

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Seventh Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 13, 2001/Sravana 22, 1923 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

[English]

(Interruptions)

At this stage, Shri S.S. Palanimanickam and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to raise anything, you can raise it after the Question Hour, and not now. Now, please go back to your seats. You should not do it during Question Hour please. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please closed T.V. Camara.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If you want to raise it, you can raise it during 'Zero Hour'. Please go back to your seats. I will give a chance to you; now, please go back to your seats.

11.01 hrs.

At this stage, Dr. V. Saroja and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, this is not good. Please go back to your seats. This is too much.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, this is against the rules. This is not permitted in the House. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, this is against the rules.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is against the rules. Please go back to your seats. What are you doing ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats. You can raise it during 'Zero Hour', and not now. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vetriselvan, please wear your shirt. This is too much. This is against the rules. Please wear your shirt.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Are you really interested to raise the matter in the House or you want to just disturb the House ? Please go back to your seats. I can allow you to raise it during 'Zero Hour', and not now. Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Nothing should go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please go back to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please hear me. This is Question Hour. If you wish to raise anything, you can raise it in 'Zero Hour', not now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli) : This is a State matter, Sir. . . (Interruptions)

*Not recorded

*Not recorded

MR. SPEAKER : Please go to your seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am appealing to you once again, please go to your seat. Please understand, this is Question Hour.

(Interruptions)

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(English)

Shifting of Polluting Industries

*301. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :

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

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently warned the Government of Delhi on the implementation of its order banning polluting industries in the capital;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have provided any kind of help of the State Government to shift polluting industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure that non-polluting industries do not suffer while shifting polluting industries from the capital?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The orders of the Supreme Court are being implemented by the Government of NCT; Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the Delhi Development Authority under the supervision of the Union Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation. The Union Government has also interacted with the Governments of NCT and neighbouring States in connection with the shifting of identified industries. An Expert Committee has been set up by the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation to examine any representation received with respect to classification of the industry/unit in order to ensure that non-polluting industries do not suffer.

Scheme for Rural Sports Programme

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

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the scheme of "Rural Sports Programme" was launched in 1970-71 with a view to broadbasing games and sports and tapping the hidden talent in rural areas;

(b) if so, the extent to which this scheme has been implemented so far;

(c) the amount being allocated to the States in this regard;

(d) whether the Union Government are monitoring the progress of the implementation of this scheme; and

(e) if so, the extent to which the scheme has been successful?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since 1970-71 till date, the competitions are organised for the boys and girls at Block, District, State and National levels. The competitions upto the State level are organised by the States/UTs. According to the present pattern of financial assistance, funds are made available to the States/UTs for State/UT level competitions. The National level competitions are organised by the Sports Authority of India on behalf of the Government of India in collaboration with the host States/UTs. The number of participants at the National level tournament, which was 239 in 1970-71, has now gone up considerably to 2015.

In order to broad-base games and sports in the otherwise neglected areas of the North Eastern States and to tap the hidden talent which is in abundance there, the Government of India approved the scheme of Sports Festival for the North Eastern Region in 1986-87 and made it a component of the Rural Sports Programme.

(c) Financial assistance for holding the State level tournaments is provided to the State Governments at the rate of Rs. 30,000/- per discipline upto 10 disciplines for organisation of State level Sport tournaments. In the case of Union Territories, this assistance is given at the rate of Rs. 15,000/- per discipline.

For National level tournament a financial assistance of Rs. 2.00 lakh per discipline is made available to the Sports Authority of India (SAI), who conducts the tournaments in various States by rotation.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Since the inception of the scheme, tournaments at National level are being organised regularly. States and UTs are also organizing lower level competitions. The scheme has helped to make young boys and girls in rural areas sports conscious and has provided them an opportunity to participate at various levels of competition.

**Amendment in Payment of Bonus
Act, 1965**

*303. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to amend the payment of Bonus Act, 1965;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision to remove the eligibility limit and calculation of ceiling under the said Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) to (e) A proposal to amend the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 for revising the eligibility limit and calculation ceiling is under consideration of the Government. Given the procedures/steps involved and related financial implications it is not possible at present to specify a definite timeframe for carrying out the amendments to the Act.

Telephone Connections

*304. DR. V. SAROJA :

DR. S. VENUGOPAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a heavy waiting list for new telephone connections in many States;

(b) if so, the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in each districts of those States as on July 31, 2001, separately; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list in those States ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The waiting list in the States of J and K, Kerala and West Bengal is comparatively more since the ratio of waiting list to the total working connections in these States is more than the average annual growth rate of about 22% for the country. The district-wise waiting list for telephone connections in these states, as on 31.7.2001 is as per enclosed Statement.

(c) Steps being taken to clear the waiting list are as follows :

1. Increase of switching capacity by installing new exchanges and expansion of the existing exchanges.
2. Laying the new underground cables for expansion of the existing network.
3. Provision of WLL and cellular telephones to make the remote places accessible.

Statement

District-wise Details of waiting list as on 31.7.2001

Jammu and Kashmir Circle			Kerala Circle			West Bengal Circle		
Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Persons on Wait list	Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Persons on Wait list	Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Persons on Wait list
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Jammu	7954	1.	Kasaragod	42372	1.	Burdwan	34267
2.	Udhampur	1055	2.	Cannanore	78841	2.	Murshidabad	16558
3.	Kathua	915	3.	Calicut	25557	3.	Bakura	9437
4.	Doda	931	4.	Wynad	84735	4.	Howrah	15128
5.	Rajouri	964	5.	Malappuram	111653	5.	Hoogly	16002
6.	Poonch	260	6.	Palghat	51465	6.	24 Parganas (N)	14304
7.	Leh	1562	7.	Trichur	72193	7.	24 Parganas (S)	16042
8.	Kargil	627	8.	Ernakulam	59367	8.	Coochbehar	4223

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9. Srinagar	16793	9. Idukki	32369	9. Jalpaiguri	4859			
10. Baramula	5206	10. Kottayam	48657	10. Midnapur	24382			
11. Kupwara	911	11. Allepey	72294	11. Nadia	24252			
12. Anantnag	4025	12. Pathanamthitta	23615	12. Malda	6225			
13. Pulwama	2516	13. Quilon	87336	13. Purulia	2703			
14. Badgam	2568	14. Trivandrum	55020	14. Dinajpur (N)	4200			
		15. Lakshadweep (UT)	155	15. Dinajpur (S)	2007			
		16. Mahe (UT)	2193	16. Darjeeling	11808			
				17. Birbhum	12052			
				18. Sikkim (E)	50			
				19. Sikkim (W)	37			
				20. Sikkim (N)	47			
				21. Sikkim (S)	43			
Total		46287	Total		847822	Total		218626

Enforcement of Environmental Laws

*305. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :

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

(a) whether the Union Government have expressed its concern over the poor enforcement of various Environmental laws in the country;

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

(c) whether any strategy is being formulated to ensure the enforcement of Environmental laws by the State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Union Government periodically reviews the enforcement of the various environmental laws. The last review was undertaken in the meeting of Ministers of Environment of all States and Union Territories held at Coimbatore on 29-30 January, 2001.

(c) and (d) The following are the details of the strategy being followed :-

i. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has formulated nationwide pollution control

programmes in consultation with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs);

ii. Under Section 18 of the Water Act, Central Pollution Control Board has been delegated powers to issue directions to the State Pollution Control Boards for effective implementation of the programmes;

iii. Under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Central Pollution Control Board has been delegated powers to issue directions to the industries located in any of the State for closure, if found violating the pollution control norms;

iv. The Central Government has also delegated powers to the State Governments under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act for direct closure of the industry for non-compliance of the pollution control norms;

v. To strengthen the State Pollution Control Boards/ Pollution Control Committees, 80% cess money is being directly released to each State/Union Territory;

vi. Under the various bilateral programmes, human resource development programmes are incorporated and technical and scientific staff in the State Pollution Control Boards and Central Pollution Control Board are provided with training facilities, both within the country and abroad.

Communication Facility

*306. SHRI MANJAY LAL :
SHRI ARUN KUMAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the targeted growth rate for providing communication facility in the country during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the extent to which the said target has been achieved till date;

(c) reasons for the shortfall, if any; and

(d) the action taken to overcome the shortfall and achieve the targeted growth rate in the remaining period of Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) The growth rate for providing communication facility is generally measured with the growth of Direct Exchange Lines (DELs).

The actual growth rate for the first 4 years of the Ninth Five Year Plan is more than that targetted, the details of which are as follows :-

Year	Targetted Growth rate (%)	Actual Growth rate (%)
1997-98	19.94	22.4
1998-99	20.22	21.3
1999-2000	21.07	22.77
2000-01	21.84	22.35

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of parts 'a' and 'b'.

[Translation]

Scheme for Plantation

*307. DR. ASHOK PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pollution level is increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to encourage plantation as a means to check pollution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Pollution level has been increasing in some parts of the country due to increasing population, industrialisation, urbanisation and increase in number of vehicles. However, because of various measures taken by the Government, there has been a reversal trend in some of the major cities. The Government has initiated an urban green belt programme as one of the measures to check pollution in cities. A pilot project "Green Belt for Abatement of Pollution of Environmental Improvement" has been taken up. In order to extend the scheme to various cities in different States, the Central Pollution Control Board has asked the State Pollution Control Boards to assess their requirement and formulate proposals for consideration.

[English]

Change of Guard in Management of Air India

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

(a) the main reasons why Air India became a loss making airlines;

(b) the reasons for putting off the decision to purchase new aircraft;

(c) the extent to which the change of guard in the management of Air India is likely to help the airlines; and

(d) the amount Tata/Singapore airlines is likely to pay for Air India equity ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Air India became loss making organisation since 1995-96 and prior to this the position of Air India was as per details given below :-

1992-93 -	Profit Rs. 330.00 Crores
1993-94 -	Profit Rs. 201.90 Crores
1994-95 -	Profit Rs. 040.80 Crores
1995-96 -	Loss Rs. 271.84 Crores

From 1993-94, the profits of Air India started reducing owing to the fact that in the year 1992-93, Indian Airlines was awarded a large number of lucrative India-Gulf routes from Air India's entitlement to bail out Indian Airlines from heavy losses which it had suffered due to grounding of its fleet of 31 aircrafts A-320 in 1990. In 1994-95, Air India's imprudent business decision to operate wet leased aircraft also led to erosion of profits. These two factors mainly

started affecting adversely Air India's profits year after year, and instead Air India suffered losses to the extent of Rs. 271.84 crores and Rs. 296.94 crores in the year 1995-96 and 1996-97 respectively. Of course, there were other reasons accountable such as (i) No addition of aircraft in the fleet due to shaken confidence of the management on account of heavy losses (ii) Steep increase in the prices of fuel; (iii) High fuel consumption and material consumption as a result of an ageing fleet; (iv) High burden of depreciation and financial costs due to replacement and augmentation of fleet and devaluation of the Indian rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar; (v) Increase in expenditure as a result of weakening of the Indian rupees vis-a-vis major hard currencies; (vi) Slow down in major traffic generating economies;

(b) Since Air India is being disinvested shortly, they have decided not to purchase new aircraft at present. Instead, they have taken 4 A310-300 aircraft on drylease with a view to augment its routes and passengers carrying capacity.

(c) It is expected that transfer of the management control of Air India in favour of the Strategic Partner would bring in efficient management practices, which would help the company in attaining greater operational efficiency and optimum utilization of its resources.

(d) It is not possible to give an estimate of the bid amount of the bidder for the 40% equity of Air India.

Ecological Imbalance in Eastern Ghat

*309. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing ecological imbalance in Eastern Ghat;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for the same; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the ecological balance of Eastern Ghat ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Government has not come across any comprehensive study indicating ecological imbalances in Eastern Ghat. Ecological imbalances denote changes in eco-systems structure and function due to anthropogenic and other related factors. These include habitat degradation and fragmentation, modification of climate, soil degradation and air and water pollution. However, Government keeps a close watch on all

ecologically sensitive regions including the Eastern Ghat. The Ministry is implementing various schemes and programmes aimed at maintenance of the ecological balance in ecologically sensitive areas including Eastern Ghat. Some of the important schemes being implemented include abatement of pollution, afforestation and eco-development, in-situ conservation through protected area network, conservation of wetlands, environmental impact assessment of developmental projects, reclamation and rehabilitation of mined areas, and treatment of catchment areas.

Monitoring System for Protection of Wildlife

*310. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bull of the Corbett Park is a coveted trophy for poachers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government monitor the ways and means by which the State Government manage, administer and plan all aspects of National Park/ Sanctuaries/Forest Reserves falling under their domain;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent to which monitoring is done in case of expenditure of funds released by the Union Government to the State Governments;

(e) the further steps proposed to be taken for more rigid and efficient monitoring system for protection of wildlife;

(f) whether requests have also been received from environmentalists in Andhra Pradesh to develop and protect some sanctuaries; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The tusks of bull elephant fetch high prices in the clandestine market outside the country.

(c) The responsibility of implementing the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act in respect of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries and reserve forests vests with the State Government. The Ministry of Environment and Forests facilitates management of national parks and sanctuaries by the State Government by providing financial

and technical inputs only. Review of the management of national parks and sanctuaries, tiger reserves and elephant reserves is made by the members of the Steering Committee of Project Tiger and Project Elephant as well as officers of the Ministry.

(d) The State Governments are required to issue utilisation certificates giving specific details of the works carried out from the financial assistance provided by the Central Government under various centrally sponsored schemes. Random physical inspection of the works is also done by the officers of the Central Government.

(e) Specific responsibility has been allocated to each officer posted in the wildlife wing of the Ministry for visiting national parks and sanctuaries in various States.

(f) and (g) Dr. Pulla Rao has requested for providing financial assistance to Papikonda Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh. On the basis of the proposals, first instalment of financial assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakhs has been released to the State Government.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Telegraph Services

*311. SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY :

SHRI C.N. SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise the telegraph services in the country;

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

(c) whether any budget allocation has been made for the purpose during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the modernisation work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The telegraph services in the country have been modernised by inducting micro-processor based Store and Forward Message Switching Systems (SFMS), Electronic Key Board Concentrators (EKBCs), Formatted Terminal Concentrators (FTCs) and appropriate terminal devices.

(b) The details of the modernisation of telegraph services, State-wise is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) No separate budget allocation has been made for this purpose. However, the requirements are met from the budget allocation made for Telex and Telegraph works.

(e) The modernisation is an ongoing process and such works are carried out based on demand and need.

Statement

State-wise details of the Modern Telegraph Equipments Installed

S.No.	Circles	SFMS			EKBC	FTC	
		32L	64L	128L			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	Port available
2.	Andhra Pradesh	—	1	1	8	4	
3.	Assam	—	1	—	9	—	
4.	Bihar	1	1	—	5	—	
5.	Gujarat	1	—	1	18	4	
6.	Haryana	1	—	—	8	—	
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	—	7	—	
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	—	—	2	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
9.	Jharkhand	—	—	—	—	—	Ports available
10.	Karnataka	1	1	1	15	—	
11.	Kerala	1	1	1	18	—	
12.	Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh	4	1	—	4	—	
13.	Maharashtra and Goa	4	2	2	45	—	
14.	North Eastern States	1	—	—	3	—	
15.	Orissa	2	—	—	8	—	
16.	Punjab	1	1	—	14	2	
17.	Rajasthan	1	1	—	32	2	
18.	Tamilnadu	4	3	1	64	6	
19.	Uttar Pradesh	4	—	1	21	6	
20.	Uttaranchal	1	—	—	3	—	
21.	West Bengal and Sikkim	—	—	1	28	—	
22.	New Delhi	—	—	1	3	1	
Total		29	13	10	315	25	

Legend : SFMSS 32L 32 Lines Store and Forward Message Switching System
 SFMSS 64L 64 Lines Store and Forward Message Switching System
 SFMSS 128L 128 Lines Store and Forward Message Switching System
 EKBC Electronic Key Board Concentrator
 FTC Formatted Terminal Concentrator

[English]

Preservation of Holy Rivers in Southern Peninsula

*312. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :
 SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN :

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

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to preserve the rivers in the Southern Peninsula which have great religious importance including the Holy River Pampa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Travancore Devaswom Board of Kerala has submitted a proposal for the approval of 100 hectares of forest land for the development and provision of basic amenities for devotees in Subrimala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Central Government under the National River Conservation Plan is concerned with the conservation of rivers in the country including those in the Southern Peninsula. An outline proposal of pollution abatement of river Pampa at an estimated cost of Rs. 155 crore has been received from the Government of Kerala with a request to release funds for preparing a Pre-feasibility Report on the project only at this stage. It has been decided to release an amount of Rs. 3 lakhs for this purpose to the State Government.

(c) and (d) Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for diversion of 20 hectares of forest land for creating facilities for pilgrims visiting Sabrimala. Out of the 20 hectares land proposed for diversion, 15 hectares formed part of the Periyar Tiger Reserve. However,

Government has allowed diversion of 0.42 hectares of forest land for sewage treatment plant and 0.20 hectares for water augmentation facility only within the Tiger Reserve as these activities are in consonance with the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Government has also permitted temporary use of 5 hectares of forest land outside the Tiger Reserve Area for parking facilities. The State Government has been advised to submit a revised proposal for creating additional facilities for pilgrims at Sabrimala outside the Tiger Reserve.

Telephone Complaints

*313. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fault rate of telephone has gone up in Delhi and Mumbai and the complaints are not being attended to promptly despite repeated requests;

(b) whether a special cell is operating in his office for registering such complaints;

(c) if so, the number of complaints registered in the complaint cell during the last six months from January to June, 2001; and

(d) the action taken against the concerned zonal authorities for the delayed action in attending to the complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) MTNL has brought down fault-rate from 30.34% in 1999-2000 to 25.47% in 2000-2001 in Delhi and from 13.3% in 1999-2000 to 11.03% in 2000-2001 in Mumbai. While generally faults are being attended to promptly, except in respect of faults due to damage of underground cables where rectification takes time, appropriate action is also taken against those found responsible for the delays in promptly rectifying the faults.

A Public Grievance (PG) Cell is operating in the office of Minister of Communications (MOC). Faults related to MTNL, Delhi are booked directly into MTNL's computerized fault repair system by MOC(PG) Cell. The faults are instantaneously transferred to respective sectional fault control centre of Area General Managers and made over to the line staff. Though most of the faults are rectified promptly, in cases where the faults are due to cable breakdown, some delays occur.

Total number of complaints registered in this Cell during the period January to June, 2001 is 1,81,805.

[Translation]

Sea Erosion

*314. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to check sea erosion;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes being formulated and implemented by the Government; and

(c) the annual loss occurring due to sea erosion ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN SETHI) : (a) and (b) Flood Management including sea erosion being a State subject, flood control schemes including prevention of coastal erosion are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. Central Government renders assistance that are technical, catalytical and promotional in nature.

Two schemes are at present under consideration of Government of India to assist maritime States/UTs for protection of vulnerable coastal areas from sea erosion. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely, "Critical anti erosion works in coastal and other than Ganga basin States" has been approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for an amount of Rs. 39.97 crore which includes Rs. 30 crore as the central share. Out of this, Rs. 20 crore is for anti-sea erosion works in critical reaches for various maritime States. The scheme has been submitted for the approval of the Full Planning Commission. Secondly, a consolidated National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) for assistance to maritime States/UT, covering coastal States, namely, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal and U.T. of Pondicherry, is under preparation in Central Water Commission. The proposals received from maritime States/UT are in various stages of finalization. Government of Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have also been requested to submit their proposals, which are still awaited.

(c) As per information furnished by the States, the average annual loss/anticipated loss occurring due to sea erosion, covering various coastal States in monetary terms, is approx. Rs. 558.24 crore.

[English]

Modernisation of Telephone Services

*315. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to modernise the telephone services in the country during 2001-2002;

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

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which the modernisation work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) Modernisation is an ongoing process. The following steps are being taken at present to modernise telephone services.

(i) More and more New Technology Switches are being inducted in the network. It is planned to add 72.3 lakh Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) during 2001-2002. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(ii) Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system is being inducted both for Urban and Rural network to

provide telephones to remote and inaccessible areas. In all, 833700 lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) is being inducted during 2001-2002. State-wise details are enclosed as Statement.

(iii) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have planned countrywide Cellular services. The 16 lakhs lines capacity is being built up during 2001-02. State-wise details are enclosed as Statement.

(iv) Replacement of remaining analogue exchanges by digital exchanges.

(v) In addition to the above, predominantly Optical Fibre technology is being used to provide reliable communication media to the telephone exchanges in the country.

Funds provisionally allocated for Telephone Services, State-wise, during 2001-2002 are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Name of the State	DELs Target	DELs from Rural WLL	DELs from Urban WLL	Cellular Mobile Phones	Funds Allocated (Rs. in Crores)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar	10000	2000	0	300	20.07
Andhra Pradesh	530000	110000	19500	32000	1127.61
Assam	100000	16000	300	2200	207.22
Bihar	200000	40000	3900	7000	477.72
Jharkhand	82000	25500	3000	6000	225.38
Gujarat	650000	12000	18600	35000	1222.74
Haryana	245500	0	3900	8600	426.37
Himachal Pradesh	90000	4500	0	2400	219.10
Jammu and Kashmir	80000	4000	900	2400	158.90
Karnataka	500000	11000	10500	23000	974.01
Kerala	663000	14000	12900	25000	1093.39
Madhya Pradesh	155000	12000	7800	6900	479.51
Chhattisgarh	40000	14000	3000	1800	176.37
Maharashtra*	950000	7000	64700	88000	2329.08
North East	53500	12000	300	600	222.62
Orissa	135000	17000	900	7400	388.41

1	2	3	4	5	6
Punjab	460000	0	15300	18000	851.71
Rajasthan	300000	7000	6900	10000	684.94
Tamil Nadu*	596000	6000	16500	26000	1127.69
Uttar Pradesh	625000	85000	20700	30200	1283.04
Uttaranchal	100000	9000	1500	4600	187.35
West Bengal*	465000	24000	9000	13100	981.10
Delhi	200000	—	34400	50000	800.00

* — Tamil Nadu includes Chennai.

— Maharashtra includes Mumbai.

— West Bengal includes Kolkatta, Sikkim

— Figures for Mobile Phones — Bihar includes Jharkhand

— Madhya Pradesh includes Chhattisgarh

— Uttar Pradesh includes Uttaranchal

— North East includes NE-I-Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura

NE-II-Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur

— MTNL Delhi and Mumbai propose to provide cellular mobile phones subject to demand.

[Translation]

[English]

GDP Loss due to Pollution In Atmosphere

*316. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :

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

(a) whether 10 per cent of the Gross Domestic
Product (GDP) is lost due to pollution in atmosphere in
the country each year;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplat-
ing to set up an independent regulatory authority to
monitor all the factors causing pollution in the atmosphere;
and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
(SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No conclusive data are available
in this regard.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Water Scarce Basins

*317. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN : Will the Minister of
WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Cauvery, Vaigai, Pannar, Sabarmati and
some more East-West flowing river basins are considered
as water scarce basins;

(b) if so, the per capita annual availability of water
in these basins; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve
per capita water availability in the said basins ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI
ARJUN SETHI) : (a) to (c) Any situation of water availability
less than 1000 cum per capita is considered by the
international agencies as scarcity conditions. Based upon
this criterion and availability of water as per the latest
assessment, six basins viz. Cauvery, Sabarmati, Pennar,
West flowing rivers of Kutch and Saurashtra incling Luni,
East flowing rivers between Mahanadi and Pennar, and
East flowing rivers between Pennar and Kanyakumari fall
into this category. Per Capita Water availability in 1991 and
in 2000 (in Cubic Meter) is given below :

Sr. No.	River Basins	Per Capita Water availability in 1991 (Cubic Meter)	Per Capita Water availability in 2000 (Cubic Meter)
1.	Sabarmati	360	307
2.	East flowing rivers between Pennar and Kanyakumari	366	311
3.	Pennar	651	550
4.	West flowing rivers from Kutch and Saurashtra including Luni	683	579
5.	Cauvery	728	619
6.	East flowing rivers between Mahanadi and Pennar	953	808

The National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development envisages inter linkages among the various Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for the optimum utilisation of water resources. The Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to carry out the water balance and other studies of the National Perspective Plan. NWDA has completed water balance and prefeasibility studies of all the links proposals. NWDA has identified 30 links for preparation of the feasibility report. Out of these, 9 links involved in the interlinking of Mahanadi-Godavari-Krishna-Cauvery rivers, and 3 links involved in diversion of other west flowing rivers towards east under Peninsular component envisage transfer of water to deficit basins of Cauvery and other east flowing rivers. Feasibility report for three of the above links have been completed and for the rest of the links are planned to be completed by the year 2004. Under the Himalayan Component, interlinking of Ghagra and Sarda with Yamuna, Yamuna with Sabarmati via Rajasthan is also envisaged for which prefeasibility reports have been prepared. Implementation of such water transfer link proposals would depend on various factors like consensus among the basin States regarding the proposed transfer, preparation of detailed project report and availability of funds etc.

Accountability in Sports

*318. SHRI K. YERANNAIDU :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a firm stand on accountability in sports and asked national federations to fix responsibility and set penalties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of reforms proposed to be undertaken by the sports federations; and

(d) the extent to which the sports federations have agreed to the suggestions made by the Government ?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (KUMARI UMA BHARATI) : (a) to (d) The promotion of Sports is primarily the responsibility of the National Sports Federations which are autonomous bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act.

The Government provides financial assistance to recognized National Sports Federations as per the provisions contained in the "Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs)". These Guidelines contain provisions regarding accountability of National Sports Federations in so far as assistance given to them under the scheme is concerned. According to these Guidelines, to be eligible for assistance the NSFs are required to follow proper, democratic and healthy management practices which provide for greater accountability and transparency at all levels, have proper accounting procedures at all levels and produce annual financial statements etc. Moreover, NSFs are also required to submit audited statement of accounts related to the event for which financial assistance is provided along-with performance report.

Besides, for considering the proposals for recognition to National Sports Federations, there are some laid down criteria such as the current legal status of the organization, recognition by International, Asian Federation and Indian Olympic Association (IOA), its all India spread, internal financial and management practices and standards, electoral practices etc. The Guidelines also provide for suspension and de-recognition of NSFs in the event of serious irregularities.

Apart from above, the Government is also considering formulation of a Model Code of Conduct for NSFs. The suggestions of NSFs will be duly taken into consideration in finalizing the Model Code of Conduct.

Utilization of National Highway Development Fund

*319. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have to spent more than Rs. 50,000 crore for road building activities/highways in the country under the National Highways Development Fund (NHDF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry has utilised the earlier amount of Rs. 2500 crore provided under the NHDF; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to National Highway Development Project (NHDP) under which the Government has undertaken 4/6 laning in 13252 km of National Highways consisting of Golden Quadrilateral (GQ) connecting the four metropolitan cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata having a length of 5952 km as well as North-South and East-West corridors (NS/EW) connecting Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir with Kanyakumari and Silchar with Porbandar having a length of 7300 km. The total estimated cost of NHDP is Rs. 54,000 crore.

(c) Total grants made to NHAI during the last 5 years is Rs. 5060 crore while the expenditure made is Rs. 2815 crore.

(d) The projects in the initial stages require less funds. Now, the expenditure has picked up and during the year 2001-2002 anticipated expenditure is about Rs. 5000 crore.

Exploitation of Minerals in Offshore Areas

*320. SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate a legislation for the optimum exploitation of minerals in the off-shore areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the subject was discussed in a 'Conference of State Minister of Mines and Geology' held at New Delhi recently; and

(d) if so, the details of the outcome in the above said conference?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has prepared an Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and

Regulation) Bill and the same is slated for introduction in the Lok Sabha.

(c) and (d) In the Conference of State Ministers of Mines and Geology held at New Delhi recently, the delegates were informed about Central Government's intention to enact a legislation for exploitation of mineral resources in the offshore areas. This matter was formally not on the agenda which was discussed.

Grants to Non Governmental Organisations

3165. SHRI RAJESH VERMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ No. 3333 on March 19, 2001 and state :

(a) the criteria adopted in selection of members of each respective committees that select Non-Government Organisations (NGO's) under several schemes of his Ministry;

(b) whether the Government have published any annual reports of such NGO's; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Members of the respective committees constituted under several schemes of the Ministry are selected from leading academicians, scientists, technologists, social workers, Government officials and representatives from potential NGOs throughout the country having expertise and experience in the relevant subject areas under the schemes for which the committees are constituted.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Lahore Bus Service from Kota and Kutch

3166. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start bus services from Kota and Kutch to Lahore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal at this juncture.

[English]

Sports Complex

3167. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) The number of sports complexes existing at present in the country, particularly in Uttranchal and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government propose to construct some more sports complex in the country;

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

(d) the financial assistance earmarked for the development of sports complex in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) 'Sports' is a State subject. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to create sports facilities including Sports Complex, according to their needs. However, Central Government does supplement the efforts of the State Government in this direction by providing admissible Central assistance on receipt of the viable proposals from them under the scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure". State-wise details of Central assistance approved for construction of Sports complexes under the Scheme during the last 3 years are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) Specific earmarking of financial assistance is not done for development of sports complex. Budget allocation for the scheme of Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure during 2001-2002 is Rs. 650.00 lakh for construction of all types of sports infrastructure including complexes.

Statement

No. of Sports Complexes approved for Central assistance from 1998-99 to 2000-2001

Sl.No.	State/UT	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	10
2.	Bihar	1	—	—
3.	Kerala	—	1	—

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Nagaland	—	2	2
5.	Tamilnadu	—	1	1
6.	Punjab	—	—	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	1
8.	Other States/UTs including Uttranchal	—	—	—
Total		1	4	15

Wage Agreement

3168. SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government and the CIL Authority have initiated discussion with the Trade Unions of Coal Industry for wage settlement upon expiry of the Sixth National Wage Agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay;

(d) whether most of the workers in mines have not been receiving their dues of Provident Fund and Pension upon retirement;

(e) if so, whether workers in the mines are being gradually replaces by contract labour;

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

(g) whether female workers are facing with discriminatory treatments by the Management of ECL; and

(h) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (h) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Implementation of Hill Eco-System

3169. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan has submitted a project for implementation of Hill Eco-System in Tribal area during May 1999;

(b) if so, the status of the proposal; and

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

On going works on NH-36

3170.DR. JAYANTA RONGPI : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the ongoing works undertaken on the Karbi-Anglong portion of National Highway-36 during the last three years;

(b) the funds spent for the said works during the same period; and

(c) the time framed by which the improvement and widening works along with bridges of the above mentioned sector of NH-36 are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Four nos. of works have been undertaken on the Karbi-Anglong portion of National Highway-36 during the last three years. These include construction of bridge Nos. 32/2 and 48/4 alongwith approaches, improvement of riding quality from km 48/0 to 52/0 and widening to two lane from km 130/0 to 133/0.

(b) An amount of Rs. 133.22 lakh has been spent during the last three years on these ongoing works.

(c) The said ongoing works are likely to be completed between December 2001 and December, 2003.

Vehicular Pollution

3171.SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the salient points of the study made on "control of vehicular pollution in India" reported in Nistads News Vol.3, No.1 April 2001 indicating the salient points found over similar reports from CPCB and other bodies specially in other cities outside Delhi;

(b) whether the authors have compiled data on the Gasohol in successful use in Brazil for the past 50 years which has finally seized the serious attention of our petroleum Ministry after repeated earlier rejections of the technology as Gasohol is renewable energy source and

serves as antilook agent also apart from other benefits to the farmers and saving of forex;

(c) whether the authors have also reported anything on the advantages of CNG and other fuels vis-a-vis Gasohol and electricity run buses/vehicles as in many western countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The salient points of the report/studies carried out by NISTADS and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) include the following :

- Since 1951 the urban population of our country has increased six folds.
- One fifth of the total vehicular population in India are concentrated in the four metropolitan cities.
- Approximately 70% of Delhi's air pollution is from vehicular emissions.
- Unleaded petrol with low benzene, low sulphur diesel and use of pre-mixed two stroke engine oil have decreased emissions considerably.

(b) The authors have not compiled data on the successful use of Gasohol in Brazil for the past 50 years. However, pilot projects for doping of ethanol in Motor Spirit have been commissioned by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Wildlife Population

3172.SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether wildlife population in South India has of late shown an increase;

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

(c) whether such measures to protect forest wealth is also likely to be taken for Northern region; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The estimated population of tiger, leopard and elephant in four Southern States for two consecutive census is as follows :

State	1993			1997		
	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant	Tiger	Leopard	Elephant
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra	197	152	46	171	138	57
Karnataka	305	455	5500	350	620	6088
Kerala	57	16	3500	73	16*	5737
Tamil Nadu	97	138	2400	62	110	2971
Total	656	761	11446	656	984	14853

(Note : *Population census have not been done. The census figure quoted during 1993 has been incorporated in 1997 also.

The above trends of population are more or less on the same pattern as in other States of the country. In a few States tiger and leopard population show an increase whereas in others it shows a decline. However, there is a significant rise in the elephant population of Southern States but selective killing of tuskers are reported from time to time. The Central and the State Governments have taken several initiatives for effective protection of wildlife but the success is limited because of increasing demand of ivory and parts and products

from leopards and tigers in the clandestine market across the border. Poaching and illegal trade of valuable wildlife is the mastermind of organized mafias who are well trained and equipped with sophisticated weapons and communications equipments. The Central Government has been persuading the State Governments to strengthen the infrastructure. Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments for this purpose. The details of financial assistance provided during the last three years is as follows :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
1.	Project Tiger	1660.875	1749.162	918.567
2.	Project Elephant	547.01	596.57	636.85
3.	Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries	934.883	1298.00	2479.984
4.	Eco-Development in and around National Parks and Sanctuaries	634.499	729.208	1311.152
5.	Beneficiary oriented tribal development scheme	350.00	269.580	310.65
Total		6026.267	6641.52	6657.203

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Funds to Corbett National Park

3173. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds provided to Uttar Pradesh and Uttranchal Governments respectively for Corbett National Park situated in Ramnagar of Nainital during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) whether in view of incidents of death of elephants in last few months, the State Government have sent any proposal to the Union Government to strengthen the security of the park and to make it more attractive for tourists;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the Government are likely to be make a decision in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The funds released during the

last three years to Uttar Pradesh for the Corbett Tiger Reserve are as given below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Scheme	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1.	Project Tiger	137.88	162.95	90.895
2.	Eco development	25.40	21.57	21.5
			(revalidation)	(revalidation)

After the formation of State of Uttaranchal Rs. 7.60 lakhs was released to Corbett Tiger Reserve during 2000-2001.

(b) to (d) The Government of Uttaranchal has sought Central Assistance for Corbett Tiger Reserve during the year 2001-2002. Under Project Tiger Scheme Rs. 182.76 lakhs has been sanctioned and Rs. 70.00 lakhs has been released as first installment. Rs. 26.70 lakhs has been sanctioned and Rs. 15.00 lakhs has been released as first installment under Eco development Scheme also for Corbett Tiger Reserve. Tourism is not a mandate for wildlife management in Tiger Reserves.

[English]

Launching of Internet Access Service by TCIL

3174. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL) propose to launch its internet access service; and

(b) if so, the details and location thereof ?

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

(b) TCIL has submitted the proposal to Govt. for approval for forming an Internet Company named as Internet Express Ltd. in association with a foreign Company and Punjab National Bank as per this proposal TCIL will hold 46% equity in the Internet Express Ltd.. After approval of Government, initially the service shall be launched in 5 major cities of the country viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Bangalore.

Trainee Pilots' Flying Hours at Flying Clubs

3175. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of flying hours done by various trainee pilots (whose commercial pilot licence is issued in India) at various flying clubs/institutes in the world during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of flying hours done by different flying clubs/institute during the last three years, year-wise and aircrafts-wise;

(c) the details of turnover and net profit/loss of different flying clubs, non schedule operators and schedule operators during the last three years;

(d) the details of the airworthy aircraft available with different flying clubs/institutes;

(e) the number of commercial pilot licence issued and the number of FAA licences conversion done during the last three years; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure growth of aviation industry ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The information regarding the flying hours done by an individual trainee pilot (whose Commercial Pilot Licence is issued in India) at various flying clubs/institutes both in India and abroad is not readily available with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation.

(b) The details of flying hours done by different flying clubs/institutes/schools during the last three years, year-wise and aircraft-wise are given at enclosed Statement-I.

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

(d) The information of the airworthy aircraft available with different flying clubs/institutes/schools is given at enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The total number of Commercial Pilot Licence (Aircraft/Helicopter) issued during the period 01.04.1998 to 31.03.2001 is 606, out of which 118 FAA licences were converted into their Indian equivalents.

(f) Concerted efforts are being made to reduce the cost of operation of domestic operation to boost operation of small aircraft to those destinations where Jet aircraft operations cannot be viable. This would ensure greater connectivity between small cities and major destinations located on the trunk routes. Regulations for operation of foreign tourist charters are being reviewed periodically to make this country an attractive tourist destination.

