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Wednesday, May 10, 2000
Vaisakha 20, 1922 (Saka)

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(English Version)

Third Session
(Thirteenth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, May 10, 2000/Vaisakha 20, 1922 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTRY DELEGATION FROM MALDIVES

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Abdullah Hameed, Speaker of the People's Majlis of the Republic of Maldives and other hon. Members of the Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other hon. Members of the Delegation are:

1. Ms. Ameena Mohamed Didi, M.P.

2. Mr. Abdul Shakoor, M.P.

The Delegation arrived in Delhi on Tuesday, 9th May, 2000. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them, we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, the People's Majlis and the friendly people of the Republic of Maldives.

11.02 hrs.

ORAL ANWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Cost and time Overruns

*621. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:
SHRI C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than half of the 428 projects relating to various ministries are running behind their schedule;

(b) whether the cost of these projects has increased from Rs. 79,547 crores to Rs. 97,314 crores;

(c) if so, the complete facts in this regard and the common reasons for the cost and time overrun;

(d) whether any study has been conducted about the causes of this phenomenon and any solution has been found by his Ministry;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

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

Statement

Statement on Projects with cost and time overrun

(a) Yes, Sir. As on 31.3.2000, out of 452 Central Sector Projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, 205 projects are running behind their approved original schedules. The extent of time and cost overruns with respect to the original schedules and costs is given in Annexure I and with respect to the revised schedules and costs is given in Annexure II. The summary of central sector projects in various States/Union Territories is given in Annexure III.

(b) and (c) The cost of 205 delayed projects has increased from the original cost of Rs. 52,987 crores to Rs. 84,167 crores, i.e., by 58.8 percent.

According to the analysis carried out by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in respect of the projects on its monitor, a number of factors of delays have been observed. Details of these factors and the

number of projects affected by them are as follows:

Sl. No.	Factors	No. of Projects
1.	Fund constraints	55 (43 Railways, 8 Coal, 1 Steel and 1 Power)
2.	Land Problems (7 Forest and 47 others)	55 (34 Railways, 17 Coal, 3 Power and 1 Petroleum)
3.	Delay in-Civil Works	48 (34 in Railways, 3 Telecom, 2 each in Coal, I&B, Power, Urban Development, and rest others)
4.	Delay in award of Contract	43 (16 Railways, 12 Surface Transport, 4 I&B, 3 Mines, 2 Telecom, 1 each in Atomic Energy, Coal, Finance, Fertilizers and Urban Development)
5.	Slow Progress	36 (14 Railways, 8 Surface Transport, 2 Petroleum, 3 each in Atomic Energy, Coal, and rest others)
6.	Delay in supply of equipment (9 indigenous and 5 imported)	23 (8 Railways, 6 Coal, 5 Petroleum, 2 Atomic Energy and balance in others)

In addition, other reasons for time and cost overruns in projects obeerved over a long period of time are as follows:

Reasons for Time Overrun

(i) Lack of supporting infrastructure facilties,

(ii) Changes in scope,

(iii) Industrial relations and law & order problems,

(iv) Delay and uncertainty in feed stock supply,

(v) Pre-commissioning teething troubles,

(vi) Technology problems, and

(vii) Geological surprises.

Causes of cost escalation:

(i) Changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties,

(ii) High Cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures,

(iii) Higher cost of land acquisition,

(iv) Change in the scope of project,

(v) Higher prices being quoted by the bidders in certain areas,

(vi) Under-estimation of original cost, and

(vii) General price rise.

(d) to (f) The Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation carries out study of factors of delay and cost overruns each quarter. In order to cut down delays and cost overruns in projects, a mechanism of Standing Committee, with the approval of the Cabinet, has been evolved in each Ministry for infrastructure projects costing Rs. 50 crores and above, which have reported time and cost overruns. This Committee is headed by Additional Secretary or Joint Secretary of the concerned Ministry/ Department with representatives drawn from Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) and Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. The Standing Committees have the mandate to go into the details of time and cost overrun, identify the respective responsibility areas and suggest remedial action. The reports of the Standing Committees form part of the revised cost estimates of projects which have time and cost overruns and the same are submitted, along with the Revised Cost Estimates Notes for the consideration of the CCEA. So far, 22 Ministries have set up such Committees and about 40 cases have been referred to them.

The projects face various kinds of problems during the course of implementation. The exact measures taken to ensure speedy and efficient implementation depend on the nature of the problems being faced by the projects. The important measures being taken in general are as follows:

- Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and helps the management in taking remedial measures.
- In-depth critical review of the progress by the Project Authorities and Administrative Ministries.
- Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.
- Close follow up by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation as well as the concerned Administrative Ministries and Project Authorities with the State Governments, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.
- Inter-ministerial coordination and interaction.
- Emphasis on preparation of realistic project implementation plans.
- Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific projects facing constraints.
- Providing funds to projects to ensure implementation of projects within the approved cost and schedule.

Annexure-I

Extent of time/cost overrun in projects with respect to original schedule
As on 31-3-2000

Sl. No.	Sector	No. of Projects	Total Cost (Rs. CRS)			Proj. with cost overrun				Proj. with time overrun			
			Original	Anticipated Cost	Cost Overrun (%)	No.	Orgl. Cost	Anticipated Cost	%INCR Base	No.	Orig. Cost	Anticipated Cost	Range (No)
1.	Atomic Energy	11	5703.4	15003.2	163.1	4	4921.3	14410.0	192.8	6	2092.8	5890.7	33- 76
2.	Civil Aviation	15	492.2	535.8	8.8	5	160.5	204.1	27.1	8	238.6	270.6	2- 57
3.	Coal	85	12161.8	13717.5	12.8	16	4995.5	6798.3	36.1	36	8203.0	9772.4	2- 189
4.	Finance	1	118.3	348.8	194.9	1	118.3	348.8	194.9	1	118.3	348.8	96- 96
5.	Fertilisers	6	739.0	749.5	1.4	1	28.0	38.5	37.5	0	0.0	0.0	0- 0
6.	I & B	5	202.5	249.9	23.4	1	34.2	81.6	138.9	5	202.5	249.9	24- 132
7.	Mines	5	4033.4	4039.8	0.2	1	157.5	163.8	4.0	1	157.5	163.8	8- 8
8.	Steel	11	3177.8	4275.7	34.5	5	2827.7	3925.5	38.8	8	2988.0	4086.9	2- 35
9.	Petrochemicals	1	3484.4	3809.9	9.3	1	3484.4	3809.0	9.3	1	3484.4	3809.0	40- 40
10.	Petroleum	39	26879.3	27432.9	2.1	5	3009.7	3767.5	25.2	13	11377.2	12077.8	3- 58
11.	Power	29	27554.0	45800.3	66.2	17	18797.4	37292.1	98.4	15	9079.7	24552.1	22- 136
12.	Railways	192	26508.0	36358.7	37.2	125	15971.1	26001.5	62.8	62	9699.7	15360.7	2- 132
13.	Surface Transport	55	5460.7	7807.3	43.0	26	3420.0	5859.4	71.3	36	4136.1	6225.5	1- 132
14.	Telecommunication	8	936.1	936.1	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8	936.1	936.1	1- 48
15.	Others	9	5220.2	5726.0	9.7	6	5072.0	5578.4	10.0	5	281.4	403.6	29- 53
	Total	452	122671.0	166790.6	36.0	214	62997.6	108278.6	71.9	205	52987.2	84167.0	

Annexure-II

Extent of time/cost overrun in projects with respect to latest schedule
As on 31-3-2000

S. No.	Sector	No. of Projects	Total Cost (Rs. CRS)			Proj. with cost overrun				Proj. with time overrun			
			Latest approved	Anticipated Cost	Cost Over Run (%)	No.	Latest approved	Anticipated Cost	%INCR Base	No.	Latest approved	Anticipated Cost	Range (No)
1.	Atomic Energy	11	11432.9	15003.2	31.2	4	10835.0	14410.0	33.0	6	4848.4	5890.7	22- 55
2.	Civil Aviation	15	514.5	535.8	4.1	2	110.3	131.6	19.3	8	260.8	270.6	2- 57
3.	Coal	65	12716.1	13717.5	7.9	12	4828.9	6077.3	25.9	36	8757.3	9772.4	2- 120
4.	Finance	1	348.8	348.8	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1	348.8	348.8	40- 40
5.	Fertilisers	6	739.0	749.5	1.4	1	28.0	38.5	37.5	0	0.0	0.0	0- 0
6.	I & B	5	249.9	249.9	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5	249.9	249.9	24- 41
7.	Mines	5	4033.4	4039.8	0.2	1	157.5	163.8	4.0	1	157.5	163.8	8- 8
8.	Steel	11	3519.8	4275.7	21.5	5	3169.6	3925.5	23.8	8	3330.0	4085.9	2- 35
9.	Petrochemicals	1	3484.4	3809.0	9.3	1	3484.4	3809.0	9.3	1	3484.4	3809.0	40- 40
10.	Petroleum	39	26906.1	27432.9	2.0	3	2135.7	2851.5	33.5	13	11362.0*	12077.8	3- 58
11.	Power	29	38365.0	45800.3	19.4	15	18382.4	26066.1	41.8	15	19042.5	24552.1	12- 77
12.	Railways	192	29360.9	36358.7	23.7	1166	16522.9	23721.1	43.6	60	11652.9	15042.4	2- 132
13.	Surface Transport	55	6086.6	7807.3	28.3	24	3708.1	5522.5	48.9	36	4564.3	6225.5	1- 120
14.	Telecommunication	8	936.1	936.1	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6	868.5	868.5	3- 48
15.	Others	9	5282.2	5726.0	8.8	5	5051.3	5515.7	9.2	5	290.2	403.6	29- 53
	Total	452	143975.7	166790.6	15.8	189	68414.0	92232.6	34.8	201	69217.6	83761.0	

Annexure-III

Summary of central sector projects in various States/UTs as on 31.03.2000

SR. No.	State/UT	Total cost (Rs. Crores)				Exp. Till Previous Financial Year (Rs. Cr)	Outlay 1999-00 (Rs. Crs)	Cum. Exp. till Qtr. (Rs. Crores)
		No. of Projects	Original	Latest Approved	Now Anticipated			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36	7505.60	7924.52	8110.89	1810.38	1189.95	2531.24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	468.78	831.74	1635.63	797.64	163.00	962.71
3.	Assam	14	6552.86	6731.59	7971.65	3422.63	557.86	4046.94
4.	Bihar	34	7043.29	8057.71	10016.05	3397.95	803.39	3903.57
5.	Goa	5	406.00	406.00	410.55	5.11	19.50	15.54

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
6.	Gujarat	18	10573.43	10628.92	11290.16	4543.55	639.21	5194.66
7.	Haryana	6	9014.54	9135.05	9160.94	640.49	376.29	947.20
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2	3362.04	9350.33	9350.33	3817.71	1115.33	4774.17
9.	J & K	5	2891.57	6625.63	7415.94	2810.34	445.78	3183.81
10.	Karnataka	13	2004.18	3550.41	5152.17	2558.98	384.82	2819.09
11.	Kerala	7	1144.61	1144.61	1226.24	632.02	351.68	979.47
12.	Madhya Pradesh	37	8741.89	8907.21	9083.65	3750.05	1407.20	4902.47
13.	Maharashtra	55	9643.18	12708.91	16314.73	3250.21	1467.94	4318.85
14.	Manipur	1	578.62	578.62	578.62	4.37	5.00	6.59
15.	Mizoram	1	368.72	368.72	368.72	5.47	59.00	9.95
16.	Nagaland	1	96.31	331.59	758.70	522.69	110.00	654.22
17.	Orissa	26	12937.49	13125.64	14635.35	1351.66	1411.02	2581.43
18.	Punjab	5	496.68	748.00	837.47	544.76	84.28	606.65
19.	Rajasthan	7	1484.12	2879.56	3553.92	2007.68	328.69	2253.43
20.	Tamil Nadu	32	8081.62	8378.67	9351.46	2703.09	1629.81	3866.02
21.	Tripura	2	594.32	594.32	869.21	37.84	43.15	58.68
22.	Uttar Pradesh	25	5044.03	5332.21	8635.12	2455.31	974.65	3108.84
23.	West Bengal	34	3266.87	3829.50	4541.94	1596.59	431.53	1893.68
24.	A & N Islands	1	47.63	47.63	47.63	25.80	9.50	33.20
25.	Delhi	13	5393.15	5449.39	5884.44	609.90	482.54	837.73
26.	Multistate	70	14929.50	16309.50	19589.10	5597.96	2723.71	7745.27
All India		452	122671.03	143975.72	166790.61	48900.18	17244.83	62235.21

(NIC-DPI)

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Hon'ble Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether the reasons given for the delay in implementation of the projects were not known earlier? The cost of many projects has increased too much. The reasons which were told are not such that they were not known when the projects started because it always takes time in acquiring land for the project. It is not a new thing that the delay is taking place only in the case of these projects. Therefore, hon'ble Minister should tell about the committees which were constituted and what reports were submitted by those committees. What is the present position of those projects.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: It is true that factors involved in this case are the same which are continuing for years and decades. There are three main reasons. One reason is delay in land acquisition and rehabilitation policies. There are total 205 projects which are delayed and in about 55 projects reason of delay is land acquisition only.

[English]

In land acquisition, the delay that is taking place has affected a very large number of projects. For this, first the review of the Land Acquisition Law has been before

the Government since 1994. A Group of Ministers has been constituted now to finalise these recommendations. It is headed by the Deputy-Chairman of the Planning Commission.

In coordination with the States, this law will have to be changed. This is the first point. Secondly, the same difficulty arises in acquisition of forest land. The third factor that has come up in almost 55-56 projects is that projects have been started over the last decade or so for which adequate funds were actually not available. So, nominal allocations were made and then, when attempts were made to complete them, there was a paucity of funds.

The second question that has been asked is—these are well-known factors—as to what has happened and what has been done about these. There are two steps that have been undertaken. The first is to focus on those projects which can be immediately completed and in this, Sir, I am happy to report to the House that considerable improvement has been made. By the late Eighties, the cost over-run was almost 62 per cent in the projects which were having over-runs. Now, in the 450 projects that are on our monitor, the cost over-run—I am not excusing anything—has come down to 36 per cent. Last year, only one-third of the projects which were due for completion by March 31st were completed. This year, about 80 per cent of the projects which were due for completion by March, 2000, have been completed. So, there is improvement and I can sincerely report to the House that these are not just conventional committees which have been set up for preparing reports, these are groups headed by the Cabinet Secretary, and the Secretary (Coordination) to actually coordinate with the Ministries to expedite the implementation of the projects.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Mr Speaker, Sir, what is the present position of those 223 projects, in which there is no delay?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think that this question has already been replied.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: We are monitoring 452 projects which are of more than 20 crores out of them ten are running ahead of schedule and 131 projects are on schedule.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Reply which was given here for that I have no intention to make this Government only responsible, but there are not two opinions that delay is due to Governance there. We are told that some change has to take place in land Acquisition Act and due to that this delay is taking place. With due respect I would like to say that in existing land Acquisition Act there is one emergency clause under which land can be acquired immediately. The cost over run and time over run is taking place and due to which we have to spend so much money. According to present account cost over run in rupees 18,000 crores. This is only possible if we make use of new machines, adopt new methods of monitoring and supervision, take incentive and disincentive, take decisions on time and get co-operation of State Governments in this work. Why do not we make use of human ingenuity instead of giving reasons and try to reduce cost over run and time over run, make that more efficient because it is necessary to be efficient for every Government which comes in power, otherwise every succeeding Government will say that earlier Government did this and therefore we are doing this. What is the intention of Government in this regard?

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I entirely agree with the very constructive approach of the hon. Member.

It is not the fault of one particular Government. It is matter of general governance being weak in all spheres in India including project implementation. Therefore, the need is to induct greater managerial expertise and input into our project implementation and into the entire hierarchy of Government service also. But may I make one small point? We have to focus on the problems as managers. You know, we talk of cost over-runs and Rs. 17,000 crore is a very big figure. When we analyse it from the point of view of sloving the problem, you will be surprised to know that one project....

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Shri Arun Shourie Saheb, please speak in Hindi.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Some want me to speak in English while others ask to speak in Hindi. I will speak mixture of both.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mulayam Singh ji, are you giving the answer.

[English]

Translation also is going on.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: One single project accounts for 20 per cent of the total cost over-run of Rs. 17,000 crore. This is for one project. If you take the two highest cost over-run projects, Nathpa Jhakri and Dulhasti, they account for 30 per cent of the total cost over-runs that we all are exercised about. The first five projects account for half the total cost over-run. One of the suggestions is that we should focus as managers on these 5 to 28 projects. Just 28 projects account for 85 per cent of the cost over-runs. Once we focus on these, we can deal with the actual problem. Similarly, there are about 20 projects which account for the main time over-runs. If we can focus on those 20, then we can really make a breakthrough in this. That is exactly what the Cabinet Secretary, the Secretary (Coordination) and others are doing at this time.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister the following:

(a) How many of these Central sector projects have been pending since the first Five Year Plan Period?

(b) How many of these Central Sector projects are related to infrastructure of this country that are creating serious hurdles in the growth of our economy?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, on the specific question of how many projects are pending since the first Five Year Plan Period, I would obtain information and pass it on to the hon. Member.

SHRI ADHI SANKAR: Sir, the NDA and the hon. Prime Minister have reiterated many times that it would give top priority to boost the infrastructure industries. But to my surprise I notice from the reply given that there are more than 323 projects that are suffering either from cost over-runs or time over-runs. Hence, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what special action does the Government propose to take to complete these projects without any further time over-runs.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, as has been listed in the answer itself, several steps have already been taken to expedite the whole process. I will mention some other steps also that are being contemplated by us. The first of these is that we must be much more realistic in our estimates of project costs. I find many projects are sanctioned 'as a foot in the door' projects with minimal cost estimates and then they go on increasing over time. This is an endemic problem going on for the last 25 years.

Second, we must prepare better project report. This is specially the case in the projects located in the North-East. Third, as I mentioned we should focus on completing existing projects rather than going on sanctioning new projects. The fourth one is very important. There are several projects, as I mentioned to you, 31 projects are proceeding ahead of schedule. There are several projects like the Bombay-Pune Highway project that have been completed in a exemplary way. We must study the practices by which of an achievement, were made possible and we should replicate them elsewhere. The Land Acquisition Act of 1894 has to be changed. It is being examined at this very time. Next a very important point on which to focus is to standardise contract documents.

We have already prepared standardised contract documents through the Construction Industries Development Council. We hope to engage other Ministries and public sector enterprises in standardising these contracts because in tenders and contracts, a lot of disputes arise and a lot of delays take place.

Finally, there is the Dispute Resolution Mechanism we need to expedite this.

Sir, a question was asked about infrastructure projects. In the contracts given on infrastructure projects, in the construction industry alone about Rs. 53,000 crore are locked up in disputes. If you settle those disputes quickly and release that money, you would definitely get a lot of funds for infrastructural development in the country. So, a number of these steps have been taken up.

[Translation]

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: As the hon'ble Minister has said that many a times system is responsible for delays in projects, because I myself have been Minister in the centre for two years. Therefore, I have experience, that sometimes a minor delay can make a loss of crores of rupees. I have seen many a times in some matters oral communication by telephone is sufficient, but unneccessary, correspondence takes place. I would like to tell the hon'ble Minister that due to delay in projects there is loss of millions of rupees. The poor people have to pay the price of this delay. For example in Madhya Pradesh to save 60 crores of rupees, 90 thousand people were rendered jobless in Madhya Pradesh and due to this reason ten persons committed suicide. And due to that reason only I am still on hunger strike....*(Interruptions)* I would like to know the projects of Madhya Pradesh which are still laying pending in your department and the reasons for delay? What is the number of projects in Madhya Pradesh and what are the reasons of their delay?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

*(Interruptions)...**

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Minister please.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, I will obtain information regarding Madhya Pradesh projects and pass it on to the hon. Member.

Sir, the previous question asked was whether there is any project which is pending since the First Plan. But I will check up on that factor and come back to you. The Comptroller and Auditor General has told me that some projects are kept pending even though they are completed, the last mile is not completed, so that plan expenditure can be used for making non-plan payments.

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Is it about Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: It is not about Madhya Pradesh. I am talking in general.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Shri Arun Shourie ji, we all know that your English is very good but when the question is asked in Hindi then speak in Hindi only....*(Interruptions)* You are talking of swadeshi but supporting foreign language....*(Interruptions)*

KUMARI UMA BHARATI: Shri Mulayam Singh ji, I support you....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh, we have the Hindi interpretation also going on in the House. So, you can use your earphone for getting Hindi interpretation.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you may please complete your reply. This question has already taken 20 minutes.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, I will just end this. As I mentioned, some projects are deliberately kept incomplete so that plan expenditure can be used for paying salaries and wages. The Comptroller and Auditor General is examining these projects now.

* Not Recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Q. No. 622-Dr. Sanjay Paswan.

SHRI SATYAVART CHATURVEDI: Sir, Q. No. 621 is a very important question. Please allow me also to put a Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand. We have already exhausted 20 minutes on it. How much time do you want to take in one Question?

...(Interruptions)

Procedure for Appointments in PSU's

+
*622. DR. SANJAY PASWAN:
SHRI KAMAL NATH:

With the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to revise the Rules and Procedure for high level appointments in Public Sector Undertakings by streamlining the composition of Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the main amendments likely to be made; and

(d) the status of the Board after withdrawal of its powers to select officers for the Public Enterprises?

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

Statement

(a) to (d) The Government have made certain amendments/additions to some of the provisions of Resolution No. 27 (21) EO/86 (ACC) dated 3rd March, 1987 by which the Public Enterprises Selection Board was reconstituted. Those amendments have been published in the Gazette of India. Extraordinary, dated April 20, 2000. The changes effected are given below:

(i) As per the Resolution, one of the Members of the PESB was to be a distinguished former Chief Executive of a Public Sector Enterprise.

it did not give scope for considering the appointment of a serving Chief Executive or serving/former Chief Executive of a Private Sector Enterprise or a Joint Sector Enterprise. In order to widen the scope for consideration, an amendment has been effected so as to enable consideration of a serving or former Chief Executive of a Public Sector or Private Sector or Joint Sector Enterprise, as a Member of the PESB.

(ii) In the Resolution, there was a provision for appointment of a distinguished former civil servant with experience in management of Public Sector Enterprises or in areas of finance, industry or economic affairs as a member of the PESB. There was no scope for considering a serving civil servant as a Member. Therefore, an amendment has been made to enable the Government to consider a serving civil servant also for appointment as a Member.

(iii) Another amendment relates to incorporating a provision in the Resolution to the effect that the Chairperson or a Member, who, on the date of his appointment to the PESB, was in the service of the Central or a State Government, shall be deemed to have retired from such service with effect from the date of his appointment as Chairperson/Member, as the case may be, of the PESB.

(iv) There was a provision in the Resolution that "In special cases, recruitment may be made from the organised services under the Central Government. Such cases would be where, because of special circumstances, it is necessary to place a member of an organised service in a Public Sector Enterprise or where because of the nature of the enterprise or its poor health, it would be difficult to attract good professional managers on a tenure basis."

However, there were no guidelines laid down in the Resolution in regard to the above. Therefore, a provision has been added in the Resolution as below:

"In special circumstances, the appointment to a particular post or posts in a Public Sector Enterprise may be made other than through the PESB with the prior and specific approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet while granting such an approval, will also specify the body such as, Search Committee, Selection Committee, or the Civil Services Board, as the case may be, that shall make the selection for that particular post or posts, as well as the selection procedure to be followed for filling the particular post or posts."

(v) To take care of situations where suitable persons for consideration for appointments to Board level posts in sick and potentially sick Public Sector Undertakings on immediate absorption basis might not be forthcoming, Government had issued instructions on the 19th June, 1998 to enable appointments of officers of All India or Group 'A' Central Services, on deputation basis, to the posts of CMDs of sick and potentially sick Public Sector Undertakings, without insisting on the rule of immediate absorption. The same has now been included in the Resolution constituting the PESB as below:

"In respect of sick and potentially sick Public Sector Undertakings, the administrative Secretary of the Ministry/Department concerned, in consultation with the PESB and with the approval of the Cabinet Secretary could take a decision at any stage in the process of recruitment to the post of Chairman, Managing Director or Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Public Sector Enterprise, to take a person on deputation from any of the All India or Group 'A' Central Services without insisting on the rule of immediate absorption.

The aforesaid amendments do not result in the withdrawal of any of the existing powers of the PESB. There is no other amendment proposal presently under consideration.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN: Mr, Speaker, Sir, in the light of globalisation, liberalisation and knowledge based society, I would like to know whether the Ministry of Prime Minister's Office is concerned about the professionalism of the persons and about their appointments in the public sector enterprises.

I would like to know that efforts are being taken to get rid of the bureaucratic clutches and to streamline the PESB in the wake of this knowledge-based society. I would also like to know from the hon. Minister what efforts are being taken to professionalise this recruiting body.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that a total of five amendments have been recently effected in the provisions of the

Resolution, which is dated the the 3rd March, 1987, by which the Public Enterprises Selection Board has been reconstituted. These amendments have been notified through a Gazette Notification dated April 20, 2000.

The first modification relates to the criteria, which we are talking about. The first modification relates to widening the eligibility criteria of the members of the Public Enterprises Selection Board to include serving Chief Executives of public enterprises or serving or former Chief Executives of private sector enterprises or even joint sector enterprises. Earlier, a member could only be a former Chief Executive and so I think the hon. Member would agree that this amendment widens the scope of the consideration and strengthens the composition of the PESB.

The second amendment widens the scope, again, for consideration from 'a former civil servant with expreience in management of public enterprises on areas of finance, industry or economic affairs' to include those 'civil service officers who are serving officers'. This, again, would be patently obvious as there can be no dilution of the intent of the PESB.

Then, in order to prevent a serving civil servant who might be appointed by this PESB from having divided loyalties by virtue of his continuance with the Government, a third amendment has been effected that 'the civil servant would be deemed to have retired from the office that he was holding from the date he assumes charge as Chairman or Member of the PESB'.

There is also another amendment, of the 19th June, 1998, in which sick and potentially sick public sector undertakings in which there were people who were not available for appointment are dealt with. All these cases are considered exceptional cases. The administrative Secretary of the Department, with the approval of the Cabinet Secretary, decides to take in a person on deputation....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Today, the Ministers are taking more time to answer questions.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: It is a huge Question. There are a lot of issues that he wanted to know about....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, they are very well informed Ministers.

SHRI PRAKASH PARANJPE: A good support for Ministers from the Opposition benches!...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: This is a question that has a very wide ambit. I think, it is important for them to understand what exactly it is all about. Otherwise, questions arise and newspaper articles come up, where there would be a lesser comprehension of the subject at hand.

As far as the Question of the hon. Member is concerned, I would just like to say that according to the present provision, we have just now three full-time members of the PESB. He should either be a former Chief Executive of a PSE or a distinguished member, who is well-versed in finance and industry or a distinguished former civil servant with experience in the management of PSEs. So, a lot of safeguards have been built into the system. Under the circumstances, I think that the PESB, with the constitution as it is of today, is very well versed in handling the situation that arises out of liberalisation and glogblisation, which the hon. Member has talked about.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN: The PESB is a recruiting agency for recruiting people to posts like Chief Executive Officer, CMD, MD and Director. I would like to know from the very liberal Minister who is very much concerned about the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the OBC people whether there is any proposal to give adequate representation to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the posts of CEO, CMD and MD.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: These are not considerations that come into at the time of appointment of people at the level of CMD and merit is the consideration.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: The basic idea of changing the PESB rules is to improve appointments and to have quicker appointments.

I would like to know the hon. Minister as to how many vacancies are still lying in the public sector enterprises and what was the need of including a retired bureaucrat in the Committee. The main problem in the system is that technocrats are appointed to head public sector enterprises, but bureaucrats are getting appointed and that is why the public sector is running into losses, because it becomes a Kingdom for them. I have worked in six Ministries and I have got the experience about it. This is a very wrong decision. Will the Minister reconsider this?

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, there is a criteria which has been set down for the appointment of the members in the PESB. As the hon. Member, I am sure, knows, there are three full-time members of the

PESB. One is a distinguished former Chief Executive of a public sector undertaking, the second is a distinguished person with experience in the selection of top management personnel, and the last is a distinguished former civil servant with experience in the management of public sector enterprises.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DAV: This is my objection.

MR. SPEAKER: Are technocrats being considered for this?

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: This is exactly why the amendments have been made. One of the amendments says that in exceptional circumstances, where technocrats of this nature are required, then the selection will go through the ACC, which will set down a perscribed procedure of a Selection Committee or a Search Committee, which will have technocrats as part of the Committee. I think, it will be able to give you the kind of results that you require.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Committee on Public Undertakings of Parliament has discussed this issue in detail and made a few positive proposals regarding restructuring of the PESB. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she has taken into consideration the proposals made by the Committee on Public Undertakings, before finalising the restructuring of the whole system and also the reply that she has placed before the House today.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: I would like to know as to which proposal the hon. Member is referring to.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether the Committee on Public Undertakings' recommendations were taken into consideration, before giving reply to the main question.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, the reply has been given after taking into consideration all these things.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY: Sir, in the Committee on Public Undertakings, which consists of Members of Parliament, we discussed this matter in detail and we made a few positive proposals for restructuring of the PESB. Already, there are allegations to the effect that the recommendations made by the Standing Committees are not taken seriously by the Ministers. So, I would request you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, to instruct the Minister to look into these proposals with priority and importance.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Absolutely. Certainly, the recommendations of the Committee on Public Undertakings have been seriously considered.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a global change in the management structure of various industries, both in the public sector as well as the private sector and efficient management is the only way to run these industries. Many public sector undertakings are becoming sick due to lack of managerial skills. Some time back, it was thought that there should be an All India cadre of management trainees to head these institutions, like any other civil service. This is the only solution to properly manage the public sector undertakings, instead of drawing Managers on the spot, institutions. Will there be any proposal before the Government for constituting a separate cadre of management service so that they can head these public sector undertakings, instead of depending on the civil servants.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, there is no such proposal under consideration, at the moment. In any case, due to the disinvestment process that is going on, the role of the public sector itself is shrinking slowly, but surely, in a way. However, what the hon. Member has suggested is not under consideration of the Government.

SHRI K. MALAISAMY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as may be seen from the reply, the existing amendment has been in existence with effect from 1987. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, as to what is the immediate provocation to reconstitute a Board like this.

Was it a recommendation of the Committee on Public Undertakings or has any separate institution gone into or is it purely an administrative decision? If so, what is the immediate cause for reconstituting this?

In case it is going to be implemented immediately, would you think that this would bring better improvement and better performance in the selection by the reconstituted Board?

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, the five amendments, that I just started this question with, have been made in April, 2000. This is para 7 (2) of the Resolution adopted by the Public Enterprises Selection Board in 1987 where a provision already existed that in special cases, recruitment can be made to these organised services. There were no guidelines laid down in this respect at that time. This was challenged in the court by a Public Interest Litigation and the court wanted to know whether there were any guidelines which were issued to regulate appointments in the public sector

enterprises. It was pointed out that there were not any. As a result of that and keeping in mind the High Court's thinking, we have gone ahead with putting down these five amendments. These have been made to streamline the PESB and to lay down the guidelines after taking into consideration the High Court's views in the Vadhera's case.

[Translation]

Indian Labour Conference

*623. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 36th Indian Labour Conference was held in the month of April, 2000 to focus on industrial sickness and the possible replacement of the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction found ineffective in dealing with the critical problem;

(b) whether the system of hiring and firing of workers was also discussed;

(c) if so, the decision arrived at on this issue; and

(d) the details of other recommendations and the decisions taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) One of the items discussed in 36th Session of Indian Labour Conference (ILC) held from 14-15th April, 2000 was industrial sickness. Some members of the ILC were of the opinion that the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction in its present form is not effective in handling the problems of industrial sickness.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The major recommendations of ILC including setting up of a separate restructuring fund for PSUs, closer participation of workers in industry, setting up of a national revolving fund for labour education and establishment of labour academies by State Governments to provide quality education to the children of workers.

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, I fully disagree with answer (a). In the latest Indian Labour Conference which took place in the month of April at New Delhi, many trade union organisations and trade union leaders, including the BMS leaders, raised the issue of replacement and of the BIFR because it is a fact that the BIFR, in its present form, is not effective in dealing with the problems of the PSUs.The decision of the BIFR on the sick PSUs is redundant. Most of them, including the Vizag Steel Plant and other leading PUSs, are still pending before the BIFR and waiting for years together for a decision of the BIFR.

Sir, at this very moment, in the industry and the PSUs referred to the BIFR, the sickness level is a case study. The confidence of the consumer has been shaken. Now, about the functioning of the BIFR, after the lapse of a long time, they are issuing the death certificate to the PSUs.

In view of this position, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is considering about the replacement of the BIFR? If not, why is the Government debarred from taking steps and measures for replacement of the BIFR? Now, it could constitute a new institution so that that institution can properly and effectively deal with the problems of the sick PSUs and industry of our country.

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the original question relates to Indian Labour Conference. Hon'ble Member is concerned that the working of BIFR, which has been set up under Sick Industrial Companies Act, is not effective. In order to consider the provision under the section 22 of the SICA, a group comprising of Ministers was formed on March 14, 2000 which includes Finance Minister, Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises Minister, Energy Minister, Mines and Minerals Minister, Commerce Minister and Industries Minister. It considered the ways to make BIFR more effective. Two types of opinions were expressed in this regard at the Indian Labour Conference. As you know, it is the highest body for tripartite negotiations. Its output has been notable in the last Indian Labour Conference. We are definitely having consultation about the concerns raised by hon'ble Member.

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: I would like to remind the hon. Minister of his Speech at a Conference presided over by him wherein he had stated that all groups of workers in the unorganised sector, after a day's hard work in the fields, remain starved; the workers who are

engaged in construction of buildings sleep without shelter. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of his speech, whether he is considering bringing any comprehensive Bill for these construction workers, agricultural labourers, daily wage earners and other workers in the unorganised sector.

MR. SPEAKER: It is already there in the written reply given by the hon. Minister. Yes, Mr. Minister, would you like to reply to this?

[Translation]

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Member has expressed concern about the construction workers, who number about two crore in the country. We are considering to convene a national level conference of Labour Ministers of States to enact a legislation for the welfare of construction workers. I firmly believe that as regards the law relating to construction workers, Tamil Nadu and Kerala already have some provisions in this respect. At all India level as we have been requesting the State Governments to implement existing laws for the welfare of the workers. We will constantly make efforts to take effective measures to provide relief to the construction workers.

[English]

SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Sir, what about the agricultural labourers and other workers in the unorganised sector?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon'ble Minister has stated that two types of opinion were expressed in the Indian Labour Conference about BIFR. Mr. Speaker, Sir we get two shades of opinion on all disputed subjects. But now it has been proved that the role of the BIFR has been negligible and it has benefitted neither sick industries nor the labourers. I would like to enquire from hon'ble Minister about the criteria adopted by the Government to evaluate the role of BIFR and the viewpoint of the Government in this regard? Also what is the work procedure and achievements of the BIFR? Is the Government satisfied with it? Though hon'ble Minister has said that a committee has been formed to review and consider its working. But is the Government satisfied with it? If not, then the relaxation or the financial attoreny which should have been given to the BIFR by the Government, has been granted and whether, even after that, the BIFR has not been a complete failure?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Hon'ble Member is concerned about the working of the BIFR. Our Government and a group of Ministers is working on that. Definitely, it is a shortcoming on the part of the BIFR that its measures for re-establishment of any industry are inadequate. Everybody knows that. Definitely, the Act of SICA under which BIFR works, should be implemented after making amendments therein at least till we bring another legislation in its place. Section 22 of SICA provides that as soon as a case is referred to the BIFR, the constitutional liabilities of the labourers are restricted. Consensus, is in favour of implementation of this act till it is replaced by another act.

SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government has concluded that the BIFR has failed in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, please. This question relates to the Indian Labour Conference.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission I would like to know from hon'ble Minister what plans have been formulated to rehabilitate the labourers affected due to industrial sickness? Jaipur Industries Limited is the largest cement factory of Asia. What plans have been fromulated by the Union Government for the rehabilitation of affected labourers working there?

DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: It is a particular question. I will definitely make the information available to the hon'ble Member.

[English]

Loss due to Floods

*624. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drainage problem due to frequent floods and heavy rains affect vast stretches of agricultural land in the coastal States, particularly in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether is any comprehensive plan to tackle the problem;

(c) if so, the estimated funds required therefor;

(d) whether the Government have provided the required funds;

(e) if not, whether the Government propose to seek the help from World Bank; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. At present, there is no comprehensive plan as such to tackle the problem at the Central level. However, the Government of Orissa is stated to have prepared a comprehensive plan for improvement of drainage problem covering Cuttack, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Jaipur, Bhadrak, Balasore, Puri and Khurda districts.

(c) The Government of Orissa proposal requires Rs. 364.40 crore at 1997 price level.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) At present, there is no proposal at the Central level to seek the assistance of the World Bank. The Government of Orissa, however, proposes to seek the assistance of the World Bank for improvement of drainage system in Mahanadi Delta in stages I&II covering Kendrapara, Cuttack, Puri and Khurda districts amounting to Rs. 227 crore at the 1999 price level.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, the hon. Minister, in reply to part (a), has admitted the fact that there is drainage problem due to frequent floods and heavy rains. Yet, in reply to part (b), he has said that in Central Government has no comprehensive plan to tackle it. Again in reply to part (c), he has said that the proposal of the Government of Orissa requires Rs. 364 crore. In reply to part (d), he has said, 'No, Sir', and the Government of India has not given a single penny. In reply to part (e) and part (f), he has said that there is no proposal at the Central level for assistance but he has left the entire thing to the court of the Government of Orissa to fend for themselves.

The hon. Prime Minister had appreciated the fact that a State Government like Orissa, which is beset for the last 35 years with so much of natural calamities like cyclone, flood, and drought—now we are going through a severe dourght—took the initiative to form a Task Force and the Orissa Cyclone Reconstruction Authority. The Government of Orissa is unable to mobilise necessary resources. As a part of the comprehensive plan, which the Government of Orissa has given, they have left out five districts, which were also affected by cyclone and flood, namely, Dhenkanal, Angul, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj, and Ganjam. These are not mentioned by me but these are mentioned by the Government of Orissa. Part (b) of the Report says that the Government of Orissa has prepared a comprehensive plan but they do not have single penny. So, they have to beg of the Central Government. Now, the Central Government does not have a plan, and they do not want to give single penny.

I would like to know whether this would be a part of the Task Force which can look into the aspect of the comprehensive plan, which would include all the 14 districts because these were affected by heavy rain by floods and due to the cyclone. This is my first supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member has enquired about the agricultural land in the coastal states affected due to problem of water drainage caused by flood and heavy rains. In his question, he has specially mentioned Orissa. The damages due to cyclone have occurred recently but the losses are suffered quite frequently because of floods and inadequate arrangement of water drainage. Hon'ble Member has mentioned about the degradation of agricultural land only- it is not so. I want to tell him that not only the agricultural land but the entire area is affected. The task force, appointed by the Union Government, has so far inspected only the irrigation lands through the Ministry of Water Resources. I have mentioned it in my reply also. As far as cyclone affected Orissa is concerned, it has been given assistance by undertaking both immediate and long tern relief measures. Orissa Government has sent a separate proposal for the consideration of World Bank regarding the specific problem mentioned by the hon'ble Member.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister has totally misguided the House....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask your second supplementary.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Before I ask my second supplementary, I would like to clarify it.

My question was this. The hon. Prime Minister had realised that the State Government of Orissa would be unable to tackle the stupendous task as a result of the destruction by cyclone, in which flood was a part of it. So, the nine coastal districts, apart from the other five inland districts, that is, Dhenkanal, Angul, Keonjhar,

Mayurbhanj and Ganjam, were affected by cyclone and flood. These statistics are not given by me but these are given in the Memorandum of the Government of Orissa. The hon. Minister, Shri George Fernandes, also took a meeting of the Members of Parliament yesterday and in his note also, these five districts are there....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask your second supplementary.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Sir, he is misguiding the House. Unless I clarify, what is the point of my asking the second supplementary?...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask the supplementary clarification also.

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: He is in-charge of agricultural production. As a result of this, it is the agricultural production which has fallen. As part of the Task Force, we have to see that from June onwards, our agriculturists get back into agricultural production. There is no mention in his reply as to what is the action that they are going to take. He has left everything on the Orissa Government. It is impossible.

He has not answered properly to the first question. My second question is that in spite of all this, in answer to parts (e) and (f) he says that there is no proposal at the Central level to seek the assistance of the World Bank. The Government of Orissa, however, proposes to seek the assistance. I would like to know whether the Central Government will at all hold the hand of the State Government of Orissa which has been beset with so many problems. Or, are they going to leave it entirely on the Government of Orissa?

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: I cannot dare to mislead the House and nor can I afford to do so.

[English]

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: You have been misleading the House for the last five minutes.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given reply to the question raised by the hon. Member. As both you as well as the hon'ble Member are aware, that agriculture is the State subject, and I have mentioned the proposal recommended by the State Government. As far as the question of action taken by the Central Government is concerned, the Department of Water Resources has set up a committee. I have mentioned earlier also that the proposal has been evaluated and it covers irrigated land. Therefore it is not appropriate to say that I am trying to mislead the House. As far as the question of losses caused due to cyclone in Orissa and relief work is concerned, the hon'ble Prime Minister has very kindly released the funds to the tune of Rs. 800 crore for the cyclone hit State of Orissa. Therefore, it is not appropriate to say that everything has been left to the Orissa Government. The hon'ble Member is himself aware of it.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, every year water logging takes palce in areas adjoining Nepal Border in UP and Bihar, due to rains and floods caused by rivers of Nepal it is affecting these areas. Through you, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister, whether the Union Government would take measures to save this area and if not, the reasons therefor?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a different Question but this relates to Orissa.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: You please allow the Orissa MPs to participate.

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU (Narsapur): Sir, in Andhra Pradesh, some coastal districts are affected....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are not from Orissa.

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Of course. It is regarding Andhra Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER: This is entirely related to Orissa.

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: The coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh are also affected.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is another Question which is also an important one. Please take your seat.

SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Some coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh are also affected by flood and cyclone. The Government of Andhra Pradesh had sent some proposals. I would like to know whether they are considering them quickly or not, and whether any assistance would be provided to these coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh.

MR. SPEAKER: This Question does not arise. There is no supplementary.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO: As the Minister has already mentioned, the Central Government has helped the State Government in mitigating the problem of flood there. But still there are flood-related problems like deforestation, silting of the riverbed and the drainage system, especially, in the delta zone of Orissa. Does the Government have any plan? When did the Staet Government send the plan to the Central Government to finalise it? I would like to know this from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the Minister please.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the question may please be repeated...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I think this is not proper please.

Now, the hon. Member can ask the supplementary again please.

SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO (Kalahandi): Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, what plans are there to have a permanent solution to mitigate floods in the State of Orissa. As you know, Sir, in the Delta region of Orissa, every year there are floods. So, I would like to know whether a comprehensive drainage system has been developed for the Delta region. Silting of river-beds of deforestation are the primary reasons for floods in the State. So, what steps is the Government taking in that direction to stem the floods?

[Translation]

SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA: Mr. Speaker, Sir the proposal forwarded by the Orissa Government is about drainage system. Secondly, the hon'ble Member says that the problem of floods should be completely mitigated. I feel that it is only possible if proper drainage system is developed for all forests, pastures and ponds or a permanent solution is provided to control floods. Today I am not in a position to say anything in detail about this issue.

[English]

Survey on Floods

*625. SHRI C.N. SINGH:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any survey to identify areas affected annually by heavy floods;

(b) if so, the areas identified during 1999-2000;

(c) the funds allocated and released so far by the Union Government for the purpose in 1999-2000 and in current financial year to each flood affected State;

(d) whether some State Governments are not utilising the funds provided for flood control;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken so far to control floods?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (f) Rashtriya Barh Ayog assessed the area liable to floods as 40 million ha. in India. Statewise breakup of area liable to floods is at Annexure I. The record of area affected by floods in each year is maintained by the respective States. The area affected due to floods during the year 1999-2000 is given at Annexure II.

Flood Management work is a State subject. Funds are allocated to the State by the Planning Commission as block loans and grants for the flood control sub sector under State plan fund. The approved outlays under flood control sub sector of state plan for each of the flood affected State during the year 1999-2000 are given in Annexure III. The outlay in the state plan under flood control sub sector for the current financial year i.e. 2000-2001 has not been finalised by the Planning Commission. Central Government also provides Central assistance to the States for specific schemes. Financial assistance provided by the Ministry of Water Resources to the flood affected States of Assam, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh during 1999-2000 is Rs. 15 crore, Rs. 5.18 crore and Rs. 0.47

crore respectively. In addition to this, assistance to various States is also provided from the National Fund for Calamity Relief (NFCR) and Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). The status of assistance for NFCR and CRF for the year 1999-2000 is given in Annexure IV and V respectively.

Over all the State Governments have utilised the funds allocated to them in the flood control sector as evident from the details of outlays and expenditure shown in Annexure VI. However some of the States could not fully utilise the allocation due to reasons such as delay in project preparation, constraints in land acquisition, problems in execution, etc.

The long term and short term measures to control floods are executed by the States as per priorities fixed by the States out of their own plan fund allocated by the Planning Commission. Central Government as per existing procedure provides technical advice and conducts appraisal of schemes when referred by the States for their clearance. Government of India has set up the Ganga Flood Control Commission in 1972 for preparing comprehensive master plan for flood management in Ganga basin. The master plans prepared by Ganga Flood Control Commission have been sent to the concerned Ganga basin States for their implementation. Similarly, Government of India has set up Brahmaputra Board in 1980 for preparing the master plans for the Brahmaputra, the Barak and their tributaries. The Master Plans prepared by Brahmaputra Board have been set to all the basin States for their implementation. All these master plans contain the recommendations for both short term and long term measures of flood control. The recommendations of the two Committees on flood management, headed by Secretary, Water Resources, one for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa and the other for North eastern States constituted in 1987 were sent to the concerned States alongwith the conclusions of the Empowered Committee. Besides this, in September, 1996 Central Government have constituted five Task Forces and the reports of these Task Forces have been sent to the respective State Governments for taking up necessary follow up action.

In addition to the above, Central Water Commission operates 157 flood forecasting stations through out the country for providing timely forecasting services to the States. Flood forecasting services help in mitigating the loss of life and property due to floods.

Annexure-I

Area liable to floods in the Country

(Area in lakh ha.)

Sl. No.	State	Area liable to floods
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.9
2.	Assam	31.5
3.	Bihar	42.6
4.	Gujarat	13.9
5.	Haryana	23.5
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2.3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.8
8.	Karnataka	0.2
9.	Kerala	8.7
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2.6
11.	Maharashtra	2.3
12.	Manipur	0.8
13.	Meghalaya	0.2
14.	Orissa	14.0
15.	Punjab	37.0
16.	Rajasthan	32.6
17.	Tamilnadu	4.5
18.	Tripura	3.3
19.	Uttar Pradesh	73.36
20.	West Bengal	26.5
21.	Delhi	0.5
22.	Pondicherry	0.1
	Total:	335.16

(Say 34 million ha.)

Flood prone area as per data from States for period 1953-78		34 Million ha.
Area protected till then (1978)		10 Million ha.
	Total:	44 Million ha.
Area flooded due to failure of protection works which might have been added in the reported flooded area (assumed)	(-)	4 Million ha.
Total Flood Prone Area in the country		40 Million ha.

Annexure-II

Area affected by Floods, during the Monsoon of 1999

Sl. No.	Name of States	Area affected (in lakh hectare)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	NR
2.	Assam 1st wave	1.45
	2nd wave	1.48
3.	Bihar 1st wave	7.40
	2nd wave	0.62
4.	Gujarat	NR
5.	Himachal Pradesh	NR
6.	Karnataka	0.40
7.	Kerala	NR
8.	Madhya Pradesh	0.62
9.	Orissa	1.53
10.	Punjab	0.02
11.	Tripura	0.20
12.	Rajasthan	NR
13.	Uttar Pradesh	0.39
14.	West Bengal 1st wave	10.23
	2nd wave	

NR:- Not reported.

Annexure-III

Statement showing approved outlay in flood control sub sector for 1999-2000

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/U.T.s	Flood Control
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	42.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.25
3.	Assam	27.25
4.	Bihar	110.00
5.	Goa	0.85
6.	Gujarat	5.00
7.	Haryana	20.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	8.12
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	32.10
10.	Karnataka	6.90
11.	Kerala	24.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1.01
13.	Maharashtra	0.99
14.	Manipur	7.00
15.	Meghalaya	3.00
16.	Mizoram	Nil
17.	Nagaland	
18.	Orissa	12.63
19.	Punjab	105.39
20.	Rajasthan	3.55

1	2	3
21.	Sikkim	0.02
22.	Tamil Nadu	17.77
23.	Tripura	5.85
24.	Uttar Pradesh	23.53
25.	West Bengal	165.30
26.	A&N Island	0.00
27.	Chandigarh	0.00
28.	D&N Haveli	0.00
29.	Dama & Diu	0.18
30.	Delhi	20.00
31.	Lakshadweep	3.05
32.	Pondicherry	4.00

*Rs. 4.5 crore is for major and medium, minor irrigation, command areas development and flood control sector. Individual break up for flood control sub sector not available.

Annexure-IV

Statement showing status of release of assistance from National Fund for Calamity Relief during 1999-2000

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State	Calamity	Assistance released
1.	Manipur	Drought	4.93
2.	Tripura	Drought	5.34
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Earthquake	16.68
4.	Andhra Pradesh	Drought	75.36
5.	West Bengal	Heavy rains/floods	29.52
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	Drought	73.42
7.	Bihar	Floods & Cyclone	38.18
8.	Gujarat	Drought	54.58
9.	Karnataka	Drought & Floods	17.09
10.	Madhya Pradesh	Drought & Floods	38.86
11.	Mizoram	Drought	6.00
12.	Orissa	Floods & Cyclone	828.15
13.	Rajasthan	Drought	102.93

Annexure-V

Statement showing status of Calamity Relief Fund 1999-2000

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	Central Share Released
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10769.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	610.00
3.	Assam	4337.00
4.	Bihar	3378.75
5.	Goa	93.00
6.	Gujarat	12105.00
7.	Haryana	2173.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2337.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1709.00
10.	Karnataka	3629.00
11.	Kerala	4804.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4429.00
13.	Maharashtra	4435.50@
14.	Manipur	161.25@
15.	Meghalaya	242.00
16.	Mizoram	110.00
17.	Nagaland	147.00
18.	Orissa	4250.00
19.	Punjab	4696.00
20.	Rajasthan	15525.00
21.	Sikkim	306.00*
22.	Tamil Nadu	5147.00
23.	Tripura	390.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	8137.50*
25.	West Bengal	4450.00

*First quarterly instalment amounting to Rs. 102.00 lakh and Rs. 2712.50 lakh in respect to Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh respectively released in advance during 1999-99

@Fourth quarterly instalments amounting to Rs. 1126.25 lakh, Rs. 1478.50 lakh and Rs. 53.75 lakh in respect of Bihar, Maharashtra and Manipur respectively have not been released for want of information relating to constitution of CRF and crediting and Central and State share into the fund.

Annexure-VI

Statement showing approved plan outlays and expenditure in flood control sub-sector

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT's	Outlay 8th plan 1992-97	Expenditure during 8th plan	Approved outlay 1997-98	Expenditure during 1997-98	Approved outlay 1998-99	Expenditure during 1998-99
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	143.54	232.87	17.00	17.85	49.00	49.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.71	11.41	4.48	3.76	4.61	4.16
3.	Assam	86.85	97.59	19.92	16.24	20.27	20.27
4.	Bihar	251.70	170.88	40.00	42.34	63.00	43.00
5.	Goa	0.90	2.44	0.84	0.94	0.60	1.16
6.	Gujarat	10.00	13.20	5.00	4.00	5.00	5.00
7.	Haryana	52.00	55.76	12.10	20.71	23.40	20.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.00	9.47	3.90	3.65	5.74	5.88
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	40.75	57.31	15.90	17.61	26.51	26.12
10.	Karnataka	11.00	44.46	7.48	10.31	7.00	7.00
11.	Kerala	65.00	125.12	25.50	22.13	24.00	24.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	8.53	3.53	1.00	0.72	1.00	1.00
13.	Maharashtra	1.46	104.92	6.37	0.98	1.16	1.16
14.	Manipur	20.00	27.18	6.00	6.84	5.10	5.10
15.	Meghalaya	8.54	5.87	2.00	1.50	3.00	2.00
16.	Mizoram	0.25	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Nagaland	1.50	0.51	0.20	0.20	0.09	0.09
18.	Orissa	42.05	44.21	5.00	18.31	15.00	15.00
19.	Punjab	125.00	138.46	70.00	51.05	182.84	184.84
20.	Rajasthan	25.30	77.81	7.82	12.34	4.93	4.53
21.	Sikkim	0.00	3.07	2.34	1.09	0.50	0.02
22.	Tamil Nadu	30.00	3.64	2.03	0.00	0.80	0.80
23.	Tripura	8.00	10.52	4.64	4.64	3.21	3.24
24.	Uttar Pradesh	70.00	53.48	18.15	14.40	20.00	45.90
25.	West Bengal	280.00	174.51	70.23	62.32	145.90	82.22

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
26.	A&N Island	0.50	2.52		—	0.00	0.00
27.	D&N Haveli	0.02	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Delhi	40.00	54.53	17.96	10.02	24.00	15.81
30.	Daman & Diu	1.17	1.41		0.40	0.28	0.28
31.	Lakshadweep	2.60	9.25		3.69	2.63	0.00
32.	Pondicherry	4.44	13.93		3.83	3.00	3.00
	Total	1341.36	1550.14	365.86	351.87	642.57	570.58

[Translation]

SHRI C.N. SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, last year heavy rains ruined the crops in Pratapgarh and Jaunpur districts of Uttar Pradesh. Hon'ble Minister has stated that survey has been conducted. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister towards the fact, that the State Government is paying wages to its employees out of the funds allocated for flood control. No action is being taken over there to control the floods. The rainy season is approaching and yet the drains of Jaunpur, Pratapgarh and other places have not been cleaned. Last year, a very big dam constructed by Irrigation Department was washed away and entire Gorakhpur was submerged. Would the hon'ble Minister tell us whether the funds allocated to the State governement are being properly utilised or not and whether the drains of Pratapgarh and Jaunpur are being cleaned or not? If not, the time by which they would be cleaned?

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Member has asked whether the funds allocated for flood control are being properly utilised or not. The funds allocated for flood control are allocated under irrigation total plan out of which the State has to spend on flood control also. Besides that, at the time of floods, funds are also allocated under Prime Minister's Relief fund. Apart from that as hon'ble Minister said the funds are also allocated under Infrastructural Development Fund of NABRAD, and the State government can spend that money also. I would like to get the information from the hon. Minister of Water Resources of that state in regard to the question asked by the hon. Member and then I will apprise the hon'ble Member whether work is being done in that district or not.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for last so many years, Jaunpur, Pratapgarh and eastern Uttar Pradesh is being affected by floods. Whether the hon'ble Minister is aware how the funds sanctioned for this purpose have been utilised and also of the progress made in this regard. Monsoon is approaching and under these circumstances the eastern Uttar Pradesh will be again hit by floods. Whether the Minister is aware of the work done till date.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: According to the reports available with me the eastern Uttar Pradesh was not very much affected by floods last year. The worst hit areas were that of Bengal and Bihar. Uttar Pradesh was not much affected by floods.

SHRI C.N. SINGH: The Gorakhpur was completely flooded and till now no compensation has been paid....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: The report of hon'ble Minister's is not correct. The area was hit by flood and many districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh were submerged. It is wrong to say that there were no flood....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask your question later on.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am saying that last year Uttar Pradesh was hit by the floods....*(Interruptions)*

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Prime Minister himself had visited Gorakhpur. The hon'ble Minister is saying that according to his report last year flood did not hit Uttar Pradesh. He is giving the wrong statement...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh Singh, please take your seat. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the hon. Minister's reply.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to reports, the figures pertaining to U.P. for the last year show only 0.39 whereas Bengal and Bihar were affected more by the floods. Hon'ble Member is asking for regionwise details regarding Uttar Pradesh, I will apprise him in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I am always asking the Ministers to address the Chair and not the Members. That creates a lot of problems.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is also a second name in the Question. Please understand it.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the hon'ble Minister...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Akhilesh Singh, this is too much. Please take your seat. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you need not reply to it. This will not go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: This is not the proper way to raise matters in the Question Hour. There is a procedure. Please understand the procedure.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has stated in his reply that State Governments are responsible for flood control and states formulate long term and short term schemes for the flood control. The Union Government provides technical and financial support for these schemes. I would like to draw your attention to Bihar, particularly towards Northern Bihar where rivers flowing from Nepal causes great damage, but Bihar government do not have the right to discuss those problems with the Government of Nepal. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether he will try to solve this problem by holding dialogue with Nepal and would compensation be paid for the losses suffered due to floods.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that recently Foreign Minister of Nepal visited India. Detailed discussion was held with Nepal's Foreign Minister about these rivers which are causing flood in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. After completing cthe remaining work in that regard, I will visit Nepal in June and further progress will be made in this regard.

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I refer to the Statement by the hon. Minister on the Outlays for 1992-97 where it is shown that an amount of Rs. 86.85 crore was sanctioned for Assam. In 1995 a scheme known as Nemati-Daini Gaon Anti-Erosion Scheme in the river Brahmaputra in district Jorhat, Assam was finalised at an estimated cost of Rs. 32 crore. Even the Planning Commission has released an amount of Rs. 1 crore. I want to know whether the Government of Assam had utilised even that amount of Rs. 1 crore and I also want to know whether the Government would convert the loan assistance to Central assistance as assured then.

[Translation]

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the grant has been given for flood control and to check critical erosion in Assam. Brahamputra Board is working in direction of checking the critical erosion.

* Not recorded.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Sir, in the survey that has been conducted by the Government, there are as many as 10 States that are prone to severe floods every year, and in which Andhra Pradesh is one. The total resource base that is available for allocation of these funds under both these heads, that is, National Calamity Fund and Natural Calamity Relief Fund, is very small. Has the Government got any plan to increase the resource base for allocation of these funds towards flood control and natural calamities? The resource base is very small, and the demand is very high from various States. The demand is based on the realistic figures, but the allocation is very small. So, I would like to know whether you have got any plan to increase the resource base.

DR. C.P. THAKUR: Actually, the Government of India itself does not do any survey. They get reports from the State. On the basis of the reports from the States, the Central Water Commission prepares the report. I agree with the hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Natural Disaster Management Authority

*626. SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up Natural Disaster Management Authority; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Dairy Industry

*627. SHRI S.S. PLANIMANICKAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dairy Industry is faced with quality constraints, poor data base, inadequate Research and Development facilities, insufficient product development programmes and lack of infrastructure;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) the schemes proposed to be launched during the Ninth Five Year Plan period to improve present status of Dairy Industry?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) Quality improvement, building data base, research and development and product development activities are continuous processes. Various institutions at the National and State level are engaged in these activities. Private, cooperative and public sector enterprises have been building up infrastructure in the form of milk and milk products processing facilities as per need, in various parts of the country.

(c) In addition to the State Government Plan Schemes, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in Government of India is implementing the following schemes to increase milk production and to improve the status of the dairy industry in the country.

(a) National Project on Cattle Breeding

(b) Assistance to States for Fodder Development

(c) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases

(d) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication

(e) Assistance to co-operatives

(f) MMPO-Strengthening of Laboratory facilities

(g) Intergrated Dairy Development Project

[Translation]

Irrigated Land

*628. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total cultivable land in the country where irrigation facilities are fully available, State-wise;

(b) the total funds provided by the Union Government to each State Government to bring more cultivable land under irrigation, during each of the last three years;

(c) the percentage of cultivable land brought under the irrigation, during the above said period, State-wise;

(d) the funds spent by the Union Government to augment and harness the ground water during the period and the result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to increase the percentage of irrigated land in those States which are lagging behind in achieving the national average of irrigation capacity?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (e) As per the Land Use Statistics brought out by the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1996-97 (latest) Total Cultivable Area of the country was 183.54 million hectares. At the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1996-97), utilisation of the Irrigation Potential created was 80.76 million hectares. During 1997-98 to 1999-2000, utilization of created irrigation potential is anticipated to have increased by 3.94 million hectares (provisional) which is 2.15 percent of the total cultivable area.

