bhusawal

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up terminal facility in those stations where it is not available at present;

(viii) Manmad

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

(ix) Chalisgaon

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

(x) Khamgaon

(xi) Badnera

(xii) Nagpur

(xiii) Sholapur

(xiv) Daund

(xv) Wadi

(xvi) Gondia

(xvii) Mumbai Central

(xviii) Bandra Terminus

(xix) Miraj

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a)  
Following stations in Maharashtra have coaching terminal facilities :-

(i) Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus Mumbai

(ii) Kurla

(iii) Dadar

(iv) Kalyan

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Stations which already have terminal facilities are adequate to deal with the present level of traffic in the State.

#### Complaints against Petrol Pumps

5571. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol pumps in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh against whom complaints have been received;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry against them;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) 176 complaints have been received against Retail Outlets for various irregularities during the year 2001-2002 in the country including 14 in the State of Uttar Pradesh. The complaints were immediately investigated and whenever the same was established, action was taken against the erring dealer as per Marketing Discipline Guidelines/and or Dealership Agreement.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Intellectual Property Rights

5572. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian judiciary needs to be educated on conceptual level of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and an update on the new developments in the information technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY

AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Both Government and the judiciary are aware of the need for information and education on Intellectual Property Rights as well as updation on the new developments in the use of information technology in courts.

Periodically National Judicial Academy has been requested to impart training to judicial officers on new and growing fields like gender injustice, human rights etc. National Judicial Academy is also considering imparting of training on Intellectual Property Rights to judicial officers.

The Central Government has been according high priority to computerization of Courts. National Informatics Centre has carried out computerization in the Supreme Court, 18 High Courts and 430 District Courts in the country. The Computerization in the Supreme Court is being updated. The Central Government has launched a pilot project of Computerization of City Civil Courts in four major metro cities of Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai which have innovative features of, computerization like setting up of computerized enquiry and facilitation centres having case status information, generation of cause lists, filing and listing of cases, generation of certified copies through computers, court hearings of undertrials in Jails through video conferencing, etc. Projects of Computerization invariably have a component of training.

#### Production of Nilachal Ispat Nigam

5573. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the category and quantum of production in each category in Nilachal Ispat Nigam;

(b) the percentage of the Plant Loan Factor (PLF) contemplated to be achieved in the said Plant after its commissioning for commercial production;

(c) whether there is any proposal for diversification of product taking into account the international market on steel and whether such proposal is on the way, before the commercial production of the plant is commissioned; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Blast Furnace Complex of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. (NINL) was commissioned in February 2002. During 2001-02, the plant has produced 26,500 tonnes of various grades of Pig iron and 11,300 tonnes of Granulated Slag since commissioning.

(b) There is no terminology as Plant Loan Factor

(PLF) associated with an integrated steel plant like NINL. During the first full year of operation in 2002-03, NINL has projected capacity utilization of the Blast Furnace to 65% of the rated capacity.

(c) and (d) Selection of product mix is a dynamic situation and depends on market forces. In the present market scenario, NINL has also undertaken this exercise.

#### **Power Production in Simhadri and Samarlakota Power Projects**

5574. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether power production in Simhadri and Samarlakota Power Projects has been paralysed;

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

(c) the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (c) The first unit of 500 MW of Simhadri coal based Power Project (2x500 MW) of NTPC was first synchronized on 22.02.2002 and subsequently on coal on 20.03.2002 and is under stabilization phase. The unit is expected to be stabilized within the permissible period of 180 days. Till date, the unit has generated 30 million units (MUs). The second unit (500 MW) of the Project is likely to be synchronized by December, 2002.

The gas turbine unit (142 MW) of Samarlakota (Peddapuram), a gas based power project being executed by BSES Andhra Power Ltd., was synchronized on 26.01.2002 and till 25th April, 2002 has generated 112 MUs. The Steam Turbine unit (78 MW) of the project is likely to be synchronized by May, 2002.

#### **Amendment in Cinematograph Act, 1952**

5575. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand to amend the section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 in order to restrict the certificate for public exhibition of the films depicting sex and romance, inciting and commissioning of violence in any form, planning of robbery, theft and kidnapping and consuming liquor etc.;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to take any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which an amending bill is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) The Certification guidelines issued by the Central Government under sub-section (2) of section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, already discourage, inter-alia, (i) scenes involving sexual violence against women like attempt to rape or any form of molestation; (ii) scenes showing sexual perversions; (iii) scenes depicting the modus operandi of criminals, other visuals or words likely to incite commissioning of any offence; and (iv) scenes which have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking.

An Expert Committee has been constituted to review some of the statutes related to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting under the Chairmanship of Shri P.M. Bakshi retired Member (Secretary) of Law Commission. Review of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 also falls under the purview of this Expert Committee.

#### **Monitoring of Progress of Work**

5576. DR. MANDA JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have emphasized and urged upon the State Governments and its undertakings in power sector to monitor the progress of work on weekly basis of all on-going power projects;

(b) if so, the reaction of the State Government and PSU s in this regard;

(c) whether Government's advice is being acted upon; and

(d) if so, the States which are showing laxity in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) A Standing Committee for monitoring of power projects called the Power Projects Monitoring Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (Power). The other members on the Committee are the CMDs of all CPSUs concerned, concerned Members of Central Electricity Authority and all Joint Secretaries in the Ministry of Power. The Committee reviews all ongoing projects on a monthly basis.

In order to ensure a proper feedback from the State and private sector, a sub-committee in CEA under Member

(planning) has been constituted to assist the Power Projects Monitoring Committee. Region specific teams headed by Chief Engineers of CEA have also been set up to assist the sub-committee.

The Minister of Power has recently requested Chief Ministers of the States to constitute similar Project Monitoring Committees at the State level also.

[Translation]

#### **Vacant Posts of SCs/STs in DD/AIR**

5577. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the category-wise and Kendra-wise number of employees belonging to SCs/STs in Doordarshan/All India Radio;

(b) whether the reservation norms are not being adhered to in these Kendras;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the category-wise number of posts lying vacant and the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Allocation of Defence Sector**

5578. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation made for the defence sector during the Ninth Five Year Plan against the actual requirement;

(b) whether the defence expenditure is increasing year after year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount proposed to be spent on the defence sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) The actual Defence expenditure during the first four years of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) and the Revised Estimates for 2001-2002 amounted to Rs. 2,28,868.24 crores as per details below :

| Year      | Actual Expenditure                         |
|-----------|--|
| 1997-1998 | Rs.35,277.99 crores                        |
| 1998-1999 | Rs. 39,897.58 crores                       |
| 1999-2000 | Rs.47,070.63 crores                        |
| 2000-2001 | Rs.49,622.04 crores                        |
| 2001-2002 | Rs.57,000.00 crores<br>(Revised Estimates) |

(b) and (c) The Defence expenditure is increasing year after year on account of normal growth in obligatory charges, essential maintenance requirements and modernisation needs of the Defence Services.

(d) It will not be in the interest of national security to disclose the details in this regard.

[English]

#### **Restarting of Narrow Gauge Line**

5579. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representatives of Gujarat have represented for restarting of narrow gauge lines which are closed down and for increasing speed of 'DEMU' service in Anand-Khambhat railway line and for increasing number of bogies on the same and restart Karamsad railway station on this line; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the railway on these demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### **Sale of Crude to Chevron**

5580. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) has suffered a loss in their inventory sales of crude to Chevron; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken against the officials responsible for this loss?



THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) During March, 2002 due to operational reasons, Indian Oil Corporation Limited disposed one cargo of Dubai crude oil of about 500,000 barrels (69 Thoudsand Metric Tonnes approx.) purchased by IOC earlier. By disposal of the cargo IOC would gain about US Dollars 14,500.

**Proposal from Gujarat for setting up  
of Power Projects**

5581. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given on December 16, 2001 to Unstarred Question No.2750 and state :

- (a) whether the NOC from various Government agencies have been received;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the efforts made by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which such NOCs are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Only Fuel Availability in respect of Gujarat Electricity Board's Lignite TPS (Unit 4) at Kutch has been received. Other clearances, for example, land availability, clearance from Ministry of Environment and Forests, compliance under Section 29 (3) of Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 etc. have not been received.

(c) and (d) The matter regarding the proposed Kutch Lignite Power Project has been discussed on 8.1.2002 while reviewing projects to be commissioned during the Tenth Plan in the Western Region. M/s. Gujarat Electricity Board have been requested to expedite the remaining inputs.

**Drop in Profit of HPCL**

5582. SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether HPCL has posted 82 percent drop in net profit for the quarter from Oct.-Dec., 2001;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken for improving the performance of HPCL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The drop in the net profit is attributed to the considerable decline in international parity price of petroleum products during the period which resulted in erosion in the value of inventories as well as net sales, lower refinery margins and provision of deferred tax in compliance with Accounting Standard-22.

(c) As there was no decline in the international prices of petroleum products in the fourth quarter, the situation has improved.

**Performance of SAIL**

5583. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of manpower, production, productivity, energy consumption of SAIL during the last three years, year-wise, unit-wise;
- (b) the financial position of SAIL during the said period;
- (c) whether there was decrease in manpower and increase of loss; and
- (d) if so, the justification of VRS in SAIL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) The details of the manpower, production, productivity, energy consumption of SAIL during the last 3 years, year-wise, unit-wise are given below :

| Plants                          | Manpower  |           |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                 | 31-3-2000 | 31-3-2001 | 31-3-2002 |
| 1                               | 2         | 3         | 4         |
| Bhilai Steel Plant              | 44730     | 44060     | 42158     |
| Durgapur Steel Plant            | 21039     | 20633     | 19641     |
| Rourkela Steel Plant            | 28301     | 27651     | 26052     |
| Bokaro Steel Plant              | 43401     | 42597     | 40025     |
| Alloy Steel Plant               | 3846      | 3793      | 3340      |
| Salem Steel Plant               | 1550      | 1538      | 1466      |
| Visvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant | 4679      | 4399      | 3325      |

| 1                                     | 2      | 3      | 4      |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Raw Material Division                 | 7014   | 6490   | 6172   |
| Central Coal Supply Organisation      | *      | 224    | 217    |
| Central Marketing Organisation        | 3172   | 3131   | 3032   |
| Research & Development Centre for I&S | 865    | 856    | 827    |
| Centre for Engineering & Technology   | 390    | 383    | 370    |
| Management Training Institute         | 116    | 112    | 111    |
| Corporate Office                      | 737    | 754    | 769    |
| Growth Division KOL                   | 36     | 35     | 33     |
| Environment Management Division       | 48     | 47     | 47     |
| Safety                                | 16     | 16     | 16     |
| SAIL                                  | 159940 | 156719 | 147601 |

\*CCSO strength was included in RMD during 1999-2000.

#### Saleable Steel Production

|                                  | Unit 000t |         |         |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Plants                           | 1999-2000 | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
| Bhilai Steel Plant               | 3410.6    | 3307.2  | 3382.8  |
| Durgapur Steel Plant             | 1402.0    | 1495.8  | 1527.1  |
| Rourkela Steel Plant             | 1170.3    | 1294.4  | 1353.7  |
| Bokaro Steel Plant               | 3246.2    | 3312.7  | 3200.1  |
| Alloy Steel Plant                | 83.2      | 78.6    | 84.4    |
| Salem Steel Plant                | 148.4     | 129.3   | 62.5    |
| Vishvesvaraya Iron & Steel Plant | 69.1      | 85.0    | 86.7    |
| Total SAIL                       | 9529.9    | 9703.0  | 9697.3  |

#### Productivity Trend

| Crude Steel/tonnes/man/year |           |         |         |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Plants                      | 1999-2000 | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
| Bhilai Steel Plant          | 121       | 129     | 137     |
| Durgapur Steel Plant        | 88        | 100     | 108     |
| Rourkela Steel Plant        | 55        | 60      | 67      |
| Bokaro Steel Plant          | 105       | 115     | 116     |
| Total SAIL                  | 96        | 105     | 111     |

#### Energy Consumption

| Gcal/tes             |           |         |         |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Plants               | 1999-2000 | 2000-01 | 2001-02 |
| Bhilai Steel Plant   | 7.16      | 7.25    | 7.07    |
| Durgapur Steel Plant | 7.48      | 7.43    | 7.25    |
| Rourkela Steel Plant | 10.26     | 9.97    | 9.34    |
| Bokaro Steel Plant   | 8.24      | 8.09    | 7.96    |
| Total SAIL           | 7.96      | 7.90    | 7.69    |

(b) The financial position of SAIL during the last 3 years from 1998-99 to 2000-01 (April-Dec.) is as under :

(Rs. in crore)

| Particulars          | 1998-99 | 1999-00 | 2000-01 | 2001-02<br>(April-Dec) |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|------------------------|
| Gross Margin         | 1504    | 1202    | 2167    | 773                    |
| Interest             | 2018    | 1789    | 1752    | 1207                   |
| Cash Profit/Loss (-) | (-)514  | (-)587  | 415     | (-)434                 |
| Depreciation         | 1104    | 1133    | 1144    | 856                    |
| Net Profit/Loss (-)  | (-)1618 | (-)1720 | (-)729  | (-)1290                |

(c) and (d) There has been reduction in manpower. However, losses of SAIL have increased mainly due to lower realization in view of the economic slow down. The other reasons for losses are : greater competition from imports, enhanced supplies in domestic markets, higher interest and depreciation cost on account of capitalisation of modernization of steel plants at Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro. VRS intends

to reduce the work force which will lead to low operation cost leading to lower cost of production. This is a part of the strategy for the revival of the company.

**Penalty to Dealers for Release of Fake LPG Connection**

5584. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the penalty prescribed by the Government under Marketing Discipline Guidelines, 1994 for the unauthorized/fake release of LPG connections by the distributors of OMCs ;

(b) the procedure laid down by OMCs for establishing the actual number of fake connections before imposing the penalty;

(c) whether OMCs have not followed the uniform procedure and kept the distributors of SC/ST categories under suspension for infinite period against the guidelines of the Government;

(d) if so, whether such distributors have been compensated by way of waiving the penalty imposed on them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Under Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 1994, the penalty for the unauthorized/fake release of LPG connection by the distributors of Oil Marketing Companies are as under :

- (i) For 1st offence, fine of Rs. 2000;
- (ii) For 2nd offence, suspension of distributorship for one month;
- (iii) For 3rd offence, termination of distributorship;

(b) The release of fake connections by the individual distributors are established by checking of Subscription Voucher (SV)/ Transfer Voucher (TV) details, refill audit and stock verification etc. The distributor is asked to retrieve the equipments and advised to stop the supply to such customers.

(c) to (e) Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not reported any deviation in implementing the aforesaid

guidelines and keeping the distributors of SC/ST categories under suspension for infinite period of time against the guidelines of the Government.

[Translation]

**Assistance from Multinational Lending Agencies**

5585. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN :

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether efforts are being made by the railways to mobilise funds from multilateral institutions for new railway projects alongwith a National Highway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose for which the huge amount of loan sought by the Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) In order to expedite works on High Density Routes, a proposal for strengthening the Golden Quadrilateral and the Diagonals connecting the metropolitan cities of Delhi, Kc'kata, Mumbai and Chennai is being developed by the Railways for multilateral funding. This proposal is yet to be sent to Ministry of Finance by the Railways. Some of the funding agencies have expressed interest in rendering assistance in executing the projects. Work is already in progress in some of the sanctioned projects on the Golden Quadrilateral with the resources provided in the Railways' Annual Plan.

**Difficulties in Booking of Tickets at Bhusawal**

5586. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that railway passengers and other persons are facing difficulties in ticket booking at Bhusawal railway station due to rampant corruption and dismal performance of railway staff;

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

(c) the action taken by the Government against corrupt railway employees; and

(d) if so, the action so far taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. No case of rampant corruption and dismal performance has come to notice in ticket booking at Bhusawal Railway Station. However, some irregularities were detected during the regular checks conducted by Commercial & Vigilance Departments and Railway Protection Force. During 2000, 2001 and 2002 (up to March) 111 checks., were conducted in Booking and Reservation offices of Bhusawal Station in which thirteen staff were taken up under departmental disciplinary action. Besides, three railway employees were arrested and two touts were prosecuted by RPF. Recently, all the obsolete Printers in Booking office have also been replaced to improve efficiency of Booking offices at Bhusawal.

[English]

**Allocation of Power to AP from  
National Power Grid**

5587. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of electricity given to various States and specially to Andhra Pradesh during the last two years from the National Power Grid/electricity from Central Pool;

(b) the quantum of electricity consumed by the said States out of the allocated electricity;

(c) whether allocation is sufficient to meet the growing demand of the electricity;

(d) if so, whether the said States have requested the Union Government to allocate more power from the National Power Grid; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken on the demand of the said States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) State-wise entitlement viz-a-viz actual drawal from central sector generating stations in various regions during the years 2000-01 and 2001-02 is given in the enclosed statement. Andhra Pradesh had drawn 9574 million units (MU) and 9784 million units against its entitlement of 9133 million units and 9578 million units during 2000-01 and 2001-02 respectively.

(c) Allocation from Central Sector Stations to the States alone is generally not sufficient to meet the growing demand of electricity. Generation by the States themselves and purchase of power from private producers and other States make up the balance quantity.

(d) and (e) Requests are received from time to time from deficit states for allocation of additional power from unallocated quota of Central sector generating stations in the region. The allocation to states from unallocated quota of central sector stations is reviewed and revised from time to time keeping in view the relative energy shortages, emergency/seasonal requirement, including that of the agricultural sector and also keeping in view the request of States. Eastern Region is surplus in power and the total unallocated power of Central Sector Stations in Eastern Region has been allocated to the needy states in Northern, Western, Southern and North Eastern Regions.

**Statement**

(All figures in MU net)

| State/Region                                   | 2000-01     |        | 2001-02     |         |
|--|-------------|--------|-------------|---------|
|  | Entitlement | Drawal | Entitlement | Drawal  |
| 1  | 2           | 3      | 4           | 5       |
| <b>Northern Region—Central Sector Stations</b> |             |        |             |         |
| Chandigarh                                     | 430.2       | 453.2  | 516.4       | 443.2   |
| Delhi  | 11464.6     | 10020  | 11504.8     | 10443.0 |
| Haryana  | 6574.1      | 7524.4 | 5763.1      | 6547.7  |

| 1  | 2       | 3       | 4       | 5       |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Himachal Pradesh                               | 1504.6  | 1635.6  | 1638.6  | 1680.1  |
| Jammu & Kashmir                                | 4269.6  | 4717.6  | 4898.2  | 5045.0  |
| Punjab   | 7069    | 6727    | 7085.2  | 6690.8  |
| Rajasthan                                      | 9361.9  | 10404.9 | 9356.8  | 10126.1 |
| Uttar Pradesh                                  | 17325.2 | 16516.5 | 18903.5 | 18690.7 |
| <b>Western Region—Central Sector Stations</b>  |         |         |         |         |
| Chhattisgarh                                   |         |         | 3330.9  | 887.8   |
| Gujarat  | 12688.7 | 13181.0 | 13295.3 | 14407.2 |
| Madhya Pradesh                                 | 12335.6 | 12263.8 | 8708.9  | 10844.0 |
| Maharashtra                                    | 14155.2 | 14281.7 | 15421.9 | 15099.4 |
| Goa  | 1296.0  | 749.0   | 1686.4  | 1205.0  |
| <b>Southern Region—Central Sector Stations</b> |         |         |         |         |
| Andhra Pradesh                                 | 8272.5  | 8249.6  | 8317.8  | 8063.3  |
| Karnataka                                      | 5823.0  | 6056.0  | 5876.0  | 6472.2  |
| Kerala   | 3142.2  | 3244.4  | 3173.6  | 3393.8  |
| Tamil Nadu                                     | 10364.2 | 10125.2 | 10168.9 | 9742.9  |
| Goa  | 618.2   | 544.9   | 704.7   | 568.8   |
| <b>Eastern Region—Central Sector Stations</b>  |         |         |         |         |
| Bihar  | 4958.7  | 5502.1  | 4727.8  | 6258.5  |
| D.V.C.   | 1476.1  | 1298.4  | 1113.6  | 1380.2  |
| Orissa   | 3358.0  | 2354.6  | 3548.7  | 809.1   |
| West Bengal                                    | 4081.8  | 2875.4  | 3475.9  | 2732.0  |
| Sikkim   | 351.4   | 78.6    | 186.1   | 71.8    |
| Uttar Pradesh                                  | 293.2   | 455.4   | 454.8   | 615.3   |
| Andhra Pradesh                                 | 861.3   | 1325.0  | 1280.3  | 1721.6  |
| Assam  | 326     | 493.6   | 659.3   | 665.8   |
| Madhya Pradesh                                 | 1468.4  | 2100.9  | 1624.8  | 2024.2  |
| Gujarat  | 259.7   | 370.5   | 287.7   | 356.7   |

| 1   | 2      | 3      | 4      | 5      |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Kerala  | 234.0  | 356.8  | 386.4  | 590.9  |
| Tamil Nadu  | 444.6  | 675.6  | 686.7  | 93.1   |
| Karnataka   | 427.5  | 653.8  | 633.5  | 864.0  |
| Haryana   | 0      | 0      | 115.7  | 132.6  |
| Chandigarh  | 0      | 0      | 84.7   | 97.3   |
| Jammu & Kashmir                                     | 0      | 0      | 46.5   | 49.7   |
| Rajasthan   | 0      | 0      | 65.9   | 70.4   |
| Himachal Pradesh                                    | 0      | 0      | 37.9   | 33.1   |
| <b>North-Eastern Region—Central Sector Stations</b> |        |        |        |        |
| Arunachal Pradesh                                   | 206.7  | 108.5  | 226.4  | 113.0  |
| Assam   | 1350.2 | 1718.9 | 1432.6 | 1760.9 |
| Manipur   | 437.2  | 449.8  | 464.1  | 436.3  |
| Meghalaya   | 260.5  | 43.0   | 269.5  | 135.3  |
| Mizoram   | 211.4  | 243.3  | 228.4  | 264.5  |
| Nagaland  | 241.0  | 227.1  | 264.0  | 252.9  |
| Tripura   | 354.5  | 270.9  | 389.4  | 311.5  |

Note : Uttaranchal included in Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand in Bihar.

#### **Difficulties due to Different Pronouncements**

5588. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some practical difficulties have been experienced due to different pronouncements by various High Courts;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to enact a common High Court Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Whenever some practical difficulties are experienced due to pronouncements

of High Courts, the Government approaches the Supreme Court for appropriate relief.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Joint Venture for Production of Defence Items**

5589. SHRI SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has sent any proposal for setting up of joint venture for production of defence items;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) No, Sir.

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

### **Security Deposit on Release of LPG Connection**

5590. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the time of release of LPG connection distributors charge security deposit against the equipment (i.e. cylinder and regulator) of the oil companies;

(b) If so, the total security deposit being collected by the distributors from LPG connections;

(c) whether LPG distributors do not pay stamp duty on the amount of security deposit; and

(d) if so, the loss to the exchequer of this kind for the last ten years, year-wise and company-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The current security deposit being charged by the distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for a domestic 14.2 k.g. cylinder and a regulator is Rs. 700 and Rs. 100 respectively in the entire country except in North-East region. The current security deposit of 14.2 k.g. cylinder and regulator in North-East region is Rs. 500 and Rs. 50 respectively.

(c) and (d) The stamp duty as applicable in different States is paid by the distributors at the time of release of new connections after collecting the same from customers.

### **Report on Working of DGQA and MES**

5591. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that to review the working of the Directorate General Quality Assurance (DGQA) and Military Engineering Service (MES), a Committee was set up some time back;

(b) if so, whether the said Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether several committees were set up to

improve the efficiency and productivity of Defence and its organisations earlier;

(e) if so, whether the recommendations made by these committees were implemented;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has since submitted its report in respect of DGQA and has not yet submitted its report in respect of MES.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee in respect of DGQA are under examination.

(d) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### **Expenditure on Walkie Talkie Sets**

5592. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of walkie-talkie sets purchased by the Railways during the last three years and the companies from which they were purchased;

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Government thereon, year-wise;

(c) whether the Government have taken steps for the improvement of communication networks in the Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) A total of 33414 nos. of walkie-talkie sets were purchased by the Railways during the last three years from the following companies :-

(i) M/s Motorola India Ltd.

(ii) M/s Simoco Telecom. Ltd.

(iii) M/s Transreceivers India Ltd.

(iv) M/s Sanchar Antenna & Communications Ltd.

(v) M/s Magnostar Telecom Pvt. Ltd.

(b) Expenditure incurred by the Government on purchase of Walkie-Talkie sets during the last three years is as under :-

(i) 1999-2000 - RS. 18.86 crores

(ii) 2000-2001 - RS. 15.52 crores

(iii) 2001-2002 - Rs. 10.69 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Railways have taken steps to improve communication networks by provision of Optical Fibre Systems, Digital Microwave, Quad Cable, Electronic Exchanges, Mobile Train Radio Communication Systems etc. in addition to provision of walkie-talkie sets. The expenditure incurred on improving the communication network during the last three years is :-

(i) 1999-2000 - Rs. 104.75 Crores.

(ii) 2000-2001 - Rs. 144.30 Crores.

(iii) 2001-2002 - Rs. 165.00 Crores. (approx.)

**Purchase of Power from Dabhol  
Power Project**

5593. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

SHRI PRABODH PANDA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC is considering to purchase power from Dabhol Power Project;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has made a special request to NTPC;

(c) If so, the response of NTPC, cost of power and the present cost of NTPC; and

(d) the details of discussions taken place recently with Power Ministry & MSEB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra (GOM) has

requested the Government of India to take over the Dabhol power plant or at least the second phase of 1444 MW capacity, either directly or through any of its Public Sector Undertakings like the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), so that the power generated could be distributed to areas outside Maharashtra. GOM had also approached NTPC with the request to consider participation in the equity of Dabhol Power Company.

(c) The proposals have not been agreed to by the NTPC.

The first phase of the Dabhol power plant with a capacity of 740 MW was commissioned on 13th May, 1999 and was supplying power to the Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB), who have since rescinded the Power Purchase Agreement with Dabhol Power Company (DPC) and have stopped taking power from the plant since 29th May, 2001. The cost of power supplied by the first phase has varied from time to time depending on factors such as the price of naphtha, foreign exchange fluctuation and the level of off-take of power by MSEB. The average cost of Dabhol power worked out to Rs.4.67 per unit during May, 1999 to March, 2000 and Rs.6.19 per unit during April, 2000 to December, 2000.

A Statement showing cost of power of NTPC power stations is enclosed.

(d) Power Purchase Agreement has been signed between DPC and MSEB, and the disputes are to be decided/resolved between them. Government of India, has agreed to facilitate a mutually acceptable agreement if both the parties so desire. The financial institutions have also initiated the process of identifying a suitable buyer for the project.

**Statement**

*Station wise Cost of Power of NTPC Stations*

| S.No. | Station          | Cost of Power of NTPC<br>Stations Paise/Kwh) |
|-------|------------------|--|
| 1     | 2                | 3  |
| 1     | Singrauli STPS   | 96.61  |
| 2     | Korba STPS       | 68.95  |
| 3     | Ramagundam STPS  | 121.84                                       |
| 4     | Farakka STPS     | 172.15                                       |
| 5     | Vindhyachal STPS | 129.73                                       |
| 6     | Rihand STPS      | 141.11                                       |



| 1    | 2               | 3      |
|------|-----------------|--------|
| 7    | FGUTPS          | 194.77 |
| 8    | NCRTPS          | 216.83 |
| 9    | Kahalgaoon STPS | 192.44 |
| 10   | Talcher STPS    | 172.34 |
| 11   | Talcher TPS     | 132.41 |
| 12   | Tanda TPS       | 463.93 |
| 13   | Anta GPS        | 132.82 |
| 14   | Auraiya GPS     | 174.15 |
| 15   | Dadri GPS       | 183.14 |
| 16   | Kawas GPS       | 310.22 |
| 17   | Gandhar GPS     | 333.95 |
| 18   | Kayamkulam CCPS | 505.82 |
| 19   | Faridabad GPS   | 220.95 |
| NTPC |                 | 157.20 |

#### Funds for Solar Energy

5594. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN : Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds provided to various States during the Ninth Five Year Plan (till date) for the generation of solar energy, year-wise;

(b) whether the funds have been utilized properly by the State Governments during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN) : (a) to (d) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implementing countrywide programmes under which solar energy systems like solar lanterns, home lighting systems, street lighting systems, water pumping systems, stand-alone & grid-connected power plants, solar cookers and solar water heating systems are being promoted through central subsidy, soft loan packages and other

incentives. In addition, the Ministry is supporting the establishment of 'Aditya' solar shops in selected cities in the country.

The solar energy programmes are being implemented through the State renewable energy development agencies, the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), reputed non-government organizations, public sector manufacturers and banks.

Most of the schemes provide for sanction of projects or activities to be undertaken each year, allocation of central assistance for this purpose and release of some funds in advance. The release of allocated funds is governed by the progress of implementation, utilization of the previously released funds and other provisions of the schemes. The funds released to a state in a year comprise the advance for that year's programme and the funds released for the settlement of claims pertaining to the programmes implemented during earlier years.

The details of the funds released to different States and Union Territories during the Ninth Plan period, year-wise, are given in the enclosed statement. The implementing agencies are required to submit audited statement of expenditure and utilisation certificates as well as project completion reports, which indicate proper utilisation of funds.

In some cases, the state agencies are unable to utilize the funds released due to delays in the release of state share, delays in procurement, etc. The Ministry regularly interacts with the agencies to ensure timely implementation of projects and proper utilisation of funds. Unutilised funds are either got refunded or adjusted against future releases.

#### Statement

##### State-wise Funds Released during Ninth Five Year Plan under various Solar Energy Programmes

| (Rs. in lakhs ) |                   |           |         |           |           |           |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| S. No.          | State/UT          | 1997-1998 | 1998-99 | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 |
| 1               | 2                 | 3         | 4       | 5         | 6         | 7         |
| 1               | Andhra Pradesh    | 3.27      | 188.14  | 55.90     | 69.20     | 286.67    |
| 2               | Arunachal Pradesh | 11.28     | 31.20   | 22.57     | 18.53     | 3.53      |
| 3               | Assam             | 21.60     | 70.10   | 24.38     | 55.14     | 1.26      |
| 4               | Bihar             | 25.00     | 245.54  | 369.72    | 6.20      | 0.33      |

| 1  | 2                | 3      | 4      | 5      | 6      | 7      |
|----|------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 5  | Chhattisgarh     | -      | -      | -      | 197.00 | 249.70 |
| 6  | Delhi            | 1.34   | 0.00   | 7.20   | 14.11  | 0.76   |
| 7  | Goa              | 0.00   | 0.85   | 1.45   | 0.5    | 0.00   |
| 8  | Gujarat          | 14.07  | 111.48 | 88.70  | 310.71 | 87.43  |
| 9  | Haryana          | 105.19 | 180.51 | 187.33 | 255.35 | 233.44 |
| 10 | Himachal Pradesh | 72.50  | 167.23 | 327.32 | 131.25 | 135.44 |
| 11 | Jammu & Kashmir  | 40.47  | 163.12 | 335.94 | 75.25  | 772.06 |
| 12 | Jharkhand        | -      | -      | -      | -      | 3.41   |
| 13 | Karnataka        | 7.13   | 46.30  | 41.80  | 78.54  | 115.15 |
| 14 | Kerala           | 9.00   | 130.65 | 219.79 | 323.61 | 851.10 |
| 15 | Madhya Pradesh   | 74.18  | 199.00 | 83.37  | 0.80   | 34.53  |
| 16 | Maharashtra      | 25.18  | 21.00  | 21.53  | 46.28  | 46.09  |
| 17 | Manipur          | 0.59   | 30.80  | 43.28  | 2.40   | 44.75  |
| 18 | Meghalaya        | 7.50   | 18.60  | 8.36   | 58.00  | 9.68   |
| 19 | Mizoram          | 8.22   | 24.03  | 15.74  | 165.55 | 19.95  |
| 20 | Nagaland         | 0.00   | 5.23   | 7.25   | 8.68   | 0.00   |
| 21 | Orissa           | 64.00  | 278.86 | 302.26 | 34.02  | 65.00  |
| 22 | Punjab           | 68.56  | 299.40 | 251.04 | 57.36  | 650.56 |
| 23 | Rajasthan        | 135.04 | 490.14 | 318.31 | 187.61 | 592.25 |
| 24 | Sikkim           | 0.00   | 7.41   | 2.66   | 2.59   | 36.92  |
| 25 | Tamil Nadu       | 68.56  | 49.76  | 54.70  | 75.66  | 55.50  |
| 26 | Tripura          | 26.19  | 86.79  | 66.65  | 110.87 | 205.80 |
| 27 | Uttar Pradesh    | 725.85 | 909.38 | 392.40 | 616.41 | 794.62 |
| 28 | Uttaranchal      | -      | -      | -      | 208.60 | 261.37 |
| 29 | West Bengal      | 249.63 | 180.05 | 397.30 | 359.73 | 793.44 |
| 30 | A & N Islands    | 0.00   | 10.50  | 10.00  | 10.15  | 66.00  |
| 31 | Chandigarh       | 3.47   | 20.61  | 4.15   | 0.80   | 13.94  |
| 32 | Lakshadweep      | 0.00   | 55.00  | 116.90 | 257.00 | 572.49 |
| 33 | Pondicherry      | 2.59   | 4.50   | 2.62   | -      | 3.78   |

**Reduction in Retirement Age**

5595. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) proposes to bring down the retirement age of its employees to 58 years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of employees of various steel plants and other agencies of SAIL are likely to be affected if the retirement age is brought down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) SAIL has informed that there is no such proposal at present.

(c) Immediately, about 8029 employees of SAIL would be separated, if the retirement age is brought down to 58 years.

**Rural Electrification**

5596. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee on Public Undertakings has expressed its concern regarding defaulting in payment of six electricity boards to rural electricity corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these States have a very poor record in rural electrification;

(d) if so, whether non-realization of dues from these electricity boards has adversely affected the rural population of these States;

(e) if so, whether the Government have chalked out any strategy to recover dues from these electricity boards to give a flip to rural electrification; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (f) The Committee on Public Undertakings in its report of 19th March, 2002 noted that there were six major defaulting State Electricity Boards (SEBs), namely, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal in making payments to Rural Electrification Corporation (REC).

Of these, Meghalaya State Electricity Board had agreed

to reschedule their loans. However, no favourable response has been received from other defaulting five State Electricity Boards as regards rescheduling of their loans. The Committee noted with concern that these five defaulting SEBs are the ones who have very poor record of rural electrification and any further delay in realizing the dues from these SEBs would adversely affect the rural population of these States. Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has filed cases with Debt Recovery Tribunal against five defaulting State Electricity Boards.

However, to give a fillip to rural electrification, funds have been released to the State Governments under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) and Minimum Needs Programme. During 2001-02, a sum of Rs. 22166.52 lakhs under PMGY and Rs. 8943.00 lakhs under MNP were released to the States of Assam, Bihar Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

[Translation]

#### **Increase in Prices of Petroleum Products**

5597. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of petroleum products like diesel, petrol, L.P.G. and kerosene etc. were increased many times in the country during the last three years;

(b) if so, the dates thereof along with the extent to which the prices hiked, separately;

(c) the international rate of crude oil assessed at the time of each hike effected therein; and

(d) the additional amount that could have been realised during the said period as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The changes in the ex-storage point price of diesel, petrol, domestic LPG and PDS kerosene during the year 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The price of Indian basket of crude oil was \$15.46 per barrel on 20-04-1999, \$22.51 per barrel on 16-10-1999, \$24.69 per barrel on 23-03-2000, \$28.72 per barrel on 29-09-2000 and \$21.15 per barrel on 01-03-2002.

(d) The additional inflow to the Oil Pool Account during the relevant financial years for the changes as given in the statement is estimated at about Rs.7800 crore during 1999-2000 and Rs.8700 crore during 2000-2001.

#### **Statement**

*Changes in the Ex-Storage Point Prices of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG during the last three years*

|                        | Petrol<br>Rs./Litre | Diesel<br>Rs./Litre | PDS<br>Kerosene<br>Rs./Litre | Domestic LPG<br>Rs./Cylinder |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| As on : 01-01-99       | 15.50               | 7.54                | 2.00                         | 113.01                       |
| Revised on<br>09-01-99 |                     | 6.72                |                              |                              |
| 01-02-99               |                     |                     |                              | 127.01                       |
| 28-02-1999             | 15.40               | 6.62                |                              | 124.01                       |
| 20-04-99               |                     | 6.88                |                              |                              |
| 06-10-99               |                     | 9.63                |                              |                              |
| 23-03-2000             |                     |                     | 4.50                         | 154.01                       |
| 30-09-2000             | 19.00               | 11.93               | 7.00                         | 185.01                       |
| 22-11-2000             |                     |                     | 6.11                         | 176.46                       |
| 12-01-2002             | 10.82               | 11.04               |                              |                              |
| 01-03-2002             | *                   | *                   | 6.86                         | 185.01                       |
| 17-03-2002             |                     |                     |                              | 169.43                       |

\* The changes were effected so as to bring down the retail selling prices of petrol and diesel by about Re.1 per litre and 50 paise per litre respectively.

[English]

#### **Indigenisation of Defence Equipment Production**

5598. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made by India in indigenously manufacturing spares for Defence Equipments;

(b) the percentage of indigenous supplies both from the Government and the private sectors as compared to the percentage of components imported; and

(c) the efforts being made to have a maximum supplies of spares and equipment from India itself?

**THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) :** (a) to (c) Indigenisation of defence equipment is an on going process and is achieved by transfer of technology and indigenous research. Indigenisation of spares of defence equipment has been undertaken in aircraft, warships, armaments, tanks, vehicles and electronic as well as engineering equipment. While the Ordnance Factories and Defence Public Sector Units are manufacturing a wide range of products for the Defence Forces, the private sector has been involved in the supply of raw materials, semi-finished products, parts and components of defence equipment. The combined value of the products of Ordnance Factories and Defence PSUs during 2000-2001 has been approximately Rs. 14000 crores as against approximately Rs. 1800 crores on import of stores (which excludes capital equipment) comprising components, spares, overhaul etc. Government have recently allowed private sector participation in the defence industry upto 100% and also with foreign direct investment permissible upto 26%, both subject to licensing, for manufacture of all types of defence equipment within the country. This will add to the investment already made in the public sector.

#### **LNG to Gas Based Power Projects**

5599. **SHRI SURESH CHANDEL :** Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has invited bids for the supply of five million tones of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) annually for its gas based projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) :** (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) invited 'Expression of Interest (EOI)' from prospective suppliers of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and/or regassified LNG and/or Natural Gas for expansion of the following power projects :-

- i. Anta Gas Based Power Project Stage-II (650 MW), Rajasthan
- ii. Auraiya Gas Based Power Project Stage-II (650 MW), Uttar Pradesh.
- iii. Kawas Gas Based Power Project Stage-II (650 MW), Gujarat.
- iv. Gandhar Gas Based Power Project Stage-II (650 MW), Gujarat

v. Kayamkulam Gas Based Power Project Stage-II (1950 MW), Kerala.

Anta, Auraiya, Kawas and Gandhar gas based power projects mentioned above, proposed to be implemented in two stages of 650 MW each, have been accorded status of mega power project.

The quantum of supply required has been indicated by NTPC is approximately 5 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum. 11 Parties have responded to EOI by NTPC.

#### **Prices of Petroleum Products**

5600. **SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :** Will the Minister PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil Companies in the country are finding difficult to retain prices of petroleum products at current level in case the increase in crude prices is not offset by duty and tax relief by the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to come to the rescue of oil companies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) :** (a) to (c) After the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism, the normal fluctuations in the international oil markets would be reflected in the domestic prices of petrol and diesel. However, Government is constantly reviewing the international oil prices, particularly the volatility and its likely impact on the domestic market. As and when Government intervention is considered necessary, appropriate measures will be taken.

#### **Outstanding Dues against Channels**

5601. **SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some channels are not making regular payments to Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the names thereof and the dues outstanding against them, channel-wise;

(c) the time from which these channels have not been making payments;

(d) whether Doordarshan has any provisions to blacklist such channels and cancel their licences; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the names of the channels against which action has been taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to recover the outstanding dues?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Doordarshan at present does not do business with any other channel.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### Uniform Rules and Code of Conduct for Recruitment in Companies

5602. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 are not adequate to ensure that all Companies improve their level of recruitment;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate uniform rules and code of conduct with regard to recruitment for all public limited companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether amendments are proposed to be brought in the Companies Act, 1956 so as to assure transparency and a reduction of nepotism in the dealing of all public limited companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) Department of Company Affairs is primarily responsible for the administration of the Companies Act, 1956. Subject matter relating to formulation of Uniform Rules and Code of Conduct with regard to recruitment in Companies does not fall within the ambit of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Translation]

#### Interlocking Between Phulera and Jodhpur

5603. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of interlocking between Phulera and Jodhpur in Rajasthan has not been undertaken even after the completion of gauge conversion;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the work for interlocking on the said route is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) The interlocking at all stations between Phulera and Jodhpur exists.

#### Passenger Amenities

5604. SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :

SHRI UTTAMRAO DHIKALE :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Railways yet to provide basic amenities : CAG" appearing in the *Hindu* dated March 28, 2002 and news-item published in '*Dainik Jagran*' dated April, 2002 caption, "Yatri suvidhaaon per railway vadakhilaph : CAG";

(b) if so, the details of facilities for the passengers promised by you before the Parliamentary Estimates Committee in 1990 alongwith the time by which these were assured to be provided;

(c) whether the Railways has failed to utilise the allocated funds for passenger amenities;

(d) if so, the allocation made for passenger amenities during the last three years, year-wise;

(e) the funds utilised during the said period, year-wise; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to provide basic amenities in trains and at Railway stations in Maharashtra and other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Railways had replied to the Estimates Committee (1988-1989)-Eighth Lok Sabha that it should be

possible to wipe out the deficiencies in Basic Amenities, i.e. in waiting halls, benches, suitable lighting, drinking water facility, latrines, suitable platforms, booking arrangements and shady trees by 30.03.1991. Further, the recommendation (S.No. 36) in the 77th report of the Committee asked Ministry to ensure adequate drinking water facility as per set norms is made available at all stations at least by 31.03.1991, as scheduled and the recommendation was accepted.