Statement-I

(A) List showing the year-wise and aircraft-wise details of flying hour done by the different Flying Clubs/Schools/Institutes during the last three years under Government Subvention Scheme

Name of Flying Clubs/Institutes	Year	Cessna	Pushpak	Swati	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar Flying Training Institute, Port Blair.	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001		No flying		
Andhra Pradesh Aviation Academy, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	1219:05 1518:15 1545:00	071:40 — —	114:10 — —	1404:55 1518:15 1545:00
Assam Flying Club, Guwahati (Assam)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001		No flying		
Bihar Flying Training Institute, Patna (Bihar)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	— — 754:40	117:10 — —	511:10 — —	628:20 — 754:40
Jamshedpur Co-operative Flying Club, Jamshedpur (Bihar)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001		Information awaited.		
Delhi Flying Club (Delhi)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	653:00 1504:00 808:35	— — —	— — —	653:00 1504:00 808:35
Gujarat Flying Club, Vadodara (Gujarat)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	930:30 1160:20 643:50	6:35 — 29:25	— — —	937:05 1160:20 673:15
Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation, Hissar (branch of HICA, Karnal)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001		Information awaited.		
Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation, Karnal	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	1005:45 910:05 719:50	682:35 426:30 369:05	1:00 — —	1689:20 1336:35 1088:55
Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation, Pinjore (branch of HICA, Karnal)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001	149:50 49:25 247:10	1131:55 709:00 521:45	218:15 239:40 47:10	1500:00 998:05 1016:05
Government flying Training School, Bangalore (Karnataka)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	893:10	395:55	117:25	1406:30
			(Aeronca Super Chief)		
Government Flying Training Institute, Calcutta (West Bengal)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001		No flying		

1	2	3	4	5	6
Government Aviation Training Institute, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001				20:45 468:25 48:45
Kerala Aviation Training Centre, Trivandrum (Kerala)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	— — —	412:55 95:40 125:40	73:55 505:15 194:45	486:50 600:55 320:25
Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore (Madhya Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	3453:25 2996:40 2176:05	54:50 1:35 —	19:50 — —	3528:05 2998:15 2176:05
Bombay Flying Club Mumbai (Maharashtra)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	551:05 319:00 335:25	— — —	— — —	551:05 319:00 335:25
Nagpur Flying Club Nagpur (Maharashtra)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		No flying		
Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar (Punjab)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		Information awaited.		
Ludhiana Aviation Club (Punjab)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	— — —	— — —	— — —	1781:10 1536:40 1148:25
Northern India Flying Club, Jalandhar (camp at Patiala), Punjab	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		Information awaited		
Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala (Punjab)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	1311:30 1268:20 784:40	637:10 494:05 709:50	53:40 80:15 —	2020:20 1842:40 1494:30
Banasthali Vidyapith Flying Club (Rajasthan)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		No flying		
Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	139:45 720:40 623:50	76:40 56:45 97:50	23:35 — —	240:00 777:25 721:40
Coimbatore Aviation Training Academy Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		Information awaited.		
Madras Flying Club Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	1116:50 449:25 860:35	13:10 25:05 115:50	— 27:20 2:10	1130:00 501:50 978:35

1	2	3	4	5	6
		(TB-20)		(King Air C-90-A)	
Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Raebareilly (Uttar Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	2472:00 5491:25 3447:15	286:55 490:10 898:35		2758:55 5981:35 4345:50
State Civil Aviation, UP Flying Training Centre, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		Information not received.		

*(B) List showing the year-wise and Aircraft-wise details of Flying hours done by the different Flying Clubs/
Schools/Institutes during the last three years not covered under Government Subvention Scheme*

Wings Aviation, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001				516:45 1066:25 1098:50
Flytech Aviation Academy, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	1721:05 1420:30 663:50			1721:05 1420:30 663:50
Tata Nagar Aviation, Jamshedpur (Bihar)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		Information awaited.		
		Cessna	Aztec	Zenith	Total
Ahmedabad Aviation Akademi (Gujarat)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001	4709:25 4712:35 2692:15	169:10 344:20 109:00	22:40 — 310:05	4901:15 5056:55 3111:20
		Cessna	Pushpak	Swati	Total
Academy of Carver Aviation, Mumbai (Maharashtra)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001		Information awaited.		
Bangalore Aeronautics Technical Services Bangalore (Karnataka)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		Information awaited.		
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., Hal Rotary Wingh Academy, Bangalore	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001		Information awaited.		
Taneja Flying School, Bangalore (Karnataka)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001	390:25 00:00 00:00			390:25 00:00 00:00
FRANK Airways Pvt. Ltd. Indore (Madhya Pradesh)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001		Information awaited.		
Orient Flight School, Pondicherry (Union Territory)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-200001		(Non-subsidised)		2210:15 595:55 508:55

1	2	3	4	5	6
Rajputana Aviation Academy, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001	694:30 575:50 122:35			694:30 575:50 122:35
Tetra Aviation (India) Pvt. Ltd. Madras (Tamil Nadu)	1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-20001		Information awaited.		
		Cessna Pushpak Swati	C-310		Total
Garg Aviation, Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	1998 1999 2000 2001				1008:20 2353:20 1419:50 1512:20
		1354:20		158:00	

Statement-II

Information of the Airworthy Aircraft as per the Information Received from Different Flying Clubs/Institutes/Schools

Sl. No.	Name of Flying Club	No. of Airworthy Aircraft
1	2	3
1.	Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar (Punjab)	Nil
2.	Andhra Pradesh Flying Club, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	02
3.	Bihar Flying Training Institute, Patna (Bihar)	03
4.	Bombay Flying Club Mumbai, (Maharashtra)	02
5.	Delhi Flying Club, Delhi	03
6.	Directorate of State Civil Aviation, Lucknow (U.P.)	04
7.	Government Flying Training School, Bangalore (Karnataka)	01
8.	Government Aviation Training Institute Bhubaneshwar (Orissa)	02
9.	Government Flying Training Institute, Behala, Calcutta (West Bengal)	Nil
10.	Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation, Karnal (Haryana)	02
11.	Hissar Branch of Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation Hissar (Haryana)	01
12.	Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Akademi, Rae Bareli Fursatganj (Uttar Pradesh)	02

1	2	3
13.	Jamshedpur Co-operative Flying Club, Jamshedpur (Bihar)	Nil
14.	Kerala Aviation Training Centre, Trivandrum (Kerala)	01
15.	Ludhiana Aviation Club, Ludhiana (Punjab)	02
16.	Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore (Madhya Pradesh)	07
17.	Madras Flying Club, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	01
18.	Nagpur Flying Club, Nagpur (Maharashtra)	Nil
19.	Northern India Flying Club (Camp at Patiala) Jalandhar (Punjab)	01
20.	Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala (Punjab)	03
21.	Pinjore Branch of Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation, Pinjore (Haryana)	02
22.	Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	02
23.	HAL Rotary Wing Academy, Bangalore (Karnataka)	02
24.	Garg Aviation Limited Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	03
25.	Orient Flight School, Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	02
26.	Wings Aviation (P) Ltd., Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	01
27.	Ahmedabad Aviation Academy, Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	06
28.	Flytech Aviation Academy, Secunderabad (Andhra Pradesh)	05
29.	Tata Nagar Aviation Pvt. Ltd., Jamshedpur (Bihar)	02

*[Translation]***Sidhmukh Nohar Irrigation Project**

3176.DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on Sidhmukh Nohar Irrigation Project has been completed;

(b) if not, the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on the said project alongwith the details of amount shared by the Union Government and the Governments of Haryana and Rajasthan, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The work on Sidhmukh Nohar Irrigation Project, comprising of Sidhmukh and Nohar Projects, has not yet been completed.

(b) The Sidhmukh Nohar Irrigation Project is likely to be completed by the end of 2001, according to the project authorities.

(c) As per the information received from the State Government, the total expenditure incurred on the project up to July, 2001 is Rs. 252.32 crores, out of which Rajasthan's share is Rs. 79.24 crores. While Union Government and Haryana have no share in expenditure, the remaining expenditure of Rs. 172.08 crores has been co-financed by the Commission of European Communities.

Flying Clubs In Maharashtra

3177.SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of flying clubs in the States including Maharashtra as on date, location-wise;

(b) the number of planes with each of these flying clubs;

(c) the number of persons trained by each flying club during the last three years;

(d) the fee being charged for full course from trainees;

(e) whether the trainees bear the total expenditure;

(f) if so, whether any subsidy is given on training fee; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The details of flying clubs in the States (including Maharashtra) location-wise and aircraft-wise, as on date, are given at enclosed Statement.

(c) This information is not readily available with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation and is being collected.

(d) The course fee charged varies from flying club to flying club depending upon the type of aircraft being used by trainees.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) No, Sir. The subvention scheme of the Government for imparting flying training has been discontinued with effect from 01.04.2001.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of flying clubs in the States (including Maharashtra) location and number of aircraft

Sl.No.	State	Flying clubs	Number of aircraft
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra	1. Bombay Flying Club, Mumbai	08
		2. Nagpur Flying Club, Nagpur	05
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	1. Andaman and Nicobar Flying Training Institute Lambaline Airport, Port Blair	Information awaited.
3.	Andhra Pradesh	1. Andhra Pradesh Aviation Academy, Hyderabad	06
		2. Flytech Aviation Academy, Hyderabad (Pvt. Academy)	05
		3. Wings Aviation Academy, Hyderabad (Pvt. Academy)	03

1	2	3	4
4. Assam	1. Assam Flying Club, Guwahati		Information awaited.
5. Bihar	1. Bihar Flying Training Institute, Patna		05
	2. Jamshedpur Co-operative Flying Club, Jamshedpue		03
	3. Tata Nagar Aviation Academy, Pvt. Ltd., Jamshedpur		06
6. Delhi	1. Delhi Flying Club, New Delhi		06
7. Gujarat	1. Gujarat Flying Club, Vadodara		05
	2. Ahmedabad Aviation Academy, Ahmedabad (Pvt. Academy)		11
8. Haryana	1. Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation Karnal (+2 branches at Hissar and Pinjore)		14
9. Karnataka	1. Academy of Carver Aviation, Belgaum (Pvt. Academy)		03
	2. Bangalore Aeronautics and Technical Services Bangalore (Pvt. Academy)		Information awaited.
	3. Taneja Aerospace Aviation Ltd., Bangalore (Pvt. Academy)		Information awaited.
	4. HAL Rotary Wing Academy, Bangalore (Pvt. Academy)		02
	5. Government Flying Training School, Bangalore		06
10. Kerala	1. Kerala Aviation Training Centre, Trivandurm		03
11. Madhya Pradesh	1. Madhya Pradesh Flying Club, Indore (+ 1 branch at Bhopal)		12
	2. Frank Airways Pvt. Ltd., Indore (Pvt. Academy)		Information awaited.
12. Orissa	1. Government Aviation Training Institute, Bhubaneshwar		04
13. Pondicherry (U.T.)	1. Orient Flight School, Pondicherry (Pvt. Academy)		05
14. Punjab	1. Amritsar Aviation Club, Amritsar		06
	2. Ludhiana Aviation Club, Ludhiana		06
	3. Northern India Flying Club, Jallandhar (camp at Patiala)		07
	4. Patiala Aviation Club, Patiala		06
15. Rajasthan	1. Banasthali Vidyapith Gliding and Flying Club, Banasthali		Information awaited.
	2. Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur		06
	3. Rajputana Aviation Academy, Kota (Pvt. Academy)		03
16. Tamil Nadu	1. Coimbatore Aviation Training Academy, Coimbatore		Information awaited.
	2. Madras Flying Club, Chennai		06
	3. Tetra Aviation Academy, Salem (Pvt. Academy)		Information awaited.
17. Uttar Pradesh	1. Government Flying Training Centre, Lucknow (+ 3 branches at Kanpur, Faizabad and Varanai)		11
	2. Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Urban Akademi, Rai Bareli, Fursatganj		15
	3. Garg Aviation Ltd., Kanpur (Pvt. Academy)		03
18. West Bengal	1. Government Flying Training Institute, Calcutta		03

[English]

Third World Congress on Environment Management

3178. PROF. R.R. PRAMANIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the meeting of Third World Congress on Environment Management organised by the World Environment Foundation was held in Simla in the Middle of June 2001; and

(b) if so, the details of the decisions taken at the meeting ?

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

(b) Several recommendations covering policy issues, market instruments, corporate social responsibility, legal frameworks, financing, technology transfer, energy from waste, action against ozone depleting substances, industrial health and monitoring of programme implementation have been made in the congress. These include :

- Development of a national policy and strategy on sustainable development and its implementation.
- Certification of ISO 14000 by industries.
- Development of Himalayan Policy for integrated development of mountain region.
- Harmonization of global environmental standards.
- Financing of environmental programmes through international funding agencies like GEF, Eco-Invest of European Union.

Monitoring of CAD Programme

3179. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the budget allocation for Command Area Development Programme (CADP) has been reduced from 160.88 crore to 119.74 crore due to low utilization of funds by State Governments;

(b) if so, the reasons for low utilization of funds;

(c) whether his Ministry has chalked out any strategy to intensify the monitoring of CAD programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The budget outlay of Rs. 160.88 crore for

2000-2001 had been reduced to Rs. 119.74 crore at the Revised Estimate stage. However, the actual expenditure during 2000-2001 was Rs. 144.96.

(b) to (d) The budgetary allocation for Command Area Development Programme is primarily determined on the basis of expenditure incurred by the States during the previous year. It has been seen that due to their financial constraints, the State Governments could not incur expenditure upto the desired level in the early part of the financial year. This had resulted in the reduction of allocation at Revised Estimate (R.E.) level. The monitoring of the projects is being done through Quarterly Progress reports, Annual Reports and through the visits of officers of the CAD Wing. Besides this, 60 projects are being closely monitored through the Central Water Commission.

WLL Technology

3180. SHRI SWADESH CHAKRABORTY :

SHRI SUBODH ROY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology for offering limited mobility will benefit the subscribers but there is total lack of transparency in the way this has been allowed to the basic operators; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) The Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) technology for offering limited mobility within the local areas typically Tehsils, will benefit the subscribers. This facility has been extended, based on recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), which has followed a transparent consultation process of inviting comments from all stakeholders, conducting open house discussions as well as ensuring complete level playing field in a rational, transparent and non-discriminatory manner. Further, the same has been reviewed and endorsed by the Group on Telecom and Information Technology Convergence (GOT-IT) also.

Flights on Ranchi-Delhi Sector

3181. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY :

PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to operate the Ranchi-Delhi flight twice a day;

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

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government. According to Indian Airlines, the present level of traffic between Delhi and Ranchi is being adequately served with the existing services.

**Work on National Highway from
Jetpur to Somnath**

3182. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJBHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work on National Highway from Jetpur to Somnath is in progress; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work of National Highway from Viraval-Somnath-Keshod Bypass and also Junaghad Bypass is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) Out of 127.780 km length of National Highway from Jetpur to Somnath, improvement of riding quality work in about 85 km length has been completed and work in 18.5 km length including Junaghad bypass has been recently sanctioned for Rs. 4.63 crores.

(b) The works of improvement of Viraval-Somnath bypass and feasibility studies of Keshod bypass are included in Annual Plan 2001-2002. The improvement of riding quality of existing Junaghad bypass is targeted to be completed by March, 2001.

[Translation]

Unemployed Persons

3183. SHRIMATI KAILASHO DEVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of educated and uneducated unemployed persons in the country as on date, separately, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to start the scheme of giving foodgrain in lieu of work; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) State wise number of educated (10th standard and above) and uneducated (below 10th standard) job seekers, all of whom are not

necessarily unemployed, on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges as on 31.12.1998. (latest available) are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) Ministry of Rural Development is at present implementing food for work programme in drought affected States/areas.

Statement

*Number of Educated and Uneducated Job-seekers
on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges
as on 31.12.1998.*

S. No.	State/Union Territory	Educated (10th Std. and above) (in thousands)	Uneducated (Below 10th Std. Including illiterate (in thousands))
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2022.2	1184.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.1	10.6
3.	Assam	932.5	556.8
4.	Bihar	2482.8	827.2
5.	Goa	83.2	28.6
6.	Gujarat	698.7	244.6
7.	Haryana	562.5	257.6
8.	Himachal Pradesh	494.5	300.9
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	72.2	92.6
10.	Karnataka	1217.5	595.2
11.	Kerala	2749.1	923.0
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2026.2	520.9
13.	Maharashtra	3044.2	1058.9
14.	Manipur	218.6	116.1
15.	Meghalaya	18.9	14.5
16.	Mizoram	34.3	39.9
17.	Nagaland	19.2	8.5
18.	Orissa	743.5	227.4
19.	Punjab	389.0	189.8
20.	Rajasthan	622.2	269.0
21.	Sikkim*		
22.	Tamil Nadu	2852.8	1323.0

1	2	3	4
23. Tripura		109.5	136.8
24. Uttar Pradesh		2007.9	630.6
25. West Bengal		3350.0	2374.7
26. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		8.6	18.4
27. Chandigarh		59.9	50.5
28. D and N Haveli		1.2	4.8
29. Delhi		869.0	259.2
30. Daman and Diu		3.5	2.5
31. Lakshadweep		1.7	7.6
32. Pondicherry		90.6	26.0
Total		27789.0	12300.6

Note : - *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

Construction of New Airports

3184. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of new air routes on which air services have been started during the years 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000, State-wise;

(b) the names of States where new airports have been constructed during the said period;

(c) the details of new airports proposed to be constructed and new air routes proposed to be started during the year 2001-2002;

(d) whether the Government have given any gift to Madhya Pradesh during the last three years;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Details of new air routes started by domestic schedule operators during 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) During the above period new airports were constructed at Lengpui in Mizoram (December 99) and Nedumbassary (Cochin) in Kerala (June 99).

(c) to (f) During 2001-2002 new airports are under construction at Kargil (Jammu and Kashmir) and Tura

(Meghalaya). Airlines are free to operate to any place of their choice depending upon commercial viability, subject, of course, to compliance of route dispersal guidelines.

Statement

State-wise details of new Air Routes on which Air services have been started during the years 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000.

Indian Airlines

Year	Sectors	State
1	2	3
1997	Agatti-Goa	Lakshadweep/Goa
	Jaipur-Jaisalmer	Rajasthan
	Delhi-Jaisalmer	Delhi/Rajasthan
1998	Delhi-Vizag	Delhi/Andhra Pradesh
	Mumbai-Raipur	Maharashtra/Chattisgarh
	Ahmedabad-Pune	Gujarat/Maharashtra
	Mumbai-Jaisalmer	Maharashtra/Rajasthan
	Kolkata-Pune	West Bengal/Maharashtra
	Mumbai-Varanasi	Maharashtra/Uttar Pradesh
	Aizwal-Imphal	Manipur/Mizoram
1999	Mumbai-Patna	Maharashtra/Bihar
	Delhi-Shimla	Delhi/Himachal Pradesh
	Delhi-Dharamshala	Delhi/Himachal Pradesh
	Mumbai-Jammu	Maharashtra/Jammu and Kashmir
	Mumbai-Srinagar	Maharashtra/Jammu and Kashmir
	Mumbai-Ranchi	Maharashtra/Jharkhand
	Bangalore-Coimbatore	Karnataka/Tamilnadu
	Delhi-Calicut	Delhi/Kerala
	Delhi-Jabalpur	Delhi/Madhya Pradesh
	Jabalpur-Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
	Gwalior-Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
	Mumbai-Ranchi	Maharashtra/Jharkhand
	Mumbai-Lucknow	Maharashtra/Uttar Pradesh
	Lucknow-Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3
	Delhi–Dehradun	Delhi/Uttanchal
	Delhi–Kulu	Delhi/Himachal Pradesh
	Mumbai–Pune	Maharashtra
	Delhi–Coimbatore	Delhi/Tamilnadu
2000	Goa–Agra (one way)	Goa/Uttar Pradesh
	Chennai–Bhopal	Tamilnadu/Madhya Pradesh
	Bhopal–Nagpur	Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra
	Chennai–Nagpur	Tamilnadu/Maharashtra
	Bhopal–Nagpur	Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra
	Udaipur–Jaisalmer	Rajasthan
	Chennai–Nagpur	Tamilnadu/Maharashtra
Sahara Airlines		
1997	Mumbai–Goa	Maharashtra/Goa
	Goa–Mumbai	Goa/Maharashtra
	Bhopal–Indore	Madhya Pradesh
	Indore–Delhi	Madhya Pradesh/Delhi
	Patna–Lucknow	Bihar/Uttar Pradesh
	Delhi–Bhopal	Delhi/Madhya Pradesh
	Mumbai–Coimbatore	Maharashtra/Tamil Nadu
1998	Chennai–Bangalore	Tamilnadu/Karnataka
	Bangalore–Chennai	Karnataka/Tamilnadu
1999	Lucknow–Patna	Uttar Pradesh/Bihar
	Kolkata–Patna	West Bengal/Bihar
	Varanasi–Kolkata	Uttar Pradesh/West Bengal
	Kolkata–Varanasi	West Bengal/Uttar Pradesh
2000	Mumbai–Jaipur	Maharashtra/Rajasthan
	Jaipur–Mumbai	Rajasthan/Maharashtra
	Indore–Mumbai	Madhya Pradesh/ Maharashtra
	Mumbai–Bhopal	Maharashtra/Madhya Pradesh
	Goa–Bangalore	Goa/Karnataka
	Bangalore–Goa	Karnataka/Goa

1	2	3
	Mumbai–Chennai	Maharashtra/Tamilnadu
	Chennai–Mumbai	Tamilnadu/Maharashtra
Jet Airways		
1997	Mumbai–Pune–Mumbai	Maharashtra
	Mumbai–Aurangabad– Mumbai	Maharashtra
	Bangalore–Mangalore– Bangalore	Karnataka
	Mumbai–Nagpur–Mumbai	Maharashtra
	Delhi–Chennai–Delhi	Delhi/Tamilnadu
	Chennai–Bangalore– Chennai	Tamilnadu/Karnataka
	Bangalore–Pune–Bangalore	Karnataka/Maharashtra
	Delhi–Lucknow–Delhi	Delhi/Uttar Pradesh
	Delhi–Jaipur–Delhi	Delhi/Rajasthan
	Chennai–Coimbatore– Chennai	Tamilnadu
	Chennai–Hyderabad– Chennai	Tamilnadu/Andhra Pradesh
	Delhi–Jammu–Srinagar– Delhi	Delhi/Jammu and Kashmir
	Delhi–Srinagar–Jammu– Delhi	Delhi/Jammu and Kashmir
	Delhi–Pune–Delhi	Delhi/Maharashtra
1998	Mumbai–Rajkot–Mumbai	Maharashtra/Gujarat
	Mumbai–Bhuj–Mumbai	Maharashtra/Gujarat
	Kolkata–Bagdogra–Kolkata	West Bengal
	Guwahati–Imphal–Guwahati	Assam/Manipur
	Delhi–Varanasi–Delhi	Delhi/Uttar Pradesh
	Varanasi–Khajuraho– Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh/Madhya Pradesh
	Delhi–Hyderabad–Delhi	Delhi/Andhra Pradesh
	Mumbai–Lucknow–Mumbai	Maharashtra/Uttar Pradesh
1999	Chennai–Port Blair–Chennai	Tamilnadu/Andaman and Nicobar
	Chennai–Cochin–Chennai	Tamilnadu/Kerala
	Chennai–Kolkata–Chennai	Tamilnadu/West Bengal

1	2	3
	Jorhat–Imphai–Jorhat	Assam/Manipur
	Mumbai–Trivandrum– Mumbai	Maharashtra/Kerala
	Delhi–Jaipur–Udaipur– Mumbai	Delhi/Rajasthan
	Mumbai–Udaipur–Jaipur– Delhi	Delhi/Rajasthan/ Maharashtra
	Mumbai–Udaipur–Mumbai	Maharashtra/Rajasthan
	Delhi–Chandigarh–Delhi	Delhi/Chandigarh
	Delhi–Indore–Delhi	Delhi/Madhya Pradesh
	Mumbai–Bhavnagar– Mumbai	Maharashtra/Gujarat
	Mumbai–Diu–Mumbai	Maharashtra/Diu
2000	Bangalore–Cochin– Bangalore	Karnataka/Kerala
	Bangalore–Goa–Bangalore	Karnataka/Goa
	Bangalore–Coimbatore– Bangalore	Karnataka/Tamilnadu
	Mumbai–Madurai–Mumbai	Maharashtra/Tamilnadu
	Chennai–Hyderabad– Chennai	Tamilnadu/Andhra Pradesh
	Hyderabad–Vizag– Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
	Hyderabad–Tirupati– Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
	Mumbai–Diu–Porbandar– Mumbai	Maharashtra/Diu/ Gujarat

[English]

Shortage of Water in Chennai

3185. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Chennai is facing acute water shortage;
- (b) if so, whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has released Krishna Water to reach Chennai early to meet the shortage;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

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

(b) and (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has released water from Kandaleru Reservoir to Tamil Nadu. From 18.7.2001 to 6.8.2001, Tamil Nadu has received 6.697 Million Cubic Feet of water. which is being supplied to Chennai city.

(d) To supplement the requirements of water to Chennai city, works like installation of new reverse osmosis plants, hiring of private agricultural wells and transportation of water by rail/road have been taken up on emergent basis.

[Translation]

Speed Post Centres

3186. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of speed post centres set up in cities/towns in various States during the last three years; and

(b) the details of speed post centres proposed to be set up in the States during 2001-2002, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The requisite information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Speed Post is a premium product and is run on commercial considerations. Expansion of this network is an on-going process depending on market situation, assessment of the need, the anticipated revenue and transport network.

Statement*National Speed Post Centres Opened during the last three years*

Name of the State	Number of National Speed Post Centres Opened		
	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	–	–	1
Assam	2	–	–
Bihar	–	1	–
Haryana	2	–	2
Himachal Pradesh	–	–	3
Karnataka	3	1	2
Kerala	–	1	–
Maharashtra	1	–	1

1	2	3	4
Mizoram	1	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	—	2	—
Nagaland	2	—	—
Orissa	—	—	3
Punjab	—	—	3
Tamilnadu	1	3	1
Uttar Pradesh	1	2	1
West Bengal	—	1	—
Total	13	11	17

Privatisation of Airports

3187. SHRI P.R. KHUNTE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to hand over the management of the four airports of the country i.e. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai to private institution on lease basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount likely to be received by the Government annually therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to hand over the management of airports at Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata on long term lease. The financial consultants appointed for this exercise have completed their phase-I of the assignment pertaining to Due Diligence and Valuation and submitted their report in October, 2000. The financial consultants have commenced the phase-II part of the assignment i.e. Sales Memorandum and Marketing Plan in December, 2000. The annual lease rental as well as upfront amount is linked to detailed terms and conditions of the concession agreement which is part of a detailed process based on which final selection of lessee is to be decided. Hence, it is not possible to estimate the likely annual rentals, at this stage.

[English]

Mining by Private Operators

3188. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mining activities have been leased to private operators in the country;

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

(c) the terms of the lease on which these mines have been leased out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, a mining lease can be granted to an Indian national or a company as defined under Section 3(1) of the Companies Act, 1956. Mining activity in the country has historically been undertaken by Indian nationals and by public sector as well as private sector companies. The applications for grant for mining leases both from the private sector and public sector are continuously received and processed by the State Governments. Mining Leases are granted by the State Governments as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder. The terms and conditions of the mining lease are governed by the provisions of Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. Since the grant of mining leases is under the domain of State Governments, the information regarding the details of individual private sector mines is not centrally maintained. However, as per the information furnished by Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Mines, during 2000-2001, the total number of reporting working mines in private sector was 2159.

[Translation]

Haldimunda Scheme

3189. SHRI VISHNUDEO SAI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chhattisgarh Government has sought financial assistance for the ongoing Haldimunda Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the irrigation capacity alongwith the estimated cost of the scheme; and

(d) the action being taken to provide assistance for execution of the said scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (d) Union Government has not received any project report for techno-economic appraisal for the Haldimunda Scheme in Chhattisgarh. Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is made available only to such approved major/medium projects which comply with the norms of this Programme.

[English]

Subarnarekha Barrage Project

3190. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to construct a canal on the left bank of the river in Midnapore district of West Bengal under Subarnarekha Barrage Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith fund released for the purpose and date of starting of construction and target date of completion of this project;

(c) the estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the area likely to be irrigated after completion of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal envisages construction 19-20 km long left bank canal which is scheduled to be taken up by 2001 and is likely to be completed in seven years. Irrigation being a State subject, the projects are being planned, funded and implemented by the State Government from their own resources and as per their priority.

(c) The latest estimated cost as per 2001-2002 Annual Plan of West Bengal is Rs. 595 core.

(d) The area to be irrigated as per Detailed Project Report is 114.2 thousand hectare after completion of the project.

Veterinary Facilities in Nandankanan Zoo

3191. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many rare species of animals are killed due to lack of veterinary facilities at Nandankanan Zoo in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government taken for proper maintenance specially with regard's to providing veterinary facilities there ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Veterinary facilities at Nandankanan zoo are upto the required standard. No deaths of endangered species can be attributed to lack of veterinary facilities or laxity on the part of veterinarian alone.

(b) Central Zoo Authority has provided financial assistance of Rs. 134 lakhs to the zoo for :-

- providing security fencing wall;
- improved water supply to zoo animals;
- reconstruction of animals housing and chain link fencing of tiger safari;
- renovation of veterinary hospital and developing better health care facilities for zoo animals;
- providing upgraded isolation hall and squeeze facilities etc.

Wildlife Protection in Chhattisgarh

3192. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the different possibilities in the field of wildlife Protection in newly created Chhattisgarh State; and

(b) the total allocation made and the expenditure incurred for wildlife conservation during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Chhattisgarh State has very rich biodiversity. 43.85% of the geographical area of the State is under forests. The area under three national parks and ten wildlife sanctuaries is around 6348 sq.km. Therefore, the State has great possibilities for wildlife conservation.

(b) The financial assistance provided by the Government of India to the Wildlife Sanctuary and National Parks now included in the State of Chhattisgarh during last three years (1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01) are as follows :

(Rs. In lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Funds Released	Funds Released
1.	Development of National Parks/ Sanctuaries	156.953	89.90*
2.	Project Tiger	98.75	48.69
3.	Ecodevelopment around National Parks and Sanctuaries	24.9	Nil

* Complete utilisation figure for the funds released during 2000-01 have not been received.

Assessment on damage to Roads by Flood in Orissa

3193. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment on the damage caused by flood to State Road and National Highways in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to undertake the repair and restoration work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) A preliminary assessment report on damages caused to various National Highways by the recent floods in Orissa has been received from the State Govt. The National Highways 200, 201, 215, 6, 23, 42, 5 and 5A were affected in some stretches by floods. Immediate restoration works were taken up and traffic was restored. An amount of Rs. 3.00 crores has been released by this Ministry for immediate restoration works. State Roads come within the purview of State Govt.

Non-Recovery of Service Tax

3194. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI :
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to failure of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to circulate the clarification regarding charging of service tax on speech circuits, PBX, non-exchange lines etc. it resulted in non-recovery of service tax to the tune of crores of rupees in telecom units in Chennai, Bangalore, Bhopal, Rajasthan and Punjab;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) The facts of the case are as follows. The DOT had issued instruction to its units in July, 1994 communicating the orders of the Ministry of Finance regarding the imposition of service tax on "telephone connections"

About two years later, two units of DOT sought a clarification on whether service tax was applicable on voice

services like speech circuits, non-exchange lines, PBXs, etc. This was clarified to them in the affirmative.

It was however learnt subsequently that the units of DOT in Chennai, Bangalore, Bhopal, Rajasthan and Punjab had not recovered service tax on these services to the extent of about Rs. two crores. Suitable clarifications and directions in the matter were accordingly issued to these as well as all the other units.

The units named above have since recovered over 90% of the short-billed amount, and the balance is being actively pursued by them for recovery.

Pollution in Daman Ganga River

3195. SHRI DAHYABHAI VALLABHBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Daman Ganga river passing through the Nani Daman and Moti Daman and joining with Arabian sea is much polluted by the dirty hazardous industrial waste released by the chemical industries established at Vapi Town; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government against the defaulting industries and to check the rising pollution in Daman Ganga River ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) A study on water quality of river Daman Ganga carried out by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) reveals that the effluent of Vapi common effluent treatment plant (CETP) does not meet the stipulated standards. Effluents of distillery located in nearby area and untreated sewage of Daman town are the major sources of pollution of the river. The other findings of the study further indicate that the river stretch from Madhuban dam to Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC) is clear, whereas the river stretch from GIDC to the confluence with sea i.e. down stream up to Damanganga bridge is polluted due to disposal of industrial waste water and domestic sewage of Vapi.

(b) To control the river pollution, small scale industries located in the Vapi industrial area are connected with CETP which is having a capacity of 55 million litres per day. Large and medium units have provided their own requisite pollution control facilities. Step are taken through Gujarat State Pollution Control Board and GIDC Vapi to operate the CETP satisfactorily so as to meet the stipulated standards. Vapi has also been identified as one of the problem areas and action points have been formulated which are being implemented through the concerned authorities.

[Translation]

Telephone Services

3196. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 4463 dated December, 18, 2000 regarding out of order STD and Local Telephone services and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the said information is likely to be collected and laid on the table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, the implementation report in respect of assurance given to Lok Sabha for the above said question has since been sent to the Lok Sabha. A copy of the same is enclosed as Statement.

(c) and (d) Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.

Statement*5th Session of 13th Lok Sabha*

Ministry of Communications		Department of Telecommunications		Date of fulfillment : 19.03.2001	
Q. No., Date and name of M.P. (s)	Subject	Promise Made	How fulfilled	Reasons for delay	
USQ No. 4463 for 18.12.2000 raised by Shri Ravi Prakash Verma	Sub : OUT OF ORDER STD AND LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICES Asking : (a) the number of places in Uttar Pradesh especially district Khiri (Lakhimpur) where STD and local telephone services remained disrupted since January, 2000 till date, district-wise. (b) whether telephone service functioned uninterrupted during this period in various exchanges of Khiri and Mohanlal Ganj in Uttar Pradesh; (c) if so, the details thereof, exchange-wise; and (d) the reasons for disruption of telephone services in Uttar Pradesh and the steps taken by the Government so far for providing better telephone services in the State ?	(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.	The reply to the Parliament Question is as per enclosed Annexure.	The reply was awaited from the field unit	

Annexure

(a) Sir, STD and local telephone services in Uttar Pradesh especially district Khiri (Lakhimpur) remained generally satisfactory during the period.

(b) Yes, Sir. However, telephone services were affected on 23.03.2000 and 19.09.2000 in Mohanlal Ganj Exchange (Lucknow) and Aurangabad Exchange in Khiri.

(c) The telephone services were affected during 2300 Hrs to 2400 Hrs on 23.03.2000 and from 0900 Hrs

to 2100 Hrs. on 19.09.2000 in Mohanlal Ganj Exchange and for 12 Hrs. in Aurangabad Exchange in Lakhimpur Khiri.

(d) The reasons for interruption of telephone services in Mohanlal Ganj Exchange are :

(i) Due to change over of Exchange Equipment,

(ii) Due to damage of OFC cable

and in Lakhimpur Khiri due to leakage of A.C. Mains affecting some of the cards of the exchange. However,

immediate action was taken to restore the telephone services in both Exchanges.

Following decisions have been taken for implementation in a phased manner for providing better telephone services in the State :

- (i) Opening of more and more remote lines units in order to reduce the cable network up to the subscriber premises which is a main contributor to the fault rate
- (ii) Introduction of wireless in local loop technology and digital line concentrator in the network
- (iii) Use of 5 pair PIJF cable in place of drop wire to reach the subscriber premises in a phased manner
- (iv) Computerization of fault repair services in more and more exchanges for better monitoring of faults
- (v) Providing reliable transmission media to more and more number of exchanges in a phased manner
- (vi) Providing maintenance free battery sets and standby generators in rural exchanges to overcome the long duration power breakdowns
- (vii) Provision of self healing structure in optical network which increase reliability of network
- (viii) Digital connectivity to remote places on satellite 2MB/8MB/34MB IDRs.

[English]

Land for Visakhapatnam Airport

3197. SHRI Y.V. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps for acquisition of additional land to facilitate conversion of existing Visakhapatnam Airport into an International Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India has taken up with the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and Ministry of Defence for acquisition of 242 acres of land belonging to Visakhapatnam Port Trust/State Government to upgrade Visakhapatnam airport for MCLR aircraft

operations. There is no plan, at present, to declare this airport as international airport.

Establishment of Nature Park at Visakhapatnam

3198. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

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

(a) whether the Government has requested to accord clearance and funding to the Nature Park of Visakhapatnam of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for its pendency; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Government of Andhra Pradesh had sought financial assistance of Rs. 20.00 crores for development of an area of 6037.33 hectares in Kambalakonda Forest Block of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh as Nature Park in order to preserve and improve the natural flora and fauna in the area. Since Nature Park is not a legally recognised entity the State Government has been requested to notify the area as Wildlife Sanctuary. The Central Government would be in a position to provide assistance for development of the sanctuary in a phased manner, once it has been notified as a sanctuary.

Upgradation of Visakhapatnam Airport

3199. SHRI RAJIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop an International Airport Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh for the development of tourism and promotion of industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal, at present, to set up an international airport at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. However, the airport at Visakhapatnam is being developed at an approximate cost of Rs. 105 crores excluding the cost of land. It has been proposed to construct a new runway of dimension 10,000 ft. x 150 ft. suitable for operation of Medium Capacity Long Range (MCLR) category of aircraft at Visakhapatnam airport. There are also proposals for construction of new apron, link taxiway;

installation of navigational aids and Ground Lighting facilities for all weather Operation, provision of boundary wall, perimeter road, sub-fire station, approach road etc. and construction of a new integrated terminal building to handle domestic as well as international passengers.

Death of Animals in Sangli Zoo at Maharashtra

3200. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sangli Zoo in Maharashtra is now left with 25 out of 42 lions;

(b) whether due to negligence of zoo authorities many other animals like leopard antelopes; peacocks dies and also the small serpent park removed from Sangli Zoo; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to investigate the present state of affairs in Sangli zoo and if not the manner in which the Government propose to prevent death of animals ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) At present the Sangli Zoo in Maharashtra has fifteen lions only. Fifteen lions have been transferred to other zoos and rescue centres. Twelve lions and two spotted deer are reported to have died between 1998 and 2000. Death of 2 peacocks and a leopard pertains to the year 1992. Sangli zoo did not have appropriate housing space and health care facilities. As such, the zoo was not accorded recognition by Central Zoo Authority. In response, zoo authorities have taken population control measures, improved housing and health care facilities for animals along with appointment of a regular veterinarian for the zoo. Serpent Park in the zoo was closed.

Damage to National Highways due to Flood and Rain

3201. SHRI SHIVAJI MANE : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some National Highway have been highly damaged due to recent flood and heavy rains in some part of the country;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government for its early repairs;

(d) whether the National Highway No. 24 is in dilapidated condition between Nizamuddin Bridge to Electronic City Noida; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or likely to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Major damages have been reported to National Highways in Orissa during recent floods. There are also reports of some damages on National Highways in the States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) As per the extant instructions of this Ministry, the State Governments are required to take up immediate restoration works to ensure uninterrupted flow of traffic on National Highways. An amount of Rs.3 crore each has been released to the States of Orissa Uttar Pradesh for the restoration of damages on National Highways.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Irrigation Projects in Krishna Basin

3202. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN :
SHRI KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have given clearance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for execution of large and small scale irrigation projects in the Krishna Basin;

(b) if so, the details of the projects which are under dispute and the reasons for not consulting the affected State before clearing the projects;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has started the projects in contravention of the Supreme Court's directions; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) The Union Government has given clearance to major/ medium irrigation projects in Krishna Basin of Andhra Pradesh which are within the allocation made by Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal to Andhra Pradesh.