State-wise details of Utilised Irrigation Potential at the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan, the additional Utilised Potential during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 and its percentage with respect to the Total Cultivable Area are given in the attached statement-I and the details of Plan funds allocated to the States to bring more cultivable land under irrigation through Major & Medium and Minor irrigation projects for each of the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are in the attached statement-II.

The Central Sector Schemes for Ground water development mainly pertain to survey and investigation of ground water resources, research and training and other technical matters for which an amount of Rs. 139.56 crore (provisional) was spent during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 by the Ministry of Water Resources. In addition, Ministry of Rural Development also operates "Million Wells Schemes", "Ganga Kalyan Yojana" (both merged at present under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yonjana) and "Accelerated Rural Water Mission, which inter-alia provide funds for harnessing gound water for drinking purposes as the main component. The funds released under these schemes by the Central Government during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 are as udner:

Funds released to States (Rs. in crore)

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
Million Wells Scheme	373.99	374.47	—	748.46
Ganga Kalyan Yojana	99.99	—	—	99.99
Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana	—	—	930.68	930.68
Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme	1077.80	1372.24	1352.22	3802.26
Total	1551.78	1746.71	2282.90	5581.39

Ground water resource contributes about 50% of irrigation potential, 80% of rural supply and over 50% of urban and industrial water supply. Keeping in view the need to cover additional areas under irrigation, the Government has taken/proposed to take various policy and programme initiatives. These include revision of National Water Policy (1987), Command Area Development Programme, preparation of National perspectives for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit areas, water management practices, promoting efficient and economic use of water for various purposes, emphasis on water conservation through various methods including use of latest technologies and peoples' participation in management of water for diverse uses. Besides, the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) has one of the strategies of irrigation development to complete all ongoing projects, particularly those which were started during pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan period as a time bound programme to yield benefits from the investments already made. In keeping with the strategy, the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) launched by Government of India in 1996-97 for expeditious completion of selected ongoing projects is continued in the Ninth Plan. The revised funding pattern under AIBP with effect from 1999-2000 is in the form of Central Loan Assistance (CLA) on 2:1 (Centre: State) basis for general category states and in 3:1 ratio for special category states of North-Eastern Region, hilly Sates of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Predesh and Sikkim as well as for the drought prone Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa. Minor Irrigation Schemes of the special category States are also being given CLA on 3:1 (Centre: State) basis with effect from 1999-2000.

Statement-I

State-wise details of total cultivable area and utilised irrigation potential with their relative percentage

Sl. No.	Name of States	Figures in Thousand Hectares			% of col. (5) over col. (4)
		Utilised irrigation potential (upto 1996-97)	Total Cultivable Area (1996-97)	Additional Utilised potential during (1997-2000)	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5570.96	15793	466.39	2.95
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	65.54	293	6.61	2.26
3.	Assam	622.62	3257	9.24	0.28
4.	Bihar	6897.90	10884	122.15	1.12
5.	Goa	29.84	197	2.52	1.28
6.	Gujarat	3039.62	12361	80.12	0.65
7.	Haryana	3365.24	3779	37.21	0.98
8.	Himachal Pradesh	134.01	805	6.63	0.82
9.	J & K	508.73	1051	13.99	1.33
10.	Karnataka	2960.41	12903	190.41	1.48
11.	Kerala	1001.80	2445	125.45	5.13
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4042.97	22776	86.70	0.38
13.	Maharashtra	3628.80	21167	614.30	2.90
14.	Manipur	103.19	164	22.20	13.54
15.	Meghalaya	39.47	1082	5.73	0.53
16.	Mizoram	11.22	446	1.26	0.28
17.	Nagaland	57.93	614	5.00	0.81
18.	Orissa	2669.71	7975	363.21	4.55
19.	Punjab	5748.46	4250	81.13	1.91
20.	Rajasthan	4425.17	25695	192.56	0.75
21.	Sikkim	20.59	114	2.18	1.91
22.	Tamil Nadu	3656.85	8314	8.31	0.10
23.	Tripura	86.33	310	11.65	3.76
24.	Uttar Pradesh	28049.00	20832	1050.91	5.04
25.	West Bengal	3909.42	5834	433.44	7.43
	Total-States	80645.78	183341	3939.30	2.15
	Total-UTs	113.36	205	3.80	1.85
	Grand Total	80759.14	183546	3943.10	2.15

Statement-II

Plan Funds Provided during 1997-98 to 1999-2000 for Irrigation Development (M&M+MI)

Sl. No.	States	Plan Outlay in Rs Crore			
		1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	827.79	938.81	1259.77	3026.37
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	27.67	22.22	22.48	72.37
3.	Assam	104.58	122.59	111.69	338.86
4.	Bihar	432.14	551.00	744.00	1727.14
5.	Goa	39.35	81.87	62.20	183.42
6.	Gujarat	1359.00	1402.43	1817.30	4578.73
7.	Haryana	390.62	512.41	550.00	1453.03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	45.09	59.66	71.68	176.43
9.	J & K	69.18	123.23	114.13	306.54
10.	Karnataka	1108.59	1607.06	1765.71	4481.36
11.	Kerala	194.65	194.00	205.72	594.37
12.	Madhya Pradesh	481.56	646.68	644.60	1772.84
13.	Maharashtra	2646.17	2994.25	3827.62	9468.04
14.	Manipur	57.00	65.50	78.00	200.50
15.	Meghalaya	9.50	14.50	17.00	41.00
16.	Mizoram	2.85	6.33	7.00	16.18
17.	Nagaland	3.53	4.31	4.31	12.15
18.	Orissa	657.00	695.77	635.74	1988.51
19.	Punjab	111.53	95.16	166.17	372.86
20.	Rajasthan	417.27	562.46	577.80	1557.53
21.	Sikkim	2.56	2.14	20.00	24.70
22.	Tamil Nadu	320.91	321.72	378.65	1021.28
23.	Tripura	30.30	50.04	73.05	153.39
24.	Uttar Pradesh	582.86	785.02	951.79	2319.67
25.	West Bengal	231.65	208.65	222.83	663.13
	Total-States	10153.35	12067.81	14329.24	36550.40
	Total-UTs	8.76	13.42	16.16	38.34
	Grand Total	10162.11	12081.23	14345.40	36588.74

[English]

Water Scarcity

*629. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate an effective strategy to deal with fast spreading water scarcity in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to seek technology from developed countries to face the water scarcity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. CP. THAKUR): (a) to (d) India receives a rainfall of about 4000 billion cu.m. every year. Out of this about 1869 billion cu.m. appears as average annual runoff in the various rivers of the country. It is estimated that due to increasing population the average annual per capita water availability may come down from about 1869 cu.m. at present to 1350 cu.m. by 2025 A.D. at the National level. According to international criteria any situation of yearly water availability or less than 1000 cu.m. per capita is considered as scaracity condition. Therefore, even by the end of 2025 A.D., India is not likely to face water scarcity situation at the national level, though uneven water availability may cause local water scarcity in some parts of the country.

Due to topographical and geographical limitations only about 690 BCM of surface water can be utilised in addition to 432 BCM of replenishable Ground water. The requirement of the country, upto 2025 AD can be met through optimal utilisation of these renewable water resources. A live storage capacity of 176.73 BCM has been created by construction of large dams and medium projects upto 1995. Projects to add an additional capacity of about 75.42 BCM are under construction and 132.32 BCM are under planning.

Government of India is also promoting Rainwater Harvesting through Watersbed Managament Programme, Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Roof-top Rainwater Harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge.

A National Water Policy already exists which provide for planning and management of country's Water Resources in a sustainable basis.

International support and co-operation both in terms of funds and technological update is obtained from multilateral agencies like World Bank and bilateral donar agencies for the development of country's water resources.

Breach of Settlement of Awards

*630. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases which have come to the notice of his Ministry for breach of settlement of awards during the last three years;

(b) whether Public Sector Undertakings/Government Departments being an industry are covered under section 29 of the Industrial Disputes Act;

(c) if so, the number of prosecutions launched against PSUs/Government Departments; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to amend the Industrial Disputes Act tc effectively implement the settlement of awards?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) The number of cases which came to the notice of Ministry of Labour for breach of settlement and non-implementation of awards under the provisions of the I.D. Act, 1947 during the last three years is as follows:-

Year	
1997	53
1998	42
1999	98

(b) and (c) Section 29 of the Industrial Disputes Act which relates to penalty for breach of settlement or award is also applicable to an industry run by Government and public sector undertakings. The number of prosecutions launched against PSUs/Government Departments is as follows:-

Year	
1997	20
1998	20
1999	44

(d) Amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 have been proposed keeping in view the requirements of social partners.

[Translation]

Bumper Crop of Potato

*631. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been bumper crop of potato in the country this year;

(b) if so, whether the potato growers are facing difficulties due to non-announcement of remunerative price of potato; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Remunerative price of potato is not announced by Government. However, Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) is being implemented for horticulture crops including potato on specific requests of State Government. The Scheme envisages the procurement of the determined quantity of produce at an agreed price for specific period to arrest downward trend of price and assure remunerative prices to the farmers. Losses if any are shared on 50:50 basis between Central and State Governments. NAFED is the central nodal agency for procurement under MIS scheme. So far only West Bengal has sent proposal for implementation of the scheme which has been referred back to the State for meeting certain deficiencies.

Model Act for Co-operatives

*632. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to enact the Model Co-operative Act to replace the Multi-State Co-operatives Act, 1984;

(b) whether during the last year's budget speech it was announced to have a Model Act;

(c) the reasons for not having the said act; and

(d) the time by which the said act is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Legislative proposal for replacing the existing Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act, 1984 had been firmed up and approvals obtained but due to dissolution of 12th Lok Sabha, the Bill could not be introdued in the Parliament.

Now the Bill is being processed afresh for required approvals. Viewing the statutory/procedural requirements involved, it is not possible to indicate a firm time schedule for enactment of the proposed Bill. However, the Bill would be introduced in the Parliament, soon after procedural requirements are completed.

[English]

Unemployment Problem

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

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether with economy registering a regular growth of 5 to 6 per cent every year, unemployment has out-stripped all economic growth;

(b) if so, the comparative figures of economic growth, growth in employment and unemployment over the last three years, indicating the number of the unemployed and employment generated both in rural and urban sector during these years;

(c) the main reasons for increase in unemployment and the concrete steps proposed to be taken to deal with this menace; and

(d) the extent to which introduction of computer in different fields has been responsible for increasing unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (d) As per information furnished by Planning Commission on the basis of latest comprehensive surveys available on Employment and Unemployment conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 1987-88 (43rd round) and 1993-94 (50th round), the rate of unemployment in the country was as follows:

Unemployment rate* (as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status(UPSS)

1987-88	2.62
1993-94	1.90

* percentage of Labour Force.

Average annual growth rate (%) of employed persons as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) during 1987-88 and 1993-94 is 2.43%. This implies a positive employment growth.

No specific study has been conducted to find out the effect of introduction of computers on unemployment in different fields.

Below Poverty line Beneficiaries

*634. DR. B.B. RAMAIAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even now the entire money spent on Poverty Alleviation Programmes is not reaching the intended beneficiaries;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the level of improvement of the lot of the Below Poverty Line beneficiaries is commensurate with the amount spent on them; and

(d) if not, the facts and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The Poverty Alleviation Programmes can be broadly categorised into two: those that provide opportunities for self-employment and those that provide supplementary wage employment in lean agricultural season. Evaluations are conducted periodically to gauge the efficacy of the Programmes in removing poverty. The Ministry of Rural Development carries out concurrent evaluation of anti-poverty programmes implemented in rural areas. The results of the fifth round of concurrent evaluation of Integrated Rural Development Programme indicate that though a large number of beneficiaries have substantially improved their living conditions, major areas of concern remain. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries were only 40 per cent of the total beneficiaries assisted as against the target of 50 per cent. Only 14 per cent women-headed households received assistance. Around 22 per cent of the old IRDP beneficiaries had reportedly made payments to Government/bank staff for getting IRDP assistance. Some of the other evaluation studies commissioned by the Ministry of Rural Development and the Planning Commission have also indicated that assistance in some cases was provided to families which were not below poverty line. The evaluation of Wage Employment Programme shows that these programmes were better targetted and did provide employment opportunities in lean season. Even in such programmes work was executed often through contractors which was not permitted and muster rolls were not properly maintained.

(c) and (d) The performance of the country in reducing poverty, though not spectacular, shows that substantial progress has been achieved. In 1973-74, 321.3 million people i.e. 54.9% of the total population was below poverty line. The ratio declined to 35.97 per cent in 1993-94. However, the number of people below poverty line remained at 320.3 million. A major reason for number of people below poverty line remaining the same was the rise in population in the intervening years.

The evaluation of Poverty Alleviation programmes has indicated that though there are problem areas which need to be addressed, there have been success stories that have emerged. The empowerment of women under DWCRA has been highlighted in many studies. The evaluations have also indicated that the effectiveness of the Programmes is very closely related to the involvement of the people in implementation of the Programmes.

Based on the findings of the various Evaluation Studies, the mid-course corrections have been carried out in the Poverty Alleviation Programmes periodically. Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes were restructured w.e.f. 1.4.1999 to improve the efficacy of these Programmes. The Integrated Rural Development Programme was restructured as a holistic programme of micro enterprise covering all aspects of self-employment including organisation of rural poor into self-help groups, their capacity building, planning of activity cluster, infrastructure build-up, technology, credit and marketing facilities. Jawahar Rozgar Yonjana has been restructured with the primary objective of creating demand-driven community village infrastructure. Employment Assurance Scheme has been restructured as a single wage-employment programme and seeks to provide employment in lean season. Self-employment and Wage-employment Schemes in urban areas were also restructured w.e.f. 1.12.1997 under Swaranjayanti Shahri Rozgar Yonjana. The Government has taken measures to ensure active participation of the people as partners in the process of development. Conditions has been created for people to take advantage of opportunities and give free flow to their inherent capabilities. With the empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions, this process would be given further impetus.

The strategy for poverty removal comprises of accelerated economic growth with opportunities for productive employment to people below poverty line in the growth process itself, provision of basic minimum services and direct intervention through anti-poverty programmes.

Effect of Globalisation and Liberalisation on SSI

*635. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the globalisation and liberalisation policies have adversely affected the growth of small-scale industry sector during recent years in as much as nearly 2 lakh units have been closed down and a large number are on the verge of closure;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter and present status of small scale sector as on March 31, 2000, State-wise, sector-wise;

(c) whether the proposal for dereservation of items of small-scale sector is likely to affect the small scale-sector adversely; and

(d) if so, fresh policy initiatives taken to promote and develop small-scale industry sector to play its important role in Indian economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Small Scale Industries in India have shown enough resilience in withstanding the impact of liberalisation and of phasing out of the Quantitative Restrictions on imports as is evident from their recent track record given below:-

	1990-91	1998-99 (Provisional)
No. of units	19.48 lakh	31.21 lakh
Production at current prices	Rs. 1,55,340.00 Crores	Rs. 5,27,515.00 crores
Exports at current Prices	Rs. 9,664.00 crores	Rs. 48,979.00 crores

Information on the number of closed small scale units is not maintained as it is not compulsory for small scale units to register themselves with the State Governments. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) maintains data on sick SSI units financed by banks and not for closed units. As per the Reserve Bank of India, the sickness in small scale industries for the last five years is as follows:-

At the end of	Total number of sick SSI units
March, 1995	2,68,815
March, 1996	2,62,376
March, 1997	2,35,032
March, 1998	2,21,536
March, 1999	3,06,221

The latest State-wise data compiled by RBI is upto March, 1999 and is enclosed as statement. Sector-wise data on SSI are not maintained centrally.

(c) The issue of reservation of items for exclusive manufacture in the Small Scale Sector is examined on a continual basis by the Advisory Committee on Reservation, which has been specifically constituted for the purpose under the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. Addition/deletion/change in nomenclature of items in the reservation list is made from time to time based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and the needs of the country.

(d) The Government has put in place several measures to help the small enterprises to withstand the impact of removal of quantitative restrictions and help them to become globally competitive. These include special focus on areas such as technology upgradation, infrastructure assistance through cluster approach, timely availability of credit, adoption of modern management

practices, use of electronic infrastructure and other IT applications, marketing assistance and timely information dissemination, including sensitisation of small industries to the emerging challenges of trade liberalisation.

Statement

State-wise data on sick Small Scale Industries.

State/Union Territory	At the end of March 1999
1	2
Assam	10586
Meghalaya	447
Mizoram	40
Bihar	26293
Arunachal Pradesh	118
West Bengal	146182
Nagaland	166
Manipur	5237
Orissa	10134
Sikkim	28
Tripura	6914
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25
Uttar Pradesh	17320
Delhi	3789
Punjab	3551
Haryana	3180
Chandigarh	187
Jammu & Kashmir	630
Himachal Pradesh	1103
Rajasthan	12835
Gujarat	4170
Maharashtra	13373
Daman & Diu	13
Goa	216
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	24
Madhya Pradesh	6808
Andhra Pradesh	6260
Karnataka	4342
Lakshadweep	0
Tamil Nadu	11408
Kerala	10074
Pondicherry	770
Total	306221

Waste of Water Resources

*636. SHRI GEORGE EDEN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to protect the water resources from industrial pollution;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the quantum of water going waste every year due to industrial pollution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) A programme of industrial pollution control along the water resources has been initiated in 1997 by the Central Pollution Control Board. Out of the 851 grossly polluting industries discharging their effluents into rivers and lakes, which were identified as defaulters in 1997, 551 have provided the requisite treatment facilities, 207 are closed and the remaining 93 units are still defaulting. Legal actions has been taken against these defaulting units.

No assessment has been made of the quantity of water going waste due to industrial pollution. However, the pollution load to the water resources has been assessed in terms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD). It is estimated that the BOD load was 2100 tonnes/day in 1997 which has been reduced to 250 tonnes/day in 2000.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Orphans

*637. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
SHRI ABDUL HAMID:

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

(a) the number of orphanages receiving financial assistance from the Union Government in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the criteria fixed for giving financial assistance to them;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper utilization of the amount allocated for the purpose;

(d) whether the Indian law discriminates against couples seeking to adopt a child on the basis of religion;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to simplify the laws in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment does not have a specific scheme of financial assistance for orphanages. However, Grant-in-Aid is being given for promotion in-country adoption of infants under Shishu Greh scheme and also under the General Grant-in-Aid Scheme for specific projects. A statement in this regard is attached.

(b) Under the Shishu Greh scheme registered Non-Governmental Organizations already engaged in adoption with the minimum achievement of 50% placements with India adoptive parents during the previous year are eligible for grant-in-aid. Under the General Grant-in-Aid Scheme, Voluntary Organizations, Universities, Research Institutes, School, Statutory Bodies having atleast two years of experience in the concerned field are eligible.

(c) Periodical inspections by State Governments are undertaken and continuing grant is given only after confirmation of proper utilization of previous grants and on recommendation of the State Government.

(d) There is no uniform law for adoption in India, Hindu & Buddhist, Jains and Sikhs alone are allowed to adopt children in Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956. The other communities which are not covered by this Act have to resort to the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890. There is a difference in the status of children who are adopted under Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956 vis-a-vis those who are taken by parents under Guardians and Wards Act, 1890. While the former enjoy the rights of biological children, the latter are treated as wards without any inherent right.

(e) There is no such proposal in this regard.

(f) Not Applicable.

Statement

Andhra Pradesh

S. No.	File No.	Name of the Organisation	1999-2000
1	2	3	4
1.	22-13/93-CH (AC)	Indian Council for Social Welfare Inside Cancer Hospital Compound, Red Hills, Hyderabad-500004 Tel. No. 38503, 36538, 30074	740,400.000
2.	22-20/95-CH (AC)	Priyadarshini Service Organisation D. No. 45-56-9, Saligramapuram Visakhapatnam-24 Tel: 549249	975,300.00
3.	22-5/99- CH (AC)	Social Action for Social Development Plot No. 243, Shri Nivas Colony, Mahabub Nagar, Andhra Pradesh-509002 Tel. No: 040-3700879, Fax. No: 040-3700879	432,900.00

1	2	3	4
Arunachal Pradesh			
1.	22-8/93-CH (AC)	Oju Welfare Association, Naharlagun Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh-791110 Tein. No. 44453, 44784, Fax. No: 0360-44659	600,000.00
Delhi			
1.	22-9/93-CH (AC)	Welfare Home for Children 68, Raja Gardeh, New Delhi-110027	600,000.00
2.	22-12/93-CH (AC)	Seva Bharti 10196/A, Jhandewalan Temple Complex, New Delhi-110055 Tel. No. 7775014, 7516835.	464,400.00
Gujarat			
1.	22-3/95-CH (AC)	Katiawar Nirashrit Balashram Mahaviya Road, Lodhawad Chowk, Rajkot-360002. Tel. No. 22071, 86308.	353,700.00
Haryana			
1.	22-18/93-CH (AC)	Haryana State Council for Child Welfare Bal Vikas Bhawan, 650, Sector 16 D, Chandigarh Tel. No: 20393	447,030.00
Karnataka			
1.	22-43/97-CH (AC)	Jayanti Gram Women's & Children's P. Box No. 55, Mallikarjuna, Gyana, Togashrama, B.L.O.E. Road Bizapur Karnataka-586103. Tel. No: 08352-56570	496,800.00
Kerala			
1.	22-21/93-CH (AC)	Dinasevana Sabha, Pattuvan Snehaniketan Social Centre, Pattuvam-670143, Kannur Distt., Kerala Tel: 0498-220046	464,400.00
2.	22-9/99-CH (AC)	Kerala State Council for Child Welfare Thycaud, Thiruvanatha Puram-695014. Tel. No: 324939	234,000.00

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra			
1.	22-23/93-CH (AC)	Adhar Ashram 491/6, Gharpure Ghat, Nashik-422005. Tel. No. 580309.	766,800.00
2.	22-31/93-CH (AC)	Balvikas Mahila Mandal P.O.-35, Sambhaji Nagar-Khadgaon Road, Ta-Dist-Latur-413531 (Maharashtra) Tel: 44005, 45866	600,000.00
3.	22-5/94-CH (AC)	People's Education Society "Sarthak", Plot No. 1, Circular Road, Jawal, Buldana, 44301, Maharashtra Tel. No: 07262-42007. Shri Shivaji Vidyalaya Raod, Near Navjeevan Hospital Suvarna Nagar, Buldana-443001 (Maharashtra)	712,800.00
4.	22-6/94-CH (AC)	Dnyan Gangotri Education Society Udgir-413517, Dist. Latur	600,000.00
5.	22-20/94-CH (AC)	District Probation & After Care Association 1924/25, Balkalyan Sankul, Mangalwar, Peth, Kolhapur-41602 Tel. No. 30456, 33978, 22985	138,186.00
6.	22-8/94-CH (AC)	Sandhiniketan Shikshan Sanstha Wadgaon, Tulaka-Mukhed, Distt-Nanded Maharashtra-431715 Tel. No. 52689.	745,200.00
7.	22-53/97-CH (AC)	Patel Bahuudheshya Shikshan Sanstha Nagpur	248,400.00
8.	22-47/97-CH (AC)	Priyadarshini Shikshan Prasarak Mandal Shyam Nagar, Camp Ward No. 8 Chandrapur, Maharashtra	606,750.00
9.	22-46/97-CH (AC)	District Probation & After Care Observation Home, Zarekar Gali, Near Sub. Jail, Ahmed Nagar. (Maharashtra)	496,809.00
10.	22-35/97-CH (AC)	Jyotiba Phule Trust Vasarani, Post CIDCO, Tq. & Distt. Nanded.	496,800.00

1	2	3	4
11.	22-24/96-CH (AC)	Unnatishil Mahila Mandal "Ravi Bhawan", Near Panchsheel School, Kranti Nagar, Shale Jawal Nanded-431602 Tel: 34787	297,900.00
Orissa			
1.	22-6/99-CH (AC)	Nilanchal Seva Pratishtan Daya Vihar (Kanas), Distt. Puri, Orissa 752017 Tel. No. 06752-8028.	600,000.00
2.	22-5/95-CH (AC)	Banbasi Seva Samiti P.O. Balliguda-762103, Distt. Kandamal (Phulbari), Orissa Tel. No. 06846, 43256	248,400.00
3.	22-25/96-CH (AC)	Vikas Parishad (Vinoba Shishu Greh) Rajendra Nagar, Cuttack-10,Orissa	745,000.00
4.	22-1/99-CH (AC)	Community Legal Action and Research Centre 80/PO, Bainsia, Via-Mahimagadi, Distt. Dhenkanal, Orissa-759014.	243,000.00
5.	22-50/97-CH (AC)	Lu Theran Mahila Samity Patalipank 80/PO, Patali Pank, Via-Kujang, Distt. Kendra Para Orissa 754141.	243,000.00
6.		Marishi Dayanand Sarvice Mission Joranda, P.O. Mahima Gadi, Disst.-Dhenkanal-759014 (Orissa).	49,500.00
Rajasthan			
1.	22-11/94-CH (AC)	Shri Karninagar Vikas Samiti Gordharpura, Kota-324007, Rajasthan Tel. No. 0744-27241, 27897	248,400.00
2.	22-54/97-CH (AC)	Madhu Samity Mahila Evam Bal Kalyan Vihar Sansthan -Rang Bari, Kota, Rajasthan. Tel. No. 421744, 424649, 424660 -L-59, Himmat Nagar, Gopalpura Mor, Tank Road, Jaipur-Rajasthan.	243,000.00
Tamilnadu			
1.	22-32/93-CH (AC)	Guild of Service 28, Casa Major Road, Egmore, Madras-600008. Tel. No.: 8261279, 8263685	248,400.00

1	2	3	4
2.	22-38/97-CH (AC)	Madras Social Service Guild Nedungundram, Vandalure, P.O. Box No. 01, Chennai-600048 Tel. No.: 2376848, Fax. No.: 0091-44-2376848	220,050.00
3.	22-39/97-CH (AC)	Malaysian Social Services H.O. No. 19 West Arasamaram St, Aminjikarai, Chennai-600029. Tel. No.: 614970, 6273478, 6267519, 6272402 Fax. No.: 91-44-6213371 H.O. No. -6, Sengunthar Street, Shennoy Nagar, Chennai-600030 Tel: 6449970, 6257519, 6273478/2402/2946 Fax: 044-6213371	248,400.00
Tripura			
1.	22-16/94-CH (AC)	Tripura Council for Child Welfare Lyon Gate (West), Luxmi Narayan Bari Road, P.O. Agartala, Tripura (West)-799001 Tel: 22-7026	599,400.00
Madhya Pradesh			
1.	22-19/95-CH (AC)	Banke Bihari Kunj Bahu Uddesheya Women Kalyan Samiti Mahila Kalyan Samiti, Lahar Jila Bhind, Madhya Pradesh.	600,000.00
Manipur			
1.	22-19/95-CH (AC)	Social Repromotion & Development Organisation Porompat Salbam Leikai, J.N. Hospital Road, Imphal (East), P.O. -Imphal-795001	49,500.00
2.	22-15/99-CH (AC)	Community Development Programme Centre M.I. Road, Distt. -Thoubal-795138, Manipur	49,500.00
Mizoram			
1.	22-18/99-CH (AC)	International Poor Children Greh Children Home Seventh Day Tlang P.O. Vaiva Kawn-796009 Aizwal, Mizoram	49,500.00
		Grand Total	16,205,625.00
		General Grant-in-aid scheme in the field of Social Defence	
1.	11-27 (3)/99-2000-SD	Pranab Kanya Sangha, AIR Road, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Rs. 55,764

[English]

Water Management

*638. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the annual average rainfall in the country during the last three years;

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

(c) the quantum of rain water being harvested and utilised for different purposes in the country; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to speed up work on rain harvesting system throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) India receives an average annual rainfall of about 4000 Billion Cubic Meter (BCM). Out of this about 1869 BCM appears as average annual flow in the various rivers of the country.

India Meteorological Department has divided the country into 35 meterological subdivisions. The yearwise annual average rainfall for 35 subdivisions covering different States during the period 1997-1999 is enclosed as statement.

The utilisable surface water by conventional methods has been assessed on 690 BCM. To harness available water resources and augment water supplies, about 3600 large dams & reserviors and 250 barrages have been constructed. A total live storage capacity of 177 BCM has been provided by 1995. An additional live storage capacity of 75 BCM will be created on completion of the dams, which are under various stages of construction. Proposals to take up additional dams to create a live storage of 132 BCM are also under formulation/ consideration. The replenishable groundwater resources are of the order of 432 BCM out of which about 154 BCM has been developed for use.

Government of India is also promoting Rainwater Harvesting through Watershed Management Programme, Artificial Recharge of Ground Water and Roof-top Rainwater Harvesting under the sector reform project of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme under the Ministry of Rural Development for which technical and financial assistance is provided to the State Governments and other implementing agencies. Central Ground Water Board has also taken up pilot studies for artificial ground water recharge.

Actual utilisation for different purposes has not been assessed however, the projected demand for the various uses in the country as per the assessment made by Central Water Commission is as under.

Use	Water Demand for 2000 (In billion cubic metre)
Irrigation	630
Domestic	33
Industrial	30
Energy	27
Others	30
Total	750

Statement

Average Annual Rainfall in different Meteorological Sub-Division of the Country.

(in m.m)

Sl. No.	Sub-Division	Average Annual Normal Rainfall	Actual Annual 1996-97	Actual Annual 1997-98	Actual Annual 1998-99	Actual Annual Average
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Island	2909	3116	2387	2740	2748
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2874	2946	2590	3498	3011

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
3.	Assam and Meghalaya	2824	2660	2423	2841	2641
4.	Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur & Tripura	1894	1591	1941	1535	1689
5.	Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim	2662	2528	2403	3236	2722
6.	Gangetic West Bengal	1430	1379	1706	1390	1492
7.	Orissa	1477	1039	1545	1325	1303
8.	Bihar Plateau	1309	1198	1697	1374	1423
9.	Bihar Plains	1173	1110	1324	1352	1262
10.	U.P. East	1020	1033	1068	1128	1076
11.	Plains of U.P. West	889	927	892	1078	966
12.	Hills of U.P. West	1659	1249	1521	1724	1496
13.	Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi	613	850	865	923	879
14.	Punjab	643	721	894	809	808
15.	Himachal Pradesh	1327	1191	1360	1356	1302
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	1004	1107	1192	716	1005
17.	Rajasthan West	313	479	577	397	484
18.	Rajasthan East	675	950	759	673	794
19.	M.P. West	1011	1155	1135	950	1060
20.	M.P. East	1311	1153	1325	1011	1163
21.	Gujarat Region, Daman, Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1101	1182	1408	1397	1329
22.	Saurashtra, Kutch & Diu	576	478	638	750	622
23.	Konkan and Goa	2990	2655	2896	3764	3105
24.	Madhya Maharashtra	900	965	1051	1135	1050
25.	Marathwada	840	844	824	1224	964
26.	Vidarbha	1106	842	1100	1137	1026
27.	Coastal Andhra Pradesh	1031	1251	1073	1323	1216
28.	Telangana	944	1014	800	1162	992
29.	Rayalaseema	669	1305	792	954	1017
30.	Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry	982	1229	1192	1084	1168
31.	Coastal Karnataka	3502	3123	4144	4170	3812
32.	North Interior Karnataka	750	883	737	976	865
33.	South Interior Karnataka	1096	1231	1266	1224	1240
34.	Kerala	3071	2679	3224	3398	3100
35.	Lakshadweep	1474	1602	1764	1974	1780

State Ministers' Conference

*639. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Ministers' Conference held in the year 1987 had recommended to revise the wages of labour at least once in a two years' block;

(b) if so, whether the wages of labour are still being revised only after a gap of five years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are now considering the matter afresh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) to (e) The 36th Session of State Labour Ministers' Conference held on 20th May, 1987 recommended for periodical revision of minimum wages once in at least over 2 years or on a rise of 50 points in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Later the State Labour Ministers' Conference held on 7th November, 1988, recommended to evolve a mechanism to protect the minimum wages against inflation by linking it to the CPI. Accordingly, all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are being advised from time to time in various fora like seminars, meetings and conferences to fix, review and revise minimum wages within a period not exceeding 2 years or on a rise of 50 points in the CPI whichever is earlier. The Central Government have already introduced Variable Dearness Allowance (VDA) linked to CPI number in respect of all the scheduled employments under its jurisdiction. The component of VDA is revised every six months effective 1st April and 1st October which is added to basic minimum wages. As there is a component of VDA, the minimum wages for employments in Central Sphere are revised once in 5 years as per existing provision in the Act. As regards States, 19 States/Union Territories have made the provision of VDA linked to CPI as a component of the minimum wage.

The Government has been in the process of bringing Amendments in the Minimum Wages Act including that of reduction in the period of revision from 5 years to 2 years unless the minimum wages has a component of VDA linked to CPI in which case, it shall continue to be 5 years. As regards specific time frame, it may not be possible to indicate the same on account of procedures/ steps involved.

Food Development Fund

*640. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Food Development Fund is non-starter;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether performance of this sector is very poor in food production as compared to other developed countries;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the growth rate of this sector?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA): (a) and (b) An idea of creation of a Food Processing Development Fund was mooted with a view to facilitate flow of credit in a focussed manner. The creation of the Fund envisages financial issues of very complex nature, necessitating discussions with financial institutions, Banks, etc. The discussions are under way to consider all aspects of this issue.

(c) and (d) The performance of agriculture sector in food production has been satisfactory.

(e) A regionally differentiated strategy based on agro-climatic regional planning, which takes into account agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions, has been adopted to realise the full potential of growth in every region and accelerate the growth rate of agriculture sector.

School in Steel City

6770. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools and colleges set up by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in each steel city;

(b) whether the schools in Rourkela Steel City needs expansion and additional hostel facilities for boys and girls; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by SAIL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) There are 162 number of schools and colleges set up/run in the township of SAIL Plants/Units as under:-

Sl. No.	Plant/Unit	No. of Schools and Colleges
1.	Bokaro Steel Plant	42
2.	Rourkela Steel Plant	21
3.	Bhilai Steel Plant	60
4.	Durgapur Steel Plant	21
5.	Raw Materials Division	7
6.	Visveswarayya Iron and Steel Limited	11
	Total	162

(b) and (c) Rourkela Steel Plant has recently filed an application with Government of Orissa for increasing the number of seats at Plus Two (+2) level from the next academic session.

The issue of creating additional hostel facilities for boys and girls does not arise as RSP has no hostel facility in company run schools in the steel city and the fertiliser township.

Exchange of Cultural Delegations

6771. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been any exchange of cultural delegations with our neighbouring countries, viz., Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Afghanistan, etc. during 1999;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, there have been exchanges with our neighbouring countries during 1999. The relevant information for outgoing and incoming cultural delegations is included in the attached statement.

(c) Due to the continuing civil strife in Afghanistan, it is not possible to have any exchange of cultural delegations with Afghanistan.

Statement

Sri Lanka

Visits from Sri Lanka

1. Visit of a music duo [February 1999]
2. Visit of Mr. Sanath Gunatilake and Mr. Prasanna Vithanage (Film Director [September 1999]
3. Visit of Dr. Deepika Udagama, Director, Centre for Studies for Human Rights, Colombo University [November 1999]
4. A 13-member Western Province State Dance Ensemble [November-December, 1999]

Visit from India

1. A 4-member Music Group led by Ms. Rekha Surya [February 1999]
2. A 14-member Margi Kathakali dance troupe [March 1999]
3. Visit of Shri Pulak Dutta, eminent artiste from Shantiniketan [April 1999]
4. A 5-member Kathak dance troupe led by Ms. Nandini Singh [July 1999]
5. Visit of Ms. Sejal Kashirsagar, artiste from Mumbai [July 1999]
6. Visit of V. Balu, Painer and an exhibition of his works [August 1999]
7. Visit of Ms. Kavita, Ms. Triveni Saralaya (Vocal) and six others [October-November, 1999]
8. Visit of 8-member dance/music group led by Ms. Meenakshi Chittaranjan, Bharatanatyam dancer and Saralaya sisters, Carnatic vocalists [Octobr 1999]

Nepal

Visits from Nepal

1. A 6-member vocal recital troupe led by Shri Anand Karki [November-December, 1999]

Visits from India

1. A 6-member Bharatanatyam troupe led by Ms. Partibha Prahlad [February 1999]
2. A 6-member Bharatanatyam troupe led by Ms Alarmel Valli [February 1999]

3. Visit by Shri Bhani Bharati and other from National School of Drama (NSD) in connection with production of Nepalese adaptation of Hindi Play "Andha Yug" [January-February, 1999]

4. A 3-member literary delegation composing Shri Kailash Vajpayee, Shri Kedar Nath Singh and Mrs. Gagan Gill [March 1999]

5. A 6-member vocal recital troupe led by Pandit Jasraj [August 1999]

6. A 6-member Bharatanatyam troupe led by Ms. Malvika Surukkai [September 1999]

7. A 6-member Kathak Dance troupe led by Ms. Shovana Narayan [October 1999]

Pakistan

Visits from Pakistan

1. Visit of Rafi Peer Puppet Group to participate in the Calcutta Puppet Festival [December 1998/ January 1999]

Visit from India

Nil.

Bhutan

Visits from Bhutan

1. A 10-member delegation from the World Peace Monlam Tshokchen visited Buddhist pilgrimage place in India from November 11, 1999 to January 4, 2000 for producing a comprehensive Dzongha Guide Book for the use of large number of Bhutanese pilgrims visiting various Buddhist pilgrimage places. The members of the delegation were as under:

1. His Eminence Ven Thuksey Rimpochhe
2. Ven Lam (Geshey) Pema Tsewang
3. Lama Dhondup Tarchen
4. Mr. Kunzang Tobgyel
5. Lopon Tengye
6. Lopon Kunzang Thinley
7. Lopon Nado
8. Mr. Jamyang Lhendup
9. Aum Chimi
10. Dasho Ugyen Namgyel

Visits from India

1. A 25-member Music and Dance Group led by Ms. Ila Arun visited Bhutan from August 12-19, 1999 in connection with India's Independence Day Celebrations and to coincide with the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of Coronation of His Majesty the King of Bhutan. The troupe gave three performances. A private performance at India House on August 13 for a carefully invited audience of 250 members including their Majesties the Queens and other members of the Royal Family. A public performance on August 15 at the swimming pool complex in Thimphu and a performance at Haa for about 1000 personnel of India Military Training Team (IMTRAT) on August 17.

Bangladesh

Visits from Bangladesh

1. A 32-member dance and music troupe (May 1999)

2. Visit of Justice Kemaluddin Hossain, Former Chief Justice [November, 1999]

3. Visit of Mr. A.Z.M. Obaidullah Khan, Chairman, Bangaldesh Centre for Advanced Studies, Dhaka [December 1999]

Visits from India

1. A 5-member group led by Ranjaboti Sarkar [February 1999]

2. A 30-member group led by Ratan Thiyam, Padma Talwakar (Vocal), Sangeeta Das (Odissi) [March 1999]

3. Pt. Vinayak Torvi (Vocal), Ustad Shahid Pervez (Vitar), Ashwini Bhide Despande (Vocal) [October 1999]

4. Sanskrit Theatre group K.S. Hegde, Sanskrit Theatre group K.N. Phanikkar [November 1999]

5. Koodiyattam by Kerala Malamandalam, Yasoda S. Rao (Kuchipudi) [December 1999]

Myanmar

Visits from Myanmar

1. Myanmar Ramayana Performing Arts Troupe [April 28-May 5, 1999]

Visits from India

1. Odissi dance troupe of Smt. Aloka Kanungo [January 1999]
2. A 9-member Rajasthani folk, dance and music troup [April-May, 1999]
3. A 5-member Bharatanatyam dance troupe [August, 1999]
4. Two Urdu poets to present a Shairi/Ghazal performance [December, 1999]
5. A Sanskrit scholar for a seven-day visit from December 16, 1999]

[Translation]

Recruitment by Employment Exchanges

6772. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees in the Government and private hospitals/nursing homes having more than ten employees working in Delhi, Gujarat and other parts of the country are recruited through the Employment Exchange only;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government will strictly enforce the rule of recruiting employees everywhere from the Employment Exchanges only; and

(d) if so, the manner in which they will be recruited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The recruitment of Group 'C' and 'D' posts in the public sector is made in accordance with the instructions contained in the Office Memorandum No. 14024/2/96/Esst (D) dated 18th May, 1998 issued by the Ministry of Personnel P.G. & Pensions. According to these instructions, the employers in the central sector establishments are required to notify the vacancies to the employment exchanges and keeping in view the administrative and budgetary convenience, the employers are also required to release simultaneous advertisement for the vacancy in the Employment News, published by the Publication Division of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Final selection is made by the employer by considering the candidates submitted by the employment exchange and also the applications of candidates received in response to the advertisement. These instructios are not applicable to private sector establishments, but it is obligatory on the part of the employers in private sector establishments employing 25 or more persons to notify vacancies to the Employment Exchange.

(c) and (d) The Government do not propose to enforce recruitment in public sector only through employment exchanges.

[English]

Oustees of Rengali Dam

6773. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds spent on rehabilitation and compensation to the affected persons of the Rengali Dam Irrigation Project so far;

(b) the estimated funds likely to be spent for the purpose during the current financial year; and

(c) the time by which all the affected persons are likely to be rehabilitated/compensated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) An expenditure of Rs. 8.02 crore has been incurred on rehabilitation and resettlement works to the affected persons of the Rengali irrigation Project till 31.12.1999.

(b) Funds proposed during the current financial year i.e. 2000-2001 are Rs. 3 crore.

(c) Rehabilitation and resettlement works are likely to be completed by 2001-02.

Cultivation of Grapes

6774. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a large area under cultivation of grapes in the country;

(b) whether the Government have taken steps to conduct a study to improve the quality of grapes in the country;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to upgrade the quality of grapes produced in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) As of 1998-99, an area of 42600 hectare was under cultivation of grapes in the country.

(b) and (c) No specific study has been conducted to improve the quality of grapes.

(d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has been carrying out research through the National Research Centre for Grapes, Pune as well as Indian institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore and Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi and have released nine improved varieties. Besides, research projects are under operation under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Subtropical Fruits for improving the quality of fruits including grapes. The Agricultural Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) is implementing a scheme on Organisation Building and Human Resource Development under which integrated programme for improving the production and productivity of fruits, including grapes is taken up. The Ministry of Agriculture is implementing a scheme on Integrated Development of Fruits under which assistance is provided for supply of quality planting material, area expansion, productivity improvement, training of farmers for development of fruits including grapes.

Sick SSI Units

6775. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:
SHRI ANANTA NAYAK:
KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH KAUSHAL:

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

(a) whether a large number of Small Scale Industries are falling sick;

(b) if so, the number of such industries State-wise and particularly in Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the causes of such sickness;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to survive these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) As per the latest data compiled by the Reserve Bank of India, the number of sick small scale industries as at the end of March, 1999 was 3,06,221. The number of sick units as a percentage of total SSI units is less than 10%. The State-wise data including those for Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan States on sick small scale industries as at the end of March, 1999 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) The incidence of sickness in the SSI sector is due to various factors such as inadequacy of credit, marketing problems, managerial inadequacies, infrastructural problems, technological problems etc.

(e) The Government is fully seized of the problem of industrial sickness amongst the SSI units and has taken various measures to facilitate timely identification and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick industries, which inter-alia, includes institutional mechanism in the form of State Level Inter Institutional Committees, special rehabilitation cells in banks and State financial institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units.

Statement

State-wise data on sick small scale industries

State/Union Territory	At the end of March 1999
1	2
Assam	10586
Meghalaya	447
Mizoram	40
Bihar	26293
Arunachal Pradesh	116
West Bengal	146182
Nagaland	166
Manipur	5237

1	2
Orissa	10134
Sikkim	28
Tripura	6914
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25
Uttar Pradesh	17320
Delhi	3789
Punjab	3551
Haryana	3180
Chandigarh	187
Jammu & Kashmir	630
Himachal Pradesh	1103
Rajasthan	12835
Gujarat	4170
Maharashtra	13373
Daman & Diu	13
Goa	216
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	24
Madhya Pradesh	6808
Andhra Pradesh	6260
Karnataka	4342
Lakshadweep	0
Tamil Nadu	11408
Kerala	10074
Pondicherry	770
Total	306221

Radiation Bombs

6776. SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY:
SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is going ahead with the plan to build radiation bombs for itself and possibly for others;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the Government propose to meet the challenge posed by Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Government are aware of media reports, following the seizure of a consignment of radio-active material intended for Pakistan could be pursuing a programme to build 'radiation bombs'. This consignment reportedly originated in Kazakhstan and was confiscated by the Customs authorities of Uzbekistan.

(c) India is engaged in cooperative efforts, including in the context of IAEA, to combat illicit trafficking of nuclear materials. Government also remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interest in accordance with its own assessment of threats to our security.

Promotion of Cottage Industries

6777. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for the development of Village and Cottage Industries in each State during 1999-2000;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to create and improve the export potential for the products of village and cottage industries; and

(c) the cottage industrial products exported from India, product-wise and in quantity and value-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The details of funds allocated by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) for the development of Khadi and Village Industries to each State during 1999-2000 are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Apart from the normal incentives given by Government to the exporters, the KVIC also provides

incentives by way of input subsidy, concessional rate of interest and 5% export subsidy on the Free on Board (FOB) price of the exporting units.

(c) Product-wise, quantity-wise and value-wise information with respect to all cottage industrial products is not maintained centrally. However, export information with respect to some of the commodities for the year 1998-99 are given below:-

Processed Cereals & Pulses	–	Rs. 850.14 lakhs
Handmade Paper Products	–	Rs. 1615.00 lakhs
Various Fibre Articles	–	Rs. 3.38 lakhs
Natural Honey	–	Rs. 747.47 lakhs

Statement

Statement showing State-wise allocation of fund during 1999-2000 Under Khadi and Village Industries.

S. No.	Name of the Zone/States	Khadi	Polyvastra	Village Industries	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
North Zone					
1.	Delhi	109.14	0.09	774.76	883.99
2.	Jammu & Kashmir	413.06	3.69	235.83	652.58
3.	Himachal Pradesh	852.36	33.73	505.74	1391.83
4.	Haryana	1753.30	112.71	1297.44	3163.45
5.	Punjab	00	00	545.35	545.35
6.	Rajasthan	2694.73	336.38	1905.79	4936.90
7.	U.T. Chandigarh	2007.71	25.00	43.50	2076.21
Eastern Zone					
8.	Bihar	1978.04	72.44	13.00	2063.48
9.	Orissa	1120.02	309.36	8063.83	9493.21
10.	Sikkim	00	00	2.00	2.00
11.	West Bengal	1940.61	28.01	557.78	2526.40
12.	Andaman & Nicobar	00	00	63.38	63.38
North Eastern Zone					
13.	Assam	314.57	7.22	47.48	369.27
14.	Arunachal Pradesh	00	00	2.00	2.00
15.	Nagaland	35.21	00	272.13	307.34
16.	Manipur	34.66	2.55	1857.55	1894.76
17.	Mizoram	9.06	00	1051.90	1060.96
18.	Meghalaya	4.75	0.35	13.00	18.10
19.	Tripura	7.46	00	109.09	116.55

1	2	3	4	5	6
South Zone					
20.	Karnataka	3356.91	111.77	434.41	3903.09
21.	Andhra Pradesh	1669.26	108.04	1811.11	3588.41
22.	UT Pondicherry	37.29	00	1437.17	1474.46
23.	Tamil Nadu	8909.82	502.10	84.39	9496.31
24.	Kerala	1086.61	117.69	3606.96	4811.26
25.	UT Lakshadweep	00	00	79.18	79.18
Western Zone					
26.	Maharashtra	396.13	63.81	6058.59	6518.53
27.	Goa	00	00	78.60	78.60
28.	Gujarat	3753.28	864.46	3802.76	8420.50
Central Zone					
29.	Madhya Pradesh	1079.48	94.60	326.70	3500.78
30.	Uttar Pradesh	18661.79	1233.62	4662.37	24557.78
	Total	52225.25	4027.62	41743.79	97996.66

Assistance provided by NDDB

6778. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has provided financial package to some States and Union Territories during the last three years to implement agricultural projects;

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

(c) whether the NDDB propose to provide additional financial package where implementation of agricultural projects performance is below satisfaction; and

(d) if so, the details thereof particularly to Meharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has mainly executed dairy related projects and has not generally provided financial package to the States/Union Territories during the last three years to implement agriculture projects. However, NDDB has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Karnataka in February, 2000 for various developmental projects like dairy development, information network, horticulture, oil seeds and edible oil and re-vegetation.

(d) NDDB has not received any project proposal from the Government of Maharashtra for agriculture project.

Peace Bonus Scheme

6779. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has formulated a Peace Bonus Scheme for the North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States which are likely to be benefitted by this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL,

PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The Planning Commission has not formulated Peace Bonus Scheme for the North Eastern States. However, at the meeting of Chief Ministers and Governors of North Eastern States held at Shillong on 21-22nd January, 2000 the Prime Minister made the following announcement. "Mizoram is the most peaceful State in the North East today. With a view to encourage the people of Mizoram who have opted for peaceful economic develoment, Government has accepted the recommendation of the Committee set up by the Finance Ministry and allotted Rs. 180 crores to Mizoram to tide over its financial problems. The Government will also release Rs. 50 crores every year from the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources for five years for specific infrastructure development projects in Mizoram". As against Rs. 50 crores from Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources, Rs. 62.15 crores have been released during 1999-2000.

Child Labour Project in M.P.

6780. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of child labour projects which are in operation through the voluntary agencies in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the results achieved through these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) Unde the Grant-in-aid Scheme of the Ministry of Labour, at present there is one project under operation through a voluntary agency in Madhya Pradesh. This is an action oriented project for the rehabilitation of 100 working children.

Common Economic Zone

6781. SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for creating a Common Economic Zone (CEZ) for the areas falling within the National Capital Region for various purposes viz. Transport, power supply, taxation etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not whether the Government propose to conduct any study to explore the possibility of creating a Common Economic Zone for the benefit of the residents of NCR?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The concept of Common Economic Zone (CEZ) was initiated by the NCRPB in its meeting held on 2.9.1997 under the charimanship of the then Prime Minister. The basic philosophy behind the concept of CEZ is to evolve a harmonised policy for balanced development of the entire National Capital Region (NCR) which require uniformity in the fiscal policy such as harmonization of taxes and tariff structure (sales tax, central tax, road tax, goods tax, octrio, tariff on services like power, water) etc. The matter requires detailed discussions with the participating States and the Central Ministries. The meeting is yet to take place.

Pension Scheme

6782. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to pension scheme formulated by the World Bank;

(b) whether Dr. Dave Committee's recommendations on pension were also based on Scheme of the World Bank; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The World Bank, in its report titled "Averting the Old Age Crisis" published in 1994, has recommended a three pillar system for Old Age Income Security; the first, pillar consists of Government provided social security; the second pillar consists of mandatory contribution towards social security (Privately managed but publicly regulated); and the third pillar consists of voluntary savings; The first pillar is applicable to persons below poverty line and above the age of 65 years. They are covered under a Government scheme called the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) which is being administered by Ministry of Rural Development. The second pillar consisting of a mandatory pension and provident fund scheme is applicable to only around 11 percent of the totals working population and is basically

confined to organized labour and Central and State Government employees. Almost 89 percent of the workforce have no mandatory retirement scheme and they have to live on their own voluntary savings. Dave Committee has recommended a voluntary Old Age Income Security scheme basically for this large segment of the working force. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has initiated action for implementing the recommendation of Dave Committee regarding the old age income security for this segment of the working force.

Non-Release of Rajasthan Share

6783. COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that crops cultivated in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts at the fag end of Indira Gandhi Nahar Priyojana have perished due to non-supply of Rajasthan share of water by Bhakra Management Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: (a) According to Bhakra Beas Management Board, due share of supplies have been delivered to Rajasthan in Indira Gandhi Nehar Feeder and Bikaner Canal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Foreign Posting of SC/ST Officers

6784. SHRI BUTA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the DOPT order dated January 2, 1978, all the Ministries/Departments are directed to duly consider the candidates belonging to the SCs/STs while filling posts/assignments by way of deputation;

(b) if so, the total staff sent on deputation to man various posts/assignments belonging to Class I, II, III & IV category in various Indian Embassies and High Commissions in different countries;

(c) the total number of persons belonging to SCs/STs out of them;

(d) the percentage of such SC/ST persons as compared to the total staff in the above categories;

(e) whether persons belonging to the SC/ST categories have been given adequate representation; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Under Department of Personnel & Training's Office Memorandum No. 36012/7/77-Estt (Res.) dated 2.1.1978, it is required by all Ministries to consider appropriately the candidature of SC/ST candidates while filling posts/assignments on deputation. The Ministry of External Affairs strictly adheres to the directions of DOP&T as stipulated in the above Office Memorandum.

(b) and (c) The number of officials sent on deputation to man various posts/assignments belonging to Class I, II, III & IV categories in various Indian Missions/Posts in different countries is 59. Out of this, the total number of officials belonging to SCs/STs categories is 16.

(d) to (f) Since these posts are isolated in nature and functionally different from each other, calculation of category-wise percentage may not give an overall picture. However, the percentage of SCs/STs out of the total posts mentioned above is 27.11%. In the process of selection, SC/ST categories are given due weightage.

Agricultural Output

6785. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural output has shown increasing trend since 1995-96;

(b) if so, the agricultural output in 1995-96 and 1999-2000;

(c) wether average daily number of farmers in agricultural and allied sectors has shown decreasing trend as per the increased population ratio;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government propose to make the agricultural sectore more lucrative to enable to put more farmers in this field; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The production of major agricultural crops has generally shown an increasing trend since 1995-96 except during 1997-98 and 1999-2000.

(b) The production of major agricultural crops during 1995-96 and 1999-2000 is given below:-

Production in million tonnes

Crops	1995-96	1999-2000@
Foodgrains	180.42	201.56
Oilseeds	22.10	21.54
Cotton*	12.86	10.45
Sugracane	281.10	292.64

* Million bales of 170 kgs.

@ Advance estimates as on 27.3.2000.

(c) and (d) The information on average daily number of farmers in agricultural and allied sectors is not maintained. However, percentage of cultivators and agrcultural labourers to total population was 21.9%, according to Population Census 1991 compared to 21.7% in the preceding Population Census of 1981.

(e) and (f) In order to make agricultural sector more lucrative, the Government is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to increse production and productivity on one hand and to provide remunerative prices to farmers under the Price Support Schemes on the other hand.

To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains in the country, the Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated Cereal Development Programmes in rice/wheat/coarse cereals Based Cropping System Area, National Pulses Development Project etc. Under these programmes/project, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation and use of improved farm implements. Research is also being continuously undertaken to develop improved technologies so as to enhance the productivity and production of foodgrains in India. Field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers is being organised for effective transfer of technology. Under the scheme of MSP (Minimum Support Price), 24 major agricultural commodities have been covered. Price for these commodities are fixed every season and nodal agencies have been identified which enter the market and procure the agricultural commodities, in case the prices touch the MSP. In addition, price support to certain agriculture commodities is extended under Market Intervention Scheme.

PMRY

6786. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released by the Government during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana, State-wise, particularly in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the amount spent under the above scheme during the said period;

(c) whether the Union Government have reviewed the scheme for its proper implementation; and

(d) whether large scale irregularities are being committed in the implementation of the scheme in Uttar Pradesh and the unemployed and educated unemployed are not being benefited by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) A Statement indicating amount released by the Government to each State/UT including Uttar Pradesh (for spending on training, entrepreneurial development etc. of the beneficiaries at the prescribed rates) during the years 1998-99 & 1999-2000 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is enclosed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. No irregularities have been reported by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Statement

State/UT wise grant released for training & contingency etc. during the year 1998-99 and 1999-2000 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana

(Rs. in thousand)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Funds released during 1998-99	Funds released during 1999-2000	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16050.50	15297.95	31348.45
2.	Assam	13872.27	5387.60	19259.87
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	478.85	303.00	781.85
4.	Bihar	1726.00	1374.25	3100.25
5.	Delhi	126.00	0.00	126.00
6.	Goa	175.77	199.55	375.32
7.	Gujarat	6750.75	1434.50	8185.25
8.	Haryana	3059.05	0.00	3059.05
9.	Himachal Pradesh	653.00	1030.30	1683.30
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	71.65	763.55	835.20
11.	Karnataka	10239.62	13860.25	24099.87
12.	Kerala	11059.60	10247.35	21306.95
13.	Madhya Pradesh	13255.38	14233.95	27489.33
14.	Maharashtra	12105.85	27268.60	39374.45
15.	Manipur	598.70	101.75	700.45
16.	Meghalaya	320.50	461.12	781.62
17.	Mizoram	254.70	261.10	515.80
18.	Nagaland	407.05	146.90	553.95
19.	Orissa	6211.35	6772.05	12983.40
20.	Punjab	6237.75	5869.25	12107.00
21.	Rajasthan	9644.50	9413.80	19058.30
22.	Tamil Nadu	6597.75	9428.90	16026.65
23.	Tripura	210.75	578.60	789.35
24.	Uttar Pradesh	36788.85	33040.70	69829.55
25.	West Bengal	727.50	436.00	1163.50
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	226.50	113.70	340.20
27.	Chandigarh	179.50	83.40	262.90

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Daman & Diu	31.00	21.25	52.25
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	22.50	37.60	60.10
30.	Lakshadweep	24.00	24.25	48.25
31.	Pondicherry	355.30	203.55	558.85
32.	Sikkim	107.50	105.20	212.70
	Total	158569.99	158499.97	317069.96

Joint Project with Israel

6787. SHRI SURESH RAMARAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Agricultural Research Institute had undertaken a joint project with Israel on Poly-House Technology for development of exotic varieties of roses, lilies and cucumber;

(b) if so, details of the work done so far on the project; and

(c) the time by which the development varieties are likely to be made available to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has a joint "Indo-Israel Project on Research and Development and Demonstration Farm" with the following objectives:

— Establishing a demonstration farm for commercial agriculture adopting high technological level, with the aim to transfer the know-how mainly to the farmers.

— To demonstrate new cropping methods and technologies that have been established by research work at IARI and in Israel. Advanced technological methods, which shall be transferred from Israel will be adapted to the local conditions and implemented by the demonstration farm.

Thus, basically it is a project on the demonstration of poly-house technology. The project does not aim to develop exotic varieties of rose, lilies and cucumber.

(b) and (c) Some varieties of rose, lilies and cucumber have been imported from Israel and grown to demonstrate poly-house technology. It is not intended at present to multiply the seed/cutting of these varieties for distribution to the farmers.

Perspective Plan for SAARC Countries

6788. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any perspective plan for further development of SAARC countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be prepared and finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has not adopted a SAARC Perspective Plan for the development of SAARC countries. Each country independently formulates its own national plans as per its sovereign prerogative. However, the Group of Eminent Persons (GEP), set up by the 9th SAARC Summit in Male (May 12-14 1997) to review the functioning of SAARC and provide a Perspective Plan for regional cooperation up to the year 2000—submitted its Report to the 10th SAARC Summit at Colombo (July 29-31, 1998).

(b) and (c) The GEP's recommendations focused on a time bound plan for regional economic integration, including (1) negotiation of a Treaty for a South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) by 1999, with implementation by 2008 for all SAARC Members and 2010 for SAARC LDCs, (2) establishing a SAARC Customs Union, with harmonisation of external tariffs by 2015, and (3) a SAARC Economic Union, with harmonisation of monetary and fiscal policies by 2020. The GEP recommended special measures for the Least Developed Countries to enable them to adjust to a Free Trade Area. The GEP

also recommended the adoption of a Social Charter for SAARC, incorporating social welfare targets in the social sector.