(c) to (e) Expenditure of Rs.115.25 crore, 136.50 crore and 130.38 crore (Upto February, 2002) was incurred for Passenger Amenity works during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 as against the allotment of Rs. 130 crore, 200 crore and 190 crore during these years. In the course of the year, in view of the likely reduction in internal resources, as a matter of abundant caution, the Railways are sometimes directed to restrict their commitments to the extent funds are likely to be available. This results in lesser expenditure being actually incurred on Works in all Plan Heads including "Passenger Amenities".

(f) Every year, Railways are making high allotments for passenger amenity works in its endeavour to provide adequate amenities as per laid down norms at all stations including those in Maharashtra. Railways endeavour is to eliminate the deficiencies and plan the annual Works Programme accordingly. For the current year, the allotment for Passenger Amenity works is Rs. 200 crore. Further, to celebrate the 150th year of Railway services, the coming year has been dedicated to 'rail traveller' and has been declared as the "Passenger Amenities Year."

Measures like introduction of Jan Shatabdi coaches with upper class like features in second class coaches, fitment of modern UIC type vestibules, provision of user-friendly modular toilets, polyvinyl flooring inside coaches, introduction of LHB type coaches with state of the art passenger amenities and commencement of indigenous manufacture of such coaches, pest control in all coaches through specialized agencies, providing thorough cleaning facilities at nominated stations under "cleaning train station scheme", provision of 110 Volts electrical fittings in place of conventional 24 Volts, renovation of rakes in between overhauls, mid-life rehabilitation of coaches of 12-15 years age group, monitoring of passenger amenity fittings through "zero missing fitting" etc., have been taken for improvement of amenities in trains.

#### Community Radio Stations

5605. DR. ASHOK PATEL :

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to accord approval to the private sector for setting up of community radio stations;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c) At present, there is no proposal to accord approval for setting up of Community Radio Stations, in the private sector.

#### Cross Subsidisation

5606. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are actively considering to do away with cross subsidy;

(b) If so, whether the Railways have so far taken any steps in this regard;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Rationalisation of fare and freight structure has been introduced in the Railway Budget 2002-03 which is expected to reduce the level of cross-subsidy between the passenger and freight services.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

#### Cost of Security

5607. SHRI G.S.BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have failed to recover the cost of security patrolling of track in North Frontier Railway provided at the request of the State Government, amounting to Rs.40.00 crores;

(b) if so, whether the Comptroller & Auditor General of India has commented upon the matter in his report for 2000-01; and

(c) if so, the Government's reply thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Security being the State subject, it is the responsibility of the State Government to provide for security of Railway track. Since the Government of Assam was not able to provide security, the Ministry of Railways decided to have security patrolling at the request of State Government by Railway men. The cost of such security patrolling has to be borne by State Government. As such, bills for recovery of Security Patrolling of track have been preferred on Government of Assam for realisation. An amount of Rs. 37.23 cr. is outstanding which is payable by the Government of Assam to Railway towards security patrolling charges. The Comptroller & Auditor General of India, vide their report No.9 of 2002 for Railways have commented upon non-realisation of the cost of security patrolling of track provided at the request of State Governments. The Government of Assam has been requested by Ministry of Railways for early clearance of the outstanding dues.

#### Strategic Storage of Crude Oil

5608. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high powered committee of the Planning Commission has strongly recommended strategic storage of crude oil for ensuring oil security in the country;

(b) If so, whether the strategic storage of crude oil has assumed greater importance now due to significant build-up of refining capacity in the country;

(c) whether the Union Government has accepted the recommendations of the Planning Commission; 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 PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Steering Committee on Energy Sector of Planning Commission for the tenth plan recommended maintenance of strategic reserves and developing a mechanism for funding these reserves.

(d) It is not possible to indicate a time frame at this stage.

[Translation]

#### Fire in Gandhar Oil Well

5609. SHRI BHUPENDRASINH SOLANKI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any committee has been set up to look into the Gandhar oil well fire incident in Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) The Government have constituted a Committee headed by Major General (Retd.) S. C. N. Jatar to inquire into the matter after the incident of a fire at Well No. G-345, in Gandhar field of ONGC. The Committee has submitted its interim report to the Government on 30.01.2002. The Committee thereafter, has also submitted the second and third volume of the report on 29.03.2002 to the Government on Gandhar field, Ankleshwar Assets and on Western Offshore, Mumbai Region of ONGC. The term of the Committee has been extended upto 31.05.2002 to submit the final report to the Government.

#### Terminal Facility at Raigarh Railway Station

5610. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide terminal facility at Raigarh Railway Station in Chhatisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken for the construction of the said terminal along with the funds released for the purpose; and

(d) the time by which the said project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No Sir, not for the time being.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

**CBI Inquiry Against Officials**

5611. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to S.Q. No. 175 on March 14, 2002 regarding CBI investigation against officers and to state :

(a) the names of officials found guilty and details of charges levelled against them;

(b) the present status of each case and action taken against the guilty officials in each case so far;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints recently that Doordarshan is doing special favour to New Delhi Television Network;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Joint Venture for Manufacturing of Arms with South Africa**

5612. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether South Africa has proposed a joint arms manufacturing partnership with India;

(b) whether the proposal involves transfer of Technology to India and export of manufactured arms to other countries; and

(c) if so, the response of the Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes. A South African public sector company has proposed a Joint Venture for cooperative efforts between South African and Indian Government Defence Production factories for artillery guns and related systems.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has been decided to discuss the proposal with the South African company.

**Subsidy on LPG and Kerosene**

5613. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of subsidies attributable to LPG and Kerosene during 2000-2001; and

(b) the extent to which these subsidies have been brought down during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) The estimated subsidy on domestic LPG and PDS kerosene for the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 is as follows :

| (Rs. in crore) |              |              |         |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------|
| Year           | Domestic LPG | PDS Kerosene | Total   |
| 2000-2001      | 6724         | 7522         | 14,246  |
| 2001-2002      | 5830         | 5310         | 11,140* |

\* Provisional

**Recovery of Outstanding Amount**

5614. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether advance payment of Rs. 1.42 crore made in 1990-91 by the Director General Ordnance Services to M/s. Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited Calcutta has remained outstanding against the firm as on December 1999 for non-execution of supply of combat jacket and trousers;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into and the responsibility and accountability has been fixed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) Supply Order dated 12th July 1990 for supply of quantity 8,85,484 Nos. of Jacket Combat Disruptive and Supply Order dated 22nd August 1990 for supply of 3,57,500 pairs of Trousers Combat Disruptive was placed on M/s Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Limited (RIC) Calcutta (a Government Public Sector Undertaking). On the request of M/s RIC, an advance of Rs. 1.97 crores



corresponding to the value of deliveries expected during 1990-1991 was given. However, since the PSU was not supplying any of the items, the Ministry in April 1991, imposed an interest of 17% per annum with effect from November 1990. Further the penal interest @ 19.75% was levied if deliveries expected in 1990-1991 as per schedule are delayed.

However after being granted extensions in delivery period, RIC had supplied a total quantity of 24,527 nos. of Jackets Combat Disruptive and no supplies were made of Trousers Combat Disruptive. Subsequently on 14th September 1993 in view of the non-supply of items by M/s RIC and in view of the criticality of the items, 50% of the quantity i.e. 3,33,255 nos. of Jacket Combat Disruptive and 1,88,663 nos. of Trouser Combat Disruptive was cancelled at the risk and cost of the firm. Out of the advance paid to M/s RIC, a sum of Rs. 1.42 crores is still outstanding.

Ministry of Defence made concerted efforts in recovering the advance from M/s RIC, Calcutta to fulfill their contractual obligation by supplying Jackets and Trousers and thus liquidate the outstanding advance. The issue was also taken up with the Ministry of Industry who intimated that it has been decided to initiate action for closure of this PSU.

The matter was examined by Central Vigilance Commission whose observations are under examination of the Ministry.

[Translation]

#### **Demands of Small and Medium Newspapers**

5615. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the small and medium newspaper's association "All India Small and Medium Newspapers Federation, New Delhi" had submitted a charter of demands to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting in its 39th annual conference on October 6, 2001 in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Federation, inter-alia raised issues concerning decline in release of advertisements to Small and Medium Newspapers, submission of various documents for empanelment, constitution of Empanelment Committee

including the representative of the Federation, delay in payment of advertising bills etc. Revision of the Advertising Policy of the Government of India and Guidelines for Empanelment of Newspapers with DAVP has been undertaken.

#### **Non-Auditing of Circulation of Newspapers/Magazines**

5616. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether only 530 Newspapers and Magazines out of 27,170 published in India got their circulation audited and amongst daily newspapers only 205 got their circulation audited while their number was 1990;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reaction of the Government thereto and the action being taken in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for non-auditing of circulation of most of the Newspapers and magazines?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c) Carrying out circulation check of newspapers is only a derivative function of the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) as per the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867. RNI finalized a total of 4559 cases of circulation check during the period from 1.4.99 to 31.3.2002, which were referred by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP), State Governments, on the basis of complaints and at the request of publishers.

[English]

#### **Ferrochrome Plants**

5617. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Ferrochrome plants in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Jharkhand;

(b) whether a number of Ferrochrome plants in these States have fallen sick;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to revive sick units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) As per the available information, the number of operating Ferrochrome plants in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Jharkhand is as under :

| Name of the State | No. of Ferrochrome Plants |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Madhya Pradesh    | -                         |
| Chhattisgarh      | 2                         |
| Orissa            | 6                         |
| Jharkhand         | -                         |

Out of the two running plants in Chhattisgarh, only one unit is producing Ferrochrome and the other unit has changed its production to Manganese Alloys.

(b) and (c) It is true that some units in these States have fallen sick and closed down. This has mainly been due to high cost of power and poor market conditions.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal under the consideration of the Government.

#### Doubling of Rail Line on Guwahati-Tinsukia Section

5618. SHRI K.A. SANGTAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to lay an additional Broad Gauge line on Guwahati-Tinsukia Section;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the time by which the work of the construction on the said project is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for the present.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### GAIL Optic Fibre Project

5619. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been

drawn to the news-report captioned "Roits delay GAIL optic fibre project" appearing in the *Hindustan Times* dated April 17, 2002;

(b) if so, whether Delhi-Mumbai optic fibre cable project has been delayed by a month;

(c) if so, the cost over run as a result of such delay, and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to complete the project within the stipulated time frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Although the recent disturbances in Gujarat affected the Delhi-Mumbai Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) project of GAIL in Bharuch-Surat Section, there is no cost over-run in the Project.

(d) GAIL has completed the Delhi-Mumbai OFC Project in April, 2002.

#### Setting up of Headquarters of Newly created Zones

5620. SHRIMATI HEMA GAMANG : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have established the Headquarters of newly created Railway Zones;

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

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Headquarters are likely to be established?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) The headquarters of the seven new proposed Zonal Railways have been established in a skeleton form only and have not yet become fully functional. These proposed new Zonal Railways/Headquarters are: North-Central Railway/Allahabad, North-Western Railway/Jaipur, East-Coast Railway/Bhubaneswar, East-Central Railway/Hajipur, Bilaspur Zone/Bilaspur, South-Western Railway/Hubli, and West-Central Railway/Jabalpur.

(c) and (d) Though established in skeleton form, these

Headquarters have not yet become fully functional in view of the severe resource crunch being faced by the Railways. No definite time frame can be indicated for the same at this stage.

**Filthy Condition at Delhi/New Delhi  
Railway Stations**

5621. SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey of Delhi/New Delhi railway station has been made recently to know the chaotic and filthy condition making the stations garbage dumping grounds and also to assess the situation with the mushrooming of touts and beggars causing harassment to the tourists/passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to clear the railway station from such nuisance besides fixing the responsibility for such state of affairs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Inspections of Delhi and New Delhi railway stations are done regularly by various officials individually as well as in teams to know the problems first hand and take immediate remedial measures as well as bring about system improvements. During the course of inspections, the officials tackle the issues related to sanitation and cleanliness, touts,

beggars and unauthorised persons as well as harassment to passengers. Besides toning up the sanitation on day to day basis, various drives are also conducted from time to time and infrastructural improvements are also brought about. The unauthorised persons are apprehended in association with police and dealt with under the relevant provisions of law. The staff responsible for dereliction of their duties are also taken up suitably.

**Kolkata Metro**

5622. SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to extend Kolkata Metro/Circular Railway and electrify the Tala-Princepghat route;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of allocation made for the extension of Kolkata Railway;

(d) the details of progress made in the projects; and

(e) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e)

(Rs. in Crores)

| Name of projects  | Year W.P. | Anticipated Cost | Outlay expected at the end of 2001-02 | Outlay for 2002-03 | Status  |
|---|-----------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| DumDum-Tollygunj Design and construction of rapid transit system alongwith extension of Metro Railway from Tollygunj-Garia as material modification   | 99-00     | 2397.95          | 1799.00                               | 35.00              | Metro Railway from DumDum to Tollygunj has been commissioned fully since September 1995. Work of its extension from Tollygunj to Garia is as a part of on going project is in progress. It is likely to be completed by March 2005 subject to availability of funds.  |
| Kolkata Circular Railway including extension from Princepghat to Majerhat, DumDum to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose airport and Ultadanga to Rajerhat PH. | 99-00     | 252.40           | 115.94                                | 13.00              | Electrification from DumDum to Princepghat has been completed. Extension from Princepghat to Majerhat is in progress. It is likely to be completed by September 2004 subject of availability of funds. Work on its extension from DumDum Cantt. to airport and Ultadanga to Rajerhat is in progress, however, no target date is fixed for these so far. |

**Passenger Amenities**

5623. SHRI DINSHA PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether passenger revenue has constantly been increasing;

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

(c) whether the Government have been spending part of the revenue towards provision of passenger amenities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Details of Passenger Earnings during the last three years are as under :

| Financial Year                  | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 (RE) |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Passenger Earnings (Rs. in Cr.) | 9581.07   | 10515.07  | 11400.00       |

(c) Yes Sir. Expenditure under the Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' is incurred through the Railway Funds i.e. Depreciation Reserve Fund, Development Fund and Open Line Works (Revenue), which are funded from Railway Revenue.

(d) The expenditure incurred under Plan Head 'Passenger Amenities' during the last three years is as under :

| Year               | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002 (RE) |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Amount (Rs.in Cr.) | 115.25    | 136.50    | 168.43         |

**Assessment of Steel Plants**

5624. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steel plants in public sector have been showing dismal result;

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

(c) whether the Government have conducted any study to assess the potential of the steel plants and their modernisation; and

(d) if so, the details of outcome?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) Details of the net loss incurred by steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) since 1998-99 are given below :

**SAIL**

(Rs. in crore)

| Year                                  | Losses  |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| 1998-1999                             | 1618.00 |
| 1999-2000                             | 1720.00 |
| 2000-2001                             | 729.00  |
| 2001-2002<br>(April to December 2001) | 1290.00 |

**RINL**

(Rs. in crore)

| Year      | Losses |
|-----------|--------|
| 1998-1999 | 457.00 |
| 1999-2000 | 561.68 |
| 2000-2001 | 291.30 |
| 2001-2002 | 125.00 |

The reasons for steel plants in the public sector incurring losses include the following :

- General slow down in the economy resulting in stagnation in steel consumption.
- Adverse effect on sales realisation because of fall in international prices due to global recession.
- Imposition of anti-dumping duty by European union, USA and Canada.

(c) and (d) Government have not conducted any study recently to assess the potential of public sector steel plants. However, SAIL has reported that two of their steel plants namely Bhilai Steel Plant and Vishvesvaraya Iron and Steel

Plant have exceeded their rated capacities in respect of saleable steel during the year 2001-2002. RINL has also reported that production of hot metal, liquid steel and saleable steel, by their plants exceeded their rated capacities during the year 2001-2002. As for the modernisation needs of steel plants, these are met by the respective plants, through their plan schemes.

#### **BPCL's Pure for Sure Scheme**

5625. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether BPCL has started giving certification of Pure for Sure to some of its A and B site high selling retail outlets;

(b) if so, whether the situation is self explanatory proof that the remaining retail outlets are involved in malpractice and irregularities; and

(c) if not, the reasons for discriminations and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the corporation for defaming the low selling retail outlets dealers not covered under Pure for sure scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, an independent agency has been employed by BPCL to certify the Pure for Sure Scheme based on a fixed criteria determined by the Oil Company. The program is voluntary and to begin with, it is open to all categories of dealers of Company controlled sites. All retail outlets including those which have opted for Pure for Sure Scheme are governed by the prevailing Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

#### **Transportation Contracts by Panipat Terminal**

5626. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Panipat terminal of four oil corporations have started giving parallel transportation contracts for industrial consumers and ATF to such persons who are neither the dealers nor the tenderers;

(b) whether the above system is permitted as per tender condition;

(c) if so, whether this system has caused the surplus tankers in Panipat terminals and loss to eligible/ authorised tankers;

(d) whether the breezing work of Pol products is firstly to be given to Panipat based work orders holders; and

(e) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken to improve the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No Parallel Transport contract has been given to any new Transporter.

(b) It is in line with Tender Guidelines.

(c) At Panipat Installation, there is no surplus fleet and particularly during peak season, operations are extended for want of adequate fleet to meet the requirement of seasonal rush.

(d) For bridging work preference is given to tank trucks sent by the receiving location.

(e) No further action proposed in view of the above.

#### **VRS Package in HSCL**

5627. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the H.S.C.L. worker especially Durgapur unit has not been paid thirty months salary; and

(b) if so, the time by which VRS package or due salary is to be released to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) Due to acute financial crunch, payments to employees have been outstanding in several units of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL). At Durgapur, salary has been outstanding for thirty months as the unit has not been able to generate sufficient revenues to enable payment of salaries.

(b) Government of India has approved extension of a guarantee in favour of HSCL to the tune of Rs.250 crores for raising funds from the banks to effect VRS aimed at separating 5000 employees. Government has also granted a financial assistance of Rs.89.44 crores to HSCL to partially clear outstanding wages and outstanding statutory dues.

#### **Clearance of Athirappilly Project of Kerala**

5628. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a memorandum from the Government of Kerala regarding clearance for the Athirappilly Project in Kerala and review of terms & conditions of Power Purchase Agreement with NTPC in respect of Kayamkulam Power Station in Kerala; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Kerala State Electricity Board has revised the cost estimates/scope of works of Athirappilly Hydro-electric Project (2x80 MW) and recently sent the Project Report along with clarifications to the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in April, 2002. This project had earlier been given techno-economic clearance by CEA on 13.5.1996 at an estimated cost of Rs.230.48 crores at 1994-95 price level

NTPC envisages expansion of Kayamkulam Combined Cycle Power Project in Stage-II (capacity 1950 MW) which is expected to come up in the 11th Plan. However, a proposal is under consideration to examine the feasibility of allocating power from Kayamkulam CCPP to other States of the Southern region.

#### Border Road Projects

5629. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of on-going border roads projects along borders with Bangladesh, Myanmar, China, Bhutan, Afghanistan etc. in the North-east;

(b) the progress made on each project and the expenditure incurred thereon so far; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Proposal to Limit the Tenure of Auditing Firms

5630. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to limit the tenure of an auditing firm with any public limited company for a maximum of 5 years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that presently auditing firms continue their relationship for decades continuously;

(c) if so, the manner in which the Government propose to strengthen the regulatory mechanism by restricting a long tenure of auditing firms;

(d) whether steps will be taken to ensure that companies do not develop an un-professional relationship with their auditors; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the level of auditing in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) The Companies Bill, 1997 inter-alia provides that no company shall appoint or re-appoint an auditor for more than five consecutive terms. This clause has not been approved.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The Companies Act, 1956 and the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949 contain several safeguards to ensure that companies do not develop an unprofessional relationship with their auditors. Misconduct by Chartered Accountants/Chartered Accountant firms is punishable under section 21 of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949. Non compliance of the relevant provisions of Companies Act by them is punishable under section 233 of the Companies Act, 1956.

#### Separate Law to Protect Refugees

5631. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are planning to enact a separate law to protect refugees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) As informed by the Ministry of Home Affairs, administratively concerned with the subject-matter of the Question, the feasibility, requirement

or otherwise etc. of a separate law to deal with refugees is being considered by the Government. Government has started the process of consulting various agencies concerned for this purpose.

#### **Electrification on Shakurbasti-Jind/Bhiwani Rail Line**

5632. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government propose to electrify the Shakurbasti-Jind/Bhiwani railway track;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Hissar Cantt. authorities and the bottling plants of various public sector oil companies of this area have also offered to share the expenditure on this project;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the work is likely to be started on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

#### **Privatisation of Salem Steel Plant**

5633. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have received any Memorandum from the Save Salem Committee against the privatisation of the Salem Steel Plant recently;
- (b) whether the said Committee has also urged the Government to halt conversion of the Salem Steel Plant into a subsidiary to complete the sell off process besides extending all the facilities of IPT and IVCA apart from extending the required financial assistance;
- (c) if so, the details, thereof; and
- (d) the decision taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The said committee has urged the Government not to proceed with the divestment of Salem Steel Plant (SSP). They

have also urged the Government not to hive off SSP as a subsidiary company. The Government has already agreed to the conversion of SSP into a joint venture as part of the financial and business restructuring of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

#### **Expansive Operation of Cambridge Press in India**

5634. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Cambridge Press, the world's oldest and largest academic and educational publisher, is planning to expand its Indian operations in a big way;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether all the efforts to help and assist the Cambridge Press to expand operations in India has been considered by the Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Adulteration of Fuel**

5635. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted to check adulteration of fuel in the metropolitan cities;
- (b) if so, whether the Centre for Science and Environment in Delhi collected samples from 15 retail outlets in Delhi and 30 outlets in National Capital Region and collected samples from fuel tankers and depots between December 2001 and January 2002;
- (c) if so, the results of the samples lifted; and
- (d) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Under directives from Environment Pollution (prevention and Control) Authority (EPCA), Center for Science and Environment (CSE) has conducted the survey in the National Capital Territory (NCT) as well as National Capital Region (NCR).

(b) Center for Science and Environment (CSE) report indicates that CSE collected samples from 15 Retail Outlets (ROs) of NCT, 30 ROs of NCR, 13 Tank Lorries and 6 Depots during December, 2001 to January, 2002.

(c) CSE report indicates that 3 samples each of HSD and MS failed to meet relevant BIS specifications and in 12 MS samples Benzene contents were found to be more than 1 %. However, as per the BIS specifications prevalent at the time, Benzene content upto 3% was permissible in MS in metropolitan cities. Only 2 samples had Benzene content of more than 3%.

(d) The report does not mention the name of the Oil Company/ROs whose samples have failed. The actual failure rate of the samples is low. The Government has initiated several steps to check adulteration.

#### Journalists Welfare Fund

5636. SHRI C. KUPPUSAMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount collected so far for the Journalists Welfare Fund for providing ex-gratia relief to Journalists;

(b) the details of amount disbursed to members of family of Journalists who suffered loss of life/permanent disability, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to enhance the amount of ex-gratia relief to journalists;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) The Journalists Welfare Fund has been set up by this Ministry with an initial corpus of Rs.5 crores.

(b) Ex-gratia relief of Rs.1 lakh each has been disbursed in six cases so far to the family of journalists/journalist who were accredited with PIB at Delhi and who suffered loss of life/permanent disability.

(c) to (e) The Journalists Welfare Fund has been set up

in 2001-2002. It is not felt necessary to change the amount of ex-gratia relief from this fund.

#### Reintroduction of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill 1994

5637. SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to re-introduce the Criminal (Amendment) Bill, 1994 to enhance the maximum limit of payment of maintenance allowance to vagrant women in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in taking concrete steps in this regard;

(d) the time by which the proposed Bill is likely to be introduced in the Parliament; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 pertaining to "order for maintenance of wives, children and parents" has been amended recently inter alia, removing the ceiling on the amount of maintenance allowance and providing for interim maintenance allowance and expenses for proceedings. The amendment came into force with effect from 24th September, 2001.

#### Projects in Western Railways

5638. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of each of the ongoing/pending/new projects being executed in the Western Railways;

(b) the funds allocated to each projects;

(c) the details of additional budgetary support received from various sources to complete those projects; and

(d) the target fixed for completion, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (d) Details of projects under execution in Western Railway



including the proposed outlay project-wise for 2002-03 given in the statement enclosed. No additional budgetary support has so far been received for those projects during the current

year. Target dates of completion wherever fixed have been indicated in the status of the projects.

### Statement

#### *Railway Projects under execution in Western Railway*

| S No                         | Name of Project | Rly. | Latest<br>Anticipated<br>Cost | Outlay<br>expected<br>to end of<br>2001-02 | Outlay<br>Proposed<br>for 2002-<br>2003 | Status |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------|-------------------------------|--|---|--------|
| (Amount in Crores of Rupees) |                 |      |                               |  |   |        |
| 1                            | 2               | 3    | 4                             | 5  | 6                                       | 7      |

#### **New Lines**

|   |                              |    |        |       |       |  |
|---|------------------------------|----|--------|-------|-------|--|
| 1 | Kapadvanj-Modasa             | WR | 61.67  | 59.36 | 0.01  | Work has been completed.   |
| 2 | Godhra-Indore Dewas-Maksi    | WR | 597.00 | 48.73 | 22.10 | This work is planned for execution in phases. The first phase work between Dewas & Maksi has been completed.                 |
| 3 | Dausa-Gangapur               | WR | 214.26 | 0.29  | 15.00 | Final location survey has been completed. Land acquisition papers for Banas-Bamaniya-Nangal Rajawat Submitted to State Govt. |
| 4 | Ajmer-Pushker                | WR | 67.00  | 0.02  | 10.00 | Final location survey in progress. Land acquisition plans and papers are under preparation.                                  |
| 5 | Gandhinagar-Adrej Moti-Kalol | WR | 52.00  | 0.02  | 10.00 | Final location survey has been completed. Land plans have been prepared and are being submitted to State Govt.               |
| 6 | Ramganj Mandi-Bhopal         | WR | 425.00 | 0.25  | 20.00 | Final location survey is in progress.  |

#### **Gauge Conversion**

|   |                                 |    |        |       |      |  |
|---|---------------------------------|----|--------|-------|------|--|
| 1 | Bhildi (Mehsana-Patan)-Viramgam | WR | 134.80 | 15.89 | 1.00 | The project consists of gauge conversion of 104.36 km between Viramgam to Patan and construction of new line of 52.64 km between Patan & Bhildi. In 1st Phase, earthwork and bridges are in progress on Viramgam-Mehsana section (65 km). P-way and signalling of this section is proposed to be taken up under BOT for which tenders have been processed. |
|---|---------------------------------|----|--------|-------|------|--|

| 1  | 2   | 3  | 4      | 5      | 6     | 7   |
|----|---|----|--------|--------|-------|---|
| 2  | Neemuch-Ratlam  | WR | 116.74 | 14.57  | 25.00 | Work on long lead items like bridges have been taken up. The work will be progressed and completed in the coming years as per availability of resources.  |
| 3  | Phulera-Marwar-Ahmedabad  | WR | 632.35 | 623.35 | 9.00  | Work has been completed and commissioned. Residual works are in progress. Gauge conversion of Rewari-Delhi 2nd line is also a part of this work where formation works have been completed. Conversion of this line will be dovetailed with conversion of adjoining MG sections.   |
| 4  | Rajkot-Veraval incl. Material modification for extn. From Wansjaliya-Jetalsar                 | WR | 291.61 | 37.32  | 35.00 | Earthwork, minor bridges are in progress. Work from Rajkot to Jetalsar (77 km) is targeted for completion during 2002-03.   |
| 5  | Agra Fort-Bandikui  | WR | 178.03 | 16.29  | 26.00 | Earthwork and bridges are in progress. The work is being progressed as per availability of resources.   |
| 6  | Gandhidham-Bhuj   | WR | 50.75  | 44.40  | 0.01  | Completed. Residual works are in progress.  |
| 7  | Wankaner-Malia Miyana   | WR | 100.85 | 100.35 | 0.01  | Completed and commissioned  |
| 8  | Ajmer-Udaipur-Chittaurgarh including material modification for extension from Udaipur to Amra | WR | 294.69 | 34.85  | 30.00 | The work of earthwork and bridges is in progress between Udaipur and Chittaurgarh (114 km). Tender for major bridges have been invited in Ajmer-Chittaurgarh.   |
| 9  | Surendernagar-Bhavnagar, Dhola-Dhasa-Mahuwa with the extension to Pipavav                     | WR | 227.63 | 73.99  | 25.90 | The work of conversion of main line from Surendranagar to Rajula (251 km) with connectivity of Pipavav (18 km) is being done through Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) consisting of Ministry of Railways and GPPL. The formation and bridge works are in progress. This portion is targeted for completion during 2002-03. Non-SPV portion of this project consists of Gauge conversion of Dhola-Bhavnagar (49 km), Sihore-Palitana (27 km), Rajula-Mahuva (30 km) where earthwork and bridge work is in progress. |
| 10 | Dharangadhara-Kuda siding   | WR | 3.39   | 3.38   | 0.01  | Work completed  |

| 1                                      | 2   | 3  | 4      | 5      | 6      | 7   |
|--|---|----|--------|--------|--------|---|
| 11                                     | Gandhidham-Palanpur   | WR | 370.74 | 14.36  | 10.00  | Necessary clearances have been obtained. Estimate is under process of sanction. In the last coordination meeting with Government of Gujarat, State Govt. has shown willingness to share part cost of project along with other beneficiaries. MOU in this connection is under preparation. |
| <b>Doubling</b>                        |   |    |        |        |        |   |
| 1                                      | Kalapipal-Phanda/Maksi-Bhopal   | WR | 53.00  | 0.01   | 31.00  | The work priority is being reassessed.  |
| 2                                      | Bolai-Kalisindh, Kalisindh-Kisoni, Kisoni-Bercha & Maksi-Pirumrod   | WR | 49.29  | 45.31  | 0.90   | Completed and commissioned.   |
| 3                                      | Surat-Kosamba PH-I of 3rd line between Vadodara and Virar   | WR | 49.00  | 0.30   | 16.38  | Detailed estimate has been prepared and is under process of sanction.   |
| <b>Metropolitan Transport Projects</b> |   |    |        |        |        |   |
| 1                                      | Borivali-Virar : Quadrupling  | WR | 401.66 | 94.59  | 118.00 | Work for earth work, major & minor bridges yard remodelling and quarters is in progress. Work on important bridge No.73 & 75, on Vasai Creek is also in progress.   |
| 2                                      | Santacruz-Borivali : 5th line   | WR | 89.30  | 88.59  | 0.40   | Borivali-Andheri section has already been commissioned. Work on balance section has been completed and will be commissioned shortly after inspection by Commissioner of Railway Safety.   |
| 3                                      | Virar-Dahanu Road : Autoblock Signalling  | WR | 29.09  | 26.57  | 1.00   | Work has been completed and commissioned.   |
| 4                                      | Virar Dahanu Road - Development of facilities for introduction of EMUs and terminal facilities at Dahanu Road | WR | 29.10  | 0.08   | 3.00   | Work has been started after receiving clearance from Planning Commission in October, 2001 and is in progress.   |
| <b>Railway Electrification</b>         |   |    |        |        |        |   |
| 1                                      | Udhna-Jalgaon   | WR | 140.99 | 108.90 | 30.00  | 175 RKM has been energised till March, 2002. The work is progressing as per schedule. Target is March 2003.   |

**Integral Coach Factory, Perambur**

5639. SHRI S. MURUGESAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of orders are pending in Integral Coach Factory at Perambur in Tamil Nadu;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for timely clearance of such orders;

(d) whether the Government propose to close down the said coach factory; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir. ICF is regularly meeting its annual production targets and there is no pending backlog.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Special Court to Try POTA Accused

5640. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Special Courts instituted as on date to try POTA accused, State-wise; and

(b) the number of POTA detainees in each states including foreign nationals?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Law and Order is a State subject and as such the information regarding the number of Special Courts instituted as on date to try POTA accused, State-wise, and the number of POTA detainees in each States including foreign nationals is not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

#### Memorandum From Film Organisations

5641. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of films produced and released during 2001-2002, language-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received any Memorandum from the film organisations on the problems faced by them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) According to Central Board of Film Certification, the total number of feature films certified during 2001-2002, language-wise, is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) and (c) This Ministry receives references seeking

concessions and facilities for the entertainment sector from time to time. Such proposals are evaluated and taken up with the Ministry concerned as warranted. The endeavour is to facilitate the entertainment sector to achieve its potential and promote growth in exports, so that this sector is able to increase its contribution towards generating income and employment in the country.

#### Statement

| Language     | No. of films certified from<br>1.4.2001 to 31.3.2002 by<br>Central Board of Film Certification |
|--------------|--|
| Hindi        | 231  |
| Marathi      | 17   |
| Gujarathi    | 11   |
| Punjabi      | 4  |
| Bhojpuri     | 2  |
| English      | 8  |
| Bengali      | 48   |
| Nepali       | 5  |
| Telugu       | 204  |
| Tamil        | 186  |
| Rajasthani   | 2  |
| Assamese     | 11   |
| Chattisgarhi | 17   |
| Manipuri     | 7  |
| Oriya        | 8  |
| Malayalam    | 139  |
| Sindhi       | 1  |
| Haryanvi     | 1  |
| Saathali     | 1  |
| Kannada      | 109  |
| Mishing      | 1  |
| Bodu         | 1  |
| Kashmiri     | 1  |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1015</b>  |

### Kodaikanal AIR Station

5642. SHRI T. T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Radio Station at Kodaikanal is relaying mostly the programmes of Madurai Station;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the funds allocated for Kodaikanal AIR Station during the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the quality of programmes aired from that station?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No Sir. The Station is originating its own programme.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The amount allocated for AIR Kodaikanal during the last two years viz. 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 was Rs.30.65 lakhs and Rs.45.87 lakhs respectively.

(d) It has been the constant endeavour of All India Radio to put out the best quality programmes from all Stations, including Kodaikanal, by bringing innovative pattern of programming and style of presentation. AIR Kodaikanal has adopted broadcasting pattern on the lines of metro FM which is very popular. Interactive phone-in programme titled "VANAVAL" has increased the listenership.

[Translation]

### Price of Crude Oil in International Market

5643. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the price of crude oil in the international market during each of the last six months;

(b) the impact of higher price of crude oil in the international market on the domestic prices of petroleum products and oil pool deficit;

(c) whether the Government propose to adopt the policy of price controlled by market forces in regard to petroleum products instead of administrative prices thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The monthly average of the published prices of two major marker crude oils in the international market during the last six months, is as under :

| Period        | Dubai | (\$/bbl)<br>Brent (Dated) |
|---------------|-------|---------------------------|
| October 2001  | 19.63 | 20.49                     |
| November 2001 | 17.67 | 18.98                     |
| December 2001 | 17.83 | 18.68                     |
| January 2002  | 18.48 | 19.48                     |
| February 2002 | 19.02 | 20.22                     |
| March 2002    | 22.96 | 23.73                     |

(b) While there was no increase in the ex-storage point prices of petrol and diesel during the period October 2001 to March 2002, the prices of PDS kerosene and domestic LPG were raised during March 2002 to reduce the subsidy on these products. With the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism, the oil pool account has been wound up w.e.f 1st April 2002.

(c) and (d) The pricing of all petroleum products, except for PDS kerosene and domestic LPG, which are subsidized products, have become market determined w.e.f. 1st April 2002.

[English]

### Krishna Water Supply Project by GAIL

5644. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received the appraisal report from CRISIL on the Krishna water supply project to the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad as entrusted by GAIL; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

**Import Bill**

5645. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state .

(a) the total import bill for the current fiscal year as compared to the last fiscal year;

(b) whether there is any fall in the bill; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As against the import bill Rs. 78,025 crore for the fiscal year 2000-01, the import bill for the fiscal year 2001-02 is estimated to Rs. 73,539 crore.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are as under :

|                        | 2000-01<br>Actual (Provisional) |                      | 2001-2002<br>(Revised Estimates) |                      |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
|                        | Qty.<br>000' Tonnes             | Value<br>(Rs./Crore) | Qty.<br>000' Tonnes              | Value<br>(Rs./Crore) |
| <b>Crude</b>           |                                 |                      |                                  |                      |
| Public Sector          | 42,024                          | 38,121               | 46,085                           | 39,160               |
| Joint Sector           | 6,202                           | 5,690                | 6,289                            | 5,295                |
| Pvt. Sector            | 25,871                          | 22,121               | 28,023                           | 23,145               |
| <b>Product Imports</b> |                                 |                      |                                  |                      |
| Public Sector          | 3,007                           | 3,793                | 1,635                            | 1,809                |
| Private Sector         | 6,260                           | 8,300                | 3,321                            | 4,130                |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>83,364</b>                   | <b>78,025</b>        | <b>85,353</b>                    | <b>73,539</b>        |

**Power Allocation Formula**

5646. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Government of Rajasthan for review of power allocation formula from Central Power Generating stations;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal;

(c) whether the Government have decided in principal to review the power allocation based on the analogy of distribution of Central Taxes/Plan/ Assistance to the States; and

(d) if so, the time by which this review are likely to be undertaken and finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) According to the formula for sharing of power from Central

Sector power stations, power was allocated among the States/ UTs of a region in accordance with the Central Plan Assistance and actual energy consumption in the State of the region for previous five years, the two factors being given equal weightage. The Gadgil formula which forms the basis of allocations of Central Plan Assistance to the States in its different modified forms, has been giving weightage to the population, per capita income, performance of tax efforts, fiscal management etc.

It has been decided by the government in April, 2000 to treat the existing "formula" for allocation of power to the States/ UTs from new Central Sector power stations as "guidelines" so as to link the allocation of power with their need and capacity to pay. However, there is no change in the contents of the formula and it does not disturb the allocation already made from the Central Sector power stations. Under the "guidelines" power from the new Central Sector power stations will be made to the States/UTs as per their entitlement subject to the Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) to be signed by them with the Central Public Sector Undertakings concerned. No further review of the "guidelines" is presently envisaged.

### Filing of Returns by Multinational Companies

5647. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs has decided against exempting the Multinational Companies from filing returns of their overseas subsidiaries;

(b) whether this step has been prompted by the fact that MNCs are parking Capital/siphoning funds abroad to avoid tax;

(c) whether the MNCs have opposed this move by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

### Musclemen Grabbing Seats in Unreserved Coaches

5648. SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether coolies and a group of musclemen in connivance with the law enforcement agencies grab the seats in unreserved compartments of all the leading trains starting from New Delhi even before trains stream into the platform and charge money from passengers in lieu thereof;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent this lawlessness including the action taken against those found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Some incidents have come to notice. In order to mitigate this problem, regular checks are conducted by the Commercial and Vigilance departments in association with the Police to prevent cornering of seats by antisocial elements. Persons

apprehended for cornering of seats are taken up under the rules and relevant provisions of the law.

[English]

### Expenditure of Independent Candidates Contesting Elections

5649. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of independent candidates contest the elections of Legislative Assembly and Parliament;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to check the unnecessary expenditure to be incurred on providing security to the candidates and other arrangements made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Provision for security to independent and other candidates at elections depends on law and order situation. However, the Election Commission of India has not issued any instructions for providing personal security to the independent candidates.

[Translation]

### K.K. Express Stoppage at Kurduvadi

5650. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide stoppage of K.K. Express at Kurduvadi railway station in Solapur district of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Government have received memorandum/requests from the people's representatives for providing stoppage of the said train at the Kurduvadi railway station;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal to provide the stoppage of 2627/2628 Bangalore-New Delhi Karnataka Express at Kurduvadi station.

(b) and (c) Some representations including Shri Ramdas Athawale, MP and Shri Shivaji Vithalrao Kamble, MP have been received in this regard.

(d) The proposal has been examined but was not found feasible.

[English]

#### **Profit Earned by HAL**

5651. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has earned profit during 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the extent to which it is more than the previous year; and

(c) the various sources through which HAL has earned profit during the last year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Profit before tax for the year 2001-02 is estimated at Rs. 305 crores as against Rs. 265.15 crores in the previous year, which is an increase of 15.03% over the previous year.

(c) During the year, the company has earned profit essentially from its manufacturing, repair & overhaul spares and development activities as also interest income.

#### **Judges in Supreme Court and various High Courts**

5652. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR :

SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of posts of judges are lying vacant in Supreme Court, High Courts and Lower Courts in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of judges in the Supreme Court and the various High Courts and Lower Courts in the country, State-wise;

(c) the details of percentage of SC/STs and women judges, court-wise;

(d) whether it is true that the judicial system is not adequately represented by the reserved section; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (e) Statements I and II are enclosed. Appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts are made under articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. No statistics is, therefore, maintained for the number of Judges belonging to SC/ST in Supreme Court of India or the High Courts.

Government encourages representation of SC/ST, women and other Backward classes in the appointment of Judges and, accordingly addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them, *inter-alia* to locate suitable candidates from the Bar for appointment as High Court Judges. They were reminded last on March 15, 2002.

No statistics is maintained by the Central Government about the number of SC/ST or women Judges in Lower Courts as the appointments are made by the respective State Governments.