(b) to (d) Government of Karnataka has raised objection to the construction of 5 projects namely Srisailem

Left Bank Canal, Pulichintala Diversion, Bhima Lift Irrigation, Telugu Ganga and Srisailem Right Bank Canal. Srisailem Right Bank Canal was accorded investment clearance by Planning Commission in 1981. Pulichintala and Bhima Lift were accepted by the Advisory Committee in 1996 subject to certain conditions which are yet to be complied with by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, these two projects have so far not been accorded the investment clearance by the Planning Commission. Telugu Ganga and Srisailem Left Bank Canal have not been approved by the Union Government. Irrigation being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/schemes including flood control and drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities.

[Translation]

Amount Spent on Publicity

3203.DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amount spent on account of publicity by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) during each of the last three years;

(b) the ratio of profit and loss incurred as a result thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding misuse of said amount of publicity of Dolphin service;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government propose to issue some guidelines to check the expenditures of the MTNL;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The year-wise details of funds spent on account of publicity.

Year	Delhi	Mumbai	Corporate Office
1998-1999	3.50 Crores	15.38 Crores	3.94 Crores
1999-2000	4.21 Crores	17.53 Crores	5.76 Crores
2000-2001	5.59 Crores	8.06 Crores	8.75 Crores

(b) The ratio of profit and loss incurred by the publicity is a subjective matter and cannot be calculated in terms of profit and loss account. However, the amount

spent on different "Ad" campaign has resulted into the image building of MTNL and has been able to provide vital information to our esteemed customers and public in general.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) MTNL being a Navratna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), the MTNL Board is competent to take decision on publicity expenditure.

[English]

Introduction of BT Cotton by Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company

3204. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have withheld commercial introduction of Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company's transgenic BT Cotton Hybrid varieties in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have asked the ICAR to supervise Mahyco's BT Cotton hybrid varieties trials after reservations made by environmentalist against its introduction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) set up under Rule 4 of the Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989, considered the proposal for release of transgenic BT cotton submitted by Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company (MAHYCO), in its meeting held on 19.6.2001. The GEAC observed that the data generated on large scale field trials on BT cotton undertaken by MAHYCO could not reflect the true values because of late sowing. It was decided that the trials be repeated on a larger scale under the direct supervision of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under their Advanced Varietal Trials of the All India Coordinated Cotton Improvement Project. In addition, GEAC has accorded approval to MAHYCO for conducting field trials on farmers' fields in an area of about 100 hectares.

[Translation]

Corruption in MTNL

3205. KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints from Public representatives and others regarding corruption in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) Delhi and Mumbai;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to enquire into the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to weed out corruption from MTNL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Details of complaints received and action taken are indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Wherever needed the cases are enquired into as indicated in enclosed Statement.

(e) A full-fledged Vigilance Wing is functioning in MTNL Delhi and Mumbai. A Vigilance Cell in the Corporate Office is also functioning with full time CVO to look into all vigilance matters.

Statement

Sl.No.	Details of the Complaint	Action Taken
1	2	3
1.	Complaint dated 10.7.99 from Bhartiya Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Karamchari Sangh regarding misuse of Government money for personal benefits by DGM (Cash).	Matter has been inquired by CVO MTNL. The allegations were not found to be true
2.	Complaint dated 21.3.2000 from Dr. Bali Ram, M.P. (LS) regarding misuse of vehicles in MTNL Delhi and Mumbai.	No specific case of misuse of vehicle had been reported. CGM Delhi and Mumbai had been instructed to keep strict watch regarding misuse of vehicle.
3.	Complaint dated 5.5.2000 from Shri Raghuraj Singh Shakya, MP (RS) regarding irregularities in tendering for procurement of Uniform and Shoes of MTNL Staff.	Preventive action was taken on the basis of the complaint of the Hon'ble M.P. and procurement was subsequently done following open tender process.
4.	Complaint dated 16.5.2000 from Bhartiya Telephone Employees Union Class-III regarding huge commission from Contractors for laying cables and maintenance of faulty cables.	Matter was inquired into. No allegation was proved. However, general instructions issued by GM (Vig.), MTNL Delhi regarding maintenance of proper records for laying of cables and conducting test checks.
5.	Complaint dated Nil from Bhartiya Mahanagar Telephone Karamchari Sangh regarding accident of General Secretary, MTNL Staff Union while using official vehicle	The allegations have been inquired by the CVO MTNL. The matter is under consideration of the Competent Authority.
6.	Complaint dated 23.10.2000 from Dr. Bali Ram, MP (LS) against Shri S.P. Khullar, GM (Trans), MTNL Delhi and Shri Avtar Singh, Chief Accounts Officer regarding irregularities in clearing bills of a black listed company.	The matter was inquired. The allegations were not found to be true. However, on administrative reasons Shri Avtar Singh, Chief Accounts Officer was transferred from the office of GM (Trans).
7.	Complaint dated 11.11.2000 from Shri P.C. Thomas, MP (LS) regarding misuse of ISD/STD lines.	Raids were organized by the Vigilance Wing in coordination with CBI and cases have been registered in cases where misuse had been detected.

1	2	3
8.	Complaint dated nil from Bhartiya Telephone Employees Union Class.III regarding corruption, nepotism, arbitrariness and insubordination prevailing in Legal Cell, MTNL Delhi Unit.	The matter is being examined by the Vigilance Wing, MTNL Delhi.
9.	Complaint dated 5.12.2000 from Dr. Bali Ram, M.P. (LS) regarding alleged irregularities in digging of trenches for laying cables and in distribution of telephone directories in MTNL Mumbai	CBI has registered a case against 11 officers of MTNL for irregularities in digging of trenches. Regarding irregularities in the distribution of telephone directories disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against the 3 officials involved.
10.	Complaint dated 25.1.2001 from Smt. Toofani Saroj, M.P. (LS) regarding corruption in Gokuldharm Exchange, Mumbai.	Matter was inquired. No case of corruption was proved.
11.	Complaint dated 4.2.2001 from Shri Pappu Yadav, M.P. (LS) regarding engaging contractors for trenching/ cable laying by relaxing terms and conditions of tender.	The matter has been inquired. The allegations had not been found to be true.
12.	Complaint dated nil from Bhartiya Mahanagar Telephone Karamchari Sangh regarding alleged irregularities in the purchase of diary by MTNL Delhi from MTNL Staff Union.	The allegations have been inquired by CVO MTNL. The matter is under consideration of the competent authority.
13.	Complaint dated 29.6.2001 from Dr. Bali Ram, MP (LS) regarding foreign travel of Smt. Rashmi Kakkar, Sr. Telephone Operator posted as APS to CMD.	The matter is under examination.
14.	Complaint dated 29.6.2001 from Dr. Bali Ram, MP (LS) regarding alleged irregularities in the purchase of 30 Maruti 800 cars in MTNL under self driving scheme.	The matter is under examination.
15.	Complaint dated 29.6.2001 from Dr. Bali Ram, MP (LS) regarding misuse of MTNL funds by Management on unproductive and wasteful expenditures.	The matter is under examination.
16.	Complaint dated 3.7.2001 from Dr. Bali Ram, MP (LS) regarding misuse of financial powers by DGM (Fin.), GM (Fin.) and Director (Fin.) of the Corporate Office of the MTNL.	The matter is under examination.

**National Discipline Scheme for
Instructors Programme (NDSIP)**

3206. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of amount to be released to the Government of Rajasthan under the National Discipline Scheme for Instructors Programme (NDSI); and

(b) the time by which said amount is likely to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The funds of NDSI are released by the Central Government as and when request is received from the State Government.

During the last four years, an amount of Rs. 325.00 lakhs was reimbursed to the State Government of Rajasthan on this account as per details given below :

Year	Amount
1997-98	Rs. 160.00 lakhs
1998-99	Rs. 80.00 lakhs
1999-2000	Rs. 70.00 Lakhs
2000-2001	Rs. 15.00 lakhs
	<u>Rs. 325.00 lakhs</u>

For the current financial year, 2001-2002, no request for grants has so far been received from the State of Rajasthan.

National Pension Scheme

3207. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons benefited under the National Pension Scheme;

(b) whether the Government are considering any proposal to amend this Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the funds allocated for implementation of this Scheme during the financial year 2000-2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Ganga Action Plan

3208. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National River Authority has considered the recommendations of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam and that of Varanasi Nagar Nigam for Ganga Action Plan (GAP)-II with the help of international support;

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard;

(c) time by which work on GAP-II is likely to commence and to be completed; and

(d) the total amount to be spent on GAP-II ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government has received two separate proposals for Ganga Action Plan Phase-II works for cleaning of Ganga at Varanasi, one from Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam and the other from Sankat Mochan Foundation, a non-governmental organization of Varanasi. Varanasi Nagar Nigam sent both the proposals to Government of Uttar Pradesh for their appraisal and forwarding the most appropriate proposal to Government. The Government of Uttar Pradesh after examining both proposals on their merit, forwarded the Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam Proposal to Government for consideration and sanction. Both these proposals have been examined by a number of technical experts and committees during the past four years. These proposals were further considered by Government at a high level meeting on 13th July, 2001. The Government, after hearing and considering all the views and after taking into account all the relevant details has decided that the proposal of Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam is a more practical and feasible option, which has been finally selected for implementation.

(c) and (d) The Ganga Action Plan Phase-II was approved for implementation in stages between 1993 and 1996 and includes works for pollution abatement of river Ganga as well as its tributaries, Yamuna, Gomti and Damodar. The Plan is already under implementation and scheduled for completion by December, 2005. The total approved cost for Ganga Action Plan Phase-II is Rs. 1498.86 crore.

Expansion of Kaziranga National Park

3209. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan to expand the present Kaziranga National park;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware about the encroachment of land of Kaziranga national park; and

(d) if so, the action the Government are taking in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Originally notified area of the Kaziranga National Park (KNP) was 430 sq. km. Subsequently, for providing safe places for animals during floods and also for providing corridors for movement of animals to Karbi-Anglong council forests, action was initiated by the State Government to have the following six additions to the park.

- (i) 1st addition to KNP 43.78 sq. kms.
- (ii) 2nd addition to KNP 6.47 sq. kms.
- (iii) 3rd addition to KNP 0.69 sq. kms.
- (iv) 4th addition to KNP 0.89 sq. kms.
- (v) 5th addition to KNP 1.15 sq. kms.
- (vi) 6th addition to KNP 376.00 sq. kms.

Settlement proceedings for 1st, 4th and 6th additions have been completed.

(c) and (d) As informed by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Assam there is no unauthorised settlement inside the originally notified area of 430 sq. km of Kaziranga National Park. There are about 50,000 settlers within the first and sixth addition to the Kaziranga National Park for which final notification has been issued. The estimated number of encroachers in the second addition to Kaziranga National Park is approximately 500. The final notification for this addition has not been issued so far. The encroachers have taken stay orders against their eviction from the Hon'ble Guwahati High Court. The State Forest department is taking necessary action for vacation of the said stay orders.

[Translation]

Depositing of Silt

3210. DR. M.P. JAISWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether silt is deposited in the plains of North Bihar by rivers flowing through Nepal which causes floods and soil erosion on a large scale;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to prevent the same;

(c) the extent to which success has been achieved;

(d) whether any proposal has been received from the Government of Bihar in this regard; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government thereto ?

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

(b) to (e) To prevent silt deposition in North Bihar by the rivers originating from Nepal, the following Multipurpose Storage Projects are contemplated which are under discussions with Government of Nepal :

- (i) Saptakosi High dam and Sunkosi Projects on river Kosi.
- (ii) Kamla Multipurpose Project on river Kamla.
- (iii) Bagmati Multipurpose Project on river Bagmati.

Out of the above three projects, the Government of Bihar has proposed the projects at Sl. No. (ii) and (iii) above for the construction of storage reservoirs.

[English]

Rivers Flowing to Pakistan

3211. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of water of various rivers flowing to Pakistan as on date;

(b) the preventive steps taken by the Government during the last three years in this regard; and

(c) the further steps proposed by the Government in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) During the current year as on date, there has been negligible outflow from the rivers Ravi, Sutlej and non-perennial Ghaggar into Pakistan.

(b) and (c) In addition to the existing multi-purpose projects on rivers Sutlej and Beas, the Ranjit Sagar Dam on river Ravi has been completed and inaugurated during this year to store and utilize the average quantum of waters. Phase-I of Indira Gandhi Nahar Project in Rajasthan is mostly completed while Phase-II under progress. Sidhumukh Nohar Irrigation project is also nearing completion. On completion of these projects and the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal, a major portion of the waters of the rivers Ravi, Beas and Sutlej would become utilizable. Besides, the "Modified Project of Ghaggar Flood Control - Rajasthan (Major)" at an estimated cost of Rs. 101.69 crores has also been accepted by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Projects in its 71st meeting held on 3.8.1999.

[Translation]

Services in Post Offices

3212. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start services like automatic teller, plastic card and mutual fund through the post offices;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the services are likely to be started and the names of other institutions with which it has entrusted into an agreement; and

(d) the benefits likely to accrue to the Government and the public therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (d) Mutual Fund distribution has been introduced on behalf of selected mutual fund companies, from 215 post offices on a pilot basis. Some institutions have approached the Department of Posts for starting of services like automated teller machines and plastic card solutions. These proposals will be decided subject to operational, technical and financial feasibility.

The distribution of Mutual funds of various financial companies through the post office is providing easy access to the public to these products. Through these schemes, the Government generates additional revenues.

[English]

Employment Generation

3213. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of jobs created in the Government Sector, Public Sector and Organised Private Sector in the country during the last three years, separately; and

(b) the number of persons who lost their jobs due to retrenchment, closure or lock out in the wake of implementation of policy of privatization, liberalisation, globalisation

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Total employment in the Central, State and Local bodies, Central and State Public Sector undertakings and in the organised Private Sector

in the country as on 31st March 1998, 1999 and 2000 was as follows :

(in lakhs)			
As on 31st March	Central, State and Local bodies	Central and State Public Sector undertaking	Private Organised Sector*
1998	129.5	64.6	87.4
1999	130.2	63.8	86.9
2000	129.8	63.2	86.4

*Private organised sector comprises of all non-agricultural establishments employing 10 or more persons in the private sector.

(b) As per information collected by Labour Bureau for the establishments covered under the I.D. Act the number of persons affected due to retrenchment, closure and lay off during the period 1991 to Sept. 2000 was of the order of 0.3 lakh, 1.6 lakh and 5.95 lakh respectively. Since these data are collected on a voluntary basis the coverage may not be complete.

[Translation]

Mineral Reserves in Tribal Areas of M.P.

3214. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of presence of minerals in tribal dominated areas of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; district-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to explore mineral resources present in the said areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The district-wise recoverable reserves of major ores/minerals in Tribal Areas of Madhya Pradesh is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has taken up mineral investigations for gold and basemetals in Jabalpur, Sidhi, Katni and Betul districts of Madhya Pradesh and MECL will undertake investigation for copper in Balaghat district.

Statement*Mineral Resources in the Tribal Districts
of Madhya Pradesh*

Sl. No.	District	Mineral	Recoverable reserves as on 1.4.1995	Unit
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Balaghat	Bauxite	11168	Th. Tonnes
		*Copper Ore	170906	Th. Tonnes
		Metal	1843	Th. Tonnes
		Dolomite	68249	Th. Tonnes
		Limestone	71255	Th. Tonnes
		Manganese Ore	23645	Th. Tonnes
		*Molybdenum Ore	80,00,000	Tonnes
		Metal	2,762	
		Quartzite	2,697	Th. Tonnes
2.	Betul	China clay	111	Th. Tonnes
		Fire clay	346	Th. Tonnes
		Iron Ore (Hae.)	8	Th. Tonnes
		Graphite	10128	Tonnes
		*Lead-zinc (Ore)	615	Th. Tonnes
		*Lead (metal)	—	—
		*Zinc (metal)	25.94	Th. Tonnes
3.	Chindwara	China clay	72	Th. Tonnes
		Dolomite	17723	Th. Tonnes
		Fireclay	36	Th. Tonnes
		Limestone	840	Th. Tonnes
4.	Dhar	Baryte	24500	Tonne
		Limestone	180068	Th. Tonnes
		Quartzite	8	Th. Tonnes
		Talc-Steatite-Soapstone	872	Th. Tonnes
5.	Jhabua	Calcite	52755	Tonnes
		Dolomite	629525	Th. Tonnes

1	2	3	4	5
		Limestone	118	Th. Tonnes
		*Rock Phosphate	23560132	Tonnes
		Talc-Steatite-Soapstone	3368	Th. Tonnes
6.	Khargaon	Calcite	270359	Tonnes
		China clay	15	Th. Tonnes
		Limestone	175309	Th. Tonnes
		Quartzite	35	Th. Tonnes
7.	Seoni	Dolomite	227915	Th. Tonnes
8.	Mandla	Dolomite	85468	Th. Tonnes
		Ochre	284670	Tonnes
		Fuller's Earth	58800	Tonnes
		Bauxite	12421	Th. Tonnes
9.	Shahdol	Bauxite	3414	Th. Tonnes
		China clay	135	Th. Tonnes
		Felspar	9	Tonnes
		Fireclay	15565	Th. Tonnes
		Gypsum	0.35	Th. Tonnes
		Limestone	400	Th. Tonnes
		Ochre	247140	Tonnes
		Quartzite	22	Th. Tonnes
10.	Siddhi	Baryte	82600	Tonnes
		Bauxite	140	Th. Tonnes
		China clay	1	Th. Tonnes
		Fireclay	155	Th. Tonnes
		Sillimanite	50800	Tonnes
		Limestone	336467	Th. Tonnes

*as on 1.4.2000

In addition to above a total geological reserve of 14360 80 million tonnes of coal have been established in Singrauli coal field Madhya Pradesh as on 1.1.2000.

*[English]***Linking of Ranchi with NH-6**

3215. SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any plan to link Ranchi by road with National Highway-6 at Kyonjhar via Chakradharpur, Chaiwasa, Jayantgarh, Champua and Jhumpura;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated funds made available for the purpose during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Ranchi is already connected by State roads up to Remuli and by NH-215 from there to Kyonjhar.

(c) For State roads, funds are to be allotted by the concerned States.

[Translation]

Mobile Telephone Service by BSNL

3216. SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start mobile telephone service through the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in the country particularly in Maharashtra;

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

(c) the time by which this scheme is likely to be started; and

(d) the estimated costs to be incurred thereon?

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

(b) As per enclosed Statement.

(c) Network rollout is expected from December-2001 onwards.

(d) Estimated expenditure on the project is about Rs. 2500 crores in phases.

Statement

Details of State wise planned coverage

S.No.	State	No. of Cities
1	2	3
01.	Andaman and Nicobar	1
02.	Andhra Pradesh	85
03.	Assam	23

1	2	3
04.	Bihar	32
05.	Chattisgarh	15
06.	Gujarat	74
07.	Haryana	40
08.	Himachal Pradesh	20
09.	Jharkhand	17
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14
11.	Karnataka	26
12.	Kerala	100
13.	Madhya Pradesh	54
14.	Maharashtra	124
15.	North East	49
16.	Orissa	38
17.	Punjab	62
18.	Rajasthan	40
19.	Tamil Nadu	68
20.	Uttaranchal	13
21.	Uttar Pradesh	91
22.	West Bengal	35

** Plans for Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, North East are subject to Govt. Clearance for launching of service.

[English]

Assistance for National Sports Federations

3217. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state the total amount of assistance granted to the National Sports Federations for sending the various teams abroad for training and participation in international tournaments, for holding international tournaments in India during the last two years, event-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bauxite Reserves in Orissa

3218. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the approximate bauxite reserved areas in Orissa and Chattisgarh States; and

(b) the steps are being taken for the proper exploitation of those mines in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) Section 17A of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957, provides for reservation of areas for purposes of conservation of minerals and prospecting/mining by the companies and corporations owned by/or controlled by the Governments. As per information given by the State Government of Orissa, bauxite deposits at Kodingamali, Potangi, Baplimali in Rayagada district, Lanjigarh in Kalahandi district and Ganuhamardan in Bolangir district in Orissa were reserved by the State Government. Similarly, as per information given by the State Government of Chhattisgarh, erstwhile Madhya Pradesh Government had reserved bauxite deposits in tehsil Samri and Pal in Sarguja district.

(b) For conservation and systematic development of minerals including bauxite and also for environmental protection, Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR), 1988 have been framed under Section 18 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. MCDR is monitored by the Central Government through IBM. Mining operations were carried out according to the mining plan approved by IBM. Compliance of the mining plan stipulations is being checked from time to time through inspections by IBM officers. In case of irregularities, the same are pointed out by IBM under the appropriate provisions of MCDR for compliance/rectification.

[Translation]

New Telephone Exchanges In Maharashtra

3219. SHRI NAMDEO HARBARI DIWATHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges functioning in Maharashtra at present, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up new telephone exchange in the State during 2001-2002;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith their capacity district-wise; and

(d) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be set up?

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

number of telephone exchanges functioning in Maharashtra at present, district-wise is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of new telephone exchanges along with their capacity proposed to be set up in the State during 2001-2002 district-wise are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) All the new exchanges are likely to be commissioned by 31.03.2002.

Statement-I

Number of Telephone Exchanges functioning in Maharashtra as on 31.7.2001

Sr. No.	Name of District	No. of Telephone Exchanges as on 31.7.2001
1	2	3
1.	Ahmednagar	318
2.	Akola	83
3.	Amravati	127
4.	Aurangabad	141
5.	Beed	121
6.	Bhandara	50
7.	Gondla	54
8.	Buldana	115
9.	Chandrapur	81
10.	Dhule	85
11.	Nandurbar	46
12.	Gadchiroli	37
13.	Jalgaon	211
14.	Jalana	78
15.	Kalyan	130
16.	Kolhapur	305
17.	Latur	128
18.	Nagpur	127
19.	Nanded	125
20.	Nasik	227
21.	Osmanabad	83

1	2	3
22.	Parbhani	56
23.	Hingoli	44
24.	Pune	261
25.	Raigad	153
26.	Ratnagiri	147
27.	Sangli	325
28.	Satara	207
29.	Sindhudurg	93
30.	Solapur	221
31.	Wardha	70
32.	Washim	50
33.	Yeotmal	95
34.	Mumbai	130
35.	Thane	26

Statement-II

Details of Exchanges proposed to be set up during 2001-02-District-wise

Sr. No.	Name of District	No. of proposed Telephone Exchanges	Equipped Capacity
1	2	3	4
1.	Ahmednagar	11	184 lines each
2.	Akola	03	184 lines each
3.	Amravati	06	184 lines each
4.	Aurangabad	08	184 lines each
5.	Beed	08	184 lines each
6.	Bhandara	02	184 lines each
7.	Gondla	02	184 lines each
8.	Buldhana	02	184 lines each
9.	Chandrapur	05	184 lines each
10.	Dhule	01	184 lines each
11.	Nandurbar	01	184 lines each
12.	Gadchiroli	04	184 lines each
13.	Jalgaon	03	184 lines each

1	2	3	4
14.	Jalana	10	184 lines each
15.	Kalyan	04	184 lines each
16.	Kolhapur	03	184 lines each
17.	Latur	10	184 lines each
18.	Nagpur	06	184 lines each
19.	Nanded	04	184 lines each
20.	Nasik	06	184 lines each
21.	Osmanabad	04	184 lines each
22.	Parbhani	03	184 lines each
23.	Hingoli	04	184 lines each
24.	Pune	18	184 lines each
25.	Raigad	07	5920, lines
26.	Ratnagiri	16	184 lines each
27.	Sangli	06	184 lines each
28.	Satara	12	184 lines each
29.	Sindhudurg	04	184 lines each
30.	Solapur	11	184 lines each
31.	Wardha	04	184 lines each
32.	Washim	01	184 lines each
33.	Yeotmal	08	184 lines each
34.	Mumbai	22	171000 lines
35.	Thane	03	13000 lines

Telephone Adalat

3220.CH. TEJVEER SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the existing criteria of organising Telephone Adalats;

(b) the number of telephone Adalats organised in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years; and

(c) the number of cases received in these Adalats alongwith the number of cases settled ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) As per existing criteria, the telephone Adalats are being held once in 2 months at Secondary Switching Area level and once in 3 months at Telecom Circle level.

(b) 199 telephone Adalats were organised in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years.

(c) 3252 cases were received in these Adalats and 3234 cases were settled.

[English]

Transplantation of Trees in Delhi

3221. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of trees that were transplanted and survived for the construction of flyovers in Delhi;

(b) the amount of money spent on the transplantation of trees;

(c) whether right method of transplantation was not followed;

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to enquire into the matter; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) The details of the number of trees transplanted for construction of flyovers and their survival percentage are as follows :

1. National Highways 24 and 13A	97 trees (75% survival)
2. T-Junction and Hansraj Sethi Marg	58 trees (50% survival)
3. Savitri Cinema	58 trees (53% survival)
4. Moti Bagh, Roa Tula Ram Marg	103 trees (66.02% survival)
5. Safdarjung Flyover	114 trees (60% survival)
6. Africa Avenue and Ring Road	101 trees (56% survival)
7. Nelson Mandela and Mahipalpur	60 trees (70% survival)

(b) The expenditure on transplantation was incurred by various flyover constructing agencies/private agencies.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Increase in Water in Dams and Rivers

3222. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been increase in water in dams and rivers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA GHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) to (d) Central Water Commission is monitoring storage position of 70 important reservoirs spread all over the country and prepares weekly reports on storage position. Out of the total storage of 130.553 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in these 70 reservoirs, the storage position as on 25.5.2001 i.e. before onset of monsoon was 17% of the live storage which has increased to 36% due to monsoon rainfall and increased flow in rivers during the current monsoon.

[English]

National Reconstruction Corps Scheme

3223. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have started any project under National Reconstruction Corps Scheme in some districts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the new scheme is likely to be extended to other districts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have finalized the following 7 Schemes in the implementation of which volunteers under the NRC Scheme will be involved in 80 districts of the country during the current financial year.

(i) Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana

(ii) National Anti-Malaria Programme

(iii) Swarnjayanti Shahri Rojgar Yojana

(iv) Integrated Watershed Development Programme

(v) Renewable Energy System

(vi) Social Forestry

(vii) Literacy

(c) and (d) In the 2nd year of the implementation of the Scheme, viz, 2002-2003, the Scheme is likely to be extended to 40 additional districts. The selection of the districts has not been made as yet.

[Translation]

Financial Aid for Meritorious Players

3224. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have made any provision for the development of meritorious players of national and international level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the rules and criteria being followed for providing financial aid to such players ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) There is a "Scheme for Assisting Promising Sports persons and Supporting Personnel" under which a package of assistance upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs in a year is provided to promising sports persons based on the chances of their getting medal(s) in the coming Olympics and other International Sports Events. The assistance is provided for training and participation in tournaments abroad, equipment, scientific support and training and participation in tournaments in the country.

According to the criteria laid down in the scheme, the assistance is provided only to promising sports persons who have equaled or excelled the existing national record or is a Gold Medallist of last National Championship or is Medallist of Asian/Commonwealth Games/Afro-Asian Games/Olympic Games/World Championship in the relevant category, that is, Senior/Junior/Sub-junior in different sports disciplines. For team events, assistance will be provided based on an objective assessment of the performance in the National Championship. The Sports persons eligible for assistance should not be more than 25 years in age, provided that :

- (i) For sports like Shooting, Golf, Billiards and Snooker, Chess and Yachting, the age limit may be relaxed upto 35 years.
- (ii) For sports persons winning medals in international events last held, upper age limit may be suitably relaxed.

Labour Minister' Conference

3225. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI :
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI :
SHRI RAMJIVAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 37th Labour Conference of the States was held this year;

(b) if so, the details of agenda of the said conference and the details of discussions held and decisions arrived at;

(c) whether the gulf disparity has widened and regional imbalance increased due to liberalisation;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard to bridge the said gap; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The 37th Session of the Indian Labour Conference (not Labour Conference of the States) was held on 18-19 May, 2001.

(b) The Conference discussed and made recommendations on the impact of globalisation on Indian Industry, Labour and Employment, Social Security of Workers and need for consultation with social partners for labour policy formulation.

(c) to (e) Though there is no concrete empirical evidence of growing inequalities in recent years, it is generally believed that not everyone has gained equally as a result of the process of liberalization and economic reforms. Lack of education and skills is perceived as one of the main factors responsible for increasing income gap between low paid workers and skilled workers. The Government is taking necessary steps for improving the educational standards, quality of education, vocational training and skills relevant to the current requirement of the labour market which are expected to enable more workers to participate and benefit from the growth process.

[English]

Upgradation of Ludhiana and Kanpur Airports

3226. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide international standard airports at Ludhiana and Kanpur to boost exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the works at these airports are progressing satisfactorily; and

(d) if so, the time schedule by which these airports are likely to be upgraded?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) There is no plan, at present, for setting up airports of international standards at Ludhiana and Kanpur.

Development of Badagara-Mahe Canal

3227. PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any project report from the Government of Kerala for the development of Badagara-Mahe Canal; and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) No Project report for the development of Badagara-Mahe Canal has been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal from the Government of Kerala.

[Translation]

Amount Spent on Providing Employment

3228. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent under different schemes and on various employment exchanges for providing employment during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of people provided employment under these schemes and by employment exchanges, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether the unemployed persons have not been significantly benefited from these schemes and employment exchanges;

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

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make these schemes more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) Various schemes for poverty alleviation and employment generation are being implemented through various State Governments. These are being run by sharing of expenditure between Central and State Governments. Details of expenditure and the employment generated during the last three years in various employment generation schemes are given in the enclosed Statement-I. Some of the State Government are also implementing employment generation programme through their own funds.

The Employment Exchange are under the administrative and financial control of the respective State/U.T. Governments. The details of expenditure incurred on Employment Exchanges are not maintained. Employment Exchanges register job-seekers and forward names against requisitions. They do not have any influence on the availability of jobs and as such can not provide jobs. However placement effected by the Employment Exchanges during the year 2000 is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) The progress of employment generation programmes is reviewed from time to time and reorganized/modified as and when found necessary. A number of employment generation schemes have been integrated to provide more focus and improve the efficiency. For instance, the schemes of IRDP, million wells scheme, TRYSEM, DWCRA have been restructured and integrated into the Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana.

Statement-I

Performance of various Employment Generation Schemes during the last three years

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001
1	2	3	4	5
1. Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY)				
(i)	Total Allocation (Center + State) (Rs. in Lakhs)	259703.00	220558.00	219295.82
(ii)	Central Allocation (Rs. in Lakhs)	207844.00	165500.00	164549.98
(iii)	Central Releases (Rs. in Lakhs)	205096.00	168527.86	138138.39
(iv)	Employment Generation (lakhs Mandays)	3766.41	2683.08	1926.81

1	2	3	4	5
2. Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS)				
(i)	Total Allocation (Center + State) (Rs. in Crores)		243145.86	218227.34
(ii)	Central Allocation (Rs. in Lakhs)		182410.01	156200.00
(iii)	Central Releases (Rs. in Lakhs)	198845.82	173641.95	141729.02
(iv)	Employment Generation (lakhs Mandays)	4279.36	2786.17	1381.58
3. Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)				
(i)	Total Allocation (Center + State) (Rs. in Lakhs)	145627.78	147233.70	133250.01
(ii)	Central Allocation (Rs. in Lakhs)	72915.00	110500.00	100000.00
(iii)	Central Releases (Rs. in Lakhs)	62563.29	86954.73	46211.03
(iv)	Employment Generation (lakhs Mandays)	16.77	9.34	6.64
4. Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)				
(i)	Central Share Released (Rs. in Lakhs)	15847.00	11877.29	8513.00
(ii)	No. of Persons Assisted under Urban Self-Employment Programme (USEP)	42643	135185	104019
(iii)	No. of Mandays of work generated under Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP) (in lakhs)	65.88	101.39	157.72
5. @@Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)				
(i)	Target Numbers	220000	220000 *	220000
(ii)	Cases Sanctioned			
(a)	Numbers	271342	256885	176667
(b)	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	161800	166500	113900
(iii)	Cases Disbursed			
(a)	Numbers	191351	180206	97239
(b)	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	109300	109900	59300

* The scheme was demand driven during 1998-99.

** IRDP was merged in SGSY w.e.f. 1.4.99.

@@ As reported by DC (SSI) on 29.5.2001, (information is being updated every month)

Statement-II		
S. No.	State/Union Territory	Placement of job-seekers through employment exchanges as on 2000
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	@

1	2	3
3.	Assam	1.3
4.	Bihar	7.4
5.	Goa	0.3
6.	Gujarat	69.4
7.	Haryana	4.7
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.3

1	2	3
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.8
10.	Karnataka	8.5
11.	Kerala	16.8
12.	Madhya Pradesh	3.9
13.	Maharashtra	17.4
14.	Manipur	@
15.	Meghalaya	0.2
16.	Mizoram	0.3
17.	Nagaland	0.1
18.	Orissa	2.3
19.	Punjab	2.4
20.	Rajasthan	1.6
21.	Sikkim*	
22.	Tamil Nadu	13.2
23.	Tripura	0.9
24.	Uttar Pradesh	4.0
25.	West Bengal	11.7
26.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.3
27.	Chandigarh	0.5
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	@
29.	Delhi	0.3
30.	Daman and Diu	@
31.	Lakshadweep	@
32.	Pondicherry	0.2
Total		177.7

Note : -*No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.

[English]

**Strike by Trade Unions against
Labour Laws**

3229. SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the National Trade Unions have declared nationwide strike to

protest against the policy of the Government towards Labour Laws; and

(b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take in this regard ?

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

(b) The Government is fully committed to protecting the interest of labour while formulating proposals for amending labour laws.

World Bank/ADB Loan for NHDP

3230. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a loan of Rs. 20,000 crore from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank for part - financing Rs. 54,000 crore National Highway Development Programme;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet the rest of the amount;

(c) the details of the amount spent so far under the said programmes;

(d) the details of projects undertaken with the said assistance so far; and

(e) the time by which the said programme is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Government propose to raise resources of Rs. 20,000 crore from External funding. World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) have been financing the projects. So far, two loans from World Bank US\$ 516 million and US\$ 589 million have been signed. ADB has already provided a loan of US\$ 180 million and another US\$240 million is under negotiation. Thus total financing of US\$ 1525 million roughly equivalent to Rs. 7200 crore has been firmed up so far. Further discussions and negotiations with external agencies are part of a continuous process. The rest of the amount is to be met out of cess on petrol and diesel, Market borrowings and private sector participation.

(c) An amount of Rs. 3,500 crore has so far been spent on the National Highways Development Project and other projects implemented by National Highways Authority of India.

(d) Total 99 contracts of value Rs. 11,328 crore are in progress at present which include 9 contracts of value Rs. 2044 crore undertaken with the said assistance.

(e) Golden Quadrilateral component is targetted for completion by December 2003 and North-South and East-West Corridors by December, 2007.

[Translation]

Expansion of Telecommunication Network

3231. SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of the new technology equipments provided in each State of the country particularly in Maharashtra for expansion of telecommunication network ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : The details of the new technology equipment allotted for the expansion of telecommunication network in the country including Maharashtra is as follows :

Model 5ESS of M/s. Lucent Technologis, USA.

Model OCB-283 of M/s. Alcatel, France.

Model EWSD of M/s. Siemens, West Germany.

Model AXE-10 of M/s. Ericsson, Sweden.

Model L/XL of C-DOT.

The State-wise target of Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) for the year 2001-2002 is given in the enclosed Statement. Adequate equipment to meet these targets are proposed to be provided to all the States.

Statement

Sr. No.	Name of the State	Target for DEL's 2001-2002
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	10000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	530000
3.	Assam	100000
4.	Bihar	200000

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	40000
6.	Gujarat	650000
7.	Haryana	245500
8.	Himachal Pradesh	90000
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	80000
10.	Jharkhand	82000
11.	Karnataka	500000
12.	Kerala	663000
13.	Madhya Pradesh	155000
14.	Maharashtra	950000
15.	North East	53500
16.	Orissa	135000
17.	Punjab	460000
18.	Rajasthan	300000
19.	Tamil Nadu	596000
20.	Uttaranchal	100000
21.	Uttar Pradesh	625000
22.	West Bengal	465000
23.	Delhi	200000

- Tamil Nadu includes Chennai and Pondicherry
- Maharashtra includes Mumbai and Goa
- West Bengal includes Kolkatta and Sikkim
- North East includes Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur.

[English]

Evaluation of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited

3232. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have evaluated Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL);

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have decided to exclude VSNL from offering cellular services;
- (d) if not, whether exclusion from bidding is likely to adversely impact VSNL valuation;
- (e) if so, the reasons for not allowing VSNL to take part in the bidding for the fourth cellular licence; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to increase the value of VSNL before disinvestment ?

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

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

(c) and (e) The tenders for grant of fresh licences for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS), inter-alia, stipulated the following condition :

'No single company/legal person, either directly or through its associates, shall have substantial equity holding in more than one licensee company in the same service area for the same service. 'Substantial equity' herein will mean 'an equity of 10% or more'. A promoter company can not have stakes in more than one licensee company for the same service area.'

The said tender condition had been built to ensure that competition is not compromised.

Further, the tender document also stipulated that "The Licensor reserves the right to operated CMTS itself or through a designated public authority, in any or all the service areas." It was also clarified to the prospective bidders that "public authority means entity/authority/ organization/enterprise controlled by the Government, e.g. a public sector undertaking. Only one such entity may be permitted to operate the service in a given service area."

Since, either Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited or Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited which are public sector undertakings have already got licence for CMTS to cover whole of the country, VSNL was not eligible for grant of the licence.