SAARC leaders to the SAARC Summit at Colombo held in July 1998 accepted two of the GEP's main recommendations-(i) negotiation of a Treaty for SAFTA and (ii) the adoption of a SAARC Social Charter. The leaders agreed to set up a Committee of Experts for drafting a Comprehensive Treaty Regime for SAFTA by 2001. The First Meeting of the Committee of Experts was held on July 15-17, 1999, in Kathmandu at which its Terms of Reference were agreed upon. The second meeting is scheduled to be held in Kathmandu on mutually agreed dates. An Intergovernmental Expert Group is also proposed to be set up to commence work on the Social Charter.

[Translation]

Fish Production

6789. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:
DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to educate people engaged in fisheries about technical know-how so that better production could be achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the production of fish in the country during the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(d) whether preset fish production capacity is adequate for each State; and

(e) if not, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the fish production alongwith the storage capacity and marketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Training of fishermen and fish farmers in modern aquaculture practices is one of the main components of the Schemes "Development of Freshwater Aquaculture" and "Development of Integrated Coastal Aquaculture". Under these schemes fish farmers are trained through a network of 422 Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDA) and 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (BFDA).

A Centrally Sponsored Sector Scheme "Training and Extension" is also being implemented with the objective of augmenting the availability of qualified manpower for fisheries and broad basing the extension system. The main features of this scheme are:

- Introduction of short-term training porgrammes for fisheries extension officers and fish farmers on aquaculture, mariculture and other aspects related to fisheries development.
- Setting up of Awareness/Training Centres with Laboratory and dormitory facilities.
- Bringing out publicity material on different aspects of fisheries for use of fisheries personnel and fishermen/fish farmers.
- Production of video films on fisheries technologies and giving publicity through media.
- Organising and conducting National level workshops, seminars, meetings, etc. for exchange of information and for working out the future strategy.

Beside the above, four Institutes under the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, eight research institutes under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and nine Colleges of Fisheries under the State Agricultural Universities are also engaged in human resource development activities for the fisheries sector.

(c) Details are given in the attached statement.

(d) and (e) The fish production capacity is of the States is being enhanced by the following Centrally Sponsored Schemes which are currently being implemented.

(1) Development of Coastal Marine fisheries through

(i) Motorisation of traditional crafts;

(ii) Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD oil purchased by mechanised fishing crafts of length below 29 m; and

(iii) Implementation of Marine Fisheries Regulation Act and construction of Artificial Reefs.

(2) Development of Integrated Coastal Aquaculture

(3) Development of Freshwater Aquaculture

(4) Construction of Fishing Harbours and Fish Landing Centres.

A total of 41 marketing units have been sanctioned in various States to promote marketing facilities.

Statement

State-wise Fish Production during the year 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99 and up to December 1999

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000 (up to Dec. 1999)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	359.36	372.86	410.82	275.01
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.85	2.13	2.30	1.71
3.	Assam	154.61	155.13	155.71	98.83
4.	Bihar	249.78	208.54	202.29	187.42
5.	Goa	97.06	92.05	69.02	46.80
6.	Gujarat	725.35	816.50	630.00	500.00
7.	Haryana	30.00	32.05	32.52	25.35
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6.27	6.69	6.79	3.92
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	17.80	18.53	18.85	15.53
10.	Karnataka	324.43	285.13	255.61	186.67
11.	Kerala	631.03	583.86	649.22	486.03
12.	Madhya Pradesh	110.53	115.16	119.59	81.02
13.	Maharashtra	590.00	580.00	520.38	381.46
14.	Manipur	12.70	13.70	15.31	13.02
15.	Meghalaya	3.58	3.09	4.53	3.19
16.	Mizoram	2.55	2.70	2.78	1.93
17.	Nagaland	4.00	3.70	4.50	3.59
18.	Orissa	276.96	309.51	284.23	188.17
19.	Punjab	32.00	36.00	44.50	35.00
20.	Rajasthan	14.30	15.10	12.00	5.50
21.	Sikkim	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.10
22.	Tamil Nadu	459.79	464.60	469.75	356.80
23.	Tripura	27.47	27.91	28.41	24.27

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Uttar Pradesh	149.43	160.02	183.03	133.32
25.	West Bengal	937.00	950.02	995.00	770.02
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	26.44	27.27	27.44	18.64
27.	Chandigarh	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02
29.	Daman & Diu	15.28	18.81	26.85	11.41
30.	Delhi	4.00	4.20	4.42	6.75
31.	Lakshadweep	11.75	10.55	13.54	9.20
32.	Pondicherry	42.65	42.52	42.70	29.89
	Deep Sea Fishing Sector	30.00	30.00	30.00	20.00
	India	5,348.24	5,388.49	5,262.25	3,920.57

[English]

Aquaculture Farming

6790. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has ordered closure of intensive and semi-intensive aquaculture farm in coastal area;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any alternative has been found out for the affected people;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government are intensifying aquaculture cultivation in coastal areas; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court in its judgement dated 11.12.1996 in Writ Petition (C) 561 of 1994 ordered closure of all the shrimp farms set up within the Coastal Regulation Zone, except farms practicing traditional and improved traditional shrimp culture.

(c) and (d) A Review Petition has been filed seeking review of this judgement, and the matter is sub-judice.

(e) and (f) In accordance with the directives of the Supreme Court, an Aquaculture Authority has been set up to regulate shrimp farming activities in coastal areas. The Authority has evolved guidelines for traditional and improved traditional systems of shrimp farming in an eco-friendly manner.

MPLADS

6791. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ordered sample audit of expenditure made in respect of Members of Parliament Locl Area Development Schemes in 57 Lok Sabha constituencies and 28 nodal districts;

(b) if so, the circumstances based on which the areas are to be chosen for audit and scrutiny; and

(c) whether the Government have already given permission to use of these funds for private unaided schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The 2nd Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the Demands-for-Grants (1998-99) of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, had strongly recommended that a study be done to evaluate expenditures incurred and projects undertaken under MPLADS. Accordingly, this Ministry has entrusted the task of evaluation of MPLADS to Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission. The PEO has selected 57 Lok Sabha Constituencies and 28 Nodal Districts.

(c) At present, MPLADS funds can be used for construction of buildings for schools, hostels, libraries of educational institutions belonging to unaided but recognised institutions which are in existence for not less than two years.

Private Sector Pension Funds

6792. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to allow the entry of private sector pension funds in the country in line with the Dave Committee's recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up a separate Indian Pension Authority; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Th. Dave Committee has recommended selection of six (6) professional pension fund managers to manage the retirement funds.

(c) and (d) Dave Committee has recommended establishment of a new Regulatory Agency by the name of the Indian Pensions Authority. The core function of the proposed Authority would be to oversee and supervise the functioning of the pension system proposed by the Committee. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has accepted the Report of the Committee and initiated action accordingly..

[Translation]

Special Insurance Scheme for SSI

6793. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to start a special insurance sheme for the sick and unviable units of the small scale industry sector of the country particularly in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to strengthen these development centres with a view to speed up industrialisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to start a special insurance scheme for the sick and unviable units of the small scale industry sector of the country, particularly in Bihar.

Promotion of use of Hindi

6794. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a centre of excellence to promote the use of Hindi language in Information Technology, Computers and Internet;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that English-Hindi translation softwares have been developed;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have given recognition to the same; and

(f) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) A Resource Centre for Indian language technology solutions for Hindi has been set up at IIT, Kanpur.

(c) to (f) Prototype systems for English to Hindi translation have been developed. These include Anglabharati for health campaign domain at IIT, Kanpur, Matra for News Stories domain at National Centre for Software Technology (NCST), Mumbai and Mantra for officialese appointment letters domain at Centre for Development of Advance Computing (C-DAC). Government is supporting these translation systems to improve level of accuracy and widen the domains.

[English]

Contract Labourers of Kendriya Bhandar

6795. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the packers and loaders employed by various branches of Kendriya Bhandars specially at Pushpa Bhawan and at Mahadeo Road, New Delhi have not been confirmed in their posts even after rendering ten years service and they are still working as contract labourers;

(b) if so, the time by which these labourers are likely to be regularised;

(c) whether the Government propose to stop recruitment to the posts of packers and loaders from outside till the present incumbents working at Pushpa Bhawan and Mahadeo Road are fully absorbed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) The packers/loaders are not appointed/recruited as such by Kendriya Bhandar against any posts and therefore the Question of their confirmation/regularisation in the posts does not arise. The nature of work of this category of workers (who may be working for many years for Kendriya Bhandar) is casual and they are engaged on piece rate basis in the mutual interest of workers and Kendriya Bhandar. Kendriya Bhandar has been ensuring payment of minimum wages as notified by Government of NCT of Delhi to these workers from time to time.

Some of these workers have filed petition in Delhi High Court/Labour Court praying that they by regularised with all consequenial benefits. The matter is, thus, sub-judice.

G-77 Summit

6796. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI BHAN SINGH BHAURA:
SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the issues discussed at the recently held G-77 Summit in Havana;

(b) the outcome thereof;

(c) the main points raised by the Indian delegation in the Summit; and

(d) the response of other delegates thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The Group of 77 (G-77) South Summit of developing countries was held in Havana, Cuba from 10-14 April 2000. The Summit adopted three documents viz, the Declaration, the Havana Programme of Action, and a paper on South-South Cooperation.

The Summit emphasized that in all their endeavours, developing countries would be guided by the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter and by full respect for the principles of international law. The Summit declared its commitment to promote democracy and to strengthen the rule of law. It further agreed to promote respect for all universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.

The South Summit deliberated on four broad themes: Globalization; Knowledge and Technology; South-South Cooperation and North-South Relations. The Summit agreed on the need for developing countries to participate effectively in international economic institutions and policy-making processes. It reiterated the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities between developed and

developing countries, and highlighted the need to gain preferential access to resources and technologies of the North to ensure sustainable development. The Summit deliberated extensively on the need for a fair, equitable and rule-based multilateral trading system that takes into account the development needs of developing countries, and called upon industrialized nations to fully address the implementation issues of the Uruguay Round Agreements that are of concern to developing countries. It also called for improved market access for goods and services of developing countries, and opposed all protectionist measures under the guise of labour standards and environment. The Summit resolved to revitalize and strengthen the role of United Nations system in order to promote development and international cooperation in the context of globalization. The Summit recognized the need to preserve and promote cultural diversity also in the same context.

The Summit stressed the importance of obtaining preferential access to technology and resources of the North. It, however, also stressed that the countries of the South should cooperatively harness the potential of their own knowledge and technology as well as human resources, apart from forging common positions in international fora on issues of concern to developing countries. In this context, Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (ECDC/TCDC) was seen as a key vehicle. The need to stimulate South-South trade and investment, strengthening cooperation in the monetary and financial fields, and promoting social development, including enhancing of capacity building, was also emphasized.

It was further agreed that the North-South dialogue should be revitalized in order to ensure that development issues become central to this dialogue. In this context, the Summit deliberations referred to the importance of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries, rescheduling of debt, the need for a new financial architecture, and for the multilateral trading regime taking development requirements into account. The centrality of the UN in global economic issues, development and international cooperation was seen to be significant.

It was also agreed that the institutional framework of G-77 should be upgraded to implement the South Summit decisions.

(c) and (d) India played an active and leading role in the discussions in Havana. It also helped the Summit to highlight the main concerns of the developing countries, and to identify action needed to be taken within the South-South the North-South context to bring development issues in focus in all multilateral institutions and policy-making processes.

Participating delegations endorsed this approach to South-South and North-South cooperation. The documents finalized in the Summit i.e. the Havana Programme of Action and the Declaration, reflect these priorities.

NERAMAC a Sick Unit

6797. SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether North-Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited (NERAMAC) has been incurring losses right from its inception;

(b) if so, the details of the accumulated losses till date;

(c) whether the Corporation has become a sick unit and the matter has been referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR); and

(d) if so, remedial measures proposed to be taken by the Government to revive this Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) Except during 1983-84 and 1984-85, NERAMAC had been incurring losses since its inception in March, 1982.

(b) NERAMAC had an accumulated loss of Rs. 16.27 crores as on 31.03.1998. This accumulated loss of Rs. 16.27 crores has been written off in terms of the revival package approved by the Government/BIFR in June 1999. The Corporation suffered a loss of Rs. 61.01 lakhs during 1998-99.

(c) and (d) The Corporation became sick and was referred to Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) during December, 1996. On the directions of BIFR and on the basis of a revival scheme prepared by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), the Operating Agency appointed by BIFR, a package for the revival of NERAMAC was approved by the Government in February, 1999. The revival scheme, as approved by the Government, was also cleared by the BIFR in its final hearing held on 7th June, 1999.

The Rehabilitation scheme envisages upgrading of the existing facilities for Pineapple and Cashew processing plant, overhauling and maintenance of existing plant and

machinery in PJC unit, addition of ginger processing plant, offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme to surplus employees, training of personnel and restructuring of balance sheet as on March 31st 1998, so as to bring down the accumulated losses as on that date to 'zero'. The details of the Sanctioned Scheme approved by the Government/BIFR are at the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sanctioned Rehabilitation Scheme of NERAMAC

A. Cost of the sanctioned scheme:

	Item	Investment/Fund required (Rs. in crores)
1.	(a) Plant & Machinery	3.00
	(b) Misc. fixed assets/overhauling	0.75
2.	Preoperative Expenses	1.00
3.	Pressing Creditors	1.01
4.	Training	0.22
5.	Contingencies	0.38
6.	Working Capital	3.20
7.	VRS	0.80
	Total	10.36

B. Source of funding the sanctioned Scheme:

		(Rs. Crores)
(i)	Equity from Plan Budget of Min. of FPI (Ministry's own resources)	5.15
(ii)	Arrears of subsidy from North Eastern Council (NEC)	4.41
(iii)	National Renewal Fund (for implementing VRS)	0.80
	Total	10.36

C. Reliefs and Concessions:

(i) To write off the outstanding loan as on 31.03.98 amounting to Rs. 4.78 crores.

(ii) To write off the accumulated interest amounting to Rs. 7.27 crores as on 31.03.98;

(iii) To write off the capital subsidy amounting to Rs. 3.07 crores;

(iv) To write down the equity by Rs. 1.22 crores, (after writing down the capital, the Accumulated loss gets reduced to zero).

(v) Release of subsidy arrears amounting to Rs. 4.41 crores by North-Eastern Council (NEC).

NOTE:

All the funds and reliefs/concessions under the Scheme have already been provided to NERAMAC.

[Translation]

Completion of Dams

6798. SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major and medium dams under construction in the country at present, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the funds allocated and spent on these dams till date, separately and the target date fixed for the completion of each dam;

(c) whether construction work of almost all the canals has been completed, whereas several dams are still incomplete in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which all dams are likely to be completed and the extent of land in hectares likely to be irrigated thereform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) State-wise details of 155 major and 234 medium irrigation projects which are at present under construction alongwith their latest estimated cost, ultimate irrigation potential and the amount spent thereon is given in the enclosed statement I and II. Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are taken up for implementation by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The completion period of any project

depends on various factors such as it size, availability of land, obtaining clearances from various Central Appraising Agencies by the State Governments, geological conditions etc. Equally important are funds allotted by the State Governments to individual projects.

Statement-I

(Rs. in Crore) (In Thousand Hectares)

	Name of State	No. of Projects	Latest Estimated Cost	Exp. Upto the end of VIII Plan	Spillover cost in IX Plan	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto the end of VIII Plan	Target for Potential created in IX Plan
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	10130.44	4754.95	5375.49	1882.54	1165.65	675.21
2.	Assam	4	432.82	211.48	221.34	167.89	71.40	3.00
3.	Bihar	14	7365.53	2105.27	5260.26	1275.94	99.60	305.86
4.	Goa	1	678.59	258.65	419.94	46.06	8.27	16.22
5.	Gujarat	9	23300.92	6522.47	16777.85	2107.01	271.51	—
6.	Haryana	5	1013.51	725.67	287.84	801.00	242.00	69.00
7.	Himlachal Pradesh	1	150.78	7.47	143.31	24.76	—	2.70
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	151.18	122.84	28.34	66.78	52.88	13.90
9.	Karnataka	14	11190.19	5131.64	6058.55	1718.89	1036.61	737.37
10.	Kerala	7	1879.50	942.41	937.09	343.34	112.20	140.64
11.	Madhhya Pradesh	23	10729.65	3131.15	7598.50	2552.25	665.70	300.15
12.	Maharashtra	36	12958.17	5374.43	7583.74	2517.14	1013.52	943.66
13.	Manipur	2	491.65	225.85	265.80	44.67	5.10	—
14.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Nagaland	1	111.02	2.95	108.07	10.00	—	—
16.	Orissa	5	4953.85	1156.55	3797.30	1066.68	169.54	500.55
17.	Punjab	-(1)IS)	3379.53	2704.93	674.60	478.00	—	348.00
18.	Rajasthan	6	4692.81	2346.01	2346.80	1348.41	600.07	413.34
19.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	18	7359.44	3339.74	4019.70	4226.67	1611.27	926.37
22.	West Bengal	3	2037.41	933.83	1098.58	1558.24	982.61	25.00
	Total	162	103186.89	39003.29	64183.60	22236.27	8107.93	5420.97

Note: 7 Major Projects (6 in Gujarat & 1 in U.P.) have been completed during IX Plan.

Statement-II

(Rs. in Crore) (In Thousand Hectares)

	Name of State	No. of Projects	Latest Estimated Cost	Exp. Upto the end of VIII Plan	Spillover cost in IX Plan	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto the end of VIII Plan	Target for Potential Created in IX Plan
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20	623.34	323.51	299.79	138.03	51.95	102.73
2.	Assam	9	155.92	99.72	56.20	76.58	42.87	1.00
3.	Bihar	29	1065.18	429.37	635.81	171.52	15.88	89.50
4.	Goa	1	40.00	2.40	37.60	11.20	—	—
5.	Gujarat	9	337.53	260.02	77.51	51.32	30.34	—
6.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	11.30	11.26	0.04	2.41	2.41	—
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	9	223.55	55.88	167.67	37.76	6.87	28.94
9.	Karnataka	15	943.67	510.72	432.95	76.29	23.72	62.45
10.	Kerala	5	478.93	150.56	328.37	55.00	5.0	4.30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	32	1012.09	733.15	278.94	245.44	103.20	77.30
12.	Maharashtra	66	2076.06	1021.98	1054.08	325.81	6.40	156.40
13.	Manipur	2	66.58	56.50	10.08	1.54	2.00	—
14.	Meghalaya	1	17.81	8.14	9.67	5.15	—	—
15.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Orsisa	10	499.95	410.23	89.72	108.22	55.75	65.02
17.	Punjab	1	88.49	0.20	88.29	88.29	—	—
18.	Rajasthan	6	240.24	127.22	113.02	44.29	10.70	31.72
19.	Tamil Nadu	2	103.75	29.53	74.22	6.74	—	6.72
20.	Tripura	3	154.00	92.96	61.04	26.72	2.60	24.10
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2	54.81	39.99	14.82	7.65	3.88	3.77
22.	West Bengal	17	90.42	60.78	29.64	37.63	35.39	2.24
	Total	240	8283.62	4424.12	3859.50	1517.59	398.96	656.21

Note: 6 Medium Projects in Gujarat have been completed during IX Plan.

[English]

Porduction of Fertilizers

6799. DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the optimum Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium fertilizers ratio to be maintained to the Indian soil;

(b) the present Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium fertilizers ratio maintained in the country, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for the deviation in the ratio; and

(d) the steps taken to encourage farmers to resort to optimum nutrient application of the elements to the soil in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) A broad indicative National level consumption ratio for nitrogen, phosphorus and potash is often expressed as 4: 2: 1. The State-wise ratio, which is based on actual fertilizer consumption is indicated in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The soil fertility status varies from place to place and also the requirement of crops for plant nutrients varies from crop to crop. The State-wise NPK consumption ratio is, therefore, not the same as the National level ratio of 4: 2: 1.

Farmers are advised to adopt the concept of balanced fertilization which envisages soil test based use of fertilizers throughout the country.

Statement

State-wise fertilizer nutrients consumption ratio during 1998-99.

Sl. No.	State	N	P	K
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7.8	3.4	1.0
2.	Karnataka	3.6	1.9	1.0
3.	Kerala	1.6	0.8	1.0
4.	Tamil Nadu	2.2	0.8	1.0
5.	A&N Islands	3.1	1.9	1.0
6.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
7.	Pondicherry	2.7	1.1	1.0
8.	Gujarat	11.2	4.3	1.0
9.	Madhya Pradesh	18.8	11.4	1.0
10.	Maharashtra	5.7	2.5	1.0
11.	Rajasthan	86.9	30.7	1.0
12.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	37.3	21.0	1.0
13.	Goa	1.7	0.8	1.0
14.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—
15.	Haryana	167.7	43.4	1.0
16.	Himachal Pradesh	6.9	1.2	1.0
17.	Jammu & Kashmir	23.9	8.1	1.0
18.	Punjab	57.6	14.7	1.0
19.	Uttar Pradesh	28.4	6.4	1.0
20.	Chandigarh	—	—	—
21.	Delhi	37.8	3.7	1.0

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Assam	4.8	2.0	1.0
23.	Manipur	76.5	7.4	1.0
24.	Meghalaya	18.1	8.8	1.0
25.	Nagaland	7.0	6.4	1.0
26.	Sikkim	10.7	5.6	1.0
27.	Tripura	7.0	1.8	1.0
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.3	1.4	1.0
29.	Mizoram	0.6	1.4	1.0
30.	Bihar	11.9	3.0	1.0
31.	Orissa	4.4	1.3	1 0
32.	West Bengal	3.0	1.5	1.0
	All India	8.5	3.1	1.0

— Information not available.

Mullaperiyar Dam

6800. SHRI GEORGE EDEN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the further increase of the height of Mullaperiyar Dam in Kerala is likely to damage the strength of the dam;

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

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

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) At present, there is no proposal to further increase the height of Mullaperiyar Dam.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Setting up of a Steel Plant

6801. SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited has set up a Steel Plant near Jajpur Road in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether the plant is ready for commercial production;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (d) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) is in the process of setting up an integrated steel plant with a capacity or 1.1 million tones per annum, for production of Pig Iron. Steel Billets and Wire rods at Duburi near Jajpur road in Orissa. The plant is being commissioned in phases. As on date, about 75% of work of the first phase of the project for manufacture of Pig Iron has been completed and is slated for commissioning by the end of 2000, which will be followed by commercial production. The work on the second phase of the project i.e. for steel making is in the initial stages and is expected to be commissioned by the end of next financial year (2001-02).

Allotment of Land of Punjab Wakf Board

6802. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the case of exchange of Wakf land with Punjab Agricultural University, is in complete violation of the Wakf Act, 1995 and a virtual sell-out;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government would order an independent inquiry in the whole episode; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) No Sir. The exchange of Wakf Land with the Punjab Agricultural University was, done after due notification in the Gazette of India dated 29.9.1999, as per rule 5 of Punjab Wakf Board Rules 1964. Since the said exchange of Wakf Land was done as per Rules, conduct of enquiry does not arise.

Outreach Centres

6803. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional centres functioning as outreach centres to provide composite service for different kinds of disabilities in the country;

(b) the locations thereof, State-wise;

(c) the specific activities enbushed to such centres;

(d) whether they would also liaison with the local NGOs for rendering services to the disabilities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (e) A scheme for setting up Six Composite Regional Centres in the States of U.P., M.P., H.P., Assam, Bihar and J&K has been approved recently with a total cost of Rs. 16.89 crores, to provide composite rehabilitation services to the disabled and conduct training programmes for manpower development in this field.

[Translation]

Production of Foodgrains

6804. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target for the production of foodgrains in the country during the year 2000-2001 has been fixed at 212 metric tonnes;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have also fixed target for various foodgrains separately;

(d) if so, the target fixed for the production of wheat, rice, paddy, cotton, pulses, oilseed and sugarcane;

(e) the estimated demand of said foodgrains in the country during the current year; and

(f) the steps taken to boost the production of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details of targets fixed by the Government for production of different foodgrains for 2000-2001 are given below:-

(Million tonnes)

S. No.	Item	2000-2001 Target
1.	Rice	90.00
2.	Wheat	74.00
3.	Coarse Cereals	33.00
4.	Pulses	15.00
	Total Foodgrains	212.00

(d) Cotton, Oilseed and Sugarcane do not come under the agricultural commodity group "foodgrains".

Targets relating to these items for the year 2000/2001 are given below:-

(Million tonnes)

S. No.	Item	2000-2001 Target
1.	Sugarcane	325.00
2.	Oilseeds	28.00
3.	Cotton*	14.50

*Million bales of 170 kg each.

(e) The estimated requirement of foodgrains for the year 2000/2001 is placed at 195.42 million tonnes as per the norms evolved by the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad.

(f) The following steps are being taken:-

1. A regionally-differentiated strategy to tap the full potential of every agro-climatic zone;
2. Introduction of Kisan Credit Card Scheme to boost the flow of credit to agriculture sector;
3. Introduction of National Agriculture Insurance Scheme;
4. Creation of a Watershed Development Fund; and
5. Investment Subsidy Scheme for Cold Storage.

[English]

Production of Onion

6805. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of onion is expected to touch high level during the current year as compared to previous season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have allowed to NAFED and its subsidiaries to export the surplus stock of onion;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely impact of prices of onion in the domestic market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The production of onion during the year 1999-2000 is expected to be 47.5 lakh tonnes as against 54.7 lakh tonnes during the previous year.

(c) to (e) The Government of India allowed NAFED and other State Marketing Federations to export 2 lakh tonnes of onions during 1999-2000 and 50,000 tonnes during the period April to May, 2000. The prices of onion are likely to behave normally in the domestic market.

[Translation]

Voluntary Retirement Scheme in HSCL

6806. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of employees are working in HSCL than actually required in the company;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of officers and staff who have opted for Voluntary Retirement Scheme, in Hindustan Steel Construction Limited (HSCL) as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL) is over-manned by about 6000 employees. The Government has also approved a revival package for HSCL in July 1999 which, inter alia, includes separation of 6000 employees through VRS.

(c) From 1986-87 to 1998-99, 8068 Officers, staff and workers have opted for VRS in HSCL. In addition, from March 1999 to 4.5.2000, 3040 Officers, staff and workers have applied for VRS. Their break-up is as follows:

	1986-87 to 1998-99	March 1999 to 4.5.2000
Executives	840	237
Non-executives	1098	371
Workers	6130	2432
Total	8068	3040

Survey Conducted through Satellite

6807. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been carried out about the flood and famine hit areas of the country especially in Rajasthan through satellite during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Redevelopment of Cities

6808. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering the proposal received from the Ministry of Urban Development to redevelop the cities of special significance;

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

(c) the cities likely to be included in the Scheme, State-wise;

(d) the funds earmarked for the development of such cities; and

(e) the time by which the proposal is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) Though a proposal for launching a Centrally Sponsored Scheme to develop the places of spiritual, cultural and of tourists importance through Plan assistance to make them vibrant centres of economic and social development was received, the detailed modalities viz., nature and contents of development, financing pattern, criteria for selection of towns, etc have not been received. These have been called for.

Regional Centres for Disabled

6809. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up six regional centres in the country to provide composite services for different kinds of disabilities;

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

(c) the amount earmarked for the said centres; and

(d) the expected number of disabled likely to be benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. A scheme for setting up Six Composite Regional Centres in the States of U.P., M.P., H.P., Assam, Bihar and J&K has been approved recently with a total cost of Rs. 16.89 crores to provide composite rehabilitation services to the disabled and conduct training programmes to generate professionals in this field.

[Translation]

Agricultural Growth Rate

6810. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set a target to increase the annual growth rate of agricultural production by 4.5 per cent for coming years;

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

(c) whether the Government have studied the annual growth rate of last decade while setting this target;

(d) if so, the annual growth rate at the end of 80's and 90's; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve annual growth rate in coming decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ninth Five Year Plan adopted by the National Development Council in it's meeting held on 19th February, 1999 has targetted increase in value of agricultural output (excluding forestry) at the rate of 4.5 per cent per annum during the Ninth Five Year Plan period (1997/2002).

(c) Past growth in agricultural production is one of the variables that is studied at the time of setting the target growth rate in the Five Year Plan.

(d) In the Ninth Five Year Plan document, the target of 4.5 per cent per annum increase in the value of agricultural output translates to 3.9 per cent annual rate of growth in Gross Value Addition in agriculture.

The decadal growth rates of Gross Value added in the last two decades are given below:-

Period	Growth rate (% per annum)
1980's	3.33
1990's (upto 1996/97)	3.14

(e) Some of the initiatives taken by the Government are:

(1) Formulation of a regionally differentiated strategy to actualize the potential of various region;

(2) Increasing the flow of credit to agriculture sector through introduction of Kisan Credit Scheme;

(3) Introduction of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme;

(4) Creation of a Watershed Development Fund, and promotion of Watershed Development on an expanded scale; and

(5) Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Cold Storages.

[English]

Atrocities on SC/ST

6811. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any suggestion or request from the Members of Parliament and Social Organizations to comply with Protection of Civil Rights Act (PCR Act) and Prevention of Atrocities against Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes Act, 1989 (POA Act) strictly and to ensure the role of public representatives in such cases and to take action against District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police by fixing their responsibility in the matters of atrocities, wherein many people of these communities are killed and their properties are damaged extensively;

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

(c) the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) Role of Public representatives has been outlined in Section 15A (2) (iv) of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and Section 21 (2) (v) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. Rule 3 (ix) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995 also provides that State Governments shall encourage Non-Governmental Organizations for establishing and maintaining awareness centres and organizing workshops and provide them necessary financial and other sort of assistance. As regards action against public servants, the provision for abetment of offence/punishment for neglect of his duties has already been made in Section 10 of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and Section 4 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 respectively.

Ministry of Home Affairs, in their letter dated 12.11.1998 addressed to Chief Secretaries of States/UTs, has requested them to accord higher priority in the framing, implementation and monitoring of the policies/ schemes under the Portection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and to consider an appropriate mechanism for this purpose.

Construction of Dams

6812. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI CHANDARKANT KHAIRE:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether several major and medium dams and multipurpose projects are planned to be executed in various parts of the country in the next five years;

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

(c) whether the Government have planned to mobilise resources for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the target date fixed for the completion of these projects, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (e) Irrigation being a State subject, irrigation projects are taken up for implementation by the State Governments themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The completion period of any project depends on various factors such as its size, availability of land, obtaining clearances from various Central Appraising Agencies by the State Governments, geological conditions etc. Equally important are funds allotted by the State Governments to individual project. Project reports of 76 new projects (40 major and 36 medium) have been received from the various State Governments for clearance of the Centre. State-wise details of these projects is given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of Project	State	Major/ Medium	Estimated Cost (Crore)	Status
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Pulichintala Irrigation Project	Andhra Pradesh	Major	506.20	B
2.	Sriram Sagar Stage-II	Andhra Pradesh	Major	697.70	B
3.	Pedderu Reservoir	Andhra Pradesh	Major	26.23	B
4.	Palemvagu	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	29.13	B
5.	Valligallu Reservoir Project	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	131.82	A
6.	Yerravagu	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	7.73	B
7.	Suddavagu	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	56.48	A
8.	Peddavagu	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	202.60	A
9.	Surampalem Reservior	Andhra Pradesh	Medium	46.70	B
10.	Pagladiya Dam (Multipurpose)	Assam	Major	547.69	B
11.	Bursuti Irrigation Scheme	Assam	Medium	34.70	B
12.	Garufella Irrigation Scheme	Assam	Medium	36.35	A
13.	Deopani Project	Assam	Medium	29.77	A
14.	Punasi Reservior	Bihar	Major	221.65	B
15.	Subernarekha (Multipurpose)	Bihar	Major	1428.82	B
16.	Kadwan Reservior Project	Bihar	Major	1111.14	A
17.	Upper Sakri Reservoir	Bihar	Major	437.94	B
18.	Kanhar Reservoir	Bihar	Major	1015.76	A
19.	North Koel Reservoir	Bihar	Major	836.11	A

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Bakrol W.R. Project	Gujarat	Medium	23.90	A
21.	Khet Purali Dam Project	Haryana	Medium	16.92	A
22.	Renuka Dam	Himachal Pradesh	Major	1224.64	B
23.	Upper Tunga Project	Karnataka	Major	556.00	A
24.	Upper Krishna Stage-II (Multipurpose)	Karnataka	Major	2786.17	A
25.	Markandeya Reservoir Project	Karnataka	Major	134.53	A
26.	Karapra Kuriyarkutty Mult. Project	Kerala	Major	231.03	A
27.	Attapady Irrigation Project	Kerala	Medium	83.67	A
28.	Bargi Multipurpose Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	566.34	B
29.	Tarwar Tank	Madhya Pradesh	Major	24.38	B
30.	Omkareshwar Mult. Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	1784.29	D
31.	Upper Narmada Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	211.92	A
32.	Kolar Project	Madhya Pradesh	Major	139.14	B
33.	Mahan	Madhya Pradesh	Major	39.00	B
34.	Arunavati Project	Maharashtra	Major	66.48	B
35.	Lower Wunna Project	Maharashtra	Major	87.55	B
36.	Human River Project	Maharashtra	Major	168.15	A
37.	Tilari Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Major	256.00	D
38.	Talamba Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Major	289.09	B
39.	Lendi Irrigation Project	Maharashtra	Major	177.615	A
40.	Dudhganga Irrigation	Maharashtra	Major	204.58	B
41.	Warna Irrigation	Maharashtra	Major	337.81	B
42.	Punad Irrigation	Maharashtra	Major	29.22	B
43.	Lower Wardha	Maharashtra	Major	61.99	A
44.	Gunjawani	Maharashtra	Major	86.77	A
45.	Sakol	Maharashtra	Medium	10.88	B
46.	Raigavan	Maharashtra	Medium	9.51	B
47.	Jam Irrigation	Maharashtra	Medium	43.83	B
48.	Masalga	Maharashtra	Medium	17.47	B
49.	Kar	Maharashtra	Medium	44.71	B
50.	Chandrabhaga	Maharashtra	Medium	71.14	B
51.	Pentakali	Maharashtra	Medium	91.87	B

1	2	3	4	5	6
52.	Purna	Maharashtra	Medium	51.97	A
53.	Utwali	Maharashtra	Medium	35.77	B
54.	Lal Nalla	Maharashtra	Medium	19.05	A
55.	Nawargaon	Maharashtra	Medium	8.72	B
56.	Renapur	Maharashtra	Medium	51.16	B
57.	Upper Manjra	Maharashtra	Medium	40.49	A
58.	Sulki Makar Dhokra	Maharashtra	Medium	12.47	A
59.	Pothra Nalla	Maharashtra	Medium	36.95	A
60.	Chikotra	Maharashtra	Medium	89.38	A
61.	Labhaan Sarad	Maharashtra	Medium	5.72	A
62.	Jambre	Maharashtra	Medium	55.72	A
63.	Tipaimukh Dam Project	Manipur	Major	2899.00	B
64.	Dzuza Irrigation	Nagaland	Medium	49.0	B
65.	Ong Dam Project	Orissa	Major	217.73	A
66.	Kanupur Irrigation Project	Orissa	Major	330.896	B
67.	Ib Irrigation Project	Orissa	Major	96.60	A
68.	Shahpurkandi Dam Project (Ravi Project Unit -V)	Punjab	Major	1400.19	A
69.	Chakan Irrigation	Rajasthan	Medium	9.55	B
70.	Piplad Irrigation	Rajsthan	Medium	21.88	A
71.	Grarda Irrigation	Rajasthan	Medium	39.51	B
72.	Irukkangudi Reservoir	Tamil Nadu	Medium	28.70	A
73.	Raising of Meja Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Major	65.00	B
74.	Kishau Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Major	4099.00	C
75.	Maudaha Dam	Uttar Pradesh	Major	17.70	B
76.	Chittaurgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Major	11.88	B

STATUS:

(a) Under Correspondence
(b) Put up to Advisory Committee & Accepted subject to Obeservations.
(c) Deferred by Ad isory Committee.
(d) Pending with Planning Commission for investment clearance.

[Translation]

Development of Financial Intelligence Infrastructure

6813. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether America has advised India to develop financial itelligence infrastructure;

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

(c) whether the Government are in agreement with that report of Foreign Department of America on "International Trade of Narcotic Substances" in which it has been stated that the black money transaction has created havoc in India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Under Indo-US bilteral co-operation arragements, the US Agency for International Development (USAID) is to provide technical assistance of US$ 25 million over four years towards a programme entitled Financial Institutes Reform and Expansion (FIRE) which is intended to strengthen Indian financial markets and regulatory agencies. There is no proposal relating specifically to financial intelligence infrastructure.

(c) and (d) The Government have seen the 1999 International Narcotics Strategy Report of the US Department of State. The section on India states that India is meeting its responsibilities to prevent diversion of licit opium production. The report also inter alia, refers to the black or underground economy in India as being a growing concern. While doing so, the report states that India has wide range of legislation addressing money laundering and other financial crimes.

[English]

Comprehensive Plan for Wheat Production

6814. SHRI ABDUL HAMID:
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given any assistance for the successful implementation of the comprehensive plan worked out by the scientists to raise the food production, especally wheat; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) For increasing production and productivity of cereal crops, Integrated Cereal Development Programme in Rice/Wheat/Coarse Cereals Based Cropping System Areas are in operation. In pulses and maize which are constituent of food crops, National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) and Accelerated Maize Development Programme (AMDP) are also in operation.

Research on development of high yielding varieties and hybrids, their production and protection technology and breeder seed production are the integral part of the plan. The research programmes are implemented through 13 crop based institutes fully financed by the ICAR and 20 multi-centered all India Crop Improvement Research Projects jointly financed by the ICAR and State Agricultural Universities. In wheat, one exclusive institute (Directorate of Wheat Research) and one all-India Coordinated Wheat Improvement Project with 31 centres located in different agro-climatic zones of the country, are functioning.

Wakf Properties

6815. SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Wakf properties which are under the occupation of Government of Punjab/Haryana/Himachal Pradesh/Administration of Chandigarh;

(b) the Wakf properties which have been allotted to them by the Board;

(c) the properties which have been encroached upon by them; and

(d) the steps taken to retrieve the encroached/illegally occupied properties and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Investment in SSI and Tiny Sector

6816. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:

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

(a) whether net bank credit to the Small Scale Industries and Tiny sector has been declined almost 14 per cent during the year ending March, 1999;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the investment in this sector and to improve the conditions of tiny industries;

(d) whether the SSI has urged the Government to simplify loan procedure;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the steps taken by the Government thereon; and

(g) the contribution of SSI sector to the Indian economy during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There has been a steady increase in the flow of credit to the small scale sector and tiny sector which has risen from Rs. 16,783 crores in March, 1991 to Rs. 42,674 crores in March, 1999 accounting to 17.3% of the net bank credit.

(c) Government of India has taken various steps to enhance the flow of credit to small scale sector and tiny units which inter alia, includes earmarking 60% of SSI credit under priority sector lending for tiny sector, dispensing with collaterals for loans upto Rs. 5 lakhs, formulation of Credit Guarantee Scheme, enhancement of Composite Loan limit to Rs. 10 lakhs, enhancement of limit of project cost upto Rs. 25 lakhs under National Equity Fund Scheme, opening of specialised SSI bank branches and simplified procedure for sanction of working capital loan for small scale units with an annual turnover upto Rs. 5 crores. Further, in order to improve the condition of tiny industries 40% of plots have been earmarked for the tiny units under the Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme.

(d) to (f) SSI Associations have been urging the Government to simplify the loan procedures for SSI units. Accordingly, as per the RBI guidelines, banks have introduced a standardised and simplified loan application form and provided for disposal of applications within specified time.

(g) As per the available estimates, the SSI sector contributed 39.07% of total industrial production, 34.9% exports, 6.71% of GDP and provided employment to 171.58 lakh persons in 1998-99.

Closure of School

6817. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have decided to close the Kendriya Vidyalaya, a project school under ICAR (Ministry of Agriculture) functioning at Kasaragod district in Kerala;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether any decision has been taken to restart the school; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) It was decided to close the Project Kendriya Vidyalaya at Kasargod running in the campus of CPCRI in phased manner. Admission to Class I was discontinued since 1998.

(b) This decision was taken to utilize the funds being spent on running the school for research purposes which is the mandate of the institute.

(c) and (d) On the advice of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan the ICAR proposes to prescribe the rates/ scale of the fees to be charged from the students and to formulate the guidelines to be followed by the Kendriya Vidyalayas run by the Institutes of the ICAR. For finalising the admission to class I for the academic year 2000-2001, the Director, CPCRI, Kasargod has been permitted to go ahead with the admission as per schedule fixed for the Kendriya Vidyalaya.

NRIs in Jails

6818. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indians abroad who are in jails in various countries;

(b) their break-up, country-wise alongwith the charges framed against them;

(c) whether this issue has been taken up with those countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the efforts made/being made to bring them back from those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) The total number of Indian prisoners in foreign jails at any given time varies between 6000 to 8000. The total number of Indians arrested in various foreign countries during 1999 was 8937. A country-wise break-up of these imprisoned Indian nationals is enclosed as statement.

The charges against these prisoners include infringement of the immigration laws, drug offences and a variety of civil and criminal charges.

As soon as an Indian diplomatic mission/post is apprised about the arrest of an Indian national, a request is made to the host government for seeking consular access. An officer of the mission/post visits the detainee and tries to ascertain the circumstances leading to the arrest. Where necessary, the mission/post takes up the matter with the host government for speedy and fair trial and also for review of the sentence. The prisoners are normally released on completion of their sentences. However, in deserving cases, our missions/posts have succeeded in obtaining remission of sentences.

Statement

Indian Nationals Arrested in 1999

Country	No. of Indians arrested	Country	No. of Indians arrested
1	2	3	4
Angola	01	Maldives	59
Australia	27	Malta	45
Kazakhstan	08	Mauritius	02
Austria	67	Mexico	10
Bahrain	191	Mozambique	01
Bangaldesh	197	Myanmar	08
Belarus	49	Nepal	03
Belgium	120	Netherlands	65
Bhutan	66	New Zealand	02
Brunei	52	Oman	276
Bulgaria	21	Pakistan	Information not available
Cambodia	01	Panama	13
Canada	Information not available	Philippines	51
Chile	02	Qatar	236
China	11	Romania	46
Cyprus	29	Russian Federation	08
Egypt	01	Saudi Arabia	1073
France	198	Singapore	2845

1	2	3	4
Fiji	03	South Africa	07
Germany	72	Spain	65
Greece	54	Sri Lanka	62
Guyana	01	Sweden	08
Hong Kong	72	Syrian Arab Rep.	39
Indonesia	27	Thailand	152
Iran	07	Tunisia	01
Israel	155	Turkey	04
Italy	114	Turkmenistan	02
Ivory Coast	02	Ukraine	195
Jamaica	15	UAE	1320
Japan	01	United Kingdom	27
Jordan	12	USA	109
Rep. of Korea	07	Uzbekistan	04
Kuwait	107	Yemen Arab Rep.	02
Lebanon	52	Yugoslavia	10
Madagascar	01	Zambia	02
Malaysia	442	Total	8937

Cyclone Victims

6819. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plan to help cyclone victims like orphans who have lost their parents, persons who suffered mental and psychological trauma thus resulting in neurological disorder; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the budget earmarked for the said plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government of Orissa had taken some initiatives for the orphaned children by providing shelter, orphanages, medicine, etc. as also for women who had been widowed. The Department of Women and Child Development had sanctioned short stay homes for women and children. The Team deputed by them to Orissa suggested ensuring proper nutrition and health cover for women and children on a sustained basis and special attention for orphaned children, widows and destitute women. The Team deputed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare to the cyclone affected areas recommended constitution of an Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of the State Health Secretary for monitoring, among other things, the mental health needs of the affected population and funding as well as strengthening of mental health infrastructure in the State. The State Government recently set up the Orissa State Disaster Mitigation Authority to coordinate the rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction work.

Entire Central share of Rs 42.50 crore under Calamity Relief Fund and assistance of Rs. 828.15 crore from the Ntional Fund for Calamity Relief were released to Orissa during 1999-2000 for undertaking relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including cyclones. No separate budget provision was made.

Software Technology Parks

6820. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state.

(a) whether the STPI-Software Technology Park of India, has experienced mad rush during March, 2000 for new registration of IT units;

(b) whether the Finance Minister's announcement in Budget Speech that tax holiday benefit will be given only to those units who have registered their STP units before March 31, 2000;

(c) if so, the number of applications received by the Department in March, 2000;

(d) whether the registration process of all these applications was completed before March 31, 2000

(e) whether all these legally valid registered units will be allowed to have benefits of export exemption of STPI units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) There was a sharp increase in the number registration of units in Software Technology Parks.

(b) The proposal in the Budget speech was to limit the exemption under section 10A or 10B of the Income Tax Act, to units set up in Free Trade Zone or Export Oriented Units on or before 31.3.2000. Section 10A of the Income Tax Act is applicable to the STP units.

(c) and (d) 4357 applications were received during March 2000 for establishing STP unit under STP scheme. 3932 of these units which met the criteria for establishing units were registered.

(e) and (f) Finance Minister, while moving the Finance Bill (2000) has announced extension of cut-off date for tax-holiday to 2010 and as per this proposal, all STP units registered upto this point would be eligible for tax-holiday upto 2010.

Indo-Pak Relations

6821. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the statement of the US Ambassador to India that, US wants the Lahore process to be re-energised and the Kashmir issue addressed by India and Pakistan at the higheet level; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The US has expressed hope for the resumption of dialogue between India and Pakistan to address all outstanding issues between the two countries. The US has outlined its position on the issue, urging restraint, respect for Line of Control, refraining from violence and for renewed lines of communcation. The US has repeatedly stated, including during the visit of President Clinton to South Asia, that the US will not mediate between India and Pakistan. The US has also stated Pakistan must help create conditions for a bilateral dialogue to succeed.

(b) The Government has always been committed to resolving its differences with neighbours through peaceful bilateral dialogue in an atmosphere free from the threat of force and violence. It is Government's view that Pakistan must abjure violence, terrorism and hostile propaganda against India and respect the bilateral agreements it has solemnly entered into for meaningful dialogue to take place.

[Translation]

Agreement on Child Labour

6822. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI TARUN GOGOI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether India, America and ILO have signed any agreement;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the said agreement;

(c) whether the Government have taken measures to curb child labour under this agreement; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Ministry of Labour, Government of India and the ILO signed an agreement on 17.2.2000 for the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), to extend the International

Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in India, initially for a period of 2 years from Jan., 2000 to Dec., 2001 and by mutual agreement for one more year. The USA is not a signatory to the agreement.

(b) The main objective of the programme is to extend IPEC activities in India for the duration mentioned.

(c) and (d) India has been participating in ILO's International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour. The long term objective of IPEC is to contribute to the effective abolition of child labour. Under the programme funds are provided directly by the ILO area office to NGO's and other organisations, after approval of the action programmes by the IPEC National Steering Committee. The Action Programmes cover areas such as institutional development, programme development, awareness raising, rehabilitation and education. Under IPEC, over 150 action programmes have been taken up for coverage of more than 90,000 children.

[English]

Complaints against Senior Officers

6823. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received against the Senior Officers of Provident Fund Organisation and Enforcement Officers as well as Accounts Officers of the Provident Fund Organisation in the country States/UT-wise;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Government against them and the cases registered with CBI;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The requisite information is enclosed as statement.

(b) to (d) Necessary investigations are made by the EPF Organisation on the complaints as and when received. The EPF Organisation is reported to have decided to take departmental action against 24 officers. In two cases the matter has been entrusted to the CBI.

Statement

No. of Complaints Received against Senior Officers and Enforcement Officers/Assistant Accounts Officers of the EPFO during 1999-2000, Region-Wise

S. No.	Region	No. of Complaints
1.	Himachal Pradesh	—
2.	Punjab	—
3.	Haryana	4
4.	Uttar Pradesh	10
5.	Delhi	3
6.	Head Office	—
7.	Andhra Pradesh	14
8.	Tamil Nadu	7
9.	Karnataka	10
10.	Kerala	7
11.	North East	—
12.	Bihar	7
13.	West Bengal	6
14.	Orissa	1
15.	Maharashtra	8
16.	Madhya Pradesh	—
17.	Rajasthan	6
18.	Gujarat	3

Promotion Schemes for Tender Coconuts

6824. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coconut Development Board has made any survey for exploiting the northern region markets for tender Coconut;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to promote consumption of tender Coconut in North India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Coconut Development Board under Ministry of Agriculture undertakes market promotional campaigns in the country through mass media, display of tender coconut water in National/State/International level Exhibitions, Seminars and Workshops. The Board also implemented a project to start Elaneer Pandal under which assistance @ Rs. 5,000/- per Pandal was provided to promote use of tender coconut water.

Telugu Ganga Irrigation Project

6825. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Water Commission is yet to clear the Telugu Ganga Irrigation Project;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the earlier estimated cost, present cost and the exent to which the cost of the project is likely to escalate by the time of its completion; and

(d) 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) to (d) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has not intimated the latest estimated cost of Telugu Ganga Project. However, the estimated cost of the Project was Rs. 1977 crore (at 1993-94 price level) against the original estimated cost of Rs. 637 crore as reported by Andhra Pradesh. Clearance of the project is linked with submission of detailed project report after resolution of inter-state issues by Andhra Pradesh with the co basin States of Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Delayed Projects

6826. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of money locked up in disputes over delayed State-run projects alongwith details thereof;

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to hasten the settlement of disputes;

(c) the number of State-supervised projects pending for over 15 years and the action taken/proposed to be taken in the matter; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against those found guilty in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) According to Construction Industry Development Council, the disputed amount locked up in all projects, is of the tune of Rs. 52,000 crores over a period of 8-10 years.

(b) To reduce delay in the settlement of disputes, the Arbitration and Conciliation Act of 1940 was amended in January, 1996. In the meantime, the Construction Industry Development Council, an autonomous body under the Planning Commission, have proposed to constitute an Arbitration Committee to hasten the settlement of disputes and the same has been approved by their Board on 15-03-2000. The matter is to be considered by the Government.

(c) There are 18 projects in the Central Sector which were approved 15 years ago. The original cost of these projects was Rs. 2,064.24 crores and their now anticipated cost is Rs. 10,686.3 crores. The cumulative expenditure on these projects till date is Rs. 5,444.4 crores.

The Government has in place a system of monthly monitoring of major and mega projects and quarterly monitoring of all projects including medium projects.

(d) Standing Committees have been set up in concerned administrative Ministries to go into the causes of time and cost overruns for projects costing Rs. 50 crores and above and to fix responsibility for time and cost overruns. The Reports of these Committees form part of the notes for revised cost estimates of the projects with time and cost overruns and the same are submitted to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

[Translation]

Evaluation of Manpower

6827. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the existing strength of manpower in the country in organised and unorganised sector;

(b) the percentage of manpower at present in proportion to the total population of the country; and

(c) the percentage of manpower out of it engaged in agriculture, industrial and service sectors separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) Data on employment and unemployment situation in the country is collected through sample surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on quinquennial basis. The latest quinquennial survey was conducted during the year 1993-94. In addition to the quinquennial surveys, NSSO also conducts annual surveys with smaller sample size.

The estimates of total labour force, which includes both employed and unemployed and the total work force (employed) based on the surveys of NSSO is given in the statement-I attached.

Out of total estimated employment of 382.12 million in 1997, the employment in the organised sector as on 1st March, 1997 was 28.245 million.

The Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) and Work Force Participation Rate (WFPR) which give the number of persons in the labour force and work force respectively, per 1000 persons in the population is given in the Statement-II attached. The Industrial distribution of workers is given in the Statement-III attached.

Statement-I

Table I: Estimates of Labour Force and Work Force (Usual Status) (million)

	Labour Force	Work Force
1987-88 (43rd Round)	333.49	324.29
1993-94 (50th Round)	381.94	374.45
1997 (53rd Round)#	389.16	382.12

Annual Round Survey

Note: The reference points for 43rd, 50th and 53rd Round Surveys of NSSO are 1st January, 1988, 1st January 1994 and 1st July, 1997 respectively.

Statement-II

Table-II: *Labour Force Participation Rates and Work Force Participation Rates (per 1000)*

	LFPR	WFPR
1987-88 (43rd Round)	423	412
1993-94 (50th Round)	428	420
1997 (53rd Round) #	407	401

Annual Round Survey

Statement-III

Table-III: *Industrial Distribution (%) of Employment*

Industry Group	Percentage Distribution	
	1993-94	1987-88
Agriculture	64.8	66.2
Mining & Quarrying	0.7	0.7
Manufacturing	10.5	10.7
Electricity, Gas & Power Supply	0.4	0.4
Construction	3.1	3.7
Trade	7.4	7.0
Transport, Storage & Communication	2.8	2.5
Financial Services	0.9	0.5
Community Services	9.4	8.2
All	100.0	100.0
Total Employment (million)	374.45	324.29

Source: 43rd and 50th Round Surveys of NSSO

[English]

Retention of Lobbyists

6828. SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are not likely to renew the contract of the U.S. lobbyists hired by the Indian Government;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the total amount incurred by the Government on the lobbyists during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The position regarding lobbying contracts is kept under constant review, keeping in mind performance and requirements. The contract of M/s APCO Associates expired in March 2000. It has been decided not to renew this contract. This is not a reflection on the performance of the firm. It is a reflection of the fact that the fixed duration contract was for specific purposes which have been met. The contract of the other lobbying firm M/s Verner Liipfert is valid till December 2000. The question of renewal of the contract may be considered closer to that time on the basis of a detailed assessment of performance and/or requirements, in consultation with Embassy of India, Washington.

(c) Expenditure incurred by Government of India on lobbyists during 1998-99 was US$ 9,75,000/-.

Research Works in Tamil Nadu

6829. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the research works undertaken by the ICAR in Tamil Nadu during the last two years especially in the filed of paddy and sugarcane production;

(b) the funds allocated for the Agricultural Research Institute for the year 2000-2001;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve Agricultural and Horticultural production in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the funds provided by ICAR to develop agricultural lands and production in the backward and hilly areas in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The ICAR is conducting research in Tamil Nadu with the help of ICAR Research Institutes, All India Coordinated Research Projects and Ad-hoc Projects located in TNAU, Coimbatore and TNV & ASU, Chennai. Under these Institutes & Projects, the Council has conducted research on varietal improvement, crop management, crop protection and other facts related to the productivity/ production of crops especially paddy and sugarcane during the last two years.

(b) The fund allocated to Agricultural Research Institutes as Budget Estimates for the year 2000-2001 is Rs. 629.25 crores.

(c) The Government is making use of technologies developed for Tamil Nadu State for improving the production through various schemes like Integrated Cereal Development Programme and Sustainable Development of Sugarcane etc.

(d) Being research organization, ICAR does not undertake such programmes.

[Translation]

Dargah Act

6830. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which 'Dargah Act' was enacted to look after the arrangements in regard to the Dargah of the famous Sufi Saint of Ajmer;

(b) whether the Government have received suggestions or representations from various organizations, authorities and representatives of the people with regard to amend this Act;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to amend this Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Durgah Khawaja Saheb Act was enacted in 1955 to make provision for the proper administration of the Durgah and the Endowment of the Durgah of Khawaja Moin-ud-din Chishti generally known as Durgah Khawaja Saheb Ajmer.

(b) to (d) Based on suggestions received 'from Government of Rajasthan and the Durgah Committee and others, amendment of the Durgah Act has been taken up. This exercise is under process and is likely to take time.

[English

On the Spot Chinese Visa

6831. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian businessmen will get on the spot Chinese visa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India also proposed to do the same;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the extent to which this move is likely to improve the Indo-Sino economic relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) As per the information provided by the Chinese Embassy, one month single/double entry business visa is issued on the same day, subject to production of a formal invitation letter from the Chinese authorities/company and payment of an express service fee.

The Indian Embassy in Beijing issues a one-month, single-entry business visa on the same day to Chinese nationals on production of an appropriate invitation letter and payment of an express service fee.

Government attaches importance to trade and economic relations with China and continues to take all necessary and appropriate steps to facilitate visits of businessmen. Increased business-level contacts will contribute to improving economic cooperation.

Marketing Intervention Scheme

6832. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding Marketing Intervention Scheme (MIS) with regard to the problems of potato growers;

(b) if so, the decision of the Union Government thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government are considering to draw any action plan for strengthening, upgrading and expanding agricultural marketing network in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government of India is operating various schemes through the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) to strengthen the agricultural marketing cooperatives. Directorate of Marketing & Inspection is also playing advisory role to strengthen the agricultural marketing in the country. However, at present no action plan is under consideration for strengthening, upgrading and expanding agricultural marketing network in the country.

Annual Plan Outlay for Madhya Pradesh

6833. SHRI JAIBHAN SINGH PAWAIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have increased the annual plan outlay for Madhya Pradesh for the year 2000-2001 in comparison to last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The Annual Plan outlay for Madhya Pradesh for the year 2000-01 is in the process of being finalized.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Women Entrepreneurship

6834. SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for promoting women entrepreneurship in the country, State-wise;

(b) the allocation and percentage of funds in respect of each of such scheme during the last three years;

(c) whether any new scheme for promoting women entrepreneurship in the country was sponsored by the Government during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) The Government is not implementing any Centrally Sponsored Scheme for promoting women entrepreneurship. However, under the Central Sector Scheme of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) preference is being given to women entrepreneurs. A Scheme called Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD) for women was launched on a pilot basis in 1996-97 and is being continued during the 9th Plan to empower women through the development of their entrepreneurial skills by eliminating constraints faced by women and strengthening trade support networks. This covers inter alia, assistance in the form of loan as well as grant, trade related training, trade information, guidance, counselling and follow-up and extension activities relating to product and market development. Under the Scheme of Entrepreneurhsip Development Institutes, the Central grant of Rs. 25.00 lakhs has so far been provided to the Association of Lady Entrepreneurs of Andhra Pradesh for setting up a Centre for Entrepreneurship Development where preference is to be given to women (upto 50% of the total participants) for training. All the Entrepreneurship/ Management Development Programmes being organised by the Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs) are open to women. In addition, need based exclusive courses for women entrepreneurs are also being organised by SISIs.

Pirated Software

6835. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the software companies who have been found using and marketing/pirated softwares of other leading companies;

(b) the action taken against these companies;

(c) the preventive measures being taken in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to educate people to differentiate between genuine and pirated software?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) In India, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of Software is covered under the Copyright law, violation of which attracts both fine and imprisonment.

Government has also introduced comprehensive Information Technology Bill in the Parliament. This Bill is expected to help in dealing with software piracy and containing the problem.

Government has also set up a Copyright Enforcement Advisory Council, which reviews the progress of the Enforcement of Copyright Act and also advises on measure for better enforcement.

Police and custom officers are being sensitised on software piracy issues.

Government has been supporting Anti-piracy campaign through NASSCOM and instructions have also been issued to various Government Departments to only use legal copy of the software.

Custom duty on Software has been made zero. This will help to curb piracy.

National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) also are maintaining anti piracy hot line. They have reported that since 1996, more than 65 raids have been conducted with the assistance of police or court appointed commissioners. The venues of most raids have been resellers of illegal software and computer training institutes. Software worth more than Rs. 40 crores in the CD ROMs, Hard Disk Drives and computers loaded with pirated software have been seized and cases have been filed.

While raids have been conducted on premises of some companies and since the matters are either pending with the concerned authorities or with the courts, it will be premature to disclose any details in this regard at this juncture. Government has given full support to NASSCOM.

Production of Wheat

6836. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the likely production of wheat during the year 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to export wheat in view of bumper crop and also lack of storage capacity; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No Sir. It is too early to assess the likely production of wheat for the year 2000-2001.

(c) and (d) Export of wheat can be one way of liquidating the stocks. Enquiries regarding import of wheat have been received from some countries. However, Ruling prices of wheat in India being very high, compared to the international prices, the export potential of Indian wheat is extremely bleak. As a result, export deal with no other country except Nepal could so far be clinched.

Centres for Handicapped Persons

6837. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of centres working for the handicapped persons in Uttar Pradesh and receiving grants from the Union Government;

(b) the names and the locations of the centres;

(c) the grants given during each of the last five years;

(d) whether the Government have received some complaints regarding the management of some centres;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Statements indicating the names and location of the project/centres of voluntary organisations that have received grants from the ministry under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disability and Scheme for Purchase/fittings of Aids and Appliances during the year 1999-00 is attached as Statement-I-II respectively.