#### **Statement-I**

*Position as on 29-04-2002*

|                    |                     |   |    |
|--------------------|---------------------|---|----|
| I. Supreme Court : | Sanctioned Strength | = | 25 |
|                    | Actual Strength     | = | 26 |
|                    | Vacancies           | = | -  |
|                    | Women Judge         | = | 1  |

#### **II. High Courts :**

| Sl.No | High Court | Approved Strength | Actual Strength | Vacancies | Women Judges |
|-------|------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1     | 2          | 3                 | 4               | 5         | 6            |
| 1     | Allahabad  | 95                | 51              | 44        | -            |



| 1  | 2                | 3  | 4  | 5 | 6 | 1              | 2                | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6 |
|----|------------------|----|----|---|---|----------------|------------------|----|----|----|---|
| 2  | Andhra Pradesh   | 39 | 32 | 7 | 2 | 12             | Karnataka        | 40 | 33 | 7  | 1 |
| 3  | Bombay           | 60 | 53 | 7 | 5 | 13             | Kerala           | 29 | 24 | 5  | 1 |
| 4  | Calcutta         | 50 | 42 | 8 | - | 14             | Madhya Pradesh   | 29 | 26 | 3  | 1 |
| 5  | Chhattisgarh     | 6  | 3  | 3 |   | 15             | Madras           | 42 | 31 | 11 | 1 |
| 6  | Delhi            | 33 | 30 | 3 | 2 | 16             | Orissa           | 16 | 14 | 2  | - |
| 7  | Gauhati          | 19 | 15 | 4 |   | 17             | Patna            | 31 | 23 | 8  | 1 |
| 8  | Gujarat          | 42 | 33 | 9 | 1 | 18             | Punjab & Haryana | 40 | 26 | 14 | 1 |
| 9  | Himachal Pradesh | 8  | 7  | 1 | 1 | 19             | Rajasthan        | 32 | 27 | 5  | 1 |
| 10 | Jammu & Kashmir  | 14 | 8  | 6 | - | 20             | Sikkim           | 3  | 1  | 2  | - |
| 11 | Jharkhand        | 12 | 10 | 2 | - | 21             | Uttaranchal      | 7  | 3  | 4  | - |
|    |                  |    |    |   |   | Total          |                  |    |    |    |   |
|    |                  |    |    |   |   | 647 492 155 18 |                  |    |    |    |   |

**Statement-II****Lower Courts**

| S.No. | Name of State/UT   | No. of sanctioned posts of Judicial Officers | No. of Judicial Officers as on 1.6.2001 | No. of Vacant Posts |
|-------|--------------------|--|---|---------------------|
| 1     | 2                  | 3  | 4                                       | 5                   |
| 1.    | Andhra Pradesh     | 682  | 661                                     | 21                  |
| 2.    | Assam              | 259  | 205                                     | 54                  |
| 3.    | Arunachal Pradesh* | 293  | 293                                     | 0                   |
| 4.    | Bihar              | 1065   | 874                                     | 191                 |
| 5.    | Jharkhand          | 533  | 370                                     | 163                 |
| 6.    | Gujarat            | 636  | 581                                     | 55                  |
| 7.    | Goa                | 44   | 39                                      | 5                   |
| 8.    | Haryana+           | 266  | 233                                     | 33                  |
| 9.    | Himachal Pradesh   | 98   | 93                                      | 5                   |
| 10.   | Jammu & Kashmir    | 156  | 141                                     | 15                  |
| 11.   | Karnataka          | 665  | 589                                     | 76                  |

| 1     | 2                    | 3      | 4      | 5     |
|-------|----------------------|--------|--------|-------|
| 12.   | Kerala               | 370    | 369    | 1     |
| 13.   | Madhya Pradesh       | 798    | 665    | 133   |
| 14.   | Chhattisgarh         | 190    | 175    | 15    |
| 15.   | Maharashtra          | 1280   | 1107   | 173   |
| 16.   | Manipur              | 32     | 28     | 4     |
| 17.   | Meghalaya+           | 7      | 6      | 1     |
| 18.   | Mizoram              | 35     | 21     | 14    |
| 19.   | Nagaland+            | 21     | 21     | 0     |
| 20.   | Orissa               | 483    | 404    | 79    |
| 21.   | Punjab               | 301    | 279    | 22    |
| 22.   | Rajasthan            | 790    | 663    | 127   |
| 23.   | Sikkim               | 12     | 9      | 3     |
| 24.   | Tamil Nadu*          | 692    | 688    | 4     |
| 25.   | Tripura              | 74     | 55     | 19    |
| 26.   | Uttar Pradesh        | 1929   | 1517   | 412   |
| 27.   | Uttaranchal          | --     | --     | --    |
| 28.   | West Bengal          | 588    | 507    | 81    |
| 29.   | A&N Islands          | 8      | 8      | 0     |
| 30.   | Chandigarh           | 19     | 19     | 0     |
| 31.   | Delhi                | 385    | 239    | 146   |
| 32.   | Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 2      | 2      | 0     |
| 33.   | Daman & Diu+         | 2      | 2      | 0     |
| 34.   | Lakshadweep          | 3      | 3      | 0     |
| 35.   | Pondicherry          | 19     | 14     | 5     |
| Total |                      | 12,737 | 10,880 | 1,857 |

**Defence Production**

5653. SHRIMATI KUMUDINI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the defence production had not been

able to cater to the needs of the defence requirement of the country; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to make the Defence self-sufficient inside the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) It is not correct to state that Defence production had not been able to cater the needs of the defence requirements of the country. Substantial progress in indigenous production, particularly by the Defence Public Sector Undertakings and the Ordnance Factories has been made in the manufacture of aircraft, warships, armaments, tanks, combat vehicles and electronic as well as engineering equipment etc. Their efforts are also supplemented by the private sector. The combined value of the products of the Ordnance Factories and Defence PSUs during 2000-2001 has been approximately Rs. 14,000 crores.

In the quest for self-reliance, continuous effort is being made to enhance indigenous production. The efficiency of Ordnance Factories and the Defence PSUs is being constantly monitored. Perspective Plans in consultation with the Services Headquarters has also been prepared. Government have recently allowed private sector participation in the defence industry upto 100% and also with foreign direct investment permissible upto 26%, both subject to licensing, for manufacture of all types of defence equipment within the country.

#### **Freight Charges of Coal**

5654. DR. A.D.K. JAYASEELAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether rail freight of coal is as much as 155% higher of the basic price of coal but freight charges for cement is very low;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether rationalisation of freight charges is being considered;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) The freight rates for a commodity vary with distance of transportation. At an estimated average lead of 656 kms. for the year 2002-03, the freight rates for coal and cement are Rs.508.80 per tonne and Rs.548.00 per tonne respectively.

(c) to (e) Rationalisation of the freight structure has been introduced in the Railway Budget 2002-03.

#### **Guidelines for Nidhi Companies**

5655. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have issued any guidelines for Nidhi Companies/Mutual Benefit Societies to keep the health of societies in good condition;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the mandatory norms set up for implementation by these Nidhi Companies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) The Government have issued guidelines for Nidhi companies vide two notifications, both dated 26.7.2001. The guidelines include directions on minimum net owned fund, ratio of net owned fund to deposits, ceiling on dividend, ceiling on property loans and prudential norms for revenue recognition, asset classification and provisioning norms, etc. Regional Directors of Department of Company Affairs have been designated as the Regulatory Authority. These guidelines were introduced to improve the functioning of Nidhi Companies and to restore confidence in the minds of depositors.

#### **Right to Vote and Right to be Candidate in Elections**

5656. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is any move to bring the right to vote and right to be a candidate in elections under Article 19(1) of the Constitution in pursuant to Article 326, 327 and 328 of the Constitution as fundamental rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The right to vote and the right to be a candidate in elections are statutory rights. This arrangement has not posed any practical problems.

### Joint Venture of ONGC, Reliance and British Gas

5657. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M SCINDIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the ONGC, Reliance and British Gas on March 23, 2002 have reached a consensus to jointly operate the Panna Mukta and Tapti Oil and Gas fields;
- (b) if so, the terms of the agreement; and
- (c) the estimated oil and gas potential of these oil fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. and M/s British Gas have constituted a working group to discuss different joint operatorship models for the Panna Mukta and Tapti oil and gas fields. No agreement for jointly operating these fields has been finalised.

(c) The details of oil and gas reserves of Panna-Mukta and Tapti fields as on 1.4.2002 are as under :

| Field       | Oil<br>(Million Metric<br>tonne) | Gas<br>(Billion Cubic<br>Metre) |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Panna-Mukta | 21.85                            | 31.75                           |
| Tapti       | -                                | 42.86                           |

### Railway Archives

5658. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a Railway Archives, compressing 150 years of history of Indian Railway into four rooms has lately been set up; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Collection of Railway documents such as

books, reports, files, photographs, slides, pamphlets, magazines, drawings pertaining to historical aspects of Railways and making these available for reference to researchers and the visitors at the National Rail Museum.

### Export of Steel to USA

5659. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the export of steel products to USA has declined;
- (b) the quantity of steel products exported to USA during 1999-00, 2000-01 and 2001-02;
- (c) the names of countries which have imported Indian steel product at constant or increasing trend during these years; and
- (d) the reasons for decline in export of steel to USA and steps taken to increase the exports to USA and other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The quantity of steel products exported to USA during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-02 (April '01 to Jan.'02) is given in the table below :

| Qty. in 000' tons |           |                                      |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 1999-2000         | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002<br>(April '01 to Jan.'02)* |
| 724               | 482       | 123                                  |

(Source DGCI&S)

\*Provisional

(c) Some of the countries, which have imported Indian steel products at constant or increasing trend during these years, are Thailand, Indonesia, Japan UAE, Belgium, Bangladesh, PR China and Nigeria.

(d) The trade actions imposed on Indian steel exports by USA have been responsible for the decline in the level of exports. On the issue of the imposition of anti dumping duty of 72.49% and countervailing duty of 12.82% on import of Cut-to-Length Carbon Plates from India by the US, the Indian Government has challenged the action and taken the dispute to the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) of the WTO. The Government has been supporting the cause of Indian exporters by disseminating information pertaining to global trade and WTO-related issues and by taking up the cause of

Indian exporters in various anti-dumping and safeguard investigations.

#### Grievances of Ex-servicemen

5660. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether All India Ex-servicemen had launched agitational programme lasting more than 100 days for redressal of their grievances;

(b) if so, the salient points thereof;

(c) whether any assurances were given by the Government to redress their grievances;

(d) if so, whether the problems have been resolved;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the points of demands yet to be resolved; and

(g) the time by which it is likely to be resolved?.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Government is not aware of any such agitational programme.

(b) to (g) Questions do not arise.

#### Cost Sharing by Gujarat for new Rail Line

5661. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has conveyed its preparedness for cost sharing with Railways for construction of new rail lines viz. Dhrangadhra-Kuda Rail line, Porbandar Railway station to all weather port Jetty and Jamnagar Bedi Port to Rosipier;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Government of Gujarat is only sharing one-third cost of gauge conversion of Dharangadhra-Kuda siding which is already in progress. The approximate cost of this project is Rs. 10.17 crore.

#### GRP's Ignorance for Registration of Complaints

5662. SHRI MANJAY LAL :

SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Government Railway Police always shows ignorance for registering of complaints from the passengers, who are victims of theft during travelling by trains;

(b) whether passengers are allowed to lodge their complaints with GRP at any point during travelling;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of complaints registered with GRP during the last year and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Sir. It is not true that the Government Railway Police always shows ignorance for registering complaints from the passengers, though the Government is aware of few such complaints.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Maintenance of law and order and the security of passengers and their belongings in the running trains and railway premises is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP) which functions under the control of the State Governments. However, information available with this Ministry indicates that 12,278 cases of theft of passenger belongings including robbery and dacoity were registered by Government Railway Police during the year 2001. As regards action taken on the cases, this Ministry has no details.

#### Coco Petrol/Diesel Pumps

5663. SHRI P. S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of PETROL AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of petrol/diesel pumps owned by oil companies which are located in Gujarat, company-wise, separately;

(b) whether the Government are aware that many such pumps in Gujarat are being run in fictitious names and are selling adulterated petrol;

(c) If so, the details of such cases that came to the notice of the Union Government during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Government have conducted/propose to conduct any survey to find out such cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) As on 1.10.2001, there were 1139 retail outlets (petrol/diesel pumps) in operation in the State of Gujarat, company-wise distribution of which was as under :-

| Oil Company                     | Number of retail outlets |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Indian Oil Corpn. Ltd.          | 471                      |
| Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd.    | 289                      |
| Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd. | 254                      |
| IBP Co. Ltd.                    | 125                      |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>1139</b>              |

(b) to (e) Government are not aware of any retail outlets running in fictitious names and selling adulterated petrol. Oil Marketing Companies (OMC) conduct periodical inspections and checking against adulteration. However, in the last three years, a total of 4 ROs were terminated on account of benami operation.

[Translation]

#### **Raising Height of Platform on Gondia-Ballarsha Rail Route**

5664. SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation in regard to raising the height of the Railway platform on Gondia-Ballarsha (Maharashtra) rail route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A representation from Shri N.H. Diwathe has been received wherein among other demands, demand for raising of platforms of stations on Gondia-Ballarsha section has been made.

(c) Passenger amenities, including the level of platforms, are provided at stations as per the laid down norms based on volume of passenger traffic and earnings therefrom. All stations on the Gondia-Ballarsha section fall in 'E' category and platforms of adequate height as per the norms, have been provided at these stations.

However, low level platforms are available at Nagbir and Sindewahi stations. Raising of level of platform at Wadsa is also in progress. Further upgradation will be considered whenever so warranted by growth in passenger traffic at the stations.

[English]

#### **Coal Bed Methane**

5665. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coal Bed Methane has been found in coal bearing areas of Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the explorations have been undertaken by ONGC in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The preliminary studies and Research and Development (R&D) activities have indicated the presence of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in West Bengal.

(b) and (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) had taken up the exploration of CBM as R&D work and drilled two Wells in Durgapur depression of West Bengal. ONGC and Coal India Ltd. (CIL) have jointly been awarded one block, namely North Raniganj in West Bengal, on nomination basis for exploration and production of CBM. The Contract for this block has not been signed.

[Translation]

#### **Modernisation of Rail Coaches**

5666. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernize the rail coaches and to make them more safe and comfortable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of factories from which advice sought or proposals being invited by the Railway Board in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the new coaches are likely to be brought out by the railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to improve the safety and comfort levels in existing coaches, the coach production units and coach overhauling workshops of Indian Railways were asked to come up with innovative ideas and implement them on one coach each. A competition was held at New Delhi in which such coaches were displayed. All suggestions made by various workshops and Production Units are now under scrutiny. Features found appropriate for adoption on global basis will be advised to Zonal Railways and Production Units for incorporation during overhaul/new manufacture.

Also, an improved version of existing Second Class coaches has been launched as Jan Shatabdi coaches, which have upper class like features. These have been designed in-house by Indian Railways.

In addition, Railways have taken action to upgrade the coach manufacturing technology to derive benefit of higher passenger comfort, safety and lower cost of maintenance and operation by purchasing 24 state-of-the-art coaches from M/s ALSTOM LHB along with transfer of technology to manufacture these coaches in the country. These coaches have state-of-the-art features for improved passenger comfort and safety like flexi coil suspension bogies, noise insulated flooring with anti drumming feature, fibre reinforced panels, modular toilets with electronic fitting and controlled discharge toilet, centre buffer coupler with anti climbing feature, stainless steel body etc.

(d) The coaches of new design are expected to be brought out within the current financial year.

[English]

#### Telecast of Vande Mataram

5667. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vande Mataram was telecast 198 times during October, November and December 1997 and a sum of Rs. 5.44 lakh remained yet to be collected as brought out in the CAG report no. 2 of 2000 on page 53-54; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to recover the money?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) The matter has been raised by the C&AG in its Report No.2 of 2002 and is under examination.

[Translation]

#### Level Crossings

5668. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN :

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Railway manned and unmanned level crossings as on date;

(b) the total number of persons killed or injured during each of the last three years at these level crossings;

(c) whether Government propose to appoint chowkidars at unmanned level crossings;

(d) whether the Government have allocated funds for arranging chowkidars at these unmanned level crossings; and

(e) if so, the funds allocated for this purpose during 2000-2001, 2001-2002 and further allocation of funds for 2002-2003?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Manned = 16424

Unmanned = 20291

(b) The year-wise break-up of casualties in accidents at manned and unmanned level crossings during the last three years is as under :-

| Persons | 1999-2000 | 2000-2001 | 2001-2002* |
|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Killed  | 238       | 154       | 165        |
| Injured | 314       | 167       | 229        |

\*Figures of 2001-2002 are provisional.

(c) No, Sir. Only hazardous unmanned level crossings are proposed to be manned on programme basis. Presently, 4449 unmanned level crossings on Broad gauge routes have been identified for manning in a period of five years subject to availability of fund.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Rs.13.00 Crores and Rs.18.47 Crores were allocated during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 respectively for manning of unmanned level crossings under Plan Head-2900-Road Safety-level crossings. Rs.42.03 Crores have also been allocated for manning during the year 2002-2003.

[Englsh]

#### Creation of Courts of Appeal in High Courts

5669. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to create Courts of Appeal/Higher Appellate Division within each High Court to hear appeals from High Court;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### Filing of Returns by Companies

5670. SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had taken any action against the public sector undertakings which fail to prepare accounts and file returns with the Registrar of Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response from the Central and State Public Sector Undertakings of the country in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (c) Government Companies are required to comply with the relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. Action can be taken under the relevant provisions of the Act for violations noticed, if any. Department of Company Affairs has written to the State

Governments/Government Companies emphasising the importance of timely compliance with the various provisions of the Companies Act.

#### Cases of Theft at Godowns of LPG Dealers

5671. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of oil companies in case of theft at the godown of LPG distributors;

(b) whether after proving of genuineness of the theft cases in the godown in LPG distributors, oil companies charge the distributors at tariff rate (i.e. control rate);

(c) whether in some cases oil companies are charging their distributors at penal rate;

(d) If so, the cases in which the LPG distributors have been charged at penal rate inspite of proving the genuine theft;

(e) whether in case of subsequent theft in godowns, the distributors are charged at penal rate; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (f) As per the policy followed by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), as and when shortage of equipment is detected on account of theft loss, the distributor is debited at penal rate. However, in cases where the theft is established as genuine, debits are reversed from penal rate to tariff rate, irrespective of the number of thefts.

#### Amendment in Prasar Bharati Act, 1990

5672. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prasar Bharati can be taxed;

(b) whether there is any proposal to amend the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 in order to tax the Prasar Bharati;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Prasar Bharati Corporation is entirely sustained by the Government; and



(e) If so, whether the proposal for taxing Prasar Bharati will only meet the academic satisfaction?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Under Section 22 of Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, Prasar Bharati is exempted from income tax or any other tax in respect of any income, profit or gain, accruing or arising out of the Fund of the Corporation or any amount received by them.

(b) and (c) In the Union Budget of 2002-03, it has been proposed to withdraw the tax exemption given to Prasar Bharati.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. However, Prasar Bharati is predominantly funded (to the extent of approximately 60% to 70%) by the Government.

#### **Petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies in Tamil Nadu**

5673. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol/diesel outlets and LPG agencies lying pending for allotments as on date in Tamil Nadu, location-wise;

(b) the details of petrol/diesel outlets and LPG agencies which were awarded but could not be opened due to certain reasons in Tamil Nadu, location-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to invite fresh applications for the allotment of those petrol/diesel outlets and LPG agencies; and

(d) if so, the time by which those retail outlets and agencies are to be awarded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) As on 1.4.2002, there were 119 retail outlet dealerships (petrol/diesel pumps) and 196 LPG distributorships lying pending for allotment in the State of Tamil Nadu. Also, there were 11 and 6 cases respectively in the State, where retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships could not be commissioned after these were allotted.

(c) and (d) It may not be possible to indicate the time frame by which the retail outlet dealerships and LPG distributorships are likely to be allotted as the process of selection of dealers/distributors for the locations included in the respective marketing plans, involves issue of advertisements by the oil companies, scrutiny of the

applications, interviews by the Dealer Selection Boards, preparation of merit panels, field investigation, issue of Letters of Intent, etc.

And, in those cases, where commissioning of the allotted dealerships/distributorships could not take place owing to certain reasons, the commissioning can be done after the bottlenecks are removed.

#### **Recruitment Policy**

5674. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present recruitment policy in armed forces;

(b) whether Army is conducting examination either in Hindi or in English to the lower cadres posts like soldier;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to change a policy of recruitment;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have received any representations from some States for a change in the policy;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (g) Presently, the recruitment to the lower ranks of Navy and Air Force is being done on All India Merit basis through a system of applications. In Army, recruitment is carried out through Open Recruitment Rallies. In all the three wings of Armed Forces the examinations for recruitment of Lower Ranks are conducted bilingually i.e. either in Hindi or in English.

The present system is working well and the Government is not contemplating any change in the present policy in this regard.

A request to initiate appropriate policy change to conduct Army recruitment tests in regional languages was received from the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. The request was examined and a reply thereto has already been sent stating that the Test papers for recruitment of Lower Ranks in the Army are set in English and Hindi and are of elementary standard which even an individual with average knowledge can pass. In addition the questions are explained to the candidates in the regional languages by employing teachers proficient in the local languages and the candidates are

allowed additional time for this purpose. The language option for induction into Army is decided on the basis of the needs of day to day functioning and training requirements. Lack of knowledge of English and Hindi is thus likely to lead to a communication gap.

[Translation]

#### **Import of Crude Oil by Private Companies**

5675. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether private sector companies have not been permitted to import petroleum products including crude oil despite withdrawal of price control by the Government;

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

(c) the reasons for which control is still exercised over this industry; and

(d) the time by which this industry is likely to be made free from control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) As per the current EXIM Policy 2002-2007 effective 1.4.2002 crude oil is freely importable. As regards petroleum products, import of Motor Spirit (MS) (all types), Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), High Speed Diesel (HSD), Natural Gas liquid (NGL), Light Diesel Oil (LDO) etc. are allowed through Indian Oil Corporation Limited as State Trading Enterprise. All other petroleum products are freely importable.

(c) With the creation of additional refining capacity there is exportable surplus of HSD, MS and ATF in the country. Further, presently no company other than the domestic producers of these products have marketing rights for transportation fuels.

(d) No decision has been taken as yet.

[English]

#### **Exploration of Oil and Gas in West Bengal**

5676. SHRIMATI MINATI SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether researches were made towards availability of improved quality of oil and natural gas at thirteen places in the country including West Bengal by ONGC;

(b) if so, whether digging in North and South 24 Parganas of West Bengal has given credible evidence of availability of oil and natural gas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Out of 26 sedimentary basins in India, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has explored and tested 19 basins, including those in the State of West Bengal for their hydrocarbon potential by seismic survey and/or drilling. ONGC has established commercial production in 7 basins in date. At present, ONGC is engaged in active hydrocarbon exploration in 16 basins.

(b) ONGC has drained seven exploratory wells in South 24 Parganas area of West Bengal. In addition, one exploratory well was drilled by Indo Stanvac Petroleum Project (ISPP) in this area. No exploratory well was drilled by ONGC in North 24 Parganas area.

(c) There is no indication of hydrocarbons in the wells drilled by ONGC except some minor indication of gas with some oil and water on testing the well, Golf Green-1. The well drilled by ISPP also proved to be dry.

#### **LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps to SCs in Uttaranchal and Andhra Pradesh**

5677. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) the number of LPG connections made available to the consumers in Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal during the last three years alongwith percentage of increase therein year-wise.

(b) the number of LPG dealers and petrol pumps operating in each district of these States and out of them given to SCs ; and

(c) the details of marketing plan for LPG and other petroleum products for Andhra Pradesh and Uttaranchal for 2002-2003 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) had released the LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh & Uttaranchal during the last three years as under :-

| Year    | A.P   | Uttaranchal<br>(Figures in Lakh) |
|---------|-------|----------------------------------|
| 1999-00 | 11.83 | -                                |
| 2000-01 | 14.10 | 0.21                             |
| 2001-02 | 09.42 | 0.59                             |

(b) As on 1.4.2002, OMCs were operating 695 LPG distributors including 64 of SC category in Andhra Pradesh and 111 including 4 LPG distributors of SC category in Uttaranchal. Similarly, 1478 Retail Outlets (ROs) including 99 of SC category were operating in Andhra Pradesh and 211 ROs including 13 of SC category in Uttaranchal.

(c) OMCs have not finalised the Marketing Plans for LPG and RO dealerships for the year 2002-2003 in respect of any of the State in the country.

#### **Supply of ATF by Public Sector Undertakings**

5678. SHRI Y. V. RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the monopoly of Public Sector Oil Companies from supply of Aviation Turbine fuel is likely to be phased out;

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

(c) the strategies being adopted by the Public Sector Oil Companies in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) has been de-regulated with effect from 01.04.2001. Currently the three Oil PSUs namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited are marketing ATF in India. M/s. Reliance Petroleum Limited, a private Limited Company has also been authorised to market ATF at 102 airports, with effect from 07.12.2001.

(c) In view of dismantling of APM and decontrol on ATF, the Oil PSUs have agreed to continue product and facility sharing arrangement to safeguard their business interests.

#### **Changes in Anti-Defection Law**

5679. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received spate of representations to bring changes in the anti-defection law;

(b) If so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the loopholes in the existing anti-defection law have been assessed; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Holding of Meeting through Video-Conferencing**

5680. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has asked the Institute of Company Secretaries to examine the possibility of holding Board Meetings through Video-Conferencing;

(b) whether the legal framework for this concept has been finalised;

(c) the time by which the Government propose to allow such board meetings; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in implementing this suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) to (d) In principle a decision has been taken to allow Board Meetings through use of Electronic Media including Video-Conferencing. The Institute of Company Secretaries had been involved in the consultations. A final shape has not yet been given to the proposed changes.

[Translation]

#### **Price Fixation of Petroleum Products**

5681. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the authority which would exercise control on price fixation of petroleum products;

(b) whether the Government have granted permission to the Reliance Company to fill its oil tankers from the depots (terminals) of Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum and also to fix prices of diesel and petrol; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Consequent upon the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism, the pricing of petroleum products, except for PDS kerosene and domestic LPG, have become market determined with effect from 1st April 2002.

(b) No permission has been granted by the Government to the Reliance Company to fill its oil tankers from the depots (terminals) of Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.

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

#### **Explosion in Jaisalmer**

5682. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some jawans were killed and others sustained injuries in the explosion occurred in Jaisalmer of Rajasthan six month back;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed and injured therein;

(c) whether the Government have held any probe into the matter hitherto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) The figures of Jawans who have died or have sustained injuries as a result of mine explosions or explosion of Improvised Explosive Devices are not maintained on a state-wise basis. However, as per available records the Army Headquarters has informed that 61 Army personnel were killed and 159 were wounded due to mine accidents and Improvised Explosive Device explosions during the last 6 months (1st October 2001 to 31st March 2002).

(c) and (d) Initial high level inquiries revealed that the mine laying operations were carried out in adverse climatic and terrain conditions like night laying, fog, etc. Due to such constraints certain accidents could possibly be ascribed to human error. In certain cases, mines and fuzes held in inventory for a long period, did not perform satisfactorily. The Government have initiated steps to ensure that new mines and fuzes are introduced to replace the old inventories.

#### **Non-Telecasting of News Bulletins in Bihar**

5683. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether daily news bulletins are not telecast regularly from Shekhpura, Lakhisarai and Sikandra Doordarshan Kendras of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for regular telecast of daily news bulletins in Hindi from the said Kendras?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that Shekhpura, Lakhisarai and Sikandra are not Doordarshan Kendras. These are only Low Power relay centres. Regional news bulletins put out by Regional News Unit and national news bulletins from Delhi are relayed by all Low Power Transmitters.

[English]

#### **Licence Fee for Railway Land**

5684. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Administration's failure, even after a lapse of six years, to execute an agreement and to raise the bills for the licence fee for railway land provided for siding to Maruti Udyog Limited, has caused a loss of Rs. 1.15 crores to the Railways till the end of March 2001;

(b) whether the Comptroller and Auditors General of India has commented upon this lapse in his report for the year 2000-01; and

(c) if so, the summary of the CAG's report and the Government's reply thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

### Hindon Airforce Station

5685. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news items, "Agnikand Se Hindan Vayu Sena Kendra Ki Suraksha par Prashan Chinah", appearing in 'Rashtriya Sahara', New Delhi dated March 16, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the number of fighter planes hit by birds at Hindan Air Force Station so far;

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to shift meat exporting industries away from Air Force Station, Hindon; and

(e) the new steps propose to be taken by the Government for tightening security at the said Air Force Station?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was an incident of grass catching fire. However, there was no loss of property.

(c) There have been 07 Cat-1 aircraft accidents due to Bird Hit in the last 20 years at Air Force Station, Hindan. 59 aircraft have had minor damages due to Bird Hit in the same period.

(d) The matter has been taken up with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to resolve the issue.

(e) Adequate steps have been taken to enhance the security of Air Force Station, Hindan. However, the details can not be divulged in national interest.

### Misuse of Railway Complimentary Passes

5686. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railway complimentary passes are being misused;

(b) the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check such misuse and to recover the amount equal to the cost of such passes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) A few cases of misuse have come to notice.

(b) and (c) Regular checks are conducted by the Anti-fraud and Ticket Checking Squads in association with the Vigilance and Police both in trains and Reservation Offices to prevent misuse of railway Complimentary Passes and the same are confiscated in case of any irregularity. In addition, ticket checking staff have instructions to check the travelling authority including passes in a polite and courteous manner so as to ensure that there is no misuse of such passes.

[English]

### Gas Reserves In South Gujarat Offshore

5687. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new survey in South Gujarat Offshore gas reserve has shown existence of more gas reserve there that it was estimated earlier;

(b) if so, the details of old survey and that of new survey; and;

(c) the time by which gas is likely to be extracted therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Exploration and Development work by Private/Joint Venture Companies in the various offshore areas of South Gujarat have resulted in augmentation of reserves in Hazira field, which has been found to be extending to offshore areas. Further, 5 oil and/or gas discoveries in CB-OS-2 block and oil discovery in CB-OS-1 block have resulted in augmentation of reserve base which is to be precisely estimated.

(b) At the end of the VIII Plan, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) had acquired 58357 Line Kilometres (LK) of 2D and 28907 LK of 3D seismic data in South Gujarat offshore area, covering the Tapti-Daman sector of Mumbai offshore, Gulf of Kambhat and Saurashtra offshore.

During the IX Plan, till 31.03.2002, an additional 2180 LK of 2D and 95318 LK of 3D seismic data were acquired in this area by ONGC. Also, in the CB-OS/2 block, 3137 LK of 2D seismic data and 344 sq. km. of 3D seismic data have been acquired.

(c) Gas is already being produced from Hazira field. Production from Lakshmi Gas field is likely to commence by August, 2002. Plans for production from other discoveries will be firmed up after appraising these discoveries.

Note : Sq.km. = Square Kilometre; 2D = Two Dimensional; 3D = Three Dimensional

#### Auditing Firms

5688. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, " Regulatory norms for auditing firms soon" appearing in 'Indian Express' dated March 5, 2002;

(b) If so, whether the present system of auditing firms is on the anvil of a drastic charge;

(c) whether there is a proposal to take disciplinary action against the accounts reports which are qualified by the auditing firms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No specific proposal is under consideration at present.

(c) and (d) Action is taken for specific violations, if any, of the Companies Act, if it comes to notice.

#### Controversy on Operatorship of Oilfields

5689. SHRI ANANDRARAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the operatorship committee of various oil-fields in the country has urged the Government to resolve the controversy on the operatorship of the oil-fields;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Advertisements Released to Newspapers/Magazines

5690. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of listed newspapers/magazines were removed for releasing advertisements by D.A.V.P. between March 2000 to March 2001; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) and (b) Guidelines for scrutiny of newspapers for empanelment/rate renewal with the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) for the year 2000-2001, were formulated by the Empanelment Committee. These guidelines basically laid down norms regarding reasonable standard of printing, which newspapers seeking empanelment/rate renewal with DAVP should follow, in addition to complying with provision of Press & Registration of Books Act, 1867. These norms inter-alia, included circulation declared established by the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI), complete documents, standard of printing, non-repetition of contents and non-reproduction of contents from other publications. As against 5190 newspapers/periodicals on DAVP panel during the year 1999-2000; 2519 newspapers/periodicals were there during the year 2000-2001.

[English]

#### Projects Undertaken by IRCON in Indonesia

5691. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the IRCON has agreed to build railway line projects in Indonesia;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the foreign exchange likely to be earned by the IRCON from the said projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Ministry of Communication of Republic of Indonesia alongwith South Sumatera Provincial Government (SSPG) PT. Bukit Asam, MMTC Limited & IRCON International Ltd. for taking up projects in south Sumatera Province of Indonesia, for design, development and construction of major infrastructure & port development work, which include :

- Major infrastructure and development works for rail link to Tanjung Api Api; and
- Port terminal at Tanjung Api Api.

The total cost of the project is likely to be about US\$ 260 million.

#### **Pulling out of IOCL from Pipeline Project**

5692. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited has pulled out of the race for the Rs.2200 crore Central India pipeline project;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of competing bidders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Indian Oil Corporation Limited have not participated in the pre-qualification bid for implementation of Rs.2200 crore Central India pipeline project on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) basis. The IOCL still continues to hold 26% equity in the Petronet Central India Limited (JV Company) and has not withdrawn from the JV company.

(b) IOCL did not get guarantee about the offtake agreements for the product by Petronet CI Limited.

(c) The following are the competing bidders left :

(i) M/s. Reliance Petroleum Limited (RPL), Mumbai.

(ii) Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T), Chennai.

(iii) Consortium consisting of the following members :-

(1) M/s. OAO Stroytransgaz, Russia (Leader of the Consortium)

(2) M/s. OAO Transneft, Russia

(3) M/s. SUN Securities Ltd, Jersey, Channel Islands.

#### **Procurement of Sleeper**

5693. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Forest Research Institute (FRI) Dehradun has expressed their reservations about the quality of "Balau" sleepers to be imported from Malaysia in May, 1987 and advised the Railway Board to procure small quantity for trial but the Railway Board ignored the advice of FRI and resorted to bulk procurement of 2,69,690 wooden sleepers worth Rs. 20.03 crore resulted into total loss of money;

(b) whether the matter has been brought to the notice of the Railway Board in May 2001 but their reply is still awaited by the CAG; and

(c) if so, the reasons for ignoring the FRI recommendations and not taking stern action against the firm as pointed out by the CAG in its report 9 of 2002 than only banning business with it for just three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (c) No sir. In response to a specific reference from Ministry of Railways, in Feb. 1986, Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun advised that Balau was described as very hard, heavy, strong and durable wood and superior to India's Sal (Shorea Robusta) in all respects and the wood being stronger than Indian Sal wood from strength point of view was suitable for Railway sleepers. Later in May, 1987 it also apprised Railways of certain inherent drawbacks of Balau wood such as, it was liable to splitting on drying and, checking, splitting and surface cracking during air seasoning under Malaysian conditions and it recommended procurement of a small quantity for trial purpose. As the FRI did not conduct any tests on the Balau timber itself and its advice was based on published literature, Indian Railways also obtained the first hand information from Director, Civil Engineering, Ministry of Transport, Malaysian Railways (PKTM) who recommended

use of Balau wood for Railway sleepers as (PKTM) had been using this wood on their system based on recommendations of FRI and PKTM Indian Railways decided to import a small quantity of 41,399 cum. of Balau wood for Railway sleepers. This quantity was considered adequate for conducting field trial in varying field conditions on different Zonal Railways.

In fact, the decision of importing Balau wood was not questionable as such, the real problem arose when the supplier did not supply Balau wood and instead sleepers made of Kampas wood were supplied. In respect of supply made by M/s. Madhya Pradesh Export Corporation (MPEC), the matter was investigated by Railway Board Vigilance and CBI. The concerned Railway officials as well as State Government officials have been taken up under DAR for the malpractices. On the recommendation of CBI, proceedings against MPEC for banning of business dealings for a period of 5 years have also been initiated. Similarly, M/s. B.N. Padia's case was investigated by zonal Railway Vigilance and they were blacklisted for indulging in malpractices and the concerned Railway officials were taken up under DAR.

(b) The C&AG's report has been presented to the Parliament (Lok Sabha) only on 22.3.2002. As per extant norms, concerned Ministries are given a time of 4 months to prepare Action Taken Note on the various paragraphs for consideration of the C&AG. Ministry of Railways will prepare Draft Action Taken Note on paragraphs concerned to it and submit the same to the office of C&AG within the given time frame for consideration of C&AG.

[Translation]

#### Oil Exploration in Madhya Pradesh

5694. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether wells for oil and gas are being dug by ONGC at various places in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether digging of wells is yielding any positive results; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has drilled four wells and at

present drilling the fifth Exploratory well, Kharkhari-1, in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c) One of the four drilled wells showed occurrence of non-commercial gas while the other three did not give any encouraging results. Well Kharkhari-1 which was spudded on 11th March, 2002 with a target depth of 3800m is currently under drilling and is yet to reach the objective depth. The results from this well will be known only after reaching the targeted depth.

[English]

#### IRCTC Ltd.

5695. SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives with which the Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. was set up;

(b) whether the Corporation has achieved the desired results;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of functions of the Corporation, State-wise zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) The objective of the Corporation is to professionalise and upgrade the management of catering and hospitality services on Indian Railways, development of rail-based tourism and marketing of passenger related value added services under a corporate entity .

(b) and (c) The Corporation has just started functioning and it is too early to assess its performance.

(d) The Corporation functions on all India basis and not state-wise or zone-wise.

#### Restructuring of SAIL

5696. SHRI SUNIL KHAN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have restructured SAIL through formation of two strategic business units based on product profile;

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



(c) whether Central Marketing Organisation of SAIL is likely to be bifurcated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) and (b) The Financial and Business Restructuring Plan of SAIL includes formation of product-based Strategic Business Units (SBUs) to ensure focused planning for production and marketing so as to increase competitiveness. Accordingly SAIL has initiated the process for formation of these units.

(c) and (d) Central Marketing Organisation of SAIL has already been internally re-organised into 'Longs' and 'Flats' for over a year to improve marketing efficiency.

#### **Bogibeel Bridge Project**

5697. SHRI M.K. SUBBA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct a rail bridge at Bogibeel;

(b) if so, whether survey has been conducted by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the estimated cost of the said project; and

(d) the time by which the said project is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) The work of rail-cum-Road bridge at Bogibeel has been included in the Budget. The Final Location Survey has already been completed. As per the survey report, cost of construction of this bridge has been assessed as about Rs. 1760 cr.

(d) The work has recently been taken up and is likely to be completed in a period of 6 years subject to availability of resources.

#### **Relationship between Auditing Firms and Companies**

5698. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has set up a

Committee to work out regulatory norms to track relationship between auditing firms and companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the salient recommendations of this Committee?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

#### **Construction of Runway**

5699. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government for approval of construction of runway of 10,000 feet at Vizag Airport by the Defence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of the request; and

(d) the action likely to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Airport Authority of India have prepared a Project Report which is under examination of Ministry of Defence. Issues regarding acquisition of land, approach funnel chart and Master Plan have been resolved.

#### **Launching of AIR-DTH Digital Service**

5700. SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of Direct-to-Home digital satellite broadcasting service being launched by AIR;

(b) whether there are only 25,000 digital receivers and the AIR authorities are hopeful that with the indigenous production of low cost digital sets, the new technology will soon become popular;

(c) if so, the extent to which the new technology will improve the audio quality; and

(d) the time by which a final decision is likely to be

taken to cover the larger area under the broadcasting net?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) :** (a) The Direct-to-Home (DTH) digital satellite Broadcast service launched by All India Radio has several features like transmission in digital mode via the satellite directly to receivers/listeners, wider reach, high quality audio etc. Round the clock programme, originated from All India Radio, Delhi is being broadcast on this platform. Regional programmes are also proposed to be provided from this platform.

(b) and (c) As per information given by Prasar Bharati, around 25,000 digital receivers are available at present. It is expected that with the indigenous production of low cost digital receivers, the new technology will become popular. Depending upon the band-width used for each channel, the audio quality varies from AM/FM like to CD like.

(d) The service is available to listeners in Indian subcontinent and South Asia through Asiastar satellite. At present, there is no proposal to further augment the coverage area.

**Assistance for Setting up Mobile Octane Testing Centres**

5701. **SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :**

**SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA :**

**SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :**

**SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL :**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of testing laboratories for detecting adulteration of petroleum products in Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government of Gujarat has urged financial assistance for establishment of stationery as well as mobile Octane Testing Centres and Laboratories in Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government on the request of the State Government?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) :** (a) There are 9

Testing Laboratories for detecting adulteration of petroleum products in Gujarat.

(b) to (d) Government has not received any request from Government of Gujarat for financial assistance for establishment of stationery as well as mobile Octane Testing Centres and Laboratories in Gujarat.

**Calcutta Metro Track**

5702. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of accidents in Calcutta Metro Track since its inception to this date;

(b) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Metro Transport Authority to prevent the accidents;

(c) whether high powered track is also causing such accidents;

(d) if so, whether the coaches and carriages are safe and accident proof in the track; and

(e) If not, the reasons and remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) :** (a) There have been 6 accidents since the inception of Calcutta Metro.

(b) (i) The alignment of track in the tunnel has been adjusted.

(ii) Security at the car-shed were tightened up.

(iii) Replacement of High speed circuit breakers in motor coaches of Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited has been completed.