(d) and (f) No, Sir. VSNL has been already given more powers for taking decisions with regard to new business

lines in accordance with their strategic plans for diversification and development.

Keleghai River Project

3233. SHRI PRABODH PANDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bengal has submitted Keleghai River Project to the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the project is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) No such project report has been received in Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal from Government of West Bengal.

Use of Rain Water for Irrigation

3234. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any programme to utilise rain water for irrigation and other purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial technical assistance likely to be provided to State Governments for the effective implementation of the said programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Water, being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to plan, finance and execute schemes for augmenting water resources. The Central Government is also promoting rain water harvesting through water shed management programme, artificial recharge of ground water and roof top rain water harvesting. The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) under the Ministry of Water Resources is implementing a pilot Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water" in different States in coordination with concerned State Government agencies. The Government have earmarked funds amounting to Rs. 25.00 crore for the schemes during the IX Five Year Plan. State-wise details of the proposals approved under the scheme are given in enclosed Statement. The approved proposals are expected to be implemented within 1-2 years.

Statement*State-wise details of Proposals Approved Concerning Ground Water Recharge Schemes*

Sl. No.	State	Schemes (Nos.)	Approved cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Status
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	54.55	Under Implementation
2.	Assam	1	56.69	Under Implementation
3.	Bihar	4	18.69	Under Implementation
4.	Delhi	14	86.43	Four schemes completed and rest are under implementation
5.	Gujarat	3	18.95	Under Implementation
6.	Haryana	8	139.12	Three schemes are completed and rest are under implementation
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6	81.65	Three schemes are completed and rest are under implementation
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	190.19	One scheme completed and rest are under implementation
9.	Jharkhand	6	28.04	Under Implementation
10.	Karnataka	1	13.75	Under Implementation
11.	Kerala	9	67.62	Five schemes are at final stage of completion and rest are under implementation
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5	53.85	Four schemes completed and rest are under implementation
13.	Maharashtra	3	76.63	Under Implementation
14.	Meghalaya	1	28.00	Under Implementation
15.	Mizoram	1	28.00	Under Implementation
16.	Nagaland	1	70.00	Under Implementation
17.	Orissa	2	437.40	Under Implementation
18.	Punjab	15	251.49	Six schemes completed and rest are under implementation
19.	Rajasthan	13	84.27	One scheme is completed and rest are under implementation
20.	Tamil Nadu	8	198.98	One scheme completed and rest are under implementation
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5	37.21	Under Implementation
22.	Uttaranchal	1	2.00	Under Implementation
23.	West Bengal	8	167.82	Under Implementation.
Total		136	2191.33	

[Translation]

Setting up of Airports at Ajmer and Hamirgarh

3235. SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up airports at Ajmer and Hamirgarh (Bhilwara) in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any action in this regard alongwith the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) There is no plan, at present, to set up airports at Ajmer and Hamirgarh (Bhilwara) in Rajasthan.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited

3236. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :
SHRI MANSINH PATEL :
SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether even under the W.T.O. agreement, monopoly of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited (VSNL) in international telephony was scheduled to last till the year 2004;

(b) if so, the reasons for deciding to pre-pone this termination to 2002;

(c) the reaction of international investors in VSNL; and

(d) the effect of the decision on the price of its shares and the total loss likely to be incurred in disinvesting 25 percent shares as stipulated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) A commitment was given to WTO in April, 1997 that subject of opening up of international telephony services to competition would be reviewed in the year 2004.

(b) The objectives set fourth in the National Telecom Policy of 1994 include private investment and participation to bridge the resource gap. Thus, the Government committed itself to deregulate the telecom sector in a phased manner. Government further decided that it was not in the public interest to allow VSNL's monopoly on international voice services till 2004, as it was perceived to be a serious constraint on the development of telecom sector in the country. It was, therefore, decided to terminate the monopoly on 31.03.2002. However, Government has announced a compensation package to take care of likely loss to VSNL on account of this decision.

(c) Government has not received any reaction from international investors in VSNL.

(d) There was a fall in the price of the VSNL shares after the announcement of withdrawal of monopoly of

VSNL. The share price is determined in the market by various market forces and market sentiments. Further, according to available sources, it appears that there was a sharp decline in the share value of almost all Indian technology companies during March to May 2000 as reflected in Bombay Stock Exchange Information Technology Index. The fall in share price of VSNL during this period was comparable to the general trend of Indian Capital Market in technology sector. Therefore, no loss is likely to be incurred in disinvesting 25% shares, on this account.

[Translation]

Water Supply Schemes of Rajasthan

3237. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of water supply schemes of Rajasthan lying pending with the Union Government for clearance; and

(b) the time by which the schemes are likely to be accorded approval ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) No rural water supply scheme of Rajasthan is lying pending with the Union Government.

(b) Water supply being a State subject, schemes for providing drinking water supply facilities to rural areas are implemented by the States with their own resources. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the States by providing financial assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the Prime Minister's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) – Rural Drinking Water component. As the powers have been delegated to the State Governments to plan, sanction and implement individual drinking water supply schemes, the States are not required to seek the approval of the Union Government for implementing such schemes.

Irrigation Capacity

3238. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of schemes of Uttar Pradesh for augmenting irrigation capacity lying pending with the Union Government for clearance;

(b) the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded to the said schemes;

(c) the amount proposed to be provided to the State Government under the accelerated irrigation benefit programme; and

(d) the number of schemes likely to be cleared during the current year under the said programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) The status of 12 numbers of New Major Irrigation Projects received in Central Water Commission from Government of Uttar Pradesh, for techno-economic appraisal are given below :

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Status
1.	Raising of Meja Dam	B
2.	Bansagar Canal	B
3.	Maudaha Dam	B
4.	Lining Channel of Bundelkhand	B
5.	Chittaurgarh Reservoir	B
6.	Kanhar Irrigation	A
7.	Modernization of Agra Canal	B
8.	Increasing Capacity of Bhupali Pump Canal	A
9.	Hathnikund Link Channel of Eastern Yamuna Canal	B
10.	Kanchnoda Dam	A
11.	Improving Water Management of Existing Sarda Canal System.	A
12.	Uttar Pradesh Water Sector Restructuring Project	A

A – Under correspondence with the State Government.

B – Accepted by Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources subject to certain observations.

(b) The clearance of the projects depends upon the promptness by which the State Government complies with observations of Central Agencies.

(c) and (d) Central Loan Assistance under AIBP is given to approved Major/Medium irrigation projects which are in an advanced stage of construction.

[English]

Reservoir Schemes

3239.DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of reservoir schemes submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Union Government during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the number of schemes sanctioned and still lying pending with Government during the said period;

(c) the time since when these schemes are lying pending and the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) the time by which the schemes are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) to (d) Only one reservoir scheme namely Halon Irrigation Project had been submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh to the Central Water Commission for techno-economic appraisal in January, 2000 which is under correspondence with the State Government. The clearance of the schemes by CWC depends upon the time that the State Government would take in complying with the observations of various central appraising agencies.

International Flight from Bangalore

3240.SHRI R.S. PATIL :

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from foreign international airlines to start new flights from Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any international airlines have shown interest to start operation from Bangalore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) So far the designated airlines of Hongkong, Germany, Malaysia, Nepal and four Gulf Air Owner States have been granted access to Bangalore. Among them, Malaysian Airlines and Royal Nepal Airlines are presently operating out of Bangalore. Air India is also operating from Bangalore to New York, London, Singapore, Jakarta and Dubai whereas Indian Airlines is operating to Sharjah, Muscat, Bangkok, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. Designated airlines of Singapore, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Sri Lanka have also shown interest to operate to/from Bangalore. However Bangalore is not available to them as a point of call at present.

Devastating Condition of Rivers

3241.SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the devastating condition of rivers in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps being taken by the Government to save these rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Flood Management being a State subject, flood control including bank protection projects are planned, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Ganga Flood Control Commission under this Ministry have prepared Master Plan for Ajoy, Mahananda, Mayurakshi, Damodar, Rupnarayan, Haldi – Rasulpur and Tidal rivers of West Bengal in which various short term and long term measures have been suggested to manage/control the flood. These Master Plans were sent to the State Govt. for implementation.

To control soil erosion of bank of river Ganga in the districts of Malda and Murshidabad, the Planning Commission, Government of India had set up an Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Member (Flood), Central Water Commission which had suggested both short term and long term measures to control bank erosion problem in those districts. The report was sent to the State Government. An amount of Rs. 30.00 crore has been provided by the Planning Commission as Central Assistance to the State Government for undertaking such anti erosion works.

The Government of India have also decided to provide Central Assistance in the ratio of 75% Central Share : 25% State, Share, towards implementation of some critical anti erosion schemes inter-alia on the river Ganga/Padama identified by another Committee headed by the Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission. An amount of Rs. 6.50 crore has been released to West Bengal as Central Share for these works during 2000-01.

Telecom Facility

3242. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) system in the Sunderban region in place of Multi Access Rural Radio (MARR) system which has become out-dated for telephone network;

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

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to open more telephone exchanges in the region;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has planned to replace the faulty irreparable MARR systems by Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) systems in Sunderban area progressively commencing from the current year. West Bengal Circle has been allotted 35,000 lines of WLL systems.

(c) to (e) Two new exchanges are planned to be opened at Jamtala and Jibantala in the region each having capacity of 150 lines. Bakkhali exchange is planned to be expanded from 150 lines to 300 lines.

Old Fleet of Air India and Indian Airlines

3243. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the aircrafts used by the Air India, Indian Airlines and their subsidiaries are very old and unfit for safe air journeys;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of aircrafts used by the Air India, India Airlines and their subsidiaries alongwith their age and flying hours used;

(c) the details of the amount spent on the maintenance of aircrafts by Air India and Indian Airlines in the last three years and on the purchase of new aircrafts;

(d) whether the Government is aware that the risks for the air passengers are on the increase due to the use of older and out-dated aircraft; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures taken by the Government to solve this grave problem?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) No life span is specified for aircraft. The operation of an aircraft may continue subject to airworthiness being certified by the DGCA. All the aircraft in the fleets of Air India, Indian Airlines and its subsidiary, are maintained in airworthy condition meeting all the requirements of manufacturers as well as DGCA. The fleet of Air India Limited consists of 27 aircraft (including four aircraft taken on dry lease) with average age of 13.73 years. The fleet of Indian Airlines/Alliance Air consists of 55 aircraft (including four aircraft on dry lease) with average age of 16.7 years.

The details of the amount spent on maintenance of aircraft by Air India and Indian Airlines during the last three years are as under :—

	Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
Air India	1998-1999	246.14
	1999-2000	236.05
	2000-2001	381.51 (Prov.)
Indian Airlines	1998-1999	498.00
	1999-2000	588.00
	2000-2001	662.00 (Prov.)

Both the airlines have not purchased any new aircraft during the last three years. Air India have taken 4 A310-300 aircraft on drylease with a view to augment its routes and passengers carrying capacity. Indian Airlines has invited bids for dry lease of four A-320 aircraft to meet its short term capacity requirement. Alliance Air has also issued advertisement for Global tender inviting bids for lease in of 6 ATR 42-500. The offers received by Indian Airlines/Alliance Air are being examined by respectively in-house Committees.

Digging of Feeder Channels

3244. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the digging of feeder channels near Karnataka Border to divert the direction of water flow;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Karnataka has complained to his Ministry;

(c) if so, whether it is the violation of Bachawat Tribunal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government of Karnataka have drawn the attention of the Union Government regarding the construction of two feeder canals by the Government of Andhra Pradesh namely, (i) Feeder Channel from Sidagappanakatte to P. Byadagere tank; (ii) Feeder Channel to divert water from the catchment upstream of Reddihally tank in North-Pennar Basin in Karnataka to a

local halla of Rolla Tank in Andhra Pradesh. The Government of Karnataka has apprehended that flows to the Honnagondanahalli tank will be reduced on account of the first feeder canal and cause irreparable injury to the farmers of Reddihally tank in Karnataka due to the second feeder canal. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that the work on Feeder Channel from Sidagappanakatte to P. Byadagere tank has been stopped.

(d) The Central Water Commission has convened an inter-State meeting of representative of Government of Karnataka and Government of Andhra Pradesh on 17th August, 2001 to discuss all such reported diversion works.

Non-Profitable Flights of Air India

3245. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are a number of flights of Air India which earn less in comparison to the expenditure being incurred on their operations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. From April, 1999 to March, 2000, in 62 flights Air India has earned less in comparison to the expenditure incurred on their operations.

(c) The factors contributing to the losses on various routes are :— (i) High burden of depreciation and financial costs due to replacement and augmentation of fleet and devaluation of the Indian Rupee vis-a-vis the US dollar; (ii) Increase in expenditure as a result of weakening of the Indian rupee vis-a-vis major hard currencies; (iii) Slow down in major traffic generating economies; (iv) Steep increase in the prices of fuel; and (v) High fuel consumption and material consumption as a result of an ageing fleet.

Indian Airlines Flights to South East Asia Route

3246. SHRI CHANDRA VIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering for allowing flights of foreign countries and Indian Airlines on the South-East Asia route to stop over at Port Blair with a view to increase tourism in Andaman Islands;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) No scheduled international services are being presently operated from Port Blair Airport. However Port Blair Airport has been opened up for international tourist charter flights.

Conversion of C-DOT TAX-XL Equipment

3247. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for the conversion of the C-DOT TAX-XL equipment by an alternative technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the work is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) and (c) Some problems have been experienced in field in the operation of C-DOT TAX-XL switches, which are being looked into by C-DOT engineers for early solution. As such presently there is no proposal for conversion of C-DOT TAX-XL Technology by an alternative technology. However, at three locations viz. Muzaffarpur, Karaikudi and Cuddalore where the requirement for common channel signaling links has increased there is a plan for conversion of C-DOT-TAX-XL by new technology digital TAXs by March, 2002 subject to availability of resources.

Ban on Digging of Bore-Wells

3248. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have banned digging of new bore-wells and mechanically operated water pumps in Delhi and its periphery areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Authority constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 have declared certain areas including South and South-West Districts of NCT of Delhi, Municipal Corporation of Faridabad and Ballabgarh, Municipal Corporation of Ghaziabad and Gurgaon town and adjoining industrial

areas as notified for prohibition and restriction on the construction and installation of new ground water extraction structures to avoid further depletion and deterioration in ground water quality in such notified areas.

Geological Survey for Discovery of Diamond Field

3249. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of survey conducted by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in the field of discovery of diamonds and other precious metals during the last three years;

(b) the States which have been found to have abundant reserve of undiscovered precious metals;

(c) whether most of the undiscovered areas of such precious metals lie in the tribal areas; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made to extract precious metals without disturbing the tribal people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) During the last 3 years, Geological Survey of India (GSI) has carried out investigations for locating Kimberlite/Lamprote source rocks for Diamonds in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, for Gold in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala and for Platinum Group of Elements (PGE) in the States of Orissa, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra hold promise for discovery of Diamond. Good prospects of PGE are likely in the States of Orissa and Maharashtra. Promising resources of Gold are there in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) Most of the mineral occurrences lie in the interior, remote and tribal areas. Since investigations are in a preliminary stage, extraction of these precious minerals will depend on their economic viability.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges in Orissa

3250. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether number of rural telephone exchanges in Orissa particularly in Bolangir region are less than their requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) The details of exchanges in Orissa State and Bolangir Secondary Switching Area (SSA) are given below :—

Orissa

There are 993 exchanges in the State with an equipped capacity of 6,72,861 lines and 5,47,145 Direct Exchange Lines (DELs). The present waiting list is 86,510.

Bolangir SSA : (Secondary Switching Area)

The SSA is spread over an area of 8,836 Sq. Kms. There are 43 exchanges with an equipped capacity of 24,680 lines and 18,177 Direct Exchange Lines (DELs). The present waiting list is 1,372.

(c) The plans for the year 2002-02 are given below :—

Orissa

It is planned to set up 50 new telephone exchanges and in addition, provide 64,000 lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) for rural and inaccessible areas.

Bolangir SSA : (Secondary Switching Area)

It is planned to setup 3 new telephone exchanges and in addition, provide 4,500 lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) for rural and inaccessible areas.

Setting up of District Manager Telecommunications Offices

3251. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of District Manager Telecommunications Offices functioning at present, State-wise;

(b) the location where such offices proposed to be set up particularly in Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up such offices at each district headquarters;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) The information is at Statement-I.

(b) Location of such offices set up during 2001-2002, till present, is at Statement-II. Setting up of such office depends on workload and at present there is no justification.

(c) No, Sir.

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

(e) Telecom District is co-terminus with one or more districts so it is not feasible to set up such offices at each district headquarters due to technical and administrative constraints.

Statement-I

District Manager Telecommunication Offices Statewise

S.No.	State	District Manager Telecommunication Office(s)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
3.	Assam	3
4.	Bihar	10
5.	Chattisgarh	2
6.	Delhi	Nil
7.	Goa	Nil
8.	Gujarat	Nil
9.	Haryana	2
10.	Himachal Pradesh	1
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
12.	Jharkhand	2
13.	Karnataka	1
14.	Kerala	Nil
15.	Madhya Pradesh	19
16.	Maharashtra	9
17.	Manipur	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	Nil

1	2	3
19.	Mizoram	Nil
20.	Nagaland	Nil
21.	Orissa	4
22.	Punjab	1
23.	Rajasthan	7
24.	Sikkim	Nil
25.	Tamilnadu	Nil
26.	Tripura	Nil
27.	Uttar Pradesh	28
28.	Uttaranchal	3
29.	West Bengal	7

Statement-II

*District Manager Telecommunications Offices
set up during 2001-2002 (Till Present)*

S.No.	State	Location
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Narsinghpur
2.	Bihar	Samastipur
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Deoria
4.	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehpur
5.	West Bengal	Purulia

**Air Links of National Capital with
State Capitals**

3252. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of State Capitals not connected by air so far with the National Capital; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to connect them by air ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The following State capitals have not yet been airlinked with Delhi.

(i) Kohima (ii) Itanagar (iii) Shillong (iv) Gangtok

(b) Kohima, Gangtok and Itanagar do not have airfields since the concerned State Governments have not been able to suitable sites for construction of the airports due to hilly terrain.

No airline has, so far proposed to operate air services to Shillong. Airline Operators are however, free to operate on any sector subject to compliance with the Route Dispersal Guidelines and commercial viability.

[English]

**Security Arrangements at Nagpur
Airport**

3253. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recently reviewed security arrangements at important airports in the country including Nagpur Airport;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether TV channel has exposed security mess at the Nagpur Airport; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to strengthen and improve the security at the airports ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Security arrangements at all the airports in the country are reviewed at regular intervals by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). During the current year, 59 inspections of security arrangements at various airports including Nagpur airport have been carried out.

(c) A private TV channel had telecast a news-report in December, 2000 showing some alleged lapses at Nagpur airport in connection with a chartered flight which had arrived from Delhi on 14.4.2000.

(d) It has been clarified to all concerned that there is no distinction between a chartered flight and scheduled flight so far as security measures are concerned. Further, all security measures as prescribed by the International Civil Aviation Organization in Annex-17 to the Convention on Security, are strictly followed. The measures taken include :-

- (i) Frisking of passengers and checking of hand baggage before boarding;
- (ii) Ladder point security check of passengers;
- (iii) Deployment of Sky Marshals on selected routes at random basis;
- (iv) Deployment of CISF at airports for security duties in a phased manner;
- (v) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at selected airports.

**Additional Habitat for Gir Lions in
Madhya Pradesh**

3254. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified Palpur Kuno in Madhya Pradesh as an additional habitat for the Gir Lions;

(b) if so, when the decision was taken; and

(c) the steps taken to prepare a suited habitat for the lions in Palpur Kuno area, indicating the phases of implementation ?

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

(b) The Madhya Pradesh Govt. has taken a decision on 28/2/1996 of reintroduction of Asiatic Lions at Kuno Palpur Sanctuary.

(c) The reintroduction of Asiatic Lion in Kuno Palpur Sanctuary envisages the following 3 Phases over a period of 20 years :

Phase I - 1995-2000 - Pre translocation.

Phase II - 2001-2005 - Translocation and Population buildup.

Phase III - 2006-2015 - Followup and consolidation.

To make the area inviolate it was proposed to relocate 18 clusters of villages with the population of 1374 families out of the Sanctuary in two phases. In Phase I, 663 families from 7 villages have been relocated and rehabilitated outside the Sanctuary.

Anti-Sea Erosion Schemes

3255. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a Master Plan to the Central Water Commission for obtaining external funding to carryout anti-sea erosion schemes in the State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Central Water Commission in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) A Master Plan envisaging anti-sea erosion works was first received in Central Water Commission during December 1996 from Government of Karnataka for inclusion in the National Coastal Protection Project (NCP) which was modified several times and the latest proposal has been

received in July 2001. The consolidated NCP for the maritime States/UTs. is under preparation in Central Water Commission. The proposals received from Govt. of Karnataka as well as from other maritime States/U.T. are in various stages of finalization. Information from some States is still awaited who have also been requested to submit their proposals for inclusion in the consolidated NCP.

[Translation]

Reclamation of Encroached Forest

3256. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme to ensure participation of the scheduled tribes in the reclamation of encroached forests land on sharing basis has been implemented in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the number of scheduled tribes who have been provided employment during the last three years; and

(c) the number of persons belonging to the scheduled tribes in Baitul and Harda districts of the State who have been benefited under this schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State of Madhya Pradesh and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

**Outstanding dues from Private Cellular
Telephone Operators**

3257. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2249 on March 12, 2001 regarding outstanding dues of private cellular telephone operators and state :

(a) whether the outstanding dues alongwith interest thereon has been recovered from the cellular operators;

(b) if so, the quantum of the amount recovered so far from each company and the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be recovered; and

(c) the reasons for renewing their licences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, the dues intimated in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2249 dated 12.3.2001, and recoveries made so far are as follows :

Name of the Company	Service Area	Amount Due (excluding interest) as intimated in reply to LS USQ No. 2249	Recoveries made after 12.3.2001 upto date
M/s Koshika	Orissa	50.15	Nil
-do-	U.P. (W)	41.85	Nil
-do-	U.P. (E)	168.01	10 crores realised from Bank Guarantee and adjusted towards interest.
-do-	Bihar	34.77	Nil
M/s Bharti Mobile	Punjab	259.60	Nil
M/s Aircel Digilink*	U.P. (E)	Revenue Share under the migration package	No dues towards revenue share outstanding on date. An amount of Rs. 7.48 crores has been paid by the licensee as revenue share for the period 1.2.2000 to 31.10.2001 on self certification basis.

*A sum of Rs. 4.71 crores has been received towards penalties, balance amount is yet to be recovered.

Steps were taken by the Government to recover the license fee dues by encashment of the Bank Guarantees and termination of the license. Uttar Pradesh (East) licenses of M/s Aircel Digilink and M/s Koshika could not be terminated due to non-availability of any fallback option to subscribers to avail service from other operator. The terminated licensees were also offered a restoration cum migration package for clearance of dues, which could not materialize. Further course of action to recover the existing dues is under process.

(c) None of the licenses indicated above, which were terminated for default in payment have been revived.

Launching of Basic Services by Reliance

3258. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has signed any agreement with Reliance for launching basic services in 16 circles including the Andamans; and

(b) if so, the details stating the terms and conditions thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details in respect of the terms and conditions of licence agreement are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Salient Features of the Licence Agreement Terms and Conditions for Provision of Basic Telephone Service

(a) Licence is issued on non-exclusive basis for 20 years; extendable by 10 years at a time, in the territorial jurisdiction of licensed service area.

(b) Foreign equity participation not to exceed 49%.

(c) Promoters constituting at least 30% of total equity in the Licensee company, have experience in telecom sector. Network of only those promoters is counted, who have directly in their name at least 10% equity stake in the Licensee company.

(d) Licence is subject to continued compliance of the eligibility requirements in respect of net-worth, paid up equity capital, payment of entry fee and licence fee, submission of bank guarantees.

(e) A Licensee can sign licence agreements for any number of telecom service areas and there is unrestricted open entry of any number of licences in a service area.

(f) Roll out obligations are in terms of establishing stipulated percentage of Point Of Presence (POP) in SDCAs (Short Distance Charging Areas) i.e. local areas. The category wise SDCAs viz., urban, semi urban and rural, are to be covered in equal proportions. Performance Bank Guarantees will be released on fulfilling the rollout obligations. Ultimately 80% of SDCAs to be covered by

each licensee independently and beyond that coverage may be jointly by new licensees.

(g) Financial Bank Guarantee of stipulated amount to securities the licence fee.

(h) Licence fee/royalty for wireless usages/equipment to be paid separately.

(i) Resale of local loop not permitted by the incumbent to its competitors.

(i) Assignability/transferability of licences permitted subject to prior written consent of Licensor in accordance with terms of a Tripartite Agreement.

(k) Licensee can appoint franchisees with a proviso that responsibility to ensure compliance of licence conditions shall vest with the Licensee.

(l) Use of hand held telephone sets is permitted to subscribers of Basic Telephone Service operators on Wireless Local Loop (WLL) Systems limited to the local area of Tehsils and not more than 5 + 5 MHz spectrum in designated/prescribed frequency bands for these systems can be allocated to any basic service operator on first come first served basis. Allocation of spectrum has been specifically linked with performance obligations required to be fulfilled by the licensees in a phased manner as stipulated in the licence agreement. The spectrum already allocated to an allottee licensee, will revert back for allocation to others on failure of such allottee to fulfill its stipulated rollout obligations and to effectively utilize the allocated spectrum.

(m) Licence fee @ 12%, 10% and 8% of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) shall be payable for A, B and C category service areas respectively. The spectrum charges are payable separately @ 2% of AGR earned from WLL subscribers.

Internet Network

3259. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand internet network during 2002-2003; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the target fixed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has a proposal to expand internet network in the country during the period 2002-2003 with active participation of the private Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

(b) As per the Internet Service Providers (ISPs) policy announced in November, 1998, licence fee upto 31.10.2003 have been waived off and subsequently nominal fee of Rs. 1/- being charged per annum. Till date 468 licences for ISPs have been issued and more than 130 ISPs have started service. The Government has also permitted setting up of international gateways for internet using satellite as well as submarine cable media. Till date 71 ISPs have been permitted to set up international gateways for internet for 256 gateways. The ISPs have also been permitted to sell bandwidth to other ISPs.

Expansion of internet network is based on anticipated demands and business requirement. At present provision of internet connections is on demand, as such fixing of target for the same does not arise.

Shifting of Telephone Connections

3260. SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of application forms for shifting of telephone connections received by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), Delhi during the last six months, exchange-wise;

(b) the number out of them shifted and pending as on July 31, 2001;

(c) the reasons for their pendency; and

(d) the time by which said telephone connections are likely to be shifted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) The details in respect of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) Delhi is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Most of the pending shift cases are due to non-availability of under ground cable pairs. Some cases are pending for want of information from the customers.

(d) All the technically feasible cases will be shifted within one week as per norms. Technically not feasible cases are expected to be shifted by December, 2001.

Statement

Name of exchange	No. of shift applications received	No. of shift requests pending
1	2	3
Central		
Kidwai Bhawan	610	10

1	2	3
Janpath	432	12
Rajpath	458	8
Sena Bhawan	187	10
(RAX)	300	Nil
Jorbagh	611	35
CGO	217	5
Total	2815	80

East Area

Tis Hazari/Lothian Road	655	25
Delhi Gate/Minto Road	526	25
Idgah/Gulabi Bagh	349	26
Total	1530	76

North-I

Shakti Nagar	2533	238
Keshav Puram	416	33
Total	2949	271

North-II

Rohini-I	250	5
Rohini-II	635	15
Outlying	503	15
Total	1388	35

South-I

Bhikaji Cama	1210	—
Haus Khas	1995	62
Chanakypuri	3239	—
Total	6444	62

South-II

Nehru Place	3853	65
Okhla	1574	32
Tughlakabad	402	53
Tehkhand	150	10
Total	5979	160

1	2	3
TY		
Laxmi Nagar	2354	125
Mayur Vihar-I	890	25
Mayur Vihar-II	945	14
Karkarduma	374	29
Shahdara	466	101
Yamuna Vihar	525	13
Total	5854	307

West-I

Shadipur	174	Nil
Janakpuri	702	04
Najafgarh	42	01
Dwarka	362	04
Karol Bagh	691	93
Pankha Road	195	30
Delhi Cantt	423	14
Total	2289	146

West-II

Rajouri Garden	1528	99
Hari Nagar	738	10
Paschim Vihar	692	10
Nangloi	429	25
Khanjawala	25	05
Total	3412	149

Foreign Postings in AI

3261. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether all foreign postings in Air India for certification of aircraft abroad are made strictly in accordance with the norms agreed upon bilaterally between the management and the Air India Aircraft Engineers Association in 1979;

(b) if so, the number of engineers who belong to workman category have been posted abroad for the same jobs during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The average number of aircraft engineers belonging to workmen category who were on posting abroad during the last three years, is as under :-

Year	Number
1998-1999	19
1999-2000	17
2000-2001	17

Medicinal Plants

3262. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have identified medicinal plants in hills and forests of the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

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

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps for protection and development of existing medicinal plants, State-wise;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Plantation of medicinal plants has been declared as one of the Thrust Areas by the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2000-01 and 18 projects for 18 States including Madhya Pradesh have been sanctioned exclusively for raising of medicinal plants on a pilot basis with an outlay of Rs. 854.79 lakhs for treating an area of 5285 ha.

(d) A statement showing the State-wise details is annexed.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of Medicinal Plants Plantation under Non-Timber Forest Produce including Medicinal Plants Scheme during 9th Plan

Financial : Rs. in lakh
Physical : Area in ha.

Sl.No.	States	9th Plan		2000-2001	2001-2002	2001-2002	2001-2002	2001-2002
		Sanctioned	Target	Outlay	Released	Utilised	Outlay	Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75.62	500	27.65	20.00	25.64	47.97	40.00
2.	Assam	41.25	300	23.95	18.00	18.00	17.30	17.30
3.	Bihar	88.15	500	46.30	30.00	NR	41.85	
4.	Goa	27.50	200	10.80	10.80	7.32	16.70	10.00
5.	Gujarat	77.10	400	24.00	16.00	15.73	53.10	40.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	17.24	100	4.14	4.14	4.14	13.10	10.00
7.	Karnataka	76.70	450	55.82	30.00	30.00	20.88	28.00
8.	Kerala	42.00	200	19.00	10.00	6.06	23.00	
9.	Madhya Pradesh	59.70	325	35.00	20.00	NR	24.70	
10.	Maharashtra	73.35	500	63.65	40.00	38.33	9.70	22.00
11.	Manipur	27.10	200	15.04	10.00	NR	12.06	
12.	Meghalaya	24.55	200	14.20	8.00	NR	10.35	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13.	Mizoram	29.45	200	12.65	12.65	NR	16.80	
14.	Nagaland	24.00	200	12.00	12.00	NR	12.00	
15.	Rajasthan	78.65	500	48.90	30.00	35.71	29.75	35.00
16.	Sikkim	37.20	200	16.80	16.80	16.80	20.40	15.00
17.	Tamilnadu	48.90	250	23.50	20.00	0.00	25.40	
18.	Tripura	6.33	60	3.25	3.25	2.33	3.08	2.16
Total		854.79	5285	456.65	311.64	200.06	398.14	219.46

NR – Not received from the State.

Renuka and Kishan Dam

3263. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Renuka Dam and Kishan Dam projects could not be taken up during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to start the projects expeditiously ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) to (c) In the 72nd meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on Irrigation, Flood Control and Multipurpose Project held on 18.1.2000, while Renuka Dam project was cleared subject to certain conditions, the Kishau Dam Project was deferred with the directions to the State Government to fulfil the requirements of clearance of the project inter alia the establishment of the economic viability of the project after appointment of the project cost among irrigation, power and water supply component.

While Renuka Dam Project needs investment clearance from Planning Commission, the Kishau Dam needs both the Techno-economic clearance from TAC, as well as the investment clearance from Planning Commission before the projects are taken up for execution.

These projects are to be executed in accordance with the existing Agreements among the beneficiary States.

Construction of New Runway at Amritsar Airport

3264. SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA :
SHRI R.L. BHATIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct new runway at Amritsar Airport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Amritsar Airport is being upgraded as an international airport. As part of this project, the main runway is proposed to be strengthened and extended from 9150 feet to 10790 feet to facilitate the operation of medium capacity long range wide-bodied aircraft. The work for resurfacing the existing runway, taxi track etc. has been awarded in April, 2001 and is likely to be completed by May, 2003.

Conversion of Postal Department into Non-Banking Financial Company

3265. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert postal department into a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC);

(b) if so, whether any plan has been drawn up for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

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

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

Water Supply and Sanitation Project in Hyderabad

3266. SHRI N.R.K. REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted any Water Supply and Sanitation Project in

Hyderabad for the clearance of the Central Water Commission; and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Project Report of Second Hyderabad Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project was received in Central Water Commission (CWC) in May, 1998. The same was examined and comments of CWC on the inter-state aspects have been sent to State Government in July, 98. The time table for clearance of the project is linked with the promptness with which the State Government can establish water availability for the project considering Inter-State implications.

Use of Modified Bitumen

3267. SHRIMATI RANEE NARAH : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that high quality SBS modified bitumen is specially suited for India where traffic is exceptionally heavy and there is the problem of overloading;

(b) if so, whether any instructions have been issued for the use of this polymer on heavy duty roads of National Highway Network; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) The studies have revealed that polymer modified bitumen provides more durable roads. Out of several types of modified bitumen, SBS modified bitumen is one of them. The relative performance and economics of different types of polymers under variable conditions of traffic, climates etc. are yet to be established.

(b) and (c) This Ministry has issued instructions to use rubber/polymer modified bitumen in at least 10% length of periodical renewal works and bituminous wearing courses on heavily trafficked sections of National Highways.

Pollution by Cement and Refineries Factories

3268. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the places where Cement factories and refineries in public and private sector are polluting environment as on June 30, 2001, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have taken any action in the matter to check such increasing pollution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There are 113 large cement plants and 15 oil refineries in the country. Out of 113 Cement plants, 110 plants have provided the necessary pollution control equipment and three plants are closed. All the 15 refineries have installed the necessary pollution control devices.

(b) and (c) The cement plants and the refineries are periodically monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board and the concerned State Pollution Control Boards to check their emissions and discharge and accordingly legal action is taken if the units are not complying with the prescribed standards.

Post Offices/Sub-Post Offices in Maharashtra

3269. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK :
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE :
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices/sub-post offices in Maharashtra, district-wise;

(b) the number of post offices running in rented buildings in the State;

(c) whether any steps has been taken by the Government for the construction of Government buildings;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) District-wise number of Departmental Post Offices in Maharashtra State is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) 1857 Post Offices are running in rented buildings in Maharashtra State.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Sixteen projects for construction of Post Office buildings have been approved.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Statement

S. No.	Name of District	Hos	DSOs	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Aurangabad	1	46	47
2.	Jalna	1	31	32
3.	Beed	1	33	34
4.	Dhule	1	34	35
5.	Nandurbar		19	19
6.	Nasik	3	93	96
7.	Nanded	1	51	52
8.	Parbhani	1	23	24
9.	Latur	1	29	30
10.	Jalgaon	3	71	74
11.	Osmanabad	1	30	31
12.	Ratnagiri	2	78	80
13.	Kohlapur	3	91	94
14.	Sangli	2	79	81
15.	Sindhudurg	2	56	58
16.	Thane	3	112	115
17.	Raigad	2	64	66
18.	Mumbai	11	250	261
19.	Satara	2	89	91
20.	Solapur	2	91	93
21.	Ahmednagar	2	102	104
22.	Pune	3	209	212
23.	Akola	1	32	33
24.	Amravati	2	52	54
25.	Buldhana	2	36	38
26.	Bhandara	1	18	19
27.	Canrapur	1	35	36
28.	Gadchiroli		15	15
29.	Nagpur	3	112	115
30.	Wardha	1	29	30

1	2	3	4	5
31.	Yeotmal	1	43	44
32.	Hingoli		9	9
33.	Gondia	1	14	15
34.	Washim		15	15
Total		61	2091	2152

HO - Head Offices

DSO - Departmental Sub Office

*[Translation]***Construction on Air Strip at Dehradun**

3270. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct an air strip in Dehradun; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds earmarked for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) There is an airport at Jolly Grant which is situated 25 kms. from Dehradun and managed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI). AAI has plans to further develop this airport by construction of a new terminal building, runway extension and improvement in related infrastructure facilities, subject to acquisition of additional land of 196 acres approximately and diversion of road by the State Government of Uttaranchal.

*[English]***Flowing of River Water of Rajasthan and Punjab to Pakistan**

3271. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that water present in river systems in Punjab and Rajasthan is going silently to Pakistan which is being used by Pakistan in Ishigul Canal;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to dug tubewells to arrest outward flow of water as suggested by the Australian Agency hired by the Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Water flowing to Pakistan is mostly uncontrolled flood waters of rivers Ravi and Sutlej and increased uncontrolled flows observed in recent years through the non-perennial river Ghaggar. Pakistan could perhaps be utilizing these waters through various systems including Ishigul Canal.

(c) and (d) No such proposal has been reported by the State Governments of Punjab and Rajasthan as well as the Central Ground Water Board.

Development of Hyderabad Airport

3272. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has decided to increase the existing runway at the Hyderabad airport to facilitate aircraft for facile and smooth landing and take-off;

(b) if so, the time by which the work on this project is expected to start;

(c) the amount allocated for this purpose during the current year; and

(d) the total cost involved in the extension of runway at Hyderabad airport ?

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

(b) The work is likely to be awarded during current financial year 2001-2002.

(c) The amount allocated for this purpose during the current year is Rs. 1.00 crore which may be increased depending upon the requirement.

(d) The rough cost estimate is Rs. 74 crores approximately.

Permission to Private Airlines for Operation

3273. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to allow private domestic airlines to operate on international routes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have granted NOC's permission to import aircraft; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) No private domestic airline has so far been allowed to operate scheduled flights on international routes.

(c) and (d) No private domestic operator has been given permission to import aircraft for operating on international routes. However during the last two years permission to import aircraft has been given to three scheduled and nineteen non scheduled operators.