(c) Details of grants under the aforesaid schemes in the State of Uttar Pradesh during each of the last five years is as under:

(Rs. in Lacs)

1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
709.41	261.70	356.80	855.32	1788.38

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f) The complaints normally are in the nature of representations against misutilisation of funds, non-utilisation of funds, ineffective functioning of the management. On receipt of the complaint the same is got investigated in detail by the designated agencies and grants are stopped till resolution of the complaint. Depending upon the findings of investigation the State Govt/District Authorities are also advised to take action such as recovery of funds, blacklisting of the orgainsation and attachment of assets etc.

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the Organisation	Name of the Project	Centre/Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Adhinav Seva Sansthan	Rehabi. of LCP	Sultanpur
2.	Adrash Janta Shiksha Samiti	School cum vtc	Allahabad
3.	Adarsh Khadi Gramudyog Vikas Samiti	EDU. CUM VTC	JP Nagar
4.	Akhil Bharatiya Viklang Kalyan Samiti	EDU. CUM VTC	Faizabad
5.	Akhil Bhartiya Samaj Kalyan Evam Mahila Vikas Sewa Sansthan	Residential School for the Disabled	Deoria
6.	Allahabad Gram Swasthya Seva Samiti	Edu. Cum VTC	Allahabad
7.	Ambedkar Shiksha Samiti	VTC for Handicapped	Lucknow

1	2	3	4
8.	Anand Charitable Society	School cum vtc	Ghaziabad
9.	Anant Ashram	Rehabi. of LCP	Lucknow
10.	Apang Asahaya Jan Vikas Sansthan	Resi. School for Disabled	Bijnor
11.	Ashoka Public School	Education cum VTC	Lucknow
12.	Awadh Sansthtan	Spl. School for Handicapped	Faizabad
13.	B C G School for the Deaf	Weaving Dyeing & Printing Unit	Varanasi
14.	B C G School for the Deaf	School Cum VTC	Varanasi
15.	B C G School for the Deaf	carpentary unit	Varanasi
16.	Bal Vikas Avam Mahila Kalyan Parishad	Teacher Training Centre	Gonda
17.	Bal Vikas Avam Mahila Kalyan Parishad	Rehabi. of LCP	Gonda
18.	Bharatiya Samajothan Seva Sansthan	Rehabi. of LCP	Deoria
19.	Bhartiya Vikalang Kalyan Society	School Cum VTC	Mirzapur
20.	Chetna	Nursery for HH	Lucknow
21.	Chetna	School for MR	Lucknow
22.	Chitragupta Shikshan Sansthan	Education and VTC	Varanasi
23.	Deaf and Dumb School	School for the Deaf & Dumb	Meerut
24.	Deo Saraswati Shiksha Parishad	Resi. School for the Disabled	Kushinagar
25.	Dr. Bheem Rao Ambedkar Samajothan Samiti	Education & VTC	Pithoragarh
26.	Drishti Samajik Sansthan	School Cum VTC of VH	Lucknow
27.	Goonge Behron Ka Vidhayalaya	Hostel for the Deaf	Kanpur
28.	Goonge Behron Ka Vidhayalaya	School for deaf	Kanpur
29.	Goonge Behron Ka Vidhayalaya	vtc for deaf	Kanpur
30.	Gram Seva Sansthan	Rehabi. of LCP	Deoria
31.	Handicapped Development Council	School for MR	Agra
32.	Handicapped Development Council	Construction of Building	Agra
33.	Harijan Nirbal Varg Evam Adivasi Shiksha Kalyan Samiti	Rehabi. of LCP	Allahabad
34.	Indira Rashtirya Chetna Evam Samajothan Sansthan	School cum VTC	Dehradun
35.	Integrated Institute for the Disabled	Resi. School for Handicapped	Varanasi
36.	Jahangir Memorial Charitable Hospital	Rehabi. of LCP	Allahabad
37.	Jan Jagaran Samiti	Rehabi of LCP	Almora
38.	Jan Jagaran Samiti	Construction of Workshop	Almora
39.	Jan Kalyan Evam Nari Utthan Samiti	Res School for Disabled	Faizabad

1	2	3	4
40.	Jan Kalyan Shiksha Samiti	school for Disabled	Kushinagar
41.	Janta Seva Sansthan	Rehabi. of LCP	Ambedakar Nagar
42.	Jeevan Jyoti School for the Blind	Community Based Rehabi. Prog. For the Disabled	Varanasi
43.	Jeevan Jyoti School for the Blind	Spl School for VH	Varanasi
44.	Jyoti School for Handicapped	school for MR and Deaf	Haridwar
45.	K S J High School	Resi School for Handicapped	Moradabad
46.	Madhukar Vikang Vidyalaya Samiti	Education & VTC	Gorakhpur
47.	Mangalam	mobile unit	Lucknow
48.	Mangalam	steno course	Lucknow
49.	N.C. Chaturvedi School for Deaf	school for deaf	Lucknow
50.	N.C. Chaturvedi School for Deaf	Teachers Training for the Deaf	Lucknow
51.	National Fellowship Rehabilitation Cenre for the Blind	Education cum Trg Centre	Allahabad
52.	National Institute of Social Welfare	Rehabi. of LCP	Faizabad
53.	Nav vani School	Resi. School for Handicapped	Varanasi
54.	Netaji Subhash Vidya Mandir	Resi. School for OH	Rampur
55.	Netaji Subhash Vidya Mandir	Rehabi. of LCP	Rampur
56.	Nirvan	Edu. Cum VTC for MR	Lucknow
57.	Noor Mohammad Memorial Charitable Society	Rehab. of LCP	Allahabad
58.	Paohari Samiti Parishad	Resi. School for VH	Ghazipur
59.	Prabhat Antarashtriya	Rehabi. of LCP	Lucknow
60.	Pradeshik Alpasankhyak Harijan Evam Pichra Varg Sangathan	Spl. School for Handicapped	Varanasi
61.	Prag Narain Mook Badhir Vidyalaya Samiti	School for Deaf	Aligarh
62.	Pratapgarh Mahila Kalyan Evam Shiksha Samiti	Resi School for the OH	Pratapgarh
63.	Raphael	VTC for MR	Dehradun
64.	Rastriya Samaj Kalyan Sangh	Rehabi. of LCP	Lucknow
65.	Sankalp	School for MRC	Saharanpur
66.	Saraswati Badhir Sewa Samiti	Resi. School for HH	Lucknow
67.	Sarva Kalyan Sansthan	Rehabi. of LCP	Lucknow
68.	Sewa Lok Kalyan Samiti	Rehabi. of LCP	Lucknow
69.	Shaheed Memorial Society	Edu. Trng. Centre (Lucknow)	Lucknow
70.	Shaheed Memorial Society	Edu. Trng. Centre (Kanpur)	Lucknow

1	2	3	4
71.	Sheel Gram Vikas Sanshtan	Education and VTC	Bareilly
72.	Shri Vrindaban Andh Mahavidyalaya	Res. school for VH	Mathura
73.	Sri Hanuman Prasad Poddar Andh Vidyalaya	Resi. School for VH	Varanasi
74.	Sri Kanchilal Shastri Smarak Sansthan	VTC for Disabled	Lucknow
75.	Sur Smarak Mandal	VTC for Blind	Agra
76.	Sur Smarak Mandal	Hostel for Blind	Agra
77.	Swami Atmadev Gopalanand Shiksha Sansthan	School for Handicapped	Farrukhabad
78.	UP Parents Assn for Welfare of Mentally Handicapped Citizens	VTC for MR	Lucknow
79.	Uttar Pradesh Deaf & Dumb Institute	Resi. School for Deaf	Allahabad
80.	Vaani (Friends of handicapped)	School for the Deaf	Meerut
81.	Viklang Kendra (Rotary Sponsored Crippled Youth & Welfare Society)	VTC for PH	Allahabad
82.	Vikalang Kendra (Rotary Sponsored Crippled Youth & Welfare Society)	Gramins Vikas Kendra	Allahabad
83.	Viklang Kendra (Roatary Sponsored Crippled Youth & Welfare Society)	Spl. School for MR	Allahbad
84.	Viklang Kendra (Rotary Sponsored Crippled Youth & Welfare Society)	Para Medical Unit	Allahabad

Statement-II

1.	Upkar Pratishtan	Allahabad
2.	Viklang Kendra (Rotary Sponsored Crippled Youth Welfare Society)	Allahabad
3.	Indian Red Cross Society,	Allahabad
4.	Navada Gramoudyog Vikas Samiti	Amroha
5.	Sanchit Vikas Sansthan	Basti
6.	Institute for Himalayan Awakening and Environment, Dehradoon.	Dehradoon
7.	Janta Seva Sansthan	Dr. Ambedkar Nagar
8.	National Institute of Social Welfare	Faizabad
9.	Avadh Sansthan	Faizabad
10.	Poorvanchal Auddogik Vikas Sansthan	Jaunpur
11.	Bimal Shishu Siksha Sadan	Kanpur
12.	Artificial Limb Manufacture Corporation	Kanpur
13.	Mangalam	Lucknow
14.	Vivdha	Lucknow

15.	Aayam	Lucknow
16.	Serva Kalyan Sansthan	Lucknow
17.	Lohia Public School Samiti	Lucknow
18.	Samajik Nayay Evam Mana. Kalyan Samiti	Lucknow
19.	Anant Ashram	Lucknow
20.	Aasra	Lucknow
21.	World Welfare Reportory	Lucknow
22.	Samkone Viklang Kalyan Sam.	Lucknow
23.	Dr. Ambedkar Seva Sansthan	Lucknow
24.	Shaheed Memorial Trust	Lucknow
25.	Bhawani Gramodhyog Seva San.than	Maharaganj
26.	Dr. Ambedkar Education Institute	Maharaganj
27.	Kalyanam Karoti	Mathura
28.	Samojothan Avam Siksha Prachaiini Sansthan	Meerut
29.	Sarswati Educational Society	Moradabad
30.	Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Jan Seva Samiti	Muzaffarnagar
31.	District Rural Development Agency	Pilibhit
32.	Pratapgarh Mahila Kalyan evam Siksha Samiti	Pratapgarh
33.	Swami Permanand Dhandi Jan Kalyan Samiti	Rampur
34.	Janki Gtramothan Mahila Bal Vikas Sansthan	Sultanpur
35.	Madhyamic Vidhyala Puravgaon	Sultanpur
36.	Abinav Seva Sansthan	Sultanpur
37.	District Rehabilitation Centre	Sultanpur
38.	Gramin Pragati Sansthan	Sultanpur
39.	Foundation of Integral Human Advancement	Varanasi

Pending Cases

6838. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI:
DR. BALIRAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending at present in each Labour Court in every State particularly Uttar Pradesh and Delhi indicating separately the cases pending for more than 10 years;

(b) the total vacancies of Presiding Officers in Labour Courts, State/Union Territory-wise and the steps taken to fill up these posts;

(c) the number of cases disposed of during the last three years, year-wise in each State; and

(d) the steps taken to set up more labour courts and to create more posts of Judges/Presiding Officers for early disposal of pending cases?

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

[Translation]

India to Promote Education in SAARC Countries

6839. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has voluntarily offered to work as coordinator and facility provider for uninterrupted expansion of education in the member countries of SAARC;

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

(c) whether this offer was made in the SAARC Conference organised recently;

(d) if so, the details of the suggestions/ recommendations made therein; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) India has not offered to work as coordinator and facility provider for uninterrupted expansion of education in the member countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). India has however unilaterally offered 100 scholarships in distance learning to students from SAARC Countries at the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi. 94 scholarships have already been awarded by IGNOU for distance learning programmes in Management, Information Technology, Tourism Studies, Library and Information Sciences and Computing commencing on January 1, 2000. These scholarships are in addition to (1) bilateral scholarships offered by India to students from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka in the conventional University system and (2) scholarship scheme. The distance learning scholarships are a unilateral initiative of the Government of India and are not a part of a SAARC approved programme.

(c) to (e) India's unilateral offer was made at the 21st Session of the Council of Ministers of SAARC held in Nuwara Eliya, Sir Lanka on March 18-19, 1999. Regarding initiatives on Open and Distance Learning under SAARC, SAARC leaders had agreed to establish a SAARC Forum of Vice Chancellors of Open Universities, to strengthen cooperation in open and distance learning programmes during the 10th SAARC Summit held in Colombo in July 29-31, 1998. Sri Lanka hosted a meeting of Vice-Chancellors of SAARC Open Universities on January 25-27 in Colombo, 1998 to discuss the modalities for establishing the Forum. The Meeting proposed setting up of a SAARC Consortium of Open and Distance Learning (SACODiL). The Meeting of the Sub-Committee of SACODiL, held in Kathmandu on August 23-25, 1999, recommended institutionalising SACODiL and establishing a Secretariat for it. Its report in under consideration by SAARC.

[English]

Meat Products

6840. SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the processing of value-added meat and meat products and poultry products is very low and is about one per cent of the total meat production;

(b) if so, the reasons for a such a low processing capacity for high value-added meat products; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken during the current Five Year Plan period to increase the processing of high value-added meat products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (c) The low processing of value-added meat and meat products and poultry products is due to lack of modern facilities available with the abattoirs and also need for high capital investment for the establishment of meat processing plants. The Government has initiated Plan Schemes for the Development of Meat, Poultry and Egg Processing in the country. A Scheme for Modernisation/Upgradation of Abattoir has also been initiated.

Production of Milk and Milk Products

6841. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:
SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA:
DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of milk and milk products, indicating demands and supply, State-wise during 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000;

(b) whether price of milk has also increased in all States with the increase in its production;

(c) if so, the average price of milk in the country at present;

(d) whether the price of milk is beyond the reach of most of the people, particularly population living below the poverty line;

(e) if so, whether the Government have any proposal for setting up innovative dairy projects during 2000-2001;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government for modernisation of dairy units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Production and requirement of milk, State wise during 1997-98 and 1998-99 given in the attached statement-I. Data for 1999-2000 is not available. Production of major milk products in the cooperative sector during the years 1997-98 to 1999-2000, State-wise is given in the attached statement-II.

(b) and (c) The consumer price of milk marketed by the co-operative sector in some of the major cities in India are as follows:-

City	Year	
	March, 1998	March, 2000
Delhi	11.00	13.00
Calcutta	13.00	13.00
Mumbai	10.00	10.50
Chennai	9.50	10.50
Bangalore	10.00	11.00

(d) The milk production in India is overwhelmingly dominated by small, marginal and landless farmers. About 50% of rural milk produced is retained at house hold level. Such retention of rural milk production is utilised in the form of liquid milk and converted into household base milk products by small, marginal and landless farmers including the poor families based in the rural India.

(e) to (g) Dairying is a State subject. However Government of India supports the efforts of the State Governments/UTs for increasing the milk production. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing the following schemes for milk production and infrastructure development during the 9th Plan.

(a) National Project on Cattle Breeding.

(b) Assistance to States for Fodder Development

(c) Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases

(d) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication

(e) Assistance to Cooperatives

(f) Integrated Dairy Development Project

Statement-I

(000' MT)

States	Milk Production		Milk Requirement	
	1997-98	1998-99*	1997-98	1998-99
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	4510	4620	5891	5956
Arunachal Pradesh	44	45	87	90
Assam	775	798	2030	2059
Bihar	3475	3498	7647	7785
Goa	39	41	117	121
Gujarat	4860	4903	3728	3782

1	2	3	4	
Haryana	4373	4527	1528	1553
Himachal Pradesh	707	728	501	516
Jammu & Kashmir	938	990	744	766
Karnataka	3970	4378	4038	4094
Kerala	2348	2675	2526	2552
Madhya Pradesh	5378	5442	6103	6215
Maharashtra	5209	5606	7088	7179
Manipur	62	65	185	192
Meghalaya	59	61	179	185
Mizoram	20	22	70	72
Nagaland	46	48	123	128
Orissa	670	745	2806	2835
Punjab	7350	7570	1832	1855
Rajasthan	6487	6150	4099	4176
Sikkim	35	40	41	42
Tamil Nadu	4000	4275	4842	4889
Tripura	47	45	277	288
Uttar Pradesh	12934	13552	12905	13172
West Bengal	3415	3441	6114	6203
U. Ts.				
A & N Islands	22	22	28	29
Chandigarh	43	43	65	67
D & N Haveli	4	8	14	14
Daman & Diu	1	1	10	11
Delhi	266	289	1001	1047
Lakshadweep	1	1	5	5
Pondicherry	37	36	81	84
All India	72125	74666	76704	77966

*: Anticipated.
Note: Requirement of milk has been estimated on the basis of recommended norms of 220 gms per day per capita by ICMR.

Statement-II

Production of Milk Products in the Cooperative Sector during 1997-98 to 1999-2000

(MT/Year)

	1997-98						
Region	SMP	WMP	DW	BF	TB	WB	GHEE
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
STATE							
North							
Haryana	961	—	—	—	186	483	1806
HP	—	—	—	—	—	—	17
Punjab	6082	2411	108	—	1218	260	6388
Rajasthan	1133	306	—	—	95	680	4671
UP	4156	1101	—	66	2832	2981	3266
Total	12332	3820	108	66	4331	4604	16148
East							
Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bihar	19	469	—	—	50	54	671
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	9	—	—	—	—	390	641
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	11	—	—	—	—	—	111
Total	39	469	0	0	50	451	1424
West							
Goa	—	—	—	—	2	24	107
Gujarat	30107	5940	9994	27001	24663	6546	19077
MP	938	—	—	—	57	825	1114
Maharashtra	2212	1473	—	—	68	3384	508
Total	33257	7414	9994	27001	24789	10778	20806
South							
AP	4296	15	—	—	674	8167	5772

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Karnataka	2036	11	—	—	—	5879	4153
Kerala#	—	—	—	—	102	216	583
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	105
TN	853	—	—	—	—	5186	2089
Total	6986	26	0	0	776	19448	12681
All India	52613	11729	10102	27067	29947	35291	51059

#Does not include Malabar for 1996-97 and 1997-98

(MT/Year)

	1998-99						
Region	SMP	WMP	DW	BF	TB	WB	GHEE
1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
STATE							
North							
Haryana	584	—	—	—	271	21	1560
HP	—	—	—	—	2	—	15
Punjab	4758	2715	70	—	622	507	5466
Rajasthan	910	40	—	—	62	558	4201
UP	3871	960	—	—	2854	1837	3515
Total	10123	3715	70	0	3810	2922	14757
East							
Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Bihar	25	142	—	—	85	39	475
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	—	—	—	—	—	64	662
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—	—	74
Total	25	142	0	0	85	107	1212

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
West							
Goa	—	—	—	—	1	19	30
Gujarat	21952	5851	9115	28807	19246	5913	13469
MP	740	—	—	—	43	1284	1801
Mahaashtra	1785	2191	—	—	72	2641	551
Total	24457	8042	9115	28807	19362	9857	15851
South							
AP	4538	17	—	—	924	7224	5408
Karnataka	2818	—	—	—	1224	4245	4349
Kerala#	—	—	—	—	153	220	1117
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	102
TN	5536	—	—	—	748	5814	5113
Total	12892	17	0	0	3048	20502	16090
All India	47497	11916	9184	28807	26305	33388	47909

(MT/Year)

	1999-2000*						
Region	SMP	WMP	DW	BF	TB	WB	GHEE
1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
STATE							
North							
Haryana	640	49	—	—	235	491	1761
HP	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Punjab	6317	1673	27	—	673	624	5888
Rajasthan	1310	60	—	—	98	1293	4723
UP	2115	21	20	—	1449	1133	2188
Total	10382	1802	47	0	2455	3542	14533
East							
Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Refers to April 99-Feb. 2000, provisional

1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Bihar	97	516	—	—	97	91	691
Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orissa	4	—	—	—	—	—	404
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
West Bengal	—	—	—	—	—	—	63
Total	101	516	0	0	97	91	1158
West							
Goa	—	—	—	—	—	11	31
Gujarat	21895	5086	11519	25299	12602	4992	11016
MP	363	—	—	—	25	640	1011
Maharashtra	881	1041	—	—	23	1225	207
Total	23137	6127	11519	25299	12650	6868	12265
South							
AP	4364	—	—	—	720	6486	4565
Karnataka	5257	360	—	—	3606	4337	4148
Kerala#	—	—	—	—	123	534	3132
Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—	203
TN	8152	—	—	—	47	7598	4661
Total	17773	360	0	0	4495	19355	16707
All India	51393	6885	11566	25299	19697	29856	44663

#Does not include Malabar for 1996-97 & 1997-98

SMP — Skim Milk Powder
WMP — Whole Milk Powder
DW — Dairy Whitner
BF — Butter Fat
TB — Table Butter
WB — White Butter

Ongoing Schemes of KVIC in Maharashtra

6842. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the ongoing schemes/projects taken up in Maharashtra by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and performance made during the last three years; year-wise;

(b) the funds allocated/released and utilised, physical targets set and achieved, employment generated during the three years in Maharashtra;

(c) whether there is a proposal to reorient and restructure KVIC for effective planning and execution and make it cost effective organisation; and

(d) the action plan of KVIC for the current year with State-wise breakup and new projects proposed in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing the following projects in Maharashtra:-

Khadi, Pottery, Lime, Match, Agarbatti, Handmade Paper, Shellac, Bamboo & Cane, Katha, Bee-keeping, Ghani oil, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit Processing, Fibre, Soap, Leather, Polymer, Bio-Gas, Carpentry & Blacksmithy, Aluminium, Electronics, Brass & Bell Metal, Polyvastra, Other Textile and Service Industries etc.

Performance of KVI during past 3 years in Maharashtra is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Years	Production
1996-97	75,647.07
1997-98	69,104.77
1998-99	93,089.16

(b) The details of funds allocated/released and employment generated during the last three years are as per statement-I.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Action Plan proposed under KVIC's Margin Money Scheme for the current financial year 2000-2001 in terms of employment generation with a State-wise break up including Maharashtra State is as statement-II. The proposal of the new projects in Maharashtra will be finalised by the KVIC during their annual budget discussions.

Statement-I

Funds Allocated/Released and Employment Generated During Last three years

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Funds Allocated	Funds released by KVIC		CBC	Employment Generated (in lakh persons)
		Grant	Loan		
1996-97	4884.58	1055.86	307.92	308.19	4.76
1997-98	3805.93	318.24	59.52	164.24	4.00
1998-99	4045.45	619.56	49.58	602.60	4.65

Statement-II

State wise Additional Employment Target under Village Industries

(Employment in lakh persons)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Year 2000-01
1	2	3
East Zone		
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	0.01
2.	Bihar	0.13
3.	Orissa	0.17
4.	Sikkim	0.02
5.	West Bengal	0.28
	Total	0.91

1	2	3
	West Zone	
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.01
7.	Daman & Diu	0.01
8.	Goa	0.02
9.	Gujarat	0.17
10.	Maharashtra	0.27
	Total	0.48
	North Zone	
11.	Chandigarh	0.01
12.	Delhi	0.01
13.	Haryana	0.07
14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.06
15.	Jammu & Kashmir	0.07
16.	Punjab	0.10
17.	Rajasthan	0.22
	Total	0.54
	South Zone	
18.	Andhra Pradesh	0.26
19.	Karnataka	0.19
20.	Kerala	0.15
21	.Lakshadweep	0.02
22.	Pondicherry	0.02
23.	Tamilnadu	0.19
	Total	0.83
	Central Zone	
24.	Madhya Pradesh	0.30
25.	Uttar Pradesh	0.61
	Total	0.91
	NE Zone	
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.04
27.	Assam	0.11
28.	Manipur	0.09
29.	Meghalaya	0.09
30.	Mizoram	0.02
31.	Nagaland	0.08
32.	Tripura	0.12
	Total	0.55
	Grand Total	4.22

Karmapa Issue

6843. SHRI GEORGE EDEN:
SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any official communication from the Government of China regarding the stay of Karmapa in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, arrived in Dharamsala from Tibet on January 5, 2000. The official Chinese position on Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji's arrival in India is that Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji had gone abroad to "get the musical instruments" of the Buddhist rituals and the "black hat" used by previous Karmapas. The Chinese side has been requested to share with us details regarding the circumstances of his departure from Tibet for India. India and China have been in touch through diplomatic channels. The two sides have noted with satisfaction the improvement and development of bilateral relations on the basis of Panchsheel.

Restoration of Properties

6844. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/being taken for getting the Wakf properties restored to Wakf Boards from the Archaeological Survey of India;

(b) the progress made so far; and

(c) the time by which all Wakf properties will be got restored to Wakf Boards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Ongoing Irrigation Projects

6845. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI RANJI LAL SUMAN:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:
SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY:
SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:

Will the Minsiter of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of major and medium irrigation projects in the country which are still incomplete;

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

(c) whether several projects are running behind their time schedule;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, project-wise;

(e) the present status of each such project and the total amount spent thereon so far;

(f) the estimated irrigation capacity likely to be achieved after completion of these projects; and

(g) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (g) Irrigation being a State subject, Irrigation projects are taken-up for implementation by the State Government themselves out of their own resources and as per their own priorities. The normal completion period is 10-15 years in respect of major projects and 5-10 years in respect of medium irrigation projects. The completion period of any project depends on various factors such as its size, availability of land, obtaining clearances from various central appraising agencies by the State Governments, geological conditions etc. The equally important are the funds allotted by the State Governments to the individual projects. State-wise details of 155 Major and 234 medium irrigation projects which are at present under execution along-with their present status, total amount spent thereon and the estimated irrigation capacity likely to be achieved after their completion is given in the Statement-I and II enclosed.

Statement-I

(Rs. in Crore) (In Thousand Hectares)

	Name of State	No. of Projects (Major)	Latest Estimated Cost	Exp. Upto the end of VIII Plan	Spillover cost in IX Plan	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto the end of VIII Plan	Terget for Potential created in IX Plan
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	10130.44	4754.95	5375.49	1882.54	1165.65	675.21
2.	Assam	4	432.82	211.48	221.34	167.89	71.40	3.00
3.	Bihar	14	7365.53	2105.27	5260.26	1275.94	99.60	305.86
4.	Goa	1	678.59	258.65	419.94	46.06	8.27	16.22
5.	Gujarat	9	23300.92	6522.47	16777.85	2107.01	271.51	—

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Haryana	5	1013.51	725.67	287.84	801.00	242.00	69.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	150.78	7.47	143.31	24.76	—	2.70
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	151.18	122.84	28.34	66.78	52.88	13.90
9.	Karnataka	14	11190.19	5131.64	6058.55	1718.89	1036.61	737.37
10.	Kerala	7	1879.50	942.41	937.09	343.34	112.20	140.64
11.	Madhya Pradesh	23	10729.65	3131.15	7598.50	2552.25	665.70	300.15
12.	Maharashtra	36	12958.17	5374.43	7583.74	2517.14	1013.52	943.66
13.	Manipur	2	491.65	225.85	265.80	44.67	5.10	—
14.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Nagaland	1	111.02	2.95	108.07	10.00	—	—
16.	Orissa	5	4953.85	1156.55	3797.30	1066.68	169.54	500.55
17.	Punjab	- (1-IS)	3379.53	2704.93	674.60	478.00	—	348.00
18.	Rajasthan	6	4692.81	2346.01	2346.80	1348.41	600.07	413.34
19.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21.	Uttar Pradesh	18	7359.41	3339.74	4019.70	4226.67	1611.27	926.37
22.	West Bengal	3	2037.41	933.83	1098.58	1558.24	982.61	25.00
	Total:	162	103186.89	39003.29	64183.60	22236.27	8107.93	5420.97

Note: 7 Major Projects (6 in Gujarat & 1 in U.P.) have been completed during IX Plan.

Statement-II

(Rs. in Crore) (In Thousand Hectares)

Name of State		No. of Projects (Medium)	Lates Estimated Cost	Exp. Upto the end of VIII Plan	Spillover cost in IX Plan	Ultimate Potential	Potential created upto the end of VIII Plan	Terget for Potential created in IX Plan
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20	623.34	323.51	299.79	138.03	51.95	102.73
2.	Assam	9	155.92	99.72	56.20	76.58	42.87	1.00
3.	Bihar	29	1065.18	429.37	635.81	171.52	15.88	89.50
4.	Goa	1	40.00	2.40	37.60	11.20	—	—
5.	Gujarat	9	337.53	260.02	77.51	51.32	30.34	—
6.	Haryana	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	11.30	11.26	0.04	2.41	2.41	—

1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	9	223.55	55.88	167.67	37.76	6.87	28.94
9.	Karnataka	15	943.67	510.72	432.95	76.29	23.72	62.45
10.	Kerala	5	478.93	150.56	328.37	55.00	5.00	4.30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	32	1012.09	733.15	278.94	245.44	103.20	77.30
12.	Maharashtra	66	2076.06	1021.98	1054.08	325.81	6.40	156.40
13.	Manipur	2	66.58	56.50	10.08	1.54	2.00	—
14.	Meghalaya	1	17.81	8.14	9.67	5.15	—	—
15.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Orissa	10	499.95	410.23	89.72	108.22	55.75	65.02
17.	Punjab	1	88.49	0.20	88.29	88.29	—	—
18.	Rajasthan	6	240.24	127.22	113.02	44.29	10.70	31.72
19.	Tamil Nadu	2	103.75	29.53	74.22	6.74	—	6.72
20.	Tripura	3	154.00	92.96	61.04	26.72	2.60	24.10
21.	Uttar Pradesh	2	54.81	39.99	14.82	7.65	3.88	3.77
22.	West Bengal	17	90.42	60.78	29.64	37.63	35.39	2.24
	Total:	240	8283.62	4424.12	3859.50	1517.59	398.96	656.21

Note: 6 Medium Projects in Gujarat have been completed during IX Plan.

[English]

Gross Domestic Product

6846. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to mid-term review of the Ninth Five Year Plan, the GDP growth target of 6.8 per cent is likely to be missed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The exercise for the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2000) is currently in progress. The target growth rate in the Ninth Five Year Plan has been fixed at 6.5% per year on average.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Samadhi Sthal of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

6847. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a grave danger to the memorial of Baba Saheb Ambedkar situated at Dadar-Chaupari due to the ambitions plan of Maharashtra Government to construct a bridge in sea;

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

(c) the directives being issued/proposed to be issued by the Union Government to Maharashtra Government to save the Samadhi Sthal or Dr.B.R. Ambedkar known as Chaitya Bhumi; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Information is bein collected from the State Government of Maharashtra an will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Fisherman in Sri Lankan Custody

6848. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to reports regarding the death of fisherman from Tamil Nadu while in Sri Lankan Police custody recently; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The Government had learnt with concern about the death of an Indian fisherman in Sri Lanka on March 28, 2000. He had been apprehended with seven others in Sri Lankan waters on February 19, 2000. The High Commission of India, Colombo, had taken up with the Sri Lankan authorities the matter of their release, kept in touch with the fishermen through regular consular visits and had arranged for medical treatment. The fisherman reportedly complained of chest pain on March 27 and was taken to hospital where he died of cardiac arrest, according to the post-mortem report. The matter was taken up with the concerned Sri Lankan authorities by our High Commission in Colombo, which arranged to despatch the mortal remains of the deceased to India on March 31, 2000.

Pak Bid to Unite Ultras

6849. SHRI ABDUL HAMID:
SHRI R.L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan tried to make Hurriyat Conference set up a central co-ordinating body in London and stepped up efforts to unite mercenary groups under the banner of Kashmir Liberation Army prior to the visit of US President Bill Clinton to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Government are aware of reports of Pakistan seeking to encourage the leadership of the Hurriyat Conference to set up offices in London, Geneva and other Western capitals, to provide a cover for Pakistan's hostile propaganda against India. Government are also aware of reports that Pakistan has been making efforts, and also encouraging some terrorist organisations based in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir, to unite under a common banner to step up cross-border terrorism in Jammu & Kashmir and elsewhere in India.

(c) Government remain firm in their resolve to take all necessary measures to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country. While Government will continue to scrupulously maintain its policy of restraint, it will effectively respond, as it had demonstrated in the past, to any threat to our security and territorial integrity.

India-US Talks

6850. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and USA officials held talks in April 2000;

(b) if so, the issues discussed; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian and US officials held talks in April 2000 in Washington D.C. on India's proposal for a Comprehensive Convention on Counter Terrorism in the United Nations and on Export Controls.

(b) During the first meeting of the recently constituted Indo-US Joint Working Group on Terrorism, which was held in February 2000, the two sides had agreed on a number of measures to intensify co-operation in combating international terrorism. As part of this process, the two sides had agreed to meet in April 2000 to discuss India's proposal on the Terrorism Convention. The talks on Export Controls were held within the framework of the ongoing bilateral dialogue on security, non-proliferation, disarmament and related issues.

(c) These meetings have led to a better mutual understanding on these subjects. There is now a greater understanding and support of the US on India's proposal for the Terrorism Convention in the UN.

Reservation for Handicapped persons in Private Sector

6851. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA:

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

(a) whether the Government are planning to make it mandatory for corporate and the private sector to reserve 3 percent vacancies for disabled persons to make them economically independent;

(b) if so, the details thereof and incentive being offered to corporate/private sector in this regard;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to increase reservations for the disabled from three percent in the country;

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

(e) whether the Government are aware that the intended benefits reach only to the urabn disabled;

(f) if so, the efforts being made to extend these benefits to the rural disabled persons also;

(g) whether the 80 percent of the disabled in rural areas are deprived of these benefits; and

(h) if so, the concrete measures being worked out in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) There is a proposal to amend the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 in order to improve and strengthen the Act and to make it a powerful instrument for promoting equality and protecting the rights of persons with disability.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (h) The Government have, recently, formulated several schemes specifically for wider coverage and holistic rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. These include:-

(1) Six Composite Regional Resources Centres (CRCs) are being set-up in different parts of the country to provide services for different kinds of disabilities as outreach extension centres of the National Institutes in the disability sector.

(2) Four Regional Rehabilitation Centres (RRCs) for persons with spinal injuries and orthopaedic disabilities are being set up as a Central Sponsored Scheme with Centre and State share on 90:10 basis to strengthen the services.

(3) Four Auxiliary Production Centres of Artificial Limb Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) are being set up to expand the production capacity and for easy availability of quality aids and appliances.

(4) A new four tier-scheme namely, National Programme for Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities has been recently approved in the State sector for implementation in order to create infrastructure at State/District/Block and Gram Panchayat level for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to the handicapped. Funds are being released to the State Governments for implementation of the Scheme.

(5) Over hundred districts have been identified for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services at the doorsteps of persons with disabilities. Services identified include setting up of composite fitment and rehabilitation centres in collaboration between the National Institutes/ Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India/District Rehabilitation Centres under the Central Government and the District administration/State Government respectively.

Demand and Supply of Onions and Potatoes

6852. SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of demand and supply of potatoes and onions during each of the last three years;

(b) the minimum storage limit prescribed for these items and its storage capacity in the country at present;

(c) the details of the quantity of potato and onion got rotten last year; and

(d) the action taken by the Government to enhance the storage capacity to prevent perishing of such items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Information on demand of potato and onion is not available. The production of potato and onion for the last three years was as under which was available to meet the supply:

(Production in lakh Metric Tonnes)

Year	Potato	Onion
1997-98	176.5	34.78
1998-99	224.9	54.70
1999-2000 (Advance Estimates)	246.4	47.50

(b) As per the estimates of report of the High Level Expert Committee on Cold Storages and Storages, 150 lakh tonnes of cold storage capacity is required for potato of which 103 lakh tonnes capacity is already available. Onion storage capacity requirement is estimated to be about 9.10 lakh tonnes of which 4.6 lakh tonnes storage capacity is already available in the country.

(c) No report on Quantity of potato and onion rotten has been reported.

(d) Government of India through National Horticulture Board is implementing a Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme for Construction/Modernisation/Expansion of cold storages for horticultural produce. The subsidy is restricted to 33.3% to the maximum of Rs. 60 lakhs for North-Eastern States and 25% to the maxium of Rs. 50 lakhs to other States of the country. Besides the Board is also providing assistance for marketing infrastructure support for horticultural produce.

Role of National Small Industries Corporation

6853. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the present role of the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC);

(b) whether there is a proposal to modify the role of NSIC;

(c) whether NSIC has decided to finance the scale industries units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The NSIC, inter-alia, provides assistance to the small scale sector in the following areas:-

- Supply of both imported and indigenous machines on easy Hire Purchase terms.
- Marketing of small industries goods and services in domestic and international markets.
- Identification of competent and capable small scale units for facilitating their participation in the Government Stores Purchase Programme.
- Making available indigenous and imported Raw Material to the small scale industrial units.
- Undertake Bill Financing and organise export credit.
- Arrange training in both conventional and modern technical trades through its Technical Services Centres.
- Organise common facilities for the neighbourhood small scale units through Technical Services Centre.

— Assist other developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America for the growth of small industries.

(b) NSIC is expected to play a role in marketing branded goods under a consortium approach.

(c) and (d) NSIC is already financing the small scale industrial units by providing machinery and equipment on Hire Purchase and Lease terms and also has been extending finances on short term basis for procurement of Raw Material. It also arranges financing of Bills as well as export credit.

Visit of Cambodian Prime Minister

6854. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cambodian Prime Minister visited India in February, 2000;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with him;

(c) whether any bilateral agreements were signed on this occasion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Prime Minister of Cambodia held talks with our President, Vice-President and Prime Minister. External Affairs Minister and Minister of Culture and Tourism called on him.

The two sides exchanged views on bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest and while expressing satisfaction at the expanding cooperation in various fields, agreed to strive to enhance it further. Prime Minister of Cambodia expressed support for India's permanent membership of UN Security Council. He sought India's technical support in higher education, satellite imagery and mapping, irrigation, seeds technology and Human Resource Development. Tourism has been identified as a thrust area between the two countries.

(c) and (d)

The following four Agreements were signed during the visit:

(i) Agreement on setting up of a Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation,

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Tourism Cooperation,

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Cooperation in the filed of Agriculture and allied sectors, and

(iv) Cultural Exchange Programme under the existing Cultural Agreement.

Visit of Foreign Artists/Sportspersons

6855. SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated for various functions organised by the ICCR during the last two years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of foreign artists/sports persons etc., who came down to India during the said period, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The funds allocated for various functions, organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), excluding functions organised by its Cultural Centres abroad for which information is being gathered, during the last two years were as follows:-

1998-1999	:	Rs. 1232 lakhs*
1999-2000	:	Rs. 439 lakhs

*included Rs. 870.0 lakhs additional funds made available to ICCR by MEA for 50th Anniversary celebrations during F.Y. 1998-99.

(b) The numbers of foreign artists/sportspersons who came to India during the last two years are given below:

(i) Performing artistes**

1998-1999	860 artistes (including 50th Anniversary)
1999-2000	377 artistes

** details, country-wise, are enclosed as Statement-I and II.

(ii) Sportspersons: Department of Sports has indicated that this information is not readily available and is being collated from different sources.

Statement-I

Incoming Cultural Delegations

April, 98-March, 99

S. No.	Country	No. of Artistes
1	2	3
1.	Austria	10
2.	Bangladesh	49
3.	Bhutan	12
4.	Bulgaria	02
5.	Croatia	53
6.	Cyprus	04
7.	Czech Republic	22
8.	Egypt	30
9.	France	16
10.	Greece	08
11.	Germany	13
12.	Hungary	24
13.	Ireland	03
14.	Italy	03
15.	Kyrghyzstan	32
16.	Maldives	14
17.	Mauritius	53
18.	Morocco	03
19.	Myanmar	10
20.	Nepal	17
21.	Netherlands	04
22.	Nigeria	20
23.	Norway	09
24.	Oman	40
25.	Pakistan	30
26.	Poland	10
27.	Republic of Korea	123
28.	Russia	08
29.	Singapore	22
30.	Slovakia	40
31.	South Africa	13
32.	Spain	04
33.	Sri Lanka	52
34.	Syria	30
35.	Thailand	25
36.	Tunisia	09
37.	Turkey	07
38.	UK	04
39.	USA	16
40.	Zanzibar	16
		860

Statement-II

Incoming Cultural Delegations

April, 99 to March, 2000

S. No.	Country	No. of Artistes
1	2	3
1.	Austria	108
2.	Bangladesh	32
3.	Bulgaria	05
4.	China	20
5.	Egypt	27
6.	France	06
7.	Germany	17
8.	Greece	09
9.	Italy	29
10.	Japan	07
11.	Namibia	22
12.	Myanmar	15
13.	Netherland	02
14.	Nepal	06

1	2	3
15.	South Africa	06
16.	Singapore	16
17.	Sri Lanka	13
18.	Uganda	07
19.	UK	15
20.	Vietnam	15
		377

Non-utilisation of Fund

6856. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Food Processing has shown a very poor track record of fund utilisation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the plan fund allocated for this sector and utilised during the previous three years;

(c) the reaction of the Government towards the performance of this sector; and

(d) the future allocation policy for this sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (d) The Plan funds allocated and utilized for the schemes of the Department of Food Processing Industries during the last three years are as follows:

(Amt. Rs. in crores)

Year	B.E.	R.E.	Actual
1997-98	44.10	40.00	22.87
1998-99	44.10	30.00	30.00
1999-2000	47.00	40.00	37.78

Low demand-low volume of production-high per unit cost and again low demand are the main constraints faced by the Processed Food Sector. On account of high risk and low margin, not many entrepreneurs venture to enter although potential of this sector is reported to be immense. Steps are taken by Government from time-to-time to provide conducive environment and to create consumer awareness.

The approved Plan outlay for the year 2000-01 is Rs. 50 crores.

Computer Virus

6857. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the damage caused by a computer virus called Winchi;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have contemplated any steps to forestall the onslaught of such dreaded virus;

(d) if so, details thereof;

(e) whether certain computers in Delhi were victims to the onslaught of Winchi virus recently as reported in 'Pioneer' dated April 27, 2000; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Computer viruses like Winchi, recently reported in a newspaper, keep appearing occasionally. However, no damage caused by the Winchi virus has been reported to the Ministry of Information Technology.

(c) and (d) There is no universal solution to forestall new viruses as each virus requires dedicated anti virus software for its protection. A large number of vendors now offer software solutions for the known viruses.

(e) and (f) No such cases has come to the notice of the Ministry of Information Technology.

Evaluation of Post Hijack Situation

6858. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Joint Working Committee comprising Senior Officers of the Governments of Nepal and India has examined the post-hijack situation;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the present system of recognising any and every document as valid travel documents is likely to be stopped;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The third meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group on Border Management was held from February 1-3, 2000 in Kathmandu. During the meeting, the two sides reiterated their determination not to permit the use of their respective territories for activities directed against the other. They reviewed the developments since the last meeting of the JWG and had a useful exchange of views on modalities for more effective management and regulation of the India-Nepal border. They agreed to strengthen cooperation to control undesirable activities and the movement of terrorists, criminals and other undesirable elements across the border. It was reiterated that the privilege of unimpeded access across the open border enjoyed by the nationals of the two countries should not be allowed to be misused by anyone, including third country nationals. The need for intensified and coordinated patrolling at sensitive border points, including the deployment of Central and State Police Forces on our side, was discussed with the objective of enhancing security and preventing misuse of the open India-Nepal border, while ensuring that the facility remains available for legimate users.

(c) to (e) Act the third meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group on Border Management, the two sides also agreed to scrutinize and reduce the types of photo-identification documents that would be valid for air travel and notify each other of the revised list of such documents.

Incentives to Agro-Based Industries

6859. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA:
SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH:

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

(a) the efforts made by the Government so far to encourage agro-based industries in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the number of such Agro based industries opened in each State particularly in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(c) the amount spent during the above period in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) In order to encourage village industries, including Agro-based industries in the country, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is implementing "Margin Money Scheme" in all the States including Uttar Pradesh. Under this Scheme, investment subsidy is provided to the beneficiaries.

(b) A list of Agro-based industries set up in each State including Uttar Pradesh is as statement-I.

(c) The details of disbursement made by the KVIC as statement-II and III.

Statement-I

Statewise List of Agro Based Industries

1.	Andhra Pradesh	Bee-keeping, Village Oil, Gur & Khandasari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants & Fruits, Fruit Processing Fibre.
2.	Aurnachal Pradesh	NIL
3.	Assam	Bee-keeping Village Oil. Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants, Fruit Processing Fibre.
4.	Bihar	Bee-keeping, Ghani oil. Cane, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants & Fruits, Fruit Processing Fibre.

5.	Goa	Bee-keeping, Canegur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
6.	Gujarat	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Cane Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit-Processing.
7.	Haryana	Bee-keeping, Ghani oil, Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants & Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Canegur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Bee-keeping, Ghani oil, Cane Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
10.	Karnataka	Bee-keeping, Ghani oil, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants & Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
11.	Kerala	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Bee-keeping, Gur & Khandsari, Ghani Oil, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants & Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
13.	Maharashtra	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants & Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
14.	Manipur	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
15.	Meghalaya	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fibre.
16.	Mizoram	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Cane Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
17.	Nagaland	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
18.	Orissa	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Cane Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
19.	Punjab	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
20.	Rajasthan	Ghani Oi, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
21.	Sikkim	Bee-keepig, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit Processing.
22.	Tamilnadu	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur Pulses, & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.

23. Tripura	Bee-keepng, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.		Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Forest Plants and Fruits, Fruit Processing, Fibre.
24. Uttar Pradesh	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur,	25. West Bengal	Bee-keeping, Ghani Oil, Gur & Khandsari, Palmgur, Pulses & Cereals Processing Industry, Fruit Processing, Fibre.

Statement-II

Disbursement of Loans to Various State/Union Territories by KVIC during the years 1996-97 to 1998-99

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	State/U.T.	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
		Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	383.16	258.90	63.02	17.68	19.76	31.10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.33	29.42	—	—	—	—
3.	Assam	61.43	4.68	19.43	0.37	0.79	2.00
4.	Bihar	144.81	56.34	30.17	0.14	53.83	7.02
5.	Goa	36.65	11.30	—	31.32	—	1.55
6.	Gujarat	61.64	30.41	7.00	13.37	43.34	29.13
7.	Haryana	74.67	65.72	18.75	219.36	2.10	8.88
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11.97	31.03	—	—	6.52	4.33
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	35.97	4.51	0.38	—	6.61	0.52
10.	Karnataka	170.98	56.66	170.75	68.05	102.75	61.58
11.	Kerala	108.82	21.87	3.15	1.46	35.48	13.68
12.	Madhya Pradesh	153.26	49.27	1.21	48.88	8.18	12.11
13.	Maharashtra	87.68	220.24	10.84	48.68	7.62	41.96
14.	Manipur	7.42	2.84	—	—	—	0.34
15.	Meghalaya	6.75	36.04	—	—	—	0.86
16.	Mizoram	1.62	—	—	—	0.10	—
17.	Nagaland	16.78	2.73	—	2.00	—	—
18.	Orissa	116.46	9.52	18.95	3.87	6.10	8.34
19.	Punjab	72.00	6.10	—	2.50	11.45	1.21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Rajasthan	216.24	18.79	28.59	26.21	19.70	23.60
21.	Sikkim	3.90	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamilnadu	446.80	43.07	0.25	26.57	42.27	37.41
23.	Tripura	21.99	4.61	—	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	492.82	241.38	61.81	135.90	332.88	191.10
25.	West Bengal	138.32	69.55	43.15	4.97	36.28	48.54
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	NCT of Delhi	13.69	3.38	—	—	1.65	10.11
30.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	2.06	—	—	—	—	1.29
32.	Lakshadweep	—	5.10	—	—	—	—
33.	Departmental	—	—	—	—	—	7.67
34.	Other Schemes	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	2904.22	1283.46	477.45	651.33	737.41	544.33

Statement-III

Disbursement of Grants to various State/Union territories by KVIC during the years 1996-97 to 1998-99

(Rupees in lakhs)

S. No.	State/U.T.	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
		Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.	Khadi	V.I.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	273.95	685.78	174.29	737.29	275.35	340.75
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	125.41	0.87	—	—	—
3.	Assam	52.55	12.70	35.06	6.30	59.79	6.72
4.	Bihar	651.17	12.29	748.45	4.00	1196.53	33.96
5.	Goa	0.60	45.35	1.00	9.84	—	40.36
6.	Gujarat	922.70	519.17	1387.00	94.71	2554.96	268.56
7.	Haryana	19.40	292.58	592.79	52.25	652.94	185.23
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1.88	203.59	123.30	153.97	76.51	272.94
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	70.29	263.48	81.92	40.53	182.50	352.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Karnataka	255.57	653.33	438.63	561.35	1008.73	1228.32
11.	Kerala	147.03	1175.18	322.60	15.58	205.45	395.94
12.	Madhya Pradesh	100.60	720.64	367.27	319.06	178.49	1319.02
13.	Maharashtra	260.82	795.04	32.93	285.31	310.59	308.97
14.	Manipur	2.38	208.16	—	281.51	—	266.93
15.	Meghalaya	4.88	232.43	—	—	2.36	44.93
16.	Mizoram	1.13	1028.05	—	49.63	0.02	344.39
17.	Nagaland	28.32	733.46	7.18	90.00	5.37	396.94
18.	Orissa	45.25	398.94	30.99	60.50	172.53	87.02
19.	Punjab	281.01	391.05	619.41	124.79	345.73	605.12
20.	Rajasthan	860.03	636.87	105.26	314.15	1490.71	461.80
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	—
22.	Tamilnadu	757.63	737.73	1268.80	58.77	2690.76	414.10
23.	Tripura	0.50	90.31	0.02	—	0.50	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	2141.50	1589.33	1947.68	77.71	4201.30	1454.00
25.	West Bengal	227.47	1011.77	235.00	7.60	595.10	20.49
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	42.85	—	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	-
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	NCT of Delhi	321.06	73.11	22.29	10.74	669.27	31.34
30.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	—	7.60	—	—	—	26.23
32.	Lakshadweep	6.39	24.20	—	—	0.39	34.64
33.	Departmental	229.43	3654.50	217.35	21567.01	752.48	7707.43
34.	Other Schemes	—	4866.15	—	—	—	—
	Total	7663.54	21224.05	8760.09	24922.60	17628.36	16648.26

ESI Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh

6860. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the ...ter of LABOUR be pleased to state:

...unds sanctioned by the Union ...radation of ESI Hospitals/ ...ding the last three;

(b) whether keeping in view a large work force in Hyderabad and less number of Hospitals/Dispensaries whether the Government propose to bring under its net some referral hospitals in Hyderabad;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The ESIC has sanctioned equipments worth Rs. 2,07,82,500/- for upgradation medical facilities in the existing ESI hospitals in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) to (d) The ESIC has set up 36 dispensaries and 3 ESI hospitals in Hyderabad area. The Government of Andhra Pradesh which is administering ESI medical care has already made tie up arrangements for superspeciality treatment of insured persons in Appollo Hospitals, Medwin Hospital, Mediciti Hospital etc.

[Translation]

Facilities to Pilgrims

6861. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on each Haj pilgrim by the Union Government during the last five years;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide the same facilities to the adherents of other religions going on pilgrimage in foreign countries as applicable to Haj pilgrims;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The only area where Government provides financial assistance to Haj pilgrims in subsidy for air travel in respect of pilgrims going through Haj Committee, Mumbai. Each pilgrim pays Rs. 12,000 and the difference between the actual fare paid to the Air Charter Company and this amount (Rs. 12,000) is met by the Government.

Details of air charter subsidy per pilgrim for the last five years is given below:

Year	Subsidy per pilgrim
1996	7,403/-
1997	14,600/-
1998	17,518/-
1999	17,640/-
2000	19,044/-

(b) to (d) There is no proposal before the Government.

[English]

Fruit and Vegetables Processing Units

6862. SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme for providing assistance for setting up/expansion/modernisation etc. of Food, Fruit and Vegetable processing units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Standing Committee on Agriculture had also recommended that a special package of assistance for setting up of Fruit and Vegetable Processing units in rural areas;

(d) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon; and

(e) the other modalities for the above Schemes are likely to be worked out and result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the scheme for setting/expansion/modernization of food processing units, including fruit and vegetable processing units, being operated by the Department of Food Processing Industries during the 9th Plan Period, financial assistance ranging from Rs. 25 lakhs to Rs. 20.00 Crores, depending upon the nature of the organization is available as grant/loan. The quantum of grant/loan is limited to 50% of the cost of capital equipment and technical civil works.

(b) to (e) The Standing Committee on Agriculture, in its ninth report dated 10th April, 2000 has, amongst others, made recommendations regarding setting up of primary processing facilities in the proximity of the growing areas so that most of the produce could be processed on the spot, avoiding huge expenditure incurred on transportation; putting more stress on conventional methods of processing and preserving food; evolving strategies to provide some alternate use of cold storages/ chilling stations during off-seasons and to provide funds to State Governments for revival of sick cold storages etc.

These recommendations have been received recently and action has been initiated to process these recommendations.

Acquaculture Projects

6863. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the performance of acquaculture projects during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the norms fixed for the said assessment;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate fresh policy to modernise/revitalise prawn-culture in high potentiality viable areas with latest technology for processing of prawn for exports; and

(d) the number of units identified, State-wise for modernisation and harnessing export potential for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Performance of aquaculture schemes/ programmes are reviewed during Annual Plan preparations and by a Committee of officers appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture. During the past three years an additional area of about 1.1 lakh ha under freshwater aquaculture and 0.026 lakh ha under brackishwater aquaculture has been covered under the aquaculture schemes. The norms adopted for assessment include coverage of water areas, number of fish farmers/fishermen trained, yield/hectare, etc.

(c) and (d) The Aquaculture Authority set up in pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court, regulates prawn culture activities in coastal areas in an eco-friendly manner. The Authority has also evolved guidelines to adopt improved technology by the traditional shrimp farmers for increased production. The Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) is operating schemes for upgradation of seafood processing units. State-wise details of freezing plants that are in the process of upgradation are given in the statement attached. About 25% of the processing units (95 nos.) have been already upgraded to meet the export standards of European Union (EU) and the remaining units are to be upgraded in the near future.

Statement

State wise details of freezing plants for upgradation

State	Number
Andhra Pradesh	52
Goa	5
Gujarat	61
Karnataka	13
Kerala	127
Maharashtra	42
Orissa	17
Tamil Nadu	43
West Bengal	34
Total	394

Punjab Wakf Board

6864. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN:

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

(a) whether Punjab Wakf Board is having surplus funds with it;

(b) if so, facts thereof;

(c) the steps being taken for utilizing the surplus funds for the developmental works at large scale;

(d) the steps taken to streamline the working of Wakf Boards and root out corruption from there; and

(e) the progress made so far in computerization of Punjab Wakf Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The surplus funds generated by streamlining the management and curtailing expenditure has been kept as deposits in commercial Banks and Financial Institutions.

(c) A number of Development Projects are in the pipe line.

(d) In order to streamline the working of Wakf Boards and root out corruption, the Punjab Wakf Board has initiated a number of steps like surprise checking of field staff and vigorous monitoring of departmental inquiries initiated against officials of the Board.

(e) Punjab Wakf Board sent a comprehensive proposal to the Ministry. This proposal was examined in the Ministry in consultation with the National Informatics Centre (NIC). Observations made by the NIC have been communicated to PWB. The PWB is accordingly taking further action to collect relevant information and submit revised proposal to this Ministry.

Indo-Russia Ties

6865. SHRI ABDUL HAMID:
SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are unlimited possibilities for cooperation, between India and Russia in different fields;

(b) if so, the broad features thereof; and

(c) the further initiatives taken recently to improve India-Russia relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Indo-Russian relations are time-tested and based on continuity, trust and mutual understanding. Our interaction with the Russian Federation is comprehensive and multifaceted and encompasses all areas including political, economic, commercial, defence, scientific & technological and cultural spheres. These are based on shared perceptions and mutuality of interests and to mutual benefit.

(c) The recent 6th Session of the Indo-Russian Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation held in New Delhi on January 14-15, 2000 discussed bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade and economy, pharmaceuticals, power and non-conventional evergy sources, oil and gas, coal, metallurgy, information technology, science and technology, environment and natural resources and culture. The Commission noted the overall progress in bilateral cooperation in these fields.

During the recent visits of the Speaker of the State Duma of the Russian Federation and the Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, Indo-Russian relations were discussed in their entirety as also steps for their further consolidation.

Indo-Russian relations have been consolidated into a strategic partnership and a Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and the Russian Federation will be signed during the next Indo-Russian Summit expected within the first ten days of October 2000 when the President of the Russian Federation, His Excellency Mr Vladimir Putin, will pay a State Visit to India.

Production of Coconut Oil

6866. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of coconut oil has fallen by nearly 70,000 tonnes in the month of September, 1999;

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

(c) whether any loan compensation scheme to assist the coconut farmers have been formulated by the Coconut Development Board;

(d) if so, the details of the assistance proposed to the affected farmer by the Union Government; and

(e) to what extent Coconut farmers likely be given full insurance coverage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Oriental Insurance Company is implementing Coconut Plan Insurance Scheme under which coconuts of all sort of varieties grown in any place and any type of soils is covered. The coverage can start from 3 months of the date of transplantation till the age of 50 years. The coverage includes damages due to pests & diseases, in addition to perils like, fire, lightening, storm, hail storm, cyclone, tempest, hurricane, tornado, riots & Strikes, flood, act of terrorism, earthquake, etc. The scope of the coverage is extended to input costs as well as market values of the standing plantations.

Personal Staff of Ministers

6867. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for the appointment of personal staff by a Cabinet Minister, State Minister or persons to the status of Cabinet/State Ministers;

(b) whether the Cabinet Ministers/State Ministers or presons equivalent to them have appointed a large army of personal staff;

(c) if so, the instances which have come to the notice of the Government so far;

(d) whether the Government have issued fresh directions to the Ministers/Department to restrict the appointment of personal staff by Ministers and other persons equivalent to them;

(e) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to restrict the appointment of personal staff by these persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SAPCE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (f) The number and level of posts admissible on the personal staff of Ministers are indicated in the statement attached. All the Ministries/Departments are required to strictly adhere to the norms laid down in the circular of October 1994 under which they cannot create any additional posts on the personal staff of Ministers without the prior approval of the Department of Personnel & Training and the Ministry of Finance. Creation of posts outside the sanctioned strength are allowed only if matching savings scale of entitlement. The norms laid down by this Ministry are being followed by all the Union Ministers and this Ministry is not aware of deviation, if any.

This Department has also issued directions to all the Ministries/Departments in January, 1998 not to have informal attachment of personal staff in Minister's office from subordinate formation of the Ministry, including the Public Sector Undertakings.

Statement

Normal Entitlement of Personal Staff for the Members of Union Council of Ministers.

Sl. No.	Name of post	Scale of Pay	Number of posts admissible			
			Cabinet Minister	Minister of State (MOS) with Independent charge	Minister of State	Deputy Minister
1.	Private Secretary	(Rs. 14300-18300)/ (Rs. 12000-16500)	1	1	1	1
2.	Additional P.S.	(Rs. 10000-15200)	2	1	1	—
3.	Assistant P.S.	(Rs. 6500-10500)	2	2	1	—
4.	First P.A.	(Rs. 6500-105000)	1	1	1	1
5.	Second P.A.	(Rs. 5500-9000)	1	2	2	1
6.	Hindi Steno.	(Rs. 5000-8000)	1	1	1	—
7.	Clerk	(Rs. 3050-4590)	1	1	1	1
8.	Driver	(Rs. 3050-4590)	1	1	1	1
9.	Attendant	(Rs. 2610-3540)	1	1	1	1
10.	Peon	(Rs. 2550-3200)	4	3	3	1
		Total:	15	14	13	7

Egg Processing Industry

6868. SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the domestic egg processing industry is facing crisis;

(b) if so, the factual position in this regard;

(c) whether the two egg powder plants have been already referred to Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction;

(d) whether the Government propose to give subsidy fro every Kg. of egg powder exported;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps proposed for revival of egg processing industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) to (f) An egg powder plant of M/s. Western Foods Ltd., 341-342, Sector-35B, Chandigarh has been registered with the Board for Indusrial and Financial Reconstruction in August, 1999. The Government do not propose to give subsidy for the export of egg powder. However, Government has initiated Plan Schemes for the Development/Improvement of the Poultry and Egg Processing Industries for both domestic and export market for assured quality and health standards and also effecting necessary technological improvement of processing units. Under the Scheme, financial assistance in the form of soft loan and grant is provided to both egg and poultry processing industries. The Government is also monitoring the quality aspect of the egg product meant for export under the Export (Quality Control & Inspection) Act, 1963 through Export Inspection Council of India for developing the confidence of the foreign buyers in respect of quality of Indian egg products.