(iv) The testing of power cable insulation is now done at intervals of 6 months during half yearly schedule of the rakes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

**Diversion of Funds**

5703. **SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :**

**SHRI Y.V. RAO :**

SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned, "5 cr. for jawans goes to school for bigshots", appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated March 31, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the persons held responsible for this diversion of funds meant for welfare of jawans; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) The Government is aware about the newspaper report captioned "5 cr. for jawans goes to school for bigshots" published in the Indian Express dated March 31, 2002. The allegation made in the newspaper report is, however, not based on facts.

An amount of Rs. 5 cr. were was allocated to the 'Civil Services Society', which stands registered with the Registrar of Societies, Delhi, as Grants-in-Aid in March 1996 from the trade surplus of the Canteen Stores Department for part financing the establishment of a school for the children of officials of the Armed Forces, All India and Central Services, Public Sector Undertakings and the general public. Out of the net annual profits generated by the Canteen Stores Department, 50% of the funds are deposited in the Consolidated Fund of India and the remaining 50% is distributed as Grants-in-Aid to the Armed Forces, Inter Service Organizations and various establishments of the Ministry of Defence including civilian organisations as welfare measure.

As far as the grants allocated to the Civil Services Society in 1996 is concerned the same was approved, by the Competent Authority, after due scrutiny of the project report and securing an undertaking that the school shall reserve 25% of the seats for the children of the personnel of the Armed Forces or other entitled categories. The school is functioning and as such the question of taking action against any person does not arise.

[Translation]

#### **Demand of Diesel**

5704. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the

Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the present demand of diesel in agriculture, transport and industrial sectors;

(b) the extent to which the indigenous sources contribute to meet the present demand for diesel;

(c) whether there is any possibility for the country to become self-reliant in the field of diesel production in the near future; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Estimated Sector-wise share of various sectors inclusive of both retail and direct sales is estimated to be as under :-

| Sector                  | Estimated % Share |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Transport               | 58.5              |
| Agriculture             | 19.8              |
| Power Generation        | 6.8               |
| Industrial Applications | 8.3               |
| Others/Miscellaneous    | 6.6               |

(b) to (d) Country is presently self-sufficient in meeting diesel demand. As per Revised Estimates (R.E) for 2001-2002, against Estimated Demand of 37,100 TMT, production is estimated to be 40,478 TMT.

[English]

#### **Overhauling the Companies Act, 1956**

5705. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up Advisory Committee for overhauling the Companies Act 1956 to make user-friendly and practical; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) An Advisory Committee has been constituted for advising on such matters

arising out of the administration of the Companies Act, 1956, as may be referred to it by the Government.

[Translation]

### **Programmes on Prominent Tribal Freedom Fighters**

5706. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to telecast/produce any serial based on the life of prominent freedom fighters especially on tribal community in the country, particularly in Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Doordarshan Kendras have telecast or produced any serial based on the life of freedom fighters during the last three years, Doordarshan Kendra-wise, State-wise, year-wise particularly in Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to telecast/produce serial based on the life of freedom fighters/tribal freedom fighters/tribal community in the country, serial-wise, State-wise, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

### **Cities not Linked with Railways**

5707. SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH :

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has made any study or assessment where districts and important cities are still not linked by railway line;

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

(c) whether the Government have received any such proposals from the State Governments and other public bodies in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the programme chalked by the Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (e) Most of the important towns and district headquarters in the country have been provided with access to rail services. The expansion of the rail network is a continuous and need based exercise that is undertaken by taking an integrated view of the nation's requirement and keeping the overall resource availability in mind. While doing so, all representations/proposals received from the State Governments, public representatives, user agencies, and other public interest groups/individuals are also kept in mind. At present about 8500 Kms. of new rail lines are sanctioned at a cost of approx. Rs.27,650 Crores.

### **Privatisation of Ordnance Factories**

5708. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a firm decision not to privatise the Ordnance factories as reported in the Times of India, New Delhi dated April 8, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to redress the problems being faced by the Ordnance factory workers;

(d) whether the Government have given any assurance to ordnance factory workers in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) No proposal for privatization of Ordnance Factories is under consideration of the Government.

(c) to (e) An institutionalized system exists in Ordnance Factories for redressal of problems faced by the workers under the Joint Consultative Machinery of the Government. Depending on the dimension and complexity, the problems are discussed at the appropriate forum to resolve the problems through mutual consultations and by Government approvals wherever necessary.

[Translation]

### **Power Projects**

5709. SHRI NAMDEO HARBARI DIWATHE :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the status of various power projects which are at present on the verge of completion, State-wise;

(b) whether the work on some of the projects have been stopped/suspended recently;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time likely to be taken to restart the work and complete those projects?

POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The State-wise status of power projects which are programmed to be commissioned during 2002-03 is given in the statement enclosed.

The construction work on Dabhol CCGT Phase II, 1444 MW of M/s. Dabhol Power Company have been suspended since June 17, 2001 due to dispute between Maharashtra State Electricity Board and Dabhol Power Company. In view of the intention of the offshore sponsors to exit from the project, IDBI and other lenders are presently facilitating the bid process for sale of interest of offshore sponsors of the project. IDBI have informed that the Indian and offshore lenders are at present in consultation to finalise further bid process and initiate steps for restructuring.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF

#### Statement

*State-wise status of power projects which are programmed to be commissioned during 2002-03*

| Name of the Project             | Capacity (MW) | Commissioning Schedule, as now expected | Status   |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---|--|
| 1                               | 2             | 3                                       | 4  |
| <b>Delhi</b>                    |               |   |  |
| Pragati CCGT                    |               |   |  |
| GT-2                            | 104.6         | 05/02                                   | GT-2 received at site, erection in progress.   |
| ST                              | 121.2         | 11/02                                   | ST erection in progress  |
| <b>Rajasthan</b>                |               |   |  |
| Ramgarh CCGT St. II             |               |   |  |
| GT-2                            | 37.5          | 06/02                                   | GT/ST foundations completed. GT erection in progress.  |
| ST                              | 37.8          | 12/02                                   |  |
| <b>Gujarat</b>                  |               |   |  |
| Akrimota Lignite Based TPP U-1  | 125           | 01/03                                   | TG erection commenced in April, 2002. Boiler Hydraulic test is expected in 06/02.  |
| <b>Maharashtra</b>              |               |   |  |
| Dabhol CCGT Ph. II Block I & II | 1444          | Uncertain                               | The project was getting ready for synchronization when the work was stopped in June, 2001. Critical area is disputed between MSEB and the Dabhol Power Company     |
| <b>A&amp;N Islands</b>          |               |   |  |
| Bambooflat DGPP                 |               |   |  |
| DG-1                            | 5             | 05/02                                   | All four DG Sets erected. Cooling Tower erection works to be completed. Critical areas are readiness of evacuation system and rectification of deviations from PPA |
| DG-2                            | 5             | 05/02                                   |  |
| DG-3                            | 5             | 08/02                                   |  |
| DG-4                            | 5             | 08/02                                   |  |
| Private Sector                  |               |   |  |

| 1                                   | 2     | 3       | 4   |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|---|
| <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>               |       |         |   |
| Simhadri TPS U-2, Central Sector    | 500   | 12/02   | TG boxed up in Feb. 02. Boiler light up is expected in 8/02. Critical area is readiness of power evacuation system.   |
| Peddapuram CCGT, Private Sector     | 78    | 06/02   | Turbine erection commenced in 12/2001. TG box up is expected in 04/02. Critical areas are escrow agreement, financial closure and firm allocation of natural gas.   |
| <b>Karnataka</b>                    |       |         |   |
| Raichur TPP U-7, State Sector       | 210   | 02/03   | TG erection commenced in 12/2001. Boiler drum lifted in 10/2001. TG box up is expected in 09/02.  |
| <b>Tamil Nadu</b>                   |       |         |   |
| Neyveli FST Extn., Central Sector   | 210   | 6/2002  | TG erection commenced in 08/01 (Unit-2).  |
| U-1                                 | 210   | 12/2002 | Acid cleaning of boiler (Unit-1) and boiler hydraulic test (Unit-2) is expected in 04/02.   |
| U-2                                 |       |         |   |
| Valuthar CCGT, State Sector         |       |         |   |
| GT                                  | 60    | 05/02   | GT : Cranking is expected in 04/02.   |
| ST                                  | 34    | 08/02   | ST : Hydraulic Test expected in 05/02.  |
| Neyveli TPS Zero Unit               | 250   | 09/02   | Boiler hydraulic test completed in Dec. 01.   |
| Private Sector                      |       |         | TG boxed up in Jan. 02. Critical area is readiness of lignite transportation system and ash handling system.  |
| <b>Manipur</b>                      |       |         |   |
| Leimakhong DGPP,                    |       |         |   |
| State Sector                        |       |         |   |
| U-4                                 | 6     | 4/02    | Units synchronized on 10th, 16th and 12th April, 2002.  |
| U-5                                 | 6     | 4/02    |   |
| U-6                                 | 6     | 4/02    |   |
| <b>Tripura</b>                      |       |         |   |
| Rohkia GT Extn., State Sector       | 21    | 06/02   | GT : Cranking was done on 30.3.02. Generator transformer had fallen down during transit and the damages are being assessed at site. Critical areas are readiness of gas pipeline and generator transformer. |
| U-7                                 |       |         |   |
| Baramura GT. Extn., GT State Sector | 21    | 09/02   | GT Foundation work commenced in 11/01. GT erection expected to commence in 05/02.   |
| <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>                |       |         |   |
| Tehri St.I, THDC, Central Sector    | 4x250 | 03/2003 | After tunnel closure in June, 01, works in progress at all fronts for commissioning the first unit by March, 2003.  |

| 1                                     | 2     | 3                  | 4  |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--------------------|--|
| <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>                 |       |                    |  |
| Bansagar Tons Ph. II,<br>State Sector | 2x15  | 08/2002            | In Dam, Spillway blocks completed upto crest level. All other civil works and erection in progress.  |
| Bansagar Tons Ph.III,<br>State Sector | 3x20  | 08/2002            | Unit erection under completion stage.  |
| <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>                 |       |                    |  |
| Srisaillam LBPH,<br>U-4&5             | 6x150 | 10/2002<br>02/2003 | Civil works almost complete. Electro Mechanical works in progress.   |
| <b>Bihar</b>                          |       |                    |  |
| Chandil LBC                           | 2x4   | 12/2002            | All civil works almost completed. TG Set received from BHEL. Boxing up of Unit I completed. For U-2, lowering of rotor is held up for want of thrust bolt from BHEL. |
| <b>Orissa</b>                         |       |                    |  |
| Potteru, State Sector                 | 2x3   | 09/2002            | Civil works almost completed. Electro-Mechanical works are also almost completed.  |
| <b>Nagaland</b>                       |       |                    |  |
| Likim Ro, State Sector                | 3x8   | 06/2002            | Civil works completed. Unit erection almost completed.   |

[English]

**Closure of LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps in Tamil Nadu**

5710. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) The details of Petrol and Diesel outlets and LPG agencies lying closed in Tamil Nadu, location-wise and the category in which those retail outlets were previously awarded;

(b) whether there is any proposal to restart those Petrol/Diesel outlets and LPG agencies in a nearby location or in the same location; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI. SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Seven retail outlet dealerships and seven LPG distributorships, allotted under different categories, are lying closed in the State of Tamil Nadu. These dealerships and distributorships are lying closed on account of various reasons, such as pending court cases, action initiated/contemplated by the respective oil companies

in cases of irregularities committed by the dealers/distributors in operation of the agencies, site problem, etc. Resumption of operation of each of these dealerships/distributorships, either at the old site or at a new site, will depend on the merit of each case.

**Power Generation from Fossil Fuels**

5711. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to put a cap/limit on power generated from fossil fuel in the country;

(b) if so, the installed capacity of power generation from fossil fuel is approximately 73,000 MW;

(c) whether the Government propose to reduce dependence on power from fossil fuel to protect the environment; and

(d) if so, the details of plans to encourage power generation from hydro sources during the 10th Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) Electricity generation has come to be increasingly dependent on thermal generation on account of availability of abundant

coal and lignite reserves as hydro and nuclear generation have not kept pace with the plans due to various reasons. The total installed generation capacity in the country (as on 31st March, 2002) is 1,04,917.5 MW. It comprises 74,429 MW of fossil fuel (lignite, coal, gas and diesel) based generation.

The Government of India is already giving boost to non-fossil fuel based generation. The likely capacity addition through Hydro Power generation in the 10th Plan is 17311 MW. With this hydro capacity addition, the hydro-thermal ratio is envisaged to improve from the present level of 26:74 to 29:71 by the end of 10th Plan. Further, in order to control adverse effects of fossil fuel based generation on environment in the country, the Government is promoting renewable energy sources, encouraging adoption of clean coal technologies like super critical boilers and IGCC, promoting efficient use of energy in various sectors of economy and promoting efficiency improvement in the thermal power plants and reduction of transmission and distribution losses through renovation and modernisation and distribution reforms.

[Translation]

#### **Setting up of Petrol/Diesel Pumps by Private Companies**

5712. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have given approval for the setting up of diesel and petrol pumps in private sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which such an approval is likely to be granted and the States in which petrol/diesel pumps are to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) Government have laid down the guidelines for granting authorisation to market transportation fuels namely Motor Spirit, High Speed Diesel and Aviation Turbine Fuel to the new entrants including private sector vide its resolution dated 8th March, 2002. Necessary permission to market transportation fuels to new companies through their own Retail Outlets will be provided subject to fulfilment of the criteria by them as per these guidelines. So far, Government have not granted the permission to any private company for marketing transportation fuels.

[English]

#### **Modernisation of Barauni Oil Refinery**

5713. SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any scheme was formulated for the implementation of new system, modernization of existing machinery and for improving the quality of production in Barauni Oil Refinery;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ensure implementation of various schemes in the refinery; and
- (d) if so, the amount spent on the modernization on the refinery during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Barauni Refinery expansion project including installation of Fluidised Catalytic Cracking Unit and Diesel Hydrotreating Unit and associated facilities, approved at a cost of Rs. 1803 crore, is scheduled to be commissioned by May - June, 2002. Another project viz motor spirit quality upgradation project was approved in principle by the Navaratna Board in December, 2000 subject to final approval after environment clearance and also Government's road map for adoption of Euro norms.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The amount spent on Barauni Refinery expansion project during the last three years is Rs. 1304 crore.

#### **Non-Revision of Charges**

5714. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether non-revision of charges in respect of electric locomotives used for shunting wagons in colliery sidings of Bilaspur-Katni section of the South Eastern Railway, caused a loss of Rs. 25.00 crores to the Railways during 2000-01;
- (b) whether due to similar lapse of non-recovery of shunting charges by the Central Railway for facilities provided at Chandrapur Thermal Power Station during 2000-01 caused a loss of Rs. 17.50 crores to the Railways;



(c) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India has commented adversely on the said lapse in his report for the year ending March 2001;

(d) If so, whether any reply has been furnished by the Railways in response thereto; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) to (c) Comptroller and Auditor General of India has, vide para nos. 2.1.1 & 2.1.2 in his Report No.9 of 2002, mentioned about loss of Rs.24.67 crores and Rs.17.58 crores towards siding/shunting charges on South Eastern Railway and Central Railway respectively.

(d) and (e) The Report is under examination and the comments of the concerned Zonal Railways have been called for taking necessary action as per extant rules.

[Translation]

#### Late Arrival and Departure of Trains

5715. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State :

(a) whether late arrival and departure of trains has adversely affected the safety of passengers;

(b) If so, the details of trains which could not maintain the punctuality during the last three months along with reasons therefor;

(c) the number of various incidents took place in train during the said period; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure safety of passengers and punctuality of trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Maintenance of law and order and the security of passengers and their belongings in the running trains and railway premises is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway

Police (GRP) which functions under the control of the State Governments. However, information available with this Ministry indicates that 1981 cases of theft of passenger belongings including robbery and dacoity were registered by Government Railway Police during last three months i.e. October to December, 2001.

(d) A statement is attached.

#### Statement

(d) (i) The following steps are being taken to ensure safety of passengers :

1. A non-lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs. 17,000/- crore has been set up for renewal of over aged assets and for safety enhancement works.

2. Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark (FM to FM) track circuiting on entire 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' and 'D Spl.' Routes, where speed is more than 75 kmph. have been completed. Remaining portion of the work is under progress.

3. State of the art technology of Digital Mobile Train Radio Communication has been sanctioned on some important sections for providing duplex radio communication between driver/guard and control.

4. There has been progressive increase in use of Tie Tamping and Ballast Cleaning Machines for track maintenance. Track Renewal Trains are also being used. This gives superior track geometry.

5. For detection of hidden flaws in rails/welds, adequate number of Ultra Sonic Flaw Detectors have been procured. Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars are being procured.

6. At the Rail Rolling Mill at Bhilai, online Ultrasonic Flaw Detection (USFD) and eddy current testing is being done to weed out rail with defects. Vacuum degassing is being done to reduce hydrogen content and thus improve quality of rails. Indian Railways and Bhilai Steel Plant of Steel Authority of India Limited are also planning together to produce longer rails i.e. 26 metre and 65 or 78 metre, instead of the conventional 13 metre length to reduce number of welds in the track.

7. Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation are being upgraded, including use of Simulators for training of drivers.

8. All new coaches are being fitted with Bogie

Mounted Brake System. Maintenance facilities for coaches have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.

9. To improve the crash worthiness of coaches, as an immediate measure, coach interiors are being re-designed with improved fittings and features, which would not cause injury. Simultaneously, the coach body will be re-designed to absorb more impact so as to keep passenger carrying areas intact.

10. To prevent collisions, trials for "Anti-Collision Device" are being done.

(ii) The following steps are being taken to improve the punctuality performance of trains :

1. Intensive, round the clock monitoring of trains at all the three levels viz. Divisional, Zonal Head Quarters and Railway Board.

2. Punctuality drives are being conducted by nominating officials to monitor trains.

3. Running of trains at maximum permissible speed subject to observance of safety limits and speed restriction.

4. Improvement in standard of maintenance to reduce equipment failures.

5. Counseling and motivating staff to ensure punctual running.

6. Liaison with State Government to tackle the Law and Order problems and miscreant activities.

[English]

#### **Plying of 16 more Jan Shatabdis**

5716. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "16 more Jan Shatabdis soon" appearing in the 'Hindu' dated 9 April 2002;

(b) if so, the route identified for plying Jan Shatabdis in the States including Maharashtra; and

(c) the time schedule fixed for introduction of Jan Shatabdis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) 2051/2052 Madgaon-Lokmanya Tilak Terminus Jan Shatabdi has been introduced w.e.f. 16.04.2002. The rest will be introduced during 2002-2003.

#### **Statement**

The following routes have been identified at present for running of the Jan shatabdis :-

- 1 Madgaon-Lokmanya Tilak (T) via Thane, Roha.
- 2 Guwahati- Dimapur via Chaparmukh, Hojai.
- 3 Raigarh-Raipur-Durg via Bilaspur.
- 4 Ahrnedabad-Bhuj via Viramgam, Samakhiali.
- 5 Tata-Ranchi via Muri.
- 6 Bangalore-Hubli via Tamkur, Birur.
- 7 Ernakulam-Trivandrum via Alleppey.
- 8 Kota-Nizamuddin via Sawalmadhapur.
- 9 Bhubaneswar-Howrah via Balasore.
- 10 Dehradun-New Delhi via Roorkee.
- 11 Howrah-Malda Town via Azimganj, Bandel.
- 12 Varanasi-Lucknow via Pratapgarh.
- 13 Chandigarh-New Delhi via Ambala Cantt, Kurukshetra.
- 14 Chennai Central-Gudur-Vijayawada via Sullurpeta, Gudur.
- 15 Habibganj -Jabalpur via Hoshangabad, Itarsi.
- 16 Katihar-Patna via Mokama, Barauni.

#### **Insurance Policies from LPG Dealers**

5717. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has issued directions to the Oil Companies for getting Insurance Policies from LPG distributors for their domestic Cylinders of 14.2 kg.;

(b) if so, the rate at which the distributors get insurance policy for the cylinder;

(c) whether the insurance premium is being charged at the double of the cost of the cylinder; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) LPG distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are required to take adequate insurance cover for the cylinders as per the Distributorship Agreement. At present, the distributors enter into a comprehensive insurance policy where premium is charged on the basis of tariff value of cylinder or the penal value of the cylinder in their own business interest.

#### **Cheating and Criminal Breach of Trust by Officials of Prasar Bharati**

5718. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a case of cheating and criminal breach of trust has been registered against some officials of Prasar Bharati Corporation and others for causing a loss of Rs. 13.79 crore to the Corporation;

(b) if so, the details of officials held responsible;

(c) the charge under which they are booked;

(d) the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps being taken to check such frauds in future?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) No such case has been registered against the officials of Prasar Bharati. However, a case of cheating and criminal breach of trust has been registered against some private persons by Prasar Bharati.

(b) to (e) Do not arise

#### **Investment Plan by Container Corporation of India**

5719. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Container Corporation of India plans to invest around Rs. 1,300 crore for expanding its operations by 2005;

(b) if so, whether the investment would be made for expansion of terminals and increasing the rolling stock and infotech infrastructure;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which expansion is likely to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) has assessed that its expansion plans would require an expenditure of about Rs. 1,400 crores till Financial Year 2005-06.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The expenditure is proposed to be made in the following areas :

i. Terminal Development Works;

ii. Rolling Stock;

iii. Container acquisition;

iv. Information Technology;

v. Handling equipment etc.

(d) The process has already started.

#### **CBI Raids on Cantonment Board Offices in Secunderabad**

5720. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the findings of the CBI raids on Secunderabad Cantonment Board Offices on a larger scale scandals as reported in the media?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : A team of CBI and the officers of Cantonment Board, Secunderabad, conducted a joint inspection regarding purchase of medicines, etc. by the Cantonment General Hospital authorities. As a result of this inspection, no irregularities have been reported.

#### **Submission of Report on Trade Laws**

5721. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working Group on Trade laws and WTO has submitted its report to his Ministry;

(b) if so, whether the said working group has

suggested reining on the foreign accounting companies which have made backdoor entry into the country in the name of management consultancy;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No working group on "Trade Laws and WTO" has been set up by Department of Company Affairs.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Safety of Railway Passengers**

5722. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has asked the Government to ensure safety of railway passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures, the Government propose to take or have take to ensure safety of passengers from all angles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. A Public Interest Litigation has been filed against Railways in the Supreme Court alleging that adequate attention is not paid by the Railways to measures for safety and modernization. The matter is sub-judice and the Writ Petition is being heard by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(c) The measures being taken by Railways to improve safety are given below :

i) A non-lapsable Special Railway Safety Fund of Rs.17,000 crores has been set up for renewal and replacement of over-aged assets and for safety enhancement works.

ii) Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark (FM to FM) track circuiting on entire 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' and 'DSpl.' routes where speed is more than 75 kmph. have been completed. Remaining portion of the work is under progress.

iii) Auxiliary Warning System for giving advance warning about 'Signal at danger' to the driver of the running

train has been commissioned on Mumbai suburban sections of Mumbai.

iv) A pilot project of ETCS (European Train Control System) on trial basis for Palwal-Mathura section of Central Railway is being launched on trial basis. The tender for the same has been invited.

v) Last vehicle check by Axle Counter have been introduced on over 175 block sections and is being progressively added.

vi) A pilot project of Anti Collision Device (ACD) has been sanctioned for Northern Railway. Trial of prototype ACD equipment has been started. After successful completion of this pilot project, a decision would be taken for its application on other routes of Indian Railways. .

vii) State of the art technology of Digital Mobile Train Radio Communication has been sanctioned on some important sections for providing duplex radio communication between driver/guard and control.

viii) Walkie-talkie sets have been provided to Drivers and Guards of all trains for faster and better means of communication.

ix) Drivers and Guards are also being progressively provided with LED based electronic flashing lamps which have better visibility than the conventional kerosene lit hand signal lamps.

x) There has been progressive increase in use of tie Tamping and ballast cleaning machines for track maintenance. Also, Track Renewal Trains are being used.

xi) For monitoring track geometry and running characteristics of the track, sophisticated track recording cars, oscillograph cars and portable accelerometers are being used

xii) For detection of rail fractures/weld failures, adequate double rail Ultrasonic Flaw detectors have been procured. Now Self Propelled Ultrasonic Rail Testing Cars are being procured.

xiii) Maintenance facilities for coaches and wagons have been modernised and upgraded at many depots.

xiv) Routine Over Hauling Depots have been equipped with ultrasonic testing equipment for detection of flaws in the axles so as to prevent cases of cold breakage of axles.

xv) Whistle Boards/speed breakers and road signs

have been provided at unmanned level crossings and visibility for drivers has been improved.

xvi) Audio-visual publicity campaigns to educate road users on how to make a safe crossing are conducted.

xvii) Level Crossings having heavy traffic density are being progressively interlocked with signals on a planned basis.

xviii) Steps have been taken to prevent inflammable and explosive materials from being carried in passenger trains.

xix) Training facilities for drivers, guards and staff connected with train operation have modernised including use of Simulators for training of drivers.

xx) Performance of the staff connected with train operation is being constantly monitored and those found deficient are sent for crash training courses also.

xxi) Periodical Safety Audit of Different Divisions by inter-disciplinary teams from Zonal Headquarters has been introduced.

xxii) Periodical safety drives are conducted to inculcate safety consciousness among the staff and road users.

xxiii) Stringent penalty to the extent of dismissal/removal from service is being imposed on officials causing serious accidents.

#### **News in Trains**

5723. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have arrived at an agreement with All India Radio to install latest equipment to catch news directly from AIR satellites;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement between AIR and Railways to improve AIR news coverage on trains;

(c) whether Railways have selected the trains on which such a facility will be provided and;

(d) If so, the criteria for selecting the trains for upgradation of passenger facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### **Rail Neer**

5724. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the railways have started making available 'Rail Neer' to railway passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has helped in assuring quality food to railway passengers;

(d) whether some food plazas have also been opened by IRCTC at railway stations; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has just started functioning and it is too early to assess their performance.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The first multi-cuisine Food Plaza is likely to start functioning at Pune from 04.05.2002.

[Translation]

#### **Demand and Generation of Power**

5725. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study in regard to overall demand of power in the country by 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated cost likely to be incurred on power generation to meet the demand for power by that year;

(d) whether the Government propose to mobilize assistance from foreign countries/private sector to meet the demand for money required for power generation;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (f) The Sixteenth Electric Power Survey (EPS) was constituted by the Central Electricity Authority in March, 1998 to estimate the electricity demand upto 2004-05 and also for the perspective period i.e. upto 2016-17. The 16th EPS has estimated the energy requirement and peak load for the year 2006-07 i.e. end of the 10th Five Year Plan as follows :

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Energy Requirement (MkWh) | 719097 |
|---------------------------|--------|

|                |        |
|----------------|--------|
| Peak Load (MW) | 115705 |
|----------------|--------|

The capacity addition target for the 10th Plan is about 41,000 MW. Another 4,000 MW approximately would be available through renewables. To support the capacity addition of the Ministry of power for the 10th Plan, the Planning Commission has allocated an outlay of about Rs. 1,43,000 crore which includes a Gross budgetary Support of Rs.25,000 crore.

[English]

#### **Recycling of Scrap**

5726. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways generate enough scrap that are disposed by auction periodically;

(b) whether the Railways have considered getting its scrap recycled by steel/iron foundries to its specifications/requirements;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Railways recycle some of its scrap arising to the extent required in the steel/iron foundries of their Workshops/Production Units. This recycled scrap is used for manufacture of items like brake blocks, wheels, cast bogies,

Centre buffer coupler components etc. to meet the Railways' requirements.

[Translation]

#### **Training to SCs/STs Officers of Oil Companies at Abroad**

5727. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any rules/guidelines regarding reservations in training programmes for scheduled caste/scheduled tribe officers of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited in the country and abroad;

(b) if so, the number of training programmes organised in the country and abroad during the last three years alongwith the year-wise and rank-wise number of scheduled caste/scheduled tribe candidates nominated for these programmes vis-a-vis the candidates belonging to General Category; and

(c) the action to be taken for imparting training to the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates in the country and abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes. There are rules/guidelines issued by Deptt. of Public Enterprises which provide that in order to improve the chances of SC/ST officers by selection to higher categories of posts in Group 'A', the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe officers should be provided with more opportunities for institutional training and for attending seminars/symposia/conferences.

These guidelines provide that wherever possible, it would be useful to earmark 25% of the seats for officers belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes categories in the training Programmes.

(b) The data for the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) Instructions have been issued by the IOCL to Divisions/Units training heads to ensure 25% representation of SC/ST officers in the training programmes.

SC/ST officers are nominated for the programmes on relaxed performance standard. With the result their representation in these programmes is showing an increasing trend.

## Statement

Training Programme attended by the officers of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

## Training in India

| Grade   | A    |       | B    |       | C    |       | D    |       | E   |       | F   |       | G   |       | H   |       | I   |       | Total |      |       |       |
|---------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
|         | Gen  | SC/ST | Gen  | SC/ST | Gen  | SC/ST | Gen  | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Total | %    |       |       |
| 99-2000 | 3474 | 884   | 2026 | 536   | 1955 | 620   | 1257 | 245   | 843 | 114   | 367 | 49    | 126 | 4     | 13  | 0     | 2   | 0     | 10063 | 3336 | 13399 | 24.90 |
| 2000-01 | 3536 | 958   | 1807 | 606   | 1684 | 461   | 1163 | 269   | 709 | 134   | 305 | 45    | 160 | 0     | 35  | 0     | 8   | 0     | 9407  | 2473 | 11880 | 20.82 |
| 2001-02 | 3928 | 1062  | 2369 | 778   | 1934 | 625   | 1184 | 282   | 824 | 137   | 376 | 38    | 128 | 2     | 49  | 0     | 4   | 1     | 10794 | 2925 | 13719 | 21.32 |

## Training Abroad

| Grade   | A   |       | B   |       | C   |       | D   |       | E   |       | F   |       | G   |       | H   |       | I   |       | Total |    |     |       |
|---------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-------|----|-----|-------|
|         | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Gen | SC/ST | Total | %  |     |       |
| 99-2000 | 18  | 1     | 20  | 4     | 35  | 8     | 29  | 2     | 25  | 0     | 17  | 1     | 14  | 1     | 19  | 0     | 5   | 0     | 182   | 17 | 199 | 8.54  |
| 2000-01 | 3   | 0     | 8   | 0     | 23  | 3     | 23  | 1     | 29  | 2     | 22  | 1     | 9   | 0     | 11  | 0     | 0   | 1     | 128   | 8  | 136 | 5.88  |
| 2001-02 | 5   | 0     | 7   | 4     | 8   | 6     | 22  | 5     | 24  | 4     | 24  | 2     | 12  | 0     | 15  | 1     | 3   | 0     | 120   | 22 | 142 | 15.49 |

*[English]***Clean Coal Technology by NTPC**

5728. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :  
Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NTPC has embarked on a policy of using "Clean Coal Technologies" in its power generation plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether adequate funding is being provided to convert all NTPC plants to using Clean Coal Technologies; and

(d) if so, the details of funding provided for this purpose to NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) is adopting Clean Coal Technology i.e. Super Critical technology for the forth-coming coal based power plants at Sipat, Stage-I (3x660 MW), Barh STPP (3x660 MW) and Kahalgaon STPP Stage-II (2x660 MW). The plants will have higher efficiency which will result in reduction of green house gases.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present to convert old plants of NTPC to Clean Coal Technology.

*[Translation]***Clearance to Power Projects**

5729. SHRI RAJIO SINGH :

SHRI AMBAREESHA :

SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of proposals received from the State Governments including the State of Karnataka regarding Techno-Economic Clearance from Central Electricity Authority for expansion of existing power projects upto 31.3.2002, State-wise, year-wise;

(b) the details of projects cleared by the Union Government during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the details of pending projects, State-wise; and

(d) the steps, the Government have taken to give Techno-Economic Clearance to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) Fifteen proposals were received from various State Governments/ State utilities including the State of Karnataka regarding Techno-economic clearance (TEC) from Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for expansion of existing power projects during the last three years i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.1999 upto 31.3.2002. Out of these, three proposals have been techno-economically cleared, two proposals are under examination and ten proposals have been returned to project authorities for want of essential inputs/clearances. The details are given below :

| Name of Project | Capacity (MW) |
|-----------------|---------------|
|-----------------|---------------|

**CEA cleared/appraised**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Guru Hargobind TPP-II Punjab, State Sector | 2x250 |
|--|-------|

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Suratgarh St.III, Rajasthan, State Sector | 1x250 |
|---|-------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Raichur TPP unit- 7, Karnataka, State Sector | 1x210 |
|--|-------|

**Under Examination**

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Barkeshwar TPS, U-4&5, West Bengal, State Sector | 2x210 |
|--|-------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Tau Devi Lal (Panipat) TPS, U- 7&8, St. V, Haryana, State Sector | 2x250 |
|--|-------|

**Returned to project authorities for want of inputs/ clearances**

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| UBDC St.II HEP, Punjab, State Sector | 75 |
|--------------------------------------|----|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Sikka TPS Extn. U-3&4, Gujarat, State Sector | 2x250 |
|--|-------|

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Uhl St.II, HEP Himachal Pradesh, State Sector | 2x50 |
|---|------|

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Kutch Lignite Extn. U-4, Gujarat, State Sector | 1x75 |
|--|------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Sanjay Gandhi Extn. Madhya Pradesh, State Sector | 1x500 |
|--|-------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Parichha TPS, St.I Extn. Uttar Pradesh, State Sector | 2x210 |
|--|-------|

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Sbahpur Kandi Extn. Punjab, State Sector | 55.5 |
|--|------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Ib Valley TPS Unit-3&4, Orissa, State Sector | 2x210 |
|--|-------|

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Kota TPS U-6, Rajasthan, State Sector | 1x195 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Tuticorin TPS Annexe, Tamil Nadu, State Sector | 1x500 |
|--|-------|



[English]

### Accidents Due to Human Failures

5730. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an analysis on causes of accidents during the last years reveal that human failures and equipment failures (Rolling Stock and track) are on the increase;

(b) whether there were suspected cases of sabotage also causing accidents during the last three years;

(c) if so, the findings of the investigations conducted therefor; and

(d) the preventive/punitive measures taken by the Government to prevent human failure in operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Though there was an increase in the number of accidents on account of human failure during 2000-2001 as compared to 1999-2000, there has been a reduction during the year 2001-2002. There has been marginal increase in the accidents on account of equipment failure during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002. Brief analysis are as under :

|                      |   | 1999-<br>2000 | 2000-<br>2001 | 2001-<br>2002* |
|----------------------|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Human failure</b> |   |               |               |                |
| 1                    | Failure of Railway Staff                    | 287           | 293           | 234            |
| 2                    | Failure of persons other than Railway Staff | 105           | 109           | 92             |
| 3                    | Equipment Failure                           |               |               |                |
|                      | (a) Rolling Stock                           | 12            | 16            | 17             |
|                      | (b) Track                                   | 12            | 17            | 19             |
| 4                    | Sabotage                                    | 21            | 19            | 21             |

\* Figures are provisional

(b) The number of accidents due to sabotage were at the same level with marginal decrease during the period 2000-2001.

(c) As "Policing" is a State subject, cases of

sabotage are registered and investigated by the State Police. Hence, the findings of the investigations are not available with this Ministry.

(d) Important steps taken to prevent accidents due to human failures are as under :-

- (i) Psychological tests have been introduced at entry level for Operating categories (Assistant Station Masters, Assistant Drivers etc.)
- (ii) Intensive training of crew in operation of air brake stock and provision of detachable pressure gauge for air-braked trains has been introduced.
- (iii) Simulators have been installed for training of drivers. Four simulators are working, one each at Kanpur, Tughlakabad, Bhusaval and Kharagpur.
- (iv) Drivers are given breath-alyser tests to check for alcohol consumption while signing on. Surprise checks are also done to identify defaulters.
- (v) For ensuring safety, drivers are not permitted to perform more than 10 hrs. continuous running duty. This is being regularly monitored and corrective steps are initiated wherever necessary.
- (vi) Strict observance of rules by drivers in automatic territory is ensured by ambush checks.
- (vii) Staff is periodically sent for refresher courses and safety camps.
- (viii) Modern training aids are being provided at training centres.
- (ix) Closer monitoring, counselling and training of station staff for ensuring compliance of laid down rules for reception and dispatch of trains.
- (x) From time to time staff connected with train operations are specially screened and those found deficient are being given crash courses at training centres.
- (xi) Periodical safety drives are launched to check the alertness of staff and to educate and monitor them on safety aspects.
- (xii) Emphasis is given on surprise inspections and ambush checks. Night inspections are conducted regularly to eradicate adoption of short cut methods and those who are found to be slack are taken up.
- (xiii) Regular campaigns are organized to educate road users for alertness at level crossings.

### LPG Dealers in Tamil Nadu

5731. SHRI P. D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of LPG distributors in Tamil Nadu which have more than 18,000 L.P.G. connections and the refill cylinder sale of more than 10,000 cylinders per month;

(b) the number of L.P.G. connections transferred from these distributors (as inter-company transfers) individually; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the immediate transfer of LPG connections as per demands of the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) In Tamil Nadu, 118 LPG distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are having the refill sale of more than 10,000 cylinders per month.

(b) and (c) Government have advised OMCs to effect the transfer of customers to the unviable distributors on the basis of viability limit for each market in the State. Government's directions are under implementation by the OMCs.

### Setting up of Station in Karnataka

5732. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coast Guard has decided to set up two more stations in Karnataka along with eight others in coastal States to strengthen the security and surveillance measures along the maritime border;

(b) if so, whether any location for these two stations have been identified;

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

(d) the places where other eight stations would be set up in the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (d) One Coast Guard Station is proposed to be set up in Karnataka along with nine other Coast Guard Stations along Indian Coast. Its location has not yet been finalised.

Five Coast Guard Stations are proposed to be set up in Phase-I during the 2002-2007 Plan period, the balance five Coast Guard stations in Phase-II during the 2007-2012 plan period. The other nine Coast Guard Stations are planned to be set up at following locations :-

- (i) Vadinar (Gujarat)
- (ii) Jafraabad or Pipavav (Gujarat)
- (iii) Ratnagiri (Maharashtra)
- (iv) Beypore (Kerala)
- (v) Kavaratti (Lakshwadweep Islands)
- (vi) Pondichery (Union Territory of Pondichery)
- (vii) Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh)
- (viii) Gopalpur (Orissa)
- (ix) Kamorta (Andaman & Nicobar Group of Islands)

The time frame for starting the projects is between 1 to 2 years from the date of issue of the sanction.

### Scrutiny of Books of Accounts of Jet Airways

5733. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have ordered a comprehensive scrutiny of the books of accounts of Jet Airways under Section 209A of Companies Act;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor the same;

(c) whether the shareholding pattern of the company will also come under the probe; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the probe?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) and (b) Government have ordered an inspection of Jet Airways under Section 209A of the Companies Act, 1956.

(c) and (d) the shareholding of the company will also be examined during inspection.

### Recommendations of Task Force on CAS

5734. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the report of task force for Conditional Access System;

(b) if so, whether Task Force has recommended to make it mandatory for the cable operators to charge only for the channels the viewers watch and not for a combination of channels;

(c) the details of other suggestions/recommendations made by the Task Force to protect the interest of the viewers;

(d) the number out of them accepted by the Government and the reasons for not accepting all the recommendations;

(e) the steps taken by the Government on the implementation of the accepted suggestions/recommendations;

(f) whether CAS be enforced through the Cable TV Networks;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the time by which the CAS is likely to become functional?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (h) The recommendations of the Task Force include, inter-alia, mandating the viewing of Pay channels through a Conditional Access System, by amending the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. The recommendations of the Task Force have, generally, been accepted by the Government. Various issues involved in the introduction of the System are being examined in consultation with the concerned Ministries of the Government of India. No time-frame can, however, be indicated for the System to become operational.

#### **Report on Reforming of the Criminal Justice System**

5735. SHRI N. T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received the final Report on Reforming of the Criminal Justice System in India under the chairmanship of Justice V.S. Malimath;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in finalizing the Report; and

(d) the time by which the Report is likely to be laid on the Table?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Committee is conducting interactions with the Bar, Police, Jurists, Prosecutors, High Courts and other legal experts in order to arrive at conclusions on the areas of reform in the Criminal Justice System. The term of the Committee has been extended up to 30th September, 2002.

#### **Electrification of Railway Routes**

5736. SHRI CHADA SURESH REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of rail routes electrified as on March 2002, zone-wise;

(b) the length of the railway track which is likely to be electrified during 2002-2003, zone-wise;

(c) whether the railways have safeguards to ensure that break-down of power supply will not halt all the trains; and

(d) if so, the details of such safeguards and technical innovations introduced therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) and (b) The details of the length of rail routes electrified upto March, 2002 zone-wise and the length of tracks likely to be electrified during 2002-03 are as under :

| Zone/Railway        | Length of rail routes<br>electrified as on 31.3.2002 | Length of tracks likely to be<br>electrified during 2002-03 |
|---------------------|--|---|
| Central             | 2947   | -   |
| Eastern             | 2333   | 45  |
| Northern            | 1598   | 75  |
| North Eastern       | 23   | -   |
| North East Frontier | -  | -   |
| Southern            | 1432   | 38  |
| South Central       | 1518   | -   |
| South Eastern       | 4181   | 145   |
| Western             | 1969   | 72  |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>16001</b>   | <b>375</b>  |

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. In case of power supply failure at any one traction sub-station, supply is extended from adjacent traction sub-stations through remote control.

#### **Disposal of Arbitration Cases**

5737. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been delayed in disposal of arbitration cases;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to take any firm steps to effectively implement the Arbitration Act of 1940; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to make the judiciary effective in dealing with such cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) No representation has been received in this regard.

(b) The Arbitration Act, 1940 has already been repealed by the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (26 of 1996).

(c) Does not arise.