Development of Telecom Services

3274. SHRI A. NARENDRA :
SHRI RAJO SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated for the development of telecom and internet services in Uttaranchal and Bihar during each of the last three years and current financial year;

(b) whether the Telecom Circles have completed the work as per the target fixed in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the amount spent for this purpose during the last three years and as on June 30, 2001 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Funds are not allocated separately for the sub-head internet services but are allocated as a whole for development of Telecom services. Uttaranchal BSNL Circle came into existence in Jan. 2001 after bifurcation of UP (West) Circle. The funds allocated to BSNL Circle Uttaranchal are not available separately. However funds allocated to UP(West) Circle and Bihar for the last three years and current financial year in respect of Uttaranchal and Bihar Circle are as under :-

Sl.No.	Year	Funds Allocated	
		UP (West)	Bihar
1.	1998-1999	438.15 Crores	293.16 Crores
2.	1999-2000	529.87 Crores	385.04 Crores
3.	2000-2001	500.44 Crores	665.28 Crores
		Uttaranchal	Bihar
4.	2001-2002	187.35 Crores (Prov. basis)	477.72 Crores (Prov.)

(b) The details of targets assigned and achieved are furnished as under :—

For BSNL Circle Bihar

S. No.	Scheme	Year	Target assigned	Target Achieved
1.	Switching	1998-99	185000	129728
		1999-00	213100	187560
		2000-01	343800	337492
2.	DELS	1998-99	131000	103128
		1999-00	163000	125179
		2000-01	260000	264396
3.	VPTs	1998-99	6000	2137
		1999-00	8000	4602
		2000-01	24651	2276
4.	Internet services	In the year 2000-01, Internet nodes were installed and commissioned in all 14 SSA HQs in Bihar Telecom Services. Internet nodes have been installed in three District HQs of Bihar		

For BSNL Circle Uttranchal

At the time of assignment of targets, Uttranchal Circle had not come up.

(c) The details of amount spent in BSNL Circle Uttranchal are not available separately. However the amount spent by UP(West) and Bihar Circle for the last three years and by Uttranchal and Bihar Circle up to 30.6.2001 is as under :—

Sl.No.	Year	Amount Spent	
		UP (West)	Bihar
1.	1998-1999	334.50 Crores	325.45 Crores
2.	1999-2000	495.62 Crores	390.12 Crores
3.	2000-2001	500.44 Crores*	665.28 Crores*
		Uttranchal	Bihar
4.	2001-2002	3.53 Crores* upto June, 30	65.42 Crores* upto June, 30

* Accounts not yet finalized, however, the amounts have been allocated for incurring of expenditure.

Foreign Direct Investment

3275. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are expecting huge Foreign Direct investment (FDI) in the telecom sector due to attractive terms offered under its liberalised economic reforms policy;

(b) if so, the likely FDI in this sector during the next two years; and

(c) the manner in which this investment is to be helpful in providing better and quick service ?

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

(b) As the FDI inflow in the telecom sector would depend upon many factors like new investment opportunities, growth of the various services, returns from these services etc., it is not possible to assess the likely FDI in the next two years. However, there has been an increase in the FDI inflow during the year 2001. In the first four months of year 2001, the FDI inflow is Rs. 534.6 crores, which is higher than the total FDI received in the year 1999 and 2000.

(c) In order to supplement the Government's effort in providing better and quick telecom services in the country, the Department of Telecommunications has issued licenses for the Basic, Cellular, VSAT, Internet etc. services to the private Indian telecom companies for various telecom circles. These private Indian telecom companies have set up their network at various places and have been providing telecom services. These Indian companies can have foreign direct investment (FDI) as per the FDI guidelines in telecom sector.

Revival of NPCC

3276. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the issue of revival of National Project Construction Corporation (NPCC) is hanging fire for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a large work force is sitting idle without any tangible work;

(d) if so, the total non-plan expenditure incurred during the last three years on this work force;

(e) whether the report prepared by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for revival of NPCC has been received by the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which revival package is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The revival plan was first prepared by a consultant M/s. S.R. Batliboi and Co. in December, 1995 and the matter was under process. Since a long time had elapsed after the submission of the first revival plan by the consultant and also many things had changed in the PSU itself, it was felt that the plan had to be re-evaluated. Accordingly M/s IDBI was entrusted with the task and a revival plan has been submitted by this organization in November 2000.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A large number of personnel is sitting idle for want of work. Details of the non-plan expenditure are as under :-

Year	Non-Plan Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1998-99	750.00
1999-2000	1000.00
2000-2001	2000.00

(e) and (f) The report prepared for the revival of the NPCC, IDBI have suggested various financial and physical measures. The issue of revival or otherwise of the NPCC is linked with several factors like concurrence of the various concerned Departments and availability of funds.

[Translation]

Qualification for Acquiring Commercial Pilot Licence

3277. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the essential qualifications for acquiring commercial pilot licence;

(b) whether all the existing commercial pilots licence holders possess the said qualification;

(c) the number of persons holding commercial pilot licence and the number of persons out of them employed as pilots in various airlines; and

(d) the number of pilots employed in various scheduled and non-scheduled airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Aircraft Rules, 1937, as amended in 1993, prescribe that an applicant for Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL) should have passed class 10+2 or an equivalent examination with physics and mathematics from a recognised Board/University. This requirement regarding

educational qualification came into effect from 01.01.1994. However, those candidates who had got themselves enrolled for flying training before 01.01.1994 with any flying club/institute/school are exempted from the above mentioned educational qualifications.

(c) and (d) The total number of Commercial Pilot Licence (Aeroplane/Helicopter) holders is 4572 till 08.08.2001. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation does not maintain records of employment of pilots.

Encroachment of Land

3278. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large area of land belonging to postal department in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh encroached upon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to vacate such land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Some areas of 16 plots in Bihar and 17 plots in Uttar Pradesh belonging to Postal Department have been encroached upon.

(b) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Assistance of local police/administration/courts has been sought to vacate such land.

Statement

Bihar Circle

Sl.No.	Name of Locality	Name of District
1	2	3
1.	Bihata Bazar	Patna
2.	Sadisopur	Patna
3.	Purandarpur	Patna
4.	Saidabad	Patna
5.	Mahwa	Vaishali
6.	Desari	Vaishali
7.	Bhagalpur city	Bhagalpur
8.	Girahanda	Shekhpora
9.	Audhy	Shekhpora
10.	Dehri-on-sone	Sasaram
11.	Ramgarh	Sasaram
12.	Sikta	W. Champaran

1	2	3
13.	Ramgathwal .	W. Champaran
14.	Motipur	Muzaffarpur
15.	Parsa	Saran
16.	Sakaldih	Saran

Uttar Pradesh Circle

Sl.No.	Name of Locality	Name of District
1.	Manjulika Garden	Saharanpur
2.	Bisharatganj	Bareilly
3.	Mau	Moradabad
4.	Jahangirabad	Barabanki
5.	Sagra	Pratapgarh
6.	Sangipur	Pratapgarh
7.	Dahilamau	Pratapgarh
8.	Zaribazar	Allahabad
9.	Oonjha	Varanasi (W)
10.	Sindhaura	Varanasi (W)
11.	Jawaharvihar	Raebareli
12.	Sector 'O' Aliganj	Lucknow
13.	Mehdawal	Basti
14.	Sarila Estate	Hamirpur
15.	Muskara	Hamirpur

1	2	3
16.	Charkhari	Hamirpur
17.	Bewar	Hamirpur

*[English]***Integrated Forestry Development Project**

3279.SHRI RAJO SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Integrated Forestry Development Project is being implemented in the country particularly in Bihar;

(b) if so, the date on which the project was started and the schedule fixed for its completion, State-wise;

(c) the details of foreign assistance received for this project; and

(d) the area earmarked for this project, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No Integrated Forestry Development Project is under implementation in the State of Bihar. However, ten forestry development projects aided by international donor agencies with an estimated expenditure of Rs. 2800 crores are being implemented in different states.

(b) to (d) The details of these projects i.e. project period, foreign assistance and project area are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement*Externally aided forestry development projects under implementation in different States*

S. No.	Name of the Project	Year of commencement	Year of completion	Foreign assistance (millions)	Project area
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Afforestation and Pasture Development along Indira Gandhi Canal, Rajasthan	1990-91	2001-02	Yen 7869	Along the Indira Gandhi canal
2.	Rajasthan Forestry Project, Rajasthan	1995-96	2001-02	Yen 4219	14 districts of Rajasthan
3.	Gujarat Afforestation and Development Project, Gujarat	1995-96	2001-02	Yen 15760	Whole of Gujarat
4.	Punjab Afforestation Project, Punjab	1997-98	2001-02	Yen 6193	Whole of Punjab
5.	Tamilnadu, Afforestation Project Tamilnadu	1996-97	2001-02	Yen 13324	Whole of Tamilnadu

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Eastern Karnataka Afforestation Project, Karnataka	1996-97	2001-02	Yen 15698	17 districts in eastern Karnataka
7.	U.P. Forestry Project, Uttar Pradesh	1997-98	2001-02	US \$ 52 combined	Whole of Uttar Pradesh
8.	Uttaranchal Forestry Project, Uttaranchal	1997-98	2001-02		Whole of Uttaranchal
9.	Kerala Forestry Project, Kerala	1997-98	2001-02	US \$ 39	Whole of Kerala
10.	Indo-German Changer Ecodevelopment Project	1994-95	2004-05	DM 16 (Deutsche mark)	Changar area of Palampur, Baijnath and Jaisinghpur civil sub divisions in Himachal Pradesh.

Development of Forests in Chhattisgarh

3280. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of forest area of the total geographical area in the State of Chhattisgarh;

(b) the allocation made to Chhattisgarh for the projection and development of forests during 2000-01;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to allocate an additional funds for the purpose as per the decision given by the Supreme Court;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the working plan of Rajanandgaon district is likely to be sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) As per the State of Forest Report, 1999 published by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, 56693 sq.km being 41.93 % of the total geographical area of the State of Chhattishgrah is under forest cover.

(b) In the Annual Plan of 2000-2001 of the erstwhile State of Madhya Pradesh, Rs.5057 lakhs have been approved for the protection and development of forests.

(c) and (d) No specific Order has been given by Hon'ble Supreme Court to allocate additional funds to State of Chattishgarh. However, all possible efforts are made to provide maximum possible funds to the States including State of Chattishgarh for protection and development of forest.

(e) The working plan of Rajanandgaon District has already been approved by the Ministry.

Telephone Services in Orissa

3281. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone services has been disrupted in the flood affected areas of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the telephone services in those areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The services of 47 small exchanges and 3 medium exchanges were disrupted due to flood waters, affecting about 5000 lines.

(c) Restoration of telephone exchanges and routes were done on war footing basis. All the exchanges were restored within 7 days. Now all the exchanges are working satisfactorily.

Status of work at Vijayawada Airport

3282. SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of work on strengthening of runway and construction of new apron and link taxiway for the Vijayawada Airport;

(b) whether the work on the said airport is behind scheduled programme; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The work of strengthening of the runway and construction of a new apron with link taxiway at Vijayawada airport was completed in July, 1999 and the airport is fit for operation of B-737 class of aircraft.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Disinvestment of NALCO

3283. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Aluminium Corporation is in a strong financial position and categorised in the core sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government have recommended partial off loading of its shares and referred the case to Department of Disinvestment; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) is in a strong financial position. Disinvestment Commission in 1998 has considered NALCO as a core sector Company. It has recommended further off loading of 30% of Government equity in NALCO. Government is yet to take a final decision for further disinvestment of the Government equity in NALCO.

Report of Group of Telecom and IT Convergence

3284. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ :
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Group of telecom and IT Convergence has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations made therein; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of the New Telecom Policy-99, it is proposed to prepare a new comprehensive statute to replace the Indian telegraph Act, 1885 keeping in view the rapid convergence of telecom, computer, television and electronics. The matter formed a specific term of reference of the Group on Telecom and IT Convergence setup under the Chairmanship of Finance Minister. The Group appointed a Sub-Group under the chairmanship of eminent jurist Shri Fali S. Nariman, MP for the preparation of the draft of the above said Bill, which inter-alia envisages the establishment of a single autonomous statutory body to be known as the Communications Commission of India to promote, facilitate and develop in an orderly manner the carriage and content of communications (including telecommunications, broadcasting and multimedia), empowered to issue licences and registrations, determine licence and registration fees, tariffs and rates for services, allot spectrum, facilitate competition, protect consumer interests, etc.

The draft Bill is however still under finalisation, and the report of the Group on Telecom and IT Convergence in this regard is awaited.

[Translation]

Employment Opportunities

3285. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number persons targeted to be provided employment during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether it is a fact that employment could not be provided to the people as per the plan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) During 9th Five Year Plan, a growth target of 6.5% p.a. on an average was projected. With this projected growth about 50.22 million employment opportunities were projected for the period 1997-2000.

(b) Estimates of employment are obtained from the Labour Force Surveys carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation. The employment which was of the order of 374.00 million in 1993-94 has gone up to 397.00 million in 1999-2000.

(c) The main reasons is that the economy did not grow as expected. The Government constituted in 1999 a high powered task force under the chairmanship of member Planning Commission to recommend measures for creating the required additional employment opportunities over a ten year period.

[English]

Cold Storage and Cargo Handling at Mumbai Airport

3286. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decision to set up a cold storage and cargo handling facility for export of perishable agroproducts at Mumbai International Airport has since been implemented;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard as on May 31, 2001; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding has

been signed by Airports Authority of India with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) for construction and operationalisation of a State-of-the Art Centre for Perishable Cargo facility at Mumbai airport. AAI has provided land measuring 2484 sq. metres. M/s APEDA has awarded the Contract for design, supply, installation and Commissioning of the facility on 27.2.2001. As the Centre is to be built on the site on which perishable cargo is presently being processed for export, construction work will start after the operations are shifted to an interim facility which is likely to be ready by 1st September, 2001.

**Introduction of Airbus 300/320 Aircraft
on Delhi-Raipur-Nagpur-Delhi Route**

3287. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal is under consideration of the Government to introduce Airbus 300/320 aircraft in place of Boeing 737 aircraft on Delhi-Raipur-Nagpur-Delhi route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The A-320 aircraft at present in the fleet of Indian Airlines is fully committed in the operation of services in the existing schedule. Indian Airlines is, therefore, not in a position to introduce A-320 aircraft on Delhi-Raipur-Nagpur-Delhi route. After the addition of capacity of Indian Airlines Ltd. by way of leased aircraft, this decision will be reviewed depending, of course, on commercial viability etc.

National Sports Development Fund

3288. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Sports Development Fund was created by the Government with a view to mobilizing resources from Government as well as other Non-Governmental sources for promotion of sports and games;

(b) the total amount contributed and received from the different sources for this Fund during the year 1998-99;

(c) the total amount at present in this Fund;

(d) the details of total funds utilised for developing the sports in the country so far;

(e) whether any report from the State Governments have been received as to how this fund has been utilised by them; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During 1998-99, the Government made initial contribution of Rs. 200 lakhs as seed money.

(c) At present, the total amount in this fund is Rs. 5,37,79,242 including interest accrued on fixed deposits.

(d) So far no assistance has been given from the Fund.

(e) and (f) As per the provisions of the Scheme of NSDF, the assistance from the Fund is to be decided by the Executive Committee of NSDF on the basis of applications received from the eligible organizations and individuals. Since, no financial assistance has been given from the Fund so far, the question of its utilisation by State Governments does not arise.

**Closing of Polluting Industries
and Units**

3289. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether many of the Sago industries and Dye Units in Tamil Nadu had to be closed due to High Court orders for lack of proper facilities of effluent treatment;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to provide assistance for setting up modern effluent treatment plants in such industries;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Privatisation of Water Resources

3290. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHARY :
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Centre Privatising Water" appearing in the Statesman dated May 27, 2001;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government's draft on national water policy is encouraging privatisation of various water resources in the country; and

(c) if so, the facts and the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The existing National Water Policy, which was adopted in 1987, is presently under revision/update. The updated draft National Water Policy proposes that "private sector participation should be encouraged in the various aspects of planning, development and management of the water resources projects for diverse uses, wherever feasible. Private sector participation may help in introducing innovative ideas, generating financial resources and introducing corporate management in improving service efficiency and accountability to users. Depending upon the specific situations, various combinations of private sector participation, in building, owning, operating, leasing and transferring of water resources facilities, may be considered." However, the updated draft National Water Policy, as currently under consideration, will need to be considered by the National Water Resources Council for its approval.

Share Capital of Air India

3291. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the share capital of Air India at present;
- (b) the name of the authority which holds equity capital of Air India;
- (c) the net worth of Air India;
- (d) the name of the authority which absorbs the loss of Air India; and
- (e) the manner in which Air India has built up its assets ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The authorised share capital of Air India is

425,636,820 equity shares of Rs. 10/- each and 7,436,318 redeemable preference shares of Rs. 100/- each. The issued subscribed and paid-up capital as on 31st March, 2000 was 153,836,427 equity shares of Rs. 10/- each, fully paid-up amounting to Rs. 1538.4 million.

(b) The entire equity capital of Air India is held by the Government of India.

(c) The net worth of Air India as on 31.03.2000 was Rs. 401.97 crore.

(d) The losses, if any, are borne by the Company.

(e) Air India's assets have been built up through cash surplus generated by the airlines over the years. Debt servicing of loans taken for acquisition of assets have also been made out of internal resources generated.

Irrigation Projects of Orissa

3292. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a number of irrigation projects of Orissa are pending clearance;
- (b) if so, the details of such projects; and
- (c) the time by which the same are likely to be given clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) 22 Nos. irrigation projects have been received from the Government of Orissa, out of which 17 Nos. have already been accepted by the Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources, subject to certain observations. Remaining 5 Nos. of irrigation projects are in different stages of appraisal. The details of these projects are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) Clearance of projects depends inter-alia upon the compliance of the observations of various central appraising agencies by the State Government.

Statement

Appraisal Status of Irrigation Projects of Orissa

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Crore)	Benefits in Thousands Hectares	Districts benefited	Status
1	2	3	4	6	7
1.	Ib Irrigation Project (Major)	966.03	115	Sundergarh	A
2.	Imp. Of Taladanda Main Canal and Distributory No. 12 (Major)	57.06	13.24	Cuttack Jagatsingpur	A

1	2	3	4	6	7
3.	Drainage Development (Phase-I) in Mahanadi Delta St-I and II (Major)	227.75	47.80	Cuttack, Puri	A
4.	Turi Guntat Irrigation Project (Medium)	53.96	9.14	Nowrangpur	A
5.	Mahendranaya Irrigation Project (Medium)	68.96	7.940	Gajapati	A
6.	Anandpur Barrage Project (Major)	482.26	69.12	Keonjar, Bhadrak, Balasore	B
7.	Ong Dam Project (Major)	304.66	34.50	Baragarh	B
8.	Kanupur Irrigation project (Major)	428.32	47.71	Keonjar	B
9.	Brutang (Major)	227.25	31	Nayagarh	B
10.	Upper Indravati Ext. Project (Major)	136.67	41.79	Kalahandi	B
11.	Upper Kolab Extension Project (Major)	71.66	19.28	Koraput, Nowrangpur	B
12.	Imp. To Sason Canal System of Hirakud Distribution System (Major)	34.92	16.28	Sambalpur, Bolangir	B
13.	Imp. Of Salki Irri. Project (Major)	10.80	19.89	Boudh	B
14.	Manjore (Medium)	37.70	10.43	Dhenkanal	B
15.	Telangir (Medium)	106.19	13.83	Koraput	B
16.	Rukura (Medium)	15.15	7.65	Sundargarh	B
17.	Dhauragoth (Medium)	16.80	3.01	Dhenkanal	B
18.	Ret (Medium)	86.14	9.78	Kalahandi	B
19.	Upper Lanth (Medium)	48.99	6.11	Bolangir	B
20.	Samakoi (Medium)	43.85	10.89	Angul	B
21.	Cheligada (Medium)	52.96	3.12	Gajapati	B
22.	Hadua Irrigation Project (Medium)	61.48	5.73	Cuttack	B

Status : (A) Under Correspondence

(B) Accepted by Advisory Committee subject to certain observations.

Lead Mine at Agnigundala

3293. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) operates a lead mine at Agnigundala in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether this mine has been working for the last so many years;

(c) if so, the estimated reserves of the mine as on date;

(d) whether any value of this mine has been assessed;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any foreign party has been invited to jointly exploit this mine; and

(g) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (e) Hindustan Zinc Limited has been operating a lead mine at Agnigundala, District-Guntur, Andhra Pradesh since 1978. As on 1.4.2001, the estimated ore reserves of the mine are 1.545 million tonnes out of which 1.350 million tonnes are exploitable, 0.078 million tonnes are in possible category and 0.117 million tonnes are blocked in pillar. The cost of lead concentrate produced from the mine is 60% more than the cost of imported lead concentrate.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Kakkadavu Dam

3294. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the agitation against the construction of Kakkadavu Dam in district Kasanagod of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to intervene and resolve the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) to (d) Union Government has not received any project report for Kakkadavu Dam for techno-economic appraisal. Irrigation being a State subject, the concerned State Governments are primarily responsible for planning, funding and execution etc. of all types of irrigation projects/schemes including flood control and drainage from their own resources and as per their own priorities.

Construction of Fourth Bridge over Brahmaputra

3295. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of the fourth bridge over the Brahmaputra has not yet been started;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the said work is likely to be commenced and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways is the Nodal Ministry for this project. This project was included in the budget 1997-1998 of Ministry of Railways. They have completed final location survey with detailed investigation for the bridge and approaches. However, the actual work on this project will be taken up after obtaining requisite clearances for which necessary action has already been initiated by Ministry of Railways.

(c) No target date for completion of this project has yet been fixed. The completion of this work would depend upon availability of resources.

[Translation]

Pending Cases in Labour Courts of Jharkhand

3296. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of labour disputes pending in the labour courts and High Court in Jharkhand at present, district-wise;

(b) whether there has been a constant increase in the pending cases during the previous decade; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken to fill up the vacant posts of Judges and to ensure the speedy disposal of the pending cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Water Treaty with Pakistan

3297. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per Water Treaty, 1960 with Pakistan, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir cannot undertake construction work of any project over Sindhu, Jhelam and Chenab rivers for utilization of water of these rivers;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Jammu and Kashmir for construction of projects over the said rivers;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government propose to negotiate with Pakistan in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir can undertake construction works of projects on the rivers Indus (Sindhu), Chenab, Jhelum and their tributaries for utilization of their waters within the ambit of the Indus Waters Treaty 1960.

(b) The Treaty provides for the following uses of the waters of the aforesaid rivers by India :

(1) Domestic Use;

(2) Non-Consumptive Use;

- (3) Agricultural Use to the extent of 7,01,000 acres over and above the cropped area irrigated as on the Effective Date (1.4.1960) and the irrigation from Ranbir and Pratap Canals;
- (4) Generation of hydro-electric power from Run-of-River Plants and Small Plants; and
- (5) Storage to the extent of 3.6 million acre-feet.
- (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Union Government have received proposals for the construction of 28 Hydel Projects, 43 Irrigation Schemes and a Navigation Scheme from the State over the said rivers and some of these projects have already been completed.

(e) and (f) Requisite information under the provisions of the Treaty are being communicated to Pakistan. Issues thereof, raised by Pakistan, are also being discussed between the two Governments, wherever necessary.

[English]

Issue of Bond by DTS

3298. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Department of Telecom Services (DTSs) had planned to issue Bond of several crores during the year 2000-2001;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount earned as a result thereof;
- (d) the manner in which the said amount is likely to be spent;
- (e) whether the Government propose to invest proportionately more funds in increasing the cellular telephones through the DTS;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether any cost-effective study has been made regarding continuous dependence on fixed technology; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) DTS had planned to raise Rs. 2152 crores through bonds but did not issue any bond, as DTS was

corporatised as Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) w.e.f. 1.10.2000.

(c) An amount of Rs. 510 crores was raised by BSNL in March 2001 through bonds.

(d) The amount was utilised for augmentation of telecom services.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) During 2000-2001 BSNL initiated the process of introducing Cellular Services as a third operator in the form of Pilot Project. C-DOT was entrusted the execution of the project on a turnkey basis at a cost of Rs. 43.8 crores including installation and commissioning. Rs. 780 crores has been budgetted in 2001-02 for introducing GSM Cellular Mobile Service by BSNL.

(g) and (h) The assessment of cost and returns on investment is a continuous process, which is carried out before introduction of new technology option as and when they become commercially available. Recently BSNL has decided to introduce WLL and GSM Cellular Mobile Services in addition to fixed telephone services.

Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve

3299. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have set up Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government of Uttranchal proposed to remove all restriction for attracting tourists; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Nanda Devi Area was designated as Biosphere Reserve on 4.2.1998 comprising a geographical area of 2,236.74 sq. km. out of which 624.26 sq. km. comprising Nanda Devi National Park was designated as core zone. The area of the reserve was extended on 7.2.2000 to 5,860.69 sq. km. by adding parts of contiguous areas of Valley of Flowers, Malari and Sunderdhunga. The core Zone was also extended to 712.12 sq. km. by including Valley of Flowers National Park in the core zone. As per guidelines issued by the Central Government, the core zone is to be kept free from all human pressures external to the system. Alternate livelihood options are supported for local inhabitants. The Biosphere Reserve was designated to facilitate long term protection of a representative site of Himalayan high lands biogeographic province through conservation, development and logistic support.

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

Cleaning of Yamuna

3300. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY :
 SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Government of Delhi has expressed its helplessness over cleaning of river Yamuna due to shortage of funds;

(b) if so, the details of funds demanded and provided by the Union Government during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide additional funds to the State Government as required to take up the job; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Government of National Capital Territory have in a letter indicated a requirement of Rs. 1750 crore for various works aimed at cleaning of river Yamuna in Delhi. The works proposed are as under :

S.No.	Works Proposed	Estimated Cost
1.	Construction of new STPs	Rs. 500 crore
2.	Upgradation of existing STPs to cater for better parameters of BOD, TSS and coliform abatement	Rs. 400 crore
3.	Laying of new sewers, rising mains and pumping stations	Rs. 280 crore
4.	De-silting and rehabilitation of trunk sewers	Rs. 275 crore
5.	Replacement of undersized sewers	Rs. 145 crore
6.	Laying of internal sewers in unauthorised regularised colonies, resettlement colonies and urban villages	Rs. 150 crore

Under the scheme of 'Yamuna Action Plan', Government have approved 3 projects for Delhi at a total cost of Rs. 15.94 crore. These projects include two sewage treatment plants, each of 10 million litres per day capacity, and one electric crematorium. The sewage treatment plants have been constructed and are running satisfactorily at Sen Nursing Home drain and Delhi Gate drain. The electric crematorium is under construction at Sarai Kale Khan.

In addition, under a separate scheme of short gestation of 'Yamuna Action Plan - Extended Phase', pollution abatement works amounting to Rs. 166.62 crore have been approved for Delhi. This scheme mainly covers construction of 1146 community toilet complexes at a cost of Rs. 151.42 crore, construction of 5 mini sewage treatment plants at a cost of Rs. 8.31 crore and equipments for septic tank cleaning at a cost of Rs. 2.89 crore.

The grants released by Government to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi including the Municipal Corporation of Delhi during the last three years and in the current year for the schemes referred to above are as below :-

Year	Grants Released (Rs. in crore)
1998-99	2.00
1999-2000	1.25
2000-2001	0.68
2001-2002	22.00
Total	25.93

(c) and (d) The requirement for additional funds are considered from time to time subject to financial constraints.

[Translation]

Irrigation through Ground Water

3301. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any data pertaining to irrigation through ground water and surface resources like dams and rivers in the country;

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

(c) whether it has led to fall in the ground water level; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) State-wise details of creation of irrigation potential vis-a-vis ultimate irrigation potential through surface and ground water sources are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(c) and (d) The long-term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown a situation of fall in the level of ground water in certain parts of the country. The names of the districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1981-2000) has been observed in different States is given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise Ultimate Irrigation Potential and Created Irrigation Potential (in Thousands Hectares)

Sl No.	Name of States/ UTs	Ultimate Irrigation Potential (UIP)				Potential Created (IPC) upto 1996-97 (End of VIII Plan)				IPC as of UIP		
		Major and Medium	Surface	Minor Ground	Total	Grand Total	Major and Medium	Surface	Minor Ground	Total	Grand Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.1.	Andhra Pradesh	5000.00	2300.00	3960.00	6260.00	11260.00	3045.10	1223.87	1678.00	2901.87	5946.97	52.82
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	150.00	18.00	168.00	168.00	0.00	81.42	2.00	83.42	83.42	49.65
3.	Assam	970.00	1000.00	900.00	1900.00	2870.00	196.67	392.76	200.00	592.76	789.43	27.51
4.	Bihar	6500.00	1900.00	4947.00	6847.00	13347.00	2802.50	743.24	4365.00	5108.24	7910.74	59.27
5.	Goa	62.00	25.00	29.00	54.00	116.00	13.02	18.52	2.00	20.52	33.54	28.91
6.	Gujarat	3000.00	347.00	2756.00	3103.00	6103.00	1350.00	145.30	1790.00	1935.30	3285.30	53.83
7.	Haryana	3000.00	50.00	1462.00	1512.00	4512.00	2078.79	32.77	1544.00	1576.77	3655.56	81.02
8.	Himachal Pradesh	50.00	235.00	68.00	303.00	353.00	10.55	134.38	16.00	150.38	160.93	45.59
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	250.00	400.00	708.00	1108.00	1358.00	173.70	364.62	10.00	374.62	548.32	40.38
10.	Karnataka	2500.00	900.00	2574.00	3474.00	5974.00	1666.02	743.01	788.00	1531.01	3197.03	53.52
11.	Kerala	1000.00	800.00	879.00	1679.00	2679.00	513.31	431.12	142.00	573.12	1086.43	40.55
12.	Madhya Pradesh	6000.00	2200.00	9732.00	11932.00	17932.00	2317.60	1142.52	1515.00	2657.52	4975.12	27.74
13.	Maharashtra	4100.00	1200.00	3632.00	4852.00	8952.00	2313.00	984.20	1635.00	2619.20	4932.20	55.10
14.	Manipur	135.00	100.00	369.00	469.00	604.00	63.00	59.39	1.00	60.39	123.39	20.43
15.	Meghalaya	20.00	85.00	63.00	148.00	168.00	0.00	36.55	9.00	45.55	45.55	27.11
16.	Mizoram	0.00	70.00	0.00	70.00	70.00	0.00	12.73	0.00	12.73	12.73	18.19
17.	Nagaland	10.00	75.00	0.00	75.00	85.00	0.00	66.24	1.00	67.24	67.24	79.11
18.	Orissa	3600.00	1000.00	4203.00	5203.00	8803.00	1557.75	656.47	701.00	1357.47	2915.22	33.12
19.	Punjab	3000.00	50.00	2917.00	2967.00	5967.00	2512.85	829.83	3384.00	3354.17	5867.02	98.32
20.	Rajasthan	2750.00	600.00	1778.00	2378.00	5128.00	2273.88	372.24	3049.00	2421.24	4695.12	91.56

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
21. Sikkim		20.00	50.00	0.00	50.00	70.00	0.00	26.23	0.00	26.23	26.23	37.47
22. Tamil Nadu		1500.00	1200.00	2832.00	4032.00	5532.00	1545.51	800.22	1315.00	2115.22	3660.73	66.17
23. Tripura		100.00	100.00	81.00	181.00	281.00	2.30	71.58	21.00	92.58	94.88	33.77
24. Uttar Pradesh		12500.00	1200.00	16799.00	17999.00	30499.00	7059.00	961.00	22634.00	23595.00	30654.00	100.51
25. West Bengal		2300.00	1300.00	3318.00	4618.00	6918.00	1444.08	1356.37	1861.00	3217.37	4661.45	67.38
Total States		58367.00	17337.00	64045.00	81382.00	139749.00	32938.63	10826.92	45663.00	56489.92	89428.55	63.99
Total UTs		98.00	41.00	5.00	46.00	144.00	18.51	48.91	63.00	111.91	130.42	90.57
Grand Total		58465.00	17378.00	64050.00	81428.00	139893.00	32957.14	10875.83	45726.00	56601.83	89558.97	64.02

Statement-II

Name of the State/UT/District having Pockets with fall in Ground Water Level of more than 4 metre (1981-2000)

State	Fall in Water Level
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad, Ananthapur, Chittoor, Chuddapah, East Godavari, Guntur, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Mahabubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nellore, Nizamabad, Prakasam, Rangareddi, Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Warangal, West Godavari.
Bihar (including Jharkhand)	Dhanbad, Purb Singhbhum, Darbhanga
Chhattisgarh	Bastar, Bilaspur, Durg, Raigarh, Raipur, Rajnandgaon, Satna, Sidhi.
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Amreli, Banaskantha, Bharuch, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kheda, Kutch, Mehsana, Rajkot, Surat, Surendranagar.
Haryana	Ambala, Bhiwani, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Hissar, Jind, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Mahendergarh, Panipat, Rewari, Rohtak, Sonapat, Yamunanagar.
Karnataka	Bangalore (Rural), Bellary, Belgaum, Bidar, Bagalkot, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Devangiri, Dharwar, Gadag, Gulbarga, Haveri, Hassan, Kolar, Mysore, Chamarajanagar, Raichur, Shimoga, Kapat, Tumkur, Uttara Kannada.
Madhya Pradesh	Betul, Bhind, Chhatarpur, Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dewas, Dhar, Guna, Gwalior, Indore, Jabalpur, Katni, Khandawa, Khargone, Mandsaur, Morena, Narsingpur, Neemuch, Panna, Raisen, Raigarh, Ratlam, Sagar, Sehore, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Ujjain, Vidisha.
Maharashtra	Ahmednagar, Akola, Beed, Bombay, Dhule, Gadchiroli, Kolhapur, Nanded, Nashik, Osmanabad, Amravati, Auranagabad, Bhandara, Buldhana, Chandrapur, Jalgaon, Jalna, Latur, Nagpur, Parbhani, Pune, Ratnagiri, Sangli Sindhudurg, Thane, Satara, Solapur, Wardha, Yavatmal.
Orissa	Angul, Balasore, Bargarh, Bolangir, Dhenkanal, Gajapati, Ganjam, Jaipur, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khurda, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanja, Nawapara, Nawarangpur, Sundargarh, Suvarnapur.
Punjab	Amritsar, Bathinda, Fatehgarh, Firozepur, Jalandhar, Kapurthala, Ludhiana, Moga, Nawan Shehar, Patiala, Ropar, Sangrur.
Rajasthan	Ajmer, Alwar, Bhilwara, Dungarpur, Ganganagar, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Rajsamand, Sikar, Udaipur.
Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore, Cuddalore, Dharmapuri, Kancheepuram, Kanyakumari, Madras, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Tanjavur, Theni, Tirunelveli, Thiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Thiruvarur, Tuticorin.
Uttar Pradesh (including Uttaranchal)	Agra, Aligarh, Allahabad, Budaun, Bijnor, Bulandshahar, Etah, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Fatehpur, Ghaziabad, Hardoi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Mathura, Meerut, Morabad, Rai Bareilly, Saharanpur, Unnao.
West Bengal	Bankura, Bardhaman, Medinipur, N-24 Parganas, Purulia.
NCT of Delhi	Mehrauli, Najafgarh and City block.
Pondicherry	Pondicherry

[English]

Upgradation of Passenger facilities at Airports

3302. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) had prepared an extensive perspective plan for the upgradation of passenger facilities at various airports.

(b) if so, the details thereof along-with the estimated cost, airports-wise;

(c) whether the private parties are also proposed to be involved in this work;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Upgradation of passenger facilities at airports is a continuous process and is undertaken depending upon requirements of passenger traffic and also change in the technology of the various equipments. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has plans for construction of new terminal buildings, expansion of terminal buildings and provision of Canopy on the city site of terminals at the following airports (estimated cost in crores of Rupees for respective airports indicated within bracket) :- Jaipur (10.00), Trichy (25.00), Madurai (20.00), Coimbatore (20.00), Vijayawada (15.00), Rajahmundry (2.00) Vizag (15.00), Dibrugarh (20.00), Gaya (10.00), Varanasi (45.00), Khajuraho (10.00), Udaipur (15.00), Jabalpur (10.00), Kullu (10.00), Kangra (16.96), Porbandar (9.00), Dehradun (10.00), Aurangabad (10.00) Calicut (15.00), Managlore (10.00), Ahmedabad (40.00), Bangalore (10.00), Srinagar (20.00).

The Flight Information Display Systems are proposed at the following airports :-

Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Thiruvananthapuram, Calicut, Manglore, Bagdogra, Agartala, Madurai, Vizag, Coimbatore and Trichy.

Total provision for the above work is Rs. 10.74 Crores.

(c) and (d) The work for upgrading passenger facilities is generally undertaken by way of call of tenders in which private parties can also participate.

(e) Does not, arise.

[Translation]

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

3303. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has been proved to be failure in removing the technical problems as reported in the 'Dainik Jagran' dated June 1, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the MTNL thereto ?

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

(b) The announcements such as 'Number has changed' 'Dialed number does not exist' etc. are fed to the called party to apprise him about the correct status of desired telephone numbers.

(c) The factual status in regard to reported telephone numbers in the news item of Dainik Jagran of June 1, 2001 is as under :

(i) Telephone No. 7535147 : Level 753 was changed to level 363 on 09.05.2001 and as such computerised announcement 'Number has changed' was provided on this level to avoid inconvenience to Telephone Customers. However, the changed telephone number i.e. 3635147 was lying disconnected due to non-payment of telephone bills at that time and, therefore the announcement "This number does not exist" was being received on the line.

(ii) Telephone No. 6993594 and 6990404 : The level 699 was changed to 609 in March, 2000. Accordingly, the computerised announcement. "This number has changed" was correctly provided for this level of telephone number.