[Translation]

Dr. Ambedkar Pratisthan

6869. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked for Dr. Ambedkar Pratisthan during the Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(b) the manner in which the accumulated funds are likely to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) During the 9th Five Year Plan, assistance of Rs. 200 crores has been proposed to be provided to the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation for undertaking various activities such as setting up Dr. Ambedkar National Library, Dr. Ambedkar Memorial, Dr. Ambedkar Chairs for research in Universities/institutions, Dr. Ambedkar Fellowships, Dr. Ambebkar National and International Awards and Publication of Collected works of Dr. Ambedkar in Hindi and other Indian languages.

[English]

India's Relations with Islamic World

6870. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's relations with Islamic World received a boost in the last week of Feburary, 2000 with high level visitors from Morocco and Saudi Arabia; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) India has always attached importance to its relations with all countries including countries having majority of Muslim population. Accordingly there have been regular exchange of visits with these countries to discuss issues of interest. During the month of February Prime Minister of Morocco Abderrahamane El Yousssoufi and Deputy Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia Nizar Obaid Madani visited India. During these two visits important global, regional and bilateral issues were discussed. In addition, during the visit of Prime Minister of Morocco a number of Agreements were signed. These include the Agreement on Merchant Shipping and Related Maritime Matters, the Memoradum of Understanding in the field of Geology and Mining and the Agreement between Prasar Bharti, Doordarshan and the Radiodiffusion Television Marocaine (RTM). In addition, an agreement was initiated between the Confederation of Indian Industry and its Moroccan counterpart organisation to form a Joint Business Council.

Sponge Iron India Limited

6871. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to sell-off Sponge Iron India Limited located in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) the operational status of SIIL at present;

(d) whether Sponge Iron India Limited has been producing sponge iron upto 80 per cent of the target; and

(e) the details of the economics in operation of Sponge Iron India Limited in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) The Disinvestment Commission in its XIth report has recommended disinvestment of 100% of Government of India equity in SIIL after cleaning up the balance sheet i.e. by writing off Government of India's Loans and accumulated interest thereon. The Commission has classified SIIL as a non-core PSU.

(c) At present SIIL is operating two kilns of 30,000 tonnes per annum each for production of sponge iron. The Company is also operating power plant based on recovery of heat from the waste gases of the kiln.

(d) During 1999-2000 the company achieved 82.39% of the production target. Since 1995-96, the company has been achieving more than 80% of the production target except in the year 1998-99.

(e) SIIL has been making losses continuously since year 1993-94 except in1995-96 Losses of the Company for the last three years have been as follows:-

1997-98	Rs. 3.36 crores
1998-99	Rs. 9.64 crores
1999-2000 (Prov.)	Rs. 10.60 crores.

Local Language Software

6872. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the role of Union and State Government to develop/promote use of local language software at all levels so that information technology literacy percolates to the masses;

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

(c) the steps Union Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Union Government encourages development/promotion of the use of local language software with objective of spreading IT to masses. This is done by way of promoting requisite language technologies through various Research & Technology Development projects. Recently, Resource centres for Indian Language Technology solutions have been set up covering all the official languages under Constitution. State Government can benefit from the technologies thus developed. They have separate State level scheme to percolate IT literacy to masses.

Composition of CACP

6873. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP);

(b) the objectives of the Commission;

(c) the extent to which the Commission has been able to achieve the said objectives;

(d) whether the Government is satisfied with its achievements; and

(e) if not, the measures Government propose to take to revamp its working?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) is a seven member advisory body consisting of one Chairman, two official members, three non-official members and one member-Secretary.

(b) The objectives of CACP is to advise the Government on price policy of agriculture commodities with a view to evolving a balanced and integrated price structure in the prespective of overall needs of the economy and with due regard to the interests of the producer and the consumer.

(c) and (d) The recommendations made by the CACP help the government in formulating the price policy for agricultural commodities. The price policy, in conjuction with package of technology and services hitherto pursued, has paid rich dividends in terms of raising production, productivity and investment on a sustained basis.

(e) Does not arise.

SC/ST In Government Jobs

6874. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other Backward Castes appointed in each Ministry/Departments/ autonomous bodies/subordinate offices particulary under Department of Personnel and Training during each of the last three years, category-wise?

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

Amendment of Insects Act/Seed Act

6875. SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Union Government for amendments to the Insects Act, 1968 and the Seed Act, 1966;

(b) if so, whether they had also suggested for inclusion of registration character of FI generation seeds, registration of processing plants, etc; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Based on the suggestions received from the various quarters including Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Insecticides (Ammendment) Bill, 2000 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 24.4.2000. As regards Seeds Act, 1966, the matter is under consideration.

[Translation]

People living below poverty line

6876. SHRI RAJO SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have received any representation in regard to carrying not review of the percentage of people living below poverty line in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly of Bihar;

(c) whether Planning Commission has revised the estimates; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa have suggested revision of the percentage of people below the poverty line in their respective States. No representation has been received from Bihar.

(c) and (d) The Planning Commission considered the suggestions and revised the percentage of people living below the poverty line in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for exclusive use in the matter of allocation of foodgrain under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

[English]

G.D.P.

6877. SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to evolve a monetary equivalent for domestic chores so that the contribution made by women in their homes is reflected in the Gross Domestic Product of the country;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The estimates of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are prepared following the concepts and principles of the System of National Accounts (SNA) recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission. The SNA does not recommend that domestic chores whether performed by women or men be included as economic activity in the production boundary. The principal reasons are as follows:

(i) production of such services (domestic chores) within households is a self contained activity with limited repercussion on the rest of the economy.

(ii) as the services of domestic chores are not produced for the market, there are typically no prices that can be satisfactorily used to value such services and the estimated values would not be equivalent to monetary values for analytical or policy purpose; and

(iii) if such services by members of households for own consumption are included as economic activity, all persons engaged in such activities would become self employed, making unemployment virtually impossible by definition.

[Translation]

Labour Secretaries' Conference

6878. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of topics considered during the one-day conference of Labour Secretaries held recentlry in Delhi and issues on which consensus was reached;

(b) whether the Government propose to consider the issues suggested during the conference; and

(c) if so, the time by which Government are likely to announce its decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) A Meeting of State Labour Secretaries was held on 13.4.2000 mainly to discuss the various amendment proposals in the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The other topics discussed in the meeting were - (i) Rehabilitation of released bonded labourers under the centrally sponsored schemes and programme of action for 2000-2001, (ii) Performance of National Child Labour Projects and rehabilitation of children released from work and the programme of action for 2000-2001, and (iii) Strengthening of system of labour statistics.

(b) and (c) The suggestion/views expressed in the meeting and agreed to, by the states would be incorporated in the amendment proposals to the Minimum Wages Act. However, because of the procedures/steps involved in finalising the amendments, it may not be possible to specify the time limit. The purpose of discussing other 3 items in the meeting was to review the performance with the State Governments and also to impress upon them to ensure proper monitoring and review at their revel for more effective implementation of the schemes and also to ensure furnishing complete and timely statistical information.

Production of Foodgrains

6879. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether targets were fixed for production of foodgrains during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 separately;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the actual production of foodgrains as against the target fixed in the abovesaid years; and

(d) the consumption of foodgrains in the country during the abovesaid years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) The details of targets fixed and achievements thereunder for production of foodgrains during the years 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 are as follows:

(Million tonnes)

Year	Terget	Achievement
1997-98	202.00	192.26
1998-99	210.00	203.04
1999-2000	210.00	201.56 (P)

(P - Provisional)

(d) The availability of foodgrains, which is treated as consumption, during the above mentioned years were as

follows:

(Million tonnes)

Years	Availability/Consumption
1997	201.45
1998 (P)	182.38
1999 (P)	193.54

(P- Provisional)

Manisana Wage Board

6880. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether journalists have expressed dissatisfaction, and great concern over the interim report of Manisana Wage Board;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from Delhi Journalists Union opposing the same;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the effective steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to pacify the journalists; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) The Manisana Wage Board submitted tentative proposals to the Government on 21.12.1999 which were published in the Gazette on 30.12.99. The employers' and employees' organisations and other persons interested in the revision of rates of wages were required to submit their comments with respect to tentative proposals. In response to the above notice, 72 parties submitted their comments and 42 including Delhi Union of Journalists requested for oral hearings. The oral hearings on comments/objections were completed in three rounds during February 22-25, March 14-17 and March 27-31, 2000. The Wage Board would take into account these submissions while finalising the report.

[English]

Industrial Training Institutes

6881. SHRI T. GOVINDAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated certain guidelines for the ITCs in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action taken against these ITCs violating the norms laid down by the Government?

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

(b) Craftsmen Training Scheme implemented through Industrial Training Institutes/Industrial Training Centres (ITIs/ITCs) was introduced by Government of India to ensure steady flow of skilled workers to meet the demand of the industry. Vocational Training is a concurrent subject of both Central and State Governments. The responsibility of prescribing standards, norms, curricula, policy, conduct of trade test and award of certificate rests with Government of India whereas day to day administration rests with respective State Governments. To advise Government of India on various policy matters, norms and standards, a tripartite Council namely National Council for Vactional Training, (NCVT) an Advisory body, has been set up under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister. The norms/ guidelines prescribed by the NCVT are to be followed by ITIs/ITCs which are seeking affiliation or are affiliated to NCVT in respect of specific trades. The guidelines and norms have been prescribed in respect of matters relating to administration of ITIs/ ITCs, space & power requirements, Institute staff, tools & equipment required for the trades, admission qualification, duration of training course, affiliation/deaffiliation procedure, trade test and award of certificates etc. The guidelines/ norms that have been prescribed are given in the "Training Manual for Industrial Training Institute and Centres".

(c) There is a provision for withdrawing the affiliation already granted to trades/units if it is found that the facilities do not exist as per the precribed norms. These norms have been given in the deaffiliation procedure in the Training Manual. Moreover affilitation is not granted till the stipulated criteria are met.

Linking of Indian Missions through Radio Communications

6882. SHRI C. SREENIVASAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian missions abroad linked to the Ministry of External Affairs through advanced radio communications; and

(b) the reasons therefor and the success of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) A High Frequency Radio Communication (HFRC) network had been established to link the Ministry of External Affairs with 22 Indian missions abroad, out of 27 missions initially identified for the project.

(b) The HFRC network had been established to provide stand-by arrangements for emergency communications between India and the target missions, to be used if and when normal communications channels are disrupted. The project, however, has had limited success and its performance has remained much below optimal levels. The Ministry has decided, on the basis of recommendations by a high-level expert group, to close the project and replace it by a more cost-effective and efficient system of satellite-based communications.

Importance of SAPTA/SAFTA

6883. SHRI SAHIB SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which SAPTA and SAFTA are contributing to the growth of economy among SAARC member countries; and

(b) the way both the elements are likely to contribute to the region's economy in the coming days?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Progressive trade liberalisation under the South Asian Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) as well as under bilateral arrangements between SAARC member countries is expected to make a positive contribution to the growth of the economies of SAARC member countries by facilitating intra-regional trade and regional economic integration. Measures impemented under SAPTA/bilateral free trade arrangements will allow partcipating countries to reap the benefits of larger markets and economies of scale and to procure supplies of crucial raw materials and manufactures at substantially lower costs due to geographical proximity. Increased access to India's larger markets for goods of neighbouring countries will enable them to attract greater inflows of foreign direct and domestic investment for production of goods for export to India, thus leading to diversification and strengthening of their economies.

India's exports are also expected to benefit from the lowering of tariff and non-tariff barriers by neighbouring countries. The trade liberalisation under implementation thus carries strong potential for improving the competitiveness of the economies of all partcipating countries, thus enabling them to face a fiercely competitive global environment. Once a South Asian Free Trade Area is achieved, this process will reach its logical conclusion enabling free movement of goods within the participating countries.

Child Labour in U.P.

6884. SHRI JAI BHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to reduce the child labour in the State of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has prepared any concrete programme in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the World Bank or any other financial institutions are helping Government of Uttar Pradesh in Integrated Child Development Service; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) As per the information received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, the order of Supreme Court is being implemented in earnesteness. Three surveys have been conducted to identify child labour in 1997, 1999 and 2000. Prosecutions have been sanctioned and 270 schools have been opened. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has also established a corpus fund of Rs. 1.15 crore for 23 child labour prone districts. District Child Labour Abolition Committees have been formed for all the districts.

With the support of World Bank, I.C.D.S. III Project involving Rs. 274.37 crore is being implemented in 110 Development Blocks for the State.

[Translation]

Unemployment

6885. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of unemployed persons has been rapidly increasing in the various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number thereof in Jammu and Kashmir;

(c) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to provide them employment keeping in view the winding up of several small scale industries in Jammu and Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof in the last three years; and

(e) the remedial measures taken by the Government and the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered with the Employment Exchanges in the country has shown an increasing trend.

(b) The number of job-seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, registered in the various Employment Exchanges in Jammu & Kashmir as on 29.02.2000 was of the order of 1.6 lakhs.

(c) to (e) The primary objective of the Ninth Plan is to generate greater productive employment in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are more labour intensive in regions characterised by higher rate of unemployment and under employment.

The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is a self employment scheme in which educated unemployed youth are assisted in setting up micro enterprises in all economically viable activities. In Jammu & Kashmir State, the total number of persons to whom loans were sanctioned and disbursed for the years 1997-98, 1998-99 & 1999-2000 (Utpo January, 2000) is given in the attached statement. As per the All India Evaluation Study units were set up in about 98% of the cases in which loans were disbursed by the banks. The disbursement data relates to units set up in industry, service and business sectors.

Statement

Progress under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana for the last three years i.e. 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 (upto end of Jan. 2000) in Jammu & Kashmir State.

(As reported by R.B.I. Mumbai)

Year	Target (No)	Sanctioned (No)	Disbursed (No)
1997-98	3500	2882	1969
1998-99	5000	1459	864
1999-2000 (Upto Jan. 2000)	4000	1030	683

As per the All India Evaluation study, units were set up in about 98% of the cases in which loans were disbursed by the Banks.

[English]

Durgapur Steel Plant

6886. SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work like turning of axle and wheel are done through contractor outside the factory in Durgapur Steel Plants;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to start this work in the shed of Durgapur Steel Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) Machining work both on Axles and Wheels is being done in-house on a regular basis by Wheel and Axle plant within the premises of DSP. However, a part of the Railways requirement for Axles and Wheels which is beyond the machining capacity of DSP is being processed through outside vendors.

People-to-people contact Between India and Pakistan

6887. SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any photo-exhibition was organised recently in Delhi by the India-Pakistan Friendship Forum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to reciprocate it by sending Indian delegation to Pakistan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) A photo exhibition was organized in Delhi, from 14-16 April 2000, by some Pakistani participants who were visiting India in connection with the Vth Joint Convention of the Pakistan India Peoples Forum for Peace & Democracy (PIPFPD), held at Bangalore from April 6-8, 2000. Government had no role in the organization of the photo-exhibition or the Joint Convention in Bangalore.

(c) to (e) Does not arise.

Implementation of Civil Rights Act

6888. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Centrally sponsored scheme for implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955 and SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities Act) 1989, the Union Government has to contribute 50 percent of the cost involved to the State;

(b) whether the State Government of Karnataka has made a provision of Rs. 341.52 lakhs (inlcuding 50 percent central share) respectively for implementation of the above schemes; and

(c) if so, whether the Union Government will initiate action to release its share to enable the State Government to go ahead with the timely implementation of the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During 1999-2000 State Government of Karnataka proposed expenditure of Rs. 595.10 lakhs for implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1995 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Artocities) Act, 1989. State Government made budget provision Rs. 249.40. Government of India released Rs. 170.70 lakhs as Central Assistance, taking into consideration the unspent balance of 1998-99 and committed liability. During 2000-2001, action will be taken as per provision under the scheme.

[Translation]

Infrastructure Facilities

6889. DR. BALIRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a High Powered Development Board to facilitate fast development and create adequte infrastructure facilities in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Cattle Insurance

6890. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has formulated a scheme on cattle insurance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether difficulties are being faced by the Government for implementation of insurance scheme; and

(d) if so, the measures propose to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under this scheme, the families living below the poverty line and having cattle for insurance are eligible for getting concession in the insurance premium. Instead of 4% normal premium rate per annum, a concessional premium rate of 2.25 only will be charged. However, not more than two animals per family will be insured under this scheme.

To start with, the scheme will be tried on a pilot basis in the following eight districts namely, Gumla, Jajpur, Ratlam, Yavatmal, Nagaur, Lakhimpur Kheri, Mehboobangar and Dharamapuri.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Package for Drought Affected Areas

6891. SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh would not get the food assistance under drought relief assistance;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested to the Union Government to sent a Central Team to study the situation in the State;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The Central Government has recently allotted 1 lakh tonnes of rice at Below Poverty Line (BPL) rates to the families in the drought affected areas.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) A Central Team had already visited the affected areas in the State sometime back to assess the situation in the wake of drought. Taking all relevant factors into account the National Calamity Relief Committee had approved assistance of Rs. 75.35 crore from the National Fund for Calamity Relief in the wake of drought. This amount was released to the State on 31.3.2000. This was in addition to the allocation to the State for 1999-2000 under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF). For the year 2000-2001, Rs. 77.78 crores have already been released in advance under CRF.

Bonded Labour

6892. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether bonded labourers are still working in some States;

(b) if so, the steps taken to identify them;

(c) the arrangement made for their suitable rehabilitation;

(d) the fund earmarked for the purpose in Ninth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the fund spent on the rehabilitation of bonded labourers in Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Incidence of bonded labour, in a few parts of the country, has been reported by the State Governments from time to time.

(b) As per sec. 13 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 Vigilance Committees have been constituted by the State Governments at District and Sub-Divisional levels for the purpose of identification and release of bonded labourers.

(c) Financial assistance, under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, is provided by the Central Government to the State Governments to the extent of Rs. 5000/- per bonded labourer on matching contribution (50:50) basis for rehabilitation of bonded labourers. With a view to ensuring that the bonded labourers are rehabilitated on a permanent basis, the State Governments have been advised to suitably integrate/dovetail the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with other anti-poverty programmes under Swarn Jayanti Swa Rojgar Yojna (SJSRY), Special Component Plan for Scheduled Caste and Tribal Sub-plan of the State Governments so as to pool and integrate the resources available under different schemes.

(d) An amount of Rs. 20 crore has been earmarked under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(e) An amount of Rs. 523.46 lakh has been released by the Central Government to the various State Governments for rehabilitation of bonded labour during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Letters from MPs

6893. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the numer of letters received by the Prime Minister and the Minister of State of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions pertaining to the Kendriya Bhandar, NCCF and Super Bazar in each of the last 12 months from the Members of Parliament alongwith the status thereof;

(b) the steps taken to expedite the replies to the pending letters;

(c) whether there is any proposal to proceed against the authorities responsible for causing the delay in replying to these letters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Letters of MPs are promptly attended and replied to as expeditiously as possible. In certain cases, however, when information has to be obtained from other offices or where the issues involved require detailed examination, some delay in replying becomes unavoidable. The pending letters are under process.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Statement

S. No.	Month	No. of letter received	No. of letter replied	Pending
1.	May, 1999	2	2	Nil
2.	June, 1999	5	5	Nil
3.	July, 1999	—	—	—
4.	August, 1999	1	1	Nil
5.	September, 1999	—	—	—
6.	October, 1999	—	—	—
7.	November, 1999	6	6	Nil
8.	December, 1999	1	—	1
9.	January, 2000	—	—	—
10.	February, 2000	2	1	1
11.	March, 2000	4	3	11
12.	April, 2000	1	—	1
	Total	32	18	14

Pension Scheme for NCDC

6894. SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a pension scheme for the employees of National Co-operative Development Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the retired/retiring employees are likely to get the benefit of the said pension scheme; and

(c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Roster System

6895. SHRI PRAVIN RASHTRAPAL:
SHRI BUTA SINGH:
SHRI SHUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Department of Personnel and Training has swithced over the 'Post Based Roster System' in place of 'Vacancy Based Roster System' w.e.f. July 2, 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the reasons for swithcing over to the 'Post Based Reservation System' from 'Vacancy Based Reservation System?

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

(b) and (c) The earlier 'Vacancy Based Roster System' was replaced by 'Post Based Roster System' because of the implementation of the Supreme Court judgement in the case of R.K. Sabharwal Vs. State of Punjab read with another Supreme Court judgement in the case of J.C. Mallick Vs. Union of India.

Plan to face Natural Disasters

6896. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of cyclone prone areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to make long-term planning to face such natural disasters;

(c) whether the Government have received any proposal from the Gujarat State Government seeking financial assistance from the World Bank for long-term planning for cyclone; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The required information is awaited from the Government of Gujarat.

(b) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to undertake necessary measures in this regard. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing resources in accordance with the recommendations of the Finance Commissions appointed from time to time.

(c) and (d) The project proposal received from the Government of Gujarat in this connection has been reportedly posed by the Ministry of Finance to the World Bank and response of the World Bank is awaited.

Central Government Industrial Tribunals

6897. SHRI VAIKO:
DR. SANJAY PASWAN:
SHRI SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Central Government Industrial Tribunals in various cities of States in view of large number of pending cases in various Labour Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the approval obtained and reasons for the delay;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which the said Tribunals are likely to be set up;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to dispose of pending cases in various Labour Courts; and

(f) the steps taken for making the terms and conditions of appointment of presiding officers of these tribunals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the norms prescribed for the disposal of industrial disputes and their pendency, a proposal to open more CGIT-cum-Labour Courts has been incroporated in the Ninth Five Year Plan, the criteria being the concentration of industries and number of industrial disputes-in a region. As a part of this, and to begin with, five new CGIT-cum-Labour Courts, one each at Lucknow, Nagpur, Chennai Bhubaneshwar and Hyderabad have been opened. Proposals to set up more new CGIT-cum-Labour Courts, in addition to the 17 existing ones has already been mooted. It is difficult to give any specific time limit for making them operational as approvals of a number of agencies are required for setting them up and therefore the question of delay does not arise.

(e) Following steps are taken to ensure speedy disposal of pending cases:-

(i) Expeditious steps are being taken to fill up the vacant posts of presiding Officers in Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts after observing all necessary formalities.

(ii) The need to reduce pendency of Industrial Dispute cases in the Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts is also impressed upon the Presiding Officers by taking up the matter with them from time to time.

(iii) A meeting of all Presiding Officers was held on 6-4-99 in which the need to dispose of pending cases was emphasised.

(iv) Departmental manual of procedure for use of Presiding Officers in CGITs has been finalised. It is expected that this manual would be useful for the Presiding Officers to dispose of cases quickly.

(f) A copy of terms and conditions of appointment of Presiding Officers in CGIT-cum-Labour Courts is attached as statement-I, II and III.

Statement-I

Terms & Conditions of Appointment of Retired High Court Judge as Presiding Officer of Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court.

(a) **DURATION:** The normal period of appointment of the Presiding Officer would be for a period of three years or upto 65 years of age whichever is earlier.

(b) **PAY:** The pay will be fixed @ Rs. 26,000/- (fixed) per month inclusive of gross pension.

(c) **DEARNESS ALLOWANCE:** The officer will be entitled to D.A. as payable to officers of the All India services getting pay of Rs. 6700/- p.m. & above subject to the condition that relief of pension is deducted from emolument drawn during the period of re-employment as per instructions contained in the Ministry of Law letter No. 166/2/78- Justice dated the 4th August, 1978.

(d) Compensatory (City) allowance as would be admissible to the serving judges of the High Courts at the Headquarters station of the Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court.

(e) No sumptuary Allowance would be admissible on re-employment.

(f) TA & DA would be payable according to their entitlement on the rates at the time of their re-employment.

(g) Transfer TA as admissible to a Govt. Servant of the highest grade from home town to Headquarters for joining the Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court and from Hqrs. To Home Town at the end of the assisgnment.

(h) Rent free furnished accommodation or house rent allowance at 30% of pay in lieu thereof.

(i) Medical facilities of CGHS; if available at the Station of posting. Where CGHS facility is not available he would be entitled to medical facilities as available to Cabinet Ministers.

(j) Leave as admissible to other re-employed pensioners under the CCS (Leave) Rules, 1972.

(k) LTC for self and family as admissible to re-employed pensioners and the entitlement would be that of the highest grade in Central Government.

(l) **CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE:** He would be entitled to get Rs. 3000/- p.m. as lumpsum payment in lieu of a staff car, driver and 150 litre of petrol p.m. or the actual consumption of petrol whichever is less.

Statement-II

Terms and Conditions of Appointment of Retired Judicial Officers as Presiding Officers of Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts.

(a) DURATION: The normal period of appointment of the Presiding Officer would be for a period of three years on year to year basis.

(b) PAY: The pay will be fixed in the scale of Rs. 14,300-400-18,300/- per month inclusive of gross pension, pension equivalent of other retirement benefits, if any.

(c) DEARNESS ALLOWANCE: The Officer will be entitled to D.A. as per Rules applicable to the Central Govt. employees from time to time subject to the condition that relief of pension is deducted from the emolument drawn during the period of re-employment as per instructions contained in the Ministry of Law letter No. 66/2/78-Justc, Dated the 4th August, 1978.

(d) CCA/HRA/MEDICAL CONCESSION/TA: To be regulated under the Rules as applicable to the Central Government employees.

(e) LEAVE: During the period of re-employment, the officer will be governed by the Central Civil Services (Leave Rules) 1972 as amended from time to time.

(f) RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION: He will be entitled to residential accommodation according to the Rules of the Central Government.

(g) The period of re-employment will commence from the date of assumption of the charge of the post of Presiding Officer, CGIT-cum-Labour Court under the Central Govt.

(h) Employment is liable to termination at one month's notice on either side.

Statement-III

Terms and Conditions of Appointment of serving Judicial Officers as Presiding Officers of Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts on Deputation.

(a) DURATION: The normal period of deputation of the Presiding Officer is for three years on year to year basis.

(b) PAY: The pay will be fixed in the scale of Rs. 14,300-400-18,300/- per month. The Officer will have the option to get his pay fixed in deputation post under the normal rules or to draw pay of the post held in the parent department plus deputation duty allowance in accordance with and subject to conditions as modified from time to time.

(c) DEARNESS ALLOWANCE: The Officer will be entitled to D.A. under Rules applicable to the parent Government or under the Rules of borrowing Government accordingly as he retains his scale of pay under parent Government or draws pay attached to the post under the borrowing Government.

(d) CCA/HRA/MEDICAL CONCESSION/TA: For journey on duty during deputation period/joining Time pay and transfer TA: To be regulated under rules of the borrowing Government.

(e) LEAVE PENSION: During the period of deputation on temporary Transfer the officer will continue to be goverment by the leave and pension rules of the parent employer appliable to him before such transfer but he will not be entitled to any vacation leave during the period of deputation as Presding Officer Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court.

(f) RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION: He will be entitled to Residential accommodation according to the rules of the Government to which he is deputed.

(g) The period of re-employment will commence from the date of Assumption of charge of the post of Presiding Officer, Central Govt. Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court under the Central Govt. and end on the date on which the offical relinquishes the charge of the post under the Central Govt.

[Translation]

Centrally Sponsored Projects

6898. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Centrally Sponsored Projects undertaken in Rajasthan;

(b) the number of projects out of them completed within the stipulated time;

(c) the amount spent on these projects so far;

(d) the number of such projects which are lagging behind; and

(e) the cost escalated as a result thereof project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) During the last two years, two projects, namely, Luni-Marwar (72 Km) Gauge Conversion project with delay of 3 years opened to traffic on 15.3.98 and Coolant Channel Replacement Project of Nuclear Power Corporation with a delay of 2 months were completed. The Ajmer-Udaipur Gauge Conversion project, due to be completed during 1999-2000, has not progressed due to fund constraints. At present, 6 central sector projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above are under impementation in the State of Rajasthan. The details of cost, expenditure and completion dates of these projects are given in the attached statement.

(c) The cumulative expenditure, as reported at the end of December, 1999, is of the order of Rs. 2,122 crores against the anticipated cost of Rs. 3,491 crores.

(d) All the six projects have been delayed.

(e) The cost escalation, project-wise, is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Unit: (Cost/Expenditure : Rs. in Crores)

Sl. No.	Project (District) (State)	Capacity	Date of Govt. Appro-val Orgnl (RVSD)	Date of Commissioning		Time over Run (Months)			Cost		% Cost Over Run on Original (Revised)	Expen-diture Till 3/1999	1999-2000 B.E. (R.E.)	Cumulative Expenditure
				Original (Revised)	Anti-cipa-ted (L.Rep.)	Total (% on Original)	Addl Over Last Qtr.	Tot. (% On Revised)	Approved Original (Revised)	Anticipated				
Sector: Atomic Energy														
NPC														
1.	RAPP 3 & 4	MW	1988/11	1995/11	2000/11	60	0	42	711.56	2511.00	253	1884.15	280.00	2052.00
		2x235	1995/08	1997/05		56		33	2107.00		19		290.00	
	Kota													
	Rajasthan													
Sector:Railways														
GC														
2.	Luni-Jodhpur	Kms	1995/04	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	31.77	51.18	61	46.53	—	50.19
	NR	32			1998/01	N.A		N.A.			61			
	Rajasthan													
3	Ajmer-Udaipur	Kms	1998/09	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	262.00	428.47	64	2.97	25.00	6.12
	Chittaurgarh	300		2000/03	2000/03	N.A		N.A			64			
	WR			2000/03										
	Rajasthan													
4.	Luni-Barmer-Munabao, I'R	Kms	1997/04	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	240.00	240.89	0	10.91	30.00	11.62
		297				NA.		N.A.		0				
	Rajasthan													
NL														
5.	Dausa-Gangapur	Kms	1997/02	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	151.84	217.93	44	0.02	1.00	0.07
	City, WR	92.67			N.A.	N.A.					44			
	Rajasthan													
NRZ														
6.	North West		1997/02	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	41.66	41.66	0	1.86	—	1.86
	Rly. Zone (WR)				N.A.	N.A.					0		—	
	Jaipur													
	Rajasthan													

Legends

L. Rep Latest Reported. NPC : Nuclear Power Corporation. GC : Gauge Conversion.

NL New Lines. NRZ : Northern Railway Zone.

[English]

Inter-State Water Dispute

6899. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Inter-State water dispute between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu has not been solved so far;

(b) if so, the latest position of the dispute;

(c) whether the State Government of Tamil Nadu has been requesting the Union Government to intrevene in the matter and resolve the dispute; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Under the provisions of Inter-State Water Disputes Act 1956, the Cauvery Water Disputes between the States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Pondicherry has been referred to the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal on June 2, 1990. The Tribunal has passed an interim order on June 25, 1991 given relief to Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Pondichery. The Central Government has published the interim order under section 6 of the said Act in the official gazette on 10.12.91 making it final and binding on the parties to the disputes. In pursuance of order of the Supreme Court dated 9.4.1997. The Central Government has framed a scheme under section 6 (A) of the said Act for giving effect to the interim order and all its related subsequent orders. The scheme consists of the Cauvery River Authority headed by Prime Minister with Chief Minister of the basin states as its members. The Authority is assisted by the Monitoring Committee headed by the Secretary (Water Resources).

[Translation]

Merger of Department of Industry

6900. SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken a decision in regard to merger of certain departments of the Ministry of Industry recently;

(b) if so, the names of such departments;

(c) whether the number of employees and subsequent official expenditure are likely to come down on account of this move;

(d) if so, the number of employees likely to be reduced alongwith the annual saving on accout of it; and

(e) the reasons for implementing this decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) The Government has recently decided to merge the Department of Industrial Development with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion vide notification issued by the Cabinet Secretariat on 3 April, 2000 under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion has been asked to take necessary action to abolish such posts in the erstwhile Department of Industrial Development which are considered surplus to their requirement. The extent of financial savings likely to accrue annually will depend on the number of posts that may be abolished as a result of merger.

[English]

Financial Assistance for Advanced Study

6901. SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 towards financial assistance for the establishment of centres for Advanced Studies of India abroad;

(b) the total number of centres opened for advanced studies of India at Universities abroad during the past five years; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for promoting academic interest on India and South Asia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Nil.

(b) Nil.

(c) To promote academic interest on India and South Asia, this Ministry has been giving financial assistance to various Institutions for holding seminars, conducting research and publication of books on South Asia. Scholarships are also offered to over 100 students from SAARC countries.

Educationally and Economically Backward Districts

6902. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to identify more minority concentration districts which are educationally backward;

(b) if so, how many more such districts are to be identified;

(c) whether the Government can also identify such area which are economically backward; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Identification of minority concentration districts has been referred to the National Commission for Minorities with the request to recommend minority concentration districts on the basis of incidence of poverty and backwardness.

[Translation]

Arrest of Hijackers

6903. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:
SHRI TARUN GOGOI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to reply given to unstarred question No. 186 answered on February 24, 2000 and state:

(a) the date of which the Government of India asked Pakistan to handover the hijackers to India;

(b) the reaction of Pakistan thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government of India now when Pakistan has not taken any action in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) On 15th January 2000, Government handed over a formal communication to the Government of Pakistan providing evidence of the involvement of Pakistani nationals in the hijacking of IC-814. Pakistan was also reminded, that as a signatory to several international conventions against terrorism, as also the Simla Agreement of 1972 and the Lahore Declaration, it has an international obligation to take the hijackers into custody and to extradite them to India. This was reiterated in a subsequent communication, handed over to the Government of Pakistan on 4th February 2000.

(b) The Government of Pakistan, in its response, has reiterated its general position that it would undertake to apprehend and prosecute any person or persons found on its territory, or Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir, who may be suspected of having committed offences, related to hijacking. As they have at the same time rejected our demarche, Pakistan's general commitment has to be assessed accordingly.

(c) The hijacking of IC-814 has made stronger Government's resolve to combat the menace posed by Pakistan's state sponsorship of cross-border terrorism and continued efforts to interfere in the internal affairs of India. Government also continues to take all necessary measures to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.

[English]

Indo-Japan Ties

6904. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Special Advisor to Japan's Finance Minister has called upon India and Japan to improve bilateral relations and take a leadership role in greater Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India propose to build up strategic alliance with Japan; and

(d) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) Dr. Eisuki Sakakibara, presently Professor at Keio University, Japan and Speical Advisor to the Japan's Minister of Finance visited India in March 2000. He gave

a lecture on "The Role of Japan and the Emerging Asia," on March 27, under the auspices of Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations and Confederation of Indian Industry. In the course of the lecture, he spoke of the need for India and Japan to work together to improve bilateral relations and to take a leadership role in Asia.

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Functioning of KVIC

6905. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have invited any foreign agency to conduct a study and give suggestions for strengthening the organisational structure, for bringing improvement in the functioning of KVIC;

(b) if so, the name of that agency;

(c) whether the said agency has presented its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, by when it would present its report to the Government?

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

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Electronic Courts

6906. SHRI ANANT GUDHE:
SHRI NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering for setting up electronic courts with the objective of reducing time taken in disposal of cases;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the present status of the same and reaction of the legal profession thereto; and

(d) the other innovative steps proposed for speeding award of justice and clearance of huge bulk of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) A Government delegation led by Minister for Information Technology had, during its visit to Singapore in March, 2000, visited computerized courts. The concept and the materials collected during the visit have been brought to the notice of the concerned authorities. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has developed and implemented Cause List of various High Courts. Interactive Voice Response System has been installed at Supreme Court for on-line inquiry of pending cases. NIC has further implemented District Court Information System in 430 District Courts in the country. Software "JUDIS-CD Version 2.0" using text based search of judgements of Supreme Court has been released for use by various legal professionals.

Changes in Labore Laws

6907. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI JAI PRAKASH:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have urged the Trade Union to adopt a positive attitude towards economic reforms in order to create more employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a Group of Minister has been constituted by the Government to make recommendations on wage-related matters;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the views of other related Ministries, Trade Union and State Governments are likely to be considered before making any major changes in the Labour Laws;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (g) Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process and amendments/ fresh legislations are made depending on the result of the review. The Second National Commission on Labour set up by the Government vide resolution issued on 15.10.1999 would comprehensively review labour laws to ensure both consistency of labour laws with the general changes taking place in the economic policy and also to provide for greater welfare of the working class. Views of all concerned including related Ministries/Experts etc. are taken into account while making amendments in various labour laws. The Prime Minister while inaugurating the 36th Session of the Indian Labour Conference held on 15-16th April, 2000 highlighted the need for trade unions to adopt a positive and supportive attitude towards economic reforms as also the reforms in labour laws.

A Group of Ministers under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission has been constituted on 09.02.2000 to consider among other things the periodicity of wage revision in Central Public Sector Undertakings.

Interest Free Loan

6908. KUMARI BHAVANA PUNDLIKRAO GAWALI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have received any request from Maharashtra Government for sanction of interest free loan to cooperative banks in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) A proposal for financial assistance of Rs. 348.29 crore has been recieved from the Maharashtra Government to cleanse the balance sheet of cooperative banks so as to increase their borrowing capacity.

(c) A decision regarding cleansing of balance sheet of cooperative banks would be taken after the High Level Task Force constituted to study the functioning of cooperative credit institutions and suggest a package for their revival/restructuring submitc its Report.

Strategy for Rural Market

6909. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has formulated a strategy to focus towards the vast untapped rural market for its products;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any consultant authority has been appointed for assessing the rural demand;

(d) if so, the projection give in this regard;

(e) whether the SAIL propose to set up rural service centres to make available of steel items; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (f) As a part of the strategy to tap the potential rural market, SAIL has engaged Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRM) to undertake a study to assess the current trend of demand for steel material in the rural market segment in the States of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. IRM are also required to suggest, inter alia, specific marketing actions and to assess the need to promote the concept of service centres.

Institute of Rural Management, Anand is yet to submit its report on the study.

[Translation]

Recommendation of National Commission for Backward Classes

6910. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendations made by the National Commission for Backward Classes and also recommendations which have been accepted by the Government;

(b) other recommendations which are under consideration of the Government; and

(c) the reasons for which these recommendations have not yet been accepted by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) As per the provision under the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) examines requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as a Backward Class in the list and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any Backward Class in such lists and tenders such advice to the Central Government, as it deems appropriate. Recommendations of the Commission are processed as per the prescribed procedure. After a decision is taken by the Government regarding inclusion/amendment in the Central List of OBCs, the same is notified in the Gazette of India, from time to time.

[English]

ESI Scheme

6911. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the ESI scheme was introduced and its basic features;

(b) the number of beneficiaries countributing towards this scheme at present; and

(c) the details of participation of State Governments and Corporation in regard to providing benefits to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) The Employees' State Insurance Scheme in being gradually implemented area-wise in a phased manner. The Scheme was initially introduced at Delhi and Kanpur with effect from 24th February, 1952. As on 31.3.99 there were 80.85 lakh employees contributing to the ESIS at 642 centres in the country.

The ESI Scheme provides for medical care and payment of certain cash benefits on account of sickness, maternity, disablement, death etc. Under the scheme the employers contribute @ 4.75% of the monthly wage and the employees @ 1.75%. While cash benefits under the ESI Scheme are being administered by the ESIC, the provision of medical care except in Delhi & Noida is being administered by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the expenditure on medical care under the ESI scheme is shared between the ESI Corporation and the State Governments in the ratio of 7:1 subject to a ceiling prescribed in this regard.

[Translation]

Production of Oilseeds

6912. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the per hectare production rate of oilseeds is lower than that of wheat, paddy and pulses;

(b) if so, the per hectare production rate of wheat, paddy, pulses, potato, onion, cotton, maize and sugarcane in the country;

(c) whether the improved variety of oilseeds have been developed by ICAR during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) According to advance estimates for 1999-2000, per hectare production rates of rice, wheat, maize, pulses, potato, onion, cotton, oilseeds and sugarcane in the country are as under:

Crop	Kg/Hectare
Rice	1985
Wheat	2621
Maize	1655
Pulses	608
Potato	18568
Onion	10085
Cotton	205
Oilseeds	855
Sugarcane	71969

(c) and (d) Statement showing improved varieties of oilseeds released by ICAR during 1997 and 1999 is attached.

Statement

Oilseeds varieties released by ICAR

Crop	Name of the variety	Year of Release	Yield (Kg/ha.)	Area of adaptation
Sunflower	Sungene-85(H)	1997	1700	All India
	PAC-36(H)	1997	1600	All India
	PAC-1091(H)	1997	1600	All India
	Sidheshwar (LS11)	1999	1500	Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
Castor	GCH-5(H)	1997	2500 (I)	Gujarat and Rajasthan
	DCH-32(H)	1997	1800 (R)	Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka
			2800 (I)	under rainfed conditions. Maharashtra Rajasthan and Gujarat under irrigated conditions
	GCH-6(H)	1999	1800-1900	Gujarat, Rajasthan and Maharashtra
Safflower	DSH-129(H)	1997	1900	All safflower growing areas under irrigated and rainfed conditions
	MKH-11(H)	1997	1900	All safflower growing areas under irrigated and rainfed conditions
Groundnut	CSMG 884	1999	2400	Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra
	HNG-10	1999	2400	Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh
Rapeseed	Pusa Bold	1997	1800	Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal
& Mustard	CS-52	1997	1100	Sodic and saline soils of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan
	Pusa Agrani	1997	1700	Irrigated area of Punjab, Haryana and Delhi
	Kiran	1997	2350	Haryana, Punjab & Delhi
	PCR-7	1997	2000	Rajasthan and Gujarat
	VSL-5	1999	1800	Irrigated area of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan
Soyabean	MAUS-2	1997	2450	Maharashtra and Karnataka
	MACS 450	1999	2500	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh,
Sesamum	TKG 55	1999	630	Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal and North Eastern States.
Linseed	LCK 9216	1999	1000 (Seed) 720 (Fibre)	Irrigated areas of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar West Bengal, Assam and Kota area of Rajasthan
	LMH-62	1999	940	Rainfed areas of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa and Bundelkhand region of Uttar Pradesh.

H-Hybrid, R-Rainfed Conditions, I-Irrigated Conditions.

Fake Passports

6913. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the business of sending children abroad is thriving in the country through fake passports;

(b) if so, whether any such case has come to be the notice during the last two months; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No such incidents have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Appointments on Compassionate Grounds

6914. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of appointments made on compassionate grounds under his Ministry during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases still pending; and

(c) the time by which the pending cases are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Eleven appointments have been made during the last three years namely 1997, 1998 & 1999.

(b) Thirty (30).

(c) Pending cases are settled according to guidelines on vacancy position as such no time frame could be given.

Acid Regeneration Unit

6915. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited has approved setting up of an acid regeneration unit in Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the expenditure to be incurred on this unit;

(d) whether the purpose for which the unit is to be set up is likely to be achieved; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (e) Steel Authority of India Limited approved the setting up of an acid regeneration unit in the Bhilai Steel Plant at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.99 crore. The unit which was envisaged to overcome the pollution problem by separation of acid and other constituents of the acid sludge, has been working intermittently because of unexpected corrosion/erosion of equipment. As a remedial step the corroded pumps and valves have been replaced with those of suitable substitute material.

Grant to Agriculture

6916. SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant provided to the Agriculture Research Centres by Union Government during the last three years;

(b) whether the financial condition of farmers has improved due to the research works conducted by these Centres;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government are contemplating to increase the amount of grant in near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The amount of grant provided to ICAR research establishments by the Union Government during the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Amount of Grant
1997-98	880.85
1998-99	1001.66
1999-2000	1298.68

(b) and (c) Due to advances made through research work by ICAR research establishments, the farmers do have now quality seed and planting material of high yielding varieties of almost all the agricultural and horticultural crops. With the high yielding variety seeds, time & energy saving farm implements & machinery and better resource management, the farmers are getting higher yields for their crops meaning thereby that the status/financial conditions are improving. Similarly, the production levels in livestock, dairy and fishery products have also been enhanced with application of advanced research methodologies resulting in higher income to the farmers.

(d) and (e) The enhancement of grant for future cannot be contemplated.

[English

Shrinkage of Crop Area

6917. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI R.S. PATIL:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scarcity of rains has resulted in major shrinkage of crop area in various States of the country;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to make arrangements to get water for the farmers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The area under foodgrains, oilseeds and cotton during 1999-2000 is lower as compared to 1998-1999. The state wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(c) Keeping in view the need to cover additional areas under irrigation, the Government has taken/proposed to take various policy and programme initiatives. These include revision of National Water Policy (1987), Command Area Development Programme, preparation of National Perspectives for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit areas, promotion of water management practices, efficient and economic use of water for various purposes, emphasis on water conservation through various methods including use of latest technologies and peoples participation in management of water for diverse uses.

Besides, the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) has one of the strategies of irrigation development to complete all on-going projects, particularly those which were started during pre-Fifth and Fifth Plan period as a time-bound programme to yield benefits from the investments already made. In keeping with the strategy, the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) launched by Government of India in 1996-97 for expeditious completion of selected on-going projects is continued in the Ninth Plan. The revised funding pattern under AIBP with effect from 1999-2000 is in the form of Central Loan Assistance (CLA) on 2:1 (Centre: State) basis for general category States and in 3:1 ratio for special category States of North-Eastern Region, Hilly States of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim as well as for drought prone Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa. Minor irrigation schemes of special category States are also being given CLA on 3:1 (Centre: State) basis with effect from 1999-2000.

Statement

Comparison of area in Year 1999-2000 with 1998-1999

Area ('000 HA)

State/UT	Foodgrains			Oilseeds			Sugarcane			Cotton		
	1999-2000	1998-1999	Difference	1999-2000	1998-1999	Difference	1999-2000	1998-1999	Difference	1999-2000	1998-1999	Difference
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	6602	7189	-587	2547	2736	-189	221	214	7	1015	1278	-263
Assam	2822	2668	154	372	327	45	30	30	0	2	2	0
Bihar	9076	3960	116	219	224	-5	109	108	1			0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Gujarat	3570	3904	-334	2972	2932	40	220	196	24	1516	1607	-91
Haryana	4023	4490	-467	536	558	-22	150	125	25	510	582	-72
Himachal Pradesh	854	844	10	19	20	-1	4	3	1			0
Jammu & Kashmir	878	879	-1	77	70	7			0			0
Karnataka	7141	7381	-240	2233	2618	-385	314	312	2	600	608	-8
Kerala	502	391	111	21	14	7	6	6	0	12	12	0
Madhya Pradesh	17389	17786	-397	5926	6157	-231	51	50	1	514	502	12
Maharashtra	13490	13094	396	2721	2675	46	590	530	60	3254	3199	55
Orissa	5486	5378	108	399	383	16	45	22	23	60	29	31
Punjab	6209	6124	85	120	176	-56	108	103	5	475	562	-87
Rajasthan	11589	13462	-1893	3779	4303	-524	20	23	-3	485	645	-160
Tamil Nadu	4320	4452	-132	1057	1319	-262	203	348	-145	225	243	-18
Uttar Pradesh	20717	20518	199	1508	1000	92	1963	1971	-8	10	9	1
West Bengal	7120	6538	582	594	486	108	24	27	-3		.	0
Others	1392	1298	94	103	115	-12	7	8	-1	10	9	1
All India	123160	125356	-2196	25203	26713	-1510	4065	4076	-11	8868	9287	-619

[Translation]

Asylum to Hijackers

6918. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Canada has given asylum to an Indian, who had hijacked Indian Airlines Aircraft in 1984;

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

(c) whether the Union Government have lodged any protest in this regard with the Canadian Government;

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

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) Parminder Singh Saini, one of the hijackers of an Indian Airlines flight in 1984, entered Canada illegally in 1995 after serving ten years in prison in Pakistan. Canadian immigration authorities detained him and launched deportation proceedings against him. Subsequently, he was ordered to be deported. Saini appealed against the deportation order to the Federal Court on the basis of a pardon that his lawyer procured from the Pakistan authorities. The Federal Court of Canada halted the deportation on the basis of this pardon stating that the applicant has been cleansed of his conviction and that he should not be deported on that ground.

The Government of Canada has decided to appeal against the judgment of the Federal Court and is also reviewing the case to explore other avenues to have Parminder Singh Saini deported.

[English]

Visit of Italian Foreign Minister

6919. DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foreign Minister of Italy visited India recently;

(b) if so, the issues discussed with him; and

(c) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy has not visited India recently. Mr. Franco Danieli, Italian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs visited India for the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Italian Cultural Centre in New Delhi, which was jointly laid along with the Minister of State for External Affairs on 31 March 2000.

Vacant Posts of SCs/STs

6920. SHRI KOLKHOMANG HAOKIP: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts in various grades reserved for Scheduled Castes and Schedules Tribes communities lying vacant in the Ministry and its subordinate offices indicating the time since when lying vacant; and

(b) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to fill up these vacancies along with the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

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

Shelters in Gulf Countries

6921. SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to close down the 'Shelter' being operated by the Indian Embassy in Kuwait;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to increase the annual maintenance grant given to the shelter presently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to start some new 'Shelters' in Gulf countries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal.

(e) and (f) The matter is under constant review and appropriate measures will be considered as and when they become necessary.

Foodgrain Production

6922. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by United Nations Population Fund has revealed that 1/3 of India's population is hungry despite four-fold increase in food production since independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate a new scheme to increase the food production and effectively implement them to remove the poverty/hunger; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) A Study on Population, Food Production and Nutrition in India, commissioned by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), India (October 1999) has mentioned that 'around one-third of its population-320 million in 1997, was considered 'food unsecure', consuming less than 80 percent of minimum energy nutrient."

(c) and (d) The agricultural development strategy for the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) is essentially based on the policy of food security announced by the Government to double food production and make India hunger-free in ten years. A regionally differentiated strategy based on agro-climatic regional planning, which takes into account agronomic, climatic and environmental conditions, has been adopted to realise the full potential of growth in every region to achieve the objective.

Wakf Property

6923. SHRI HARPAL SINGH SATHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Wakf properties are exempted from the Rent Control Act in some States;

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

(c) the steps taken to make it applicable to all the states and extend Public Premises Act to Wakf Property?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Rent Control is a State Subject. Wakf Properties have been exempted from the purview of Rent Control Act in Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Pondicherry and Uttar Pradesh. The matter is being pursued with other State/UT Governments, who have not exempted so far. Extension of Public Premises Act to Wakf Properties has been taken up with the State Governments.

Mentally Retarded

6924. SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and locations of the Institutions working for Mentally Handicapped at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number and names of the Voluntary Organisation which are getting financial aid from the Union Government, State-wise and since, when;

(c) the aims and objects of these institutions; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness amongst the people particularly in Rural Areas amongst weaker sections of the society like Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped is an apex level National Institute with Head Quarters at Secunderabad. The regional centers are located at New Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay.

(b) A statement indicating the names of the voluntary organizations that have been sanctioned assistance during 1999-2000 and working substantially on identified projects for mentally retarded under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities is enclosed. The scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with disabilities has been in operation since the last financial year.

(c) The Voluntary organizations that seek assistance under the above referred Scheme, inter-alia' provided in the Memorandum of Association a clause to facilitate working for the disabled including mentally retarded as their object. The aims and objectives of the National Institute for Mentally Handicapped and its regional centres are.

(i) Provide Special Education to Children with Mental Retardation;

(ii) Provide diagnostic, assessment and therapeutic services for mentally retarded;

(iii) Provide early stimulation services;

(iv) Provide vocational training and employment opportunities.

(d) The Ministry operates Schemes of assistance through the medium of Government and Non-Government agencies for the target group "disabled" including Mentrally Retarded. The benefits of the Schemes and provisions relating to procedure for seeking assistance are publicized from time to time through media, conferences and meetings with concerned agencies throughout the Country including the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Statement

Name of the State and Number	Name of the Organisation
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	
1.	Aathmeeya Manasika Vikasa Kendram
2.	Andhra Mahila Sabha Trust
3.	ANURAAG
4.	AP Society for Rehabilitation and Welfare of the Handicapped
5.	Arun Special Centre
6.	Asaisai Sisters of Mary Immaculate
7.	Care Land

1	2
8.	Hellen Kellers' School for Deaf & Mentally Retarded Children
9.	Karimnagar District Freedom Fighter Trust
10.	Karunodaya Institute for MR
11.	Lebenshilfelife Special School for the Mentally Handicapped
12.	MANASA
13.	Manasika Vikas Kendram
14.	New Don Basco Educational Society
15.	PAMENCAP (Karim Nagar)
16.	PAMENCAP (Secunderbad)
17.	Parents Association of AG's Office Employees
18.	PASS
19.	Pavani Institute for Multiple Handicapped & Spastics
20.	Pragati Rural Development Association
21.	Radha Institute for Mentally Retarded Children
22.	Rastriya Seva Samithi
23.	Shaj Seva Sansthan
24.	Sai Seva Sangh
25.	Shanthiniketen
26.	Siri Institute for Mentally Handicapped
27.	Smt. Merla Ramamma Memorial Trust
28.	Sneha Society for Rural Reconstruction
29.	Sri Sai Public School, Educational Society
30.	Srinivasa Mahila Mandali
31.	Surya Kiran Parents Association for the Welfare of M.H.
32.	Swayamkrushi
33.	Swayamseva Ass. for Parents of Rural Children
34.	Sweekar Rehabilitation Institute for Handicapped
35.	Thakur Hari Prasad Institute of Research and Rehab. for MH
36.	Uma Manovikasa Kendram (Kakinada)
37.	Uma Manovikasa Kendram (Ongole)
38.	Women and Child Welfare Centre
39.	Zilla Sarvodaya Educational Society
Assam	
1.	Guwahati Mental Welfare Society
Bihar	
1.	Ayurvedic & Megnetotherapy Research Institute (AMRI)
2.	Bihar Institute of Speech & Hearing Research Centre
Delhi	
1.	AAROH
2.	Association for National Brotherhood for Social Welfare
3.	Balvantrai Mehta Vidya Bhawan
4.	Delhi Society for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded Children
5.	ECLAT Society for the welfare of the Mentally Retarded
6.	Federation for the Welfare of the Mentally Retarded
7.	Foundation for the Spastic and Mentally Handicapped (UDAAN)
8.	Parents Association for the Welfare of Children with Mental Handicapped
9.	SANJIVINI
10.	Society for Child Development
11.	Spastics Society of Northern India
12.	TAMANA

1	2
Gujarat	
1.	Medical Care Centre
2.	SOPAN
3.	The Banlyan Cify Jaycee Education Trust
4.	The Society for the Mentally Retarded
Haryana	
1.	Indian Red Cross Society (Ambala)
2.	Indian Red Cross Society (Hissar)
3.	Indian Red Cross Society (Rohtak)
4.	Khushboo Welfare Society
	National Association for the Integration and Rehabilitation of the Handicapped
6.	Sadbhavana Charitable Trust (Regd.)
7.	Utthan Institute of Development & Studies
Jammu & Kashmir	
1.	Rotary Innerwheel Home for the Mentally Handicapped
Karnataka	
1.	Angaviklara Ashakiran Trust
2.	Association for the Rehabilitation of the Disabled
3.	Bapuji Vidya Samastha
4.	Chywan Ayurvedic Education Society
5.	Divya Santhi Christian Association
6.	Krishna Trust
7.	Lion's Charitable Trust
8.	Manju Education Society
9.	Shri Doodana Vikas Shikshan Samaste
10.	Shri Renuka (Yellama) Vidya Vardhak Sangh
11.	Shri Vadiraja Trust
12.	Spastic Society of Karnataka
13.	The Association for Mentally Handicapped
Kerala	
1.	All Kerala Association for Mentally Retarded Children
2.	Alphons Social Center
3.	Asha Kiran Association for Mentally Retarded Children
4.	Ashanilayam Social Service Centre
	Ashrayam Special School Society for Rehabilitation of Mentally Defficient Children
6.	Associalton for Welfare of the Handicapped
7.	Bala Vikas Society
8.	Bethania Rehabilitation Centre for Disabled Women
9.	Carmel Jyothi Centre for Mentally Retarded Children
10.	Charitable Society for Welfare of Disabled
11.	Directorate of Social Action
12.	Ernakulam Women's Association
13.	Faith India
14.	Jaycee Society for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped
15.	K. Velayudhan Memorial Trust
16.	MADONNA
17.	Manovikash Special School for Mentally Handicapped
18.	Marian Service Society
19.	Mercy Home for Mentally Retarded
20.	Padma Educational & Charitable Establishment
21.	Pope John Paul Peace Home
22.	Prateeksha Bhawan

1	2
23.	Parteeksha Training Centre
24.	Raksha Society for Care of Children with Multiple Handicaps
25.	Rotary Institute for Children in Need of Special care
26.	Sanathana Adwaitha Ashram
27.	Sanjose Welfare Centre
28.	Santhinilayam for Handicapped Children
29.	Santimargam Social Welfare Service Society
30.	Seva Niketan
31.	Sneha Sadan Special School for the Mentally Retarded
32.	Snehabhavan Society 76/74
33.	Sneharam Training Centre
34.	Social Welfare Centre
35.	St. Camilus Training Centre
36.	Tropical Health Foundation of India
37.	Vikas Social Service Society
38.	Vimala Mahila Samajam
39.	Women's Welfare Centre
40.	Young Men's Christian Association
Madhya Pradesh	
1.	ANKUR
2.	Digdarshka Institute of Rehabilitation Research
3.	Kranti Kala Sangam
4.	Prem Sagar Special School
Maharashtra	
1.	SAVALI
2.	Society for the Vocational Rehabilitation of the Retarded
3.	Swami Vivekanad Dhyan Prasarak Mandal

1	2
4.	Valabhdas Dagara India Society for Mentally Retarded
Manipur	
1.	All Manipur Mentally Handicapped Persons Welfare Organisation
2.	Centre for Mental Hygiene
Orissa	
1.	All India Women's Conference
2.	Association For Social Reconstructive Activities
3.	Nilachal Seva Prathisthan
4.	Open Learning Systems
5.	SEVA
6.	Union for Learning, Training and Reformative Activities
Punjab	
1.	Asha Deep Welfare Society
2.	Indian Red Cross Society (Faridkot)
3.	Navjivini School of Special Education
Rajasthan	
1.	Society for Welfare of Mentally Handicapped
Tamil Nadu	
1.	Balvikas (School of the Mentally Handicapped)
2.	Bishop Sargent Home & School for MR
3.	Dr. Dattu Rao Memorial Charitable Trust
4.	M.S. Chellamuthu Trust & Research Foundation
5.	Madhuram Narayan Centre for Excetional Children
6.	Spastic Society of Tamilnadu
7.	Vidya Vikasini Opportunity School
8.	Vijay Human Services

1	2
Uttar Pradesh	
1.	CHETNA
2.	Handicapped Development Council
3.	Joyti School for Handicapped
4.	NIRVAN
5.	Raphael
6.	SANKALP
7.	UP Parents Assn for Welfare of Mentally Handicapped Citizens
8.	Viklang Kendra (Rotary Sponsored Crippled Youth & Welfare Society)
West Bengal	
1.	Alakendu Bodh Niketan Residential
2.	Anand Niketan Society for the Mental Health Care
3.	BIKASHAYAN
4.	Dulal Samriti Sansad
5.	Greenfields
6.	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy
7.	Jatiya Jaradhi Sansad
8.	Manovikas Kendra
9.	Mentaid
10.	North Bengal Handicapped Rehabilitation Society
11.	Prabartak Institute for Mentally Retarted
12.	Pratibandhi Kalyan Kendra
13.	SEVAC
14.	Shelter
15.	Spastic Society of Cooch Behar
16.	Srirampur Child Guidance Centre
17.	West Bengal Council for Child Welfare

Production of Foodgrains

6925. DR. GIRIJA VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rise in the prices of major agriculture inputs during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) the percentage of rise in the support price of major food grains during this period;

(c) the percentage of rise in the production of foodgrains during the aforesaid period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO):(a) A statement-I showing percentage of rise in the prices of major agricultural inputs during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is enclosed.

(b) A statement-II showing percentage rise in the support price of major foodgrains is also enclosed.