#### **Commercial Utilisation of Railway Land**

5738. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an autonomous body-Indian Railway Property Development Authority for the commercial utilisation/development of the Railway land;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the proposed authority is likely to be set up;

(c) whether the Government have also made any assessment about the land lying unused or under unauthorised encroachment;

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

(e) steps taken to vacate the encroached land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. Railways propose to set up Indian Railways Land, Air - Space and Property Development Authority (IRLAPDA) for commercial utilisation/development of the railway land.

(b) The proposed Authority would be a separate entity under the Ministry of Railways. The Authority will work to Develop the land and properties in accordance with the directions given by the Ministry from time to time. A draft Act of the proposed Authority has been prepared and sent to concerned Ministries for comments. On receipt of comments, the proposal will be submitted for consideration of Cabinet.

(c) to (e) At present approximately 0.18 lakh hectares of Railway land are vacant and another 0.02 lakh hectares are

under encroachments. Separate State-wise data are not maintained, railways maintain such data Zone-wise. The vacant land is required by Railways for their operational and maintenance requirements as well as for future developmental works. Railways are engaged in a continuous exercise to free their land of encroachments as per provisions of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, and the Railways Act, 1989.

### **Apex Court**

5739. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned, "Police must prove charges, Rules SC" appearing in the Times of India dated October 18, 2001;

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

(c) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Supreme Court in its judgement dated the 16th October, 2001 in Criminal Appeal Nos. 230-231 of 1999 dated 16th October, 2001 in the case of Subash Chand Vs. State of Rajasthan (2002 Vol. I SCC p. 702) has observed: "A vigilant investigating officer, well-versed with the techniques of the job, is in a position to collect the threads of evidence finding out the path which leads to the culprit. The accusation has to be proved to the hilt in a court of law. The evidence of investigating officer given in the court should have a rhythm explaining step by step how the investigation proceeded leading to detection of the offender and collection of evidence against him. This is necessary to exclude the likelihood of any innocent having been picked up and branded as culprit and then the gravity of the offence arousing human sympathy persuading the mind to be carried away by doubtful or dubious circumstances treating them as of 'beyond doubt' evidentiary value."

The Government is empowering the State Governments to establish the Directorate of Prosecution as an independent prosecution agency under the administrative control of the head of the Home Department in the State. This will help, inter alia, in improving the quality of investigation through better coordination between the investigation and prosecution

agencies. Segregation of law and order duties from investigation work is also contemplated for promoting greater professionalism in the investigation work.

### **Sanctioned Posts of Stenographer Grade 'D'**

5740 SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of sanctioned posts of Stenographer Grade 'D' cadre in Railway Board till 1996;

(b) the number of Stenographer Grade 'D' posts created in the cadre in addition to the sanctioned posts thereafter, year-wise;

(c) whether all these Stenographer Grade 'D' employees have been regularised and given their due promotion on time scale basis; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor, and the action taken so far in the matter of stagnation in this cadre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) The total number of sanctioned posts of Stenographer Grade 'D' in Railway Board as on 31.12.1996 were 190.

| (b) | Year | No. of posts created |
|-----|------|----------------------|
|     | 1997 | 04                   |
|     | 1998 | 01                   |
|     | 1999 | Nil                  |
|     | 2000 | Nil                  |
|     | 2001 | Nil                  |

(c) and (d) All the Stenographer Grade 'D' in Railway Board are regular employees. There is no provision for granting time scale promotion to Stenographer Grade 'D'. However, all those Stenographer Grade 'D' who have put in 12 years of service and not promoted in higher grade, have been granted the next higher scale under the Assured Career Progression Schemes (ACP).

### **Functioning of MES**

5741. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not handing over of MES to the

existing Civilian manpower as recommended in Para 50.103 & 50.106 of Vth Central Pay Commission Report; and

(b) whether Army Headquarters had assessed in 1998 that cost of employment of combatant is almost twice of its civilian counterpart; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not accepting the recommendation made in Para 33.15 of Vth Central Pay Commission regarding withdrawal of service personnel from MES?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) to (c) The Military Engineering Service is an Inter-Service Organisation having a judicious mix of civil and Army personnel to avail expertise of both Army and civilian nature of functions. Under the Government Notification issued under the Army Act, the Engineer-in-Chief is the head of the Military Engineering Service. Orders for gradual civilianisation of Military Engineering Service in conformity with the recommendation made in Para 50.106 and 33.15 of the Central Pay Commission have been issued. No decision for withdrawal of Service personnel from Military Engineering Service has been taken.

#### Promotion of Rajdhani Trains

5742. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have tied up with any travel agencies to specifically promote the Rajdhani trains plying in Northern and Eastern India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some travel agencies have been authorised to sell tickets and packages on the Rajdhani trains plying in Northern and Eastern India;

(d) whether the traffic has been improved on these trains after such tie-up; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No travel agency has been authorised by the Railways to sell tickets and packages on the Rajdhani trains plying in Northern and Eastern India.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

#### Sharing of Cost of Rail Projects by State Governments

5743. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have urged the State Governments to share the cost of railway projects in their areas to facilitate early completion;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received any response from the State Governments in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the quantum of funds required for the completion of such projects have since been assessed; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and the further steps proposed to mobilise funds through other sources in case the State Governments do not agree to the proposals of the railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government of Karnataka and the Government of Jharkhand has so far come forward to share the cost of certain Railway projects in their respective States, in response to Ministry of Railways' letter to all Chief Secretaries of State Governments. As per the response received, the Government of Karnataka and Jharkhand are willing to undertake the following projects through cost sharing basis :

| Project  | Funds required for completion<br>as on 1.4.02 as per information<br>available on date<br>(Rs. Cr.) |
|--|--|
| 1  | 2  |
| <b>Jharkhand</b>   |  |
| Ranchi-Barkakana-Hazaribagh-Koderma New Line             | 1002   |
| Ranchi-Lohardaga Gauge Conversion with extension to Tori | 216  |
| Deogarh-Dumka New Line                                   | 200  |
| Dumka-Rampurhat New Line                                 | 154  |
| Koderma-Giridih New Line                                 | 351  |
| Koderma-Tilaiya New Line<br>(Only Jharkhand portion)     | 74   |

| 1                          | 2      |
|----------------------------|--------|
| <b>Karnataka</b>           |        |
| Kottur-Harihar New Line    | 124.03 |
| Bangalore-Kengeri Doubling | 20.72  |
| Kengeri-Ramanagaram        | 45.00  |

(e) Ministry of Railways has formulated certain guidelines for Public, Private Partnership models. These include SPV route, BOT route, private freight terminals etc., through which private sector can participate.

#### Stability in Diesel Prices

5744. SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether post-APM, the Government is concerned with retaining some control over the stability in diesel prices, which account for almost 50% of petro products consumed;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to use the Public Sector Oil Companies in influencing stability in prices;

(c) whether the Government expects the retail prices of petro products companies to converge; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) After the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism, the normal fluctuations in the international oil markets would be reflected in the domestic prices of diesel. However, Government is constantly reviewing the international oil prices, particularly the volatility and its likely impact on the domestic market. As and when Government intervention is considered necessary, appropriate measures will be taken.

#### Power Transfer

5745. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Power Grid Corporation is implementing a 7500 MW capacity Super Highways connecting the power generation units at BARH, Kahalgaon-II, North Karanpura and Hirma Plants;

(b) if so, whether all the plants are already generating power;

(c) the regions to whom power is to be transferred to;

(d) whether this linkage would involve the Eastern Regions, Western Region and the Northern Region; and

(e) if so, the time by which this super highway for power transmission be ready?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (e) Barh Thermal Power Project Stage-I, Kahalgaon Thermal Power Project Stage-II, North Karanpura Thermal Power Project and Hirma Thermal Power Project are at developmental stage. A composite high capacity transmission system for evacuation of power from Barh, Kahalgaon-II and North Karanpura Thermal Power Projects has been planned by POWERGRID. Transmission system for evacuation of power from Hirma Thermal Power project has also been planned. These linkages would involve the Eastern Region, Western Region and Northern Region. The Transmission Systems have been planned for commissioning matching with the generation projects, which are expected to be commissioned by the end of 10th Plan/11th Plan.

#### Unrealised Earnings

5746. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether unrealised earning has been increased during 2000-01 by about 24% of the previous year;

(b) whether a major part of unrealised earnings comprise of outstanding freight charges from public utilities like SEBs and NTPC;

(c) if so, whether this non-payment of dues by public utilities amounting to more than Rs.1600.00 crores, amounts to interest free loan from railways to power sector whereas Railways themselves pay an interest of 7% on capital borrowed from the General Exchequer; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No Sir. As per extant policy, Railways do not charge interest on outstanding freight dues.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Digboi Refinery

5747. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited's Digboi refinery has been provided funds as relief package;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it has helped the IOCL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

#### Joint Venture Projects in Petroleum and Oil Sector

5748. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start any

Joint Venture projects in the petroleum and, oil sector in collaboration with private sector and foreign companies or Multinational companies as the strategic partners;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government is expecting high gain from the Joint Venture Projects with the MNC's; and

(d) if so, the details of such joint venture projects already on anvil and proposed to be started very soon in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) Public Sector Undertakings in the oil sector have been forming joint venture/ companies with private sector and foreign companies including multi-national companies. The purpose of entering into joint venture is to gain access to the latest technology, know-how, strategies and finance through the joint venture partners. Their financial inputs in the joint ventures generally would be in the shape of equity and production would depend on the licensed capacity.

Details of the joint ventures in India already in operation and also those under implementation in the oil sector are given in the statement enclosed.

#### Statement

| Sl.No. | Name of Joint Venture        | Promoters   | Business  |
|--------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1      | 2                            | 3   | 4   |
| 1      | Indo-Mobil Ltd.              | IOC and Mobil Petroleum Co. Inc.  | To import, blend and market Mobil brand lubricants.   |
| 2      | Avi-Oil India Ltd.           | IOC, Balmer Lawrie and NYCO SA, France  | For Aviation Lubricants   |
| 3      | Indian Oil Tanking Ltd.      | IOC and Oil Tanking GMBH, Germany   | For development of Infrastructural facilities for storage of petroleum products.  |
| 4      | Lubrizol India Ltd.          | IOC, Lubrizol Corporation USA   | Manufacture of lube additives.  |
| 5      | Petronet India Limited (PIL) | IOC, BPCL, HPCL, IBP, Infrastructure Leasing and financial Services (ILFS), ICICI, SBI, Essar Oil Ltd. (EOL) and Reliance Petroleum Ltd (RPL) | To float Joint Ventures for construction and operation of products pipelines for transportation of petroleum products as a common carrier concept |
| 6      | Petronet Vadinar Kandla Ltd. | IOC, PIL, RPL, EOL, SBI, Kandla Port Trust (KPT), Gujarat Infrastructure and Leasing, ILFS, Canara Bank                                       | To construct and operate a pipeline for transportation of petroleum products from Vadinar to Kandla from RPK & EOL refineries, as common carrier. |



| 1  | 2   | 3   | 4  |
|----|---|---|--|
| 7  | Petronet, Chennai-Trichy-Madurai Ltd.           | IOC, PIL and others   | The company will construct and operate a pipeline for transportation as a common carrier, of petroleum products from Chennai to Madurai via Trichy.  |
| 8  | Petronet CIPL Ltd.                              | IOC, PIL, RPL, EOL & BPCL   | To construct and operate a pipeline for evacuation of petroleum from Reliance Petroleum Ltd. (RPL) and Essar Oil (EOL) refineries at Jamnagar as well as from Gujarat refinery of IOCL at Koyali to feed the consumption zones at Central India. |
| 9  | Petronet LNG Ltd.                               | IOC, BPCL, ONGC, GAIL and other strategic partners & Financial Institutions | Development of facilities for import and regasification of LNG.  |
| 10 | Indian Oil Petronas Pvt. Ltd. (IPL)             | IOC, Petronas-Malaysia  | To import commercial propane and butane, blend and market.   |
| 11 | India Oil Panipat Power Consortium Ltd. (IPCL)  | IOC and Marubeni Corporation (MC), Japan                                    | To Build, Own and Operate Power Generation Plant at Panipat and to sell power to Haryana Vidut Prasaran Nigam Ltd. (HVPNL)   |
| 12 | Indian Oil TCG Petrochem Ltd.                   | IOC, The Chatterjee Group (TCG)   | Own, operate and manage Petrochemical business.  |
| 13 | ONGIO International Pvt. Ltd.                   | IOC, ONGC   | Training, Consultancy and Services in Upstream and Downstream of Hydrocarbon Sector.   |
| 14 | Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd. (MRPL) | HPCL and M/s Birla Group of companies                                       | Refining of crude oil  |
| 15 | Hindustan Colas Ltd.                            | HPCL and M/s Colas France   | To produce and market Bitumen emulsions  |
| 16 | Petronet MHB Ltd.                               | HPCL and Petronet India Ltd.  | Laying of pipeline from Mangalore to Devangunthi near Bangalore.   |
| 17 | Prize Petroleum company Ltd.                    | HPCL, ICICI and HDFC  | For exploration and exploitation of Hydrocarbons.  |
| 18 | South Asia LPG Vo. Pvt. Ltd.                    | HPCL & M/s TOTAL FINA Elf France  | To construct an LPG import terminal at Vishakhapatnam  |
| 19 | Hindustan Oman Petroleum Co. Ltd.               | HPCL & Oman Oil Company Ltd.  |  |
| 20 | Bharat Oman Refineries Ltd. (BORL)              | BPCL and Oman Oil Company   | Setting up a refinery at Bina (MP)   |
| 21 | AMEC-Engineers India Ltd. (AEIL)                | AMEC Process & Energy International Ltd. (APEIL) and EIL                    | Execution of projects covering design engineering, procurement and construction management services in the fields of Oil and Gas processing refineries, petrochemicals and offshore and ancillary projects.                                      |
| 22 | GAIL and GAZPROM, Russia                        | NEC-OSN-97/1 (Block 26) in Bengal Offshore under NELP-1                     | Exploration programme  |

| 1  | 2  | 3   | 4   |
|----|--|---|---|
| 23 | GAIL & M/s Daewoo International, South Korea   | Exploration Block - A1 Myanmar Offshore               | Exploration programme   |
| 24 | Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL)  | GAIL and British Gas                                  | Supply of piped gas and CNG in Mumbai city                        |
| 25 | Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL)   | GAIL, BPCL and Govt of NCT of Delhi                   | Supply of piped gas and CNG in NCT of Delhi                       |
| 26 | Indian Marine Freight Containers Manufacturing Ltd. (formerly known as Balmer Lawrie Freight Containers Ltd.), Chennai | Balmer Lawrie, M/s. TECTRANS, Germany of OKURA, Japan | Manufacture and export of marine freight containers at Chennai    |
| 27 | Indian Container Leasing Co. Ltd., Calcutta.   | Balmer Lawrie, ICICI, TDICI, TRANS America, USA       | To promote the concept of containerization in the domestic sector |
| 28 | Balmer Lawrie-Van Leer Ltd., Mumbai  | Balmer Lawrie & M/s. Van Leer, Netherlands.           | Manufacturing of Barrel closures and fittings                     |
| 29 | Balmer Lawrie (UAE) LIC, Dubai   | Balmer Lawrie & H.H. Sheik Hasher Maktoum, Dubai      | Manufacturing of steel & plastic barrels.                         |
| 30 | Bharat Shell Ltd (BSL)   | BPCL and Shell overseas investment, BV                | To market shell branded lubricants.                               |

[Translation]

### Unregistered Companies

5749. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of companies are operating in various States of the country including Delhi particularly in tribal areas without registering themselves with the registrar of companies;

(b) if so, whether it is mandatory for any company to get itself registered within a stipulated time period;

(c) if so, the norms laid down in this regard;

(d) whether the Government propose to take action against the unregistered companies which are operating illegally; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) : (a) As per the Companies Act, 1956, "company" means a company formed and registered under this Act or an existing company formed and registered under any of the previous specified companies laws.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION NO.1

[English]

### Shortage of CNG

1. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gas Authority of India Limited has refused to provide CNG as required by the Delhi Government for its vehicles;

(b) if so, whether according to recent orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court, buses without CNG cannot ply on the road, or the owners have to pay Rs. 500 per day as a penalty;

(c) if so, whether as a result of this, the transport system in Delhi is facing a crisis;

(d) if so, whether Union Government have been urged to take effective steps in this regard and also to introduce an ordinance on CNG;

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

(f) the alternative ways being considered by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
(SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The penalty amount would be Rs. 1000/- per day after 30 days of operation w.e.f. 06.04.2002.

(c) The transport system in Delhi has been affected to some extent.

(d) to (f) Government of India, with a view to improve the efficiency of services concerned with allocation of CNG for use by Transport Sector in the National Capital Territory of Delhi and for implementing the directions of the Supreme Court in their Order dated 5th April, 2002 in Writ Petition No. 13029 of 1985 have constituted two Committees; one headed by the Lt. Governor, Delhi to review the allotment of land, granting permission/no objection certificates by various Organisations/ Ministries in setting up CNG related infrastructure including Pipeline and the other Committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to oversee the operational aspects of CNG supply.

The Government are comprehensively reviewing the measures in consultation with the Ministries/ Departments concerned.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

11.59 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Fourteen of the Clock.*

14.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Two Minutes  
past Fourteen of the clock.*

(SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV in the Chair)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the point of order. The proceedings of the House have not yet started.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : If you listen, you will come to know the point of order. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you going to refer the rule cited in the earlier point of order?

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Please see Rule 47. This House was adjourned when hon. Member, Shri Sunil Khan's Question relating to Defence Ministry was being discussed. The Chair called Shri Sunil Khan's name. He got up and after that he raised an objection. The rule says that if any member wants to withdraw his Question, he has to give a notice in writing to the House before the House starts its proceedings or the Question is passed over at that time when the member who is raising the question is not present in the House. Hon. Member was present, he got up, his name was called by the Chair. Thereafter when other members wanted to raise that question, they were not allowed. We want your ruling on this question. You will have to give the ruling otherwise it will be difficult to run the House. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I request you to listen to my point of order in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (PATAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker has already given the ruling on this. ...(Interruptions)  
[English]

There was a ruling. You can verify the record.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I only heard Prabhunathji. You please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You do not want to listen to the Chair even. You are a Senior member. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (CALCUTTA NORTH WEST) : Sir, he has raised a point of order. What is your ruling?  
...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Members, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR (BARRACKPORE) : If you want that this matter should be reopened, then it is not proper. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : At least please listen to the Chair, please sit down. Do you not want to listen to the Chair even? You please sit down, this is not a good convention, please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : It is only after the ruling of the Chair that the House Business will be conducted. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY (BASIRHAT) : A ruling has already been given on this. Why is he allowed to speak now? ...(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (CALCUTTA-SOUTH) : Why are you disturbing the House? ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Madam, please take your seat.

[Translation]

Please do not do like this, you are interrupting.

[English]

Please take your seat.

[Translation]

SHRI TARIT BARAN TOPDAR : What can we do when a person wants to become a Minister. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : The matter has already been disposed of. Why should he be allowed to speak? ...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : I would like to know the ruling as to what happened to the Question he raised. I would like to know your ruling in this regard. ...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You know that the hon. Deputy

Speaker has already given ruling under Rule 49 on the question which hon'ble Prabhunathji raised.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : There is no ruling on the Question I have raised. I would like to hear the new ruling on this, I don't want to listen to any old ruling. I think after his name was called, the hon. Member made the statement. There is no ruling on it. I would like to have the new ruling on it from you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : O.K., you please sit down, you listen to the Chair. The question that has been raised by hon. Prabhunathji was raised under Rule 47. Generally when an hon. Member rises and responds to a question under Rule 47 then that question becomes the property of the House. The ruling has already been given in connection with the question when Mr. Deputy Speaker was in the Chair but I have resolved your query from the Chair. This is a rule as well as a convention till date. However if a Member does not rise or respond to a question, that question is not considered as property of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Prabhunath Singhji, now you please sit down.

14.07 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU) : Sir, on behalf of Shri George Fernandes, 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 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956 :-
  - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 2000-2001.
  - (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Gao, for the year 2000-2001, 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 5571/2002]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 2000-2001 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5572/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, I, on behalf of Shri Arun Jaitley, beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (5) of section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956 :-
- (i) The International Aluminium Products Limited and the National Aluminium Company Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 1110 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 9th November, 2001.
- (ii) The State Express Transport Corporation (Tamil Nadu Division-II) Limited and the State Express Transport Corporation (Tamil Nadu Division-I) Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 2001 published in Notification No. S.O. 53 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 2002.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5573/2002]

- (2) A copy of the Companies (Particulars of Employees) (Amendment) Rules, 2002 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 288 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th April, 2002 under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5574/2002]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR):  
Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for Railway information Systems, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for Railway information Systems, New Delhi, for the year 2000-2001.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5575/2002]

- (3) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) on the Progress made in the intake of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes against vacancies reserved for them in Recruitment and Promotion categories on the Railway for the year ending the 31st March, 2000.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5576/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5577/2002]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :-
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Balmer Lawrie and Company Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5578/2002]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Engineers India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5579/2002]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5580/2002]

- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5581/2002]

- (v) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5582/2002]

- (vi) Memorandum of Understanding between the Oil India Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5583/2002]

- (vii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5584/2002]

- (viii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5585/2002]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Jayawanti Mehta, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Power Finance Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5586/2002]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta, for the year 2000-2001, along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta, for the year 2000-2001.

- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5587/2002]

- (4) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited and the Ministry of Power for the year 2002-2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5588/2002]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No. 50/2002-Customs (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd May, 2002 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose provisional anti-dumping duty on vitrified and porcelain tiles, excluding vitrified industrial tiles, origination in or exported from the People's Republic of China and United Arab Emirates, under sub-section (7) of section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 5589/2002]

[English]

14.09 hrs.

## MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2002 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th April, 2002 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

14.10 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

##### Statement

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (DELHI-SADAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) :-

- (1) Statements showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the Thirteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Defence (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) regarding action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Ninth Report of the Committee (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Overhaul/Maintenance facilities for the Naval Ships'.
- (2) Statements showing action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the Fourteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Defence (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) regarding action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Seventh Report of the Committee (Thirteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Modernisation of the Indian Air Force'.

14.11 hrs.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

##### Ninety-Ninth and Hundredth Reports

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (JUNAGARH) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the

Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests :-

- (1) Ninety-ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2002-2003) of the Department of Biotechnology.
- (2) Hundredth Report on Demands for Grants (2002-2003) of the Department of Space.

14.12 hrs.

#### MATTERS UNDER RULE 377\*

- (i) **Need to expedite setting up of a Zonal Office of Railways at Jaipur, Rajasthan.**

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (JAIPUR) : The former Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone for opening Zonal office of the western railways in Ganapati Nagar, Jaipur. At present, the office is functioning but the Government of India has failed to set up the Zonal Office there for the convenience of people in spite of the fact that the State Government have promised to provide land for the same at concessional rates. In spite of the fact that foundation stone has been laid, the office has not been set up so far. The State Government have also assured that it would provide land for construction of staff quarters at concessional rates.

I, therefore, urge the Union Government to set up a Zonal Office in the interest of the people of that State.

- (ii) **Need for construction of a rail line between Deoria and Padrauna via Mahuadihi, Hetimpur and Kushinagar in U.P.**

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (DEORIA) : Sarnath in U.P. is an important place of pilgrimage linked with the life of Lord Buddha and since it is located near Varanasi, it has made a lot of progress from tourism point of view. Similarly, in my constituency Deoria, Kushinagar is also famous place of pilgrimage of Buddhism. If these two places are linked then tourism can be boosted. Particularly, there is a need to link Sarnath and Kushinagar by a railway line. There is a rail line from Varanasi to Deoria whereas there is an urgent need of a rail line from Deoria to Kushinagar. This railway line will join at Deoria-Mahuadihi-Hetimpur-Kushinagar- airport line at Padrauna railway station. The length of this line will not be more than 60 km. but it is important from tourism point of view.

\* Treated as laid on the Table of the House.

Perhaps the Ministry of Railways has since conducted its survey. I, therefore, urge the Government to include Deoria-Mahuadihi-Hetimpur-Kushinagar-Padrauna railway line in this year's Railway Budget.

**(iii) Need for construction of a new railway station between Bhandup and Mulund in Central Railway, Mumbai.**

[English]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST) : Sir, hon. Railway Minister's attention is drawn to the long-standing demand to develop, construct a new Railway Station between Bhandup and Mulund in Central Railway, Mumbai. More than 70,000 commuters will be benefited. Presently distance between these two stations, Bhandup and Mulund, is 4.25 Kms, longest in Central Railway in Mumbai Suburb. On the same line, several stations are located at the distance of one km. or so. Hon. Minister of Railways has also given positive consent in mid-April. The General Manager, Central Railway and other officials are also expected to think positively. Therefore there is a need to draw out an action plan, make financial provision in MUTP or Railway Budget and to form a time bound programme.

**(iv) Need to ensure adequate Power Supply to Karnataka from Central Grid**

SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA (DAVANGERE) : Sir, the State Government of Karnataka is facing a great power shortage at present and will continue in summer also. The State is largely dependent on hydel power. Due to inadequate rains in the last monsoon, the reservoirs are not full. The hydel power generating stations in the State will be able to produce only up to about 60 per cent of their installed capacities and this has created major crisis in the State. The State had also begun to stride ahead in power generation. Two major projects have been taken up this year besides the work on ambitious Bellary Thermal Power Station.

The State Government of Karnataka have also requested the neighbouring States to provide power but they have not responded positively.

In view of the grave situation that will arise in the State due to power shortage, I urge upon the Government to help the State in providing sufficient power so that the people do not face power shortage in the State.

**(v) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Orissa for maintenance and expansion of museum at Dhenkanal**

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (DHENKANAL) : Sir, the

Dhenkanal Museum in Orissa is facing a serious Financial crunch. The museum has wide range of antiques including sandstone sculpture of dancer Buddha statue, stuffed animals of panthers and Royal Bengal Tigers, elephants, deer, wild buffaloes and the famous *pattachitra* of Raghurajpur. Despite all these unique collections, the museum is very much neglected due to lack of proper maintenance, mainly due to shortage of staff and inadequate allocation of fund.

There is a vast scope for the expansion of the museums and there is a need to set up galleries for Mahima cult, Dhenkanal's industrial products and botanical galleries, which include medicinal plants, costumes and various dance recital instruments.

The State Government of Orissa has financial crunch to bear the day to day maintenance and proposed expansion programme of the museum.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to bear the 100 per cent cost of the Dhenkanal museum along with expenditure required for its expansion.

**(vi) Need to ensure availability of drinking water throughout the country**

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE (JORHAT) : It is now over a quarter of a century since the United Nations Water Conference had declared that all people have the right to drinking water equal to their basic needs. Many countries in the world today, including India, lag behind. Punjab and Haryana, with far less percentage of people living below poverty line at 6.16 per cent and 8.74 per cent respectively, utilise groundwater resources in the range of 98.34 per cent and 75.61 per cent. On the other hand, in Orissa or Bihar or Assam, where the proportion of people living below poverty line is more than 40 per cent, the utilisation of ground water is also very low, touching a range of 15.22 per cent and 35.99 per cent. Thus, broadly speaking, in our country, a substantial proportion of people are still without access to safe drinking water supply, and adequate sanitation. A recent study deplores absence of adequate attention to these two basics in the National Water Policy.

I request the Government to acknowledge water, hygiene and sanitation as the entry points for poverty reduction in both rural and urban areas.

**(vii) Need to ensure uninterrupted power supply to industries located within 40 Kms. Area around N.T.P.C. Kahaigaon, Bihar by declaring it a command area.**

[Translation]

SHRI SUBODH ROY (BHAGALPUR) : Sir, NTPC



Kahalgaon is located at a distance of 25 Kms. only from Bhagalpur. Even then the Powerloom industry, Agriculture work, Trade and common man are facing crisis here in the absence of adequate power supply.

Inadequate power supply is ruining the life of weavers, farmers, traders and common men and creating obstacles in the development of this area. As a result of it, backwardness, wane, poverty and disparity is prevailing in this area giving rise to crime and affecting the law and order situation. It has raised the level of disappointment among more than five lakh weavers, farmers and unemployed youth.

Therefore, I demand from the union Government and Ministry of Power to declare 40 Kms. of area around N.T.P.C. Kahalgaon as command area and ensure direct power supply to Powerloom industry, agriculture, Trade and other work in the area.

**(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Uttar Pradesh for free bore-well scheme in drought-affected districts of Bundelkhand region**

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (BANDA) : There is a great need to provide financial assistance from central Government to install tube wells for farmers. The Central Government or the Ministry of Water Resources do not have any such scheme under which farmers of drought and famine affected areas could be helped. Such a scheme should be formulated immediately and financial assistance provided to farmers of the drought affected districts including Lalitpur, Jhansi, Mahoba, Hamirpur, Banda and Chitrakoot in the Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh. 20 years ago bore-well programme was launched in some villages of Chitrakoot district like Sukhal and Khoya under the Project so as to collect scientific data in respect of availability of ground water. Such a programme should be launched effectively in more places. Effective and speedy implementation of this programme would provide succour to farmers. There is a need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Uttar Pradesh for this purpose.

**(ix) Need to repair National Highways No. 101 between Chhapra and Mohammadpur via Baniapur in Maharaganj Parliamentary constituency, Bihar.**

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (MAHARAJGANJ, BIHAR) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the national highway between Chhapra and Mohammadpur via Baniapur in my Parliamentary constituency got damaged in the recent floods. I was informed that a sum of Rs. 2 crores was released to Bihar in August 2001 to undertake repair work on the national highway which

was damaged due to floods. Therefore, 22 estimates for Rs. 999.96 lakhs were approved on the basis of State Government's assessments. However, no estimate has been received from the state Government to undertake repair work on national highway no. 101. In this regard, I would like to inform the Government that the Chief Engineer, National Highway, Patna has sent the estimate for this road vide his letter no. 48-e.S.H. dt. 13.4.02.

Through you, I would like to request the Government to approve this estimate and release funds without delay so that this highway could be repaired immediately.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only your written speech will go on record, nothing else.

**(x) Need to ensure early completion of Tamluk-Digha rail project of South-East Railways**

[English]

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (CONTAI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Tamluk-Digha rail project, after a spectacular progress in the year 2000-2001, has come to a stop during the financial year 2001-2002. This has created a sense of desperation among the local people. The main reasons being that a number of suppliers of the contractors have not been paid their dues and the dispute between three contractors and the South-East Railways has not been settled. I would, therefore, like the Railway Minister to intervene in the matter so that the same pace of progress is restored in the above project.

I would further like the Minister of Railways to ensure that trains are run up to Contai by June and Digha by December this year, as promised by the Minister.

**(xi) Need to grant environmental clearance for early completion of Jambre Medium Irrigation project in Chandgad Taluk of Kolhapur Parliamentary constituency, Maharashtra**

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (KOLHAPUR) : Sir, the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests has conveyed its inability to approve the proposal for construction of Jambre medium irrigation project regarding diversion of land under section 2 (ii) of the Forest Conservation Act, 1980. In this connection, I may mention that an area of 37.73 hectares will be irrigated and around 53,444 persons would be getting the supply of quality drinking water, and cashew cultivation in Chandgad Taluk in Kolhapur will get boost after the completion of this project. The State Government of Maharashtra has also requested to reconsider the proposal.

Sir, I request the Union Government to give the clearance

for diversion of 78 hectares of forest land for early completion of Jambre medium irrigation project.

- (xii) **Need to improve telephone services in Banaskantha parliamentary constituency, Gujarat.**

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY (BANASKANTHA) : Sir, most of the telephones installed in my Parliamentary constituency remain out of order and are not repaired even for months. When asked, the concerned officers say that telephones remain out of order due to acute shortage of power. In any case, it is the responsibility of department of telecommunications to run the telephone service smoothly and effectively. Besides, mobile telephone service has not yet been introduced in Gujarat. It should be started there immediately.

Through this august house, I request the Government for proper maintenance of telephones and starting mobile service immediately in my Parliamentary constituency.

- (xiii) **Need to take steps to protect the interests of local fishermen in Dakshin Kannada**

[English]

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI) : Sir, I would like to bring to the attention of the Central Government the pitiable plight of fishermen community living along the coastal belt of Dakshin Kannada.

In small country-made fishing vessels and semi-mechanised boats, without any navigational and safety aids, the fishermen roam the turbulent waters mostly along the shoreline where yield has become much lower. In contrast, big mechanised deep sea trawlers reach far out to get better yields to the detriment of small fishermen along with coastal line. It would be expedient if the Centre evolves an all-India policy of restricting the operation of deep sea trawlers to protect the fishermen using traditional crafts.

Added to this is the acute problem of drinking water and non-availability of kerosene at subsidized rates. Many important works like completion of fishing harbour IIInd stage at Malpe, harbour/jetty complexes at Hangarkatta (Udupi Taluk) and Gangolli and Koderi (Kundapura Taluk) need Central assistance in good measure. I call upon the Central Government to come to the rescue of the fishermen community in my region by providing a special survival package during the current fiscal year 2002-2003.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, let us take up the legislative business, Item No. 14.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (DHANDHUKA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether Smt. Sonia Gandhi has gone to Gujarat for restoring peace or. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA (JUNAGARH) : Mr. Chairman, what Shrimati Sonia Gandhi said during her Gujarat visit is an insult to the people of Gujarat. ... (Interruptions)

14.31 hrs.

# CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL

AND

## CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the two Bills at Item numbers 14 and 15 basically deal with the orders in respect of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Hon'ble members would like to discuss these Bills with all their merits and demerits. It is possible that there will be equal discussion on both these Bills. Therefore I request that both the bills be discussed simultaneously. We can even extend the House after 6 o'clock so that these two Bills could be passed today.

[English]

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ) : Sir, we have no objection, and we agree.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL (HOOGLY) : We also agree, Sir.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House agrees to take up item nos 14 and 15 together. Hon'ble Minister may please move both the bills together.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution

[Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya]

(Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 so as to provide for inclusion of certain Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes oustees of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, who have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Project on the Narmada River and are settled or may be settled in the State of Gujarat, in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes specified in relation to the State of Gujarat, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, be taken into consideration."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, just now the Bill regarding Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) 'Orders (Amendment) 2000 is being moved for consideration. In this regard, I would like to say that the proposals included in this bill are in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Central Government and these proposals have approval of the concerned state Governments, Registrar-General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

The first bill seeks to continue the status of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in respect of people of these communities in Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, who have been settled or are to be settled in Gujarat following the implementation of Sardar Sarovar Project.

Secondly, 8 Proposals in respect of Orissa, Punjab and West Bengal are included in the second bill, i.e. Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (amendment) Bill, 2000. These proposals have the approval of the concerned state Governments, Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

In this way these are two motions. I request that these may be considered.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motions moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 so as to provide for inclusion of certain Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes oustees of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, who have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Project on the Narmada

River and are settled or may be settled in the State of Gujarat, in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes specified in relation to the State of Gujarat, be taken into consideration."

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, I call Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi to speak.

\* SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (RAIGANJ) : Mr. Chairman Sir, on behalf of my party I thank the Hon. Minister for bringing two amendments in the two important Bills viz. the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill 2002 and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) 2002. The decision for amendment should have been taken two years back. Though belated I have found that hon. Minister Dr. Jatiya after going through our demand has always been very prompt to take necessary action. After he took over the responsibility he brought these two bills with necessary amendments in the last session itself. Today it is going to be passed. Our hon. Minister has mentioned two objectives in these two bills. One is about the inclusion of displaced persons from Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh affected due to Sardar Sarovar project on the river Narmada in the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe list of Gujarat as they have settled or may settle in Gujarat. I have no objection in these amendments. I would like to speak something on the other Bill. I am very happy that Chain community has been included in the Scheduled Caste list. I would request the Minister for a small amendment. This Chain community stays in Malda Murshidabad Nadia and you have mentioned South Dinajpur. Sir there is no district as South Dinajpur in West Bengal. It was West Dinajpur. Now it has been divided and are known as North Dinajpur and South Dinajpur. This community stays both in North and South Dinajpur. So instead of South Dinajpur if North and South Dinajpur all written then the aspiration of this community living in both these areas will be fulfilled. This is my first request. Today before the discussion is over you can contact West Bengal Government and get the information that these are North Dinajpur and South Dinajpur in the list and after that the amendment Can be done.

The leader of Chain community Shri Kanchan Sarkar of Murshidabad, Member of Parliament our dear leader Shri Adhir Choudhury and I have been agitating for more than two years on this issue. But it is a matter of regret that even after agitating

\*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

and sending the notes to your Ministry for necessary action, nothing was done. All the time we were getting the stock reply that the matter is pending or under consideration. The State Government of West Bengal has passed the resolution unanimously three years back. Even after submitting the papers to the Ministry two years back, nothing was done. I am grateful to you that after I send the necessary papers to you, you took action and today you have brought the Bill. I again thank you for this. The Chain Mandal community stays in large number in Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, North and South Dinajpur. They are farmers by profession and have remained a deprived community for many years. These people have been demanding their inclusion in the Scheduled Caste list for a long time. Today after the bill is passed here and then in Rajya Sabha and after the Presidential Order, this community will have a new direction, new lease of life. But I would like to make another request to the Hon. Minister. There is another community Chasad who also stays in these areas along with Chain Community. They are also Mandals. Their name has not been included separately in the Bill. I request you to get information about this Chasad community of these three districts from West Bengal Government through your Ministry, you will find that this community also deserves to be included in the Scheduled Caste list.

I want to draw the attention of the Minister to the second issue. Our dear colleague Shri Amar Roy Pradhan is the member of the House from Koochbehar. A select Committee was set up in the 11th Lok Sabha to give Scheduled Tribe status to the Koch Rajbanshi Tribes of Assam. Mr Sanna was the Speaker at that time. He appointed me as the Chairman of this Select Committee. I declined that after saying that this is not proper. The issue of the Committee will be that of the SCs & STs. So a member from SC/ST community should be the Chairman. So I resigned and then Shri Amar Roy Pradhan was entrusted to be the Chairman of that Committee. Shri Amar Roy Pradhan went all over Koochbihar, and many areas collected information and after much hard work and perseverance prepared a report on 14th August, 1997. He recommended in that report that Koch Rajbanshi from Assam should be given the status of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. This was recommended by the Government of Assam also. But it is a matter of regret that this issue has not been included in your Bill. I will request you to bring another Bill in the next session with the amendment order of giving SC/ST status to this community of Assam who has remained the victim of deprivation, oppression, suppression and exploitation since ages. If they are included in the list they will have new hope and new life. You have got the report of the Select Committee. I request you to implement the recommendation to give new hope and aspiration to this suffering community. Along with this I shall mention another important issue to you. It is not all

political. North Bengal is a part of West Bengal where the Rajbanshi community stays. Roy Burman Sarkar Choudhury Singh belong to this community and they are the original inhabitants of North Bengal. When India was united, in undivided Bengal this community was staying from Rangpur, Faridpur, Bagura, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Malda, Koochbihar, Jalpaiguri. This community had a leader Panchanan Burman known as Thakur Panchanan. An advocate by profession he took part in freedom struggle. He tried to awaken this community from Rangpur to Koochbihar explaining the value of education so that they can realise and assert their rights. He preached them to discard superstition to dedicate their lives for the cause of the nation. I shall submit to you that these people have been identified as the Rajbanshi community in North Bengal and one of their representative Shri Amar Roy Pradhan is present here. The late leader Shri Upen Burman of Jalpaiguri member from Rajya Sabha had also agitated for this cause umpteen times. This community though Scheduled Caste, but due to various reasons, like some lacuna in the implementation of various plans, the improper utilisation of the allocated money for the SC/STs or the extra burden for the development of North Bengal come by the country, this community has remained a deprived lot. All of you know and admit the burden of partition has been borne by both Punjab and West Bengal. No other State in India has gone through the burden of partition like Punjab and West Bengal. When the country was divided the displaced persons from the other side came and settled both in Punjab and West Bengal. Some displaced persons in West Bengal were sent to Dandakaranya, Mana camp, Andaman, Pilibhit and some were sent to present day Uttaranchal. These displaced persons comprised of both SC and non-SC. A large number of displaced people whom we later called refugee settled down in North Bengal. Both Hindu Muslim communities live there peacefully and still that culture is present there. But some information proved the fact that the allocated fund in 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th Five Year Plans for the welfare of the SC & ST was not spent properly and timely. Due to this failure on the part of the administration, a gap, a vacuum has been created among them. This area in North Bengal is the most sensitive area in India. Terrorists pour in both from Nepal and Bhutan border. These terrorists are threatening these people and taking advantage of their frustration, deprived lives are trying to make them terrorists. An organisation known as KLO want separatism, violence and terror, are playing with fire in North Bengal. All the people in West Bengal are against this terrorism, are against this violence. But at the same time we should discard the step motherly treatment meted out to SC, the Rajbanshi community of North Bengal. We must listen to their grievances. I have written to the Home Minister about this issue. I have also written to our Chief Minister Budhadev Babu requesting to interact with the people associated with the agitation who want

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

to fight their cause not through violence but through democratic means. We must try to understand the cause behind their agitation. They have a distinct culture, they have a dialect, a distinct style of expression. They want that their dialect, their style of expression, their script, though that is also Bengali should be taught with dignity in North Bengal University. This community should not be made prey to separatism. More than 400 young men and women of their community are in the jail. More than 100 women have been oppressed. More than 10 qualified teachers of this community have been beaten up in the jail. If these people are treated with force then they will be in the hands of the terrorists from outside. They will definitely play in their hands.