[English]

Post/Telegraph Facility in Villages

3304. SHRI J.S. BRAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages which have both post office and telegraph office facilities and the number of villages having only post office facility in the country;

(b) the number of villages having no post office facility as on date; and

(c) the time by which these villages are likely to be provided with the said facility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) All the villages are provided with facility of delivery and collection of mail. Sale of stamps and stationery is also done through delivery agents when they go out for delivery in those areas where there is no Post Office.

There are 135678 villages with Post Offices.

There are 34908 villages, which have telegraph office facility in the country.

(c) Post Offices are opened on norm based justification subject to availability of resources.

Inchampalli and Pochampalli Projects

3305. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Union Government to take up "Inchampalli and Pochampalli" projects as National Projects;

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

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought the clearance of Godavari Irrigation Projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) There is no proposal to declare any such irrigation/multipurpose project as a National Project.

(c) and (d) Out of 8 medium projects in Godavari basin, 7 nos. Projects namely Palemvagu, Yerravagu, Suddavagu, Peddavagu, Surampalem Phase-II, Bhupatipalem, Surampalem Reservoir have been accepted by Technical Advisory Committee subject to certain observations. In respect of Kovvadakalva Medium Irrigation Project, State Government has been advised to accord investment clearance at their level since the project does not involve Inter-State issues.

Quality of Service by ESI Scheme

3306. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have constituted any committee to look into the various quality of medical services under ESI scheme;

(b) if so, whether said committee has submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the further action taken by the Government on the basis of recommendations of the committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The Committee appointed by the Government under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sathyam has submitted its report to the Government in January, 1999. The recommendations of the Sathyam Committee are in the process of implementation at both ESIC and State Government level.

Construction of Over/Under Bridges in A.P.

3307. SHRI K.E. KRISHNAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

the details of Road Over Bridges and Road Under Bridges are proposed to be constructed in the current financial year 2001-2002 in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : Land acquisition for one Road Over Bridge at km 19/8 of Kathipudi-Pamaru Section of National Highway No. 214 is included in the Annual Plan 2001-2002 for Andhra Pradesh.

[Translation]

Construction of New National Highways in U.P.

3308. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which construction work of the New National Highways as announced by the Government during the last few months is going to be started;

(b) whether the main cities of Uttar Pradesh are proposed to be linked with New National Highways; and

(c) if so, the time by which the construction work of the National Highways is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) Development of National Highways is a continuous process and is being taken up

based on condition of pavement, traffic needs, inter-se-priority and availability of funds. By and large the main cities of Uttar Pradesh are connected by National Highways.

**Help Provided by Airlines to
Earthquake Victims**

3309. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the role played by the airlines in providing help to the people affected by the earthquake in Gujarat;

(b) the number of details of aircraft of the airlines alongwith the details of the areas of Gujarat State where they operated flights for transporting relief material etc.;

(c) the time period during which shuttle service operated on Bhuj-Ahmedabad-Bhuj route; and

(d) the details of additional Burden/cost shouldered/ borne by the airlines in transporting earthquake relief material in the Gujarat State ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Indian Airlines operated 184 additional flights and uplifted 775 tonnes of relief material from 26th January to 14th February, 2001. Air India handled 56 flights carrying relief material at Mumbai and Delhi airports and received 376.875 tonnes of relief material from abroad from 26th January to 22nd February, 2001. In addition, 173 relief flights including 126 international flights were operated to and from Ahmedabad and Bhuj airports upto 22nd February, 2001 to carry out relief operations in the aftermath of devastating earthquake in Gujarat. Indian Airlines had issued instructions for acceptance of gratis relief material for quake victims. Air India had offered to transport relief material free of cost from various points to India. Jet Airways incurred an additional expense of around Rs. 39 lacs towards their 7 additional flights for transporting earthquake relief material. Airports Authority of India have waived off all airport charges to all domestic/international flights operated exclusively for relief operation and also waived off charges of cargo/terminal handling upto 28th February, 2001.

Disputes on Sharing of River Water

3310. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of river water disputes settled during the last three years;

(b) the number and names of river water disputes which are going on for the last more than five years; and

(c) the names of States experiencing shortage of water following non-settlement of disputes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) No river water disputes has been settled during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Ravi and Beas Water Disputes between the States of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan and Cauvery Water disputes between the States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and UT of Pondicherry had been referred to the Tribunals under the provisions of Inter State Water Disputes (ISWD) Act, 1956 in April, 1986 and June, 1990 respectively. The Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal has submitted their first report in January, 1987. The Central Government and party States have sought explanations/ guidance from the Tribunal under the Section 5 (3) of the ISWD Act, 1956. The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal has passed an Interim Order on June 25, 1991.

**Post Offices/Branch Post Offices in
Madhya Pradesh**

3311. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of sub post offices/branch post offices set up in various States during the last three years; and

(b) the details of sub post offices/branch post offices proposed to be set up in the States during 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) (a) The number of Sub Post Offices and Branch Post Offices setup during the last three years in various Circles is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) A target for opening of 500 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 50 Departmental Sub Offices has been fixed for the year 2001-2002, as per circle-wise details given in the enclosed Statement-II. Subject to fulfillment of norms and availability of resources, post offices will be opened/upgraded bearing in mind the targets allotted.

Statement-I*Circlewise number of Post Offices opened during the last three years*

S.No.	Circles	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001	
		Bos	DSOs	Bos	DSOs	Bos	DSOs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	2	4	3	6	2
2.	Assam	54	5	24	7	30	3
3.	Bihar	72	2	51	Nil	70	1
4.	Chhattisgarh					25	1
5.	Delhi	4	2	4	2	4	2
6.	Gujarat	31	2	28	2	8	4
7.	Haryana	13	3	12	1	2	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7	1	2	1	2	1
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	23	1	14	1	5	1
10.	Jharkhand					Nil	1
11.	Karnataka	12	4	21	3	21	2
12.	Kerala	12	3	4	2	4	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	50	5	40	4	15	3
14.	Maharashtra	69	3	50	3	60	7
15.	North East	54	3	19	3	3	3
16.	Orissa	10	2	14	2	10	2
17.	Punjab	12	2	9	1	12	2
18.	Rajasthan	30	1	24	1	20	2
19.	Tamil Nadu	10	2	15	2	15	2
20.	Uttar Pradesh	82	3	10	2	45	Nil
21.	Uttanchal					6	1
22.	West Bengal	43	4	41	9	Nil	10
Total		598	50	386	49	363	52

DSOs – Departmental Sub Offices

BOs – Extra Departmental Branch Offices

Statement-II*Physical Targets for Opening of Post Offices
for the Plan Year 2001-2002*

S.No.	Circle	EDBOs	DSOs
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	1

1	2	3	4
2.	Assam	35	2
3.	Bihar	60	5
4.	Chattisgarh	25	1
5.	Delhi	2	2
6.	Gujarat	20	3

1	2	3	4
7. Haryana	2	1	
8. Himachal Pradesh	5	1	
9. Jammu and Kashmir	13	1	
10. Jharkhand	30	2	
11. Karnataka	20	2	
12. Kerala	2	1	
13. Madhya Pradesh	21	3	
14. Maharashtra	70	7	
15. North East	35	2	
16. Orissa	14	2	
17. Punjab	6	2	
18. Rajasthan	20	2	
19. Tamil Nadu	5	2	
20. Uttar Pradesh	45	2	
21. Uttaranchal	25	1	
22. West Bengal	30	5	
Total	500	50	

EDBOs – Extra Departmental Branch Offices

DSOs – Departmental Sub Offices

Rules for Construction of National Highway

3312.DR. M.P. JAISWAL :
RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the rules laid down for construction of National Highway; and

(b) the number of National Highways constructed during the last three years, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) The Central Government does not normally construct new National Highways. It takes over suitable State roads and converts these to National Highways based on the criteria laid down for the purpose as given in enclosed Statement-I.

(b) A Statement-II giving details of National Highways declared during the last 3 years (1.4.1998 to 31.3.2001) is enclosed.

Statement-I

The criteria for the declaration of State road into National Highway is as under :-

- (i) Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country.
- (ii) Roads connecting adjacent countries.
- (iii) Roads connecting the National Capital with State capital and roads connecting mutually the State capitals.
- (iv) Roads connecting major ports, large industrial centres or tourist centres.
- (v) Roads meeting very important strategic requirements.
- (vi) Arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby.
- (vii) Roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions.
- (viii) National Highway grid of 100 Km is achieved.
- (ix) The road must be up to the standard laid down for State Highways – both in its technical requirements as well as the land requirements.
- (x) The road and right of way must be free of any type of encroachment and should be the property of the State.
- (xi) The right of way required for the National Highway (preferably 45m, minimum 30m) must be available for acquiring, free of encroachment and the State Government would complete acquiring formalities within six months.

NB : Declaration of National Highways is considered on the basis of requirements of the country as a whole and not particularly with respect to any local requirement.

Statement-II

List of National Highways declared during the last three years (1st April, 1998 to 31st March, 2001)

Sl.No.	Name of State	National Highway No.
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	202, 205, 214, 219, and Extn. of 9

1	2	3
2. Arunachal Pradesh	153	
3. Assam	151, 152, 153, 154 and Extn. of 54	
4. Bihar	30A, 77, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106 and 107	
5. Chandigarh	Nil	
6. Chhattisgarh	12A, 78, 200, 202, 216 and 217	
7. Delhi	Nil	
8. Goa	Nil	
9. Gujarat	8A, 8D and 8E	
10. Haryana	21A, 71, 71A, 72, 73 and Extn. of 64	
11. Himachal Pradesh	21A, 70, 72 and 88	
12. Jammu and Kashmir	IC and Extn. of 1B	
13. Jharkhand	75, 78, 80, 98, 99 and 100	
14. Karnataka	Extn. of NH-13, 206, 207, 209, 212 and 218	
15. Kerala	208, 212, 213, 220	
16. Madhya Pradesh	59A, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 79, 86, Extn. of 86 and 92.	
17. Maharashtra	204 and 211	
18. Manipur	150	
19. Meghalaya	Extn. of 62, Extn. of 40	
20. Mizoram	44A, 150 and 154	
21. Nagaland	150	
22. Orissa	200, 201, 203, 215 and 217	
23. Pondicherry	Extn. of 45A	
24. Punjab	Extn. of 64, 70, 71, 72 and 95	
25. Rajasthan	76, 79, 89, 65, and 90	
26. Sikkim	Nil	
27. Tamil Nadu	Extn. of 45A, 45B, Extn. of 67, 205, 207, 208, 209, 210, 219 and 220	
28. Tripura	44A	

1	2	3
29. Uttar Pradesh	2A, 24A, 25, 25A, 56A, 56B, 72, 73, 74, 75, Extn. of 75, 76, 86, 87, 91, 92, 93, 96 and 9	
30. Uttaranchal	58, 72, 73, 74, 87 and 94	
31. West Bengal	Extn. of 60, 80 and 81	

[English]

Construction of NH-60

3313. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to construct National Highway-60 within a stipulated time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) The total length of NH 60 is 271 km. The portion of NH-60 from Balasore (in Orissa) upto Kharagpur (in West Bengal) of 118 km length is being four-laned as part of the Golden Quadrilateral and is targeted for completion by December, 2003. Besides, the widening and strengthening of 5 km and improvement of riding quality of 10 km length are being taken up under the Annual Plan 2001-2002. The remaining portion will be improved in phases depending upon availability of funds and inter-se-priority.

WLL Connections in Rajasthan

3314. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) connections provided in Rajasthan at present, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide more such connections in the State during 2001-2002;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said connections are likely to be provided in the remaining areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) 6657 numbers of WLL connections (6350 numbers in Jaipur and 307 numbers in Jodhpur) have so far been provided in Rajasthan by M/s Shyam Telelink Limited.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd. proposes to provide more such connections at Udaipur and Sriganganagar in Rajasthan by the end of March 2002. M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. also has planned to deploy 18,900 numbers of lines on WLL systems (6,900 numbers for urban applications at Ajmer, Jaipur, Jodhpur plus 12000 numbers for rural applications at Ajmer, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Jaisalmer and Sriganganagar) in Rajasthan Circle by the end of current financial year i.e. 2001-2002.

High Powered Committee

3315. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high-powered committee has been set up to decide cases of those licence-holder companies who have asked for relief or where there are ambiguities in the interpretation of the clauses in the licence agreement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the committee is likely to submit its recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) Sir, an Empowered Committee was constituted on 1st July, 1998 in the Department of Telecommunications. The Committee consists of all permanent members to Telecom Commission as Members and Chairman, Telecom Commission as Chairman. The Committee is constituted to resolve various issues relating to the licences of Basic and Value Added Telecom Services.

(c) This is a Standing Committee. The issues are considered by the Committee and decisions taken as and when these arise.

[Translation]

Posts Lying Vacant

3316. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3307 on March 19, 2001 and state :

(a) whether the recruitment process for filling up the vacant TTA posts in Delhi and Mumbai offices of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present number of vacant posts as July 31, 2001; and

(d) the time by which all these vacant posts are likely to be filled up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a), (b) and (d) No, Sir However, the process is expected to be completed by March, 2002

(c) Number of vacancies are as follows :

Delhi Unit 760

Mumbai Unit 226

[English]

New Innovative Projects

3317. SHRI P. D. ELANGOVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any new innovative projects to increase the per capita availability of water in the country;

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

(c) the details of funds allocated for the same, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government has signed any agreement with foreign countries and external funding agencies to harvest, store and supply water in the country particularly in the arid zones and hilly areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) to (c) The Government of India has formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development envisaging interlinking between various Peninsular and Himalayan river systems for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins / areas and another scheme, namely Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water for increasing the availability of water. The National Water Development Agency, established in 1982 by Ministry of Water Resources, has completed pre-feasibility studies of all the 17 water transfer links under the peninsular rivers development component and 14 transfer links under Himalayan rivers development component. Feasibility studies of 5 water transfer links have also been completed. Central Ground Water Board under the Ministry of Water Resources have carried out ground water recharge experiment and rain water harvesting on pilot basis in various States of the country under its Central Sector

Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". The Government have earmarked funds amounting to Rs. 25.00 Crore for the scheme during the Ninth Five Year Plan. State-wise details of the proposals approved under the scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

The approved proposals are expected to be implemented within 1-2 years.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Statement

State-wise details of Schemes Approved for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water

Sl. No.	State	Schemes (Nos.)	Approved cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Status
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10	54.55	Under Implementation
2.	Assam	1	56.69	Under Implementation
3.	Bihar	4	18.69	Under Implementation
4.	Delhi	14	86.43	Four schemes completed and rest are under implementation
5.	Gujarat	3	18.95	Under Implementation
6.	Haryana	8	139.12	Three schemes are completed and rest are under implementation
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6	81.65	Three schemes are completed and rest are under implementation
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	11	190.19	One scheme completed and rest are under implementation
9.	Kerala	6	28.04	Under Implementation
10.	Karnataka	1	13.75	Under Implementation
11.	Kerala	9	67.62	Five schemes are at final stage of completion and rest are under implementation
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5	53.85	Four schemes completed and rest are under implementation
13.	Maharashtra	3	76.63	Under Implementation
14.	Meghalaya	1	28.00	Under Implementation
15.	Mizoram	1	28.00	Under Implementation
16.	Nagaland	1	70.00	Under Implementation
17.	Orissa	2	437.40	Under Implementation
18.	Punjab	15	251.49	Six schemes completed and rest are under implementation
19.	Rajasthan	13	84.27	One scheme is completed and rest are under implementation
20.	Tamil Nadu	8	198.98	One scheme completed and rest are under implementation
21.	Uttar Pradesh	5	37.21	Under Implementation
22.	Uttaranchal	1	2.00	Under Implementation
23.	West Bengal	8	167.82	Under Implementation

Destruction of Mangroves in Mumbai*[Translation]*

3318.SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding destruction of mangroves and breach of CRZ in Muhul, Mumbai,

(b) whether a private builder named "Ever Sime" builders has started construction of huge buildings, complexes in CRZ area;

(c) if so, whether his Ministry has issued any directives in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any recent survey regarding CRZ in this area through any agency and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of observations and the action the Government propose to take in this regard ?

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

(b) M/s Eversmile Construction Company Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai, have undertaken construction of a residential complex near Mahul creek.

(c) The Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued directions under Section 5 of Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 to M/s Eversmile Construction Company Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai, to stop destruction of mangroves and reclamation within Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) and to stop further construction of the proposed residential complex in CRZ area and to demolish all constructions done within the CRZ area along Mahul creek in Mumbai.

(d) and (e) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted an Expert Committee on 1st August, 2001 to examine whether the constructions done by M/s Eversmile Construction Company Pvt. Ltd. near Mahul Creek in Mumbai are in accordance with the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 and approved Coastal Zone Management Plan of Maharashtra. The Committee has been asked to submit report within one month.

International Flights for Varanasi and Lucknow

3319.RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to operate flights to the countries of South-East Asia from Varanasi and Lucknow Airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which flights are likely to be commenced; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) Varanasi has been granted as a point of call to the designated airlines of both Nepal and Sri Lanka. The designated airlines of Nepal has been allowed access of Lucknow as well. Actual operations are however left to their commercial judgement. Necon Air of Nepal is presently operating to/from Varanasi.

*[English]***Telephone Exchanges**

3320.SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the progress made so far in completion of work of telephone exchanges in Tamil Nadu particularly in Karaikudi, Trichi, Uppoor and Ramnad districts; and

(b) the time by which the said work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) The progress made so far in completion of work of new telephone exchanges in Tamil Nadu during 2001-2002 and the time by which the said work is likely to be completed are given as under :

Number of exchanges planned during 2001-2002	Number of exchanges commissioned from 1.4.2001 to 31.7.2001	Number of exchanges yet to be commissioned	Tentative date for commissioning of remaining exchanges
75	23	52	31.03.2002

Out of the above, the details regarding the telephone exchanges in Karaikudi, Trichi, Uppoor and Ramnad and

the time by which the said work is likely to be completed are given as under :

Revenue district	Number of exchanges planned during 2001-2002	Number of exchanges commissioned from 1.4.2001 to 31.7.2001	Number of exchanges yet to be commissioned	Tentative date for commissioning of remaining exchanges
Karikudi (Sivaganga)	2	Nil	2	31.3.2002
Trichi	2	Nil	2	31.3.2002
Uppoor (Ramnand)	6	Nil	6	31.3.2002

Karaikudi and Uppoor are not districts.

Bypass around Muzzafarnagar

3321. SHRI SAIDUZZAMA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that every year as per traditions the Kawarias mostly from northern parts of the country walk up and down to Haridwar to fetch Ganga Jal;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct a Bypass for the use of Kawarias around Muzzafarnagar for safe flow of traffic; and

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

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

(b) and (c) There is no proposal for the construction of new bypass around Muzzafarnagar for the use of Kawarias. However, Muzzafarnagar bypass of 15.75 Km. length already exists on NH-58.

Advisory Committees on Environment and Forests

3322. SHRI ANNASHEB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Advisory Committees on the Environment and Forests are being constituted at Center and State Level regularly;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the rules and regulations for the constitution of Advisory Committees alongwith the tenure of the Committee;

(d) whether these rules are being followed at the time of constitution of the Committee by the States; and

(e) if not, the measures taken by the Government to ensure implementation of regulations ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests constitutes various expert and advisory committees from time to time at the central and State levels for overseeing the effective functioning of different schemes and programmes of the Ministry.

(c) to (e) The terms of reference of these committees depend on the specific mandate of the committee. The tenure normally ranges from 2-5 years. The committees have representation from academia, research institutions, Governmental and nongovernmental organizations, depending upon the nature of the schemes/programmes.

Upgradation of Airports

3323. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether many airports in the country have been upgraded to international standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether arrangements have been made to run some of the international flights from these airports;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether some countries have sought to operate flights from these airports and extra flights from other airports;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) In May, 2000 seven more airports at Ahmedabad, Cochin, Hyderabad, Guwahati, Amritsar, Bangalore and Goa have been declared as international airports taking total number of such airports in the country to twelve.

(c) to (g) Operation of international flights from different airports is reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand. Since their upgradation as International airports, Bangalore has been granted as a point of call to the designated airline of Hongkong, Germany, Malaysia and four Gulf Air owning States, Hyderabad, to Malaysia and UAE (Dubai); Amritsar, Ahmedabad and Cochin to Turkmenistan. Malaysian Airlines have already commenced operations to/from Bangalore and Hyderabad whereas Turkmenistan Airlines is operating to/from Amritsar. Emirates Airlines of Dubai is also operating daily services to Hyderabad. Indian Airlines and Air India have also introduced some new flights and have plans to introduce more flights from some of these airports with the aircraft acquired on dry lease.

Impact of Disinvestment of Air India

3324. SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the decision to disinvest Air India is likely to affect Indian Airlines Traffic on the domestic and international routes as the two airline have common flights;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to face this situation;

(c) whether there is a proposal to give any additional capacity entitlements to Indian Airlines and Alliance Air prior to the disinvestment process of Air India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. As far as commencement of new international operation or expansion thereof is concerned, the first right of refusal lies with Air India which will have to be exercised within a reasonable time frame.

[Translation]

Decreasing in Forest Area in Rajasthan

3325. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the forest area developed in terms of percentage in Rajasthan during the last five years;

(b) whether forest areas have been decreased in Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of incidents of poaching occurred and number of cases registered in Rajasthan during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Forest Survey of India is assessing forest cover of the country biennially since 1987. Forest cover in the State of Rajasthan has increased from 13280 sq. km (3.85%) to 13871 sq. km (4.05%) during the last three assessments from 1995 to 1999.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) As per information available in the Ministry, 145 incidents of poaching have occurred in the State of Rajasthan and in all the incidents cases have been registered.

Provision of Facilities to Handicapped Employees

3326. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the facilities being provided to the handicapped employees in various departments under his Ministry;

(b) whether there is also a provision of reservation in promotion for them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Facilities being provided to the handicapped employees are.

- I. All physically Handicapped persons are eligible for age relaxation upto 10 years for identified posts.
- II. Exempted from payment of examination fee/ application fee.
- III. Those who have already been examined by a Medical Board attached to the special Employment Exchange/Vocational Rehabilitation Centre need not be subjected to Medical Examination once again at the time of appointment.
- IV. Posting of PH Candidates near their native places and request for transfer to or near their native places on priority.

V. Travelling allowance and medical examination fee concession.

VI Reservation in promotion from Group 'D' to Group 'C' and within Group 'C' in identified Cadres (if any).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Provision of reservation to Physically Handicapped Persons exist when promotion is from Group 'D' to Group 'C' and within Group 'C' in identified posts only.

(d) Not applicable in view of (b) above.

[English]

Operational Airport in North Eastern States

3327. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken a major project to develop the operational airports in the seven North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the cost and the targets fixed for each of them, airport-wise;

(c) whether there is a proposal for the upgradation of an airport to the international standards in the North-Eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has taken up major projects for development of the operational airports in the North Eastern States which are as follows : AGARTALA Expansion/modification of terminal building and allied works at the cost of Rs. 27.61 crores and extension of apron and strengthening of link taxiway at the cost of Rs. 4.95 crores to be completed by March, 2002, extension of runway to 7500 feet and allied works at the cost of Rs. 28.70 crores to be completed by June, 2003. DIBRUGARH Construction of new terminal building at the cost of Rs. 24.58 crores will be taken up after transfer of land to AAI by the State Government. DIMAPUR – Strengthening of runway at the cost of 10.27 crores to be completed by September, 2002. IMPHAL – Strengthening of runway at the cost of Rs. 19.50 crores to be completed by June, 2003. LILABARI Construction of new terminal building complex at the cost of Rs. 14.47 crores to be completed by September, 2001. JORHAT Construction of new link taxiway at the cost of Rs. 1.10 crores to be completed by August, 2001.

(c) and (d) Guwahati Airport in Assam has already been declared as international airport. AAI has undertaken major works to upgrade it to international standards such as expansion/modification of existing domestic terminal building, strengthening of existing runway to make it suitable for B-747 aircraft, installation of state-of-art modern radars etc. Besides, extension of runway from existing 9000 feet to 12000 feet, construction of new international terminal building/cargo complex depending upon traffic potential and requirement of airlines and provision of two aerobridges have also been planned.

Closure of Post Offices/Sub-Post Offices

3328. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices/sub-post offices that are running into loss/profit in various States;

(b) whether the Government propose to close down such post offices; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Norms for opening Post offices include financial parameters and for normal rural areas as also hilly, tribal and inaccessible areas, specified amount of subsidy is permissible. Latest available collection of data in respect of rural Post offices is reflected in the Justice Talwar Committee Report which shows that 95% are running at a loss. In respect of Post Offices in urban areas no such data is maintained.

(b) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present to close down any Post Office.

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

Withdrawal of International Flights by Air India

3329. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has withdrawn some flights from certain International routes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for discontinuing the same ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air India has withdrawn its services from Tel Aviv, Geneva, Seoul in March, 1998 and

Frankfurt, Manchester and Rome in May, 1999. In addition to above, Code Share flight with United Airlines between Delhi and Washington was also withdrawn in April, 1999.

(c) Air India initiated the process of implementing a turnaround strategy to curtail losses and maximise profit by :-

- (i) Restructuring and rationalising its network by serving core sector routes and developing a secondary network service through airline alliances.
- (ii) Redeployment of its own fleet on more profitable routes.
- (iii) Several unprofitable routes and routes with poor profitability were withdrawn to concentrate on a more consistently profitable routes.

Inclusion of Wai and Kolhapur under NRAP

3330. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Maharashtra recommending the Wai Town on the bank of Krishna River, Kolhapur Town on the bank of Panchganga River to be included in the Tenth Plan of the NRAP; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

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

(b) It has been decided to request the State Government to have Pre-feasibility Reports prepared on both the proposals.

Appointment of Doctor on Contract Basis

3331. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dr. Yuri Boyko an official was invited by the Government of India to work as Doctor on contract for the Indian Athletic team and paid for his expenses in the last year; and

(b) if so, the details of the terms of conditions of the contract ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Dr. Yuri Boyko was invited on the

request of Amateur Athletic Federation of India on contract basis to work as a Doctor for the Indian Athletic Team. He was paid as per his contract.

(b) The main contractual terms and conditions of Dr. Yuri Boyko's employment were as follows :

- (i) Tax free monthly remuneration of US \$2000. per month, for his services as a resource person for teaching and as an advisor to the Amateur Athletic Federation of India – for preparation of training loads and for assisting in recovery process of athletes and players;
- (ii) Expenses on medical treatment for him and his family;
- (iii) Insurance coverage up to the extent of Rs. 3.00 lakh against accidents and working hazards;
- (iv) The cost of air passage (Economy Class) for him, his wife and one child from Kiev to India and on the termination/expiry of the contract from India to Kiev;
- (v) Full Furnished Air Conditioned apartment with all necessary conveniences; and
- (vi) Transport facilities for official purposes.

National Telecom University

3332. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY :
DR. N. VENKATASWAMY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up of a National Telecom University at Hyderabad; and

(b) if so, the details there of and the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) A letter from Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh addressed to the Hon'ble Minister of Communications has been received suggesting setting up of a National Telecom University at Hyderabad with added facilities of economics, business administration, sociology, finance and banking related to Telecom and computer course including research on advanced themes. The suggestion is preliminary in nature and no decision has been taken on the subject.

**Improvement of Link Road
Connecting NH-7**

3333. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
SHRI G. MALLIKARJUNAPPA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Government have submitted any project proposal for widening and improvement of link road from Jigani Industrial Area to Bommasandra connecting NH-7 in Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have agreed to provide Rs. 5 crore as its share for the said project;

(c) if so, whether the said amount has been released to the State Government; and

(d) if not, the time by which this amount is likely to be released ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Theft of Cables in MP

3334. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone lines which remained out of order as a result of theft of telephone cables in Madhya Pradesh during the last year and till date;

(b) the period of time for which the telephone lines have been out of order;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the safety of telephone cables; and

(d) the relief provided to the telephone subscribers during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Total number of telephone lines affected during last year and till date due to theft of telephone cables in Madhya Pradesh is 9606.

(b) The period varied between one to five days.

(c) Following steps are taken for the safety of telephone cables :-

(i) Patrolling of cable routes.

(ii) Proper coordination with Police Authorities.

(iii) Lodging of complaints with local police authorities about cable thefts;

(d) Emergency service telephones have been restored with alternate arrangements.

[English]

Loss of HCI

3335. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hotel Corporation of India (HCI) is running in loss;

(b) if so, since when the Hotel Corporation of India has been running at loss and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps so far taken to improve its performance ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) HCI is running at loss since 1999-2000. The main reasons of losses are :- (i) the Centaur Hotel Delhi had not been renovated since its inception which resulted in continuous deterioration; (ii) the above factor has led to decline in hotel occupancy and thereby reduction in revenue earnings; (iii) the Centaur Srinagar had been incurring losses since inception except in 1987-88, due to political disturbances in the valley from 1988; (iv) Downturn in travel and tourism, leading to over supply room capacity and very low yields consequent on competitive rate reduction; and (v) Increase in salary burden, due to finalisation of various wage agreements.

(c) The steps being taken to turn the loss making units into profitable, include the renovation of 100 rooms in Centaur Delhi and 60 rooms in Centaur Mumbai and 84 rooms in Mumbai Juhu; intensive sales campaign covering corporate houses; launching of Millennium offer; and introduction of Centaur Gold Card etc.

Construction of Fly-Over

3336. DR. PRASANNA KUMAR PATASANI : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of seven fly-overs in Bhubaneshwar has been delayed;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which the construction work on these fly-overs is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Out of seven crossings on NH-5 in Bhubaneswar and its vicinity, construction of three fly-overs at Khurda, Khandagiri and Baramunda has already been taken up and targeted for completion by December, 2003. Remaining four crossings at CRP Square, Jayadev Vihar, Acharya Vihar and Vani Vihar fall in the stretch recently widened to four lanes and construction of fly-overs at these locations has not been considered feasible at this stage.

Purchase of Equipment by DOT

3337. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has been making advance payments to vendors/ companies for purchase of equipments;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of norms prescribed for making the payment against the purchase of equipment;
- (d) whether the Government have received any complaints in regard to violation of the said norms by the officials;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to comply with the prescribed norms strictly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The advance payment is being done to Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) of Central Govt.

(b) Advance payment is made to these PSUs for the Purchase Orders placed on them against their reserved quota supplied to Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited/ Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited BSNL/MTNL. This is being made on the request of the supplier to facilitate production and timely supply of the equipment.

(c) Mostly the payments are made for supply of material to the extent of 90-95% on proof of despatch and inspection certificate. The payment of advance shall be made subject to the conditions that the company has

furnished to the paying authority an Indemnity Bond equal to the amount of advance.

- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Question does not arise in view of (d) above.
- (f) The norms are followed strictly.

Markendeya Irrigation Project

3338. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Markendeya Irrigation Project of Karnataka is lying pending for clearance with the Central Water Commission (CWC); and
- (b) if so, the present status of the project and the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal to the Central Water Commission (CWC) in May, 1997 on Markendeya Project for techno-economic appraisal. The project was examined in CWC and found acceptable on Embankment Design, Plant Planning, Gates Design and Concrete and Masonry Dam Design aspects. The State Government have not yet replied to the comments on several other aspects particularly Canal Design, Hydrology, Irrigation Planning and Cost Estimates.

The clearance of the scheme by CWC depends upon the time that the State Government would take in complying with the observations of various central appraising agencies.

Irrigation Potential

3339. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

- (a) whether under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) various States had utilised a sum of Rs. 1450 crore during 1996-98, but no addition in the irrigation potential has been achieved;
- (b) if so, the reasons thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to completely utilise the allocated amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) During the period 1996-98, Central Loan Assistance (CLA) of Rs. 1452.19 crore under Accelerated Irrigation benefits Programme (AIBP) was made available

to various States. As reported by these States, potential of about 297.00 th. ha. was created under AIBP during this period. As per the AIBP norms, next instalment of CLA is released for a project only when the State Government has fully utilized the CLA released earlier.

Savings in Postal Department

3340. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether postal department mopped up thirty thousand crores as net savings through its postal savings activity; and

(b) if so, the manner in which the postal department is likely to get the maximum returns through these savings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) During the year 2000-2001, Rs. 37579 crores were collected through various Post Office Savings bank Schemes. As the department of Posts operates the Small Savings Schemes as an agency function on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, the amount so collected has been placed at the disposal of Ministry of Finance for further utilization.

Subsidy on sending of Books by Post

3341. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government provide any subsidy on sending of books by post;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount of subsidy given during each of the last three years;

(d) whether the Ministry of Human Resource Development compensate this subsidy; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The postal rate in the case of Book packets containing printed books has been revised after a gap of 10 years. This service which was subsidised to the extent of 43% the percentage of subsidy has now increased to 82% in 2001. Even after implementing the revised rates the level of subsidy would be 76%.

(c) The amount of subsidy given by the Department on the service Book packets containing printed books for the last 3 years is given below :

Year	Total Cost (in Paise)	Revenue (in Paise)	Deficit (Rs. crores)
198-99(A)	1113.72	242.40	31.63
1999-2000(P)	1262.87	242.91	46.41
2000-2001(P)	1370.05	243.81	36.27

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

More Funds for West Bengal

3342. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the PWD maintains the National Highways passing through the State on the basis of funds provided by the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the funds flow is irregular and inadequate;

(c) if so, whether the National Highways passing through West Bengal used as a transit route for vehicular and truck traffic from the West to East require more funds on regular basis; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Government are going to improve the funds flow the West Bengal ?

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

(b) Availability of funds for maintenance and repairs of the National Highways in the country is of the order of 45%-50% of requirement as per norms. Available funds are allocated to the States in phases on the basis of length and width of the National Highways, traffic intensity, terrain, rainfall etc.

(c) and (d) National Highways are the arteries of the national road network carrying inter and intra State traffic. With the four laning of some National Highways under the National Highway Development Project (NHDP), West Bengal is likely to have an additional investment of about Rs. 2570 crores under this project in the coming three years.

Shifting of Unauthorised Industries of Delhi

3343. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Supreme Court have expressed concern over the MCD authorities in the matter of closure and shifting of unauthorized industries in residential areas of Delhi as reported in the Times of India dated November 30, 2000;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Four Laning of NH-9

3344. SHRI N.R.K. REDDY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps to change Vijayawada-Hyderabad-Zahirabad NH-9 into four lanes expressway;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) and (b) About 53 km length of Vijayawada-Hyderabad-Zahirabad section of NH-9 is already four-lane-wide. Widening of another 35 km length of four-lane from Ibrahimpatnam to Nandigama on Vijayawada-Hyderabad section has been taken up recently. Widening of the remaining length of four-lane is proposed by the State Government on B.O.T. basis. The detailed proposal in this regard is awaited from the State Government.

(c) It is too early to indicate the time frame for completing the widening to four-lane of the National Highway No. 9.

Setting up of Forest Development Agencies

3345. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States and Union Territories where forests development agencies have been set up as on June 30, 2001;

(b) the activities of these agencies and the results achieved therefrom;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up similar agencies in more States and Territories during the current and next financial years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d) Forest Development Agencies (FDAs) have been set up in States/Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal as on 30.6.2001. These agencies have been set up at territorial forest/wildlife division level to provide funnel mechanism through which financial assistance under various centrally sponsored afforestation schemes would directly flow to the areas covered by the FDA for implementation at grassroots level by the village forest committees (VFCs)/Eco-development committees (EDCs), duly ensuring timely flow of funds to the field level and involvement of local people at all stages of project implementation. So far financial assistance has been provided to 19 FDAs spread over 9 States only for afforestation of degraded areas. The funds are utilised through VFCs/EDCs. The approach has been initiated on pilot phase from 2000-01 and the activities have been confined to preparatory action for plantation and nursery raising work during the year 2000-01. The remaining States and Union Territories have been requested by the Central Government for expeditious setting up of Forest Development Agencies.

[Translation]

Reconsideration of Priorities of Various Sports

3346. SHRI JAI PRAKASH : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reconsider the priorities of various categories of sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are considering any proposal on felicitating the international winners of Cycle Polo so as to promote this game;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) The Priorities of various

sports disciplines is decided as per the provisions contained in the "Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations". Accordingly, there are following three categories :

- (a) **Priority** : Sports which are included in Olympic, Commonwealth and Asian games and where standards are at, or close to international competitive levels, and where the teams or individuals are likely to win medals, in future.
- (b) **General** : Sports, which are included in Olympic, Commonwealth and Asian Games, and where there is proven aptitude but not yet close to international competitive levels.
- (c) **Others** : Other sports, not covered in Priority and General categories.

The categorization is reviewed from time to time generally after the end of Long Term Development Plan (LTDP) cycle of 4 years.

(c) to (e) Cycle Polo is presently under Others category and all assistance admissible to this Category is being extended in case of Cycle Polo discipline also.

[English]

Forest Land used for Non-Forest Purpose

3347. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been flagrant violations of the forest policy by some unscrupulous elements by putting up buildings or jungle lodge after in the name of eco tourism and for religious purposes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to hold consultation with State Governments particularly with Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar for taking concrete measures to protect the forest land ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, any non-forestry use of the forest land requires prior permission of the Central Government. As a matter of policy the construction of buildings and residential houses are not allowed except the construction of small public utility buildings like schools, dispensaries, community halls, etc. Even for such constructions prior approval of the Central Government is necessary. The Central Government has not given any permission for construction of jungle lodges. However, information from

the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Bihar is being sought to the effect whether any such construction has been done without the permission of the Central Government and a Statement shall be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) A National Conference of the Ministers of Environment and Forests from all the States was recently held in Coimbatore on 29th and 30th January, 2001 to discuss issues relating to protection, conservation and development of forests. After detailed deliberations, the Conference adopted a resolution, also known as Coimbatore Charter on Environment and Forests, wherein a series of measures have been resolved to be taken for protection and improvement of the environment and forests of the country.

Establishment of Research Centres under ICFRE

3348. DR. CHARAN DAS MAHANT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the centrally sponsored schemes relating to forest research and extension being executed in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to establish any research centres, under ICFRE;

(c) if so, the details and the location thereof;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any scheme for management of revenue and private forests; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) There is no Centrally Sponsored Scheme relating to Forest Research and Extension being executed in Chhattisgarh.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. The management of revenue and private forests is done in accordance with the prescriptions made in the Working Plans/Working Schemes prepared by the State Governments as per the provisions made in the National Forest Policy, 1988.