(c) The production of foodgrains which increased by 5.61 per cent during 1998-99 is likely to fall by 0.73 per cent in 1999-2000.

Statement-I

Percentage of rise in the wholesale price index of major agricultural inputs as on 25.03.2000 over the corresponding period of earlier years.

Item	Percentage Rise	
	29.03.1999 over 28.03.1998	25.03.2000 over 27.03.1999
Fodder	-20.1	31.3
H.S. Diesel Oil	-8.2	41.2
Light Diesel Oil	-7.3	58.6
Lubricant	4.8	—
Electricity for Agriculture	5.2	—
Cattle Feed	9.0	13.0
Fertilizer	3.9	8.4
Pesticides	0.2	0.2
Non-Elec. Mach. & Parts	3.9	1.0
Tractor Components	—	—

(—) Denotes steady trend.

Statement-II

Percentage of rise in the support price of major foodgrains.

Crop	Percentage Rise	
	1998-99	1999-2000
Paddy—Common	6.0	11.4
Paddy—Grade 'A'	5.6	10.6
Jowar	8.3	6.4
Bajra	8.3	6.4
Maize	8.3	6.4
Ragi	8.3	6.4
Wheat	7.8	5.5
Barley	10.0	11.7
Tur (Arhar)	6.7	15.1
Moong	6.7	15.1
Urad	6.7	15.1
Gram	9.8	13.4

Women Co-operative Societies

6926. SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has requested to sanction financial assistance to Women Co-operative Societies under the Central Sector Scheme during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the number/name of Women Co-operative Societies have been selected for the financial assistance; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Eleven Women Cooperative Societies were recommended by the State Government of Karnataka for 1999-2000 to sanction financial assistance. The names are listed in the enclosed statement.

(c) Financial assistance has been sanctioned to all the eleven cooperative societies.

Statement

List of Women Cooperative Societies in Karnataka sanctioned financial assistance.

S. No.	Name and address of societies.
1.	Sharada SC/ST Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
2.	Annapoorna SC/ST Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
3.	Roshan Minarities Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
4.	Naseeb Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
5.	Shaheen Miniarities Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
6.	Chetana Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
7.	Annapoorneshwari Mahila Multipurpose Indl. Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
8.	Yashaswini Mahila SC/ST, Welfare Multipurpose Coop. Society Ltd., Davanagere.
9.	Sri. Padmamba Mahila Multipurpose Coop. Society, Jagalur.
10.	Hombalagatta Mahila Multipurpose Indl. Coop. Society Hombalagatta, Harappandahalli Taluk.
11.	Sri. Sidanumanahalli Murigamma Mahila Multipurpose Indl. Coop. Society Halavagilu, Harappanahalli Taluk.

Residential Facilities for Handicapped

6927. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government still gives only Rs. 350/- per month as grant-in-aid to NGOs to run the residential facilities for the mentally and physically handicapped;

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

(c) the efforts being made to enhance the grant-in-aid to enable the NGOs to provide better services to the handicapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Under the Scheme to Promote Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities assistance is given to the extent of 90 percent of the project cost to non Governmental organizations for different types of projects taken up for the Welfare of the Disabled. Total amount of assistance given depends upon the project for which assistance is sought and the amount of assistance for various components within the project and the amount recommended by the inspecting authorities of the State Government, as well as the ceiling norms prescribed for the components. There is no proposal to enhance the amount of ceiling norms for various components for the present.

Production of Arecanut

6928. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of arecanut in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the country has achieved self-sufficiency in the production of arecanut; and

(c) if not, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The State wise production of Arecanut for 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 is given below:

(Production in 000 tonees)

State	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	0.1	0.5	0.5
Assam	52.4	64.0	64.0
Goa	1.7	1.8	1.8
Karnataka	114.2	121.0	128.3
Kerala	91.2	80.1	94.0
Maharashtra	3.8	4.7	7.5
Meghalaya	10.3	12.0	12.1
Mizoram	0.1	0.1	0.1
Tamil Nadu	3.3	4.0	4.3
Tripura	3.4	3.5	3.5
West Bengal	9.8	10.7	12.4
Pondicherry	0.2	0.2	0.2
Andaman	5.0	5.1	5.2
All India	295.5	307.7	333.9

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Supply of M-11 Missiles to Pak

6929. SHRI R.L. BHATIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the discussions with US President, supply of M-11 missiles to Pakistan was taken up; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The issue of missile proliferation in our neighbourhood, including co-operation between China and Pakistan, has been discussed on several occasions with the United States as part of the ongoing dialogue between India and the United States on security, non-proliferation, disarmament and related issues, as also in other appropriate forums. The issue of transfer of M-11 from China to Pakistan was not specifically discussed with President Clinton.

Prices to Farmers for Chilli Crop

6930. DR. S. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether traders of Andhra Pradesh posing as farmers sell chili in neighbouring States at high prices and evade income and commercial taxes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken against those involved in such practice; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to ensure that chilli farmers are not exploited and may get reasonable prices for their produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Ministry of Agriculture has not received any report about malpractices adopted by traders posing as farmers in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The farmers can sell their produce at any notified market centre in Andhra Pradesh where 1% advelorem market fee is leviable on purchase of chillies. The farmers, however, have to produce evidence in the form of certificate from revenue authorities for movement of their produce for sale to satisfy that the produce belongs to them.

In order to save farmers from distress sale in the event of fall in prices below economic levels, Government of India is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of horticultural items of importance. The scheme is implemented on the written request received from the concerned State Government alongwith their willingness to share 50% of the total losses incurred, if any, in undertaking market operations at mutually agreed prices under the scheme.

Permission to Indian Fishermen

6931. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have considered the proposal of Indian fishermen going for fishing south of the Delft Island;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been taken up with the Government of Sri Lanka;

(c) whether such kind of fishing was allowed to Sri Lankan fishermen in Indian water under an agreement in 1976;

(d) if so, whether his Ministry has made any such demand to the Government of Sri Lanka to allow fishing in the similar way to Indian fishermen across the International Boundary Line (IBL); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (e) The Government of India have on many occasions proposed licensed fishing by Indian boats in Sri Lankan waters. The Government of Sri Lanka has, however, not agreed to the proposal.

Disinvestment

6932. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Tripartite Committee for prior consultation on all decisions relating to disinvestments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to look into the matters relating to labour at the time of disinvestments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per the declared disinvestments policy, Government of India is committed to protect the interest of the workers of Public Sector Undertakings to be disinvested. Adequate safeguards in this regard are made in the shareholders agreements of the companies disinvested in, as per the requirements on a case to case basis.

Representation from Forum of SC/ST MPs

6933. SHRI A.K.S. VIJAYAN:
SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Forum of SC/ST MPs in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on December 17, 1996, September 1, 1997 and July 23, 1998 have demanded costing of adequate number of SC/ST officers in the higher echelons of administration and quasi-judicial/judicial administration;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the total number of above referred posts in the Central Administrative Tribunals and number of SC/ST persons posted to such posts as on January 1996 and their percentage as compared to such posts;

(d) the total number of persons appointed to the said posts during 1996-1999 and the number of persons belonging to the SC/ST among them; and

(e) the nature and composition of the Committee/ Boards which finalise names for such posts and provisions made for associating persons belonging to the SCs/STs on such Committees/Boards?

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

(b) to (d) The posting/appointments in higher echelons of administration and quasi-judicial/judicial administration are not done on the basis of caste considerations. The total number of posts of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members in the Central Administrative Tribunal as on 1.1.996 was 66 and total number of appointments made on these posts during 1996-1999 is 61.

(e) The Chairman of the Central Administrative Tribunal is appointed on the recommendations of the Chief Justice of India. However, for recommending names for appointment as Vice-Chairman and Members in the Central Administrative Tribunal, a non-statutory Committee under the Chairmanship of a sitting Judge of Supreme Court who is nominated by the Chief Justice of India, has been constituted. Other ex-officio Members of the Committee are Chairman, Central Administrative Tribunal, Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs and Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training.

Radiation Leakage

6934. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL:
SHRI BRAHMA NAND MANDAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the radiation emitted from the Atomic Reactors is adversely affecting the health of the employees working in various atomic units;

(b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check the same;

(c) whether the Department of Atomic Energy is complying with the norms fixed by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Commission on Radiological Protection;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The radiation emitted from atomic reactors is not adversely affecting the health of the employees working in various units of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), a Central public sector undertaking of the DAE operating all the nuclear power reactors/plants in the country, has appointed the Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH), Mumbai to carry out epidemiological studies of the employees working in the nuclear power stations as well as their families. Studies of several thousand radiation workers in the nuclear power stations at Tarapur (Maharashtra), Rawat Bhata (Rajasthan) and Kakrapar (Gujarat) have been completed. These studies did not reveal any increase in the prevalence of radiation-related health effects among the radiation workers as compared to non-radiation workers nor was there any difference in the prevalence of radiation-related health effects among the spouses and offsprings of the employees as compared to the relevant control group of population.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The radiation does to workers at the nuclear installations of the DAE are measured on a continuous basis. These doses are within the limits prescribed by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB). The AERB stipulates these limits on the basis of the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

(e) Does not arise.

National Agricultural Insurance Scheme

6935. SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR:
SHRI MANSINH PATEL:
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and marginal farmers covered under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme in each State;

(b) whether a huge amount of insurance claim is still outstanding which are to be settled;

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

(d) the time by which outstanding claims are likely to be settled more particularly in case of Maharashtra and Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) State-wise coverage of small and marginal farmers under the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) during Rabi 1999-2000 is as under:-

State	No. of Small & Marginal Farmers covered
Assam	1053
Goa	51
Gujarat	4265
Himachal Pradesh	22
Kerala	18665
Madhay Pradesh	77107
Maharashtra	19169
Orissa	215933
Pondicherry	17

(b) to (d) All the admissible claims under the erstwhile Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) and Experimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) have already been approved by the Government of India. According to the Implementing Agency (IA) of the scheme, there are certain claims (including Maharashtra's Kharif 1999 claims) which have not been settled mainly on account of non-receipt of requisite one-third share from the respective State Governments. State-wise details of such outstanding claims are enclosed statement. Claims for Kharif 1998 and 1999 seasons in respect of Gujarat and Kharif 1999 season for Andhra Pradesh have not been settled on account of discrepancies noticed by the Implementing Agency. The outstanding claims would be settled on receipt of required contribution from the State Governments and after completion of examination.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	Season	Amount
Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS)			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Kharif 1997	61.46
2.	Orissa	Rabi 1998-99	282.52
		Kharif 1999	6654.24
3.	West Bengal	Rabi 1998-99	89.41
		Kharif 1999	249.22
4.	Bihar	Kharif 1999	82.21
5.	Kerala	Kharif 1999	37.44
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Kharif 1999	426.25
7.	Maharashtra	Kharif 1999	587.35
Experimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) (Implemented during Rabi 1997-98)			
1.	Assam		43.03
2.	Karnataka		799.82

[Translation]

Medical facility of Employees

6936. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether medical authorities of Bokaro Steel Plant are providing medical facilities to the employees and non-employees in the city;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the medical charges have been increased recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there are request to roll back the increase in medical charges both to the employees and non-employees; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) is providing medical facilities to its

employees and their entitled dependents free of cost. For others, medical facilities are provided on chargeable basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

English]

Indo-German Co-operation

6937. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister f EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Germany have agreed to start a dialogue relating to high-tech specialists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether German information technology specialists have agreed to assist India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Germany has agreed to provide assistance in Information Technology joint ventures; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) India and Germany have, since 1974, an ongoing dialogue and programme of co-operation in the field of Science and Technology. This programme provides for the exchange of scientists and researchers in various fields of Science and Technology, including high technology areas like Advanced Material, Electronics, Space Science, etc.

(c) to (f) The possibilities of bilateral co-operation in the field of information technology have been discussed by the two Governments in the meeting of the Indo-German Joint Commission held in Berlin on April 10-11, 2000. The establishment of an Indo-German Joint Working Group on knowledge-based industry is under consideration by the two Governments. This Working Group would, inter alia, work to promote further co-operation in the IT sector through exchange of technology, expertise and the establishment of joint ventures between the two countries.

Ground Water Level

6938. SHRI RAMSAGAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated by the Union Government to each of the North-Eastern State for the augmentation Ground Water level during each of the three years; and

(b) the achievement made by each State Government during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No project has been funded by the Central Ground Water Board on augmentation of ground water level in the North-Eastern States during the last three years?

(b) Does not arise.

Tripartite Committee

6939. SHRI SATYAVARAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI SUNDER LAL TIWARI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Tripartite Committee related to his ministry are not functioning regularly as expected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the by-laws framed for each Tripartite Committee with their responsibilities;

(d) the meeting held by each Committee during each of the last three years, alongwith the issues discussed at the meetings; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to streamline the functioning of these committees so that they could try to hold discussion regularly?

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

Assistance Provided by KVIC to Orissa

6940. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the assistance provided by Khadi & Village Industries Commission to Orissa; and

(b) the number of persons to whom loans were provided during 1998-99 and 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) have disbursed the following amounts during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 to the State of Orissa:-

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Amount disbursed by the KVIC (Budgetary Sources)			Consortium Bank Credit
	Grant	Loan	Total	
1998-99	259.55	14.44	273.99	199.48
1999-2000	275.83	36.68	312.51	362.12

(b) 61 registered institutions, 3 Cooperative societies and 418 individuals were provided loans during 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

Fish Projects

6941. SHRI A. NARENDRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fish projects in the country which are receiving financial assistance from other countries;

(b) whether any new projects are in the pipe-line for obtaining external aid in near future;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is shortage of prawn feed in the country;

(e) whether any foreign organisation has agreed to setup a prawn feed manufacturing plant in India; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Four fishery projects are under implementation in the country which are receiving financial assistance from other countries.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. As per the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) approvals granted during the period August 1991 to February 2000, three foreign collaborators had agreed to set up prawn/shrimp feed manufacturing plants in India. They are:

(i) Grobest International Development, Hongkong.

(ii) Grobest Corporation Ltd, Thailand.

(iii) M/s C.P. Aquaculture Business Group, Bangkok.

Child Labour in Aligarh

6942. SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI:
SHRI C.N. SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether several children are working in Lock Industry in Aligarh even after the ruling of Supreme Court to this effect;

(b) if so, the number of them working at present in Lock Industry and also hazardous industries in other State particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(c) the action taken against the employers engaging children;

(d) whether the Government propose to take immediate steps to stop engaging the children in Lock

industry and also to undertake welfare project for these children; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (e) As per the information received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, in accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition 465/1996 M.C. Mehta Vs State Govt. of Tamil Nadu, three surveys have been conducted to identify child labour in 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000. Thereafter migration of children has taken place from organised to home based industry. As per the surveys a total of 1511 child labourers have been identified out of which 623 are engaged in hazardous occupations. Prosecutions have been launched against 260 employers and orders for recovery of Rs. 20,000/- per child have been issued. District Child Labour Abolition Committees have been constituted under the chairmanship of the District Magistrates. Awareness generation activities have been taken up. Under the Scheme of National Child Labour Projects 30 specials school/rehabilitation centres are under implementation in Aligarh for coverage of 2500 children withdrawn from work. A total of 2212 children have been mainstreamed to formal schools. Besides the above, priority has been given to the families of child labourers in the welfare schemes being implemented at the district level.

As per the information received from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, according to a survey conducted in April, 1997 and supplemental survey 10,110 child labourers were identified in hazardous industries. 8799 cases were filed against the employers found employing child labourers during the survey.

Soil and Water Conservation Project

6943. SHRI A.P. ABDULLAKUTTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kabani Riverbed Soil and Water conservation project sanctioned in 1998 is assisted by the Union Government and is spread in Karnataka and Wayanad in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total cost and main purpose of this project;

(d) the time by which it is expected to be completed; and

(e) the amount sanctioned and released for this project from the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Kabani catchment has been included under ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the catchments of River Valley Projects during 1998-99. The catchment area of 1.64 lakh hectare of Kabani falls in Kerala and 0.49 lakh hectare in Karnataka. The main purpose of the scheme is to reduce silt flow into the reservoir and improving the productivity of degraded areas. Survey work to determine treatable area have been completed in Kerala whereas it is in progress in Karnataka. The time for completion could be decided only after completion of surveys and availability of funds under the scheme. The work has already started in surveyed portion of Kerala.

(e) Government has released an amount of Rs. 108.88 lakh out of sanctioned amount of Rs. 163.00 lakh during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 considering balance amount available with State.

[Translation]

Bokaro Steel Plant

6944. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three chemicals trisodium phosphate liquid ammonia and hydrogen were used alongwith feed water in the boiler of Bokaro Steel Plant prior to the year 1991;

(b) if so, whether a new chemical Aloged-86 was used in this plant after the year 1991 year discontinuing the use of the above said chemicals;

(c) if so, whether the use of Aloged-86 chemicals was again discontinued in the year 1996 and a contract was awarded to some other company named Chemical Maxtreet-3330 for supplying the chemicals to the said plant;

(d) whether the Bokaro Steel Plant earned a profit of Rs. 4.66 crore as a result of Aloged-86 chemical because of its better quality;

(e) if so, the reasons for discontinuing the use of Aloged-86 chemical and awarded the contract to the new company-Maxtreet-3330;

(f) whether the use of the chemicals-trisodium phosphate, liquid ammonia and hydrogen which was discontinued in the year 1991 has been re-started in the plant; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) After 1991, Eloguard-86 was used after discontinuing the use of trisodium phosphate, liquid ammonia and hydrazine hydrate.

(c) The use of Eloguard-86 was discontinued in 1996. However, no contract was awarded to any company named Chemical Maxtreet-3330.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Even dozing of chemicals Eloguard-86/Maxtreat had not prevented the incidences of tube failure. When the reasons of failure were analysed by Research & Control Laboratory, Bokaro Steel Plant, Research & Development Centre for iron and Steel, Ranchi and M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) the following emerged:

(i) The film protection as claimed by the supplier of the chemical had not yielded the desired results.

(ii) Presence of copper and iron in the tube deposit confirmed pre-boiler corrosion.

(iii) The chemicals were corrosive in nature.

Due to these reasons, the use of chemicals Eloguard-86 and Maxtreat were discontinued.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The use of Eloguard-86 and Maxtreat-3330 was not found suitable.

[English]

Debate on Cow Milk

6945. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board has taken any notice of the ongoing nation debate on Cow-Milk health hazard; and

(b) if so, the opinion of the National Dairy Development Board thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) National Diary Development Board has noticed the article published on Cow Milk.

(b) In the opinion of NDDB milk is an important part of human diet. Absence of milk in diet is likely to result in poor growth and susceptibility to various diseases. In a country like India where by and large population is vegetarian, consumption of milk is essential for meeting the nutritional requirement. The three major nutrients of human beings are carbohydrates, fats and proteins. In addition to these humans need various vitamins and minerals which are vital to their health. Bovine milk contains all the major nutrients and most of the micro-nutrients required by human beings of all ages. There are more than 20 immunogenic proteins in cow's milk, which help in the development of antibodies against various infections.

Diseases of Mango Trees

6946. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of diseases affecting mango trees in mango growing area;

(b) whether any remedy has been found so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government are aware that some worms have attacked the mango trees in Konkan region in Maharashtra;

(e) whether Government have sent any team of experts to study these diseases and to suggest measures; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The important diseases affecting mango trees are Powdery mildew, Anthracnose, Phoma blight, Die back, Red rust, Sooty mould etc.

(b) and (c) Details of remedial measures recommended by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for the control of these diseases are attached as statement.

(d) No serious attack of any worms attacking mango trees in the Konkan region of Maharashtra has been noticed as per Commissionerate of Agriculture, Maharashtra.

(e) and (f) In view of the facts as per reply to part (d) above, the question of sending any team of experts to study the diseases of mango trees does not arise.

Statement

Diseases of mango and their control measures

Disease	Control measures
Powdery mildew	1. Spraying of wettable sulphur 0.2 per cent (2g/1 water) after emergence of panicles. 2. Spraying of Tridemorph 0.1 per cent (1ml/1 water) after 10-15 days of first spray 3. Spraying of Dinocap 0.1 per cent (1ml/1 water) after 10-15 days of second spray.
Anthracnose	Two sprays of Carbendazim 0.1 per cent (1g/1 water) at 15 days interval during flowering to control blossom infection. Foliar infection can be controlled by spraying copper oxychloride 0.3 per cent (3g/1 water) during monsoon.
Phoma blight	Two sprays of copper oxychloride 0.3 per cent (3g/1 water) at 15 days interval on the appearance of the disease during October.
Die back	1. Remove affected branches from 7.5 cm below the infection site in October. 2. Apply copper oxychloride paste at the cut ends. 3. Two sprays of Copper oxychloride 0.3 per cent (3g/1 water) at 15 days intervals during October-November.
Red rust	Tow or three sprays of copper oxychloride 0.3 per cent (3g/1 water) at 15 days intervals in the beginning of monsoon.
Sooty mould	Three sprays of Wettable sulphur+Methyl Parathion+ Gum Acacea (0.2+0.1+0.3%) at 10-15 days intervals on the appearance of the disease.

Fruit Processing Industry

6947. SHRI P. KUMARASAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to prepare a feasibility report to set up a fruit processing industry in a large scale at Oddanchatram in Tamil Nadu, taking into consideration vegetables and Fruits are available in plenty in and around here and it is one of the biggest business centres of India; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) and (b) This Department has no such proposal under consideration.

However, the Department has a plan scheme for "Promotion of Food Processing Industries" under which proposals for studies/feasibility reports/surveyes etc., for assessment of potential for food processing industries on sectoral and regional basis can be considered. Financial assistance up to Rs. 3 lakhs is provided for this purpose. These studies can be conducted by State Government Organisations, Consultancy Organisations or State Nodal Agencies.

In case any such proposal is received from any of the above organizations for preparation of study/feasibility report/survey, the same will be considered by this Department as per its policy guidelines.

MPLADS

6948. SHRI ASHOK N. MOHOL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Members of Parliament and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs have urged the Government to raise the amount of Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore under MPLADS Scheme;

(b) if so, whether the Department of Programme Implementation has critised the move and denied to raise the amount;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total amount so far released by the Government under the scheme since its inception;

(e) the amount out of it lying unutilised;

(f) the reasons for non-utilisation of said fund;

(g) whether the new Members of Parliament have been authorised to spent the remaining amount of their procedures; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE DEPARTMENT IN ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) Some MPs have recommended that the allocation of MPLADS funds be increased from Rs. 2 crores to Rs. 4 crores or more. The Ministry has expressed its inability to increase the allocation. MPLADS allocation per MP was doubled in December 1998. The unutilised balance available in various States is Rs. 1795.59 crores as on 31.3.2000.

(d) to (f) A sum of Rs. 5016 crores has been released by the Government under the MPLADS Scheme since its inception. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 1795.59 crores is lying unutilised. The reasons for non-utilisation include frequent Elections, late recommendation of works by MPs, problems in transfer of land for the worksite, delay in execution of works.

(g) and (h) The new Members of Parliament are entitled to spend the unspent balance of funds of their predecessors as per para 3.9 of the Guidelines.

Energy Conservation in Rerolling Mills

6949. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology is organising workshop on energy conservation in rerolling mills in association with the small industries;

(b) if so, whether the workshop was organised by a proper time as continuous hike in fuel and electricity prices which constitute a major portion of the cost of conversion in rerolling mills;

(c) if so, the main points suggested in the workshop;

(d) whether Government has considered these suggestions; and

(e) the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Institute of Secondary Steel Technology (NISST) had organised a workshop jointly by the Institute's Nagpur Centre and local Small Industries Service Institute on 15.3.2000 at Nagpur. Energy conservation in fuel and electricity will result in cost reduction in re-rolling mills.

(c) The main suggestions made in the workshop were:-

(i) Better design of re-heating furnace, match the capacity of furnace with re-rolling mill capacity.

(ii) Optimise the coal/oil consumption by improving operating practices.

(iii) Reduce burning losses by controlling excess air.

(iv) Selection of proper refractories & insulating material to reduce the losses.

(v) Use of better roll-pass design to reduce power consumption.

(vi) Reduce energy losses in transmision system.

(d) The suggestions made by NISST are for the industry to implement at their own cost and at their own initiative.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

[Translation]

Poverty Reduction Strategy

6950. DR. SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA:
SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission member has called for designing a vigorous poverty alleviation strategy as a supplement to the growth strategy;

(b) if so, whether the current schemes were not capable of reducing poverty unless the growth rate was doubled, with less than 2% rise in per capita income;

(c) if so, whether the country is witnessing a very slow rate of decline in poverty;

(d) if so, whether it has been suggested that a strategy to remove poverty could be worked out by identifying specific factors responsible for poor economic condition;

(e) if so, whether the percentage of poor in the population which had declined from 44.4 in 1983 to 38.8 in 1987-88 and 35.9 in 1993-94;

(f) whether any strategy to be adopted for poverty reduction in future has been framed; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission, in a paper titled "Trickle down theory revisited" has questioned the claim of an exclusive policy of GDP growth in resolving poverty and unemployment and has called for a special emphasis on employment generation policy as one of the major tool for ameliorating poverty.

(b) to (e) According to estimates of the incidence of poverty, the percentage of people living below the poverty line declined from 54.88 per cent in 1973-74 to 44.48 per cent in 1983 and further to 35.97 per cent in 1993-94, the latest year for which the estimates on poverty are available. The annual rate of decline in the percentage of people below the poverty line has been 2.1 per cent during the period 1973-74 to 1993-94.

The paper while noting that no macro policy based only on market-led growth will be successful in dealing with either poverty or employment in India, suggests that there is a need for positive employment generation policy, among the rural poor by different direct poverty alleviation programmes, especially in the short term. There is a need for policy packages for improving education, training and for creating opportunities for the rural poor spread over the medium and longer periods so that they too could enter in the higher productivity areas including non-agricultural activities or post-harvest activities in the rural sector. This warrants enhancing the betterment of productivity of those crops which can be cultivated on marginal lands and improving the productivity of industries and services specially in informal sectors that provide subsidiary occupation in rural areas covering small and tiny industries.

(f) to (g) The Government has adopted a three pronged strategy for reducing poverty. It comprises of (i) accelerated economic growth with a focus on sectors which are employment intensive; (ii) human and social development through basic minimum services in order to improve the capabilities of the poor; and (iii) targeted anti-poverty programmes via schemes for income generation through self-employment and supplementary wage employment.

Further, poverty can be effectively eradicated only when the poor start contributing to growth by their active involvement in the growth process. Implementation of the programmes should be increasingly based on approaches and methods which involve the poor in the process of poverty eradication and economic growth. This is possible through a process of social mobilisation, encouraging participatory approaches and institutions and empowerment of the poor through involvement of the Panchayati Raj Institutions, the voluntary organisations and community based Self-Help Groups.

. Nuclear Power Project in Rajasthan

6951. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to newsitem captioned "Rajasthan key atami bijlighar Apshist plutonium reichene key sankat ka shikar" apperaing in the 'Janasatta', New Delhi, dated 20th December, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken corrective measures after conducting inquiry in this matter;

(c) whether the Government have any such information in regard to atomic power plants situated in other States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, Statewise?

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

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

(b) Appropriate measures exist for the storage of spent fuel at the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station, Rawatbhata.

(c) There is no problem of storage of spent fuel bundles at any of the Nuclear Power Plants in the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion of Small Scale Industries

6952. DR. M.P. JAISWAL:
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI:

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

(a) the details of the on going programmes for promoting Small Scale Industries and Agro Industries in rural and backward areas in the country to check migration of unemployed rural people, State-wise especially Gujarat; and

(b) the details of financial allocation made for the purpose during the last three years, State-wise along with the extent to which the allocation has been utilised during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) For the promotion of Small Scale Industries & Agro Industries in rural and backward areas throughout the country including Gujarat, interalia, to check migration of unemployed rural people, Government is implementing various Schemes/programmes viz. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for setting up micro enterprises, Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme, Entrepreneurial & Managerial Training Programmes and Technical Skill Development through Small Industries Service Institutes (SISIs) and Tool Rooms etc. National Programme for Rural Industrialisation (NPRI) has been launched to promote clusters of small scale units in rural areas. The National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) helps in supplying indigenous and imported machines on easy hire purchase terms, assists in marketing and export, develops prototype of machines and imparts training. Similarly, Khadi and Village Industries Corporation (KVIC) plans, promotes, organises and assists in implementation of various programmes for the development of Khadi and Village Industries, viz. Rural Employment Generation Programme, Margin Money Scheme, etc.

(b) During the years 1997-98 and 1998-99, the Ministry of SSI & ARI incurred expenditure of Rs. 735.10 crore and Rs. 708.30 crore respectively for the development and promotion of Small and Cottage Industries of the entire country. The estimated expenditure for the year 1999-2000 is Rs. 640.00 crore. Funds for promotion of Small Scale Industries are released scheme-wise and are not allotted State-wise.

[English]

Extension of Deputation Period

6953. SHRI RAMJEE MANJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that deputation period is being extended year after year and deputationists are being promoted in the Departments where they are on deputation;

(b) if so, the guidelines in regard to extending the deputation and giving promotion to deputationists;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check the arbitrariness, favouritism and undersirable acts of officials in extension of deputation period particularly in Kendriya Bhandar; and

(d) whether any accountability has been fixed and the number of authorities punished for the said act of extension during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Normally, officials in the feeder grade in a cadre who meet the eligibility conditions prescribed in the relevant Recruitment Rules are considered for promotion. An officer on deputation against an ex-cadre post is not considered for promotion in the office where he is on deputation as

he does not meet the said condition. Department of Personnel & Training has issued a detailed office Memorandum No. 2/29/91-Estt. (Pay.II) dated 5.1.94 regulating various matters relating to transfer on deputation/foreign service of Central Govt. employees etc. who are regularly appointed on deputation/foreign service in accordance with the Recruitment Rules of the ex-cadre post under the same or some other Departments of Central Govt. or under the State Governments/Union Territories Administration/Local Bodies etc. and vice versa. Any Government official/employee can go on deputation/ foreign service from parent department to borrowing department for a maxium of 3 years in all cases except for those posts where a longer period of tenure is prescribed in Recruitment Rules. The extension of deputation/foreign service beyond 3 years and upto one year or for the first year in excess of the normal tenure is allowed by the borrowing Ministry/borrowing organisations after obtaining orders of their Secretary (in the Central Government) and Chief Secretary in the State Government and equivalent level officer in other cases where such extension is considered necessary in public interest. The borrowing Ministries/Departments/organisation are competent to extend the period of deputation for the fifth year or for the second year in excess of the period prescribed in the Recruitment Rules where absolutely necessary in rare and exceptional circumstances and in public interest and with the specific prior approval of the concerned Minister of the borrowing organisations Ministry/ Department and in respect of other organisation with the approval of the Minister of Ministry/Department with which they are administratively attached. This is with the prior approval of the lending organisation, and the UPSC/State Public Service Commission and Appointment of the Cabinet (ACC) wherever necessary. In cases where extension is beyond the fifth year or second year in excess of the period prescribed in the Recruitment rules, the same would be allowed only after obtaining the prior approval of the Department of Personnel and Training.

(c) and (d) The Government does not interfere with the day to day functioning of and policy decisions taken by Kendriya Bhandar which is a registered Consumer Co-operative Society under the Co-operative Society's Act, Delhi. The Society is governed by the bye-laws as approved by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Delhi. Under the bye-laws, the Board of Kendriya Bhandar is fully competent to grant extensions to officers who are on deputation to Kendriya Bhandar. While taking any decision for extension of deputation the Board, which includes nine Government nominated Directors, keeps the interest of Kendriya Bhandar utmost in mind. Therefore, the question of punishment to any official of the Kendriya Bhandar does not arise.

Bio-control Laboratories

6954. SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Bio-Control Laboratories have been set up by the Union Government in each State and Union Territory alongwith the funds involve in each laboratory;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up some more laboratories in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The Union Government has extended grants-in-aid to the States and Union Territories to set-up 30 Bio-Control Laboratories as per details the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

Statement

Grants-in-aid extended to the States for setting up of State Biocontrol Laboratories.

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of labs. Allocated	Funds allocated (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds released so far (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	50	47.50
2.	Assam	1	50	50.00
3.	Bihar	1	50	50.00

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Gujarat	1	50	30.00
5.	Haryana	1	50	47.50
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1	50	50.00
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	50	25.00
8.	Karnataka	1	50	50.00
9.	Kerala	1	50	50.00
10.	Maharashtra	1	50	47.50
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1	50	47.50
12.	Manipur	1	50	50.00
13.	Orissa	1	50	50.00
14.	Punjab	1	50	50.00
15.	Rajasthan	1	50	50.00
16.	Tamil Nadu	1	50	30.00
17.	Uttar Pradesh	2	100	60.00
18.	West Bengal	1	50	30.00
19.	Nagaland	1	50	50.00
20.	Tripura	1	50	50.00
21.	Meghalaya	1	50	50.00
22.	Mizoram	1	50	50.00
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	50	50.00
24.	Sikkim	1	50	50.00
25.	Goa	1	50	25.00
26.	Pondicherry	1	50	50.00
27.	Delhi	1	50	—
28.	A & N Islands	1	50	50.00
29.	Lakshadweep	1	50	50.00
	Total	30	1500	1290.00

Employment

6955. PROF. DUKHA BHAGAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes undertaken/launched by the Union Government to remove unemployment among the educated unemployed persons particularly Graduates and Post-Graduates;

(b) the total amount spent on these schemes during the above period State-wise; and

(c) the unemployed persons given employment during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) For removal of unemployment among the educated including Graduate and Post-Graduate unemployed persons both in urban and rural areas, special employment programmes for setting up of self-employment ventures under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) are being implemented.

(b) Statement-I is attached.

(c) Statement-II is attached.

Statement I

Sl. No.	State/Union Territories	Central Share Released under PMRY* (Rs. in thousand) 1997 to 2000	Central Grant Released under SJSRY** (Rs. in lakhs) 1997 to 2000
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49595.95	3602.02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	24976.87	204.65
3.	Assam	1124.50	1554.53
4.	Bihar	6495.25	1693.94
5.	Delhi	126.00	235.31
6.	Goa	555.32	84.06
7.	Gujarat	10142.75	1650.76
8.	Haryana	7263.30	403.89
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2167.30	196.39
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	1021.70	233.61
11.	Karnataka	36085.12	3190.65
12.	Kerala	24432.20	1028.40
13.	Madhya Pradesh	44688.42	4275.16
14.	Maharashtra	46309.20	4160.89
15.	Manipur	1237.20	358.31
16.	Meghalaya	1202.37	218.99
17.	Mizoram	828.22	341.57
18.	Nagaland	835.95	219.83
19.	Orissa	19833.80	1044.38
20.	Punjab	20720.10	364.54
21.	Rajasthan	27254.80	1280.68
22.	Sikkim	270.20	81.51
23.	Tamil Nadu	27833.15	2913.27
24.	Tripura	1469.80	334.24

1	2	3	4
25.	Uttar Pradesh	106724.46	5513.47
26.	West Bengal	9259.25	1626.16
27.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	423.45	261.06
28.	Chandigarh	353.90	129.40
29.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	242.75	104.23
30.	Daman & Diu	108.85	161.63
31.	Lakshadweep	85.50	—
32.	Pondicherry	825.32	119.65
	Total	474492.75	37587.16

Note: * Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana
** Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana

Statement II

Unemployed Persons assisted/provided employment under various Employment Generation Programmes

S. No.	Name of the Programme	Year 1997-98	Year 1998-99	Year 1999-2000 (Provisional)
1.	Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)			
	1. Urban Self-Employment Programme (USEP)	10382 (Persons assisted)	42643 (Persons assisted)	127849 (Persons assisted)
	2. Urban Wage Employment Programme (UWEP)	5.11 (lakhs Mandays)	66.02 (lakhs Mandays)	89.42 (lakhs Mandays)
2.	Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY)	263361 (Cases sanctioned)	262125 (Cases sanctioned)	114587 (Cases sanctioned)

Workers role in Management

6956. SHRI G.J. JAVIYA:
SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE:
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI:
SHRI SHIVAJI MANE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Public Sector Undertakings have desired to make workers participation in management voluntary instead of mandatory;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken to make the participation voluntary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) There are divergent opinions on the need for introducing a legislation on Workers' Participation in Management vis-a-vis retaining the voluntary character of the scheme on Employees' Participation in Management, 1983. The views of the Employers' and Workers' Organisations have been referred to the competent authority.

Industrial Districts

6957. SHRI PRABHAT SAMANTRAY:
SHRI P.D. ELANGOVAN:

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

(a) the steps taken by the Government to provide more financial assistance for the promotion of micro and small enterprises in the country;

(b) whether the Government have received any requests from the States particularly Tamil Nadu to develop more industrial districts and to create better infrastructural facilities to the Small Scale Industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Government of India has taken various steps to enhance the flow of credit to the small scale sector including the tiny sector, which inter alia, includes earmarking 60% of SSI credit under priority sector lending for the tiny sector, dispensing with collaterals for loans upto Rs. 5 lakhs, formulation of Credit Guarantee Scheme, enhancement of Composite Loan limit to Rs. 10 lakhs, enhancement of limit of project cost upto Rs. 25 lakhs under the National Equity Fund Scheme, opening up of specialised SSI bank branches and simplified procedure for sanction of working capital loan upto Rs. 5 crores based on normative requirement of 20% of the annual projected turnover of the units.

(b) and (c) Since the launching of the Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme in March, 1994 on the basis of the proposals received from various States/Union Territories (duly appraised by Small Industries Development Bank of India) 53 IID Centres have been sanctioned so far; these include four Centres in Tamil Nadu at Uranganpatty (District: Madurai), Thirumudivakkam (District: Kancheepuram), Kittampalayam (District: Coimbatore) and Kattur Avadi (District: Chengai MGR). At present, there is no proposal pending with the Government for more IID Centres from Tamil Nadu.

Transfer Policy for the EPF Employees

6958. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated a transfer policy in regard to employees of Provident Fund Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government are aware of irregularities being committed by Provident Fund Commissioners; and

(e) if so, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The Central Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund have formulated a transfer policy for the employees of the EPF Organisation. The transfer policy provides inter-alia, timing for transfer, tenure of an officer at one station, retention of officers in their home region/zone, relaxation for officers nearing superannuation etc.

(d) and (e) There have been sporadic complaints against some P.F. Commissioners. Necessary departmental action is taken by the EPF Organisation on such complaints as and when received.

Educated Unemployed Persons

6959. SHRI RAMANAND SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated unemployed persons to whom loan was provided under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana in Madhya Pradesh during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) the target set for this financial year and the reasons for not achieving the target; and

(c) the number of educated unemployed persons to whom loan would be provided under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana during 2000-2001?

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

GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):(a) In Madhya Pradesh, 33,426 educated unemployed youth were sanctioned loans for 1998-99 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, out of which loans were disbursed to 22,811 persons. As reported by the State Government, for the year 1999-2000, 33,118 educated unemployed youth have been sanctioned loans. Till now, loans have been disbursed to 9,273 persons.

(b) The target set for the financial year 1999-2000 was 31,600. The target in terms of sanction of loans to the educated unemployed has already been reached. Already 9,273 persons have been disbursed loans. Further, disbursement is continuing.

(c) A provisional target of 16,200 has been communicated to the Madhya Pradesh Government for the year 2000-2001 under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana.

12.01 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): Sir, on behalf of Shri George Fernandes, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India—Union Government (Commercial) (No. 5 of 2000) for the year ended the March, 1999 — Public Sector Undertakings — Bharat Earth Movers Limited, under article 151 (1) of the Constitution.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1883/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Thirty-Fifth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities in India for the period from July, 1994 to June, 1995.

(2) A copy of the Explanatory Note (Hindi and English versions) to the report mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1884/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99 alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for the year 1998-99.

(2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1885/2000]

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding modification of the Award given by the Board of Arbitration (BOA) under the Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration for the Central Government Employees alongwith Annexure-I and II under Clause 21 of the Scheme for Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1886/2000]

(4) A copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951:—

(i) G.S.R. 140 published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 2000 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 754 (E) dated the 4th November, 1999.

(ii) G.S.R. 141 published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd April, 2000 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. G.S.R. 375 dated the 13th November, 1999.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1887/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1888/2000]

(2) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the MSTC Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1889/2000]

(3) A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (Hindi and English versions) between the Steel Authority of India Limited and the Ministry of Steel for the year 2000-2001.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1890/2000]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Sir on behalf of Shri S.B.P.B.K. Rao, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619 A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bangalore for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1891/2000]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Maharashtra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Maharasthra Agro-Industries Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1892/2000]

(c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, Gandhinagar, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited, Gandhinagar, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1893/2000]

(d) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1894/2000]

(e) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1895/2000]

(f) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Shimla, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh Agro Industries Corporation Limited Shimla, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1896/2000]

(g) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1995-96.

(ii) Annual Report of the Assam Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 1995-96, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1897/2000]

(h) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1998-99.

(ii) Annual Report of the Haryana Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1998-99, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Eight Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1898/2000]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1996-97, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1899/2000]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Karnataka Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98.

(ii) Annual Report of the Karnataka Dairy Development Corporation Limited, Bangalore, for the year 1997-98, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) Two Statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, *See* No. LT-1900/2000]

12.02 hrs.

[English]

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following meassages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

(1) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2000 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 2nd May, 2000 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(2) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Finance Bill, 2000 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th May, 2000 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.02½ hrs.

[English]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Statements on Action Taken

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Communications:

(1) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 12th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 5th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on AIR, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Annual Report (1992-93).

(2) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 18th

Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 6th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1994-95), Ministry of Communications including (i) Postal Services (ii) Tele-communications Services.

(3) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 19th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 7th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1994-95), Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(4) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 20th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Films Division, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(5) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 21st Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 10th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on National Centre of Films for Children and Young People, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(6) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 23rd Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 4th Report (10th Lok Sabha) of Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, Annual Report-1992-93.

(7) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 24th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 11th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on National Film Archive of India, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(8) Statement on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 25th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 17th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1995-96)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications).

(9) Statement on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 26th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 15th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1995-96)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts).

(10) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 27th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 16th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1995-96)—Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(11) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 28th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 8th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Central Board of Film Cetification—Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(12) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 29th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 14th Report (10th Lok Sabha) on National Film Development Corporation—Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(13) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 6th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 1st Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts).

(14) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 7th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 2nd Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications).

(15) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 8th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 3rd Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1996-97)—Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(16) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 13th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 5th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Privatisation of Basic Telephone Services—Department of Telecommunications.

(17) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 15th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 11th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications).

(18) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 4th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 10th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts).

(19) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 5th Repot (12th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 12th Report (11th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1997-98)—Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.

(20) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 1st Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1998-99)—Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications).

(21) Statement on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 10th Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 2nd Report (12th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1998-99)— Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts).

12.04 hrs.

[Translation]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

Fourth Report

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): M Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hin and English versions) of the Standing Committee c Defence on the Army and Air Force (Disposal of Priva Property) Amendment Bill, 1999.

12.04½ hrs.

[Translation]

STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE

Statements

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the statements (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Seventh Report of the Committee (Twelfth Lok Sabha) relating to the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Defence for 1998-1999.

12.05 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(I) Need to look into the problems of the farmers whose land is located near barbed wire fencing on Indo-Pak border at Sriganganagar, Rajasthan

[Translation]

SHRI NIHAL CHAND CHOUHAN (Sriganganagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon'ble Defence Minister and Union Government that quite a large area of land belonging to the farmers of my Lok Sabha Constituency Sriganganagar (Rajasthan) has come under barbed wire fencing on Indo-Pak border. B.S.F. personnel are creating hurdels in the farming activities of the farmers. The farmers are unable to sow their crops in time. They are unable to irrigate their field, timely and they cannot harvest their crops in time. As a result, they are very perturbed.

Through you, I would request the Government to pay compensation to the farmers after asessing the cost of land falling under barbed wire fencing or they should be provided with alternative lands so that the farmers can earn their livelihood without any trouble.

[English]

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I will call you later and not now.

Shri A.C. JOS (Trichur): When will you take up the 'Zero Hour'?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: After the Minister's reply on the Constitution (Amendment) Bill, we will take up the 'Zero Hour'.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You speak during Zero Hour.

...(Interruptions)

(ii) Need to provide benefit of Awasiya Vidyalaya Yojana to the girls of SC/ST category upto class fifth in Swai Madhopur Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan

SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA (Swai Madhopur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Social Welfare) runs a number of schemes about educational and occupational training for boys and girls belonging to SCs/STs. All these schemes are implemented through voluntary organisations. People of my constituency are neither getting any benefit of these useful schemes run by voluntary organisations nor any information is given to representatives about the sanction accorded to a scheme by the Ministry. About this I would like to submit to the Minister, that sanction is accorded through Zila Parishad to 25 girls of selected families of Scheduled Castes for Awasiya Vidyalaya Yojana. Under this scheme, girls are provided educational facilities for one year only. As soon as the girl is promoted to Class-2 no facility is given to her. Therefore, it is an incomplete scheme which needs review. These girls remain deprieved of education. If this scheme is sanctioned upto class-5 then the objective of primary education can be achieved and poor families can avail of the benefit of this scheme.

Therefore through you, I request the hon. Minister that department should make available the details of sanctioned schemes and funds to the Members of Parliament of concerned Constituency at the beginning of the scheme and voluntary organisations should be instructed that they should keep people's representatives informed about the schemes. Besides the period of education for the girls under Awasiya Vidyalaya should be extended from one year to five years.

(iii) Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Uttar Pradesh to make sugar mill at Dhuriapar viable

SHRI RAJ NARAIN PASSI (Bansgaon): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, my parliamentary constituency Bansgaon is situated at the confluence of nine major and small rivers and this area is frequently affected by flood and drought. This parliamentary constituency has no industry.

Some years ago a sugar mill was set up at Dhuriapar under my parliamentary constituency but it has been closed last year after having remained in operation for some time. Due to closure of this mill, there is resentment amongst the people in my constituency.

I have learnt that the Government of Uttar Pradesh propose to sell it to the private sector. This is not good. If it is sold great resentment will prevail amongst the farmers of Dhuriapar.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to direct the Government of Uttar Pradesh not to dispose of the new sugar mill set up at Dhuriapar and run it in the public sector. The Government of Uttar Pradesh should be provided with the required fund to run this mill.

(iv) Need to upgrade the status of Parasala railway station as a block station in Tamil Nadu for the crossing of trains.

[English]

SHRI V.S. SIVAKUMAR (Thiruvanathapuram): I would like to invite your kind attention regarding conversion of Parasala Railway Station into a crossing station. The Parasala Station lies in the section of Kanyakumari. This is one of the busiest routes of the Sourthern Railways. The tourist importance of Kanyakumari increases the number of passengers using this route. The train crossing Block railway stations on the south of Parasala is Kuzhithurai and Neyyattinkara in North. There is a distance of approximately 20/25 kms between these two stations. The trains have to wait at Kuzhithurai or Neyyattinkara for crossing purpose for more than 45 minutes at either of these stations. This causes inordinate delay to train services in this route. Therefore, it is requested that Parasala Station may be upgraded to the status of a Block Station for the purpose of crossing of trains.

(v) Need to open an additional consulate in Dammam, Saudia Arabia to address the problems of Indians employed in Arabian Gulf.

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): There are about 30 lakh Indians employed in the countries in the Arabian Gulf. More than fifty per cent of them are from Kerala. The overseas workers play a vital part in the economy of the State. But the problems faced by them are not addressed with due importance. Though expatriate population has grown manifold in the preceding years, the Indian Missions have not kept pace with the increasing demand. This is mainly because the Missions are understaffed. The Missions in the Gulf region have to be strengthened so as to equip them to handle expatriate problems effectively. Considering the heavy work load in the Indian Embassy at Riyadh and Consular office at Jeddah and on geographical consideration, an additional consulate in Dammam has to be opened.

(vi) Need to open a CGHS dispensary at Chandigarh

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Sir, the opening of a Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) dispensary at Chandigarh has been over delayed. About 25,000 Central Government employees and 10,000 pensioners reside at Chandigarh and in the adjoining towns. In the absence of a CGHS dispensary, they are deprived of a tangible facility which they are otherwise entitled to. The retirees are particularly hard-hit. Having served the society and having given the best of their lives to us, they do deserve this facility in the evening of their lives. Understandably, they have been requesting for a CGHS dispensary for the last two decades. Its establishment, besides meeting this genuine demand, will also result in savings on account of expenditure now incurred on medical reimbursement. It is also an important social obligation of the State towards those Senior citizens who cannot travel to Delhi for medical treatment. In these circumstances, I urge the Government of India to open a CGHS dispensary at Chandigarh without any further delay.

(vii) Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Uttar Pradesh for desilting of river bed of the Varuna river between Mallahan and Varanasi

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, in my parliamentary constituency Phulpur (Phulpur Tehsil) Allahabad, U.P., the Varuna (Varna) river flows from Mallahan to Varanasi. As the desilting of the river bed of this river has not been undertaken hundreds of villages and thousands of acres of agriculture land get affected due to water logging from the very beginning of rainy season i.e. from June-July to February-March due to which the farmers are unable to lead normal life in this area. Sowing of Kharif and Rabi crops is also not possible. When the crops are not sown, the economic condition of the farmers and agricultural labourers of this area is affected adversely and as such they are unable to get their children educated and they are also unable to marry off their children.

I urge upon the Government to conduct a survey of the entire span of the river Varuna (Barna) and take immediate steps for desilting this river.

(viii) Need to provide financial assistance to State Government of Uttar Pradesh to check pollution caused by effluents of Ghosi Sugar Mill and Aswani plant in Mau district of Uttar Pradesh.

[Translation]

SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Hon'ble Sepaker Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the air and water pollution being caused by the waste material generated and effluents released by the sugar mill and Aswani plant situated at Ghosi in Mau District of Uttar Pradesh which is my parliamentary constituency. The effluents of the sugar mill and Aswani plant are released in about ten kilometre long nullah which flows towards the river Tous. This effluent being in the form of a thick mixture remains accumulated in the entire nullah due to which lakhs of residents of the nearby villages have been afflicted with numerous diseases. The animals who drink water from this nullah are dying. Not only this, fish in the ponds located in the surrounding areas are also dying due to the pollution caused by this nullah. The insects and germs breeding in this toxic effluent are entering into the houses of rural people and posing threat to their health.

In view of these problems thousands of villagers had agitated five years ago and they had demanded a pipe line for drainage of polluted water and setting up of a filter plant, as a result of which a filter plant was setup there but after some time it was closed down and now the rural people in the affected area are suffering.

Therefore, I request the Union Government that a scheme should be formulated at national level to provide funds to the States to deal with problem of pollution in the affected areas of the States. Besides I request the Union Government to provide required funds to the

Government of Uttar Pradesh to check the pollution caused by effluents released from the Ghosi mill and Aswani plant.

(ix) Need to hand over railway land near Ennore railway station to Government of Tamil Nadu for regularisation of slum colonies and also sanction construction of sub-way work near Stanley Hospital

[English]

SHRI C. KUPPUSWAMI (Madras North): Hon. Speaker, Sir, there is a long-standing demand from thousands of poor people in my constituency for de-regularisation of their slums spread over four locations near Ennore railway station known as Valluvar Nagar, MGR Nagar and Sanjay Gandhi Nagar. The State Government of Tamil Nadu also wanted to regularise their colonies and to formally allot Pattas to the slum dwellers by purchasing the land from the Railways. Since, the land is lying idle and not useful to the Railways, I would request the hon. Railway Minister to hand over the Railway land to the State Government for regularisation of these slum areas.

Similarly, level-crossing near a big Government hospital called Stanley Hospital near Mint falling in my constituency of Chennai North, is closed due to road traffic most of the time which leads to traffic hold up consequently. Hence, there is a demand for construction of subway in place of the existing level-crossing. This will also ensure a proper connectivity between the two wings of the Stanley Hospital, apart from facilitating smooth flow of traffic in the heart of the city.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Railway Minister to favourably consider the above two demands of our constituency and accord sanction of the Ministry for handing over the railway land to the State Government near Ennore Station and also for sanction of construction of subway work near Stanley Hospital, in place of existing level-crossing in Chennai North.

(x) Need to declare Janakinath Bhawan in Cuttack, birth place of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as a national monument

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (Cuttack): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was born at Cuttack on 23rd January, 1897 in his paternal house named *Janakinath Bhawan* which at present houses a maternity home run by Netaji Subhas Seva Sadan Trust. Before the Birth Centenary celebration of Netaji, this Trust decided that the birth place of Subhash be converted into a museum and the vacant land could be used for building a maternity home. Accordingly, resolutions were forwarded by the Trust through the State Government of Orissa to the Centre. There was a declaration by the Central Government that *Janakinath Bhawan* in converted into a national monument and will be maintained by the respective Ministry. But nothing has been done so far.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to declare the birth place of Netaji as a national monument and protect it as is being done for other great sons of this country. At the same time, adequate funds be provided by the Centre and the Netaji Birth Centenary Committee to build a maternity home cum paediatric centre in the said campus, as envisaged in the beginning.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Ali Modhd. Naik.

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had submitted this matter three days earlier in Urdu but it was given back to me saying that there is nobody in the Lok Sabha Secretariat who will translate my matter which is in Urdu into English.

MR. SPEAKER: You may please read your text only. There is no need to say anything else.

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK: Sir, I hope that the Urdu section will be organised and the Urdu people will be provided in this Parliament...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please read your approved text now.

(xi) Need to start construction work of Mughal Road on the national highway in J&K and also to make a tunnel to Zojila in the State

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK: Sir, the State of Jammu and Kashmir is linked with the rest of the country with only one national highway. This road starts from Pathankot and connects Srinagar. The road between Pathankot and Jammu remains open for the whole year. The second part of the road which connects Jammu with Srinagar remains often closed due to rain and snow. The third part of the road which connects Srinagar with Leh remains closed for six months due to heavy snowfall at Zojila. Due to this condition of the road, the people of the State face great hardship. In view of the militancy in the State and undeclared war from Pakistan, the Army movement is often affected. The Government had announced that it will start a new road as alternative known as Mughal Road. The work was started but again it was stopped.

Therefore, I request the Government of India to start immediate construction of Mughal Road and make a tunnel to Zojila so that the road remains opened to Leh for the whole year.

(xii) Need for construction of an under bridge at Khariphatak road railway crossing in Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN (Vidisha): Hon'ble Speaker Sir, a heavy flow of road traffic passes through the railway crossing on Khariphatak road in Vidisha town in my parliamentary contituency Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh. Being the agricultural produce market, thousands of tractors and trollies also pass through this route. All the important schools are situated in this area and thousands of students use this road but this railway crossing remains closed most of the time due to the movement of trains. Due to this, thousands of people have to face great inconvenience. If an under bridge is constructed near the Khariphatak road, for which survey was also conducted once inconvenience being experienced by the people can be overcome. Constructing the under bridge, this railway crossing can be closed which will also reduce the financial burden of railways. Therefore, all the formalities should be completed immediately to construct an under bridge at the above place.

(xiii) Need to enact suitable legislation to safeguard the interests of small depositors in private sector banks, particularly City Union Bank with headquarters at Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI P. MOHAN (Madurai): Sir, it is learnt that many malpractices are adopted in the City Union Bank, a private sector bank, with headquarters at Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu. Out of its advances of Rs. 650 crore, Rs. 115 crore are declared as unrecoverable debts.

It is also reported that nearly Rs. 15 crore have been written off arbitrarily. It is a mystery why, whom and how the unrecoverable loans were sanctioned, whether sufficient assets were pledged and sureties were obtained and why such huge amounts were waived.

After receiving many complaints, the Reserve Bank of India had deputed one of the officers of the RBI to inspect of the City Union Bank accounts and submit a report. Accordingly, the officer concerned submitted a report, which was duly forwarded by the Assistant General Manager, Chennai for necessary action. But it seems that no action has been taken in this matter.

I have also came to know that the family members of one of the Ministers of Tamil Nadu Government are personally involved in these deeds. I request the Government to order for a CBI inquiry into the whole episode and take suitable action against those found guilty.

I also request the Government to enact suitable legislation to safeguard the savings of people who put their money in the private sector banks. It is also told that election to the Board of Directors of this Bank is being postponed continuously. The Government should not allow such postponements and order for early elections to the Board of Directors of this Bank.

[English]

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): Sir, may I please call the attention of the Government....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow you after the reply is over. Please resume your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: You are the custodian of our rights. We are two lady Members who want to bring a matter to the personal attention of Shri Ram Jethmalani.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Canara): Shri Jethmalani, you should have some consideration for women....*(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): One lady Member has very graciously yielded. So, why do you not yield too?...*(Interruptions)*

12.23 hrs.

[English]

CONSTITUTION (NINETIETH AMENDMENT) BILL—*contd.*

(Amendment of article 16)

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, after a marathon debate, which went well into midnight yesterday, it is my pleasant duty to reply.

MR. SPEAKER: The debate was for six hours and thirty-four minutes.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I believe that 38 distinguished Members of this House participated, starting with my friend Shri Buta Singh and ending with Shri Bwiswmuthiary, our colourful friend from the North-East.

It is very gratifying that every Member of this House who spoke has supported the Bill.

I must also compliment all Members of this House for having generally kept the discussion at a very high level and nobody except two or three, tried to make any political advantage out of those speeches. Since every Member of this House has supported this Bill, I will be extremely brief. But I would be failing in my duty if I do not at least deal with those friends of ours who tried to make some political points, prominent amongst them being my friend, Shri Banatwalla.

In a very very powerful and impatient speech, he accused my Prime Minister and my Government of what he called, the great national betrayal. I do not know where from he got this. If it was just the result of an over-heated mind or because of the late hour of the day or the night, I would excuse him, but, Sir, I think, he meant it seriously....*(Interruptions)*

My friend, Sardar Buta Singh also tried to make a grievance; and so did, my friend, Shri Muniyappa. I do not know whether he is present now or not. I will be dealing with the points that they made.

We are today dealing with one out of the five offending circulars...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Sambhal): Sir, I have also put a question to hon'ble Minister. Hon'ble President was described as untouchable when he visited France....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has just now started his reply. What is this?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Neither the Prime Minister nor any other senior leader has made any comment on this issue. Such is the mindset. Whether he should be considered as untouchable or inferior? Our President has been insulted in France. Please answer my question as to why no comment has been made on this issue.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Please sit down. I heard carefully what you stated yesterday and I will give you the reply in that regard.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Thank you. This mentality should be changed.

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, first of all, it is necessary to point out when these five offending Circulars came into existence. They came into existence between January and August of 1997. The hon. Members of this House will recall that our thirteen-day Government had been demolished in the earlier years. We came back in 1998. I do not know who benefitted by this act of demolition, but at least, the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes did not. The result of that senseless act of demolition was the five Circulars, which are not our handiwork, but we have now been asked to demolish the unsavoury results of that unsavoury demolition.

I remember, Sir, that in October 1999, I came before this House to move a Bill for extending the period of reservation by ten years. On that occasion, though again the Bill was non-controversial, several speeches were made—about twenty of them. All the Members of this august House were unanimous-that the expectations of the founding fathers of the Constitution have been totally frustrated during the last fifty years.

SARDAR BUTA SINGH (Jalore): It is not a political statement?....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Sardar Buta Singh, please do not interrupt the hon. Minister. First listen to him.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This is too much.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I, at least, expect one thing from this august House that it should always be prepared to listen to a few unpleasant truths from your opponents, and listen with patience as we have listened yesterday. I sat here till midnight. Did I interrupt even a single Member of the House?

Sir, the speeches are there, including that of Sardar Buta Singh. He can read them himself. On the contrary, not wanting to make political mileage out of what was being said here, I said that it is not right to say that

nothing has happened in favour of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Certain results have certainly been achieved. But the full expectations have not fully materalised and we have a long way to go. It is in that spirit, on the floor of the House I said that I am going to call within a very short time a Convention of all Members of this House as well as the other House and we will sit and discuss for three days threadbare all the problems and the ills that afflict our Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe friends. I do not wish to go into the dispute about some Members attending some not attending, but by and large there was an excellent attendance and the problems were discussed for full three days. Hon. Prime Minister personally came and inaugurated that Convention. I would only quote two sentences from the Prime Minister's speech which he delivered during the inaugural address. He said:

> "I am aware that the operational guidelines issued by the Ministry of Personnel regarding reservation in Government jobs have created some discontent among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. These guidelines were issued by the then Government after certain pronouncements of the Supreme Court. I would like to inform you all that in pursuance of my assurance to Parliament, this Government had already taken steps for reviewing the guidelines."