I will request you to talk to West Bengal Government and the Centre and take some developmental measures to ameliorate their condition. Proper respect should be given to their language and culture and sympathetic treatment should be given to their cause so that they can be brought to the mainstream. Sir, they are peace loving people. I know them very well because I come from North Bengal. Because of deprivation and exploitation they have been agitating. They have never resorted to violence. Although Naxalbari agitation started from North Bengal but that was related to land and agriculture. My appeal to you is that for the development of North Bengal. You please enquire about the demand, the problem of Rajbanshi community and after talk with Planning Commission and West Bengal Government, please take some appropriate measure so that these people can live with their heads high with all dignity. They should not be ill treated anymore

Sometime back in a play in Calcutta, this community has been targeted, their language and way of life was mocked at. Excitement and anger might have arisen after the incident. But after my interference it did not happen.

This is my appeal to you to look into the grievances of these people and take some appropriate measures to improve their condition.

My last appeal to you is not there in today's list although it comes under your Ministry. In North Bengal there is a Muslim community from Murshidabad to Coochbihar. In UP there is Ansari community who comes under backward class. In North Bengal also there is a Muslim community known as Shershabadi, who have been deprived since thousand years. They are divided into two parts one in Norsa Shershabadi, and the other is Shershabadi. Norsa Shershabadi are people from lower caste Hindu who embraced Islam after being exploited and hated for their low birth. The Shershabadi community is Muslim who have been deprived by their own community and have remained backward without education,

development and also the victim of feudal rule. These two communities have appealed umpteen times to Backward Class Commission for their inclusion in the backward community list. They have appealed to the State Government also. The Central Backward Class Commission after my mentioning their case here went to Calcutta. They had a hearing in Calcutta but till today no step has been taken to include this community in the backward class list. If you happen to visit Malda, Dinajpur, Coochbihar you will find village after village which is most backward, the most undeveloped, without education. These people live there. They work in the field in the village without proper care sans education, sans development. Please think about these people and take some appropriate measure to give some ray of hope to these deprived lot.

I won't take much time. I again urge upon you to consider the case of Chasad community staying in these districts of Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, Dinajpur only the Rajbanshi community scattered all over North Bengal from Malda to Coochbihar. Through you I shall also appeal to West Bengal Government to take a joint initiative both from the State and from the Centre along with the local representatives to protect the human rights of the Rajbanshis, to stop the inhuman treatment to those in jail and to go deep into the matter. This initiative may help to solve their problem. The Calcutta High Court has delivered their final verdict. Even then they are terribly scared. I do not want their children to embrace terrorism and turn into terrorists. I want they should live in India, in West Bengal peacefully, they should remain here with all other party in the mainstream.

Once again I request you to fulfil the recommendation submitted in the report dated 14.8.97 of Shri Amar Roy Pradhan. I again appeal to you to give the status of Adivasis to Koch Rajbanshi in the SC list. Once again I thank you to bring these Bills and end my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (SHAJAPUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 presented by hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment and I thank the hon. Minister and the present Government for taking steps from time to time and sometimes even before time for removing legal hurdles in the way of upliftment of SC's and ST's. During last two years the rights of these people were curtailed. This Government have done the job of removing the restriction and by bringing these two amendments in favour of Scheduled Castes and Tribes the Government have proved that they are committed to enforce the rights provided to this section of society as

enshrined in the Constitution. The present Amendment Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (VAISHALI) : We would reveal the ground reality as to what is being cooked up. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : They talk like this only. The good step taken by the Government is that it has taken the opinion of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this regard. This Commission functions under the constitutional framework and during last many years we have observed that the Government are not paying any attention towards the recommendations of this Commission and it has been overlooked. This time the opinion of State Government experts and even the Commission was sought. Then it was concluded that some castes have synonymous names and supplementary names of each other castes have been recorded. Because of this reason one caste enjoys many facilities in a particular State whereas in another State the same caste gets no facility. Even facilities provided differ from one district to other. Therefore, this anomaly has been corrected and some more castes have been added to the list. Because of these anomalies people of scheduled castes were deprived of facilities available to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Under the present Amendment they would get these facilities.

For example, Meena caste is treated as Scheduled Tribe in Rajasthan but not in many other States. Not only this in some of the districts of Madhya Pradesh Bhil Meena are classified as Tribals whereas in other districts Meena caste is not treated as Scheduled Tribe. Meena caste in Rajasthan is treated as Scheduled Tribes, be it Railways or any other Central Govt. job. They work for 10-20 years in one State, build their houses there and buy property and their children study there only since their father is employed there. That's why they do not get these facilities in those States. While staying in States their children do not get these facilities, therefore, they have to go to Rajasthan to obtain a certificate and for going to Rajasthan they will have to request the Government to post them in Rajasthan and it is very difficult to post everyone in Rajasthan. Therefore, this aspect also needs to be considered seriously and effective steps taken so that this type of difficulties can be solved. Second example, I would like to quote of Madhya Pradesh. Dobi and Prajapati (Kumhar) castes are hardly recognised as Scheduled Castes in two to three districts only and in rest of the districts, they are not treated as SC's. A Congress worker contested election from there. He furnished the caste certificate from the district wherein he was treated as SC and he was not permitted to contest election from reserved seat. He filed his nomination from other district and since no one raised an objection thus

his form was cleared by Returning officer. Later on a writ against 'Narmada Prasad Prajapati' was filed. He was the Minister of Power and the Court set his election aside on the ground that his caste, though treated as Scheduled Caste in his home district, is not recognised as Scheduled Caste in the district wherefrom he contested election. Such a typical situation was created.

Sir, my submission is that if any caste consists of more than half of the population of a district, or lives in 25 per cent districts, and classified as Scheduled Caste or Tribe should be treated as Scheduled castes or Tribe throughout the State or its removal from that category should be considered. There are many problems of this kind and there is a need to tackle all this otherwise these would create an embarrassing situation. So, the Government should endeavour in this regard.

Secondly, this Amendment Bill consists of more matters of Madhya Pradesh. Most of the land around Sardar Sarovar Project is likely to be submerged. The areas are likely to be submerged belongs to Madhya Pradesh wherein not one, but hundreds of villages are likely to be submerged. As the work on this project is advancing and as main wall of the project, known as dam, is gaining height more and more water is getting logged causing submerging of entire villages. The arrangement for resettlement of displaced person is in progress. Under the circumstances, since no land is available in its vicinity, displaced persons are being resettled in Gujarat.

Sir, In addition to Madhya Pradesh some people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from Maharashtra who were displaced from here are being resettled in Gujarat. Their names are not included in SC/ST list of Gujarat. On settling in Gujarat, these people will not enjoy some facilities in Gujarat which were earlier available to them. Through this Amendment Bill, the Government are making efforts to include names of such castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes of Gujarat so that they can avail those facilities here also. I support this Bill and request the entire House that everyone should become a partner to this noble deed and contribute in getting it passed unanimously.

*[English]*

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA (KANAKPURA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. I would like to raise only one or two points, particularly the issue of the Scheduled Tribes. Both the Bills have been taken up simultaneously for the consideration of the House.

The Karnataka Government has recommended two communities, *Parivara* and *Upvara* for the inclusion. These two communities were left out during the regime of Shri

[Shri H.D. Deve Gowda]

Chandra Shekhar. He included about four communities, like Valmiki, Naik and Banjara. Unfortunately when the Notification was about to be issued these two communities were deleted at the official level. I was not in the House at that time. At that time, our senior leader Shri Chandra Shekhar was kind enough to consider it, even though his tenure was too short, and these two communities were brought under the purview of the Scheduled Tribes. Subsequently, when I came in this House in 1991, I tried to prevail upon the Congress Government. Shri Sitaram Kesari was the Minister of Welfare at that time.

15.00 hrs.

He said in the very same House that they were going to bring a comprehensive Bill as recommendations of several States were pending, his Department would examine the whole issue, all the recommendations would be codified and then they would bring a comprehensive Bill in which the communities which are to be included in the list of either the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes would be clearly mentioned.

The matter has been pending for the last twelve years, since 1990. All the State Governments in Karnataka have recommended to include these two communities. May I ask the hon. Minister to kindly consider all the recommendations made by not only the State Government of Karnataka but of other States also? At least he has now brought this particular Scheduled Tribe community in the list as on account of the construction of Sardar Sarovar dam some people have had to be rehabilitated. I have no objection to this. But my only request is that he may bring a comprehensive Bill at least in the next Session which would include all the recommendations of all the State Governments and see that these benefits would be given to the two communities, Parivara and Upwara, in Karataka.

There had been long agitations during the days of Shri Devraj Urs. This recommendation was first given to the Union Government at that time. Unfortunately, it has been dragging on since then, though I would not like to blame anybody for this.

I would like to bring one more point to the notice of the hon. Minister. Because of social compulsion, we are adding several small communities which are really poor and deserve to be included in the list of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes depending on their social background. But the same percentage of reservation that was kept in the Constitution has been continuing. With the addition of their population, the percentage of reservation that we have provided is not commensurate with their present population. We have taken a decision in Karnataka to increase it from 18

per cent to 20 per cent in all the direct recruitment to the various Departments. When I was the PWD Minister and subsequently the Chief Minister of Karnataka, we decided to increase the percentage of reservation. It was earlier 15 per cent for Scheduled Castes and three per cent for Scheduled Tribes. We revised it to twenty per cent and five per cent respectively. Some of these communities have been neglected all along because of their social background. This aspect may also be kindly considered by the hon. Minister.

I hope and trust that he is going to bring a comprehensive Bill to include Parivara and Upwara communities insofar as my State is concerned. Insofar as other States are concerned, the recommendations made by them may please be taken into consideration.

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (DHANDHUKA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government have presented two Bills through Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and I support both the Bills. From time to time the Government decide to add and delete certain points. It has been long-standing demand of the people of Punjab, Bengal and Orissa. The Government led by BJP have taken steps to fulfil their demand through these Amendment Bills. Thus the hon. Minister deserves thanks. The issue of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes remain unresolved so far. As Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot, who spoke prior to me, has said that five Ordinances were issued against the interest of SCs and STs through amendment. The people of the entire country were in distress due to this. Out of these, three Ordinances were withdrawn which made Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes happy throughout the country. They hoped that the BJP and their allies and Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayeeji would realise their problems. Cutting across party lines, everyone cooperated while rejecting these Ordinances. But I would like to say one thing in this connection that though these are passed in Lok Sabha yet their implementation becomes difficult because someone approaches the Court and obtains stay on implementation. Though all the Members of Parliament cooperated yet the desired benefits could not reach the employees. So, they have a grouse in this regard. Earlier also we have requested that this matter should be included in the Ninth Schedule so that it cannot be challenged. Even today, I want to remind the hon. Minister about it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in its part 13 which is relating to the State of Orissa, entry No.22 and 19 are proposed to be deleted and in its part Three under sub-part - Two the following is

proposed to be incorporated after entry number 37 and word 'cobbler' (Mochi) has been used entry number 38. I would like to say one thing that in Gujarat there is only one such district of Scheduled Castes - Scheduled Tribes and that is Dang and people living there can know as cobbler. They come under it. The way word 'Mochi' has been included, it was not so earlier in Gujarat. After use of this word 'Mochi' people living in limited area were termed as 'Mochi' but after the area restriction was removed people of this caste throughout Gujarat though they are neither untouchable nor Scheduled Tribe, come under general category. The question of untouchability does not arise in their case. But after removal of area restriction, entire 'Mochi' community in Gujarat comes under Scheduled Castes. Consequently, SCs and STs in Gujarat are losing chances of employment and they are not getting jobs. They are not even getting admission in Schools or Colleges. There is a hue and cry amongst educated people of Gujarat.

I am sorry to say that the former Members of Parliament be it Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha paid no heed towards it. It resulted in loss of employment for thousand of people of Gujarat during last 20 years. Hon. Member of Parliament of the Congress Party Shri Praveen Rashtopal is sitting in front of me. When he gets an opportunity to speak, he would say something in this regard. Today, it has become a question of life and death for us. I would like to request the hon. Minister to find out why a resolution passed by the Government of Gujarat and forwarded to the Central Government is pending with the Standing Committee, though it has been accepted by the Cabinet. Are they against the reservation? Why we are harassed? Why the people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not getting desired justice? Through you, I would like to urge the hon. Minister to put pressure on the Standing Committee and have the amendment passed expeditiously so that lakhs of poor people of Gujarat, who are deprived of job or admission... *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Varmaji, the Standing Committee is a Parliamentary Committee and the hon. Minister cannot put pressure on it. He can only request it. Parliamentary Standing Committee is a mini Parliamentary Committee.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : What you said is correct but I mean it, that is why I have used this word.

Similarly, there is a need to include three castes of Gujarat in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The list has been received and it would also be included on time. He made a mention of Madhya Pradesh. Large areas of land is going to be submerged in water because of Sardar Sarovar Project. People are being sent to Gujarat for resettlement. You will be glad to know that Gujarat is forerunner

in this regard. A large number of people came here who have been resettled. They have been allotted better land than what they had in their parent State. Owner of one acre land has been allotted two acres. Everyone above the age of 18 years has been allotted land individually. The people belonging to SCs/STs who have come to Gujarat are happy. But I would like to add that their names be included in the list of SCs/STs in Gujarat and they should be extended all the facilities which were available to them in their parent State. Madhya Pradesh is not taking steps for expeditious settlement of people as it ought to have taken. Today some people are facing water problem. The Government of Madhya Pradesh should soon coordinate with the Government of Gujarat and complete the resettlement work soon because our main task is the completion of Sardar Sarovar Project. The Committee are sitting time and again. They say that unless resettlement work is completed permission to raise the dam above 110 meters cannot be granted. The people of Gujarat including the farmers are pinning for water. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you very often speak in favour of farmers from this platform. The farmers depend fully on rain whereas lakhs of cusec of water of Narmada flows down to sea but the farmers keep yearning for water on seeing the river. This problem will be solved after one month. For this, I would like to thank the Government of Gujarat which quenched the thirst of people of Gujarat through Mahipnaga water pipeline. Otherwise, the water problem was about to turn chaotic in Gujarat. If resettlement work is completed expeditiously and the Government provide certificate to this effect, Narmada authority would get the permission. I request for its expeditious completion and request Madhya Pradesh Government to send certificate to Gujarat. Madhya Pradesh should take the lead in this case. I request the Government of Gujarat to find early solution to it and to reintroduce area registration so that injustice being done to people can be stopped.

*[Translation]*

\* SHRI MOINUL HASSAN (MURSHIDABAD) : Hon. Mr. Chairman Sir, I want to mention certain points on the Bill viz. the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 brought by the Government. I support this Bill. One of our hon. Members from our party will speak on the second Bill.

At the outset I congratulate the hon. Minister for including the Chain community. They reside mainly in Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia and South Dinajpur has been mentioned in the Bill. I again want to say that instead of South Dinajpur North and South Dinajpur should be inserted. More than several lakh of Chain community live in my constituency and

\*English Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.



[Shri Moinul Hassan]

my district Murshidabad. They have migrated mainly from Bihar and UP as labourers and settled down on the banks of Ganga and Bhagirathi. Even today this community has a tendency to settle besides the river especially the big rivers. They have a language which is almost akin to Hindi. Most of them are engaged in agriculture. They produce vegetables, keep themselves engaged in agricultural work. Moreover this community has a distinct culture of its own. Hon. Mr Chairman Sir, I would like to mention here that an agitation for recognition as backward community has been brewing up not only in Murshidabad but in other parts of the State also. A unanimous resolution for inclusion of this community as backward class adopted by West Bengal three years back was sent to the Centre for consideration. Today that demand has been included in the list and I congratulate the hon. Minister for accepting it. We have the information and knowledge also that many from this community have got higher education. In spite of being highly educated these people have not been facing difficulty because they are not enlisted as Scheduled Caste. I would like to mention here that providing job reservation will not solve the problem. Because we know what happens in the reserved quota for other Scheduled Castes. If a comprehensive economic package is adopted then only we can expect some kind of development for this community. I would request the hon. Minister to announce a separate comprehensive economic package by the Government to ameliorate their condition. It is necessary to do some serious economic programmes for the upliftment of the community. It is true a large number of undeveloped community has been excluded in the list. In West Bengal itself a large number of undeveloped community have been left out from the list. In the meantime there was a Private Members' Bill for Deshuwali Majhi introduced. This community of Deshuwali Majhi should be included in the SC/ST list. At one point of time they were connected with the Santhal community. They were excluded from the list after the Santhal uprising during British rule. Now again this community should be included in the list. They have their own uniqueness, their own culture. After giving due respect to their uniqueness and culture, they should be enlisted as SCs and STs. Besides there are many small communities with special identity and culture. They should be brought from darkness to light. They should be associated with our system and effort should be made to join them with the mainstream. It has been mentioned here that right from Malda Coochbihar to Barak in Assam with many districts, comprises the area of North Bengal. The community having the large number is called Rajbanshi. They are undeveloped and undoubtedly require full scale development. I would like to submit here Sir that West Bengal Government has tried as far as possible for their development. It is not correct to say that these people terrorised and threatened by outside element and that has made them scared all the time. All of us have no second

opinion that constructive effort is required to bring these people from darkness to light. Our endeavour should also be focused on other sectors too.

We know our commitment to our Constitution. So we have to prepare the list constitutionally. The first list was prepared under article 341 in 1950. After many amendments, modifications have been adopted time after time. But it is not only sufficient to enlist the backward community so that they get some facilities. It has been our experience in all these years that until there is economic development, their condition cannot be altered. They need change in their lifestyle, education for their development so that they can be brought from darkness to light.

With these words, after thanking you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion, I conclude my speech.

15.33 hrs.

(DR RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

\*DR. BIKRAM SARKAR (PANSKURA) : Today we have two Bills No. 11 the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and No. 14 the Constitution (Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 for discussion in the House. I thank you Sir for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion and through you I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing these two Bills though belated in the House showing the Government's concern for the SCs and STs.

Mr Chairman Sir, first of all let me speak about SC. The SCs are economically and socially backward. Nowadays we speak about the integration with other parts of society. But the responsibility lies not only with them but also with the upper strata of society — the so called upper caste. In the Bill for discussion the focus is on the displacement of certain tribes due to Narmada River project and their rehabilitation in other States, i.e., Gujarat and also the necessity for their names to be included in the list of SC/STs in Gujarat. It is a good idea but I would like to mention that this kind of problem exists in many areas. Let me mention the areas facing this problem. After partition two castes Pundra and Namoshudra left East Bengal and came to West Bengal. These people were rehabilitated in Uttar Pradesh and parts of Orissa both by the State Government and the Centre.

Yesterday itself some people from Pilibhit came and met me. They said that they were the inhabitants of East Bengal before Bengal was divided. The Government brought them

\*English Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.

from their original home to Nainital and other places. They have mentioned particularly about two communities of SCs. These SCs are from West Bengal, namely Poundra and Namosudra. They are not treated as SCs in U.P. and so they are being deprived of the facility and advantage meant for the SCs. In some extreme cases it so happened that after coming to Calcutta they stayed in some relatives' house and they were taken from there to these areas of U.P. Had they have some address in Calcutta or West Bengal, they may not have faced any problem. But those who are directly sent from East Bengal to these areas, have been facing difficulty and they are not able to get any certificate for their castes. So my suggestion is that, the way the measures have been taken for the rehabilitation and inclusion of the names of the displaced persons in the SCs list of Gujarat, the same procedure should be adopted for these people also. I know the difficulty in implementing this suggestion. I was the Joint Secretary in the concerned Ministry from 1982-1987. I know the practical difficulty involved here. Some hon. Members like Mr. Deve Gowda has suggested for a comprehensive Bill. I do not know if there is any meaning in the record 'comprehensive'. It is a dynamic process which involves some modification, alteration and deletion. Instead of a comprehensive Bill which is time consuming, it can be done in the piece meal approach. I congratulate our hon. Minister for focusing his attention in this regard.

About the Rajbanshi community I want to say that they have spread over from Assam to North Bengal in large numbers. It is urgently needed that they should be brought into the list of SCs. Hon. Member Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munshi and many others have spoken about this. We feel that they are socially and economically backward and they fulfill the criteria for inclusion in the SCs list. Their inclusion should be done as early as possible for their benefit. They have their language, their dialect, they have a contribution in the civilisation. We must respect these aspects and keeping in mind their dignity, these people should be enlisted expeditiously. But I must mention one thing in this regard. The notion that the moment the people are enlisted as SCs, everything is solved, is wrong. They have reservation in workplace either in the Government or Public Sector Undertaking. But today is the age of privatisation. The private undertakings have no responsibility as far as reservation for SC/STs is concerned. The private industry is also getting Government money. They are running their concerns by taking money either from public fund or loan from bank. So I request the Minister to look into it and see that these deprived people get reservation in private undertaking as well.

I would like to mention one more thing. When I was in

the Ministry, I used to look after this issue. Because of my own interest I tried to go deep into the matter. I come from a SC background although I have been elected as MP on general category. After working in that department, I know that a time comes when there is mind block for this issue I have seen in 1987 in West Bengal that for primary school teacher the qualification was only simple matriculation or school final pass. But even for that post where 16% is reserved only 2.5% is fulfilled. Till now that percentage has not been increased to even 3%. As per information, it still remains at 2.5%. That means we have enlisted them as SC/STs. But if there is no conscious effort on the part of both the State Government and the Central Government, there cannot be any improvement and for these people.

Their main problem relates to land. Most of them are landless agricultural labourer or bargadar who stay in the village. They are very much exploited. If the Government wants to ameliorate their condition, it has to be done in a comprehensive way. Yes once there was a plan and still it is continuing - special component plan for SCs and for STs. According to this plan some fund is allocated for the development of the SC/STs. The money will be decided on the percentage of SCs. In the case of West Bengal and other parts of India the money allocated is far less than the percentage. In West Bengal where the percentage is 24, only 5% is allocated for the special component plan, we speak of accelerated development mentioned even in our Constitution. But if the difference is so wide how can one succeed in developmental work. That is why these people lag behind. So there must be economic measures so as to improve their condition. We have seen wherever the SCs wanted to assert their right provided in the Constitution, they have been victimised, tortured, their women have been raped. This has happened not only in West Bengal but Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, everywhere. Their voices have been throttled because they wanted to assert their rights. Whenever they want to rise and demand their rights, they have been victimised. Let me come to West Bengal. In Medinipur, Keshpur, Garbeta, Khajuri, Itabaria, Chandrakana in Jhargram, Debra, Pingla, Sabang, Shaibani, in North Bengal particularly in Bakurghat and in Coochbihar. Truly speaking in North Bengal and in Bishnupur of Bankura District, Kotulpur Onda, Khatra, in Burdwan Jamuria, Goghat in Hooghly and Khanakul everywhere the atrocities have been committed on these people whether politically or by police force, most of the victims who have been sent to jail, their body parts have been cut. Large percentage of these tortured people belong to SCs. It proves the fact that the atrocities and oppression is still continuing unabated. The conscious effort on the part of the society against this atrocity on the SCs/STs has not been made. I have cited the example as far as job quota is

[Dr. Bikram Sarkar]

concerned. Even in the case of primary school teacher where educational qualification is minimum, there too, the percentage remained far below. Of course the quota is almost fulfilled as far as higher posts like IAS, IPS or All India Service or in the case of class-I officers are concerned. But the criteria is not followed as far as lower posts are concerned.

I shall again come back to the case of Paundra and Namosudra. Some members have mentioned about these two communities. They stay in Uttar Pradesh and some parts of Uttaranchal and still now they are neglected because they are not getting the opportunities meant for SC/STs. As far as my information goes, I know a Constitution Amendment Bill came up some time in the past but because Parliament was dissolved that Bill could not come up. I request the Hon. Minister to realise their problems and take some measures as early as possible. The other thing I have mentioned may sound like repetition. But I must again reiterate that a fund is allocated for the development of these people. But that money is not properly spent due to lack of monitoring. I am sorry to say that the mindset we have, also prevents us from doing justice to these people. A small percentage of the amount is spent for their cause and the rest of the money is returned. Even if the whole amount is spent, it is spent on some other purpose. I know many States where money allocated for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes is not spent properly. I can cite the example of Orissa. Money meant for Kalahandi and Koraput is spent in Bhubaneswar. Although in the report of Comptroller and Auditor General, it has been mentioned, nothing has been done.

When we find that the SC/STs are beaten up, tortured and killed even when they seek justice for atrocities against them as in Bihar. Mr Chairman Sir, they get killed because their greatest fault is that they have tried to assert their Constitutional rights. In South India still there are some areas where one IPS Scheduled Caste was not allowed to enter the village with his shirt on. He had to go with his upper part naked in the village. In their marriage ceremony they have to come down from the horse's back and walk down through that part of the village where the upper castes stay.

So when we speak of assimilation the so called upper castes have greater responsibility. They cannot avoid their responsibility. The idea of assimilation should not be kept in words only. All of us have to do it. The responsibility lies on people of the upper castes and every member of the society.

With these words, I once again congratulate the Minister and thanking the Chairman for giving me an opportunity to speak, I conclude.

[English]

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL (PATAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am standing here in support of Bill No. 14 of 2002, Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002 moved by the hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya.

Sir, this Bill is moved on account of an urgent necessity as one of the biggest dam known as Narmada dam, that is Sardar Sarovar Project is under construction. And once the construction of the dam is over, hundreds of villages in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra will be submerged on account of Sardar Sarovar Project. Now, according to the agreement between the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, as decided by the Government of India - the hon. Minister for Water Resources is also here - it is the responsibility of the Government of Gujarat to see that the people belonging to either castes, whether Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe, and there may be other people also, who are displaced on account of this particular project, are settled. A man may go from one State to another State for good. At that time, it is not the responsibility of this State Government or that State Government to include that particular caste in the list of respective castes. We all must appreciate that this has got very serious implications also because after Independence, the first List of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was prepared by way of the Presidential Order and all subsequent Lists were amended only by the Parliament because it can only be amended by a Constitutional Amendment. The percentage of reservation in services, the percentage of reservation in education and various other facilities to be given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are based on the original List.

Every State has got a different and separate List of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Now, we all know, actually some of us know how a caste can be included in the List of Scheduled Castes. That issue was decided as back as 1931 when the first Census under one British Commissioner named Sarte was done, and that was the first caste-based Census in our country. According to that Census, social disability arising out of untouchability was the main criterion for considering a particular caste as Scheduled Caste. A list was prepared. As far as the Scheduled Tribe is concerned, it has nothing to do with untouchability. But if he is originally an inhabitant of a particular region - it may be a forest, a jungle, a tribal area, may be a Hindu, a Muslim, a Christian—only then he is considered as Scheduled Tribe and reservation is given according to the population of that tribe or that caste.

In Gujarat, the reservation in State Governments services in Groups C and D is not only on the basis of

population in the State, but it is on the basis of population in the district. In the lowest category of Group D, sweeper and various other posts, when there is a district recruitment by the District Magistrate, then the advertisement is only for the Scheduled Castes belonging to that District and percentage of that District is applied for recruitment or promotion, as far as this particular caste is concerned. So, this Bill is very significant. Let us not make any suggestion which will violate the fundamental principle of giving adequate representation to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, as far as the State Government is concerned.

Now, as far as this particular Bill is concerned, highest number of people are dislocated from the State of Madhya Pradesh. As a result, all people belonging to that submerged village, who belong to Scheduled Castes community, as listed in the Bill — *Balahi, Balai, Bhangli, Mehtar, Chamar, Chikwa, Chikvi, Koli, Kori*, etc., — are already there. Identical sub-castes are there in Gujarat, but there are many sub-castes, which are not there in the list of Gujarat. As a result, they are not coming willingly. They are dislocated. Now, the problem with the Government of Gujarat is that their names do not appear in the list of the Government of Gujarat, as approved by Parliament. As a result, the list of the sub-castes should be included in the list of Government of Gujarat. Hence, this Bill has come before us. So, I welcome it.

Similarly, there are various sub-castes of Scheduled Tribes also like *Bhil, Bhilala, Barela, Patelia, Bhil, Tadvil, Pawra, Vasave* — in Gujarat, we have got Vasava, but there is no Vasave; we have got *Patel*, but not *Patelia*. So, this is very important. These are the sub-castes of Maharashtra. They will come on account of submersion to Gujarat and hence the requirement is that they should be included in the list.

My request to the hon. Minister is that when you are agreeing that these villagers, who come to Gujarat on account of submersion of their villages, their names should be included in the list of Government of Gujarat so that they can get the benefit as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Their population should be added to the present population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Gujarat, and if necessary, the percentage of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes be amended accordingly in Gujarat.

Sir, I am thankful to our former Prime Minister, Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, who has pointed out that revision of percentage on the basis of population is not done regularly. We have completed the census of 2001. Once I spoke in this very august House that the reservation of Members of Parliament in Lok Sabha is on the basis of 1971 Census and we now have the

Census figures of 2001 also. As a result, they get less representation. If the same thing continues in services in Gujarat, Scheduled Castes will get only seven per cent reservation because of the figure of 1971 Census whereas Scheduled Tribes will get 14 per cent reservation. I would request the hon. Minister and the Government in power that once the census is over, they can take a reasonable time. Suppose the census is complete in 2001. By 2002 or 2003, they must revise the percentage in services, percentage in admissions in educational institutions and percentage of SCP and other grants going from the Central Government to the State Governments. Otherwise, the very purpose of taking the census every ten years and adequate representation under article 355 of the Constitution is defeated.

There is another serious issue which I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. As a member of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Welfare Committee, I am here. Shri Rati Lal Varma is the Chairman of that Committee and my sister, Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena is also there. We have come across hundreds of cases of false certificates in this country, and that too particularly in banks, LIC and public sector undertakings, and not in Group C and D but in Group A and B, for recruitment and promotion. There are cases where a man has joined service with the help of a bogus certificate and he has worked for twenty years, and after 20 years it is detected on the basis of an anonymous petition that he has availed the benefit provided to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes. In fact, they do not belong to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe categories, but the Government is waiting for a decision. I would request this august House that as far as the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is concerned, the Parliament is supreme. The power to give a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe certificate should be given to a competent authority in every district in every State and only that certificate should be taken as valid.

Another suggestion is that the Ministry should collect all information concerning false certificates all over the country. This is the job of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Otherwise, the real Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are deprived of their constitutional rights. This is a very serious issue.

At this juncture, I would like to draw your attention to another issue which is very serious as far as the State of Gujarat is concerned. There was an anomaly created in the year 1976 by the then Government when area restriction was removed. It was a good amendment, but as far as Gujarat is concerned, people were not aware about the history of Gujarat. Gujarat State came into being in the year 1960. Prior to that, it was Bombay State — now known as Maharashtra or Mumbai. According to the old Bombay State, there was a particular

[Shri Pravin Rashtupal]

sub-caste, namely *mochi*. They were Scheduled Caste in the Dang district of the then Bombay State and the Umargaon taluka of the then Bombay State. The number of persons belonging to this particular sub-caste, as far as the Dang district and the Umargaon taluka are concerned, was few hundred only, but they were doing the work of tanning and skinning dead animals. As a result, they were rightly included in the list of Scheduled Castes of the then Bombay State. After the division of the Bombay State into two States that is Maharashtra and Gujarat, Dang district and the Umargaon taluka of Bulsar district came in the State of Gujarat. Accordingly, from the Government of India, there was an area restriction. So, these people were allowed to continue to be getting the benefit of Scheduled Caste. But in 1976, this area restriction was removed. That was a mistake. Whatever may have been the Government - it may have been a Congress Government - but this mistake was committed, this anomaly was created. Subsequently, there was the Janata Dal Government, there was the Congress Government, there was the Janata Dal and BJP Government, again there was the RJP and Congress Government, and right now there is the BJP Government, but there is no difference of opinion among all political parties of Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat has written ten times to the Government of India. I was not a Member of Parliament but I had an opportunity of meeting the then Prime Minister, Shri Narasimha Rao and other M.Ps. and social leaders. I had also met the hon. ex-Prime Minister who is sitting here, Shri Deve Gowda, when he was the Prime Minister. I had also an opportunity of meeting hon. Shri Vajpayee Ji, who is the present Prime Minister.

All the three Prime Ministers have accepted our request saying that the demand is just and very simple and very genuine; but it cannot be done without introducing an amendment to the Constitution. The papers were naturally sent to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment which was required to do the homework. We got a written reply, as the Hon. Member has rightly quoted : "We are going to prepare a comprehensive Bill; we have got hundreds of requests for inclusion." But our case was not of inclusion or deletion. The Gujarat case was of re-imposing the area restriction. In fact, I am happy that this Bill is already prepared by the Ministry but has gone, according to the rule or convention, to the Standing Committee of Labour and Welfare. It should not have gone to that Committee. But it has gone.

I would, now, request the hon. Minister to kindly speak to the Chairman of the Committee. In fact, I have also spoken to him. He has agreed that if this is the matter, then the Committee may expedite the report. I would request the hon. Minister to take personal interest because the population Mochi is a few hundred in Dang district; they may be hardly

1,000 in number but in the entire Gujarat they are five lakhs in number. The people of that particular sub-caste are availing the benefit because otherwise they are very forward as compared to the Scheduled Castes.

There is another anomaly here. This particular sub-caste was already included in the list of Other Backward Classes of the State. They are already there in the list of Other Backward Classes. Can a caste remain in two lists, OBC and also in Scheduled Castes? According to my information, the Government of Gujarat has given an assurance. I am in constant touch with the Minister of Social Justice in Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat has given an assurance that if the area restriction is re-imposed, the entire *Mochi* sub-caste will be included in the list of Other Backward Classes. They can definitely be included in the list of OBCs because of their economic backwardness; but socially they are far ahead. So, at this juncture I am requesting you while supporting this Bill. It is not a condition. As pointed out by the former Prime Minister, hon. Shri H.D. Deve Gowda, all such requests are most genuine requests and are of inclusion. There are a few cases of deletion. In fact, in the Scheduled Castes, there cannot be a case of deletion. There are cases for inclusion. If they are genuine, if the persons are untouchable and if they are not allowed to go to temples and if the barber does not cut their hair etc., then their cases are to be considered. You know what is the criteria. You go to any Indian village and you can see who is a member of the Scheduled Castes and who is not.

I would request you to please expedite this matter. It is pending at the door of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the last 24 years. With Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya as the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, I am sure that it should not remain there for another 24 days. You may kindly bring that Bill.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRINITISH KUMAR):  
We will do it.

SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL : It is very good that you would do it.

[English]

I am very thankful to you. I support this Bill because it is absolutely necessary. Whenever any public projects are taken up, the worst affected are the tribals. The dislocation is always of the tribals or the poor people residing in the villages.

With these words, I support the Bill and I also request the Minister concerned to introduce the Bill as far as re-imposition of area restriction is concerned. Thank you very much.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA : Sir, I may just submit that I was also present at the meeting with the former Prime Minister hon. Shri Deve Gowda at Hyderabad House at 12 in the night. This is just to remind him.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA : Yes, all the ninety people were there.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAM RAJ SINGH PATEL (PHULPUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Samajwadi Party, I support the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002. At this moment, while making amendments in this Bill. I would like to say that there are still many castes which have neither been included in the list of scheduled castes nor in the list of other backward classes. These castes are not getting any facility. There is one Goraiya caste in Uttar Pradesh which is being included in list of scheduled tribes in the same manner there is Mushar Caste and Nomadic Banjara castes which do not live at one place.

As other hon'ble Members have also stated, I request the hon'ble Minister to include these castes in the list of scheduled castes and the castes which deserve to be included. In the OBC list, those should be included therein. Now, retrenchment is going on in Public Sector Undertakings and Government is reducing its share in these undertakings. The Government is trying to sell Public Undertakings like Maruti Udyog, BALCO and other such companies and these are being taken up by Private Sector but the benefit of reservation should continue therein. Multi-national companies and Private Companies are coming, whether this Scheduled Caste/OBC Reservation Act will be applicable in them or not? The people belonging to these castes should get reservation facility in them also.

Sir, I would like to say two-three points to the hon'ble Minister, though I do not know as to whether this can be done by him or not or what is the policy of the Government in this regard. We are continuously noticing it and hon'ble President has also pointed out that number of people belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes is quite inadequate in the list being prepared for appointment of judges. I, therefore, demand from the hon'ble Minister and the Government of India that reservation facility should be provided in appointment of judges in High Court and Supreme Court as these are the temple of justice. I would like to tell here that court has not given judgement in case of the dismissal of Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav from the office of Chief Minister. In case of dismissal of Mayawati from the office of Chief Minister, so far no judgement has been given

by Legislative Assembly Speaker and the High Court. But when Chief Minister of BJP was dismissed in Uttar Pradesh then High Court immediately gave its judgement and Chief Minister belonging to Bhartiya Janata Party was appointed again. I do not wish to lower the dignity of hon'ble High Court or Supreme Court but I want to say that much only, that justice should be done there.

Castes are not given importance in appointment of Government lawyers. Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister that the neglected castes should get justice everywhere. The hon'ble Minister of Petroleum is present here. He has constituted Dealer Selection Board wherein retired judges were appointed as Chairman. I would like to know that out of them how many judges belong to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes and how many persons belonging to these castes are appointed as Chairman of Dealer Selection Board. It is said that reservation facility is being provided to them but actually they are not getting justice. People belonging to these castes are being neglected in respect of appointment to higher posts—whether it is the post of Vice-Chancellor or any other post. I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India that people belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs should be provided with reservation facility in the areas where they are not getting the same. With this request, I support this Bill.

16.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (VISAKHAPATNAM) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002, and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002, as introduced by the Minister, are welcome measures and they are to be appreciated because they are very much needed. A considerable delay has already occurred in this. Most of the poor Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes migrate from one place to another in search of employment, sometimes, under the 'Food for Work Programme'. Naturally, they do not have any fixed assets at the place of their stay.

It is strange that a particular caste people in one State come under the Backward Class, when they move to a neighbouring State and they do not come under either the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe. This peculiar problem is not only there in Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat and Orissa, but also in other parts of the country. For instance, fishermen in Orissa come under the Scheduled Caste category. Some of these fishermen who have migrated from Orissa are staying in Srikakulam District, and they are in a

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

pitiable condition because when they migrate to Andhra Pradesh, they are no longer being treated as Scheduled Caste, but as a Backward Class community. I do not know whether they have submitted any memorandum or not. It is very unfortunate that those fishermen who have migrated from Orissa to Andhra Pradesh have not been listed in this Bill as Scheduled Castes.

It should be treated as a routine work and it should be done periodically because there are so many castes in India and, particularly the downtrodden and the voiceless people do not know how to represent their case. If they have the voice and if they were able to represent themselves, this pitiable condition would not have occurred.

In spite of all these, caste exploitation is still going on. Many of us are not able to find ways and means to mitigate their sufferings. These things have come to light because of the inclusion of Scheduled Castes oustees of Sardar Sarovar Project from the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra as new castes in the list of the Scheduled Castes in respect of the State of Gujarat. This should have been done long back. They were suffering for so many years, and we are now trying to correct the situation. This is a welcome sign.

Likewise, through the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002, they are including 'Mangali' community in Koraput and Kalahandi districts and 'Mirgan' community in Navrangpur district of Orissa in the list of Scheduled Castes. My request is that the fishermen in Andhra Pradesh should also be not included in this list. Let us immediately pass on this benefit to them.

There is a National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. That Commission should go around, receive petitions from the State Governments and mitigate the sufferings of these low caste people. If we can do something to them, we will be doing a great help to humanity, especially the poorer sections. We cannot ask them to stay at one particular place. If there is drought or some natural calamity, they go to nearby places, to other States. If we take the 'Mangali' community, they are treated as Scheduled Castes in Orissa, whereas when they migrate to Andhra Pradesh, they are treated as Backward Class. They come to Andhra Pradesh seeking employment under the 'Food for Work Programme'. My suggestion is that you should go by their spoken language and their origins. These poor fishermen, when they come to Srikakulam District in Andhra Pradesh in Tekkali Constituency, they are treated as Backward Class.

Sir, if the people belonging to Mangali community, who are treated as belonging to the Scheduled Castes community, comes to Parvathipuram, their neighbouring district, in Andhra

Pradesh then they are treated as belonging to Backward community. That is not correct. It should be done on the basis of their origin and their language of Mother tongue and their position should not change with a change in their place of stay. Otherwise we would not be doing justice to those people and it would not be a good thing in the larger interest of the country. This aspect has to be taken into consideration.

Sir, there should also be a periodic review — may be once in a year or once in two years — of these castes so that people who do migrate to other States at regular intervals could be put into the right caste categories and they get the benefits. It is then only that we would be helping them.

Sir, with these few words I welcome these amendments and support them.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (BANDA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak. I wholeheartedly support the Bill presented here. I would like to give one suggestion, though it is not related to this Bill. I would like to say that for complete solution to the problems of scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes a new Bill with comprehensive amendments should be brought, so that various problems and points raised by hon'ble Members could be discussed for consideration. I feel that the new Bill will get the same support which is being given to the Bill presented here today. The hon'ble Minister should show courage to introduce such a Bill. All the hon'ble Members have told that why such a Bill is required and I am also telling that.

You may be remembering your visit of Chitrakoot district of Uttar Pradesh. I did not have any information about that but laterally I got information from your statements published in various newspapers. You made a good announcement there. Chitrakoot district is adjoining to Madhya Pradesh.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : I had gone to Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : You may have gone to Madhya Pradesh but Chitrakoot is located on the way. ... (Interruptions) It is a good thing. You should go everywhere. There people belonging to tribal communities gave a memorandum to you. Several districts of Uttar Pradesh like Chitrakoot, Banda, Mohaba, Jhansi, Hamirpur and whole strip of Banaras, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra are adjacent to Madhya Pradesh wherein people belonging to two-three scheduled castes and scheduled tribes live. 'Kol' is the main caste among them and at different locations this caste is known as 'Kol' Kollar etc. People belonging to Kol, Maviya and Gond castes live there in large number. Out of total 12 crore population of these

districts the number of people belonging to these castes is about 30-40 lakh. These castes are included in the list of scheduled castes but not in the list of scheduled tribes. At that time people raised a demand to include these castes in the list of scheduled tribe. In its response a statement of yours was published in various newspapers that these castes will be included in the list of scheduled tribes. I hoped that while moving this Bill, this amendment will be incorporated for including these castes in the list of scheduled tribe. But it is a small amendment and this was not done. Therefore, I say that a comprehensive Bill should be brought to include these castes in the list of scheduled tribes as there is rational behind this. People belonging to these communities settled in Reewa, Satna, Chhatarpur and other districts of Madhya Pradesh are included in the list of scheduled tribe but people belonging to same communities living in southern part of Uttar Pradesh which is just adjacent to it are not included in the list of scheduled tribes. It is detrimental for these people. I would like to cite an example in this regard. Recently an advertisement was published for allotment of petrol pumps. But that can be allotted only when people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in that particular area. But when people of these area are not included in the list then how can they be benefited. These people are deprived of reservation facility and other benefits given to them by Government of India in services and other fields. I request you to give assurance for its consideration in the House.