Sankhya Vahini Project

3349. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has entered into a Joint Venture Project with IU net to set up Sankhya Vahini Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said company has not invested anything in cash and is likely to become major shareholder;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether tendering process was not adopted while mentioning the prices of equipment by IU net;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the steps the Government propose to take to give a fresh look to this joint venture keeping in the view the huge investment in this project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) and (b) As on date, no Joint Venture (JV) Agreement has been entered into by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, the corporatised entity of Dep't. of Telecom Services/Dep't. of Telecom Operations, with IU-Net to set-up Sankhya Vahini Project.

(c) and (d) According to the draft Joint Venture Agreement, the initial contribution to the equity of the Joint Venture shall be in the form of equipment. In the event of any further subscription amount to be paid beyond the value of the equipments, the same shall be tendered in cash by IU-Net. As per the draft Joint Venture Agreement, IU-Net will hold 49% equity in Sankhya Vahini India Limited.

(e) and (f) The process of procurement of the equipments is a part of JV Agreement, which is yet to be finalised. However, as per proposed draft Joint Venture Agreement, the equipments shall be procured by IU-Net at the most competitive prices in keeping with the transparent procedures followed by Carnegie Mellon University so as to provide maximum possible benefit to the Joint Venture Company. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) shall have an option to nominate official(s) who shall participate in the negotiations and finalisation of the equipment orders by IU-Net. IU-Net's purchases shall be scrutinised and certified by recognised international valuers recommended by the President of IU-Net and agreed to by BSNL.

(g) BSNL and the Government will take appropriate decision taking all aspects into consideration.

Lift Irrigation Schemes in Maharashtra

3350. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide assistance/loan under Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) for implementation of lift irrigation schemes/small dams in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any representation has been received from Ahmednagar District under AIBP; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken for the provision of assistance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) and (b) Central Loan Assistance under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme for minor irrigation schemes (small dams and lift schemes) is released only to special category States (North East States, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and KBK Districts of Orissa). Maharashtra, being a non special category State, is not eligible for assistance under AIBP for this category of schemes.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Central Loan Assistance amounting to Rs. 8.92 crore under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme was made available to Jayakwadi Project which benefits Ahmednagar District also.

Super-Speciality ESIC Hospitals

3351. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the names of super-speciality hospitals functioning under the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), State-wise, location-wise;

(b) whether there is a proposal for setting up of some more super-speciality hospitals under ESIC particularly in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) At present, no super-speciality ESI Hospital is functioning in the country. However, services of Cardiology, Plastic Surgery, Neurology Dialysis, Microvascular Surgery of hand are available in some ESI hospitals. As on date, the super-speciality services are being provided through tie up arrangements at various places. A revolving Fund at the level of Regional

Offices has been constituted to grant advances/ reimbursements, for super-speciality treatment.

**Scheme for Promotion of Sports/
Games in Schools**

3352. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI :
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA :

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the scheme of Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools grant was given at the rate of Rs. 50,000 per district and Rs. 2,00,000 per State/Union Territory for holding district and State level-inter school tournaments;

(b) if so, whether this amount has been fully utilised by the States;

(c) if so, the extent to which this scheme has promoted the sports and games in schools;

(d) whether her Ministry is monitoring the progress of the scheme; and

(e) if so, the extent to which it has been fruitful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the scheme of "Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools", district and State level inter-school sports competitions are organised by the State/UTs. Government of India gives grant to the State/Union Territory Governments to organize these competitions for promoting sports and games in schools.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Since the scheme has been introduced very recently (1998-99), the interest of the State Governments/Union Territories in organising inter-school sports competitions is picking up. We have been requesting all the State/UT Governments to submit proposals seeking financial assistance for organisation of inter-school sports competitions at district and State levels every year. They are also requested to constitute District and State level Organizing Committees for this purpose. Implementation of the scheme is satisfactory.

Over-Charging by Public Call Offices

3353. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints about over-charging by the Public Call Offices (PCOs);

(b) if so, the number of complaints received by the Government during the last one year, till-date, State-wise; and

(c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken against the erring PCOs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Survey on Unemployment

3354. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding unemployment problem in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is large scale migration of labour force from Orissa to other States;

(d) if so, the details; and

(e) the steps taken to protect their interest and to create new employment opportunities in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) The estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained from the Labour Force Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) for the country including for the State of Orissa. The unemployment rate as per the Usual Status Approach during 1999-2000 was 2.7% of the Labour Force in Rural areas and 7.1% of the Labour Force in Urban areas in Orissa.

(c) and (d) Data on migration from one State to another are not maintained.

(e) Government is implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment opportunities.

**Closing down of Mines and Lead
Smelter**

3355. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the The Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) has started the process of closing down three mines and lead smelter;

(b) if so, the location of the mines to be closed down;

(c) the number of employees who are likely to be retrenched;

(d) whether the possibilities for keeping the mine operational has been examined; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) to (e) Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL) had identified Sargipalli Lead Mine (Orissa), Agnigundala Lead Mine (Andhra Pradesh), Maton Rock Phosphate Mine (Rajasthan) and Vizag Lead Smelter (Andhra Pradesh) as economically unviable units based on the operational results and after conducting detailed studies. Vizag Lead Smelter, whose operations were initially suspended on 1.8.1999 due to pollution problem and economically unviable operations now stands closed from 24.1.2001 under Section 25 (O) of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. All the employees of Vizag Lead Smelter accepted Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS). At Sargipalli Lead Mine (Orissa) as the operations were highly uneconomical and reserves had almost exhausted a Special Voluntary Retirement Scheme was introduced. All the 463 employees have opted for VRS and 462 employees have already been released with effect from 13.7.2001 and their dues have also been paid. Hence, at this Juncture Company does not envisage any retrenchment in these units.

World Bank Assistance for Development of Roads and Highways in Assam

3356. SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any project report from Assam Government for seeking World Bank assistance to develop Roads and Highways in Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds sanctioned for the purpose during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Percentage of Traffic on National Highways

3357. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of road traffic on the National Highways out of the total road traffic in the country;

(b) the details of percentage of length of one lane, two lane and four lane roads out of the total 1,62,000 kms. length of National Highways; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to tide over the problem of heavy congestion of traffic on roads in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : (a) National Highways carry about 40% of the total road traffic in the country.

(b) The total length of National Highways in the country is about 28,077 Kms. The percentage of length of single lane is about 39% two lane is about 58% and four lane is about 3%.

(c) For tiding over the problem of congestion, the widening of National Highways is being taken up in phased manner depending upon the availability of funds. As a major step in this direction, 4/6 laning of about 13,252 Kms. of National Highways is being taken under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP).

Water Catchment Areas

3358. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN :
DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether water catchment areas have been prepared in view of availability of water in the rivers;

(b) if so, the number and locations of small, medium and big water catchment areas in the country at present, State-wise; and

(c) the quantum of average annual availability of water in each catchment area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) : (a) to (c) The catchment area of a river is a natural

watershed area starting from all such points which separate it from adjacent watershed (ridge line) to its terminal point. Catchment area is also known as river basin. The catchment areas (river basins) are categorized, based on their drainage area, into three groups i.e. major (20,000 square kilometer and above), medium (between 20,000 and 2000 sqkm) and minor (below 2000 sqkm). Accordingly, there are 12 major (big) and 46 medium river basins besides numerous minor (small) river systems in the country. For the purpose of planning and development of

water resources in the country, besides the major river basins, the medium and minor river systems have been suitably combined together into 8 composite basins. The water resources are assessed basinwise. As per the latest assessment made by the Central Water Commission, the average annual flow in the river systems of India is about 1869 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM). Details of all the 20 basins, their catchment areas, names of States/Union Territories part of which lies in the basin and average annual flow are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Details of River Basins and Water Availability

Sl. No.	Name of the River Basin	Name of States/UTs part of which lies in the basin	Catchment Area (square kilometre)	Average Annual Flow (billion cubic metre)
1	2	3	4	5
A. Major River Basins				
1.	Indus	Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh Rajasthan and Chandigarh.	3,21,289	73.31
2.	(a) Ganga	Uttar Pradesh Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Chattishgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.	8,61,452	525.02
	(b) Brahmaputra and Barak	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Sikkim, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura and West Bengal.	2,36,136	585.60
3.	Brahmani and Baitarni	Chhattishgarh, Orissa and Jharkhand.	51,822	28.48
4.	Mahanadi	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Maharashtra and Bihar.	1,41,589	66.88
5.	Godavari	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Karnataka.	3,12,812	110.54
6.	Krishna	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka.	2,58,948	78.12
7.	Pennar	Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.	55,213	6.32
8.	Cauvery	Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry.	81,155	21.36
9.	Tapi	Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra.	65,145	14.88
10.	Narmada	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Maharashtra.	98,796	45.64
11.	Mahi	Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh.	34,842	11.02
12.	Sabarmati	Gujarat and Rajasthan.	21,674	3.81
B. Composite River Basins				
1.	Subernarekha	Jharkhand, West Bengal and Orissa.	29,196	12.37

1	2	3	4	5
2.	West Flowing Rivers of Kutch, Rajasthan and Gujarat. Saurashtra including Luni		3,21,851	15.10
3	West Flowing Rivers from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala. Tapi to Tadi		55,940	87.41
4.	West Flowing Rivers from Tamilnadu, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Tadi to Kanyakumari		56,177	113.53
5.	East Flowing Rivers between Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. Mahandi and Pennar		86,643	22.52
6.	East Flowing Rivers between Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Pondicherry Pennar and Kanyakumari		1,00,139	16.46
7-	Area of inland drainage in Rajasthan		60,000	Neg.
8-	Minor River Basins draining into Bangladesh and Myanmar	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Naiganad, Sikkim and Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura	36,202	31.00
Total				1889.35

*[English]***National Environmental Tribunal**

3359. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN :

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :

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

(a) whether the National Environmental Tribunal has been set up and if so, the details of its functions;

(b) whether the Government are referring a number of cases to this Tribunal;

(c) if so, the number of cases cleared at the Regional CCF office level during the last three years;

(d) whether a review is proposed to be made about performance of the regional CCF's office in the context of lack of professionalism in evaluating projects for environmental clearance; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Cleaning of River

3360. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have implemented any action plan to clear river Nandika and Brahmani in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the said action plan ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c) Brahmani, of which Nandira is a tributary, is covered under the ongoing National River Conservation Plan and works in three towns namely; Talcher, Chandbali and Dharamshala at an estimated cost of Rs. 9.94 crore have been included for pollution abatement. Works such as interception, diversion and treatment of sewage flowing into the river, low cost toilets, crematoria, river front development and afforestation are covered under the Plan. Industrial pollution is monitored and controlled under the environmental laws. According to the Orissa State Pollution Control Board, after the breach of ash pond at Captive Power Plant of NALCO (National Aluminium Company Limited) that occurred on 31.12.2000, Nandira river has been completely dredged by NALCO as per the directives issued by the State Pollution Control Board.

Funds to States under CADP

3361. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds released by the Union Government to the State Governments under Command Area Development Programme during the last three years, till-date, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made in this regard, State-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government have noticed any shortfall in the targets fixed and achieved by the States;

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

(e) the corrective steps taken to make up the shortfall ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) The details of the funds released to the States under

the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme during 1998-99 to 2000-2001 and during the current financial year upto 31st July, 2001 are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) Targets and achievements made under the core component of On-Farm-Development works under the scheme for the years 1998-99 to 2000-2001 are given in the enclosed Statements-II to IV.

(c) to (e) Shortfall in achieving the targets had been noticed. This had happened mainly due to non-release of funds by the State Govts. to the implementing agencies/ CADA on time, non-availability of land and, delay in the finalization of the irrigation Acts, etc. The State Govts. have been requested to accelerate the pace of the programme at various levels. This has also been discussed in detail as late as in the meeting of the State Secretaries-in-charge of Command Area Development Programme/Commissioner/ Administrators and Projects Directors of Command Area Development Authorities held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 7th and 8th June, 2001.

Statement-I**Statewise Central Releases under the Command Area Development Programme**

(Unit : Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Releases During IX Plan				Total
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-02*	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	10.00	3.75	34.75	48.50
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	33.45	0.00	33.45
4.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	324.19	650.00	18.67	0.00	992.86
8.	Haryana	1294.63	841.74	503.02	515.63	3155.02
9.	Himachal Pradesh	52.90	15.81	68.17	0.00	136.88
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	233.99	248.99	165.19	0.00	648.17
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	668.00	885.37	1863.73	870.84	4287.94
13.	Kerala	806.04	788.11	745.62	351.61	2691.38
14.	Madhya Pradesh	245.99	167.20	123.41	0.00	536.60

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Maharashtra	1719.15	660.60	461.14	0.00	2840.89
16.	Manipur	132.00	128.05	113.09	0.00	373.47
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	18.40	0.00	0.00	18.40
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00
19.	Nagaland	6.43	15.00	0.00	0.00	21.43
20.	Orissa	774.40	365.28	1035.92	0.00	2175.60
21.	Punjab	500.00	3352.06	2133.49	0.00	5985.55
22.	Rajasthan	3834.87	2700.00	1592.19	643.12	8774.18
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.25	2.25
24.	Tamil Nadu	2507.27	2336.74	1677.38	0.00	6521.39
25.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	3959.24	2804.92	3247.32	0.00	10011.48
27.	Uttanchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	275.00	306.73	424.77	0.00	1006.50
29.	Dadra and Nagar Havli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Grant for studies	197.27	297.37	280.25	0.00	774.89
Total		17531.70	16592.37	14495.56	2422.20	51041.83

*Release of funds to States during 2001-02 is upto July 2001

Statement-II

Physial Achievements in Respect of Construction of Field Channels under the CAD Programme

(Unit : 000 ha.)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001		Total	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement*	Target	Achievement*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.30	3.34	17.20	5.54	5.32	2.07	28.82	10.95
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.17
3.	Assam	0.24	0.83	0.99	0.00	1.70	0.05	2.93	0.88
4.	Bihar	1.27	0.54	0.81	0.47	10.33	3.81	12.41	4.82
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	0.80	0.00	20.15	0.00	1.00	0.04	21.95	0.04
7.	Gujarat	18.00	20.60	25.00	5.73	10.90	2.85	53.90	29.18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	Haryana	41.67	23.65	0.00	25.11	20.00	18.03	61.67	66.79
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	1.73	1.64	1.73	1.94
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.82	5.39	3.52	3.36	3.76	3.47	15.10	12.22
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	2.23	10.35	16.80	13.04	62.34	28.90	81.37	52.29
13.	Kerala	5.27	7.12	3.36	2.59	2.50	2.86	11.13	12.57
14.	Madhya Pradesh	8.96	10.86	13.13	10.84	13.12	4.95	35.21	26.65
15.	Maharashtra	56.13	27.67	17.97	22.63	41.50	28.36	115.60	78.66
16.	Manipur	9.58	4.48	3.34	2.87	2.08	2.08	15.00	9.43
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.26	0.01	0.26	0.01
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	0.12	0.05	0.19	0.16	0.03	0.03	0.34	0.24
20.	Orissa	7.10	12.89	12.00	9.11	11.10	9.51	30.20	31.51
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.37	80.00	67.03	80.00	107.40
22.	Rajasthan	72.00	65.95	81.80	49.09	44.00	40.82	197.80	155.86
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	50.90	53.82	56.10	53.89	22.08	25.08	129.08	132.79
25.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	106.13	71.54	41.40	115.49	127.00	134.64	274.53	321.67
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	6.00	3.36	8.40	4.57	15.40	6.56	29.80	14.49
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		400.52	322.44	322.16	365.25	476.23	382.85	1198.91	1070.54

*Provisional

Statement-III*Physical Achievements in respect of Implementation of Warabandi under CAD Programme*

(Unit = '000 ha.)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UTs	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-2001		Total	
		Target	Achieve- ment	Target	Achieve- ment	Target	Achieve- ment*	Target	Achieve- ment*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20.00	10.24	72.77	6.18	50.00	12.62	142.77	29.04

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Assam	0.35	0.00	8.70	0.00	0.90	0.00	9.95	0.00
4.	Bihar	0.50	0.00	1.00	0.00	12.50	0.00	14.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Goa	1.50	1.44	0.50	1.50	1.50	0.00	3.50	2.94
7.	Gujarat	0.00	8.38	18.00	3.34	0.00	0.00	18.00	11.72
8.	Haryana	8.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	1.70	1.65	1.70	1.90
10.	Jammu and Kashmi	92.76	90.69	37.34	22.08	31.34	31.10	161.44	143.87
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	1.41	8.20	8.40	8.43	5.86	6.88	15.67	23.51
13.	Kerala	16.25	20.28	5.40	5.74	9.50	1.88	31.15	27.70
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4.17	1.18	2.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	7.17	1.18
15.	Maharashtra	15.00	8.69	0.00	0.25	0.00	0.00	15.00	8.94
16.	Manipur	1.72	0.16	0.97	1.05	0.00	0.00	2.69	1.21
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.80	2.80	2.80	2.80
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Nagaland	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.29	0.26	0.39	0.42
20.	Orissa	70.00	13.40	10.50	6.83	3.50	1.86	84.00	22.09
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	8.33	20.00	8.33
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	78.40	81.82	77.00	75.66	58.02	56.52	213.42	214.00
25.	Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	158.50	89.29	50.00	121.58	193.40	136.73	401.90	347.60
27.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	1.00	0.00	0.40	0.00	0.56	0.00	1.96	0.00
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		469.66	333.77	292.98	253.04	392.87	260.43	1155.51	847.24

*Provisional

(Unit = '000 HA)

[illegible]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28. West Bengal		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.60	0.00
29. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30. Daman and Diu		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total		105.55	64.96	91.91	65.55	110.41	115.14	307.87	245.65

*Provisional

Airfields and Airports in Andhra Pradesh

3362. SHRI KALAVA SRINIVASULU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are a number of airfields and airports lying unused in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan to revive the same and put them to use for inter-State air travel; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (d) The airports at Donakunda, Cuddapah and Warrangal in Andhra Pradesh are non-operational. Airports Authority of India has requested the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to take over these airports for aviation activities but there has been no response from the State Government Authorities.

Project on Kasturi Mrig

3363. SHRI A. NARENDRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are implementing a project on protecting "Kasturi Mrig" in Uttaranchal specially in Rudraprayag and Chamoli districts;

(b) if so, the objectives and activities of this project and the budgetary provisions, the time from which it is in operation and the agency/agencies responsible for its operation;

(c) the progress made in achieving the objectives for which the project was started;

(d) whether review of its working has been made in the recent past; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) The objective of the project was to carry out ex-situ breeding of Kasturi Mrig for augmenting the population in the wild. The project is being implemented by Uttaranchal Government under the State plan since 1980-81. The budget provisions for the project from 1997-98 to 1999-2000 have varied between Rs. 2.26 Lakhs to 3.94 Lakhs.

(c) to (e) The success in captive breeding of Kasturi Mrig at the centre has been far below the expectation. The project needs a closer monitoring and more scientific inputs. Suitability of the site is also doubtful. The State Government has been requested either to improve the centre or to close it down.

[Translation]

Multi-Purpose Counter Machines

3364. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices in the country in respect of which target has been fixed to install multi-purpose counter machine during the year 2001-2002;

(b) the names of the post offices in Madhya Pradesh where multi purpose counter machines have been installed;

(c) the amount spent and the proposed amount under this head in the budget of years 1999, 2000 and 2001; and

(d) the average expenditure incurred on installing multi purpose counter machines in a post office ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) A target for installation of Multipurpose Counter Machines in one hundred (100) Head Post Offices has been fixed during the year 2001-2002.

(b) The names of Post Offices where multipurpose counter machines have been installed in Madhya Pradesh is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The amount spent on installation of Multipurpose Counter Machines is given below :

1999-2000	Rs. 12.26 crores
2000-2001	Rs. 10.13 crores
Proposed amount for 2001-2002	Rs. 5 crores

(d) The average expenditure incurred on installing one Multipurpose Counter Machine including peripherals such as printer and weighing scale is Rs. 75,000/- (Rupees seventy five thousand).

Statement

List of Post Offices where Multipurpose Counter Machines have been installed in Madhya Pradesh

Sl.No.	Name of Post Office
1	2
1.	3 EME Centre Sub Post Office, Bhopal
2.	Bairagarh Sub Post Office, Bhopal
3.	Balaghat Head Post Office
4.	BHEL SBB Head Post Office, Bhopal
5.	Bhopal General Post Office
6.	C.T.T. Nagar Head Post Office, Bhopal
7.	Chhatarpur Head Post Office
8.	Dabra Sub Post Office, Gwalior
9.	Dak Bhawan Sub Post Office, Bhopal
10.	Damoh Head Post Office
11.	Datia Sub Post Office
12.	Dewas Head Post Office
13.	Dhar Head Post Office
14.	Govindpura Sub Post Office, Bhopal
15.	Guna Head Post Office
16.	Gwalior City Sub Post Office
17.	Gwalior R.S. Sub Post Office (Railway Station)
18.	H.E. Hospital Sub Post Office, Bhopal
19.	Hoshangabad City Head Post Office
20.	Hoshangabad Head Post Office
21.	Indore City Sub Post Office
22.	Indore General Post Office
23.	Itarsi Head Post Office

1	2
24.	Jabalpur Cantt. Sub Post Office
25.	Jabalpur Factory Sub Post Office
26.	Jabalpur Head Post Office
27.	Jonesganj Sub Post Office, Jabalpur
28.	Katni Head Post Office
29.	Khajuraho Sub Post Office
30.	Khandwa Head Post Office
31.	Lashkar Head Post Office, Gwalior
32.	Mandla Head Post Office
33.	Mandsaur Head Post Office
34.	Mhow Sub Post Office
35.	Morena Head Post Office
36.	Moti Mahal Sub Post Office, Gwalior
37.	Motilal Nehru Nagar Sub Post Office, Ujjain
38.	Nagar Nigam Sub Post Office, Jabalpur
39.	Narsinghpur Sub Post Office
40.	Panna Sub Post Office
41.	Piplani, Bhopal Division
42.	Pithampur Sub Post Office, Dhar
43.	R.S. Nagar Sub Post Office, Bhopal
44.	Ratlam Head Post Office
45.	Rewa Head Post Office
46.	Sagar Cantt Head Post Office
47.	Sagar City Sub Post Office
48.	Satna Head Post Offices
49.	Satpura Sub Post Office, Bhopal
50.	Sehore Head Post Office
51.	Seoni Head Post Office
52.	Shahdol Head Post Office
53.	Shiksha Mandal Sub Post Office, Bhopal
54.	Ghivpuri Head Post Office
55.	Sidhi Head Post Office
56.	Sihora Sub Post Office, Jabalpur Division
57.	Siyaganj Sub Post Office, Indore
58.	Tukoganj Sub Post Office, Indore
59.	Ujjain City Sub Post Office
60.	Ujjain Head Post Office

1	2
61. Vallabh Nagar Sub Post Office, Indore	
62. Vidisha Head Post Office,	
63. Vindhya Vihar Sub Post Office, Bhopal	
64. Yeshwant Road Head Post Office, Indore	

Airports in Maharashtra

3365. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the international airports in the country and the details of the proposed national and international airports to be constructed in the Maharashtra State; and

(b) the time by which these airports are likely to be set up and the amount of money likely to be spent thereon, airport-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) The Airports at Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Bangalore, Chennai, Goa, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, Thiruvananthapuram and Cochin are international airports. There is a proposal to construct a second international airport by the State Government of Maharashtra at Navi Mumbai. The proposal is at a preliminary stage.

STD Booth on Railway Platform

3366. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of railway platforms where STD booth installed in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar at present;

(b) whether the Government propose to install more said booths on the platforms of said States during 2001-2002; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise and the criteria being fixed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Sir, the information is given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) STD/ISD/PCO booths are allotted liberally to all the eligible applicants on first come first served basis as per their registration. It has been left to the applicants to decide the location of the PCOs.

Statement

Name of the Railway Station with STD PCO Booth

State : Bihar

1. Patna
2. Chapra
3. Siwan
4. Sonpura
5. Gaya
6. Hazipur
7. Katihar
8. Barauni
9. Begusarai
10. Khagaria
11. Mansi
12. Motihari
13. Raxaul
14. Bettiah
15. Narkatlaganj
16. Muzaffarpur
17. Sitamarhi
18. Saharsa
19. Darbhanga
20. Lahariasari
21. Jhanjharpur
22. Jainagar
23. Samastipur
24. Hasanpur
25. Madhubani

State : Uttar Pradesh

1. Agra Cantt
2. Agra Fort
3. Tundla
4. Kesganj
5. Meerut Cantt

6. Meerut City
7. Mathura Junction
8. Mathura Cantt
9. Muzaffarnagar
10. Rampur
11. Saharanpur
12. Deoband
13. Ballia
14. Barabanki
15. Basti
16. Khalilabad
17. Etawah
18. Faizabad
19. Farrukhabad
20. Kannauj
21. Gonda
22. Balarampur
23. Gorakhpur
24. Hardoi
25. Jhansi
26. Kanpur
27. Mailani
28. Lucknow
29. Shikohabad
30. Shahjhanpur
31. Sitapur
32. Sultanpur
33. Unnao
34. Varanasi Cantt.
35. Mugalsari
36. Bhadohi
37. Kashi

*[English]***Increase in Water Resources**

3367. SHRI P.D. ELANGO VAN :

SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to increase the water holding capacity in the country;

(b) if so, the detail thereof and also the works assigned and taken up in Tamil Nadu;

(c) the details of funds allocated and disbursed so far;

(d) the total number of projects taken up and the approximate time frame within which the proposed projects are likely to be completed;

(e) whether the Government have any proposal to implement through financial and technological assistance from foreign countries and also external agencies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY) :

(a) to (d) Water being a State subject water resources development projects are planned, executed and financed by the State Governments in accordance with their own priorities and from their own resources. Upto 1995, a live storage capacity of 177 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM) has been created by construction of large dams in the country. Besides, projects to add an additional storage capacity of 75 BCM are under construction and projects with completed live storage of 132 BCM are under planning. In addition, water has also been diverted into canals by constructing a large number of barrages/weirs etc. for utilisation of river water for various purposes. Besides, Government of India has formulated National Perspective Plan for water resources development envisaging interlinking between various Peninsular and Himalayan river systems for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basin/areas which is likely to provide an additional irrigation potential of 25 M ha through surface water and 10 M ha through increased use of ground water.

Government of India has been extending financial assistance under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme since 1996-97 to State Governments to help them complete the ongoing projects at the earliest. Two

Medium Irrigation Projects and one Extension, Renovation and Modernization (ERM) Irrigation Project are under implementation in Tamil Nadu from their plan allocations. The Central Ground Water Board has completed one scheme of ground water recharge while seven other schemes are under implementation at a total cost of Rs. 198.98 lakh. Under the National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA) launched in the VIII Plan for improved moisture management by conservation of rainwater Tamil Nadu has been allocated Rs. 80 crore for the IX Plan against which an expenditure of Rs. 53.92 crore has been incurred upto March 2001.

(e) and (f) The Tamil Nadu Water Resources Consolidation Project (TNWRCP) is being implemented through World Bank assistance at a cost of US \$ 491 Million (Rs. 2,267.4 crore). The objectives of the project are to introduce water resources planning by river basins across all uses of water; improve agriculture productivity through modernization and completion of irrigation systems, upgraded water management and farmer participation; assure sustainability of water infrastructure and the environment; and improve institutional and technical capabilities for managing the State's water resources.

Marine Mango Project in Mumbai

3368. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Peoples' representatives regarding Marine Mango Project in Mumbai;

(b) whether his Ministry has studied the proposal and if so, the observations thereof;

(c) whether about three thousands acres of salt land comes under CRZ zone can be used for this project;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up issue with Urban and Industry Ministry; and

(e) the response of the concerned Ministries ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Ministry of Environment and Forests has received a proposal from 'People's Representatives' for creation of a Marine Mangrove Park at Mumbai.

(b) to (e) Since the matter vests with the State Government the proposal was forwarded to the Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden, Maharashtra for consideration.

Training to Security Personnel

3369. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV :
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide appropriate orientation and training to the security personnel deployed at airports in order to set up trained aviation security force of international standard;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to strengthen security at airports in order to safeguard civil aviation operations against unlawful interferences ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Bureau of Civil Aviation Security has been entrusted with the responsibility of imparting requisite training to Police personnel deputed for airport security duties, to ensure their effective functioning.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) All security measures as prescribed by the International Civil Aviation Organization in Annex-17 to the Convention on Security, are strictly followed. The measures taken include :-

- (i) Frisking of passengers and checking of hand baggage before boarding;
- (ii) Ladder-point security check of passengers;
- (iii) Deployment of Sky Marshals on selected routes at random basis;
- (iv) Deployment of CISF at airports for security duties in a phased manner;
- (v) Anti-hijacking Act made stronger with new amendments;
- (vi) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at selected airports.

[Translation]

Pollution in Sai River in Uttar Pradesh

3370. RAJKUMARI RATNA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether pollution is increasing in Sai river of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) The water quality monitoring data of river Sai carried out by Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board shows improvement in water quality monitored during the current year as compared to previous years. The Dissolved Oxygen (DO) and Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels which are indicators of pollution level, are within the prescribed limits for all monitoring stations except Raebareli where Biochemical Oxygen Demand and coliform levels are higher than the prescribed standards. It is for the State Government to initiate steps to check the pollution of the said river. No proposal for pollution abatement of Sai river has been received by Central Government.

[English]

Allotment of an Hanger to Deccan Aviation at Juhu Airport

3371. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the terms and conditions on which Deccan Aviation has been allotted hanger at Juhu Airport;

(b) whether any tender was called for the same;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the procedure of fixing the lease rate at different airports of the country;

(e) the amount to be recovered from various companies towards the land or hanger allotted to them on lease basis;

(f) whether the companies who have defaulted have been stopped from operations at airports; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Hangar space at Juhu airport has been offered to M/s Deccan Aviation on payment of existing standard licence fee of Rs. 373/- per sqm. per month for a temporary period of three months. As per the existing practice of the Airports Authority of India (AAI), the hangars are allotted on first cum first serve basis subject to availability of space and eligibility including payment of dues to AAI.

(d) Lease rates at different airports are fixed based on reasonable return to AAI on capital investment made together with the cost of land and structures thereof as

prevalent at the respective airports.

(e) to (g) An amount of Rs. 725.39 lakhs is to be recovered from various companies. Most of these cases are sub-judice.

[Translation]

Regular Flights for Jodhpur

3372. SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to operate regular daily flights in the morning and the evening for the Jodhpur city of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to operate a flight between Mumbai and Delhi via Jodhpur every day in the morning; and

(d) if so, the time by which the service is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Alliance Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Airlines, operates daily B-737 services to Jodhpur from Delhi in the morning hours on the route Delhi-Jaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Mumbai and from Mumbai in the evening hours on the route Mumbai-Udaipur-Jodhpur-Jaipur and Delhi.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government to operate Mumbai to Delhi via Jodhpur every day in the morning. Jet Airways has, however, proposed to operate Mumbai-Jodhpur-Mumbai sector w.e.f. 27th August, 2001 and on Delhi-Udaipur-Jodhpur-Udaipur-Delhi sectors w.e.f. 3rd week of October, 2001.

[English]

Power for NALCO Plant at Angul (Orissa)

3373. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of power of NALCO for its plan at Angul in Orissa;

(b) the various sources from which NALCO is getting power;

(c) whether NALCO is making any effort to get the entire power required by it from its captive power plant; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) The power requirement of NALCO for its Aluminium Smelter Plant at Angul varies month to month. Generally, it is around 4000 MU per year.

(b) NALCO is getting power for its Smelter Plant mainly from its Captive Power Plant (CPP), at Angul. In emergency, power is drawn from Orissa State Grid.

(c) and (d) In order to meet the entire power requirement from its CPP in view of the expansion of Smelter capacity, two more units of 120 MW each are being added by NALCO to the CPP's present capacity of 6 × 120 MW, thereby making the total generating capacity to 8 × 120 MW.

[Translation]

International Air Services

3374. SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to start some more international air services from different States in near future;

(b) if so, whether the Government have conducted any survey recently with a view to assess the feasibility of starting international air services from various States; and

(c) if so, the names of places selected for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) Operation of international flights from different airports is reviewed from time to time depending upon traffic demand and availability of custom and immigration facilities as part of ongoing process. Seven more airports have been declared as international airport which will enable foreign airlines to come directly to them. However, permission to them is granted only on the basis of bilateral air services discussions which are held from time to time. Actual operations are left to their commercial judgement. Besides Air India and Indian Airlines have also introduced some new flights and have plans to introduce more international services from Mumbai, Cochin, Calicut and Hyderabad after acquiring additional aircraft on dry lease.

Cellular Telephone Facility in MP

3375. SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the

names of the cities in Madhya Pradesh where the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) propose to be provide cellular service during 2001-2002 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has planned to cover 39 cities in the State of Madhya Pradesh during 2001-2002, the details of which are available in the attached Statement.

Statement

List of cities/towns to be covered under IMPCS (Main) tender in MP Circle

1. Betul	21. Malanpur
2. Bhopal	22. Mandideep
3. Biora	23. Mandsaur
4. Chhatarpur	24. Morena
5. Chhindwara	25. Narsingpur
6. Damoh	26. Neemuch
7. Datia	27. Pitampura
8. Dewas	28. Rattlam
9. Dhar	29. Rewa
10. Guna	30. Sagar
11. Gwalior	31. Satna
12. Hoshangabad	32. Sehore
13. Indore	33. Seoni
14. Itarsi	34. Shadol
15. Jabalpur	35. Shivpuri
16. Jhabua	36. Singrauli
17. Katni	37. Ujjain
18. Khajurao	38. Vidisha
19. Khandwa	39. Vijaypur
20. Khargone	

[English]

Recognition of Federation of Motor Sports Club

3376. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have recognised the Federation of Motor Sports Club of India (FMSCI) as the ruling body in India to grant motor rally licences;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details about the huge revenue potential of motor sports in the country;

(d) the number of global auto manufacturers who showed interest in conducting motor rally in the country;

(e) whether the Government have provided any infrastructures for conducting International Motor Rally events in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof; area-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For the promotion of discipline of Motor Sports in India, Government has recognised The Federation of Motor Sports Clubs (FMSCI) of India having its office at Chennai.

(c) The FMSCI has informed that Formula 1 race has high potential for generating revenue but so far no such race has been organised in the country. Efforts are however being made to organise such races depending upon various factors.

(d) The FMSCI has indicated that Maruti Udyog Limited has already been co-sponsoring rallies and autocrosses. Hyundai and Ford have also expressed their desire to co-sponsor motor sports events in the country.

(e) and (f) Under the Scheme of Creation of Infrastructure and Assistance to National Sports Federation, there is no provision for providing financial assistance to the discipline of Motor Sports for such purposes. However, Government of India gives clearance for holding the events.

Expansion of Fleet of Pawan Hans Ltd.

3377. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited proposes to expand its fleet;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the route on which the Pawan Hans Limited is operating its fleet now; and

(c) the new routes on which Pawan Hans proposes to operate its additional fleet ?

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

(b) The proposal of Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) for purchasing of two medium-capacity helicopters is under consideration of the Government. The details of helicopter operations by PHHL under the aegis of various State Governments are as under :—

- (i) Government of Sikkim : Gangtok-Bagdogra-Gangtok sector.
- (ii) Government of Meghalaya : Guwahati-Shillong-Tura sector.
- (iii) Government of Arunachal Pradesh : Itanagar-Mohanbari-Passighat-Along-Roing sector
- (iv) Lakshadweep Islands : Inter-island services.
- (v) One helicopter each has been provided to Government of Punjab and Government of Jharkhand.
- (vi) PHHL operates one helicopter on Jammu-Katra-Sanjichhat sector for the benefit of pilgrims visiting Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine.

PHHL has also been providing helicopters to Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC), Oil India, National Hydro Power Commission Gas Authority of India Limited and Hardy Exploration (Private Oil Company).

(c) It is proposed to operate the new helicopters for the offshore tasks for ONGC at Mumbai.

Utilisation of Funds

3378. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has failed to utilize the funds allocated for various schemes since 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated/utilised by his Ministry during each of the last five years; and

(c) the steps the Government have taken to utilize the funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY):
(a) and (b) Overall utilisation of funds by the Ministry of Water Resources out of the funds allocated for various Plan schemes in the Central sector has been about 88% during the period from 1992-93 to 2000-2001. Year-wise details of funds allocated/utilised under the Central Plan of the Ministry are furnished at enclosed Statement.

(c) The steps taken by the Ministry to improve utilisation of allocated Plan funds include strengthening of monitoring of expenditure performance vis-a-vis progress

of work, curtailing delays in processing expenditure proposals under various schemes, timely releases of funds to the implementing agencies; suitably changing funding norms in case of Central assistance to States; demand driven reorientation of the scope of various schemes, initiating a few bigger schemes of national/regional importance and expanding collaborative efforts with State Government or Central Government agencies for better implementation of projects in special category areas.

Statement

Year-wise Allocation and Expenditure under Central Sector Plan of Ministry of Water Resources

(Rs. crore)

Year	Plan Allocation	Expenditure	% Expenditure
1	2	3	4
1992-93	240.00	199.26	83.02
1993-94	289.00	267.00	92.39
1994-95	275.47	232.67	84.46
1995-96	302.00	251.57	83.30
1996-97	830.80	786.27	94.64
1997-98	1641.00	1228.18	74.84
1998-99	1896.00	1465.97	77.32
1999-2000	1970.00	1831.41	92.92
2000-2001	2187.42	2218.91	101.44
	9631.69	8481.24	88.05

Deficit in Postal Department

3379. SHRI A. BRAHMANAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up an Expert Committee to study ways and means to turn around the postal department and wipe out its deficit to the tune of R. 1000 crores;

(b) if so, whether the Expert Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) whether there is any proposal to close down some post offices where business has come down by over 50 per cent; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

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

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

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Under Utilisation of Funds

3380. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the funds allocated for various schemes such as rehabilitation of Bonded Labour, employment, welfare of SC/ST and other Backward classes have not been fully utilised during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated and utilised for various schemes during the above period, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(c) the reasons for under utilisation of funds allocated;

(d) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the performance of Centrally Sponsored Schemes;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the guidelines issued by the Government for utilisation of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (c) The details of budget estimates and utilisation with respect of schemes of Bonded Labour, Employment and welfare of SC/ST (coaching, training and vocational guidance) during the last two years are given below :-

(Rs. in crores)

Scheme	Year	Budget estimates	Utilisation
Bonded Labour	1999-2000	3.98	3.83
	2000-2001	5.75	9.21
Employment	1999-2000	3.82	0.65
	2000-2001	3.79	1.07
Welfare of SC/ST	1999-2000	1.18	0.60
	2000-2001	1.62	0.46

Under the centrally sponsored scheme on Bonded Labour where funds are allocated to States, the utilisation was substantially higher at 96% and 160% respectively during the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 respectively.