These steps were not taken but were given concrete shape and one concrete shape which one of the proposals had received is the present Bill which this House is considering.

Sir, we sat through all three days. The hon. Members who attended that Convention will at least give me the credit of having sat there for all the three days. Valuable contributions were made. Ultimately, as a result of these deliberations, an agreed paper was drawn up, unanimously prepared by the Drafting Committee that came into existence. My sister, Kumari Mayawati was present there. She is one of the signatories to that document. I am very happy about one thing. In the debate yesterday, I found that in the heart of my sister, Kumari Mayawati, I had received a promotion. The promotion that I had received was that previously she used to consider me a *Manuwadi*, but now she publicly admits that she recognises in me a good friend of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I am proud of this promotion and I am proud—may I call it love and affection—she showed me while the Convention was on. I proposed to call the Members of the Drafting Committee again.

I have got a full report, as to the steps which have been taken by various Ministries to whom these proposals were addressed—what steps have been taken, what are expected to be taken and what cannot be taken for some reasons—with me. We will call a meeting of this Drafting Committee again and we will discuss threadbare where we have failed to implement this and what required to be done. I promise that it will happen soon after the Budget Session of Parliament. In the meantime I will circulate this compliance report to the distinguished members of the Drafting Committee.

Sir, the main purpose of this Bill today is to make one provision to undo one Circular. The judgments of the court have provided that if there is a failure to fill up the reserved vacancies because sufficiently qualified persons are not available in a particular period of time, we can carry forward those in the next year and fill them up in the next year. We can do it the next year, the next one after the next year and so on. But, the Supreme Court says that ultimately we will not be able to go on adding this beyond 50 per cent.

Now, I wish to remind my friend, Shri Banatwalla, who has said that in this Bill we are accepting this 50 per cent. He has also said that this is a great betrayal. First of all, my friend is misinformed. The State of Tamil Nadu, an enlightened Government there which is committed to the cause of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, has paved the reservation at about 69 per cent. Unfortunately, the validity of this provision was challenged in the Madras High Court. The High Court has declared that provision as *ultra vires*. Now, the matter is pending in the Supreme Court by way of appeal. The Union of India is supporting the action of the Tamil Nadu Government. We have given instructions to the Attorney-General and to his law officers that a special petition must be made to the Supreme Court. This matter must be brought to the....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.M. SELVAGANPATHI (Salem): Sir, this 69 per cent reservation was brought not by the present Government but by the previous Government....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is not yielding. Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Whichever Government did it, the credit goes to that Government....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Palanimanickam, please take your seat. We are discussing an important subject. You are not supposed to reply to them.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except what the Minister says.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: May I say, Sir, that the credit for that enlightened measure. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Sir, why have you taken it out of the record? How is it not in order? The hon. Minister has replied that the credit for....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is not yielding. If you want any classification, you can have it after the Minister's reply, not now.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is not yielding. Why are you bringing in a new procedure in the House? If you wish to seek any clarification, you can have it after the Minister's reply.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I do not even know what they are quarrelling about....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: How can you disturb the Minister?

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Let me make it clear....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister is not yielding. Please take your seat.

Shri Pandiyan, he is not yielding.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: How can you raise it without the permission of the Chair?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, let the record be straight.

MR SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, please take your seat. He is not yielding.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: Mr. Minister, do you want the record to be straight? Please let me speak for one minute.

* Not recorded.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, during 1991-96, the then AIADMK Government headed by Dr. Jayalalitha, brought out 69 per cent reservation and it was put in the Ninth Schedule. Then, it was challenged and now it is pending. So, that credit goes to her.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Did I give credit to anybody? I have said: "the Tamil Nadu enlightened Government". If you want to say that it was Dr. Jayalalitha then let it be Dr. Jayalalitha.

Sir, I am prepared to say that the whole credit goes to Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: You have got the wrong person to give the credit. It belongs to her.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANAI: Sir, when did this question of 50 per cent limitation arise of which Shri Banatwalla so eloquently spoke yesterday? It arose for the first time in the decision of the Supreme Court delivered in 1963 in the Balaji Case.

Sir, my friend Shri Buta Singh will excuse me. I consider him a friend in spite of the fact that no other Member in Parliament has abused me more than he has.

[Translation]

I am telling you that if you are ready to observe penance for having committed this sin, Hindu Community will be ready to observe penance for its acts dating back to two thousand years.

[English]

I have suffered his abuse for the last 20 years in this House and yet he is my friend.

Now, I wish to tell those who think that we have accepted the limit of 50 per cent, that we have not accepted it because it is under challenge in the Supreme Court and we are trying to see that the 50 per cent limitation goes. Yesterday, I informed this House and I read a paragraph from the Indra Sawhney Judgment which says that Shri Jethmalani argued that 100 per cent reservation is permissible. Where were the lawyers for that party? Except Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav's Party and the Party from Tamil Nadu, I must say that everybody tried to defeat the rights of the Scheduled Castes....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Pandiyan, you cannot force the Minister to sit.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, my learned senior friend has said that nobody from Tamil Nadu had agitated in the Indra Sawhney Case.

It was petition No. 1114/90. As a petitioner in that case I argued the case to implement the Mandal Commission report. I was the first to file the case before the Supreme Court and I argued myself as a party in person. It is in that judgment of 1990....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please understand that the entire House has agreed to pass the Bill unanimously.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prakash Ambedkar, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bwiswmuthiary, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Since there is a unanimity and the Minister himself said that politics should not be injected, he may try to avoid it himself and get it passed.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I have not grown grey in the sum. I have known that truth always hurts. It does not matter. If you do not want to hear the unpleasant truth, let us proceed with the business of the House....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except the Minister's reply.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: There are five Circulars....*(Interruptions)* I am sorry, I am not yielding....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let the Minister complete his reply. He has not completed his reply.

...(Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: It is very unfortunate that you are behaving like this when we are discussing a very important subject.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Sir, when we are ready to pass the Bill unanimously, the Minister is trying to make it controversial....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the Minister's reply.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: These obnoxious rules were laid down both in 1963 and 1964. I just want to ask as to what steps were taken by those who are beating their breasts all the time that their heart is bleeding about the Scheduled Castes. What were they doing in 1963-64? When our Government came to power and the moment we had brought the Prime Minister of our Government to power, he immediately took steps and he took steps within a matter of a few months. For 40 years, these rules have prevailed....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing should go on record except the Minister's reply.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that when we are discussing a very important subject, the entire nation is watching your behaviour.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Now, hear one more fact....*(Interruptions)* There is one technical demand which has been made by Shri Buta Singh and Shri Muniappa that we should use the word 'backlog' in the operative part of the Section. Sir, as a person who has something to do with the drafting of statutes, I wish to assure the hon. Members of the House, particularly those who are taking keen interest in the subject, that the word 'backlog' in the body of the text will make the statute ambiguous. Then, we will have to put another definition of 'backlog'. Moreover, this statute, in its practical operations, will apply only to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes because that is the only area where there is a real backlog. There is no backlog in OBCs. But the statute, as it is, has to apply to OBCs, SCs and STs. Therefore, use of the word 'backlog' in common parlance has come to be associated with only SCs and STs.

* Not recorded.

SARDAR BUTA SINGH: There is some mischief here.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: There is no mischief, Shri Buta Singh. What mischief can be there here? I am making a statement on the floor of the House. The Statement of Objects and Reasons which is appended to this Bill is a part of the statute itself.

That Statement of Objects and Reasons uses the word 'backlog' defines backlog in the very Statement of Objects and Reasons and that is a part of the statute. It is settled law today that when an authoritative statement is made on behalf of the Government which pilots the Bill, that binds everybody including the courts which will take judicial notice of the fact. So, you may take it that there is no mischief. We have no secret agenda of the kind which you suspect all the time....*(Interruptions)*

Therefore, I hope hon. Members will give up this backlog demand. I hope Shri Banatwalla will not press his amendment because the 50 per cent reservation is under challenge in the Supreme Court. We are trying to do whatever we can and be sure that even if the Supreme Court decides against us, we shall still introduce legislation but subject to the basic features doctrine. There is no declaration by anybody yet that 50 per cent is a basic feature of the Constitution. So, the House can rest assured that we will do everything to see that the validity of over 50 per cent reservation is sustained in every quarter....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you need not reply to this.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: For every other Circular, steps have been taken to undo the effect of these Circulars. The House can rest assured that all the Circulars will be undone so long as it is constitutionally within the power of this Government.

With these words, having told the House the truths which I wanted to tell, I commend that the Bill be taken into consideration and passed....*(Interruptions)*

SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Sir, I would like to seek a small clarification....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, not now. Let the hon. Minister Shrimati Vasundhara Raje speak.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): Sir, I would like to thank the House for the response and the support extended by all the hon. Members to the Government and the Constitution (Amendment) Bill. This is a measure which reflects the fulfilment of the promise that the hon. Prime Minister had made to this House on the 18th March, 1999. It also reflects the commitment of the Government to the cause of the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

The ambit of the reservation policy itself is very wide and the hon. Members have all raised very valid points. I appreciate their concern for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. But I would like to just say this is a limited ambit. The scope is very limited to exclude the "Backlog Vacancies" from the ceiling of the 50 per cent limit on reserved cacancies to be filled in one year. The Government has been going into all the legal and constitutional aspects with regard to the various Office Memoranda. The review of another Office Memorandum has also been completed and a Constitutional Amendment Bill for restoring the relaxation in the qualifying marks as well as the standards of evaluation in matters of promotions already stands introduce in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd December, 1999. I would, therefore, request the hon. Members to appreciate the scope of this Bill so that persons from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities restart enjoying the benefits by way of accelerated filling up of the backlog vacancies that are available to them before the issue of this Office Memorandum of August 29, 1997.

With these words, I commend the Bill for the passage of this House....*(Interruptions)*

SARDAR BUTA SINGH: Sir, I would like to seek a clarification.

MR. SPEAKER: No. He has already given the reply.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Before I put the motion for consideration of the Bill to the vote of the House, I would like to inform the House that this being a Constitution (Amendment) Bill, voting has to be by division.

12.59 hrs.

Let the Lobbies be cleared--

13.00 hrs.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Mulayam Singh, please sit down.

[English]

The Minister has already replied, Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

...(Interruptions)"

MR. SPEAKER: Lobbies are cleared.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Hon. Speaker is saying that lobbies are cleared....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the lobbies have been cleared.

Kind attention of the Members is invited to the following points in the operation of the Automatic Vote Recording System:

1. Before a Division starts, every Member should occupy his or her own seat and operate the system from that seat only.

2. As may kindly be seen, the "Red bulbs above display boards" on either side of my chair are already glowing. This means the voting system has been activated.

3. For voting, press the following two buttons simultaneously immediately after sounding of first gong, *viz*,

   (i) One "Red" button in front of the Member on the head phone plate; and

   (ii) Any one of the following buttons fixed on the top of desk of seats:

   'Ayes' — Green colour

   'Noes' — Red colour

   'Abstain' — Yellow colour

4. It is essential to keep both the buttons pressed till the second gong sound is heard and the red bulbs are "off".

The hon. Members may please note that the vote will not be registered if both buttons are not kept pressed simultaneously till the sounding of the second gong.

5. Do not press the amber button (p) during Division.

6. Members can actually "see" their vote on display boards and on their desk unit. In case vote is not registered, they may call for voting through slips.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India, be taken into consideration."

The Lok Sabha divided:

AYES

DIVISION NO. 1 **13.05 hrs.**

A. Narendra, Shri

Abdullakutty, Shri A.P.

* Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Adhi Sankar, Shri

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.

Alva, Shrimati Margaret

* Not recorded.

"Voted through slip.

Alvi, Shri Rashid

Ambareesha, Shri

Ananth Kumar, Shri

Angle, Shri Ramakant

Argal, Shri Ashok

Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita

Athawale, Shri Ramdas

Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.

Azad, Shri Kirti Jha

B

Baalu, Shri T.R.

Babban Rajbhar, Shri

Babbar, Shri Raj

Bachda', Shri Bachi Singh Rawat

Baghel, Prof. S.P. Singh

Bainda, Shri Ramchander

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Baliram, Dr.

Banatwalla, Shri G.M.

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip

Banerjee, Kumari Mamata

Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree

Bangarappa, Shri S.

*Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Bansiwal, Shri Shyam Lal

Barman, Shri Ranen

Barwala Shri Surendra Singh

Basavanagoud, Shri Kolur

Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya

Baxla, Shri Joachim

Bhagat, Prof. Dukha

Bhagora, Shri Tarachand

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal

Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh

Bishnoi, Shri Jaswant Singh

Bose, Shrimati Krishna

Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.

Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur

C

C. Sunguna Kumari, Dr. (Shrimati)

Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy

Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya

Chandel, Shri Suresh

*Chatterjee, Shri Somnath

Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavarat

Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni

Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal

Chaudhri, Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai

Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna

Chauhan, Shri Nandkumar Singh

Chauhan, Shri Shriram

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbhai

Chinnasamy, Shri M.

Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram

Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar

Choudhary, Shrimati Reena

Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen

Choudhury, Shri Samar

Chouhan, Shri Nihal Chand

Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh

Chowdhary Shrimati Santosh

Chowdhury, Shrimati Renuka

*Voted through slip

*Voted through slip.

D

D'Souza, Dr. (Smt.) Beatrix

Dahal, Shri Bhim

Das, Shri Nepal Chandra

Das Munsi, Shri Priya Ranjan

*Deepak Kumar, Shri

Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari

Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan

Devi, Shrimati Kailasho

Dhikale, Shri Uttamrao

Diler, Shri Kishan Lal

Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji

Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra

Dudi, Shri Rameshwar

Dullo, Shri Shamsher Singh

Durai, Shri M.

E

Eden, Shri George

Elangovan, Shri P.D.

F

Farook, Shri M.O.H.

Fernandes, Shri George

G

Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan

Gadhavi, Shri P.S.

Galib Shri G.S.

Gamang, Shrimati Hema

Gamlin, Shri Jarbom

Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal

Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka

Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia

Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar

Gautam, Shrimati Sheela

*Voted through slip.

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala

*Gawali, Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao

Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram

Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand

Giluwa, Shri Laxman

Goel, Shri Vijay

Gohain, Shri Rajen

Govindan, Shri T.

Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy

*Gupta, Prof, Chaman Lal

H

*Hamid, Shri Abdul

Handique, Shri Bijoy

Hansda, Shri Thomas

Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz

I

Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar

J

Jag Mohan, Shri

Jagannath, Dr. Manda

Jain, Shri Pusp

Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.

Jaiswal, Shri Shankar Prasad

Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash

Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan

Javiya, Shri G.J.

Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.

Jha, Shri Raghunath

Jos, Shri A.C.

Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar

Joshi, Shri Manohar

*Voted through slip.

K

Kamble, Shri Shivaji Vithalrao

Kannappan, Shri M.

Kanungo, Shri Trilochan

Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram

Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh

Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal

Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbhai

Katiyar, Shri Vinay

Kaur, Shrimati Preneet

Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh

Khabri, Shri Brijlal

Khaire, Shri Chandrakant

Khan, Shri Hassan

Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali

Khan, Shri Sunil

Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar

Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali

Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.

Khanna, Shri Vinod

Khunte, Shri P.R.

Khurana, Shri Madan Lal

Kriplani, Shri Shrichand

Krishnadas, Shri N.N.

Krishnamraju, Shri

Krishnamurthy, Shri K.E.

Krishnan, Dr. C.

Krishnaswamy, Shri A.

Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya

Kumaramanglam, Shri P.R.

Kuppusami, Shri C.

Kurup, Shri Suresh

Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna

Kyndiah, Shri P.R.

L

Lahiri, Shri Samik

Lepcha, Shri S.P.

M

M. Master Mathan, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y.G.

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra

Mahale, Shri Haribhau Shankar

Mahant, Dr. Charan Das

Maharia, Shri Subhash

Mahato, Shri Bir Singh

Mahtab, Shri Bhartruhari

Mahto, Shrimati Abha

Manjhi, Shri Parsuram

Makwana, Shri Savshibhai

Malaisamy, Shri K.

Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar

Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.

Malyala, Shri Rajaiah

Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Mane, Shri Shivaji

Mane, Shrimati Nivedita

Manjay Lal, Shri

Manjhi, Shri Ramjee

Maran, Shri Murasoli

Marandi, Shri Babu Lal

Mayawati, Kumari

Meena, Shriamti Jas Kaur

Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti

Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina

Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari

Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal

Mohan, Shri P.

Mohite, Shri Subodh

Mollah, Shri Hannan

Mookherjee, Shri S.B.

Munda, Shri Kariya

Muni Lall, Shri

Muniyappa, Shri K.H.

Munnu, Shri Rupchand

Munnu, Shri Salkhan

Murthi, Shri M.V.V.S.

Murthi, Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara

Muttemwar, Shri Vilas

N

Naik Shri Ali Mohd.

Naik, Shri Ram

Naik, Shri Shripad Yasso

Narah, Shrimati Ranee

Nayak, Shri Ananta

Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad

Nitish Kumar, Shri

O

Ola, Shri Sis Ram

Oram, Shri Jual

Osmani, Shri A.F. Golam

P

Padmandabham, Shri Mudragada

Pal, Shri Rupchand

Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.

Pandey. Shri Ravindra Kumar

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan

Pandiyan, Shri P.H.

Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar

Panja, Shri Ajit Kumar

Paranjpe, Shri Prakash

Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh

Parthasarthi, Shri B.K.

Pasi, Shri Suresh

Passi, Shri Raj Narain

Paswan, Dr. Sanjay

Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas

Paswan, Shri Ramchandra

Paswan, Shri Sukdeo

Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar

Patel, Dr. Ashok

*Patel, Shri Atmaram Bhai

*Patel, Shri Chandresh

Patel, Shri Dharam Raj Singh

Patel, Shri Dinsha

Patel, Shri Mansinh

Pathak, Shri Harin

Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.

Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Patil, (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.

Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb

Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad

Patil, Shri Shivraj V.

Patil, Shri Uttamrao

Patwa, Shri Sunder Lal

Pawaiya, Shri Jaibhan Singh

Pawar, Shri Sharad

Pilot, Shri Rajesh

Ponnuswamy, Shri E.

Potai, Shri Sohan

Prabhu, Shri Suresh

Pradhan, Dr. Debendra

Pradhan, Shri Ashok

Pramanik, Prof. R.R.

Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa

*Voted through slip.

rasada, Shri Jitendra

remajam, Prof. A.K.

uglia, Shri Naresh

R

adhakrishnan, Shri C.P.

adhakrishnan, Shri Pon

aja, Shri A.

aje, Shrimati Vasundhara

ajendran, Shri P.

Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh

Ram Sajivan, Shri

Ram, Shri Braj Mohan

Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.

Ramaiah, Shri Gunipati

Raman, Dr.

Ramchandran, Shri Gingee N.

Ramshakal, Shri

Rana, Shri Kashiram

Rana, Shri Raju

Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar

Rao, Shri D.V.G. Shankar

Rao, Shri Ganta Sreenivasa

Rao, Shri. Y.V.

Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin

Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh

Rau, Shrimati Prabha

Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh

Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh

Rawat, Shri Pradeep

Rawat, Shri Ramsagar

Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada

Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender

Reddy, Shri Chada Suresh

Reddy, Shri G. Ganga

Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana

Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal

Renu Kumari, Shrimati

Roy, Shri Subodh

Roy Pradhan Shri Amar

S

Sahu, Shri Anadi

Sahu, Shri Tarachand

Samantray, Shri Prabhat

Sanadi, Prof. I.G.

*Sanghani, Shri Dilip

Sangtam, Shri K.A.

Sangawan, Shri Kishan Singh

Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Saroj, Shrimati Sushila

Saroja, Dr. V.

Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh

Sayeed, Shri P.M.

Scindia, Shri Madhavrao

Selvaganpathi, Shri T.M.

Sen, Shrimati Minati

Sengupta, Dr. Nitish

Seth, Shri Lakshman

Sethi, Arjun

Shah, Shri Manabendra

Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid

Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh

Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram

Shanmugam, Shri N.T.

Shanta Kumar, Shri

Sharma, Capt. Satish

Sharma, Vaidya Vishnu Datt

Shervani, Shri Saleem I.

---

*Voted through slip.

Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan

Sikdar, Shri Tapan

Singh Deo, Shri K.P.

Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari

Singh, Capt. (Retd.) Inder

Singh, Ch. Tejveer

Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan

Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh

Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj

Singh, Rajkumari Ratna

Singh, Sardar Buta

Singh, Shri Ajit

Singh, Shri Bahadur

Singh, Shri Balbir

Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Singh, Shri C.N.

Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan

Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap

Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay

Singh, Shri Chhattrapal

Singh, Shri Digvijay

Singh, Shri Jai Bhadra

Singh, Shri Khel Sai

Singh, Shri Lakshman

Singh, Shri Maheshwar

Singh, Shri Prabhunath

Singh, Shri Radha Mohan

Singh, Shri Rajo

Singh, Shri Ram Prasad

Singh, Shri Ramanand

Singh, Shri Ramjivan

Singh, Shri Rampal

Singh, Shri Sahib

Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad

Singh, Shrimati Kanti

Singh, Shrimati Shyama

Sinha, Shri Manoj

Sinha, Shri Yashwant

Sivakumar, Shri V.S.

Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh

Somaiya, Shri Kirit

Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar

Srikantappa, Shri D.C.

Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava

Subba, Shri M.K.

Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.

Suman, Shri Ramji Lal

Suresh, Shri Kharabela

Swami, Shri Chinmayanand

Swami, Shri I.D.

T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.

Thakur, Dr. C.P.

Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai

Thakur, Shri Ramsheth

Thirunavukarasu, Shri

*Thomas, Shri P.C.

Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari

Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt

Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal

Tomar. Dr. Ramesh Chand

Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran

Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore

*Voted through slip.

U

Uma Bharati, Kumari

V

Veghela, Shri Shankresinh

Vaiko, Shri

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra

Venkataswamy, Dr. N.

Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.

Venugopal, Shri D.

Verma, Prof. Rita

Verma, Shri Rajesh

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash

Veritselvan, Shri V.

Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati D.M.

Vijayan, Shri A.K.S.

Virendra Kumar, Shri

Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma

Vyas, Dr. Girija

W

Wanga, Shri Chintaman

Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar

Y

Yadav Shri Akhilesh

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

Yadav, Shri Balram Singh

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

*Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh

Yadav, Shri Ramakant

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Yerrannaidu, Shri K.

Z

Zawma Shri Vanlal

Noes

Ambedkar, Shri Parakash Yashwant

*Voted through slip.

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the result* of the division is:

Ayes: 409

Noes: 2

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2

Amendment of Article 16

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 1,--

after line 12 *insert*—

"Explanation:- In determining reservation under the article, no economc criterion shall apply." (1)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put amendment no. 1 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The lobbies are already cleared. I shall now put clause 2 to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The Lok Sabha divided:

*The following Members also recorded their votes through slip.

AYES: 409 + Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, Shri Chandresh Patel, Shri Dilesp Sanghani, Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav, Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao Gawali, Shri Deepak Kumar, Shri Somnath Chatterjee, Shri P.C. Thomas, Shri Basu Deb Achariya, Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal, Shri Abdul Hamid, Shri Atmaram Bhai Patel - 421

NOES: 2—Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal (Wrongly Voted for Noes and later on corrected to Ayes through slip=1 slip to Ayes) = 01.

AYES

Division No.2 **13.07 hrs.**

A. Narendra, Shri

Abdullakutty, Shri A.P.

*Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Acharya, Shri Prasanna

Adhi Sankar, Shri

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.

Alvi, Shri Rashid

Ambareesha, Shri

Ananth Kumar, Shri

Angle, Shri Ramakant

Argal, Shri Ashok

Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita

Athawale, Shri Ramdas

Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.

Azad, Shri Kirti Jha

B

Baalu, Shri T.R.

Babban Rajbhar, Shri

Babbar, Shri Raj

'Bachda' Shri Bachi Singh Rawat

Baghel, Prof. S.P. Singh

Bainda, Shri Ramchander

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Baliram, Dr.

Banantwalla, Shri G.M.

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip

Banerjee, Kumari Mamata

Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree

*Voted through slip.

Bangarappa, Shri S.

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Bansiwal, Shri Shyam Lal

Barman, Shri Ranen

Barwala, Shri Surendra Singh

Basavanagoud, Shri Kolur

Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya

Baxla, Shri Joachim

Bhagat, Prof. Dukha

Bhagora, Shri Tarachand

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal

Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh

Bishnoi, Shri Jaswant Singh

Bose, Shrimati Krishna

Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.

Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur

C

C. Suguna Kumari Dr. (Shrimati)

Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy

Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya

Chandel, Shri Suresh

Chatterjee, Shri Somnath

*Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat

Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni

Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal

Chaudhari, Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai

Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna

Chauhan, Shri Nandkumar Singh

Chauhan, Shri Shriram

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbhai

Chinnasamy, Shri M.

Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar

Choudhary, Shrimati Reena

*Voted through slip.

Choudhry, Shri Padam Sen

Choudhry, Shri Samar

Chouhan, Shri Nihal Chand

Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh

*Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh

Chowdhury, Shrimati Renuka

D

D'souza, Dr. (Smt.) Beatrix

Daggubati, Shri Ramanaidu

Dahal, Shri Bhim

Das, Shri Nepal Chandra

Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan

Deepak Kumar, Shri

Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari

Dev, Shri Santosh Mohan

Devi, Shrimati Kailasho

Dhikale, Shri Uttamrao

Diler, Shri Kishan Lal

Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji

Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra

Dudi, Shri Rameshwar

Dullo, Shri Shamsher Singh

E

Eden, Shri George

Elangovan, Shri P.D.

F

Farook, Shri M.O.H.

Fernandes, Shri George

G

Gadde, Shri Ram Mohan

Gadhavi, Shri P.S.

Galib, Shri G.S.

Gamang, Shrimati Hema

Gamlin, Shri Jarbom

Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal

*Voted through slip.

Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka

Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia

Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar

Gautam, Shrimati Sheela

Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya

Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala

Gawali, Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao

Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram

Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand

Giluwa, Shri Laxman

Goel, Shri Vijay

Gohain, Shri Rajen

*Govindan, Shri T.

Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy

*Gupta, Prof. Chaman Lal

H

Hamid, Shri Abdul

Handique, Shri Bijoy

Hansda, Shri Thomas

Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz

I

Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar

J

Jag Mohan, Shri

Jagannath Dr. Manda

Jain, Shri Pusp

Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.

Jaiswal, Shri Shankar Prasad

Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash

Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan

Javiya, Shri G.J.

Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.

Jha, Shri Raghunath

Jos, Shri A.C.

Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar

Joshi, Shri Manohar

*Voted through slip.

K

Kamble, Shri Shivaji Vithalrao

Kannappan, Shri M.

Kanungo, Shri Trilochan

Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram

Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh

Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal

Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbhai

Katiyar, Shri Vinay

Kaur, Shrimati Preneet

Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh

Khabri, Shri Brijlal

Khaire, Shri Chandrakant

Khan, Shri Hassan

Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali

Khan, Shri Sunil

Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar

Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali

Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.

Khanna, Shri Vinod

Khunte, Shri P.R.

Khurana, Shri Madan Lal

Kriplani, Shri Shrichand

Krishnadas, Shri N.N.

Krishnamraju, Shri

Krishnamurthy, Shri K.E.

Krishnan, Dr. C.

Krishnaswamy, Shri A.

Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya

Kumaramangalam, Shri P.R.

Kuppusami, Shri C.

Kurup, Shri Suresh

Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna

Kyndiah, Shri P.R.

L

Lahiri, Shri Samik

Lepcha, Shri S.P.

M

M. Master Mathan, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y.G.

Mahajan, Shrimati Sumitra

Mahant, Dr. Charan Das

Maharia, Shri Subhash

Mahato, Shri Bir Singh

Mahtab, Shri Bhartruhari

Mahto, Shrimati Abha

Manjhi, Shri Parsuram

Makwana, Shri Savshibhai

Malaisamy, Shri K.

Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar

*Mallikarajunappa, Shri G.

Malyala, Shri Rajaiah

Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Mane, Shri Shivaji

Mane, Shrimati Nivedita

Manjay Lal, Shri

Manjhi, Shri Ramjee

Maran, Shri Murasoli

Marandi, Shri Babu Lal

Mayawati, Kumari

Meena, Shrimati Jas Kaur

Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti

Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina

Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari

Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal

Mohan, Shri P.

Mohite, Shri Subodh

Mollah, Shri Hannan

Mookherjee, Shri S.B.

*Voted through slip.

Munda, Shri Kariya
Muni Lall, Shri
Muniyappa, Shri K.H.
Murmu, Shri Rupchand
Murmu, Shri Salkhan
Murthi, Shri M.V.V.S.
Murthi, Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara
Muttemwar, Shri Vilas

N

Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.
Naik, Shri Ram
Naik, Shri Shripad Yasso
Narah, Shrimati Ranee
Nayak, Shri Ananta
Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad
Nitish Kumar, Shri

O

Oram, Shri Jual
Osmani, Shri A.F. Golam

P

Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada
Pal, Shri Rupchand
Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.
Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar
Pandeya, Dr, Laxminarayan
Pandiyan, Shri P.H.
Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar
Panja, Shri Ajit Kumar
Paranjpe, Shri Prakash
Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh
Parthasarathi, Shri B.K.
Pasi, Shri Suresh
Passi, Shri Raj Narain
Paswan, Dr. Sanjay
Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Paswan, Shri Ramchandra
Paswan, Shri Sukdeo
Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar
Patel, Dr. Ashok
Patel, Shri Chandresh
Pate, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbhai
Patel, Shri Dharam Raj Singh
Patel, Shri Dinsha
Patel, Shri Mansinh
Pathak, Shri Harin
Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.
Patil, Shri Balasheb Vikhe
Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb
Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad
Patil, Shri Shivraj V.
Patil, Shri Uttamrao
Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal
Pawaiya, Shri Jaibhan Singh
Pawar, Shri Sharad
Pilot, Shri Rajesh
Ponnuswamy, Shri E.
Potai, Shri Sohan
Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Pradhan, Dr. Debendra
Pradhan, Shri Ashok,
Pramanik, Prof. R.R.
Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa
*Prasada, Shri Jitendra
Premajam, Prof. A.K.
Puglia, Shri Naresh

R

Radhakrishnan, Shri C.P.
Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon
Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala
Raja, Shri A.
Rajbangshi, Shri Madhab

*Voted through slip.

Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara
Rajendran, Shri P.
Ram Sajivan, Shri
Ram, Shri Braj Mohan
Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.
Ramaiah, Shri Gunipati
Raman, Dr.
Ramchandran, Shri Gingee N.
Ramshakal, Shri
Rana, Shri Kashiram
Rana, Shri Raju
Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar
Rao, Shri D.V.G. Shankar
Rao, Shri Ganta Sreenivasa
Rao, Shri Y.V.
Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin
Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh
Rau, Shrimati Prabha
Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh
Rawat Prof., Rasa Singh
Rawat, Shri Pradeep
Rawat, Shri Ramsagar
Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada
Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender
Reddy, Shri Chada Suresh
Reddy, Shri G. Ganga
Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana
Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal
Renu Kumari, Shrimati
Roy, Shri Subodh
Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar

S

Sahu, Shri Anadi
Sahu, Shri Tarachand
Samantray, Shri Prabhat
Sanadi, Prof. I.G.
Sanghani, Shri Dilesp
Sangtam, Shri K.A.
Sangwan, Shri Kishan Singh
Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed
Saroja, Dr. V.
Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh
Sayeed, Shri P.M.
Scindia, Shri Madhavrao
Selvaganpathi, Shri T.M.
Sen, Shrimati Minati
Sengupta, Dr. Nitish
Seth, Shri Lakshamn
Sethi, Shri Arjun
Shah, Shri Manabendra
Shahabuddin, Mohd.
Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid
Shakya, Shri Raghuraj Singh
Shanmugam, Shri N.T.
Shanta Kumar, Shri
Sharma, Capt. Satish
Sharma, Vaidya, Vishnu Datt
Shervani, Shri Saleem I.
Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan
Sikdar, Shri Tapan
Singh Deo, Shri K.P.
Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari
Singh, Capt. (Retd.) Inter
Singh, Ch. Tejveer
Singh, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad
Singh, Dr. Ram Lakhan
Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh
Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj
Singh, Rajkumari Ratna
Singh, Sardar Buta
*Singh, Shri Bahadur
Singh, Shri Balbir

*Voted through slip.

Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan
Singh, Shri C.N.
Singh, Shri, Chandra Bhushan
*Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap
Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay
*Singh, Shri Chhattrapal
Singh, Shri Digvijay
Singh, Shri Jai Bhadra
Singh, Shri Khel Sai
Singh, Shri Lakshman
Singh, Shri Maheshwar
Singh, Shri Prabhunath
Singh, Shri Radha Mohan
Singh, Shri Rajo
Singh, Shri Ram Prasad
Singh, Shri Ramanand
Singh, Shri Ramjivan
Singh, Shri Rampal
Singh, Shri Sahib
Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad
Singh, Shrimati Kanti
Singh, Shrimati Shyama
Singh, Shri Manoj
Sinha, Shri Yashwant
Sivakumar, Shri V.S.
Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh
Somaiya, Shri Kirit
Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar
Srikantappa, Shri D.C.
Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava
Subba, Shri M.K.
Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.
Suman, Shri Ramji Lal
Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil
Swain, Shri Kharabela

*Voted through slip.

Swami, Shri Chinmayanand
Swami, Shri I.D.

T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.
Thakur, Dr. C.P.
Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai
Thakur, Shri Ramsheth
Thirunavukarasu, Shri
Thomas, Shri P.C.
Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari
Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt
Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal
*Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand
Topdar, Shri Tarit Baran
Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani
Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore

U

*Uma Bharati, Kumari

V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh
Vaiko, Shri
Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari
Veerappa Shri Ramchandra
Venkataswamy, Dr. N.
Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.
Venugopal, Shri D.
Verma, Prof. Rita
Verma, Shri Rajesh
Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
Vetriselvan, Shri V.
Vijaya, Kumari, Shrimati D.M.
Vijayan, Shri A.K.S.
Virendra Kumar, Shri
Vukkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma
Vyas, Dr. Girija

*Voted through slip.

W

Wanga, Shri Chintaman

Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar

Y

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

Yadav, Shri Balram Singh

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh

Yadav, Shri Ramakant

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Yerrannaidu, Shri K.

Z

Zawma, Shri Vanlal

NOES

Ambedkar, Shri Prakash Yashwant

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the result* of the divisions is:

Ayes: 405

Noes: 1

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1—Short Title

Amendment made:

Page 1, line 3,—

Ninetieth Amendment) Act, 2000".

substitute "(Eighty-first Amendment) Act, 2000". (2)

(Shrimati Vasundhara Raje)

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put clause 1, as amended, to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

MR. SPEAKER: The lobbies are already cleared. I shall now put the motion.

The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

13.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha divided:

AYES

Division No. 3 **13.09 hrs.**

A

A. Narendra, Shri

Abdullakutty, Shri A.P.

Acharia, Shri Basu Deb

Adhi Sankar, Shri

---

*The following Members also recorded their votes through slip:

AYES: 405+ Kumari Uma Bharati, Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, Shri Chandra Pratap Singh, Shri Bahadur Singh, Dr. Ramesh Chand Tomar, Shri Chattarpal Singh, Shri G. Mallikarjunappa, Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi, Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary, Shri Basudeb Acharia, Shri Jitendra Prasada = 416

Abst: 1 - Shri Bahadur Singh (Corrected to Ayes) = Nil.

Adsul, Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Advani, Shri L.K.

Aiyar, Shri Mani Shankar

Ajaya Kumar, Shri S.

Alva, Shrimati Margaret

Alvi, Shri Rashid

*Ambreesha, Shri

Ananth Kumar, Shri

Angle, Shri Ramakant

Argal, Shri Ashok

Arya, Dr. (Shrimati) Anita

Athawale, Shri Ramdas

Atkinson, Shri Denzil B.

Azad, Shri Kirti Jha

B

Baalu, Shri T.R.

Babban Rajbhar, Shri

Babbar, Shri Raj

'Bachda' Shri Bachi Singh Rawat

Baghel, Prof. S.P. Singh

Bainda, Shri Ramchander

Bais, Shri Ramesh

Baitha, Shri Mahendra

Baliram, Dr.

Banantwalla, Shri G.M.

Bandyopadhyay, Shri Sudip

Banerjee, Kumari Mamata

Banerjee, Shrimati Jayashree

Bangarappa, Shri S.

Bansal, Shri Pawan Kumar

Banswal, Shri Shyam Lal

Barman, Shri Ranen

Barwala Shri Surendra Singh

Basavanagoud, Shri Kolur

Bauri, Shrimati Sandhya

Baxla, Shri Joachim

Bhagat, Prof. Dukha

Bhagora, Shri Tarachand

Bhargava, Shri Girdhari Lal

Bhaura, Shri Bhan Singh

Bishnoi, Shri Jaswant Singh

Bose, Shrimati Krishna

Brahmanaiah, Shri A.

Brar, Shri J.S.

Bwiswmuthiary, Shri Sansuma Khunggur

C

C. Suguna Kumari, Dr. (Shrimati)

Chakraborty, Shri Ajoy

Chakravarty, Shrimati Bijoya

Chandel, Shri Suresh

Chatterjee, Shri Somnath

Chaturvedi, Shri Satyavrat

Chaubey, Shri Lal Muni

Chaudhary, Shri Haribhai

*Chaudhary, Shri Ram Raghuanth

Chaudhary, Shri Ram Tahal

Chaudhri, Shri Manibhai Ramjibhai

Chauhan, Shri Bal Krishna

Chauhan, Shri Nandkumar Singh

Chauhan, Shri Shriram

Chennithala, Shri Ramesh

Chikhalia, Shrimati Bhavnaben Devrajbhai

Chinnasamy, Shri M.

Choudhary, Col. (Retd.) Sona Ram

Choudhary, Shri Nikhil Kumar

Choudhary, Shrimati Reena

*Voted through slip.

*Voted through slip.

Choudhary, Shri Padam Sen
Choudhary, Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan
Choudhary, Shri Samar
Chouhan, Shri Nihal Chand
Chouhan, Shri Shivraj Singh
Chowdhary, Shrimati Santosh
Chowdhary, Shrimati Renuka

D

D'souza, Dr. (Smt.) Beatrix
Dahal, Shri Bhim
Das, Shri Nepal Chandra
Dasmunsi, Shri Priya Ranjan
Deepak Kumar, Shri
Deo, Shri Bikram Keshari
Dev, Shri Sontosh Mohan
Devi. Shrimati Kailasho
Dhikale, Shri Uttamrao
*Diler, Shri Kishan Lal
Diwathe, Shri Namdeo Harbaji
Dome, Dr. Ram Chandra
Dudi, Shri Rameshwar
Dullo, Shri Shamsher Singh
Durai, Shri M.

E

Eden, Shri George
Elangovan, Shri P.D.

F

Farook, Shri M.O.H.
Fernandes, Shri George

G

Gadde, Shir Ram Mohan
Gadhavi, Shri P.S.
Galib, Shri G.S.
Gamang, Shrimati Hema
Gamlin, Shri Jarbom
Gandhi, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal
Gandhi, Shrimati Maneka
Gandhi, Shrimati Sonia
Gangwar, Shri Santosh Kumar
Gautam, Shrimati Sheela
Gavit, Shri Manikrao Hodlya
Gavit, Shri Ramdas Rupala
Gawali, Kumari Bhavana Pundlikrao
Geete, Shri Anant Gangaram
Gehlot, Shri Thawar Chand
Giluwa, Shri Laxman
Goel, Shri Vijay
Gohain, Shri Rajen
Govindan, Shri T.
Gowda, Shri G. Putta Swamy
*Gupta. Prof. Chaman Lal

H

Hamid, Shri Abdul
Handique, Shri Bijoy
Hansda, Shri Thomas
Hussain, Shri Syed Shahnawaz

I

Indora, Dr. Sushil Kumar

J

Jag Mohan, Shri
Jagannath, Dr. Manda
Jain, Shri Pusp
Jaiswal, Dr. M.P.
Jaiswal, Shri Shankar Prasad
Jaiswal, Shri Shriprakash
Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
Javiya, Shri G.J.

*Voted through slip.

Jayaseelan, Dr. A.D.K.

Jha, Shri Raghunath

Jos, Shri A.C.

Joshi, Dr. Murli Manohar

Joshi, Shri Manohar

K

Kamble, Shri Shivaji Vithalrao

Kannappan, Shri M.

Kanungo, Shri Trilochan

Kashyap, Shri Bali Ram

Kaswan, Shri Ram Singh

Kataria, Shri Rattan Lal

Kathiria, Dr. Vallabhbhai

Katiyar, Shri Vinay

Kaur, Shrimati Preneet

Kaushal, Shri Raghuvir Singh

Khabri, Shri Brijlal

Khaire, Shri Chandrakant

Khan, Shri Hassan

Khan, Shri Mansoor Ali

Kha, Shri Sunil

Khandelwal, Shri Vijay Kumar

Khandoker, Shri Akbor Ali

Khanduri, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) B.C.

Khanna, Shri Vinod

Khunte, Shri P.R.

Khurana, Shri Madan Lal

Kriplani, Shri Shrichand

Krishnadas, Shri N.N.

Krishnamraju, Shri

Krishnamurthy, Shri K.E.

Krishnan, Dr. C.

Krishnaswamy, Shri A.

Kumar, Shri V. Dhananjaya

Kumaramanagiam, Shri P.R.

Kuppusami, Shri C.

Kurup, Shri Suresh

Kusmaria, Dr. Ramkrishna

Kyndiah, Shri P.R.

L

Lahiri, Shri Samik

Lepcha, Shri S.P.

M

M. Master Mathan, Shri

Mahajan, Shri Y.G.

Mahajan Shrimati Sumitra

Mahant, Dr. Charan Das

Maharia, Shri Subhash

Mahato, Shri Bir Singh

Mahtab, Shri Bhartruhari

Mahto, Shrimati Abha

Manjhi, Shri Parsuram

Makwana, Shri Savshibhai

Malaisamy, Shri K.

Malhotra, Dr. Vijay Kumar

Malik, Shri Jagannath

Mallikarjunappa, Shri G.

Malyala, Shri Rajaiah

Mandal, Shri Brahma Nand

Mandal, Shri Sanat Kumar

Mane, Shri Shivaji

Mane, Shrimati Nivedita

Manjay Lal, Shri

Manjhi, Shri Ramjee

Maran, Shri Murasoli

Marandi, Shri Babu Lal

Mayawati, Kumari

Meena, Shrimati Jaa Kaur

Mehta, Shrimati Jayawanti

Mishra, Shri Ram Nagina

Mishra, Shri Shyam Bihari

Mohale, Shri Punnu Lal

Mohan, Shri P.

Mohite, Shri Subodh

Mollah, Shri Hannan

Mookherjee, Shri S.B.

Munda, Shri Kariya

Muni Lall, Shri

Muniyappa, Shri K.H.

Murmu, Shri Rupchand

Murmu, Shri Salkhan

Murthi, Shri M.V.V.S.

Murthi, Shri M.V. Chandrashekhara

Muttemwar, Shri Vilas

N

Naik, Shri Ali Mohd.

Naik, Shri Ram

Naik, Shri Shripad Yasso

Narah, Shrimati Ranee

Nayak, Shri Ananta

Nishad, Capt. Jai Narain Prasad

Nitish Kumar, Shri

O

Ola, Shri Sis Ram

Oram, Shri Jual

Osmani, Shri A.F. Golam

P

Padmanabham, Shri Mudragada

Pal, Shri Rupchand

Palanimanickam, Shri S.S.

Pandey, Shri Ravindra Kumar

Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarayan

Pandiyan, Shri P.H.

Panja, Dr. Ranjit Kumar

Panja, Shri Ajit Kumar

Paranjpe, Shri Prakash

Parste, Shri Dalpat Singh

Parthasarathi, Shri B.K.

Pasi, Shri Suresh

Passi, Shri Raj Narain

Paswan, Dr. Sanjay

Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas

Paswan, Shri Ramchandra

Paswan, Shri Sukdeo

Patasani, Dr. Prasanna Kumar

Patel, Dr. Ashok

Patel, Shri Chandresh

Patel, Shri Dahyabhai Vallabhbhai

Patel, Shri Dharam Raj Singh

Patel, Shri Dinsha

Patel, Shri Mansinh

Pathak, Shri Harin

Patil, Shri Annasaheb M.K.

Patil, Shri Balasaheb Vikhe

Patil, (Yatnal), Shri Basangouda R.

Patil, Shri Danve Raosaheb

Patil, Shri Jaysingrao Gaikwad

Patil, Shri Shivraj V.

Patil, Shri Uttamrao

Patwa, Shri Sundar Lal

Pawaiya, Shri Jaibhan Singh

Pawar, Shri Sharad

Pilot, Shri Rajesh

Ponnuswamy, Shri E.

Potai, Shri Sohan

Prabhu, Shri Suresh

Pradhan, Dr. Debendra

Pradhan, Shri Ashok,

Pramanik, Prof. R.R.

Prasad, Shri V. Sreenivasa

Prasada, Shri Jitendra

Premajam, Prof. A.K.

R

Radhakrishnan, Shri C.P.

Radhakrishnan, Shri Pon

Radhakrishnan, Shri Varkala

Raja, Shri A.

Raje, Shrimati Vasundhara

Rejendran, Shri P.

Rajukhedi, Shri Gajendra Singh

Ram Sajivan, Shri

Ram, Shri Braj Mohan

Ramaiah, Dr. B.B.

Ramaiah, Shri Gunipati

Raman, Dr.

Ramachandran, Shri Gingee N.

Ramshakal, Shri

Rana, Shri Kashiram

Rana, Shri Raju

Rao, Shri Ch. Vidyasagar

Rao, Shri D.V.G. Shankar

Rao, Shri Ganta Sreenivasa

Rao, Shri Y.V.

Rashtrapal, Shri Pravin

Rathwa, Shri Ramsinh

Rau, Shrimati Prabha

Ravi, Shri Sheesh Ram Singh

Rawat, Prof. Rasa Singh

Rawat, Shri Pradeep

*Rawat, Shri Ramsagar

Ray, Shri Bishnu Pada

Reddy, Shri A.P. Jithender

Reddy, Shri Chada Suresh

Reddy, Shri G. Ganga

Reddy, Shri N. Janardhana

Reddy, Shri S. Jaipal

Renu Kumari, Shrimati

Roy, Shri Subodh

Roy Pradhan, Shri Amar

S

Sahu, Shri Anadi

Sahu, Shri Tarachand

Samantray, Shri Prabhat

Sanadi, Prof. I.G.

Sanghani, Shri Dileep

Sangtam, Shri K.A.

Sangwan, shri Kishan Singh

Saradgi, Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Saroj, Shrimati Sushila

Saroja, Dr. V.

Sathi, Shri Harpal Singh

Sayeed, Shri P.M.

Scindia, Shri Madhavrao

Selvaganpathi, Shri T.M.

Sen, Shrimati Minati

Sengupta, Dr. Nitish

Seth, Shri Lakshman

Sethi, Shri Arjun

Shah, Shri Manabendra

Shahabuddin, Mohd.

Shaheen, Shri Abdul Rashid

Shakya, Shri Raguraj Singh

Shandil, Col. (Retd.) Dr. Dhani Ram

Shanmugam, Shri N.T.

Shanta Kumar, Shri

Sharma, Capt. Satish

*Voted through slip.

Sharma, Vaidya Vishnu Datt

Shervani, Shri Saleem I.

Shukla, Shri Shyamacharan

Sikdar, Shri Tapan

Singh Deo, Shri K.P.

Singh Deo, Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari

Singh Capt. (Retd.) Inder

Singh. Ch. Tejveer

Singh. Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

Singh. Dr. Ram Lakhan

Singh, Kunwar Akhilesh

Singh, Kunwar Sarv Raj

Singh, Rajkumari Ratna

Singh, Sardar Buta

Singh, Shri Bahadur

Singh, Shri Balbir

Singh, Shri Brij Bhushan Sharan

Singh, Shri C.N.

Singh, Shri Chandra Bhushan

Singh, Shri Chandra Pratap

Singh, Shri Chandra Vijay

Singh, Shri Chhattrapal

Singh, Shri Digvijay

Singh, Shri Jai Bhadra

Singh, Shri Khel Sai

Singh, Shri Lakshman

Singh, Shri Maheshwar

Singh, Shri Prabhunath

Singh, Shri Radha Mohan

Singh, Shri Rajo

Singh, Shri Ram Prasad

Singh, Shri Ramanand

Singh, Shri Ramjivan

Singh, Shri Rampal

Singh, Shri Sahib

Singh, Shri Tilakdhari Prasad

Singh, Shrimati Kanti

Singh, Shrimati Shyama

Sinha, Shri Manoj

Sinha, Shri Yashwant

Sivakumar, Shri V.S.

Solanki, Shri Bhupendrasinh

Somaiya, Shri Kirit

Sorake, Shri Vinay Kumar

Srikantappa, Shri D.C.

Srinivasulu, Shri Kalava

Subba, Shri M.K.

Sudarsana Natchiappan, Shri E.M.

Suman, Shri Ramji Lal

Suresh, Shri Kodikunnil

Swain, Shri Kharabela

Swami, Shri Chinmayanand

Swami, Shri I.D.

T

Thakkar, Shrimati Jayaben B.

Thakur, Dr. C.P.

Thakur, Shri Chunni Lal Bhai

Thakur, Shri Ramsheth

Thirunavukarasu, Shri

Thomas, Shri P.C.

Tiwari, Shri Lal Bihari

Tiwari, Shri Narayan Datt

Tiwari, Shri Sunder Lal

Tomar, Dr. Ramesh Chand

Topdar, Shri Tarit baran

Tripathi, Shri Prakash Mani

Tripathy, Shri Braja Kishore

U

Uma Bharati, Kumari

V

Vaghela, Shri Shankersinh

Valko, Shri

Vajpayee, Shri Atal Bihari

Veerappa, Shri Ramchandra

Venkataswamy, Dr. N.

Venkateshwarlu, Shri B.

Venugopal, Shri D.

Verma, Prof. Rita

Verma, Shri Rajesh

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash

Vetriselvan, Shri V.

Vijaya Kumari, Shrimati D.M.

Vijayan, Shri A.K.S.

Virendra Kumar, Shri

Vulkala, Dr. Rajeswaramma

Vyas, Dr. Girija

W

Wanga, Shri Chintaman

Wangcha, Shri Rajkumar

Y

Yadav, Shri Akhilesh

Yadav, Dr. Jaswant Singh

Yadav, Shri Balram Singh

Yadav, Shri Devendra Prasad

Yadav, Shri Dinesh Chandra

Yadav, Shri Hukumdeo Narayan

Yadav, Shri Jagdambi Prasad

Yadav, Shri Mulayam Singh

Yadav, Shri Ramakant

Yadav, Shri Sharad

Yerrannaidu, Shri K.

Z

Zawma, Shri Vanlal

NOES

Ambedkar, Shri Prakash Yashwant

MR. SPEAKER: Subject to correction, the result* of the division is:

Ayes: 418

Noes: 1

The motion is carried by a majority of the total membership of the House and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting.

The Bill, as amended, is passed by the requisite majority, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution.

The motion was adopted.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Zero Hour. Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Khammam): Sir, I wish to raise a serious matter of privilege against the District Collector of Khammam Constituency in Andhra Pradesh. This man has insulted and prevented us from gathering information....*(Interruptions)* He has prevented me from discharging my duty as a Member of Parliament and further went on to abuse another lady Member of Parliament....*(Interruptions)* He called her by her caste....*(Interruptions)* He threatened both of us....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please understand that you have given a notice of privilege. It is under my consideration.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We have already called for the facts of the case.

---

*The following members also recorded their votes through slip:

Ayes: 418 + Prof. Chaman Lal Gupta, Shri Kishan Lal Diler, Shri Ram Sagar Rawat, Shri Ram Raghunath Choudhary, Shri Ambareesa = 423

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: No, Sir, I just wanted to say that there is a *prima facie* evidence....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; at this stage, you cannot say anything.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is already under my consideration.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is going on here?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, order please.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, the other lady Member, who is moving the privilege, has also permitted me to say about this matter....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I will call one-by-one. I have received 47 notices today.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ (Misrikh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to show you the newspaper that no lady police was there when the demonstration was held by us....*(Interruptions)* Police manhandled a woman....*(Interruptions)* I would draw the attention of the House....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, if you want to raise matters during Zero Hour in this manner, it will be very difficult to run the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have a list. I will call one-by-one and not like this.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not the first time....*(Interruptions)* There has been a rise in the atrocities committed on the women in Uttar Pradesh from where I have got elected. Atrocities are being committed on poor women as well as those belonging to upper caste....*(Interruptions)* a woman and her husband in Sitapur district....*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please speak later on. Please sit down. You can speak after him. Your name will be called after him. Please take your seat....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now Suresh Kurup will speak.

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Police behaved ruthlessly with the women....*(Interruptions)* Lady police should have been present there at the time the demonstration was being held by the women....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury, you are a senior Member. You have already raised the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please hear me first. What is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: She wants to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Why should you recommend her name?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: She can straightway raise the matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; you have raised a matter with regard to privileges. You have given a notice. It is under my consideration. I have already called for the facts.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: How can you raise the matter like this?

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Sir, it is with a very heavy....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very serious issue....*(Interruptions)* When the people from Agra were staging a dharna at Prime Minister's residence for getting adequate water facility, women demonstrators were treated in cruel, ruthless and uncivilized manner by police. It is really shameful....*(Interruptions)* It clearly shows the attitude of the Government towards the women....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you are not going to cooperate with the Chair, I am going to adjourn the House.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. S.P. SINGH BAGHEL (Jalesar): The Government incapable of providing adequate drinking water facility to the people, has no moral right to be in power....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This will not go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.15 p.m.

13.16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifteen minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.22 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Twenty-Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(SHRI BABU DEB ACHARIA *in the Chair*)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Jethmalani to move the Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on Dividends) Act, 1974.

...(Interruptions)

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*Not Recorded

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): She has been insulted by the Collector. She is talking about the privilege notice. The lady MP has been insulted by a Collector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She can raise it tomorrow.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ (Mishrikh): Sir, this is a matter regarding the problems of women....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down at this time. You may speak tomorrow.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): Will you continue 'Zero Hour' even after lunch time everyday. I humbly request you not to do so in the interest of the House....*(Interruptions)* I agree with you. You may speak on this issue tomorrow and speak as much as you want to but do not behave in this manner. It is inappropriate...*(Interruptions)* This is totally wrong.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Sir, please listen to us, it is a very serious matter...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record, except the speech of the Minister....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. What you are saying is not going on record. You have already raised this matter during Zero Hour.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: Sir, it is a very serious matter, please listen to me. I humbly request you to listen to women Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sumanji, please be seated.

SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN (Firozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a matter of great importance. It is related to women...*(Interruptions)*

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*Not Recorded

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this problem concerns women. Please given me two minute's time...*(Interruptions)* It does not pertain to a single party, rather it concerns all the women, please give me two minutes' time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not today, you will be given opportunity to speak tomorrow.

SHRI RAMJILAL SUMAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a serious matter. Lady police was not present during demonstration. Police lathi charged the women...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except what the Minister says.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: Mr. Chairman, Sir, water level has gone down due to excessive heat and people are facing acute shortage of water there. A group of women led by Shri Raj Babbar, the Member of Parliament from Agra had come to Delhi with their demands. You must have seen in today's newspapers. The Times of India has also published it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Raj Babbar himself has raised this matter yesterday. He has already spoken on this issue.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SAROJ: I would like the hon'ble Members to lend their support on this issue. It is not a simple matter of a demonstration held by Samajwadi Party rather it is a matter pertaining to the atrocities committed on the women. Whenever the women come to Delhi to stage demonstration for their demands male police staff is deployed instead of lady police and they misbehave with women. It is a very serious matter. The matter should be investigated by constituting a women's committee and the persons found guilty should be punished.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record now.

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* Not recorded.

14.30 hrs.

INDIAN COMPANIES (FOREIGN INTERESTS) AND THE COMPANIES (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS ON DIVIDENDS) REPEAL BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE, AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

> "That the Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on dividends) Act, 1974, be taken into consideration."

Sir, it does not require any consideration. It is a cleaning operation. This is part of those 1,300 statutes on our statute book which are found by experts to be totally obsolete and useless. Slowly, every time, we are coming with two or three such things pertaining to a Ministry and repealing them. These have to be repealed because they are obsolete and useless.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on dividends) Act, 1974, be taken into consideration."

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Sir, I do not think there is any need for any discussion in this Bill.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur,Orissa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for the opportunity. I rise to support the Bill. The House must be aware of the fact that the National Democratic Alliance, in its manifesto has made it very clear that the rules and procedures will be simplified and that there will be administrative reforms in all walks of governance.

As you are aware, the economic scenario of this country has been changing very fast. In consonance with the economic scenario, laws have to be changed; procedures have to be changed and obsolete laws have to be repealed, abrogated or merged with new laws. That is the intention of this particular enactment and the subsequent Bill which will come up in this House after some time.

Till 1991-92 the Indian economy was command economy. Commanding heights were occupied by the public sector. But at the present stage it is the market-oriented economy. When you go into the market-oriented economy, we have to think of new procedures and new enactments.

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*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 10.5.2000.

You may be aware that the Law Commission, in its 159th Report, had advised that many of the obsolete laws should be changed. Keeping in view the recommendations, the Jain Commission was set up in 1998 itself under the chairmanship of Shri Jain who was a retired IAS officer. The Jain Commission, in its Report, had indicated that some of the laws have to be changed so that the economy that is taking a different turn altogether may cope up with the requirements of the people.

As all of us know, laws must facilitate the social and economic progress of the people within the democratic set up. Many of the enactments which have been passed earlier needed to be changed. While changing these laws, the policy process has to be kept in mind. The present difficulty of the policy process is four-fold. The difficulties are four-fold. There has been a declining autonomy as a result of increasing interference of multilateral agencies; increased centralisation; the crisis of self-denunciation and the fourth crisis is the privileged access. The laws which are being repealed now relate to the last category of privileged access.

The two enactments which are very old—one is of 1918 and the other is of 1974—are proposed to be repealed and it is very correct also. I give an example of the Foreign Exchange (Regulation) Act of 1973. Adjudication Boards were set up and all those things were there. But again in 1999, it was changed keeping in view the requirements of those areas. There has been an on-going process of economic liberalisation relating to foreign investment, foreign trade and there has been substantial increase in the last two years in foreign trade.

I mentioned about the policy crisis above as the fourth crisis. Rationalisation of tariffs, current account convertibility, liberalisation of Indian investments abroad, increased access to external commercial borrowings and participation of foreign institutional investors—all these things have changed the economic scenario. Those obsolete laws which were there have to be repealed so that we can go ahead with a smooth functioning of the reforms.

With these words I conclude and I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Law Commission is reviewing 1300 laws relating to different Ministries which are not being utilised and which have become ineffective and the same will be brought before the House for consideration. N.D.A. Government wants to abrogate those laws which are obstructive and enact new laws which would protect the interests of the people. I heartily welcome the bill introduced by the hon'ble Minister.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the report of the Law Commission and the Jain Commission was to be tabled in the House on the basis of which this law has been repealed. It is unfortunate that the reports are not available in the library. I request hon'ble Minister to instruct the officials in this regard. If the report had been tabled in House, our knowledge would have been enhanced. Further it is mentioned in the bill that it can be considered. It is a good step on the part of the government, because the review report of the commission was dated 08.05.1998 when Congress was in power. It would have been better if the report had been laid in the House. It is an Act of pre-independence era and has become obsolete. We are now moving into the 21st century. Previous era has come to an end and hence the Government should bring new laws.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hope that the Government will introduce a new bill repealing the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and Companies (Temporary Restrictions on Dividends) Act, 1974 and it will also present the review report of Law Commission in the House so as to facilitate the consideration of the ensuing bill.

[English]

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: I pay gratitude to those who have spoken and I pay more gratitude to those who have not spoken.