I would like to tell you about a letter written in this regard. The Minister of Tribal Affairs, Shri Jugal Karmacharya is not present here. He wrote a letter to me and I wrote a letter to the hon'ble Prime Minister for inclusion of these castes in the list of scheduled tribes. The reply of hon'ble Prime Minister came to me and also reached to the Minister of Tribal Affairs via Home Ministry. I have with me the copy of reply sent to me by the hon'ble Minister. I do not feel necessary to read out this. It has been written in this letter that this matter is under consideration. You have been Minister of some other department and assurance is being given by another Minister. You should say here that hon'ble Minister has given assurance to consider this and that will be done. Then I will accept that you really want to work for the welfare of tribals. ... (Interruptions) I would like to say that this amendment should be admitted.

I would like to say that Dr. Ambedkar made provisions in the constitution for providing facilities to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and backward classes, at that time also Manuvadi people opposed that. I would like to say that we have to struggle continuously for protecting interests of

scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes so that dreams of Dr. Ambedkar could be realised. Hon'ble Minister please listen to my slogan which is :

"Dr. Ambedkar tera mission adhura,

Bahan Mayawati aur Kanshiram Kareenge Pura."

We all should unite, struggle and try to accomplish it ... (Interruptions)

We have no objection if Manuvadis follow us. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your name appears in the list of Speakers, so please allow him to speak. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN : If Manuvadis and other people are prepared to follow us and support our cause, we are ready to take their support, whosoever they are. Let us not divide it, if we are to accomplish the mission, we have to make efforts with solidarity. He should contact Rao Sahebji and should speak something in the House in this regard so that we would get some strength. Otherwise, often people just hear and get off. With these words, I strongly support the Bill.

SHRIMATI JAS Kaur MEENA (SWAI MADHOPUR) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak in support of those two Bills brought in for betterment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

During last 50 years SCs and STs have enjoyed the fruits of reservation but the last four decades have witnessed figurative tussle in the name of constitutional provision for reservation. Other way, I would like to say that if we take the justice and injustice aspect of reservation, injustice prevails upon justice. During last two and half years, the present Government passed two amendments in this very House and despite their passing, some of non-BJP Governments have not yet enforced them. It clearly indicates that in view of political appeasement Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are not able to avail full benefits of reservation. Today, I would like to speak on first Ordinance out of the two. There have been talks of adding some castes in some States such as Punjab and Bengal to Scheduled Castes list. The problem is not solely of Punjab and Bengal, there are certain sub-castes of Scheduled Castes in whole country whose social and economic standard is so poor which reminds one following poem of a famous poet.

"Swanon ko milta Doodh-vastra, bhukhe balak akulate hain,

Maan ki haddi se chipat nithur,

Jade ki raat bitate hain".



[Shrimati Jas Kaur Meena]

Such is the condition of those Scheduled Caste families who had no opportunity to study and who are socially backward and economically weaker. One can see the condition in Delhi, especially along railway tracks where lakhs of people languishing in jhuggi-clusters and they look as if they are blisters on the chest of Mother India and slum-dwellers are like insects writhing in pain. If a survey is conducted in this regard, it would be revealed that SCs and STs working as labours in Delhi are forced to stay in these jhuggis.

Several welfare schemes are implemented for their benefit but the benefit of these schemes do not reach them. Many intellectual, well to do and capable persons belonging to upper castes set up voluntary organisations and spend the money so mobilised on their luxuries. I would request hon. Minister to get the matter relating to his Ministry checked in this regard. He would come to know how persons belonging to upper castes eat away large chunks of money meant for education, social betterment of Scheduled Castes and for providing medical services to them. Sitting in Delhi they play all sorts of tricks. They are greedy for votes and when election time comes, they approach them. There are several sub-castes and castes of SCs who are not provided reservation in different States. In this regard I would like to emphasise that people of Scheduled Tribes perform 90 per cent of physical labour in the country. When Ganga and Yamuna canals were dug in U.P. people belonging to SC and ST came to U.P. from Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Bihar with their families. They dug the canals and when issue of allotment of surplus land came up, no one was allotted land and if at all, some were allotted, it was two or two and a half acres of land. As our colleague Ashok Pradhanji, who is State Minister too, has raised this issue that there are lakhs of families which came to U.P. from other States for digging canals stayed put in U.P. itself. Many of them belong to Meena community and they do not get benefit of reservation in U.P. now. Similar issue of particular case has been raised by hon. Member from Madhya Pradesh Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot. He said that many people used to move out of Rajasthan during severe famine in search of water, fodder and food and entire villages used to get deserted. Several such castes had settled in Madhya Pradesh. Today, there is no constitutional provision of reservation for them in Madhya Pradesh. My submission is that, today, around four and a half lakh Scheduled Tribes families are staying in U.P., M.P. and Delhi, the seat of power, but these STs are not provided benefit of reservation in Delhi. While introducing this Amendment Bill, hon. Minister should have kept Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi in view. People belonging to Scheduled Tribes who have been staying here for over 100 years should be extended the benefit of reservation. Attention will have to be paid towards percentage of reservation. Many castes are being brought within the

category of reservation be it for SC's, ST's or OBC but their percentage is not increased. It means, only capable persons would be able to enjoy benefit of reservation and people living in hills, villages and farmers will not be able to get the benefit of reservation. And people belonging to SC who have fled their native states and have come to metros in search of job, but have become slum-dwellers are not even aware of such benefits. Their educational backwardness is the main reason behind it which saw no improvement during last fifty years. I, myself, have got elected from constituency reserved for ST's. Female literacy rate in my constituency is not even 0.5 per cent. When their literacy rate is lowest how can we expect any sort of constitutional benefit or protection for them. I would like to bring one thing to your attention that today, since there is a separate Ministry for Scheduled Tribe, the Minister incharge of Scheduled Tribes should have been present here so that he could understand the inequality in reservation in States other than Punjab and Bengal and also the way it is being affected adversely.

Sir, second Bill relates to SC/ST persons displaced because of Sardar Sarovar Project undertaken on Narmada river. People from Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra will have to go to Gujarat and reservation system in Gujarat is faulty. I think that Constitution of India is meant for entire country. The castes included in should be recognised throughout the country and benefit of reservation should be provided every where in an uniform way. If this system is adopted it would act as a check on reduction of reservation and doing injustice with Scheduled Tribes by the States. My submission is that hon. Minister should consider it seriously. Political appeasement causes injustice to Scheduled Tribes and it is not prevalent only in one state, it is in many states where availing of reservation benefit of ST's has become difficult.

In the end, I would conclude with one more point. It is necessary to have close monitoring of various benefits extended through different Ministries of Central and State Governments. In absence of this assessment, their social, educational and economic upliftment could not take place during last 50 years. I am sorry to say that even today in my constituency there are hundreds of villages without Health Workers. In absence of proper education, people go in for all sort of magical rites for recovery of patients suffering from Cholera. When someone tries to give them proper advice they take the plea that they are illiterate and they believe that Lord Bhaironji and Mataji would help them getting relieved of Cholera, vomiting etc.

Even after 50 years of independence, the condition is this. Earlier many constitutional amendments were made and in the last two years two constitutional amendments were made relating to employment and now two constitutional

amendments have been presented to include certain castes and sub-castes. I don't think that even after passing of these two bills we will be able to protect their interests. It would be implemented by those people who belong to upper caste, well to do families, big bureaucrats or Environmentalists. Due to all these, we will not be able to give them benefits and therefore my request is that precaution should be taken in this regard. After passing of these two bills, the interests of these people, as has been envisaged, should be protected.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

**\*SHRI RUPCHAND MURMU (JHARGRAM) :** Mr Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on these Bills. I also congratulate the Hon. Minister to bring these two important Bills. After he became the Minister, Dr. Jatiya has shown his concern for the welfare of adivasis, the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the backward community. And, he also adopted certain measures for the development of SCs and STs. One Hon. Member from my party has already spoken on these Bills. I won't take much time because one more colleague of mine will also speak on the same Bills. The purpose of the Bill, the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002 is to include the names of the displaced persons from the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, due to Sardar Sarovar Project and may settle in the State of Gujarat and to include their names in the list of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes of Gujarat. While supporting, I must mention this problem of rehabilitation after displacement is prevailing in many States of our country. Concern has been expressed for the rehabilitation of the oustees of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and the purpose of the Bill is to enlist them for Gujarat. Many Honourable Members have spoken on the Bill and supported it. I also support it, but I would like to ask what the Minister would like to do as far as displaced persons in other States is concerned. I must mention the problem prevailing in Assam. Many years back, many adivasis, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes migrated to Assam in search for job and they settled down there permanently. But till now, their name has not been included in the SC/ST list of Assam. As mentioned by Hon. Member Shri Dasmunshi, I would also like to say about Select Committee of 1996. The Chairman of that Committee was our Hon. Shri Amar Roy Pradhan. The report was submitted timely in 1997 but no action was taken on the recommendations of that report. No Bill was moved and the names of those people were not included in the list of SC/ST of Assam. I request the Hon. Minister to look into the matter and take some move so that the names of these adivasis, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are

included in the List of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes of Assam. I have been elected in the SC/ST Parliamentary Committee this year. I was a member of that Committee in the past also. Whenever we have visited that area, they have approached us and presented their representation with a demand that their name should be included in the SC/ST List of Assam. I request the Hon. Minister Dr. Jatiya to look into this important matter also. Sir, the British ruled our country for more than 200 years. They have resorted to all kinds of exploitation, oppression to these adivasis, but I would like to say that these adivasis never compromised with them. Right from the beginning, they agitated, revolted to get freedom from colonial rule. We speak of Sidhu Kanu Virasamunda, Ajit Murmu and various other adivasis whose names, I just can't recollect now. But, these people have agitated, revolted for freedom. In 1855, Sidhu Kanu fought against the British. If we discuss their agitation, we come to know that it was against the rule of the British and along with that they also fought against the oppressor, the Jotdar, Zamindar and the money lender. They felt that after the British there won't be any injustice and oppression against them. But, it did not end after the British. It continued even after independence. Some move has been adapted to ameliorate the conditions of the exploited people, but nothing substantial has come up. They are socially, economically and educationally still backward. Here, we have the Hon. Members, the leaders of this august House, I will request them to rise above party lines and think about the plight of these unfortunate people. A conscious effort must be taken to make this people equal to any human being. They have the problem of food and ordinary livelihood. The name of West Bengal has been mentioned here. Hon. Shri Dasmunshi and Shri Vikram Sarkar have mentioned about land. But, they have not mentioned about land reform. If the question of land reform comes up, then we have to speak about West Bengal, Kerala, Tripura. They have distributed land among the poor, among the adivasis. It has been mentioned in Mandal Commission Report also that most of the backward people are agricultural, marginal labourers. They are associated with land. Without land reform if land is not provided to them, irrigation facility is not given to them, then, how will they earn livelihood? How will change come in their life? When we speak about land, we have to mention West Bengal. What was the condition prevailing before 1977? If we think of adivasis, the condition they are facing, we have to revive the timing pre-77 and post - 77. Before 1977, especially during the month of September-October, the adivasis had to face hunger with the scarcity of food. I am an adivasi. I was a school student. I used to go to school with empty stomach in the month of September-October. I remained hungry throughout the day. Now, there is definitely a change in the life of the adivasis, Scheduled Castes in West Bengal due to land reform. Of course, problems are there. It has been

\*English Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

[Shri Rupchand Murmu]

mentioned that in some areas adivasis are attacked. The reasons may be political also. He has mentioned about Keshpur, Garpeta and other areas, but this kind of situation was created to advantage political mileage. I don't want to go into such controversy, but certain facts cannot be denied. Adivasis have problems and it is not only sufficient to provide food to them. The adivasis have their own language, culture, especially the Santhals. They have their own language, culture, their script. They are losing the distinct identity of their language due to influence of other language. Their cultural identity is also suffering. They have their own script known as Olchiki. We have raised this issue so many times in Parliament. But, nothing has been done so far. West Bengal Government has recognized Santhali language. A unanimous resolution was passed in West Bengal and they have sent it for the consideration of the Central Government so that Santhali language is included in the VIIIth Schedule of the Constitution. The Government of India must think over it and give recognition to the rich Santhali language and include it in the VIIIth Schedule as early as possible. It has not been done so far. I request the Hon. Minister to think over it and urge upon the Government to give recognition to Santhali language and to include it in the VIII Schedule of our Constitution. In West Bengal, the primary schools have already Santhali language and its script have been used as medium of instruction in the adivasi areas. There is a Committee to think and to take some procedure, so that this Santhali language can be used for higher education also. Other adivasis are also fighting for their language who want that due recognition should be given to their language.

I said here I won't take much time. I will talk on two-three issues concerning the adivasis. The West Bengal Government has taken certain effective steps for the cultural preservation of the adivasis. But, the State Government alone cannot do it. The Central Government must take some effective measures to preserve culture and language of the adivasis. I want to mention another important issue. Some of the adivasis have been involved in communal incidents. This is happening because some political parties and other organizations have started 'distributing' religion to the adivasis. I must say whenever a mishap has happened in India, the first victim were always only the adivasis. It may be riot, it may be communal disturbance, it may be earthquake. Because they are poor people and some of them are being lured and they become victims of the circumstances. But, I would like to remind the people, who are busy in 'distributing' religion that before distributing religion they should distribute education to the adivasis. They have to think of their economic condition, their way of life, their lack of education. Why don't they bother to provide these things to the adivasis. The religion in personal affair, why should this be imposed on others? The deprived lots of adivasis need overall development. I hope the

Government of India will take some measures so as to provide some concrete development to these people. I request the Hon. Minister to use his good Office, so that something can be done for the welfare of the adivasis.

I, after supporting these two Bills, and, once again, thanking the Chair for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion, conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI MADHAB RAJBANGSHI (MANGALDAI) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, here I take my stand to support the two Bills. While supporting the two Bills, I would like to raise a serious matter which has become a constitutional crisis in Assam. My senior colleague and Chief Whip of Congress Party has mentioned the problems of *Koch Rajbangshi* in Assam. *Koch Rajbangshi* people of Assam are socially, economically and politically downtrodden. They are socially, economically and politically downtrodden not only in Assam, but also in North-East. My relative and senior M.P., Shri Amar Roy Pradhan belongs to *Koch Rajbangshi* caste. We belonged to Scheduled Castes in West Bengal; we belonged to Scheduled Tribes in Meghalaya; we belonged to OBCs in Assam; and we belonged to General category in Bihar.

Hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment has done injustice to us by not including *Koch Rajbangshi* in this Bill. Let me describe as to how he has done injustice to us. I belonged to Scheduled Tribe in 1996. Now, I belong to OBC category. I contested as a Scheduled Tribe candidate in 1996 election. One Shri Karuno Datta was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly from a Scheduled Tribe (Reserved) constituency. It is because we were included in the list of Scheduled Tribe during the regime of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao, by promulgating an Ordinance. This Ordinance was issued for four times. In 1996, Bill No. 21 of 1996, was introduced in the House during the regime of Shri Deve Gowda who was the Prime Minister of India at that time. That Bill was referred to a Parliamentary Select Committee by the House. Shri Amar Roy Pradhan was Chairman of that Committee. They went to Assam and studied the matter. They took evidence from all, including leading citizens. They have recommended that *Koch Rajbangshi* should be included in the list of Scheduled Tribe. The Committee submitted its Report on 14th August, 1997. Up to 14th August, 1997, we belonged to Scheduled Tribe. After that no Ordinance was issued, nor a Bill was introduced. Now, *Koch Rajbangshi* caste is neither Scheduled Tribe nor OBC. Now, we are neither here nor there. My student, who belongs to *Koch Rajbangshi* caste, is studying in an Engineering College. Now, he has come under General category. Shri Karuno Datta who was elected as a Scheduled Tribe candidate, has also come under General category. No

Bill was introduced. The Lok Sabha was then dissolved. The Ordinance was not renewed. Koch Rajbangshi has become a general caste. Hon. Social Justice Minister, is it not an injustice meted out to us? Is it not a constitutional crisis? From 1998 onwards, I have been demanding it. The BJP support us. The State BJP Executive Committee of Assam have adopted a Resolution saying that Koch Rajbangshi should be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes. They had made a commitment about this in the election manifesto also. The BJP has given this assurance in the election manifesto. The Congress has given this assurance in its election manifesto saying that Koch Rajbangshi should be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes. Shri Rajan Gohai, the State Unit President, had given an assurance to us before the election that Koch Rajbangshi would be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes during their time.

Shri Dilip Singh Bhuria was the Chairman of the National Commission on Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. He went to Assam. He said while he was speaking in front of a large number of people that our caste would be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes. Shrimati Bijoya Chakravorty, who is the Central Minister, also assured us about this. But I am very sorry to say that there is no response at all from the side of the Government. The Central Government was to introduce a Bill in the House to this effect. In this Bill, the Koch Rajbangshi community is not mentioned. Yet I support it. The Koch Rajbangshi community was recommended to be included along with five other communities - Ahom, Moran, Motok, Chutia and the ex-tea garden tribes - by the Select Committee.

Here, I would like to mention that one more problem arises in Assam. The Central Government has decided to create a Bodo Autonomous Council in Assam where only 18 per cent Bodo people are there. Sir, 82 per cent people are non-tribals in this area. Only 18 per cent people are Bodo people who reside in this area. They have decided to create this Council. If this Council is created by the Central Government as well as the State Government, what will be the fate of the 82 per cent non-tribal people? Further, more than 50 per cent people in this area are Koch Rajbangshi and tea-tribes. May I request the Central Government, through you, Sir, to introduce a Bill in this House before creating a separate Bodo Territorial Council in the State of Assam? I would also request the Government that they should include the name of this community in this Bill as belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. Otherwise, there will be a serious resentment in the State of Assam. You may see that in Bengal more than 5000 Koch Rajbangshi people are in jail now. They are demanding a separate Kamatapur State there. So, this resentment is developing in my State also. But we have never demanded a separate State. We are Assamese. We would

like to stay in Assam. We are simply demanding that we should be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes. We are socially, economically and politically backward. So, we should be included in the List of Scheduled Tribes. This is our simple demand.

May I know what is the reason for not introducing the Bill in the House after the same is recommended by the Government of Assam, the Registrar General of India, the Select Committee, and supported by the BJP, the Communist Parties and the Congress Party? There is no opposition from any party for including *koch rajbangshi* into the list of Scheduled Tribes. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the reason? If there is no reason, please introduce the Bill in the next Session so that the problem can be solved in Assam.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

\* SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL (JOYNAGAR) : Hon. Mr Chairman Sir, Dr. Jatiya has brought two Bills viz. the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002, for discussion and passing. I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion and I shall be brief while expressing my views. We have seen in the Bill that there is a provision to include the names of some SCs and STs in the SC/ST list. On the whole we have a complaint that after partition many displaced people arrived and settled down here. Many of them belong to SC/ST. Some attempts were made for the improvement of these people but nothing concrete came out. In 1996 a Select Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Shri Amar Roy Pradhan. After visiting Assam, Bihar, Kuchbihar and many other areas and collecting information about SC/STs a Report was prepared with a recommendation of inclusion of certain castes and tribes in the list of SC/STs. It has been mentioned already that the said report was submitted on 14th August, 1997. But till today no attempt has been made on the part of the Central Government to take certain steps for the welfare of SC/STs, as recommended in the report.

When we find that the measures taken for the SC/STs in other parts of India, we come across certain things. The people who are recognised and enlisted as SC/STs in a particular area do not have the same status if they happen to live in another State. After the partition of the country many people were displaced and came to settle down here. They were sent to Dandakaranya, Manacamp, Orissa, UP and other

\*English Translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.

[Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal]

areas. Although these people really belong to SC/ST, they did not get recognition in the areas where they settled down. In West Bengal, we have enlisted Poundra and Namosudhro, as SCs but these very people who settled down in Orissa or Bihar have not got the recognition of a Scheduled Caste. This discrimination has led to widespread repercussions. We find that people with SC/ST background have not got any development, educationally, socially or economically. This has happened due to faulty administrative measures. We have seen that the money allocated for the welfare of the SC/ST is far from adequate and the money is also not spent on them properly. I will request the hon. Minister to give sufficient allocation for the developmental programme for SC/STs. Moreover, paying attention to their culture, language and lifestyle is needed.

We have seen in West Bengal specially in Sunderban area, there is a caste known as Mahato. They have not been recognised as SC. So we find that to earn livelihood these people have settled down in Sunderban area. They lack the facility of education, economic stability and face many more problems. They have their own language, own culture and way of life. They settled down in Sunderban when they were engaged in cutting down the jungle. They fulfil all the criteria of SC but unfortunately they have not got that recognition as yet. Side by side we find that there are Oram and others with the same language and culture and weak economic background got the recognition of an SC and ST. We have to get rid of this kind of discrimination. Realising the discrimination many hon. Members have expressed the need for a comprehensive Bill. But unfortunately nothing has been done after 1950 either in the form of comprehensive Bill or modification in the list. That is why we have the complaint against the Central Government for this inaction. I support these two Bills fully and expect the Government to adopt certain measures so as to satisfy the lacuna prevailing in the system.

With these words after thanking the hon. Chairman for giving me an opportunity to express my views, I conclude my speech.

SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA (BHATINDA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya has presented two amendment Bills - one Bill relates to giving reservation facility to the Oustees of Sardar Sarovar Dam, who have migrated from Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh to Gujarat.

17.00 hrs.

They should be given reservation facility. This is a good thing and I welcome this step. Alongwith this, I would also like to tell that mere rehabilitating them at some other place is not

enough, infrastructural facilities should also be created there for them. Employment opportunities should be created there and their condition should be improved by creating a special fund. There should be such a programme so that they may not feel that they have come from other state and what would happen to them. It is right that reservation should be given to them but necessary arrangement should also be made for rehabilitating them at some other place. It is essential.

The second Bill intends to include those castes into the list of scheduled castes which had been left for a long time. From the other Bill you will find that in Punjab there are Ramdasia, Raidasia and Ravidasia Castes. However in the order of 1950 it was mentioned as Ramdasi and Ravidasi. Till today these castes were considered to be scheduled castes but in the last election someone filed an appeal in the High Court as a result thereof an MLA was unseated because he was having a certificate of Ravidasia instead of Ravidasi. Therefore, the Provision made for amending that is a good step. There was an amendment Bill of hon'ble Bansalji, even that has been included in this.

Besides including this Bill, many other things are also mentioned in it like other castes do not get reservation. There is no reservation in many top posts like the post of Judge. Why there is no reservation in this. A person after fulfilling the requisite qualification can be appointed as a Judge but he will not be appointed as a Judge because he is from Scheduled caste. The Government should also reply as to why there is no reservation in the category of Judges. Likewise, there is no reservation for the post of Vice-chancellors.

In Punjab there are six Universities but not even a single Vice-Chancellor belong to SC. In case of big posts, persons of SCs are not nominated by the Government and discrimination is made in this regard therefore, this thing should be taken into consideration. If the Government want to give reservation then reservation should be made applicable for all posts whether it is 25% or 33%.

Secondly, reservation should also be made compulsory in private companies like Banks and other companies. The ratio of reservation should be made applicable to that sector also and should be made compulsory otherwise these people do not bother, only then they will get the benefit. They appoint people as per their wish and do not give any reservation. Therefore, I would request hon'ble Minister that reservation should be made compulsory in private companies also. Mere putting the caste from one list to another, will not do. I would like to request the hon'ble minister to take stringent steps for the upliftment of poor people.

Though 50 years have passed since independence but

even today discrimination is made with them in villages. Even today these people are homeless. In Punjab also, which we consider as most forward state, lakhs of people are homeless and landless. The first government of United Front talked of enacting a comprehensive legislation for the workers wherein legally these people were to be given rights but they were not given. I would like to request the Government to introduce that comprehensive legislation and get it passed. With these words, I support this Bill and hope that the Government would strictly implement this law.

**SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR (SAGAR) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002 presented by Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Satyanarayan Jatiya. I support this proposal which has been brought to include new entries of some castes in the states of Orissa, Punjab and West Bengal with a view to undertake their upliftment in consultation with the concerned state Governments and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission. After Independence many schemes were chalked out for the upliftment of scheduled castes and scheduled Tribes but the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being deprived of the benefits of these schemes because the schemes have not been properly implemented. If you see the families of SC and ST, you will find that most of them live in very small houses and there is no facility of proper drainage and electricity. They do not also get the benefits of the funds released by central Government for the development of slums. On this occasion, I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that inclusion of new castes in three states is a welcome step but even today, it can be seen that 'Dhobi' caste has been included in the list of scheduled caste in Bhopal, Sehore and Raisen districts of Madhya Pradesh but not in other districts of Madhya Pradesh. Whenever any tragedy occurs in our family, someone dies then clothes are not washed at home but are washed by the Dhobi. Similarly, when a baby is born in a family and when the mother comes back to the house after delivery, her clothes are not washed in the house but are washed by the 'Dhobi'. In this way 'Dhobi' who performs an important job and washes clothes of person in distress are considered as untouchable with whom normally people desist from taking meals even today. In Madhya Pradesh, U.P., Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Haryana, "Khatik" caste has been included in the list of SC. I had gone to Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, there 'Khatik' caste has been included in the last category of backward classes and not in scheduled caste. We find that these people do not get the benefits of schemes. The people belonging to scheduled castes have been deprived of the benefits provided by the Government in many states. The

people of other castes get the benefit of SC by obtaining fake certificates. In this connection, I would like to give you another example. An advertisement of gas agency was published for scheduled Tribes in Guna, M.P. A woman from my constituency got that gas agency allotted in her name by getting a fake certificate. Though that advertisement was for the person belonging to scheduled tribe in Guna. When the person of Scheduled Tribe at other place came to know about it, he complained about it to the Collector. Collector inquired from the SDM, whether that woman really belonged to scheduled tribe category, or not, and it was found that she got fake certificate. Due to these fake certificate, deserving people do not get benefit.

Similarly, a scheme for scheduled castes/scheduled tribes is being run in Madhya Pradesh. The Government of Madhya Pradesh is running a scheme to allot 1-2 acres of land to the landless poor people, who have no means of livelihood, and do not possess even one acre of land. But it is being observed that influential people are getting land allotted in the names of their own persons thus the record register the names of persons who deserve it whereas factually they do not deserve it. When these people are in need, when some tragic incident or marriage ceremony take place at their home, they are given a loan of one-two thousand rupees and made bonded labourers. The people of scheduled labourers. The people of scheduled castes are being exploited in many states. I would like to submit to the hon'ble Minister that most of the people of Scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are engaged in small jobs. Only a few people are in services or in good business. Most of them are working as labourers, whether they are engaged in beedi-making or are working in brick-kiln. They are making their livelihood by doing petty jobs.

In the end, while supporting these bills, I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to take strong measures to stop the practice of getting benefit of schemes run for scheduled tribes by producing fake certificates. Alongwith that the districts which have been declared as scheduled tribes should be included in State list and which have been included in state list, should be covered at national level, then only deserving people will get benefit of these schemes.

With these words, while supporting this bill, I conclude.

**\*SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (COOCHBEHAR) :** Hon. Chairman Sir, I totally support the Bills regarding SC/ STs that have been moved in accordance to Article 341 of the Indian Constitution, after so many years. I also extend my congratulations through you, Sir, to the mover of the bills Dr. Jatiya. At least you have come forward after doing away with

[Shri Amar Roy Pradhan]

the red tapism. You have endeavoured to give recognition to at least 8 communities of the SC and STs. But at the same time, I am constrained to say with much sorrow and to the best of my knowledge that whenever the reports regarding SC Commission or ST Commission were raised in this august House - right from the 4th Lok Sabha, the 5th Lok Sabha to the 13th Lok Sabha, then a demand for a whole day discussion was also raised. We also wanted a complete, comprehensive bill regarding this, but this bill is rather a miniscule part - where is the complete one? You have heard sometime back from the members of both sides that there are still so many castes and tribes that could not be accommodated in this bill. I know that you, Sir, is an ardent follower of Swami Vivekananda and the Hon. Minister Shri Jatiya is also a follower of Swami Vivekananda. Swamiji said, "O India! Do not forget that these poor countrymen, these countrymen who do not have food, the illiterate Indians, the cobblers, the scavengers are but your blood, your brother." Can Indian progress without them? It is impossible. If some people think that India can progress bypassing the SCs and STs, then they are living in fool's paradise.

Hon. Minister, there is some praise for you too. You have tried to say through the objects and resolutions portion that on June 15, 1999, as the National Commission for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and the Registrar General of India informed you about these 8 castes and tribes, you incorporated them. My name has been quoted so many times by many hon. Members. I was appointed Chairman of the Constitutional Reforms Committee in the year 1996 - there are other members of the Committee as Shri Ghatowar, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasgupta and so on, from both the sides. We visited states like West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Orissa and other places too. We along with the staff of Lok Sabha Secretariat laboured hard for it. After lots of work and reading numerous letters, we submitted the report on 14th August 1997. Mr Chairman Sir, the date as you can appreciate was long before 15th June 1999. So the question why the former one was not implemented and now the later one is being taken will definitely be raised. Why was it not done, for what it was not done or who did not let it be done. You have said in the bill about why it was necessitated. Detailing this you have said that those people who were rendered displaced in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh due to the Narmada Dam Project, were provided rehabilitation in Gujarat. Their name is to be included in the SC/ST list of Gujarat. No one would oppose that, not from either side. But if only this has happened, then these people who were rendered homeless after partition could not be held responsible for partition. As one hon. Member, Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal said, the leaders and not the people formulated the partition of the country. The leaders might belong to the Congress or the Hindu Mahasabha or the

Muslim League. But the lakhs of people who came from East Bengal to West Bengal as refugees and from West Bengal they were further sent to Madhya Pradesh, Orissa or Dandakaranya or Manacamp or to Andaman Islands for rehabilitation. Why were they sent away? They could not get the recognition of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in those areas. We need a comprehensive bill for this reason only. Shri Ghatowar is present here, he can say that his ancestors were not from Assam but from Jharkhand. The area which is presently known as Jharkhand. The British took away lakhs of people from Jharkhand area and Madhya Pradesh to work in the tea gardens in Assam.

Hon. Chairman Sir, my name has been raised here for a number of times, I request you to allow me to make my views in regard to that.

We earn crores of foreign exchange every year from these tea gardens. And the people who work there are being described as tea-tribes. Why? The Rajbanshi, the Koch and other communities there have been categorized as general. The Santhals, the Oraons, the Mundas - hon. Chairman Sir, can you tell us whether the Santhals are not tribes, the Oraons are not tribes, the Mundas are not tribes? Why is such injustice being meted out? If they are Scheduled Tribes in West Bengal, why can't they be treated the same in Assam? When these people reach Assam and Meghalaya, they are not treated as Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Castes; they are rather being treated as general and tea-tribes. The Committee that was constituted under my Chairmanship recommended that these people should also be taken into the fold. The people of that area in Assam also think in those terms and some think to the contrary too. They think if this community grows beyond 1 crore and they are included as tribes, then the whole State may be rendered into a Tribal State. The bill was not raised only in view of this fear or apprehension.

Hon. Mr. Chairman Sir, how can I describe the agony, the sorrow of these people belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. I would request the hon. Minister, Dr. Jatiya - you have come forward, please step out further with a little faster speed; if you cannot do away with red tapism that has clouded the affairs, then these people in India belonging to SC and ST would never taste freedom. This freedom can be transformed into reality if you bring a comprehensive bill. A bill through which we can proclaim that these poor, hapless people, the cobblers, the scavengers - all of them constitutionally belong to India. Incidentally, the question of employment can also be raised. The hon. Minister, the Health Minister are present here. Will they tell any one Public enterprise where the quota of 15% and 7½% - a total of 22½% has been fulfilled? Hon. Jatiya Sahab, tell me please whether it was done in the banks, the LIC or in the Reserve Bank of



India or NABARD? Why couldn't it be done? What is the requirement? All you need for employment is a graduation degree. There are so many young people with B.A. degrees belonging to SC and STs. What about qualification? There are so many who have been jailed for stealing? Are they the only qualified ones?

Hon. Sir, I will conclude now. But before concluding I will only request one thing. Hon. Priya Ranjan Dasgupta talked about the Nosshe Sheikh and the Sehrawardy Sheikh. They are Muslims specifically from Coochbehar district. When Coochbehar was a princely state, there was a war between the Mughals and the King of Coochbehar. These people are converts of that time. But they still write Nosshe Sheikh in documents and deeds. They have been identified as OBCs but that is not enough. The people belonging to Nosshe Sheikh and Sehrawardy Sheikh should be included in the Scheduled Caste category. If they are not included as SCs. Yes Mr. Nitish Babu, you know it because you were posted as DM at Coochbehar they write Sheikh in the deeds. If the case is so, they should also be taken into the fold. I hope and once again request the hon. Minister to bring a comprehensive bill. Do not forget, Mr. Minister what Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore said, "Those whom you are pushing back, will drag you backwards." If you push them backwards, you will not be able to go forward, you will not have that power; whole of the country will go backwards. I warn you about this and also thank you.

With these words of warning, I conclude my speech.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (KHAJURAHO) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has brought two bills in regard to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. There is a proposal in one bill that the people of some scheduled castes and scheduled tribes of states like Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra which have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Project and are being rehabilitated in Gujarat should be included in Scheduled Castes and scheduled tribes category. I feel that there can not be two opinions about it. This is a step to be appreciated. As those castes have been recognised as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in Madhya Pradesh, they should also get the same recognition in Gujarat, therefore this bill should be welcomed.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the second bill, there is a proposal to include some castes of Punjab, Orissa and West Bengal in the Scheduled Caste list. Nobody has any objection in regard to including these castes in the scheduled caste list. These socially, economically and educationally backward castes should get new opportunities for development, they should get subsidy. I welcome this bill. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to say two things in this regard. I have not risen to give long speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, there is very less time.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI : I would like to remind the House that Indian society has been the traditional society. The caste system was earlier based on the profession. Afterwards there were disparities due to implementation of caste system on the basis of birth. If four sons of a Brahmin were engaged in separate professions one was engaged in teaching one was in cleaning, one in security and another in agriculture, their castes were decided on the basis of their profession. They were not called Brahmin by birth. There are many such examples in Puran and Upanishads. Later on this system changed. The son of Thakur would be called Thakur, son of Brahmin would be called Brahmin, son of scheduled caste person would be called scheduled castes, he would be treated as untouchable. This type of discrimination is practised in our society. Due to it, many castes have been backward for thousand of year. They have not got any opportunity for development. Finally, after independence, when our Government came in power, we regulated it in 1950, provision was made for this in the constitution, and a list of scheduled castes was prepared.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards a discrepancy anomaly. There is a caste named Dheevan in Madhya Pradesh. There are different names of this caste in different areas, because Madhya Pradesh is a very big state. As some places it is called Kevat, somewhere Kahar, somewhere Rechavai and at some places Dheevan. The people of this caste are engaged in the business of fishery and boating. The people sitting on that side must be remembering the 'Kevat Samvad' by heart. They should remember it because Kevat helped the Lord Ram in crossing the river. This is a very old tribe. They are Adivasis, live in forests and work over there only. They live near the rivers and earn their livelihood by fishing in ponds and rivers. The demand for including them in the Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled tribe category in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and other states has been made for very long time but till now serious consideration has not been given in that direction. I object to it and I would like to demand that Dheevan caste has different names, in this regard whatever procedure you the Government want to apply in this regard whether they want the opinion of states or National commission, whatever they want to recommend the formalities in this regard should be completed, those people should get their right and should be included in Scheduled castes and scheduled tribes category.

I would also like to draw your attention towards another discrepancy. 'Dhobi' have been included in Scheduled castes in Bhopal, Sihor and Raisen districts of Madhya Pradesh. There Dhobis are considered as Scheduled caste people. But in rest of 42 districts of Madhya Pradesh there is not change in their social, economic and educational situation. Even today



[Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi]

they are treated as people of scheduled castes. They are educationally very backward. The scheduled caste people suffer humiliation in the society, they also got same treatment. People believe that they wash dirty clothes. I would like to remind you that even people of 'Mehtar' caste, who are also scheduled caste do not drink water touched by them. An incident took place before me in my constituency. Some scheduled caste people came to me and told they run tea shop and some upper caste people do not take tea from their hands. I said, this is legally wrong. Let me see. I reached there.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I asked the upper caste, i.e., the swarna people to have tea at this shop, I am doing that, they should join me. They said that they were ready for it. We are ready to have tea at the shop of a sweeper but only on the condition that the said sweeper caste man is ready to take tea prepared by a 'Dhobi'. Even a sweeper is not ready to take tea prepared by a 'Dhobi'. Even a sweeper is not ready to take tea prepared by a 'Dhobi'. By this example, I am trying to project the social status of a 'Dhobi' in our society and the same situation prevails in other parts of the state.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is strange as well as an injustice to declare a caste as scheduled caste in one part of this very state and the same caste is not considered in other parts of this state though their social, economic and educational status is identical.

Sir, the injustice becomes all the more greater when the Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh passed an unanimous resolution and sent that to the Union Government.

"This House urges upon the Union Government to include Rajat Dhobi caste in scheduled castes."

The above mentioned resolution No.22 was passed unanimously by Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly on Friday, 03 April, 1998. I have a copy of the resolution. When the Government and Legislative Assembly of Madhya Pradesh has sent an unanimous resolution in this regard, the Centre should not have much problem in taking action.

Sir, most strange and paradoxical thing is that the anomaly could even be seen in two districts of the same Lok Sabha constituency. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan is not present here. He represents Vidisha Lok Sabha Constituency. This Constituency has two districts—Raisen and Vidisha. In Raisen, 'Dhobis' are included among scheduled castes while in Vidisha they are not. It is a great paradox that in one single Lok Sabha Constituency; persons belonging to a caste are being given the facilities of scheduled caste in one area while this facility is being denied to the same caste in another area.

Sir, I request the Union Government to consider it with an open mind. It will not result in any large financial burden on the Government nor is there any constitutional problem in it because the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly have already forwarded an unanimous resolution in this regard. Therefore, I request Shri Jatiya ji to keep the sentiments of Dhobi community in mind as also the unanimous resolution of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly and take the decision immediately to include Dhobi community in the scheduled castes.

Sir, I also request that procedures should be completed to include Dhimar, Kewat, Kahar, Dheevar and Kirar castes in the list of scheduled castes, so that these people could get justice as well as their share. With these words, I whole heartedly support the two Bills.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (NAWADA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the two Bills that have been introduced. With the passage of the two Bills, 18 scheduled castes and 19 scheduled tribes totalling 37 castes would have the opportunity to beat back injustice meted out to them.

Sir, two reasons, in this regard, have been important. One is the circumstances caused due to displacement and the second due to migration. These two factors lead people to leave their homes and states. They go to different place in search of respect and economic advancement and if they do not get the facility that they were getting in their home state by virtue of their caste, it is a great social injustice to them. Thus, it is a good step to give them the same social benefits that they were getting in their home states too. This is a laudable step taken by the hon. Minister. Besides, I would also like to say that Delhi is the destination for people of entire India. My submission is that those people who were getting social benefits in their respective home states by the virtue of belonging to SC/ST, should continue to get those benefits in Delhi too. You are aware that people from Bihar come over to Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab in large number for work. In particular, they are the members of my caste—Dusadh and sub-caste-Paswan. People of Paswan caste are laborious, brave and adventurous. They have carved a niche for themselves in Fiji and Mauritius with their labour. This community has a sizeable presence in Delhi. Besides, there are Musahar and Naunia castes for which you have fought. These communities should also get the same benefits here. My submission is that people of these castes do not want to return to their home states, because they get no respect there. They may have earned money, but they do not have social prestige. They want to live in Delhi. We are making efforts to give them their due in Delhi. Though Shri Ram Vilas Paswan is no longer in the NDA, he had made efforts for that. It will be very beneficial for scheduled castes if the Paswan, Musahar

and Dhobi community get the same status in Delhi as they had in their home state. The present scenario is that each and every person of each and every caste is keen to be included among SC/STs. I wonder, how long this provision is likely to continue?

There is a Poverty Alleviation Ministry which is linked to Urban Affairs. I would like that the Poverty Alleviation Ministry is linked to the Ministry of Social Justice. Since poverty is very closely related to dalits, tribes, forest dwellers, backwards and the poor, the Poverty Alleviation Ministry should be linked to the Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment. The situation would not improve unless we make an all out attack on poverty and unemployment. The case referred to by Shri Chaturvedi is not a common phenomena. The taking of tea is no longer a significant matter. We are now eager to take tea from some Paswan or some Ram Saheb. However, poverty is the basic issue. It should be countered unitedly. Proper efforts should be made for that.

The three reports submitted recently are very important ones. Shri Chaturvedi ji, please listen. The Chief Minister of your state has submitted a document which I appreciate very much. It has addressed to the new aspect as to how to connect dalits and tribals to business, trade and land. This is very laudable step as the modern age is that of privatisation and globalisation of trade-jobs have become scarce. This initiative is meant for the protection of this class. Besides, it has also been announced that the purchases for schools and colleges would be made from dalit producers. This initiative should be debated. They should also be given ownership rights of barren lands. This effort has also been made. I would also like that a discussion should be held on the issue.