The under utilisation of funds in the case of scheme on Employment and welfare of SC/ST is due to non-clearance of proposals for the setting up of new centers and revival/recreation of posts under existing centers. These are Central Sector Schemes in which State Governments are not provided assistance.

(d) to (f) Guidelines are issued from time to time to the State Governments to send complete proposal for release of Central assistance under the Centrally Sponsored scheme on Bonded Labour as soon as bonded labourers are identified and release certificates are issued. Monitoring of the utilisation of rehabilitation grants is done by holding regular meetings with the representatives of the State Governments and senior Officers are deputed to visit the place of rehabilitation in order to review the proper utilisation of assistance.

Statutory Law on Sports

3381. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any need to bring in Statutory Law on Sports through an Act of Parliament or the present scenario/modus operandi for regulation of sports is adequate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to bring in the necessary legislation to Parliament in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN) : (a) to (c) The subject of "Sports" is in the "State List" of the Constitution of India. However, for effective implementation of the National Sport Policy, to regulate the conduct and management of sports by National Sports Federations and to achieve all round excellence in sports, there is a proposal for bringing the subject of 'Sports' from the State List to the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India. For this purpose, Constitutional (61st) Amendment Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in 1988, but is still pending.

[Translation]

Diamond Deposits in Vidarbha Region

3382. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is evidence of availability of large deposits of diamond in Vidarbha region (Gujarat) during a survey conducted by the Geological Survey of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also received information about the illegal mining activities that are going on in the region;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to check these activities; and

(e) whether the Government are contemplating to take recourse to commercial mining in this region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL) : (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has not found evidence to suggest the existence of deposits of Diamond in Gujarat. However, a programme of detailed search for Kimberlite, Lamproite bodies has been taken up in parts of Chandrapur and Gadchiroli district, Vidharba region of Maharashtra. Incidence of small diamond grain, weighing 0.15 carat in Wairagarh area, Gadchiroli district has been discovered from the matrix of a conglomerate.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Central Government have no information on illegal mining. Responsibility for checking illegal mining, if any rests with the State Governments. Several provisions exist in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to curb illicit mining.

(e) In view of (a) above question does not arise.

[English]

Inspection of Aircraft

3383. SHRI RAMANAIDU DAGGUBATI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has inspected all the aircraft of Alliance Air after the crash of an aircraft at Patna;

(b) if so, whether any technical opinion has been sought from Boeing and other manufacturers of the planes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the aircraft manufacturers have certified the technical proficiency of their planes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) All the Boeing 737-200 aircraft of Alliance Air are regularly inspected as per the approved maintenance programme by certified engineers of the airlines. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) carries out supervision as per prescribed norms of requirements of airworthiness. Air Marshal Rajkumar Committee which was set up by the Government to investigate the causes of the aforesaid crash suggested need to further strengthen the maintenance practices, and concluded that the cause of the accident was due to loss of control of the aircraft due to human error and the inquiry also determined that the aircraft was fully airworthy and was properly maintained. After the crash of Boeing 737 aircraft of Alliance Air in Patna in July, 2000, the systems of maintenance of Alliance Air were further upgraded.

(b) and (c) The maintenance schedules and the periodicity of maintenance schedules is in accordance with the manufacturers programme as given in the manufacturer's Maintenance Planning Document (MPD) and duly adopted by DGCA.

(d) and (e) The Federal Aviation Administration of USA who are the regulatory authority of aviation industry in USA have issued type certificate for Boeing 737-200 series aircraft manufactured by M/s Boeing Company. The type certificate certifies the technical proficiency of the aeroplane. Alliance Air operate these series of aircraft.

Freight Charges of Air India and Indian Airlines

3384. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have adopted any criteria while increasing or decreasing the freight charges of Air India/Indian Airlines in certain sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the level upto which these charges in fare helped in making them profitable?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The freight charges of Air India/ Indian Airlines are determined by the Airlines themselves based on market forces of supply and demand. In the International sector, with more and more capacity being added due to the "Open Sky Policy" adopted by the Government, the Market has become extremely competitive and therefore, freighter charges fluctuate due to demand and supply.

In the domestic sector, Cargo rates in Indian Airlines are increased/decreased corresponding to the increase in

the passenger fares. Various operational costs viz. fuel, navigational charges, parking and landing charges etc. are taken into account for revisions in the passenger fare and corresponding increase in the freight charges. In the year 1998, passenger fare/freight charges were revised on all sectors of Indian Airlines, except north-eastern sectors and category II routes. Recently, however, a decision has been taken to maintain the levels of the freight charges after the introduction of flexi fare policy. The revenue from Cargo carriage constitutes about 5% of the total revenue earnings of Indian Airlines and about 10% in Air India.

Aircraft Charter Companies

3385. SHRI ASHOK ARGAL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the flying hours done by various aircraft charter companies during the last three years;

(b) the turnover and the net profit/loss done by the various aircraft charter companies during the last three years;

(c) the details of the IATT tax received by the non-schedule operators from various companies; and

(d) the details of the airworthy aircraft available with different aircraft charter companies the number and type of aircraft available with various aircraft charter companies ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Records of flying hours, turn over and net profit/loss of aircraft charter companies are not maintained by the Government.

(c) Inland Air Travel Tax collected from non-scheduled operators during 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is Rs. 606.47, 676.48 and 355.14 lacs respectively.

(d) Details of airworthy aircraft, their number and type available with different aircraft charter companies are enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Details of the airworthy aircraft, available with different aircraft charter companies, their number and type of aircraft

S.No.	Name	Type Aircraft	Nos.
1	2	3	4
1.	Ace Airways Pvt. Ltd.	AS 350B Ecureuil	1

1	2	3	4
2.	Aerial Services Pvt. Ltd.	Beech Jet-400	1
3.	Agni Aerosports Adventure Pvt. Ltd.	BN 2A	1
4.	M/s. Ahmedabad Avn. Academy Ltd.	Cessna 152 Piper Aztec Cessna 172	1 1
5.	Airworks India (P) Ltd.	King Air C-90	1
6.	Asia Aviation Ltd.	Cessna Cit II	1
7.	Azal India Pvt. Ltd.	Bell 412	6
8.	Blue Dart	B-737-200	3
9.	Century Textiles and Industries Ltd.	Cessna Caravan Caravan-II	1
10.	Deccan Aviation	Bell 206 L3 Bell 206 B3 Bell 212 Bell 407 Ecureil AS	2 2 1 1 1
11.	Dwarka Air Taxi	Cessna 404 Titan	1
12.	Escorts Ltd.	Bell-407	1
13.	East India Hotels	HS-125 C-90A	1 1
14.	Government of Rajasthan	Allouette III	1
15.	Great Eastern Shipping Co. Ltd.	Bell-212	3
16.	Hindustan Institute of Engg. Technology	Cessna -172	1
17.	India International Airways	Bell 222UT HS-125 B Piper Chiffain PA-31-35C	1 1
18.	Indo Pacific Aviation	Bell 206 L4	1
19.	Jagson Airlines	DO-228	2
20.	J.K. Crop.	King Air B-200	1
21.	Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd.	Allouette-III	1
22.	Malhotra Helicopters	Bell-47G5	1
23.	Megapode Airlines	HS-125-700B Falcon-2000	1 1

1	2	3	4
24. Masco Airlines Ltd.	Ecureuil	3	
	P-68TP	1	
	P-68 observer	1	
	MI-172	2	
	AS 365 N	1	
25. Orient Flying School	Cessna – 152	3	
26. Pawan Hans	Douphin 2	20	
	Robinson	2	
	MI 172	3	
	Bell 407	2	
	Bell 206	3	
27. Rajputana Aviation Academy (P) Ltd.	Cessna-172	1	
	Cessna-152	2	
28. Raymond Ltd.	AS-355N	1	
	Bell-206 L3	2	
	Cessna	1	
	Citation II		
29. Reliance Transport Travels Ltd.	Gulfstream G-IV	1	
30. Sahara India Airlines	B-737-200	1	
	B-737-400	2	
	Eureuil	1	
	AS 355 N		
	Dauphin 365 N2	1	
31. Saraya Aviation (P) Ltd.	Beech B-58	1	
32. Span Air Pvt. Ltd.	Bell 206 L4	1	
	Bell 407		
	Super King 200	1	
33. Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Ltd.	PC 68 TC	1	
	P 68C	4	
34. Tata Tea Ltd.	Chetak SA3 16B	1	
35. Trans Bharat Aviation	Beech 99	2	
	Bell-206 B3	2	
	Bell 407	1	
36. U.B. Air	Chetak	1	
	Bell-212	2	
37. Uttar Pradesh Airways	F-27	2	
38. Vidyut Travel Services	King Air C-90	1	

Delaying of Indian Airlines Flight CD-7278

3386.SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN :
SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines Flights CD-7278 bound for Kokata-Bhubaneswar-Hyderabad on May 22, 2001 was over booked by the Airport officials at Bhubaneswar;

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

(c) whether passengers with confirmed tickets were off-loaded by the Indian Airlines Staff and others were given the seats with the result that the flight was delayed;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action that has been against the concerned officials and the steps being taken to ensure that such incidents are not repeated in the future ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) to (e) Flight CD-7278 (Kolkata-Hyderabad-Bhubaneswar) on 22.5.2001 was not overbooked. However, on 19.05.2001, this flight was overbooked by 7 seats i.e. 4 from Kolkata and 3 from Bhubaneswar. As such, certain passengers were denied boarding initially. But on arrival of the aircraft, the staff on leave were off loaded and the confirmed passengers were accepted. Concerned Indian Airlines officials at Kolkata and Bhubaneswar have been suitably reprimanded.

Recruitment Agencies

3387.SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labour recruitment agencies at present which got licence to supply labour in foreign countries; State-wise;

(b) the number of recruitment agencies against whom cases and complaints have been registered during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the agencies against whom action has been taken and licences cancelled between 1998 to 2001 State-wise; and

(d) the details of agencies out of them which have obtained new licences during the said period, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) A Statement is annexed.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UTs	No. of Recruitment Agencies having Registration Certificates	No. of Agencies complained against	No. of Registration Certificates cancelled	No. of agencies giving new Registration Certificates
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36	07	-	-
2.	Chandigarh	21	-	-	-
3.	Delhi	207	24	-	-
4.	Goa	13	-	-	-
5.	Gujarat	10	-	-	-
6.	Haryana	5	-	-	-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2	-	-	-
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	-	-	-
9.	Karnataka	17	-	-	-
10.	Kerala	145	14	-	-
11.	Orissa	1	-	-	-
12.	Punjab	26	1	-	-
13.	Rajasthan	15	-	-	-
14.	Tamil Nadu	163	19	-	-
15.	Uttar Pradesh	5	-	1	-
16.	West Bengal	4	-	-	-
17.	Maharashtra	480	93	2	-

Grant for Widening of National Highways in A.P.

3388. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI :

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any request from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for grant of Rs. 94.75 crores for road widening works on National Highways and reimbursement of Rs. 5 crores paid as advance by the State Government;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government on the said requests;

(c) whether some other requests of State Government are still pending with the Government;

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

(e) the time by which these are likely to be cleared ?

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

(b) The request for grant of Rs. 94.75 crore was for widening of road stretches passing through towns on National highway Nos. 4, 5, 7, 9, 16, 18 and 43 to four-lane. NH-5 which is on the Golden Quadrilateral will be four laned by the end of 2003. Four laning of NH-7 which is on the North-South Corridor is scheduled for completion by the end of 2007. Improvement of other National highways will be taken up as Annual Plan schemes. This will depend upon the inter-se-priority of the project and availability of funds. The expenditure of Rs. 5 crore made by the State Govt. was not against sanctioned jobs and therefore reimbursement of this amount is not possible. The State Government has already been informed.

(c) to (e) This is a continuous process. Proposal received from State Govt. under Annual Plans are considered depending upon their inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

[Translation]

CBI Enquiry on Wet Lease Deal

3389. SHRI C.N. SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the case of alleged financial irregularities in the deal of hiring plane on lease had been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation for probe one year back; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the delay occurred in the probe ?

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

(b) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) have intimated that due to voluminous documents and numerous witnesses who are scattered at many places, the pace of the enquiry has been slow. The Convenor of the Committee which selected M/s Caribjet and the then Commercial Manager (Marketing), who had settled in Switzerland after his retirement had also to be examined. The case, however, continues to be under active investigation of the CBI.

Bonded Labourers

3390. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the custom of bonded labourers is still prevalent in the country;

(b) if so, the name of places where the said custom is still prevalent;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate the custom;

(d) the details of bonded labourers identified and rehabilitated in various States from January 1, 2000 to till date, State-wise;

(e) the details of action taken against the persons keeping bonded labourers alongwith the number of such persons detained and convicted;

(f) whether the Government are considering to bring a Bill to impose severe punishment to the persons keeping bonded labourers;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) the time by which such a bill is likely to be introduced; and

(i) if not, the reasons thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Incidence of Bonded labour, in a few parts of the country, has been reported from time to time from fourteen States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Kerala, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The Bonded Labour System has been abolished through out the country with effect from 25.10.1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Under the Act, District Magistrates are empowered to take punitive action against the offenders.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of Bonded labourers, rehabilitation assistance of Rs. 20,000/- per freed bonded labour is provided, which is shared by the Central and State Governments on 50:50 basis.

(d) State-wise bonded labourers identified and rehabilitated from January 2000, till date are as under :

State	Number
Arunachal Pradesh	2992
Rajasthan	104
Tamil Nadu	14120
Uttar Pradesh	79

(e) As per the reports received from State Governments, from time to time prosecutions have been launched for violations under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, in 4533 cases, out of which convictions have been ordered in 1190 cases.

(f) to (i) Under the existing Act, there is a provision for punishment for extracting bonded labour, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and also with fine, which may extend to two thousand rupees. At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government to bring a Bill to enhance the punishment for offences relating to Bonded Labour System.

[English]

Labour Unrest

3391. SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have assessed the losses suffered due to labour unrest in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the States which are more prone to labour unrest and whether the Union Government have drawn any plans to check such labour unrest; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) to (d) The Labour Bureau collects information on wage and production losses incurred due to strikes and lockouts in the country on a voluntary basis. According to provisional information available for 1999 and 2000 wage loss was around Rs. 200 crore and production loss during the same period was around Rs. 1800 crore. A greater incidence of strikes and lockouts was observed in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat during this period. The Government have been keeping a close and continuous watch over the industrial relations situation in the country. The Industrial Relations Machinery has been directed to take suitable steps to resolve disputes and reduce work stoppage through mediation, conciliation and settlements. Initiatives have also been taken for regular consultation and tripartite discussions with the social partners to arrive at closer understanding of the factors underlying labour unrest and measures necessary for ensuring industrial harmony.

Legislation for Trade Unions

3392. SHRI ANNASAHAB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make the trade unions more accountable by enacting legislation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposals from the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Trade Unions on Labour Reforms in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL) : (a) and (b) Amendment proposals in the Trade Unions Act, 1926 are under consideration of the Govt. The Trade Unions (Amendment) Bill, 2001 has been passed by the Rajya Sabha on 2.8.2001. In the proposed amendments, inter-alia there are provisions that office bearers of the trade unions will be elected and their duration will not be more than 3 years, the proportion of office bearers to be connected with the

industry, to be enhanced from 1/2 to 2/3rd of the total number of office bearers.

(c) to (e) A representation from the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Coimbatore, has been received. In their letter, they have brought to the notice of the Govt. the announcements made by the Hon'ble Union Finance Minister in his Budget Speech on 28.2.2001 regarding amendments in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. These suggestions have been noted.

Theft of Cables in Delhi

3393. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to the incidents of theft of cables, thousands of telephones went out of order in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the area affected as a result thereof;

(c) whether such incidents of theft have also occurred earlier in these areas; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not taking corrective steps to check such theft ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. 125 cases of theft occurred in MTNL Delhi during last six months and this has resulted into about 61,000 telephones going dead.

(b) As per Statement-I.

(c) The area where cable thefts occurred earlier are given in Statement-II.

The following steps have been taken to check cable theft :

- Lodging of FIR.
- Persuasion with higher police authorities.
- Patrolling of major cable routes.

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

Statement-I

*Areas affected due to Cable theft Jan.
2001-July, 2001.*

Papan Kalan, Madh Vihar, Greater Kailash Enclave, Mandoli, Dwarka, Janakpuri, Kanjhawla, Andheri More, R.K. Puram Sector-6, Munirka, Ber Sarai, Rohini, Naraina.

Tughlaka Bad, Bawana Road, Netaji Nagar, JNU, Bawana Village, Egurn Pur, Noida More, Asafali Road, Vasant Kunj, Singhu Border, Mehrauli, Mahipal Pur, Singhola Village, Tikri Village Shahpur Village, Daryapur, Nangal, Sangam Vihar, Desh Bandhu Gupta Road, Alipur, Preet Vihar, Rohtak Road, Kalkaji DDA Flats, Metraon Village, Goela Dairy, Chhawla Bridge, Jharoda Road, Eastend Appartment, New Ashok Nagar, Express Appartment, Gazi Pur, Chander Nagar, Patpar Ganj Industrial Area, Jail Road, Siras Pur, Sonia Vihar, New Friends Colony.

Statement-II

Papan Kalan, Bawana, Dwarka, Janakpuri, JNU Campus, Mehrauli, Kanjhawla, Vasant Kunj, Andheri More.

Construction of Cold Storages at International Airports

3394. *SHRI RAJAIAH MALYALA :
 *SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR :
 *SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :
 *SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is planning to construct cold storage centres at all the international airports;

(b) if so, the names of the international airports identified for construction of cold Storage centres;

(c) whether there is any proposal to construct more cold storage centres at various international airports;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have assessed the benefit of this new facility to the Air India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

*The name of Members in original reply read as follows :

1. Shri Shripati Mishra
2. Shri Rameshwar Thakur.
3. Shri A. Venkatesh Naik
4. Shri Ashok Singh

The names of the Members as printed in the reply above were corrected through a correcting Statement made by hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Shri Chaman Lal Gupta on 30.8.2001

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India has set up State-of-the-Art Centres for perishable exports at Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad airports with the assistance of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). Walk in type cold rooms have been established at Mumbai, Kolkata and Guwahati airports.

(c) to (f) A centre for perishable cargo is being developed in cooperation with APEDA at Mumbai airport for which tender has been awarded on 27.2.2001. AAI has also identified land for perishable cargo complexes at Kolkata, Amritsar and Ahmedabad airports. The centre will facilitate increasing export of perishables. However, no specific study has been undertaken to assess the benefit specifically to Air India.

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

11.07 hours

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

[English]

14.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

(Interruptions)

14.01 hrs.

At this stage, Shri Adhi Sankar and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Adhi Sankar, you go back to your place.

(Interruptions)

14.02 hrs.

At this stage, Shri K. Malaisamy and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You please go back to your place. I will hear you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Palanimanickam, please go back to your place. I will hear you.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. Saroja, please go back to your seat.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, papers to be laid. Shri T.R. Baalu.

(Interruptions)

14.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of the Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 432 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th May, 2001, under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3939/2001]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 23 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 :-

- (i) S.O. 327(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 2001 delegating the powers vested under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the Chairman, State Pollution Control Board/Committee to issue directions to any Industry or any local or other authority for the violation of standards and rules relating to bio-medical waste, hazardous chemicals, industrial solid waste and municipal solid waste including plastic waste.
- (ii) S.O. 352(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th April, 2001 delegating the powers vested under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the State Government of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3940/2001]

- (3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.241(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of

India dated the 19th March, 2001 authorising a Member of the National Environment Appellate Authority to exercise the financial and administrative powers in the absence of Chairperson of Vice-Chairman, issued under sub-section (2) of section 22 of the National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3941/2001]

- (4) A copy of the Recognition of Zoo (Amendment) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 520(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th July, 2001, under sub-section (2) of section 63 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3942/2001]

- (5) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Andaman and Nicobar Islands forest and plantation development corporation limited and the Ministry of Environment and Forests for the year 2001-2002.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3943/2001]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1998-99, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1998-99.

- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3944/2001]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehra Dun, for the year 1999-2000.

[Shri T.R. Baalu]

- (9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3945/2001]

- (10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute, Bangalore, for the year 1999-2000.
- (11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3946/2001]

- (12) A copy of the National Environment Appellate Authority (Procedure for Conducting Inquiry against the Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson or a Member) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 450(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 2001, under sub-section (3) of section 22 of the National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3947/2001]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988 :—
- (i) S.O. 350(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th April, 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.R.O. 1181 dated the 4th April, 1957.
- (ii) S.O. 394(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2001 omitting the National Highway No. 101 from the Schedule to the National Highways Act, 1956.

- (iii) S.O. 395(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th May, 2001 declaring the National Highway No. 101 with a new alignment.
- (iv) S.O. 465(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 2001 entrusting National Highway No. 2 (Sikandra-Akbarpur-Bara Section) to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (v) S.O. 580(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st June, 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.R.O. 1181 dated the 4th April, 1957.
- (vi) S.O. 581(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st June, 2001 entrusting Stretches of the National Highway mentioned therein to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (vii) S.O. 591(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd June, 2000 Seeking to acquire land on Jaipur-Ajmer Road on National Highway No. 8 in the State of Rajasthan
- (viii) S.O. 939(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 2000 Seeking to acquire land on Udaipur-Ratanpur section of the National Highway No. 8 from 278.000 to 317.500 (Km. '0' at Ajmer) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (ix) S.O. 940(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 2000 Seeking to acquire land on Udaipur-Ratanpur section of the National Highway No. 8 from 317.500 to 315.0 (Km. 0'0' at Ajmer) in the State of Rajasthan.
- (x) S.O. 1009(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 2000 regarding levy of fees on mechanical vehicles for use of existing and new bridges across river Narmada at Zadeshwar in concession area from Km. 192/0 to Km. 198/0 on National Highway No. 8
- (xi) S.O. 1017(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2000 Seeking to acquire land Harmada to Chandwaji, Jaipur Bypass Phase II Zone 'D' Jaipur on the National Highway No. 8 in the State of Rajasthan.

- (xii) S.O. 1018(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th November, 2000 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 591(E) dated the 22nd June, 2000.
- (xiii) S.O. 694(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 602(E) dated the 28th June, 2001.
- (xiv) S.O. 673(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2001 Seeking to acquire land on Pune-Satara Road, on the National Highway No. 4 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (xv) S.O. 674(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2001 Seeking to acquire land for public purpose for four laning stretch on the National Highway No. 8 (Surat-Manor Tollway Road Project) in State of Gujarat.
- (xvi) S.O. 675(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2001 Seeking to acquire land for public purpose for four laning of Chengalpattu-Tindivanam Section of National Highway No. 45 in State of Tamil Nadu.
- (xvii) S.O. 671(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2001 Seeking to authorise District Magistrate (Land Acquisition) West Bengal as the competent authority to perform the functions of such authority under the National Highways Act, 1956.
- (xviii) S.O. 666(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 2001 seeking to acquire land for public purpose for widening of National Highway No. 5 in State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (xix) S.O. 657(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th July, 2001 Seeking to acquire land for public purpose for four laning of National Highway No. 4 in the District of Dharwad and Belgaum in the State of Karnataka.
- (xx) S.O. 621(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th June, 2001 regarding widening of existing National Highway No. 5 from Sunakhala to Khurda in the State of Orissa.
- (xxi) S.O. 601(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 2001 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 492(E) dated the 30th May, 2001.
- (xxii) S.O. 602(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th June, 2001 Seeking to authorise Officers mentioned therein as the competent authority to perform the functions of such authority under the National Highways Act, 1956.
- (xxiii) S.O. 594(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th June, 2001 Seeking to authorise Land Acquisition Officer, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, as the competent authority to perform the functions of such authority under the National Highways Act, 1956.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at Sl. No. (vii) to (xii) of item No. 1 above.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 3948/2001]
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :-
- (1) A copy of the Indian Post Office (Second Amendment) Rules, 2001 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 387(E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 2001 under sub-section (4) of section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1998.
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 3949/2001]
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) :
- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited and the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, for the year 2001-2002
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 3950/2001]
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited and the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, for the year 2001-2002
- [Placed in Library See No. LT. 3951/2001]

[Shri Tapan Sikdar]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited and the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, for the year 2001-2002

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 3952/2001]

14.04 hrs.

DEPARTMENTALLY RELATED STANDING COMMITTEES

A Review

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the Hindi and English versions of the 'Departmentally Related Standing Committee (1999-2000) - A Review'.

(Interruptions)

14.05½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Twenty-fifth Report

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Sir, I beg to present Twenty-fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Information Technology on Working of Prasar Bharati relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(Interruptions)

14.04 hrs.

MOTION RE : TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-fourth report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 10th August, 2001."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-fourth report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 10th August, 2001."

The motion was adopted.

(Interruptions)

14.06 hrs.

At this stage, Shri K. Malaisamy and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Matters under Rule 377 Listed for the day, be treated as laid on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

- (i) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Maharashtra for smooth conduct of Kumbh MELA at Nasik and Ankaleshwar

[Translation]

SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA (Dahanu) : In the year 2003 Kumbh Mela is going to be held in Nasik and Ankleshwar. Saints, ascetics and pilgrims from various States of the country as also abroad come to participate in the Kumbh Mela. Mela continues for around a month. The Government has to provide for proper roads, accommodation, Medical service, transportation services, drinking water facility etc. in view of the huge crowd. This work is undertaken by the State Government with the assistance of the local administration. A master plan has also been prepared for this and work has already been started. But due to certain limitations, it is becoming difficult for the local administration and the State Government to provide all these services, I therefore, request the Government to provide special assistance for services to be provided in the Kumbh Mela in Nasik Ankleshwar.

- (ii) Need to improve the functioning of telephones in Jalna Parliamentary constituency, Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB PATIL (Jalana) : The telephone System is not functioning properly in my

*Treated as Laid on the Table of the House.

constituency Jalana (Maharashtra). No improvement has been made till date despite informing the concerned officers in this regard. The telephone system is all the more worse in the rural areas. Telephone, PCOs remain out of order for months together and the Department does not pay any attention. The Department is not paying attention towards establishing telephone exchanges in this area. Since long, the villagers had applied for telephones, but no phones have been provided as yet.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to improve the telecommunication system in my area and to immediately release telephone connections to those people who had applied for them long time back.

(iii) Need to open retail outlets of coal in every block of Jharkhand State

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : There is not even a single retail outlet of coal in Jharkhand due to which, the consumers have to buy coal from the black market which leads to an increase in theft of coal in the subsidiaries of coal India Limited thereby causing loss in revenue.

The establishment of coal retail outlets by educated unemployed youth in all the Block headquarters of Jharkhand State would check deforestation as well as theft of coal. I raised this matter many times in Lok Sabha, but no action has been taken.

I, therefore, request the Government to make arrangements for allotment of coal retail outlets to unemployed persons by coal India limited in each block headquarters of the Jharkhand State so that the people of the State could be provided coal in the open market in an authorised manner.

(iv) Need to strengthen Zafra Janghai railway line in Jaunpur Parliamentary constituency, U.P.

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI (Jaunpur) : The condition of Jafra-Janghai railway line of Northern Railway in my constituency is worsening day by day. There is not only a need to maintain and upkeep this railway line, but also to strengthen the railway line. If this railway line is strengthened, the direct train link for Janghai via Shahganj, Jaunpur and Jaffarabad could be provided and the demand for direct train for Mumbai from Azamgarh-Jaunpur can also be fulfilled and express trains on Jaunpur Allahabad route can be operated.

(v) Need to make cotton mills, under NTC at Beawar and Vijaynagar in district Ajmer, Rajasthan, viable

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer) : There are very old textile mills in Beawar and Vijaynagar in district Ajmer (Rajasthan) and Udaipur which are contributing a lot towards the textiles production since pre-independence days. Thousands of workers are working in these Mills, under the control of NTC.

There are no other avenues for providing employment in Rajasthan due to severe famine like conditions for the last three years. In the Edward and Mahalakshmi Mills, Beawar, district Ajmer and Vijay Cotton Mill, Vijaynagar in district Ajmer, the workers are being retrenched under voluntary Retirement scheme by declaring these mills as sick by not providing full job and raw material to the workers. Workers are also not being given the approved pay-scales and benefits etc. declared earlier and now these mills are going to be closed down by declaring them unviable. Thousands of workers would be rendered jobless and would be devoid of means of livelihood and their families would face serious crisis.

I, therefore, request the Government not to close down Edward and Mahalakshmi Mills, Beawar, district Ajmer and Vijay Cotton Mill, Vijaynagar, district Ajmer and cotton Mill in Udaipur. These Mills should be given complete job orders and outstanding dues of workers and pay scales of the workers should be cleared and settled.

(vi) Need to clear the proposal of paying bonus for the year 1997-98 onwards to the employees of Union Territory of Chandigarh

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh) : The employees of Union Territory of Chandigarh have not been paid bonus for the year 1997-98 and onwards. This is being denied to them on the ostensible ground that such orders have not been issued in case of the employees of Punjab Government. It is now accepted that it is only "the pay scales and service conditions" of Punjab that are applicable to the Chandigarh employees since 1.4.1991 and that bonus does not fall within the ambit of "Service Conditions". The matter is now pending with the Home Ministry only on the question of the basis of calculation of the bonus to be paid. Clearly, this has to be as per the basis applied by the Govt. of India in paying bonus to its employees. Since the matter has been lingering on for long causing anxiety and concern amongst the U.T. employees, I urge the Government to clear the same expeditiously.

(vii) Need for revival of the Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd., Mangalore, Karnataka

SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (Udupi) : The Kudremukh Iron Ore Co. Ltd. at its inception had ambitious plans based on long term orders in hand for iron ore from Iran with whose assurance of long term buying contract the project was established. Because of political changes in Iran, the orders were abruptly cancelled and the KIOCL was forced to look for alternative export markets. For some years Japan also patronized KIOCL for its Iron ore requirements.

Now KIOCL is struggling hard to stay afloat. The Centre is not extending any revival package for KIOCL and the Company is left to mend itself. KIOCL offers employment, direct and indirect, to more than 10,000 people.

I would therefore, urge the Centre to come to the rescue of KIOCL by renewing its mining lease and to provide a turn-around package.

(viii) Need to set up an Indian Institute of Technology in Bihar

[Translation]

SHRI RAJO SINGH (Begusarai) : Technical Education has suffered a major set back as a result of the division of Bihar State because three prominent Technical Institutes have gone to the State of Jharkhand. It has become essential to open an Indian Institute of Technology in Bihar on the pattern of other States, keeping in mind the need of Human Resource Development and the importance of Human Resource in all round development. Indian Institute of Technology have been opened in almost all the highly populated States of the country.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the need for opening Indian Institute of Technology in Bihar. Keeping in view the demand of technical education and needs of Industrial development of the State.

(ix) Need to strengthen Farakka-Azimganj section of Eastern Railway and provide halt of Mail trains at Dhuliyen, Nimitita and Jangipur, district Murshidabad, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI ABUL HASNAT KHAN (Jangipur) : Farakka-Azimganj section of Eastern Railway requires adequate attention. Because of over-aged railway track, the speed

of trains normally becomes slow. Though there are business centers like Dhuliyen, Aurangabad and Jangipur yet there is not stoppage of mail train on these important places. Thousands of commuters are being deprived of railway travelling facilities. The condition of the stations and their approach roads are in deplorable condition.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take up upgradation measure of railway track, railway stations and make arrangements for stoppage of mail trains at Dhuliyen, Nimitita and Jangipur in the interest of the lakhs of people of Jangipur sub-division of Murshidabad District.

(x) Need to amend Income Tax Act, 1961 to allow adjustment of capital gains raising from the disposal of the assets of the Public Enterprises particularly in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam) : The Government of Andhra Pradesh have floated a number of companies under the Companies Act 1956 as well as Cooperative Societies to promote industrial growth and also to take care of certain developmental activities. A large number of these companies/societies have become sick and have become unviable. Government of Andhra Pradesh has taken up comprehensive economic restructuring to arrest the drain on State exchequer.

The State Level Public Enterprises are required to dispose of their assets in order to meet their liabilities. While disposing of the assets, sale of some assets mainly land may result in capital gain. The capital gain on disposal of these assets is less than the accumulated losses.

The Companies are carrying forward large accumulated losses and huge liabilities. They also have to incur heavy expenditure towards VRS to the employees. In view of these factors and similar situation that would arise in respect of Central Public Sector Enterprises as well as enterprises of other State Governments, I request the Government of India that the Income Tax Act, 1961 may please be amended to allow adjustment of capital gains arising from the disposal of the assets of the Public Enterprises, under restructuring privatization/winding up against carry forward accumulated losses.

(xi) Need to ensure that the aerodrome at Prithviganj in Pratapgarh district, U.P. is not used as godown by the Food Corporation of India

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH (Machhlishahar) : One aerodrome of the defence forces is located in Prithviganj in district

Pratapgarh of Uttar Pradesh. The Food Corporation of India is using the aerodrome as a godown for storing wheat due to which much damage has been caused to the aerodrome. This aerodrome built by incurring crores of rupees of expenditure could be put to use anytime. The Common passage beside the aerodrome, used by the people of many villages has been closed.

Sir, through you, I request the hon. Minister of Defence to get this aerodrome vacated from the Food Corporation of India and thus prevent it from getting further damaged.

- (xii) Need to provide financial assistance to Government of Maharashtra for providing relief to the people affected by drought in Marathwada region.**

SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (Parbhani) : Sir, it did not rain at all since the Sowing of Kharif crop in all the eight districts of Marathwada region. Severe famine conditions have emerged in Marathwada region. The toil of farmers as also the money invested in seeds, fertiliser etc. have all gone waste. The Government of Maharashtra had sent a committee for studying the conditions prevailing there, but no assistance has been provided in even a single district out of the eight districts of Marathwada. Now people are compelled to flee from this area. There is neither a drop of water to drink, nor foodgrain to eat. Animals are dying in the absence of fodder and the farmers are getting ruined.

Sir, through this august House, I request the Government that in view of the serious situation, it may immediately intervene in the matter in order to tackle the problem of famine and alongwith providing compensation to the farmers, it may arrange for foodgrain through the food corporation of India for the poor people facing severe famine.

- (xiii) Need to include Kandhamal and Baud districts of Orissa under KBK districts Improvement Scheme**

[English]

SHRI PADMANAVA BEHERA (Phoolbani) : The Central Government have announced in the year 1998-99 to provide special funds from the Centre to implement KBK districts improvement scheme in the State of Orissa. We welcome it but the neighbouring district of Kandhamal and Baud have been left out of this scheme. These two districts of the State are the most backward districts economically in comparison to other districts of the State. More than 70 per cent of the population are from SCs/STs. No

irrigation facilities and electrification have yet been provided in these districts.

I therefore, urge upon the Government to include these two districts of Kandhamal and Baud in KBK plan of the State which have been left out so that poor/down-trodden people of the State may be benefited.

- (xiv) Need to rescind the order imposing restriction on the Urban Cooperative Banks to increase the proportion of Statutory Liquid Ratio holding particularly in Maharashtra**

SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK (Kolhapur) : Sir, the Reserve Bank of India vide its circular dated 19.4.2001 has imposed restrictions on the Urban Co-operative Banks to increase the proportion of Statutory Liquid Ratio (SLR) holding in the form of Government bonds and other approved securities as percentage of Net Demand and Time Liabilities (NDTL) in the prescribed format provided by them and the manner in which it should be achieved by March, 2002. The Reserve Bank of India, in its half yearly credit policy has imposed some major conditions which are applicable to the Urban/District Central Co-operative Banks.

The Urban Co-operative Banks have deposited major crunch of the amount of SLR holdings with the District Central Co-operative Banks. The amount deposited by these banks forms 40% of deposits of distt. Central Co-operative Bank. In view of the changes suggested by RBI, the motto of Co-operative cannot achieve its objective as now the funds deposited with RBI cannot be used in the areas of movement.

I, therefore, request the Government to withdraw the said circular immediately.

- (xv) Need for early construction of overbridges on Chennai-Bangalore National Highway No. 46 passing through Vellore Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM (Vellore) : The Chennai-Bangalore National Highway No. 46 passes through my Constituency, i.e. Vellore Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu. On this National Highway, six over-bridges have to be constructed to facilitate smooth flow of traffic. The railway line which goes from Chennai to Bangalore and Coimbatore passes through this National Highway in six inter-sections, including Pachakuppam, Vaniyambadi, etc. Thousands of buses, cars and other heavy motor vehicles plying everyday from Chennai to Coimbatore and Bangalore cross these inter-sections of railway crossings and owing to non-availability of over-bridges, smooth flow of traffic is badly affected in this Highway. Construction of

[Shri N.T. Shanmugam]

these six over-bridges has been a long felt need of the people from my Constituency. Government of India has already planned and sanctioned the required amount for this purpose.

I, therefore, request the Government of India to expedite the process so that the commuters of the National Highway No. 46 are benefited to a greater extent.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I tell you, the way in which you have been treated is condemnable. At the same time, in the morning, the removal of shirt and the exhibition in the Well of the House is equally reprehensible. Never in the history of the House we had such an exhibition.

Not only that, you have to raise matters according to rules and from your seats. Whatever Privilege Motion notice has been given by you on this issue is under the consideration of the hon. Speaker, I ask you to go back to your seats, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, Tuesday, August 14, 2001, at 11 a.m.

14.07 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, August 14, 2001/
Shravana 23, 1923 (Saka).*

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