The report of the Commission for the Review of Constitution has been submitted. Since it suited no party, they do not want to discuss it. But if we go through the 50 pages devoted to weaker sections and to get them social justice, then we would find that it suggests as to how we can prepare a blue print for their welfare in the next 50 years.

How can the welfare of this category is possible in an ongoing process of privatisation under the WTO provisions?

Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, even today, stand last in the index of the Human Development Report submitted by the Planning Commission. How would development work be undertaken there? I wish that discussion through Seminar or workshop be held on the said three measures. The Ministry should see as to where can the interests of this category be safeguarded besides providing them jobs, what measures can be taken for them. This is an important issue before us. The

positive efforts made by them are not enough. The upliftment, welfare and promotion of this category are very much possible if these efforts continue like this.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (PANDHARPUR) : Dr. Jatiya has introduced a very important Bill. There are 34 castes, out of which 25 are Scheduled Castes and 9 are Scheduled Tribes and the inclusion of these castes in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes list is really a praiseworthy decision taken by the Government. I rise to support this Bill. We have, many a times opposed the Government Bills, but it is our duty also to support good work. I demand that the same kind of Bill must not be introduced every time. If a person belonging to a particular caste whose name is included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, happen to go to some other State and find their caste is not in the list of that very State but is very much there in the Government of India List, then such factors should be looked into by the Government that whether a person migrating to some other State get the benefits provided by the Union or not. I subsequently suggest the Government to introduce such a Bill which may provide the benefits of reservation to the person in any State whose caste is included in the Government of India List. There would be no need to introduce a Bill every time if such a Bill is introduced once. There is a need to deliberate on this aspect. My second suggestion is that there is a nomadic tribe in Maharashtra, which is socially, economically and educationally a very backward tribe and was included in the Mandal Commission which provide 27 per cent reservation to them. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR) : We should also be given a chance to speak in the House when such an important discussion is going on. ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is continuing with his speech.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : I wish to say that there is a Fizenti community which is a nomadic tribe in Maharashtra and their population was in the ratio of 3.5-4 per cent of the total population of Maharashtra. During my tenure as the Minister of social welfare in Maharashtra, we had created a Third Schedule for them and provided three per cent reservation for the Fizenti tribe separately. I would like to request to Shri Jatiya that the requirements for this Fizenti community in Maharashtra be met by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH (BULANDSHAHR) : Everything said by you would be agreed upon.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : It would be agreed upon, it has to be agreed, everything shall have to be agreed till he is Minister. We have not been given reservation out of mercy, it is our right. The right of reservation was bestowed upon us under the Poona Pact which had taken place between Mahatma Gandhi ji and Shri Baba Saheb Ambedkar. Under this agreement Baba Saheb Ambedkar had to forgo his demand for separate constituency and Gandhiji was asked to make provision for reservation to this community in lieu of that. It is because of this Baba Saheb got an opportunity to write the Constitution of India :

*"Agar Mera Bhim Samvidhan ka Shilpkar No Hota,*

*To Aarakshan ka Nirnaya Kabhi na Hota, Daliton ka  
Aarakshan na hota.*

*To sarkar ki Khatla Khadi Karne ke liye main yahan no hota,*

*Main Yahan nahin aata to Jatiya ji apka haal kya hota,*

*Wey Lakh bura Chahein to kya hota,*

*Kuchh bhi nahin hota, Kyonki Tumhara mere se nata hai,  
Isliye aapka kuchh nahin hota."*

Shri Jatiyaji is indeed the right choice for this Ministership and has decided to embark upon a right path. But many a time it has come to our notice that people of one community like Reddy community of Andhra Pradesh manage a caste certificate of Kondareddy, which is a scheduled tribes community, and reap the benefits of reservation by getting admission in MBBS and in Engineering.

Whenever such things are going on, they need to be enquired into. There are Mana community and Halb community in Maharashtra. They are also demanding from last so many years that they should be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. But we have seen that the people belonging to Scheduled Tribes as also Scheduled Castes oppose any such new inclusion as they feel that the percentage of reservation available to them will be further deteriorated and therefore no new caste should be included in it. Such other castes are also there in the Mandal Commission, and there is a need to include them in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and if there is any problem in it, a separate list be prepared by providing them 5 to 6 per cent reservation. There are at least 80 per cent people of the Muslim community in Mandal Commission. There are few castes like Ansari and other castes which should have been provided reservation of 10 per cent out of the 27 per cent reservation of the Mandal Commission. Some Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people also converted to Christianity, reservation is also needed for them. It is against the norms of the Constitution of India for not giving them benefit of reservation because they have changed their religion. The constitution of India is secular in character and support all

religions. Therefore, if someone belongs to the Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribes category but has changed his religion, he should be given the benefit of reservation if he gives a caste certificate to this effect. I would request to Shri Jatiyaji to consider this matter. We have repeatedly made discussion with the hon. Madam, who was Minister before him but this could not be introduced. Now it has been introduced here, which is a good work that the hon. Minister has done. Please do good work for the next two and a half years. The hon. Minister need not have any apprehension now. We are disturbed as to how could your votes increased so much now we have come to know the reason.

*"Manu Smriti ka nahin chalega raaj,*

*Kyonki Samvidhan bahut mazboot hua hai desh mein aaj,*

*Manu smriti ki baat kame walon, rakho samvidhan ki laaj,*

*Nahin to dekhte-dekhte chala jaayega tumhara raaj."*

With these words, I conclude my speech.

18.00 hrs.

\*SHRIMATI SANDHYA BAURI (VISHNUPUR) Hon. Mr. Chairman, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the two Bills namely the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002, and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002. The hon. Minister deserves congratulations for bringing forward these two Bills. I am glad to see that in the provision of the Bill certain Castes and Tribes who are economically and socially backward have been given recognition. Fifty-five years have passed after independence but still there are many communities, castes and tribes which still remain backward economically and socially.

Today is a happy day for us because the Chain community of West Bengal has got recognition as SC. They stay mainly in Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia and North and South Dinajpur Districts. This community has been agitating since long for there recognition. After a long agitation their demand was considered and three years back the West Bengal Assembly adopted a unanimous resolution urging SC status to this particular community. The permission of Registrar General of India was received in this regard and today this community has achieved the goal for which they had been struggling all along. Along with this community there are other communities like Layak who have been agitating to get the status of SC. The latest correspondence for their cause was made on 19.1.2001. There are many other communities who have been agitating since long but unfortunately their agitation

not yielded any result so far. Because these people are not included in that list of SC/STs, they have been deprived of the facility and advantage provided for the SCs and STs. But I am proud to say that in my State of West Bengal some facilities have been provided to these people through Adivasi Welfare Organisation. A long agitation has been going on by another community known as Deswali Majhi for inclusion in the list.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, the time of the House can be extended till the passage of this Bill.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The House be extended till the passage of the Bill

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House is extended till the passage of this Bill with consent of the House.

\*SHRIMATI SANDHYA BAURI : Till 1941, they were declared ST, 1952 and 55 they had identified as Santhal. Then again they were identified as primitive body. After 1964, due to unknown reasons they were excluded from the list of ST. The Adivasi Welfare Organisation of West Bengal provided them certain opportunities and facilities on various occasions. Many hon. Members have spoken about the plight of SC/STs but as regards the deprived community of Deswali Majhi that they lack proper dwelling place, have no economic stability and are leading a miserable life. After 1977, I can proudly say that in my State of West Bengal there is definitely a change in the life of SC/STs. Before 1977, they were recognised even as human beings. They were used by the moneyed people for their own benefit. Today, they may be economically poor but they have the dignity of living as human beings. Many hon. Members have mentioned about the behaviour of the upper castes. They never allowed the deprived people to wear even shoes. They had to approach the upper caste with bare foot. It may be due to economic reasons also that they did not have the power to purchase shoes. But people even with shoes were not allowed to come anywhere near an upper caste. There was always discrimination that these people were poor and belonged to a lower caste. The evil custom of untouchability also prevailed at that time. They were not allowed to draw water from the wells belonging to upper caste. They were made to stand in a corner and water used to be poured into their buckets. They were not allowed to bathe in the ponds when the upper castes were taking bath. Even their shadow was discarded. I would like to put the question to the august House when we walk in the street do we look at our shadow. But I am happy to say that, that kind of situation is no more there. Of course it may be prevailing in some States in India. The population of Deswali Majhi is around 3.5 lakhs.

Atul Chandra Majhi is Secretary of West Bengal Deswali Majhi Development Committee. He and others have been

agitating for many years for the cause of Deswali Majhis. They have also sent a representation to the Petitions Committee of Parliament seeking recognition as ST. When the Committee visited West Bengal they sent a Report saying that Deswali Majhi belong to a section of Santhal tribe or aboriginal. After the Santhal Revolution in 1855 they were treated as separate groups. We have seen the report of the Petitions Committee recommending to give ST status to Deswali Majhi so that they can avail of the opportunity as SC. I would also recommend that Layak community should also get the status SC. I must also state a very important fact money allocated for the welfare of SC/STs is released only at the tag end of the financial year almost literally giving no time whatsoever to utilise it in time. So many welfare measures are announced, so many programmes are taken up but if there is no timely release of money, how can they be implemented. One thing is clear. Had we been serious enough in our attitude to ameliorate the condition of the SC/STs all these 55 years, we would not have the urgency of getting the budgetary allocation for their programme. That is why we are still fighting for the cause of the SC/STs for the budgetary allocation for their welfare. It is still happening because we have failed to acquire that mental attitude to embrace them as our own. As a mother I am appealing for some strong measures for the upliftment of SC/STs. A mother is always partial for her handicapped child. Since the SC/STs have remained deprived for such a long time, they need special care and protection from the State. 370 proposals have been sent for the consideration of the Government for inclusion of many castes and tribes in the list. I urge upon the Government to expedite their demand and settle their case as early as possible.

With these words, after thanking the Chair, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, the time of the House can be extended till the bill be passed.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : The House be extended till the bill is passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : With the consent of the House, the timing is extended till the bill is passed.

18.06 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Constitution (Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill is a very important Bill. I would like to ask the Government why both the bills were not introduced at the same time when discussion on

[Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh]

them is going on simultaneously. Bills could have been introduced together as contents of the discussion on both the Bills are the same.

Sir, they want to include some castes in the list of scheduled castes in Orissa but are deleting two castes from this list. Names of these castes have not been mentioned. I have an apprehension that there is something fishy in it. Entries 22 and 90 are being deleted. They want to delete chirva, chhiliya and Kinnar-Kinor castes from entry 25. The Government should give clarifications in this regard. Secondly, the Noniya caste in Bihar should be included in the list of scheduled castes from social, economic and educational point of view. The institute of social studies in Bihar and the State Government have made this recommendation. I have myself raised this question two-three times. However, every time the Registrar General raises objections on it. I would like to know from the Central Government that when the commission; the institute of social studies and State Government have recommended it then what is the rationale behind delaying its inclusion in the list or raising unnecessary objections in this regard.

Sir, I have been raising this question time and again but every time it is being ignored. Mallah, Sahni, Fishermen and Noniya castes are included in scheduled caste list in Bengal and also in some other States. A question is being raised that a caste included in SC list in one district is included under OBC list in the other district of the same State. Likewise there are diversities among States in this regard. Therefore, a comprehensive Bill should be brought in this regard. Several Bills are pending even now. A person belonging to Scheduled Caste category in one State when goes to get a job in other State, faces difficulties in getting benefits of reservations for his family there. The Government should think over it. Recommendations for Mallah and Sahni castes which are engaged in fishing were also made. People of Scheduled Caste category and of Noniya Caste are demanding it repeatedly and in all their conferences they passed the only one proposal that they should be included in SC list. As per the Institute of social studies also they should be included in this list from social, economic and educational point of view. People engaged in social studies and sociology are recommending it after studying all the aspects but it is not being done. Turha, Tagma and Pam are all small communities which are living in miserable conditions. They are backward socially, economically and educationally. They are less in number, therefore, they could not make an impact on politics. They all are neglected. Central Government are not introducing a bill for this four castes in respect of which State Government has made recommendations. In the absence of this Bill these communities are suffering losses and a feeling of resentment is brewing among them.

Therefore, I demand that these four castes in Bihar namely Noniya, Mallah also known as Sahni and Turha community which are engaged in fruit selling should also be included in SC list. In some States they are already included in SC list. In some districts they are in good number but they are backward in all spheres. Tagma, Tanti, Pan - all belong to one community having different names in different areas. All these castes should be included in SC list. The original Muslim law does not discriminate on the basis of caste, however in Hindustan. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Both you and Laluji belong to the same caste, but instead of you, Rabri ji was made the Chief Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Lalu ji is Yadav and he belongs to backward class. I belong to forward. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : The party, however, is one. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Party remain the same. ...*(Interruptions)* but it includes people from different castes.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Your expression, accent and culture are same. You should have been given an opportunity.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : There are two members in this cabinet who have poetic bent of mind. One is the Prime Minister and the other one is Satyanarayan Jatiya. Though they belong to different castes, both of them are poets. Even caste does not make any difference in some cases.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no caste in Islam. But as prevailing among Hindus in India, the Muslims are also coming up with various castes. Kalar, Bakho and Riam etc. are the castes among Muslims which should be included in the SC list. Their social, economic and educational condition is not upto the mark. The Government should pay attention towards them.

*[English]*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Do you not think that if they are included, then you have to increase their percentage? You should ask for that also. If you add the percentage of Scheduled Castes to 15 percent, then the percentage should also go up proportionately. So, ask for an increase in the percentage.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : He is right. Therefore, we should consider to increase the percentage of reservation even by bringing a bill in this regard. We are not hopeful of any favourable action from Central Government in this regard as they are anti-scheduled castes and anti-backward and minority communities. My submission is that a study of castes whose condition is deplorable should be conducted through any Institute of social studies or department of social welfare or any other such agency to ascertain whether these castes could be placed under scheduled castes or scheduled tribe list. The castes who moved from Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh to other places should be included in scheduled caste and scheduled tribe list through this Bill. I do not think it will cause any financial crisis also. Considering all these facts the Government should consider to bring a comprehensive bill.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI (BIJNOR) : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I wish to state that the Government running under the leadership of hon. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has made tremendous efforts for the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Prior to this several other amendments have been passed in Lok Sabha which have opened up great avenues for the benefit to the Dalit people. Hon. Jatiyaji has introduced this Bill for the welfare of those tribes of Orissa, Punjab and West Bengal, who have been making demands for their social upliftment for the last 50 years. His efforts for providing social justice to the castes, deprived of it so far, is indeed praiseworthy and the Ministry of Social Welfare marches ahead on the path of development under the leadership of hon. Jatiyaji. He is working for the benefit of the Dalits. I represent the Bijnor Constituency of Uttar Pradesh. 30-40 years back, people belonging to Scheduled Castes migrated from West Bengal to my constituency but those people have not been included in the list of Scheduled Castes in my constituency. They are termed as 'Bengali' due to their eating habits and their way of living. I wish that they should be accorded the status of Scheduled Caste. Besides, there are many Castes in Uttar Pradesh, viz. Dhuria, Gode, Bind and Dheevan, which in some districts of U.P. are treated backward classes and in other districts they are considered as Scheduled Castes. I wish that they should be accorded the status of Scheduled Caste after conducting a proper survey of their social and economic status.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today there is the Government of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee at the Centre. Kumari Mayawati is going to be elected as the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh

for the third time under Shri Vajpayee's direction. This is the evidence that Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee is a well-wisher of Dalits. It may be noted that Dalits were given nominal facilities before 1977. They were provided either with one sewing machine or rupees 500 in cash for making their house. At that time, there was Janata Party Government in the country and Shri Vajpayee was the Member of the Cabinet. 'Antyodaya Scheme' had been launched at that time and grant of Rs.3000 was released to the Scheduled Caste people under this scheme. Thereafter, the Congress did nothing for the Dalits. And whatever Congress did, it was a mere show off. It treated them as its vote-bank only.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I take cognizance of two there things. Today, the manner in which petrol pumps and gas agencies are given to the dalits, it seems therefrom as if the upper caste people get the forms filled up in the name of Dalits and misuse this facility. In fact, these gas agencies and petrol pumps should be given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes persons only on the recommendation of the Scheduled Caste M.Ps. as also after proper investigation in that regard only then these people would get desired benefit.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Bill introduced by the hon. Minister would benefit these castes, but one thing must also be considered that recruitment drive should also be launched in order to clear the backlog in jobs. This would enable the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people to get jobs.

I would like to say to the hon. Minister that a special Bill should be introduced for providing reservation in the Universities, High Courts, Supreme Court and the Army. Only a few number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people find job opportunities in these sectors. This would benefit them.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one more thing which I would like to say is that all the Industries in the country are being privatised and there is no provision for reservation in them. Hon. Minister should also introduce a Bill to provide for the same. A Bill providing for reservation as per the Government rules in Private Sector, Industries and companies should be passed. The Scheduled Caste and Schedule Tribe people would get a lot of benefit thereby. Immediate action should be taken in regard to two-three Bills which have been passed as the Supreme Court had earlier put a ban. At the end, I sum up my speech with these words that the Government under Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee has done splendid job for the good of Dalits, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY (BERHAMPORE, WEST BENGAL) : Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to

[Shri Adhir Chowdhary]

Speak on these two Bills. The hon. Minister has, in fact, introduced two Bills. However, I would like to confine myself to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2002. I subscribe to the views as expressed in this Bill. Therefore, without any hesitation, I must extend my support to this Bill which has brought under its purview the eight communities in the States of Orissa, Punjab and West Bengal as belonging to Scheduled Castes.

As far as the Chain community of my district and also in the rest of the State of West Bengal is concerned, they are clamouring for decades to get them included in the list of Scheduled Castes, the Chain community belong to the vulnerable sections of our society. Only .01 per cent of the females of that community has gained literacy. More than 45 per cent people of that community are living below the poverty line. They eke out their livelihood by vending vegetables and by doing farming.

I would like to recall the brief history of this Bill. Last year, the Bill was introduced by Shrimati Maneka Gandhi. However, in the last Bill, the Chain community was not included in the list as belonging to the Scheduled Caste community. Therefore, we had opposed the Bill vehemently before the introduction of that Bill. Later, we made personal representations to the Standing Committee. After scrutinising everything, we are happy that the Chain community has been included in the list.

Sir, there are various communities in India which are demanding for long to be included in the list. Here, I would like to refer to the tea-garden tribes, the Koch Rajbongshi, Ahom, Chutia, Moran and Motak communities of Assam.

These communities are also demanding for inclusion in the list. The proposal has been sent to the Select Committee of Parliament. However, nothing positive has yet come out.

Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to consider these communities of Assam for inclusion in the list keeping in view the political equilibrium of that State. It is intriguing to note that when we are conquering the outer space, when we are talking about the digital convergence, and when we are talking about the progress of information technology, at the same time, here we are discussing over the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Sir, India is still bearing the stigma of caste war resulting in mayhem, death, depredation, arson, molestation and so on. Just see as to what is the status of SCs & STs in our country. Here, everybody is demanding the benefit of reservation policy as prescribed by the Government. However, in reality, it is still distressing.

The population of SCs & STs is 16.5 per cent and 8.1 per cent respectively. Literacy rate has gone up. For SCs, it was 52.2 per cent in 1991. However, can you imagine that we are living in a modern age? When 5.77 lakh Indian people are still carrying human excreta on their heads in the morning. Manual scavenging is still prevailing in our country. It is really an ignominious episode as far as India is concerned.

However, we must know that in the world, there are various community which are recognised as a backward community, such as Roma in Europe, Chioefs in Mexico, Kurdis in Iraq and Burakasi in Japan. But in a developed country, various measures have been taken up to uplift those distressed classes. Here, in India, our Constitution has provided all facilities insofar as reservation is concerned. However, it is still to be permeated to the beneficiaries of our country.

I would just like to refer to the share of SCs and STs in our services. As far as SCs are concerned, reservation in Central services is 8.23 per cent in Class I; 8.47 in Class II; and 14.76 in Class III. In banking sector, it is 13.7 per cent in clerical jobs. In regard to the representation in public sector enterprises, it was 4.86 per cent in Class I; 6.7 in two other levels. As far as STs are concerned, it is 2.89 per cent in Group A; 2.68 in Group B.

Their representation in Group 'C' services is 5.69 per cent and it is 6.48 per cent in Group 'D' services. From these figures we can easily understand the economical backwardness of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in our country.

Sir, I would like to refer to a few extracts from the Commonwealth Human Rights Constitutional Programme. It has been stated there that since 1980s there has been a steady decline in the allocation of Government funds for the development of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and their welfare projects. The paper further states that there is a general lack of interest and seriousness on the part of the planning and implementing machinery to achieve the objectives enshrined in the Constitution. The benefits secured by the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes do not appear commensurate with the funds spent so far. Despite providing reservation quotas in jobs, the representation of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the higher levels of public services remains poor. The Departmental Orders concerning recruitment and promotion of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes have adversely affected their interests.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

**SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :** Sir, I will conclude soon.

Our Constitution has enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy that every State should promote the economical and educational interests of the people belonging to backward communities, particularly the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. It says that the State should protect them from injustice and all forms of exploitation.

Sir, I would like to conclude by referring to a paragraph of the speech of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. He said that fraternity means a sense of solidarity among the Indian people. It emphasises the principle of unity and solidarity in our social life. However, it is very difficult to achieve it in a caste-based society. If the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes do not get proper opportunities, a day may come when their accumulated rage may demolish the democratic structure which our Constituent Assembly laboriously built up.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PARBHANI) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support two Bills i.e. the Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 and the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2002 on behalf of my party, Shiv Sena. I would finish my speech with two suggestions. It has become very necessary to include the backward castes and most backward castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Maharashtra, especially in Marathwada and Vidharbha. The main objective of this Bill is to give justice to the people affected by the Sardar Sarovar Scheme in Gujarat and Maharashtra. The Minister of Social Welfare, Shri Jatiya is a capable Minister. There is a caste named 'Koli' in Maharashtra and 'Mahadevpuri' is a sub-caste in it. The people belonging to this caste earn their livelihood by fishing or work as labourer. They do not have houses, no facility of education has been provided to them in fact, they are too backward. People belonging to the 'koli' and 'Mahadevpuri' castes are very large in number in Maharashtra. They have been making demand since many years that the status of Scheduled Castes should be accorded to them. But we have not been able to provide these people with Justice so far. I, therefore, through you, request the hon. Minister to give these two castes the status of Scheduled Tribes.

Atkar Thangar caste comes under the OBC category in Maharashtra and in Andhra Pradesh they have been given the status of Scheduled Castes. At some places, these castes are treated as Scheduled Castes and at other places, as Scheduled Tribes. I suggest that a unanimous Bill be introduced, if we really intend to provide these people with justice. In Maharashtra, people engaged in pastoral activities

like rearing goats, wander from here to there, as they do not have permanent houses. They have not been included in the list of the State Government. They launched several movements and organised many Dharnas in favour of their demand. However, despite being in large number, they have not yet been given the status of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This should be looked into. People belonging to 'Bhoi' caste do fishing. They are so poor that they do not have even proper clothes to wear. If they do not catch enough fish, they have to sleep without any food. It is a matter of concern to think that even in this age one does not get food and shelter. I demand that the Bhoi community should also get a status of Scheduled Tribe. There is one category in Muslims called 'Khatik'. We call them 'Kasai'. They earn their livelihood by selling goat meat. They have no other way out. The demand for including 'khatiks' in the Scheduled Caste category is pending for long in Maharashtra since long years. I, through you request the hon. Minister to include these people in the Scheduled Caste category.

There is one more community called 'kosti', who weave clothes. They are very poor people. They constitute a population of 20-25 lakhs in Maharashtra. Recently, there was a big meeting of the 'kosti' people. They have requested me as also to hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee that they may be included in the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes category. I also request through you that the most backward and poor people belonging to Kori, Madhav, Bhoi, Harkardhankar, Khatik and Kosti castes may kindly be given the status of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

I extend my thanks to you for having given me a chance to speak.

**SHRI NARESH PUGLIA (CHANDRAPUR) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the two Bills brought by hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.

There was no need to bring two separate Bills i.e. Bill No-11 and 14 for this purpose. Millions of people likely to be displaced due to Narmada Sarovar project including a large number of people belonging to Scheduled Tribes. These people are going to be rehabilitated in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra. I welcome you for bringing these Bills to ensure that their rights as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are maintained. The hon'ble Minister comes from Indore and Ujjain division of Narmada Sarovar Project and he has tried to help the affected people at the earliest and skilfully. I appreciate him for this.

But alongwith this, I would like to remind the hon'ble Minister about some matters pending in your Ministry. Lakhs of Bengali refugees had migrated to India from East Pakistan



[Shri Naresh Puglia]

In 1967, 1968 and 1969. The, then Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi rehabilitated them and arrangements were made to provide food, clothing and shelter to them. The State Government of West Bengal accorded scheduled caste status to these 'Naamshudra' people in 1968-69 but I am very sorry to say that lakhs of 'Naamshudra' people living in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh have not been accorded the status of scheduled castes so far. The, then Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi rehabilitated them in Bihar, UP and some other parts of the country. State governments gave several suggestions to the ministry in this regard but those were not taken seriously. The people who migrated to our country were given the required facilities but the status of Scheduled Caste was not given to them in every state. At that time Congress party was in power in West Bengal and later on CPM government also maintained that status and the people belonging to 'Naamshudra' caste were kept under scheduled caste category. But in 5-6 regions they have not yet been accorded status of scheduled caste. Hon'ble Minister, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards a serious matter. MLAs belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in various states oppose inclusion of any new caste in the list of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. A particular caste falls in the category of scheduled castes or scheduled tribe in one state while that is not included in such list in other state. Lobby of such MLAs pressurize State government not to include other new castes in the list of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe in their state though they may remain in this category in other states. These people are suffering due to this. These castes have been included in the list of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in the notification issued under the Constitution of India but they are not given any facility and privilege in those states.

Your department has also committed a mistake in this regard. Gond and Raigond castes falls under scheduled Tribes and large number of people belonging to these castes reside in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and my constituency. There should have been a coma between Gond and Rajgond as these are two different castes but since it was not in the copy of notification, people took the matter to High Court on the plea that it is single caste but actually these are two separate tribes. Due to this their children are not getting admission and they are unable to contest from the seats reserved for STs. This matter relates to three states. A bill in this regard has already been passed in the Parliament and they have been suffering due to a petty printing mistake. This matter should be looked into and the mistake should be rectified and these two castes should be treated different castes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would not take much time as

it is not a comprehensive bill in nature. As my colleagues have pointed out that dhoobies are included in the list of scheduled castes in Bihar and in some other states they are considered scheduled Tribes. They have not been included in the list of SC or ST in Maharashtra. Similarly, Mana and Kundimana are included in the list of scheduled Tribe and a dispute is going on in Maharashtra as to whether they belong to ST category or not? This matter should be inquired into and people belonging to these castes should get their right if they deserve that.

Similarly Halwa and Halwi castes fall under ST category. The weavers who are called Kosti in Marathi, are also deprived of their right of ST category as this is the name of their profession. In the same way injustice is being done to Bhol community. A review committee should be constituted to provide justice to those castes which fall under SC and ST category under the notification but not provided any facility by the State Governments. Along with this the people who migrated to our country from Eastern Pakistan, presently called Bangladesh and rehabilitated here, they were accorded status of Naamshudra and recognised as SC and ST. This status should be reinstated.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL) : Sir, I want to make a point.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are two or three Members.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : I am putting a very pertinent point. Social backwardness is the main criterion. The doctrine of creamy layer is applicable to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people. Food adulteration is a social evil. So also in the matter of conferring benefits to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people, it should not get adulterated. The Minister may kindly answer this.  
...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, the Minister has taken note of it. While he replies, he will give reply to your point.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH : I do not want to make this issue a debate, I just want to make one submission. I welcome this Bill brought for people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Several castes are given status of SC and ST in one state but not in other states, therefore a comprehensive bill should be brought for this purpose. I would like to say that unless we exclude the creamy layer of

Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes we cannot provide reservation benefits to lower level people. The families of IAS or gazetted officers are enjoying its benefits. The lower class people make their livelihood by working as labourers, working in fields or small industries and managing to provide education to their children in this manner. The children are not getting any benefit of reservation provided for SC/STs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not deliver speech but concentrate on the point you want to raise here.

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE ( BILASPUR ) : Large number of people fail to get advantage of reservation due to fake certificates taken by non-eligible persons. Many persons are contesting elections to become MP or MLA or for Sarpanch by producing fake certificates. Therefore, action should be taken to check the issuance of fake certificates. Secondly, the people belonging to SC and ST categories are not getting benefits of this facility as they have not been issued any identity cards. Hence, a drive should be launched to issue identity cards to them so that they do not have to go from pillar to post for getting certificate. Tehsildars and higher officers do not issue them certificates in time and they have to face lot of problems. The Government should launch a drive from viewpoint of providing reservation facility and arrangements should be made for their proper rehabilitation as the committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has also stressed upon it. Whether it is Prime Minister Gramin Rozgar Yojana or. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (THANJAVUR) : Thank you, hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir.

We totally oppose the removal of benefits to the creamy layer among the Scheduled Castes. We must find out a way to help those who are not benefited but this removal of benefits to the creamy layer would affect the entire reservation system. This is our view.

*[Translation]*

Dr. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA (DAMOH) : Dhobi caste constitutes a big community and they should be included in the list of scheduled castes. Secondly, Prajapati and Kumhar castes have been recognised in backward classes in one state and included in the list of scheduled castes in the other. This discrepancy should be removed. Uniformity should be brought in this regard and they should be included in the list of scheduled castes.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, all the points that have been raised are important.

*[Translation]*

Note them. Particularly when SC/ST people of one State go to other State, they do not get any benefit over there.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Two bills have been presented on these important subjects, and a discussion has been held on its basis. It has definitely reflected the concern of the House about the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes peoples' protections. These two bills are limited. One bill is about the scheduled caste people of Madhya Pradesh, who have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Dam, being rehabilitated in Gujarat, but they are not recognized as scheduled caste in Gujarat. This bill is about including them in that list also. Other bill is about Orissa, West Bengal and Gujarat. It has got two entries in regard to Orissa, and two castes has to be removed. There is a new entry in regard to Punjab, there are four synonyms castes, their pronunciation is different, there is also a new entry in West Bengal and one synonym. In total, it is limited. All Members are concerned, and as it has been told, the scheduled caste of one State are not recognized in other State. It had definitely been decided under long process. In 1935, first time it was discussed as to what is scheduled caste, which castes should be included in it, what are the criteria, whom we consider SC, which castes are untouchable, which castes are deprived of social, economic and educational benefits and which castes have to come in society, politically. As now an hon. Member told, some things about reservation were also discussed under Poona pact. Now this is a very old reference.

19.00 hrs.

The work on that basis has made progress. After that there was some development in 1936, but work in this direction was done after independence. As a whole there is no set process, about how to include those castes which were left. The measure should be taken to include them. In June 1999, we have decided a procedure, as to how to include the castes after making proper consideration on the received proposals. These proposals come from State Government. They are examined through the Registrar General of Census. After that National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes examine it. Their report is sent to the Ministry. The criterion for all this is decided as to how to take measures to include these castes into the list of scheduled castes and tribes. I am satisfied that in past we have included 89 proposals. We are working on 8 of them, and 81 are under consideration before parliamentary committee. As soon as proposals come, we will work in direction of including those proposals. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission too is working on it. It has 52 entries, it will be included after proper consideration. This work is not of Ministry,

[Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya]

this work will be done after survey and examination. When these type of proposals come before us, we process them so that these castes should get their right and recognition as scheduled castes and scheduled tribe. These types of measures are being made. The State Governments are repeatedly told to fulfil all these formalities. Some hon. Members said that a S.C. is recognized in one State, but not in other. Our criterion is that proposal comes from the State after due consideration of their condition in that State. They do the work of survey and there is a procedure for it. The proposal comes through them, then that proposal is sent to Registrar General, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission for examination. After this, a complete layout is formed. As per today's situation, there are 364 such proposals, which are meant to be sent to the State Governments for additional information and examination. We are waiting for its report. In total there are 505 entries, about which the decisions due being taken under a set procedure ever since the NDA Government came in power. It is not so, that earlier work was not done. But in total after setting up a procedure, we are working in direction of taking decision to fix as to what are their rights. They should get all facilities which could provide them equal status in the society. The backwardness is due to untouchability. Measures have been taken to provide opportunities for progress to those who have been socially, politically and economically backward due to untouchability. Many hon. Members have said many things in this regard, it was said about 'Dhobi' caste of Madhya Pradesh. A colleague was saying, as something is being given due to Sardar Sarovar Project on Narmada river, cunningness can be seen. I would like to say that there is nothing cunning about it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : They are being displaced, therefore they are getting justice. I would like to say that the State Government are not sending proposal for last 20 years. The hon. Deputy Speaker has rightly said that a caste is recognized as SC in one State and in other State the same does not come under SC category. MLAs lobby do not want to new names to be added in it. A proposal is sent to the State Government and for that you should prepare a time-bound programme. If State Governments do not send it, the Union Government should directly intervene in it. The Minister put all responsibility on Commission. This was not expected from the hon. Minister. Please set time-bound programme and not rely on Commission or State Government. Please state, the action taken by the Government in regard to 505 proposals pending with the State Governments.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : There is no reason for doubt in this regard, as you are aware that a Government follows a procedure. Earlier, there was no set procedure. If

you permit, I can read out the list of proposals pending with State Governments as to in total how many proposals are pending with which State Governments?

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Hon. Minister, please fix time bound programme.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Of course, I agree with your concern. I would try to do this in every possible way, this is just the beginning. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF (BANGALORE NORTH): Please tell in detail, so that position of States could be known. If you will tell, the whole country will be able to know. The class which wants justice would be able to know. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : You should read out the list. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is a very long list.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Sir, the list with me is not very long. It has 364 names which came from all States from where proposals have been received? ...*(Interruptions)* You want to know about which State? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the people of the country especially those who are weaker and exploited in the society must be posted with the proposal being discussed in the House. Hence, there is no need to conceal anything from this House. Let the House as well as the country know. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : There is nothing to hide. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (BALASORE) : I am of the view that even today people complain that they do not get pension meant for freedom fighter. I feel that even after hundred years people will keep on complaining that they are not getting pension meant for freedom fighters. Hence how long will it continue. Why a permanent solution to this problem is not being found by constituting a Commission else every year different persons will keep on pressing their claim for including their name in the list of freedom fighters, is this proper?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Whatever the hon. Member says he can definitely say in principle and all have said that all the proposals should be brought collectively but it is a difficult process to bring all the proposals at one go and unless these are brought in toto, it is not proper to do anything. Hence, it is the right method to take up what ever is available

and also is in the offing. We keep on waiting as to which state is sending and which is not. We have to ensure the passage of the proposal which has been received by us after preparing this draft. As I said that we keep on clearing as the proposal keep on coming. This process has begun and in near future the Parliament will decide on the 505 proposals. Certainly every possible effort will be made to provide the rights to those people who have been deprived of these for years. ...*(Interruptions)* Political parties do not have any difference of opinion on this account. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN (COOCHBEHAR) : Right now, the hon. Minister said that the Government are considering the proposals as they are coming then why has the proposal from Assam and Raghuvanshi not been considered while it was received long ago? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : How many proposals have been received, if this list is very long then you send the circular to all the hon. Members so that they may come to know about it.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : I have no problem.

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him complete the reply. In case any clarification are required after that, I shall give you the floor.

*[Translation]*

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : It is a separate thing to send to the hon. Member this way, everything that hon. Minister speaks will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)* the State-wise reaction in this regard will also be known. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the list is not very long then it will be read out.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jaffer Sharief, there is no reason why there should be any controversy on this issue.

*[Translation]*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : I am telling you about the list. I have with me regarding the pending proposals in respect of Scheduled Castes. I would like to begin with Andhra Pradesh—these are two proposals of Scheduled Caste from Andhra Pradesh, 16 from Assam and 25 from Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRIM.V.V.S. MURTHI : Please mention those two also. Otherwise how shall we know which are those two communities?

*[Translation]*

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : How will this be done?

*[English]*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : You mention it at least community-wise. Unless you tell how will we be knowing them? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have asked about State-wise information. Now you are asking the community-wise information.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Sir, it is not like this. I request the hon. Minister to mention the communities. I submit that this matter is pending for a long time. The 'Nune' community is there. My friends from West Bengal and Orissa have mentioned it. They are the fishermen belonging to the Scheduled Castes. They have migrated to Andhra Pradesh and they are living in Tekkali in Srikakulam district in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)* They are treated as Scheduled Caste in Orissa but are treated as Backward Class in our State. They have been slogging there for a long time. A recommendation has been given in this regard. The hon. Minister is now settling the issue of migrants of Sardar Sarovar project. In the same way this also has to be done. This is my submission. I request that this may please be done. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Murthi, he has given the details. You cannot expect the hon. Minister to give all the details. You have asked the Minister as to how many resolutions are pending.

...*(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI SEESHARAM SINGH RAVI (BIJNOR) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, has the debate started again. Why the hon. Minister is being pressurised.

*[English]*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI : Sir, this not correct. He cannot show ill-temper in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, whatever information you have, you give it to the House. It is already late.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : I shall be happy to provide any particular information to any Member on any specific thing they desire. There are two proposals from Andhra Pradesh, 16 from Assam, 25 from Bihar, 7 from Delhi, 3 from Goa, 13 from Gujarat, 5 from Haryana, 26 from Madhya Pradesh, 3 from Jammu & Kashmir, 9 from Karnataka, 27 from Kerala, 15 from Madhya Pradesh, 17 from Maharashtra, 1 from Manipur, 16 from Meghalaya, 30 from Orissa, 10 from Punjab, 16 from Rajasthan, 2 from Sikkim, 61 from Tamil Nadu, 2 from Tripura, 18 from Uttaranchal, 2 from West Bengal, 7 from Chandigarh and 9 from Pondicherry, which I was reading. This way a total of 364 proposals have sent for information. As soon as we get this information, we will be ready to take up it.

SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this should be done under a time bound programme.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : How can it be done under a time bound programme. If the information sought is not received how can it be made time bound.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the debate has been very pertinent and fruitful and I have also taken note of what hon. Member have said. The proposal which will be brought will also be taken care of. The people who have been deprived of the social and educational facilities should be provided there as has been enshrined in the Constitution. It has been provided in the Preamble to our Constitution that — We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign, socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic and to secure all its citizen.

Justice, social economic and political;

Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

Equality of status and of opportunity;

and promote among them all

Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and unity and integrity of the nation;

How can we make compromise for less and with the fullest of efforts to fulfil this resolve and with the cooperation of all of you, we will strive that each citizen of India lives the life of a dignified citizen. It is not a stage to deliver speech but a stage of our responsibility. Hence, we are ready to fulfil it. In this regard the two legislations brought today, I would request the august House that. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Caste Prajapati comes under Scheduled Caste category in two districts of

Madhya Pradesh and not in the remaining districts. In case of other districts also it should be done.

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : We have written to the State Government to send us the information about the 'Dhobi' caste which the hon. Member has sought. As soon as the information from the State Government is received, we will do whatever is possible.

In twelfth-thirteenth lines of page, two of the English version copy of the amendment introduced today it has wrongly been written South Dinajpur due to printing error. Hence, I submit that it be read as Dakshina-Dinajpur.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN : One caste in Orissa was earlier in the backward caste list. Then it was included in SC category and some MLA and MP were also elected on this basis. Now it has again been included in the list of backward classes. I fail to understand how this takes place?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It also happens sometimes in India.

[English]

In the English version of the Bill, for Dakshin Dinajpur, South Dinajpur has been mentioned whereas the district is known as 'Dakshin Dinajpur' only. The hon. Minister has given a notice of amendment. However, since it is a patent mistake, he has been requested to point it out. He has already pointed it out while replying to the debate. I accept it and treat this as a patent mistake.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : What about those refugees who had come from Pakistan?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Minister, when a Scheduled Caste or the Scheduled Tribe goes from his State to some other State, he loses his benefit. Is there any safeguard for that? He had asked this question.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in fact a survey in post independent India on the basis of caste status was conducted to define a Schedule Caste. The factors like the practice of untouchability, social economical and educational backwardness were taken as criteria to decide as to which castes should be included in the scheduled caste category on a countrywise basis. The proposals to the effect of including or excluding the various castes in either the scheduled caste and OBC category are made by the State Government and the decision to include or exclude the castes is made under a procedure enumerated in the Constitution and adopted by the Parliament. It is the reason that when a caste moves somewhere, its number increases.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Are the STs also there in that?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : I do not have the information in respect of tribes. I am speaking about the Scheduled Castes. As this proposal have been drafted earlier and it was done by including both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, I have done the job of piloting it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is like that for both, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes?

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I said that the proposal is ready with us. As soon we get the report of the Standing Committee, we will do the rest later.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, he has given satisfactory reply.

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : The Government should bring a comprehensive Bill at the earlier. Those who have from Pakistan have been living here last 35 years but they have no home to live in.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the report of the Standing Committee is received, he will be bringing forward the Bill.

Now, we will take up Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill for disposal.

The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 so as to provide for inclusion of certain Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes oustees of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, who have been displaced due to Sardar Sarovar Project on the Narmada River and are settled or may be settled in the State of Gujarat, in the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes specified in relation to the State of Gujarat, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move "That the Bill be passed."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we will take up Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill for disposal.

The question is :

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.*

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA : MR. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move "That the Bill be passed."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House now stands adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

19.20 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 3, 2002/Vaisakha 13, 1924 (Saka)*

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