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Mr. Chairman Sir, the Commission which was appointed in 1988 was mainly appointed to make recommendations about repeal of Acts which have become old and obsolete. As the hon. Members have said, the present Bill relates to Acts pertaining to the years 1918 and 1974 which are old and have become obsolete. We know that we had imposed restrictions on dividend and other things. Since our requirement of resources for foreign investment for infrastructure development is so huge that we need to have it from outside. So, we want to repeal whatever restrictions we had put earlier. The Commission has also recommended that we have to take the right step of repealing these Acts. We have to attract funds from NRIs and outside agencies in order to improve our economy because the whole economy has been linked with the present scenario, the market position. Now, we have to look into the present situation. In the present circumstances, unless we adjust to the world economy, we will not be able to get more attractive terms and conditions, and we do not have enough resources or

[Dr. B.B. Ramaiah]

savings to meet all these requirements. In view of that, we have to fall in line with the present situation. I firmly support the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal the Indian Companies (Foreign Interests) Act, 1918 and the Companies (Temporary Restrictions on Dividends) Act, 1974, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause I, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister may move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

14.41 hrs.

DIRECT-TAX LAWS (MISCELLANEOUS) REPEAL BILL*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Yashwant Sinha to move that the Bill to repeal certain enactments relating to direct taxes, be taken into consideration.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): Sir, on behalf of my senior colleague, Shri Yashwant Sinha, I rise to move for consideration the Direct-Tax Laws (Miscellaneous) Repeal Bill.

The Bill seeks to repeal certain enactments relating to direct taxes, which have outlived their utility. The Commission on review of the Administrative Laws was constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri P.C. Jain by the Central Government on 8th May, 1998. The Commission was constituted with the objective of undertaking, *inter alia*, review of the Administrative Laws and making recommendations for repeal/amendment of laws. With a view to cleanse the Statute Book, the Commission has identified and recommended certain laws for repeal as they have outlived their utility.

In pursuance of the recommendations of the Commission, the Central Government have decided to repeal 18 enactments relating to direct taxes specified in the Schedule to the Bill. Care has been taken to see that anything done under the provisions of the enactments, which are sought to be repealed now, is saved under the provisions of this Bill; and anything which is not deemed to have been done there will not get any sanctity of law by the passing of this Bill, which I am moving for the consideration of this House.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:*

"That the Bill to repeal certain enactments relating to direct taxes, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to repeal certain enactments relating to direct taxes, be taken into consideration."

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, while supporting the move, I have to point out certain irregularities. Now, this is a research work, and some research work will have to be completed. By this Act, 18 Central Acts, which were unknown in day-to-day life and even in the functioning of the Government, have now been repealed. These 18 Acts, which were not in force, have now been repealed by one Act, that is, the Direct-Tax Laws (Miscellaneous) Repeal Bill.

Here, as the list item, two Ordinances have been included. One Ordinance was issued in 1942. The Ordinance, which was issued in 1942, is to be repealed by this Act. I do not understand the logic behind it.

Why should it be repealed? It has already been repealed by an act of force! An Ordinance was promulgated by the British Goyernment in 1942. Our Independence Act has removed all these irregularities by

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*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, part-II, Section -2, dated- 10.5.2000.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

a single statute. This Ordinance will get lapsed by that Independence Act. It may be there in the statute but it need not be repealed.

Then there is another Ordinance known as the Excess Profit Tax Ordinance. This Ordinance was promulgated by the British rulers. I do not know whether it was before the Independence or after the Independence. If it was after the Independence, then it was required to be approved by the Central legislators within six weeks. If that is the case, then I do not know the logic behind repealing this Excess Profit Tax Ordinance of 1943.

Then there is another Act, namely, the Government Trading Taxation Act of 1926. That Act also was passed by the British Government. I still doubt if that Act has any validity or not. Even without passing of a statute, the Act itself is now repealed. So, the Government Trading Taxation Act of 1926 does not require such an amending Act to get repealed. If the Government wants to cut down certain Acts in the Statute book, then that is all right. But legally speaking, this amendment Bill is not at all required to repeal these Acts.

Sir, then there is another Act, namely, the Excess Profit Tax Act of 1940. It is there in the Statute Book. But who cares for it? Why are we being asked to repeal it? This is an august House. We are elected here to do some job. But now the Government have approached this House to repeal certain Acts Passed by the British's which have become a part of history. It has no relevance in the present day. But that would also have to be repealed.

Now, in order to safeguard this provision, a saving clause in the form of clause 3 has been added to the Bill. It says:

"The repeal by this Act of any enactment shall not—

(a) affect any other enactment in which the repealed enactment has been applied, incorporated or referred to:

(b) affect the validity, invalidity, effect or consequences of anything already done or suffered, or any right, title, immunity, obligation or liability already acquired, accrued or incurred, or any remedy or proceeding in respect thereof, or any release or discharge of or from any debt, penalty, obligation, liability, claim or demand, or any indemnity already granted, or the proof of any past act or thing;

(c) affect any principle or rule of law, or established jurisdiction, from or course of pleading, practice or procedure, or existing usage, custom, restriction, exemption, office or appointment, notwithstanding that the same respectively may have been in any manner affirmed or recognised or derived by, on or from any enactment hereby repealed."

Moreover, subsequently it also says:

"The mention of particular matters in sub-section (I) shall not be held to prejudice or affect the general application of section 6 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, with regard to the effect of repeals."

Clause 3 includes everything under the Sun. All that is done is given an exception by Clause 3. If anything can be done under the provisions of all these eighteen statutes then action taken under the provisions of these 18 Acts will be held valid. Now, I do not understand the necessity for repealing these Statutes. No purpose will be served.

So, I would request the hon. Minister to explain the position. I am prepared to correct myself provided the hon. Minister gives me valid reasons for including such Statutes that were there as part of history. Suppose, you get the guidelines as taxation, then there are certain statutes which would not come under the provisions of taxation also.

Take for example the Voluntary Deposits Immunities and Exemptions Act, 1991. The amounts given under the provisions of tax are also included. I would request the hon. Minister to explain as to why he has included nearly one and a half dozen statutes in the repealing Bill. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatanam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this repeal Bill aims at removing confusion that is existing in the mind of the public. This Bill seeks to repeal several Acts which merely exist on the Statute Book. To consolidate all these Acts, this Direct-tax Laws (Miscellaneous) Repeal Bill, 2000 was introduced. I support this Bill. However, I would like to know as to why the Voluntary Deposits Immunities and Exemptions Act, 1991 also is included in this. I would like to know whether, as per the recommendation of 8th May, 1998, some other Bills are also likely to be repealed. I would request the hon. Minister to come to Parliament with a comprehensive Bill as on date to avoid his coming to Parliament again and for repeal of Acts. A consolidated repeal Bill would be better. That would obviate the necessity of having to come back to Parliament again and again.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Piecemeal repeal is not good.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Instead of enacting piecemeal legislations, a comprehensive enactment has to be made to make it clear as to which are the Acts which are applicable and which are the Acts that are not applicable.

With these words, I support the Direct-tax Laws (Miscellaneous) Repeal Bill, 2000.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH (Vaishali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government decided to set up a commission in 1998 with the objective of repealing the laws, which were unnecessary or which had outlived their utility, because more laws mean more confusion. That is why, for several days, we have been noticing that bills are being introduced to repeal old laws. The present bill introduced by hon'ble Minister of Finance for repealing the old acts seems a very dangerous affair to me. It is dangerous because the statement of its objects and reasons is very brief. 20 old laws are being repealed at a time. Its objectives have been stated in just four sentences. Even in that it has not been mentioned if the earlier law was useless, or could not be implemented due to some problems or if it has been replaced by a new law. It is not appropriate to repeal as many as 20 Acts together. All these are useful laws you have not informed the House as to why you are repealing the laws.

I will tell you about every single law. The commission submitted its report and on that basis you are repealing 20 acts in one go. One of these is the voluntary disclosure of income and wealth Act, 1976, which was about the disclosure of income and wealth. Has any law been enacted to replace it? It was deliberately not implemented. Apparently the Act seems appropriate. As per the provisions of the Act, one has to disclose one's earnings and wealth so that the country gets to know about it. This is a good act because many persons amass wealth through illegal means. I feel that the laws were not implemented properly and you are repealing the 20 Acts in the absence of information. You have not said anything this. We should be informed whether we have another law in its place, or it has become unnecessary or it could not be implemented. You are repealing 20 Acts and its objects and reasons have been summed up in just four sentences. We have serious objection to it. Nothing has been mentioned about the companies (Surcharge on Income Tax) Act -1971, the Income Tax (Amendment) Act, 1965, The Estate Duty (Distribution) Act, 1962, The Estate Duty Act-1953 and whether these Acts were unnecessary and were not implemented. How can the Income Tax and Excess Profits Tax (Emergency) Ordinance, 1942 be repealed? An Ordinance lapses by itself, in 6 Months. Why have you introduced the bill to repeal it? We have serious objection because not one, but twenty Acts are being repealed and still we are not being told why the laws were not implemented or whether they were useless Acts. Hon'ble Minister will have to tell us. Why he is repealing all the 20 Acts through a single bill? Why the Voluntary Disclosure of Income and Wealth Acts, are being repealed? It is a good thing that people disclose their assets, hence it should be implemented. Just as the telephone numbers are given in the telephone directory, the assets of the people should be mentioned in the same manner. That way people would be able to know how much assets has been declared and how much assets are really possessed. The Government is acting miserly in case of the poor and the common man but is providing all sorts of facilities for the rich. All the 20 Acts are being repealed by one Bill. The Members do not pay attention to the poor. I have seen such Acts and it apparently has some hidden motive, some danger. Therefore, the Government should clarify position with regard to these 20 acts as to why. they were not implemented or if a new law has been enacted which necessitated the repeal of old law. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, whether the 1300 acts are to be repealed? It has been announced in the House several times that old Income Tax Act, will be replaced by a new Income Tax law because several amendments have been made in the Income Tax Act, due to which both Income Tax payers and the Income Tax Collectors are facing difficulties. I demand that the hon'ble Minister should repeal all such laws as per recommendations of the administrative forum constituted on 8th May. Hon'ble Minister is following the format prepared during the Congress rule and is repealing all the Acts accordingly. I only request that the new Income Tax be drafted soon- we have been hearing about it for years. I have been a member of Parliament since 9th Lok Sabha and repeatedly we have been hearing that new Income Tax Act will be drafted and people would get relief. I believe that the new Income Tax Act should be finalised. I do not wish to make any special comment about the laws which are being repealed. It is a new Government. Government of the people and we have been elected by the people. My submission is that we ought to make laws in the public interest. Please state by when the new Income Tax Act will be introduced. I thank you for having given me time for expressing my views.

[English]

15.00 hrs.

DR. NITISH SENGUPTA (Contai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to support this Bill. This is a very timely Bill to do away with a lot of cobwebs which have stood in the way of the evolution of our legal system even after the original situation has disappeared. I must thank the Government for giving this interesting piece of research taking our mind back to 1920s of the last century when under British imperial, rule, income tax to all had barely come into being. Then the Government brought into being the trading taxation. Then came another Act when the Second World War started under the Defence of India Act when Government wanted to cover the extra profits made by the business community so that it could be used for the defence of the empire. In our system a certain situation has brought into being a certian Act and it continues even after the original situation is removed cluttering the economic administrative landscape of the land, in fact, emiting bad odour and creates lot of complication all around. This Profit Ordinance Act, 1943 was of such variety incidentally the point raised by Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan is valid. An Ordinance normally would have lost its validity within six months unless it is put into the shape of a law. But I do not know why it is necessary to repeal that Ordinance which in any case has ceased to exist when it is not converted into proper law.

This point needs to be looked into. I remember that Shri R. Venkataraman was the Finance Minister when the Special Bearer Bonds (Immunities and Exemptions) Act, 1981 was enacted. The scheme was to expire with in a period of three months. I simply fail to comprehend why that law was not repealed straightway and why we should not have a provision when that law was passed. After the bearer bonds were taken, in the law should have automatically ceased to exist. That reminds me of Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1965. But what about amending the Income-tax Act proper?

When income-tax started, it was a simple Act. Then exemptions were added in English alphabet from (a) to (g) and then they started (aa), (bb) and (hh) and so on. Even that was not enough. Today now that the income-tax rates have been brought into very reasonable level, why does not the Government do away with as many exemptions as possible except those which are helping in export or investment or employment? All other exemptions should be simply done away with and a new Act started altogether.

With these words, I have great pleasure in supporting this Bill. It has not come a day too late. It should have happened long back. I compliment the present Government for showing the right direction by doing away with all these Acts which have become simply redundant and which have ceased to exist.

[Translation]

SHRI BAL KRISHNA CHAUHAN (Ghosi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given me time to speak on Direct Taxes Repeal Bill, for which I thank you.

It is correct that this country and society should be saved from the complexiy of the Law. There should be clear cut and definite laws so that general public may understand them. This Bill has been introduced to abrogate 18 Acts. I want to draw the attention of the minister towards some points related to it. This Bill contains acts prior to independence which naturally might be supporting the interests of the then British colonialism.

Sir, the acts that have been enacted after independence might certainly be having some social and economic objectives. The provision of direct tax was intended to give momentum to the economic development of the country by way of taxing the property of the rich people and spending them for helping the poor and the people belonging to the weaker section of society. As a result of the repealing of this act, the revenue that was accrued by the Estate Duty Act 1953 was granted to the state under Estate Duty (Distribution) Act, 1962. In spite of the prevalence of these laws in the country, the gap between rich and poor is widening and it is not clear as to what will be the situation after repealing estate duty.

Sir, even today there are backward regions in the country where two women manage in one 'Sari'. All the unemployed peasants of our country are committing suicide out of hunger. In this situation it is not in the interest of the poor people if the Government stop collecting tax from the rich people. That is why. I would like to request you that it is essential to make some alternative arrangement before repealing this act and to impose tax on the rich people. There are a lots of persons in our country who do not have shelter on their heads while some sections of society have thousands of acres of land. That is why my request to hon'ble Minister is that you please make alternative arrangement before repealing these legislations that have been enacted after independence for the progress of the society and for maintaining the balance and abridging the gap between rich and the poor.

[English]

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to thank all the hon. Members who have

[Shri V. Dhananjaya Kumar]

made valuable suggestions and supported the measure initiated by the Government.

That does not mean that I do not like to thank our senior colleague, Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, who has raised certain doubts. Dr. Nitish Sengupta also asked a clarification especially with reference to the move of the Government to repal three of the Ordinances.

I would like to bring to the notice of the august House, through you, Sir, that these three Ordinances were Ordinances passed during wartime. Since these three Ordinances were of a special nature, the lives of the Ordinances were made permanent, in the sense that unless repealed specifically, these Ordinances would continue to be applicable.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: The Ordinances, in such case, would not get legislative sanctity. Without legislative sanctity, how can the Ordinances remain? The Ordinances will have to be subsequently ratified by the Central legislature, at least.

Sir, I want to make one submission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After he completes, you can ask clarifications....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am supporting the move of the Government. But it is not a good practice to repeal an Ordinance which is not there.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Sir, these three Ordinances, the Income-Tax and Excess Profits Tax Emergency Ordinance 1942; Income-Tax Proceedings Validity Ordinance 1943, Excess Profits Tax Ordinance, 1943, as I had submitted, were promulgated during the war time. The Ordinance, The Income-Tax and Excess Profits Tax Emergency Ordinance was promulgated in 1942 with a view to removing certain difficulties caused by the destruction of documents and records pertaining to the collection of Income-Tax, and Excess Profits Tax Ordinance was promulgated due to civil riots. These Ordinances outlives their utility. So far as the Income-Tax Proceedings Validity Ordinances, 1943 is concerned, it was promulgated in 1943 with a view to establishing validity of certain appointments as Income-Tax officers under the Income-Tax Act, 1922. The Ordinance being of historical value has outlived its utility. The third one, Excess Profits Tax Ordinance was promulgated in the year 1943 to make certain provision in connection with the excess profits made under the Excess Profits Tax Act, 1940. As mentioned in item No. 2 above, this Act has also outlives its utility. Therefore, these Ordinances are of only historical value.

Senior Member, Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan, made a submission that unless these Ordinances are enacted, how can they have force? I have already submitted that these three Ordinances were of special nature and they were promulgated during war time. They were supposed to be having the effect as if they would continue until they were repealed specifically by a provision which is contained in this Bill. Our efforts is to cleanse the Statute Book. I have been a practising lawyer at the Bar. I do not know whether Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan also belongs to my tribe.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: I have been a practising lawyer for over 38 years.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: I respect the sentiments expressed by my senior colleague. It has been experience that the Statute Book has been burdened with many enactments which have outlived their utility. Now, they are meant only for burdening the volume of the Statute Book. That is why, as soon as this Government assumed Office under the able leadership of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, appointed a Commission and this Commission has come out with the Report within the shortest possible time. After careful consideration of the Report, the CBDT has set up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Shri S.D. Kapila who has been the Commissioner of Income-Tax, Delhi to examine the legal implications of the Report of the laws relating to the direct taxes.

After the consideration of the recommendation, the Task Force decided that the repealing of these 18 enactments—which have outlived their utility—will not affect the desired effect which was sought for by enacting these enactments which are now sought to be repealed by the provisions of this Bill. Sir, as I have submitted in the begining itself, sufficient care has been taken by the Government to save the effects of the enactments and the ordinances which are sought to be repealed now. The desired results which were sought by enacting these enactments and the validity or invalidity, effect or consequences of anything already done or suffered or any right, title, immunity, obligation or liability already acquired, accrued or incurred or any remedy or proceedings in respect thereof or any release or discharge of or from any death penalty and obligation, liability, claim or discharge of or from any death penalty and obligation, liability, claim or demand or any indemnity already granted or the proof of any past act or thing, have all be taken care of. I do not want to take much of the time of the House. Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan would definitely agree with me that all these things are detailed out in the body of the Bill. My effort is only to say that the Government has taken utmost care in saving all these right titles or whatever accrued under the provisions of the enactments which are sought to be repealed.

Sir, I have the list of other enactments also. I can detail out all the 18 enactments with reasons. But I do not think the hon. Members of this House would require me to do that. A majority of the Members have already agreed with this Bill. Many of these Acts pertain to the pre-Independence days and those enactmetns are effectively replaced by better statutes after Independence. After the present democracy has taken place, we have taken care to replace these old enactments by the new statutes.

Sir, lastly I would like to respond to the point made by Shri Chauhan. He was talking about the loss that is being caused to the exchequer on account of abolition of the Estate Duty. Sir, we are not seeking to abolish or exempt Estate Duty by the provisions of this Bill. In fact, the hon. Member as also the House are well aware that this is the superfluous provision of the Act that has lost its effect long back. The Estate Duty is no more applicable. So, immediately there is no loss to the exchequer and care has been taken to augment the revenue through other sources. So, there is absolutely no loss to the exchequer. Consequent to that, the share which was going to the States also has not been reduced. In fact, we have tried to help States more and more. Just the other day, we have passed the Constitution (Amendment) Bill by which the Government of India has decided to devolve 29 per cent of the taxes collected by it.

Sir, with this, I once again thank all the hon. Members for supporting the measures taken by the Government. I would request that the Bill may kindly be taken up for consideration.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (Berhampur, Orissa): Sir, this is by way of clarification to Shri Varkala Radhkrishnan. The Governor-General in Council during the wartime had passed certain ordinances which were on the same footing as the laws. The DIR was on same footing. In my State of Orissa in 1944 the Governor-General in Council passed an ordinance regarding alienation of tribal land.

It was revoked in 1956 when it was merged with the Orissa Regulation (2) of 1956. There were saving clauses in this ordinance. It was in the same footing as the other laws.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to repeal certain enactments relating to direct taxes, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

15.22 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Hijacking of Indian Airlines Plane, IC-814

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Nagpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude to you for having given me permission under Rule 193 to raise the issue relating to incident of hijacking of I.C. 814 plane of Indian Airlines that took place some four months back.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the last week of December, 1999 will be written in the history of India in black letters. When the entire world was welcoming and celebrating the new century and new millenium, our country and our Government was mourning because of the hijacking of Indian Airlines I.C. 814 plane. Our 165 citizens were struggling for life. During these four months, the Government has explained in detail the reasons for hijacking of the plane and whatever was said has come before us. It is unfortunate that the way the Government of India handled the matter has demoralised the country all over the world. The Government had to surrender before the handful of terrorists because the lives of our 165 citizens were in danger. During this period democracy and democratic ideals were hostage to the terrorists. Peace lovingness, dignity of national behavior, human proximity and civilised way of life of not only India but the entire World remained hostage. What was its culmination?

[Shri Vilas Muttemwar]

The noble ideals of the civilised society were defeated and our Foreign Minister had to take three dreaded terrorist to Kandhar. Only then hostages were released. It was because of this action that during those days every Indian was telling that this Government was weak. as it could not manage release of those hostages for 8 days and could not solve this problem. One question that comes before all of us is that how the Government which cannot face the terrorist, will, defend the country? It is highly regrettable that the information about this incident was reported to the Prime Minister, Home Minister, Foreign Minister and Civil Aviation Ministers some two hours late. Countrymen and the Government knew about this hijacking from the foreign media channels. Mr. Chairman, Sir, two hours is more than enough for today's age of information and Technology. Any country can be destroyed in these two hours but it is regrettable that the Government of our country and the Cabinet who runs the Government knew about this after two hours. This shows how strong our Government is. Reality is that in those days there was no Government worth the name. There was anarchy everywhere. Nothing was clear about the hijacking. One statement regarding this was given by our hon. Foreign Minister. It was said that action was initiated immediately after the incident. Cabinet meeting continued from morning till evening but no concrete decision was taken. I have great respect for the hon'ble Prime Minister. He has been front ranking leader of this country for many years. He has vast experience, but when we see this hijacking incident then we find that the Government could not be benefited by his experience. Those days he was bewildered and silent which shows that he could not take any decision. It appears that remote control was somewhere else and at that time some foreign pressure was working on them and it will not be exaggeration if I say that (English) he was a prisoner of indecision. *(Translation)* In this very House Vajpayee ji had long back remarked about Pt. Nehru that though sometimes he becomes Charchill but in working most of the time he is like Chamberlaine and surrenders. Now at this time of crisis what should I call him Charchill or Chamberlaine, he has to reply this. At least on this occasion he had certainly surrendered.

In the entire sequence of this incident the need was to teach a lesson to the terrorists. But that was not done. It is the general opinion of the countrymen that the country has been deceived by way of giving them a safe passage. Keeping in view the above thing my humble submission to the Prime Minister is that he is not getting proper advice from the people around him and they are misguiding him. He should be cautious in time. Our hon. Home Minister, Advani ji is compared with Sardar Patel. He says that India is a soft state but this incident has maligned the image of the entire nation. During the entire week of the incident, Advaniji continued to give hollow assurances and various statements and at the end nobody could imagine as to how much difference is there in preaching and practice.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, on the one hand effort was made to get the release of the hostages by sending Commandos and on the other hand our Foreign Minister took three of the dreaded terrorists to Kandhar as VIPs. This kind of behaviour was a mockery of the security of the nation. Our Foreign Minister Jaswant Singh ji went with them. It has not been disclosed as to what was the reason behind it. He has given only one statement in which it has been said that Kandhar airport is very small and our IC-814 plane was already parked there. So there was not enough space to land one more plane there. So he also went with those three terrorists. Along with this, it was also said that he had gone there with the view that if any other situation developed, it could be resolved immediately. But was it not possible for him to go to Kandhar one or two days earlier? He should have gone there to meet the hostages who were Indians. What was that urgency that he had to go with those terrorists? It was because of this that the image of the country and the system have been maligned all over the world. It can never be tolerated.

Mr. Chairman, Sir today on this occasion I would like to pay my tributes to deceased Rupen Katiyal, who scarified his life in this tragedy but his sacrifice was not duly acknowledged by the NDA Government. Our passengers remained captive for 8 days and thus the sacrifice of Shri Rupen Katiyal went in vain. Plane was hijacked on 24th and that happened in Nepal. Sir, if we look at the entire episode, then we see three important reasons—first is the Tribhuvan airport, second is Amritsar airport and third is Kandhar Air Port and in between are Lahore, and Dubai airports. As far as Nepal is concerned, on several occasions concerns have been expressed in the House about the running of terrorist activities and entry of terrorists in India via Nepal.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I want to tell the House that in November, I had initiated the discussion about the terrorist activities in Jammu & Kashmir and north eastern states under Rule 193 and at that time too I had emphasized that the terrorist activities might increase on the part of terrorists in the coming times, during new year and at the time of Id, so we should be vigilant. I had also warned that terrorists are being sent by ISI via Nepal and the entire operation is being conducted by the ISI through Nepal. In reply to that Advani ji had said that efforts were being made to check such activities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the plane has not being hijacked for the first time. In this country, planes have been

hijacked 13 times. Some times planes are hijacked for trivial reasons. Only twice planes were hijacked for trivial reasons, once for renaming Marathwada University after Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar and second time by the striking students of University for pressurising to meet their demands. Rest of the hijackings have been done due to Pakistan. Keeping in view the increased ISI activities during the last few days and the prevailing security system in Nepal, there is a need to take special precautions. I had pointed out all these points and had brought it to the notice of the Government during discussion in the House under Rule 193. If fool proof arrangements would have been made at that time then such incident would not have happened. I want to know from the Central Government what were the terms of reference of the talks between our hon'ble Foreign Minister and the Nepalese Government on the security issues? What was the outcome of that discussion has not been disclosed. ISI is active in Nepal since 1990. Drug Mafia of Nepal or other such gangs are puppets in the hands of ISI. Now it is known to all that ISI was behind the hijacking of Indian Airlines plane. Hijackers had alighted from a Pakistan Airways Plane and entered the plane of Indian Airlines without any security check. I would like to know as to what steps have been taken by the Government of India to tighten security measures at Kathmandu airport. Is there any failure on the part of intelligence which did not warn Nepalese or Indian Governments in time? Will the Foreign Minister give a detailed information regarding this to the House? Had Government of India asked other nations to pressurise Pakistan that it should have over terrorists alongwith the hijackers to India?

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to tell that this incident happened due to the two hour late reporting the plane hijacking to the Government. Before coming to Amritsar, plane had gone to Lahore and in between our Government. Foreign Ministry or Home Ministry could have cautioned the Government of Pakistan on humanitarian grounds and this matter could have been resolved after getting the hostages released but no such effort was made in this direction. That plane remained in Amritsar for about 50 minutes. Our Government did not give any instruction as to what should be done about this plane. The plane could have been immobalised or grounded but the airport officials were probably not ready for such an emergency. They had no appropriate orders. Whatever convention is there about hijacking that was not followed. Negligence was shown in this regard. Inquiry has been conducted in the matter but no information has been given by the Government regarding the action taken against the guilty officials. The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security conducted survey of several airports of the country and found that there were no adequate security arrangements there.

I would like to tell that it has been decided to provide permanent Crack National Security Guard commando at airports. Besides this, is there any provision made to constitute Aviation Security Force to check the incidents of hijacking? It has also been said that they will be deployed at 37 most sensitive airports as also with the international flights. In this context the crew of Indian Airlines and Air India should also be imparted training regarding the security measures. Our main airports will be handed over to C.I.S.F. Besides efforts are being made to bring the various operating agencies at airport under one officer or Authority so that security arragements could be tightened. Is there any arrangment being made to send sky marshal in the flights originating from sensitive airports? I would like that the hon'ble Minister should reply to all these points.

Mr. Chairman Sir, this hijacking drama had continued for eight days. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister that if those three dreaded terrorists were to be released, then why eight days were taken for doing that? Had we been left with no other alternative to get the hostages released? As is clear that our diplomatic relations with Pakistan and Kandhar (Afghanistan) both are not that good so an effort was made to seek support from all over the world to get the hostages released. In spite of that why did not any alternative come before us? The fact is that there might be certainly some shortcomings in our system as also on the Part of our Government that this drama continued for 8 days and ultimately the Government had to bow. I would like to know from the hon'ble Minister whether it will not demoralise the spirits of our brave soldiers who are fighting the terrorists in Kashmir? Three dreaded terrorists Maulana Masud Ajhar, Mustaq Ahmed Ajar, and Ahmed Umar Saiyad Shaikh have killed many persons and many persons had sacrificed their lives to arrest them. But the Government took those terrorists to Kandhar with honour and the entire world know that from there they directly went to Pakistan. Will such incident not demoralise the spirits of those soldiers who are fighting terrorists? Has the Government taken any concrete steps to stop the recurrence of such incidents in future?

Even before this we had released dreaded terrorists in order to liberate Rubi Sayeed, the daughter of Mufti Mohammed Sayeed.

15.43 hrs.

(SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN *in the Chair*)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Why did you lay such a tradition?

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: It was not laid in our time. It has become order of the day that first they make sympathisers and then get the terrorists released. I would appeal to Government that some concrete programme should be formulated for this purpose. I make a request to Shri Jaswant Singh ji and all our political parties that no politics should be involved in fighting the terrorism. If our Government makes any programme in this regard, then I assure you that I and my party members would always be by your side in the effort to combat the terrorism. You boldly come forward. Four months have passed. The month of December was a black month for all of us when the passengers were detained as hostages. With the passing of four months, we tend to forget this incident, but the Government should give consideration towards this fact and should also make sound programmes and may take concrete steps to avoid such incidents in future, moreover information regarding to Government's efforts should also be furnished to the House. The document produced by Shri Jaswant Singh on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is just an eye wash. Politics should not be involved in this. Mistake has been committed. Everyone has witnessed the weakness of Government, but Government will take concrete steps to do away with such incidents in future. I thank you for having given me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. The hon. Member from the Opposition, Shri Vilas Muttemwar, has raised very familiar points which have already been mentioned by not only our hon. Minister of External Affairs but also the Prime Minister. It is more surprising that when the people of India as a whole, though grudgingly, have accepted the contention of the Government, I do not understand why the hon. Members of the Opposition are raising these points time and again inside and outside this House.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: It is coming after four months....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: The hon. Member, Shri Vilas Muttemwar, represents the major Opposition party-Congress. But I am more surprised that even though it is after four months that the matter is being raised in this House, he has not raised a single point which is new. Now, the hon. Minister of External Affairs has already given a *suo motu* statement. The hon. Minister has already anticipated the following questions likely to be asked by the hon. Members of the Opposition. Why was no action taken at Amritsar? Why did the hon. Minister of External Affairs go to Kandahar all by himself and why not anybody else? Why did he take the terrorists who were later on freed aboard the plane in which he himself was travelling? All these points are very old. But again these points have been raised by the hon. Member of the Opposition. So many times, the planes had been hijacked from this country. But in those days, it was not the day of the Television. Television never glamorised anything like Kargil or the hijacking of IC-814. Every bit of it was projected on the Television. The entire people of this country, including all the hon. Members of the Opposition, have seen the behaviour of the relatives of the people who were taken prisoners-wailing, shouting, cursing the Government and demonstrating in front of the house of the hon. Prime Minister, staging *dharna* and telling that had any prisoner been a daughter or a son of any Minister, the Government would have taken some action much before. But because we are not Ministers, we do not belong to the ruling party, no action is being taken by the Government.

I believe that if the Government would have stuck to the decision of not negotiating with the hijackers, not negotiating with the Taliban, and as a result of which if some people in the plane would have died, the same Opposition would have said now that this is the Government whose hands are red with the blood of the innocent people of this country. If you negotiated and set them free, you are wrong. If you do not do any such thing, let the people die, you are also wrong.

So, it is only the Opposition which finds ways just to accuse this Government because they have no other issue to raise against this Government. But I believe, the Government has done the best under a very trying situation; out of the basket of worst alternatives, it has taken the best alternative that was available under the circumstances.

At Amritsar, for hardly 49 minutes the plane was kept. Nobody knew that it will land at Amritsar. Everybody knew that after hijacking it will go to Lahore and it actually went there. But because the Government of Pakistan wanted to show to the world that actually they are the greatest *Sati-Savitri* in the world and that they did not have any connection with the hijackers, that is why, they initially said that they would not allow it to land at Lahore. It again came to Amritsar. But then, how the Government of India knew that it would come back to Amritsar.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: From the very beginning they had been saying that they would take it to Lahore....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I heard him with rapt attention and never objected to him when he said many things about this Government. So, I would appeal to him to listen to me also patiently....*(Interruptions)* I am not the last speaker and there are many more speakers after me to speak on this issue....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please do not interrupt and no cross talks please. If you have any thing to say, you speak when your turn comes.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, I am an ordinary Member and not a Minister. The Hon. Minister is here and if I say something wrong, he will correct it in his reply.

So, wen it landed at Lahore, the Government did not have any comprehensive information with it about the number of hijackers in the plane, the weapons they were carrying with them and the gadgetry that they were having with them. Secondly, all the time the pilot of the plane was intimating to the Government that four passengers had already been killed by the hijackers, though he might have done this under pressure from the hijackers. But how do we know whether he was giving right or wrong information? That was a very tense situation. Everything was possible at that time. If he had intimated that already four passengers had died, the Government had no other option but to accpet it. Thirdly, all the time the plane engine was on. They did not stop the engine and did not keep the plane stationary. It was being shifted from one positoin to another several times. Then a tanker to load the aviation fuel in the plane was sent but when it was only 300 yards away from the plane, the hijackers suspected something, and they very rightly suspected, that the Bowser was coming just to prevent the plane from taking off. So, all of a sudden they asked the pilot to take off. I do not think, the Government had any other option there at that time.

The Government could have stopped it but as everybody knows that on the very first day the hijackers do not enter into negotiations with anyone because they generally remain very tense and they are bound to take any action that is possible to be taken at that time. They could have killed many passengers because at that time it was intimated by the pilot to the Government that they were having pistols and hand-grenades.

Finally, I would say that the Taliban was hand-in-glove with the hijackers. They set free not only the hijackers but all the terrorists which were released by the Government of India. Sir, have you seen anywhere in the world that the hijackers are given ten hours to leave the country?

So, we did not have a diplomatic relationship with Taliban, Our Government was forced to have a dialogue with them through our High Commissioner in Islamabad. He did good job. Initially, the Government of Pakistan wanted to provide him with a helicopter to come to Lahore but before he could reach Lahore, already the plane had taken off from Lahore. Pakistan was hand in glove. Taliban was hand in glove. The aliens were surrounding there. I would say that the infrastructure available at Kandhar airport was very meagre. So, the Government of India had no other option but to concede the least possible demand of just releasing three prisoners so that the lives of many people could be saved.

Sir, a question arises—the Minister will reply to this-as to why did he go there. I think, he did the right thing because at the last moment if something would have taken place, then who could take a final decision. If there is nobdoy from the Government, who holds a very responsbile position and who is a senior member, then who could take a decision on the spot? It was very good on the part of the External Affairs Minister to have gone there and to have seen that the hostages are released in a very peaceful manner.

Before I conclude, I would raise two or three points. Pakistan wants that Kashmir should be amalgamated to it because they think that the only Islamic country based on religion in the world is Pakistan, and because the majority of the people in the Kashmir Valley are Muslims, it should be annexed to Pakistan. This is unacceptable because Pakistan is also propagating the same two-nation theory what it used to do earlier. For the last 52 years, the people of Pakistan are fed with the only theory. 'It is anti-Indianism. India is a Hindu State. Kashmir is a Muslim majority State, and so, Kashmir should not remain with India but it should come to Pakistan.' If the Muslims of every country should remain in one country, then why Afghanistan be a separate country, why Iran and Iraq fought a war for eight years, and why there are so many Islamic countries in the Middle East, and why there are so many countries in Europe though they belong to Christianity? So, if religion is the basis of a State, then all the States of one religion should come into one State. Why is there a small State like Luxembourg, which is also a Christian State?

The two-nation theory is not acceptable to India because a country does not have any basis in religion. Culture does not emanate from any religion. Culture is a way of life. That is why, there are so many countries in the world though they belong to one religion.

[Shri Kharabela Swain]

Sir, Nepal is a Hindu country. The King of Nepal is a Hindu. If you say that Nepal should be amalgamated to India, it will not happen. What I mean to say is that India is having a culture, and all the people in India, whether they are Christians or Hindus or Muslims, they belong to one culture.

16.00 hrs.

It is because if you go from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, you will find that in a given situation, an Indian father will behave in the same manner in Kanyakumari also, as he will behave in Kashmir. He will react in the same manner in Kanyakumari because he has got an Indian mind....*(Interruptions)* Sir, you might be a person of great knowledge. I do not deny because all the time you get up and just obstruct to everybody....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): Every time I speak, you invariably interrupt. I never objected to your interruption. I was simply asking that you please focus yourself on the plane hijack....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: It is a news to me that I object to him every time. Sir, it is a news to me.

I mean to say that we know the partition from which he has come. They accepted the two-nation theory in 1947 even though the person who objected to this is virtually the main idol of their Party. In spite of it, Mahatma Gandhi did not agree for the partition of India. It is the Congress people to which he belonged wanted that the country should be divided into two, and they agreed to this two-nation theory by that way.

Sir, I am not very surprised that when I am objecting to this two-nation theory, he should object to it....*(Interruptions)* I agree because they have surreptitiously accepted this. Even though they did not tell so, but actually they accepted this two-nation theory. But the two-nation theory is not acceptable.

Let me come to the training of *Jehads* in the *Madarasas* which have been set up in Pakistan by *Jamaite-e-Ulemai-Islami* and *Jamait-Ul-Islami* to whom the rulers of Pakistan, not only of today but starting from Zia-ul-Haq and up to Benazir Bhutto, everybody supported.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN: Sir, please give me two minutes' time. I will complete.

They patronised them. Somebody patronised *Jamait-e-Ulemai-Islami* and somebody patronised *Jamait-Ul-Islami*. All these terrorist organisations which preached *Jehad* against India and against all the unislamic people in the world are being patronised by the rulers of Pakistan. *Jehad* is not only against Kashmir but it is also against India, and against the human civilisation. They want that the entire human civilisation should collapse, and that they should come only under the terrorists, and this is unaceptable.

I will appeal to the hon. Minister of External Affairs, and through the hon. Minister of External Affairs to the hon. Prime Minister that not only should we enter into a dialogue with Pakistan but also we should keep ourselves strong. Only by that way, only by keeping ourselves strong, we should be able to defeat Pakistan and countries like them that have only the rein of terror. Then only, we can win this war. Only by that way, the world will salute us. Only by that way, India, in this century, will become a super-power in the world.

With these words, by supporting the action of the Government, I conclude my speech.

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag): Mr. Chairman, Sir, please give me five minutes' time because militancy pertains to my area. I have to take it up with the Government.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): First of all, I bow my head to the memory of Shri Rupan Katyal whose precious life was plucked away by the terrorists. I also salute all the passengers and the crew of Flight IC 814 who bravely endured the ordeal.

This hijacking was the most painful and anxious situation this nation faced after the Kargil. The one-week hijacking drama revealed that this Government which was basking in the glory of Pokhran and Kargil, is totally unprepared in handling this sort of a crisis.

The hijacking and the Government handling of the situation is a classic example of in what way a crisis should not be handled.

As every one pointed out during the wide debate which took place all over the country, it was this Government's thoroughly inept handling of the situation at Amritsar which made the whole thing slip out of our hands. There was absolutely no coordination. Nobody knew what to do. Once it slipped out of our hands till the ned, we could not recover from it. We were forced to act according to the script written by the Taliban and ISI. When the plane took off from Amritsar and finally landed in Kandhar, it was quite evident that all our initiatives to restore the crisis to our favour are bound to fail.

Sir, if we look at Nepal from where this whole episode started, it was common knowledge that Nepal, due to various reasons and factors, has become a safe haven for terrorists working against our country. Fully knowing this situation, our country had done nothing to enhance the security of the aircraft or the passengers. In the Airport, for all practical purposes, there was no security at all. This was accepted by the Government of Nepal itself that serious security lapses were there. Given this background, it is quite astonishing that the Government never thought of doing the security check up of the passengers on their own while they boarded the aircraft. This shows our negligence, or is it that none of our intelligence agencies was aware of the ground situation in Nepal, which was known to the whole world. This is the first question the Government had to answer to this nation. Why were our own security measures not adopted to screen the baggage and the passengers while they boarded the plane? This is being done by many countries.

And once it landed in Kandhar, it became evident that it is going to be stationed there enjoying the hospitality of Taliban, but our Government did absolutely nothing to mobilise international opinion to put pressure on Pakistan and Taliban for releasing the hostages. It is being repeatedly publicised by our Government that the United States and India are now jointly engaged in tackling terrorism. At least this is what the Government wants us to believe. But nobody came to our Government's help. Except some general statements condemning the terrorism, no country in the world came forward and supported India in condemning the role of Pakistan and Taliban. During the crisis or after the crisis, we could not convince anybody abut our repeated assertion regarding the ISI hand in this ugly drama.

And it was after this ordeal came, the statement of the hon. Prime Minister accusing Pakistan as a terrorist State. The move was aborted at the beginning itself. During the week-long crisis, it was quite evident that our diplomacy has failed. After this our new US-centred foreign policy experts tried in vain to make USA accept India's position regarding Pakistan as a terrorist State. Now, every day we are finding new meaning in the statements of various officials of the State Government and even the most ardent supporters of new India-US relationship could not find any positive shift in their stand regarding Pakistan and ISI.

It is the most pathetic situation that we could not convince anybody, any Government in the world that it is Pakistan who masterminded the hijacking and provided shelter to the hijackers. Not a single country in the world responded positively to our move. The Home Minister has been repeatedly saying about the White Paper on ISI, but it is yet to come. Let us hope it will come out soon. To cut short, the hijacking and its tackling by the Government revealed to the whole world this Government's total unpreparedness and callous attitude regarding the security matters. Those who are proud of Pokhran, meekly submitted to the demands of the terrorists and exposed the thorough failure of our foreign policy initiatives.

Our Minister for External Affairs—I have great respect for him-had to cut a very sorry figure during the crisis. I do not know who decided that he should escort the terrorists to Kandhar. He has become the Minister for Escorts. It was with the same enthusiasm that he displayed while escorting Chelsea and Bill Clinton's mother-in-law to Udaipur, that he accompanied the released terrorists to Kandhar. The whole country, while heaving a sigh of relief when the hostages were freed, held its head in shame when it witnessed the most contemptuous scene of our External Affairs Minister accompanying the terrorists. This single act of the otherwise savvy External Affairs Minister, has tarnished his image permanently in our country.

The Government's promise to the nation was that it will secure the release of the hostages and will not compromise on national security. The country celebrated the release of the hostages, but each and every one in this nation was ashamed to see a Government without any firm directions or any resolve, groping in the dark during the whole crisis period. It was this weak handling of the crisis which paved the way for enhanced terrorist activities in Jammu and Kahamir. Now the Government has to be very careful. They should ensure that this sort of a thing does not happen in future and that the country will not be held to ransom by a few anti-social elements. The best way to curb future hijack and hostage situation, so many people have already pointed out, is to assume that these can happen at any moment, at any time and, therefore, institutionalise the procedures and drill to deal with them.

This Government, with its benevolent silence regarding the activities of organisations like *Bajrang Dal* and *Vishva Hindu Parishad*, is indirectly encourgaing the work of ISI in this country. These organisations are sowing divisions among the populace for the separatists to exploit.

As long as there is a Government at the Centre whose secular credentials are doubtful, it will encourage separatist tendencies in the country. What this whole country wants is that proper security measures should be adopted at our airports and also in the flights which we operate from other countries. For that, *ad hoc* measures will not do. This crisis has shown the utter helplessness of a Government which boasts of hard State and which

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

wants to drop the image of a soft State. During the whole crisis, the whole country, the whole nation, witnessed the inept handling of the situation by this Government. It was this inept handling of the situation which ultimately paved the way for the release of the hostages, the release of the dreaded terrorists and the External Affairs Minister accompanying them to Kandhar. This Government cannot absolve from its responsibility.

With this, I conclude, Sir.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Mr. Chairman, Sir, after a long long time we have been able to get this discussion in this House. Therefore, we are all thankful to you.

Before I contribute to this discussion, I congratulate the brave members of the crew of that fateful IC-814, the passengers and their families for sharing the agony, almost in the stage of trauma, and specially the family members of late Rupan Katyal whom I also consider a martyr like the martyrs of Kargil.

This act of hijacking, no doubt, deserves condemnation from all quarters and it was so done. We all did it; the entire House did it; and the entire nation did it. But the role of the Government in that critical hour should not be judged in the context of the period of hijacking. The Government had witnessed the naked conspiracy of Pakistan even after Lahore Summit. The hon. Prime Minister admitted in the House that after reaching Lahore he had to reach Kargil. The Government was in full confidence, control and command as to what were the designs of Pakistan. Often the hon. Minister of Home Affairs Shri L.K. Advani referred to this in the House that the frustrated Pakistan, after defeat in Kargil, started behaving desperately to destabilise India with various forms and designs.

Did the hon. Minister of External Affairs, Shri Jaswant Singh, who is our good friend, did the entire Government, did the hon. Prime Minister take note of the designs or the frustrations of Pakistan after the Kargil war as to in what manner and dimension that it could come? Did they alert our Intelligence authorities everywhere, including Kathmandu? I know authoritatively that a day before the hijacking, the Ministry of Home Affairs was in full-hand information about the ISI activities in Kathmandu. There were messages after messages from the Indian High Commission to the Foreign Ministry about the hostile attitude of the Pakistan Government who were harbouring their elements in Kathmandu. Let the hon. Minister say 'no' to this. The hon. Minister of Home Affairs was having full information. What steps did you take in order to prevent the hijacking or any kind of a thing that could take place in such vulnerable areas?

Sir, there is a track record of 12 hijackings since 1971. Excepting one of Bhindranwale agitation, all the rest are linked to Pakistan or Kashmir and the whole information is with the Government—the designs, the motives, the operations, and the outcome.

Today, I was not in a mood to score anything politically because this is not a political issue. Tomorrow we may sit on the side and you may sit on this side. If a hijacking takes place then, one should not score politically. The whole nation expressed its concern on the issue.

I quote from the statement of the hon. Minister. You claimed to have scored very seriously in the diplomatic front to mobilise support of friends from here and there to defend India. That was always your claim. I quote from your own statement.

> "While the flight is to land in Dubai, the UAE authorities, after initial reluctance...."

This was a request from the Government of India saying: 'My dear friend, I am speaking from the Government of India; we are in trouble; please help us'. But the statement said that the UAE authorities after initial reluctance, responded positively to our request about permitting IC-814 to land at an UAE airport.

Why was there the initial reluctance? There were not only Indians among the passengers who were on board but there were passengers from other countries. Could you demonstrate the strongest will of those nations? No.

If I may give the chronological order of the events, the seriousness will come out. The hijacking was over when the Parliament was not in Session.

I want to highlight the seriousness of the Government. Such a serious thing had happened in terms of security, fame and name of our country. This Budget Session started on 17th of February and the Government came forward with a *suo motu* statement on 13th of March. This is the kind of seriousness they have in regard to report such matters to the Parliament, to the nation. You should have come with a *suo motu* statement the very next day of the President's Address telling dear Members of Parliament and respected Speaker how you overcame the situation and what happened. The statement after several interruptions made by distinguished Members in the 'Zero Hour'. This is the kind of importance you attach to the whole episode.

Sir, the brave Prime Minister of our country, who was too brave for his rhetoric during Kargil which paid you a lot of dividends, came with similar rhetoric. I quote the speech of the Prime Minister of 28th December. It says:

> "My Government will not bend before such a show of terror. The hijacking is act of terrorism by desperate men who have no respect for human lives and human rights."

When did the Prime Minister meet the leaders of the Opposition? He did not meet them on 25th or 26th December but on 27th December. He thought that some miracle might be taking place due to the sincere intervention of the Crisis Management Group within 48 hours and he would come to the Vijay Chowk and say 'look, after Kargil, it is Kandhar'. Unfortunately, things, went in a different tune. You could not mobilise even the support of the UAE. When your flight landed at UAE airport, I saw in television Shri Sharad Yadav going with aircraft to bring the passengers. It was a good thing that you did. I thank you for that. At that point of time, what was your diplomacy? Could you not pursue the UAE and other countries of the Gulf to mount such a pressure that the aircraft could not leave Dubai and go to Kandhar.Why did you fail? Was it due to the NSG? The NSG was related to Delhi and Amritsar. The hon. Minister has admitted that they were reluctant to do it, to allow the aircraft to land and then, somehow they landed. Is this reluctance of the UAE *vis-a-vis* your Government not enough to expose your strong possible understanding-which you claim every time as all right-even in the Gulf in such a situation? You have not. You forget Dubai.

Then, the aircraft went to Kandhar. Sir, I know that in Kandhar, the Taliban regime was not in your control and I used to see your faces every day before the television. I knew that at the end of the day, we will have to repent. Even you could have imagined that there was connivance between the Pakistan and the Taliban. They were hand in glove in this matter. However, at that time, sentimentally and psychological, I would have done the same thing what you did, had I been in that position. I agree. But where do I come? It is not my statement. My dear friend from the NDA was accusing Shri Vilas Muttemwar.

The responsible man whom you assigned the probe into Kargil matter, Shri K. Subramaniam has commented in this regard. I quote his statement. It says:

> "K. Subramaniam, the Convenor of the National Security Advisory Board termed the deal struck with the hijackers as a setback for India's fight against terrorism."

Shri Subramaniam, who was the Head of the probe Committee of Kargil expressed this without any ambiguity. I do not say that we all wanted that our passengers should be killed there.

I only give one example today of how it was handled by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Please do not misunderstand me that I am comparing this for political score. On 5th July 1984, Srinagar-Delhi airbus flight carrying 255 passengers and 9 crew members was hijacked and taken to Lahore by nine militants of Bhindrawale Group.

The Indian Airlines' representatives and a Government official were ferried to Lahore by a helicopter. It was around 1.00 a.m., but the negotiations with the hijackers were initiated immediately. From the Pakistani side, Col. Niazi assisted us. We kept talking to them through the night. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was closely monitoring the situation and had been informed every 15 to 30 minutes about the progress. She did not see the need to issue lofty statements here and there, now and then, but she was monitoring closely. The hijackers demanded the release of 22 of their colleagues lodged in different jails. Every time they placed a demand, we agreed, telling them that the request had been communicated to Delhi. The negotiation process started.

Meanwhile, the Intelligence officials in Delhi were probing each of these demands to establish the hijackers' link. We were not aware of the arms that the hijackers were carrying, but they kept threatening to blow up the plane. So, we had to be careful. The hijackers made a rather strange demand. They sid, "Give us our baggage immediately." It was conveyed to Shrimati Gandhi immediately. Shrimati Gandhi advised the negotiating group to move with confidence, with patience and quietly. The Pakistani side were inclined to fulfill the demand. Luckily the Indian Airlines' representative smelt a rat and decided to procrastinate. He told the hijackers that the demand would be met, but they would have to wait for the baggage because it had to be airlifted from Amritsar. Twenty-four hours later also, right from 10.00 a.m., Shrimati Gandhi further monitored the situation without making any statement in the public. The hijackers were worn out. Sensing their fatigue, our representative decided to call them out for negotiations. Four of the seven hijackers came out. We tried to hold them back for two hours, and then we allowed them to return. Then, the three hijackers in the aircraft had become suspicious and thought that their collegaues had struck a deal. In fact, it was done in such a fashion that confusion started among the hijackers.

When our men informed Shrimati Gandhi about the slow movement of success, her first statement, which

[Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi]

was most important, was: "What about the baggage? The moment it is over, get quickly the baggage." Why? Shrimati Gandhi came to know that the process of threatening every now and then might be some deliberate act of bullying and the actual things might be lying in the baggage. It was finally found that the hijackers were threatening all through fake bombs, and the luggage was fully loaded with Sten guns. Shrimati Gandhi was very correct in her observation, which was due to minute to minute monitoring.

This experience would have helped you, if you had no personal obsession against Shrimati Gandhi's dealing with the situation on 5th July, 1984. It was no less important thing. How were the negotiations protracted? It was not done by making any statements, but by understanding the motive, the design, by mobilising the international opinion.

At Amritsar Airport, what transpired between the ATC and the pilot? If we just go through the ACT's proceedings—I think, Shri Swain has not gone through it-we should come to know that when the hijackers were bullying the pilots, the pilots were conveying it to the ATC. But the psychologists or those who are experts in these hajcking matters were not given the minute to minute tape-recorded version of the Crisis Management Group to find out as to why they are doing so. The pilots were saying "the hijackers would kill all of us; please bring the tanker." Later it was reported that the take-off was delayed by 15 minutes. Had it been delayed by another 15 minutes, the NSG commandos would have arrived by that time. The Crisis Management Group was not formed at that time; it was formed a little later. So, the NSG commandos could not operate.

The hijacking report came to you around 5 o'clock, and they landed at Amritsar Airport at 7.20 p.m. If, in two hours and twenty minutes, a responsible Government cannot manage their operations, from the past instances of hijacking, then the Home Minister should not occupy his office, and he should have resigned. Is two hours and twenty minutes' time not enough to plan your strategy, to call your experts to find out the position and to know how the earlier negotiations were held and was the fall-out? You could have negotiated with the other party.

The Foreign Minister said at that time that he was happy with the US reaction. Let him tell the House if he was really happy in his heart. He was expecting the US to brand Pakistan as a terrorist State. That would have been very good. But he could not get the US issue a forthright statement, in the manner in which it should have been issued, within 24 hours of the incident. The US reaction came after 72 hours of the beginning of the incident. Is this the diplomacy of the Government? The Government had failed on diplomatic front in mobilising international support; the Government had failed in assessing the situation; the Government had failed to study and learn from the past incidents of hijacking. It is not just a question of two hours and twenty minutes. The flight went to Lahore and from there to Kandahar.

The Foreign Minister is a good friend. He is a very distingusihed personality in international diplomacy. When he negotiates, I feel proud as an Indian. But, he was to project an image not of him as an individual in Kandhar. His presence in Kandhar reminded me of the surrender of Pakistan in Bangladesh in 1971. I saw photographs of Gen. Niazi surrendering in Dhaka with folded hands and the entire Bangladesh and the people of India celebrating that surrender. When the Kargil operation ended successfully, the family members of the martyrs were honoured and the martyrs were worshipped by us. Those were the moments of glory for us. But, I am sorry to say that the Foreign Minister taking those dreaded terrorists along with him-their names I will not take because to take their names is also a sin-to Kandhar was a demoralising episode for the people. Negotiations with the terrorists were held not by the Minister but by a Joint Secretary level officer of the Ministry of External Affairs. It was Shri Katju, one of the competent officers of the Ministry, who held the negotiations and I have high respect for him. Negotiations with hijackers were held by him and the Foreign Minister carried the honour of India to Kandhar. He, the Foreign Minister of India accompanied the terrorists to Kandhar to surrender in front of the hijackers. I compare India's surrender in Kandhar to that of Gen. Niazi in Dhaka.

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): That is not a fair comparison.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI (Raiganj): Shri Vaiko should think beyond Party lines when it is a matter of the honour of the country. The Minister could have sent his officials. He could have sent the Chief Secretary of Kashmir. He could have sent the Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs. Can he explain as to why he himself had to go? It was to instil confidence in hijackers that the terrorists were going to be actually released. The Minister's escorting terrorists to Kandhar undermined the position of honour of the country, image of the nation in the world, and the victory of Kargil in which hundreds of our people laid their lives. My views would be echoed by even some of the BJP Members. In private parleys they say,

[Translation]

It was not right to do so, they could have sent someone else. He should not have gone there but he went, what can do?

[English]

Maybe the Foreign Minister though that he would convert the Taliban by his skills of motivation and negotiation and that be would come back to India and say that he not only brought the passengers back but he made Taliban to understand India's viewpoint and give up fundamentalism!

The entire episode was managed, and the events were orchestrated as a result of three things-the helplessness of the Government; non-commitment on the part of the Government to the system of international security management; Government's lack of vision and understanding, and their inability to learn from the past. Time and again they accuse the Congress Party for its fifty years' rule. I would like to say that if one can find some cream in the entire Government, it is the product of our fifty years' rule. When they criticise the Congress Party for its fifty years' rule, they should be ready to learn the good things from our rule, as to how Mrs. Gandhi handled a similar situation in the past and as to how others handled such situations. They should have learned as to how such hijacking in the past had aroused the world opinion in favour of India. The Government has failed and failed miserably in that. I only wish that it would not be repeated. Indian airlines flights to Kathamandu will be resumed soon.

I hope that wisdom will prevail upon you late than never to understand these things in a better perspective in future. Please do not treat this country and do not handle the country's affairs in such a fashion where people will feel insecure for your mismanagement and for your lack of vision.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Mahrajganj, Bihar): Mr, Speaker, Sir, today a debate is going on in the House on an extremely sensitive issue. More than four months have passed since the incident of plane hijacking took place. The whole country was concerned for this incident. This incident occurred when people were waiting for the year 1999 to pass by and were enthusiastic for welcoming the new year, new millennium to live with a new style of life. The whole country was distressed over this unfortunate incident that took place on 24th December and not only the Government, but even people in the villages of this country were concerned about this problem. The I.C.-814 aircraft which was hijacked and as per the document received, it was observed that the hijackers were trying hard to land the aircraft at Lahore. But the question arises as to why did they want to land the aircraft at Lahore airport? What was the secret behind this? It is clear from this fact that they had nexus with Lahore and that is why they were feeling secured in Lahore. I have no objection in congratulating the Government regarding its effort of getting 165 passengers released safely from the clutches of hijackers, but alongwith this, the process of release of passengers has some flaws too. When the aircraft stayed at Amritsar for around 45 minutes, then why did we let the situation go without any solution merely watching it as silent spectators helplessly? Why didn't we take a solid and a stringent action which could lead to the release of Passengers there itself. I agree that on humanitarian grounds we got 165 passengers released and were also compelled to released three dreaded terrorists and their allies, who must have made numerous women unfortunate widows. No doubt, we achieved success from the angle of humanity. We got the passengers released, but despite of this I am not ready to accept that this act of the Government is a cent percent success. At the time when daughter of the Home Minister was abducted and terrorists were released thereby, people of the whole country had criticised this act that the Home Minister had made an agreement with the abductors in order to get his daughter released, but that situation was not there with the present government. The Government released these 165 passengers, which include foreigners, women and children only out of a humanitarian attitude. They all had undergone a painstaking experience, mental agony etc. which is even difficult to explain.

At the time of the occurrence of this incident, many questions were raised by hon. Members through the newspapers, wherein the question of the visit of Kandhar by the Minister of External Affairs had also been raised. Releasing of three terrorists was published in the newspapers. According to the Government report, this incident took place due to the nexus amongst Taliban, harqat-al-mujahideen and ISI agency. When hijackers stabbed Late Shri Katyal the aircraft stopped for 2 hours and 25 minutes at Lahore. If Pakistan had shown a little humanitarian attitude, then Shri Katyal would have been saved. But the role of Pakistan led to suspicion, which is not new for this country. Discussion on I.S.I. has always been made vigorously in our country, in the House itself and even outside the House. It has also been said that some of the denizens of our country have become agents of ISI and cause terrorist activities after procuring arms and ammunition with the money provided by ISI. It is an issue relating to the internal security as well as the

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

security of borders of this country. The Government should seriously ponder over this matter. I would rather say that the intelligence department of Government must also have failed in its efforts to give prior information about hijacking of aircraft, otherwise such an incident could have been averted. It is a very grave incident, but we feel that the aspersions made by the opposition are not true at all. As Shri Vilas Muttemwar recently said that the government got this information after two hours, is not true. I want to say that the Government received the information of plane hijacking in Delhi merely after three minutes if its occurrence. Information being received in Delhi means that the Government had got this information and was making efforts since then. After this incident, we are able to understand with the discussion going on that we have achieved success in our foreign policy. It is the result of this policy that the President of America had given a statement with regard to Pakistan after 72 hours. After this incident, many countries in the world, especially America, were compelled to declare Pakistan as a terrorist State. We are receiving statements from America also in this regard, which are being published in the newspapers, but we should not become complacent and delighted with the success that we have achieved, rather we should be cautious that such incidents may not occur in future.

Sir, I would like to say one more thing. Reference to ISI has been made in the government report and nobody can deny that ISI is involved in this incident. Today a news has appeared in Sahara newspaper in the headlines as well as in small print. A challenge has been given in the news which has appeared in small print. It says-'I am an ISI agent, it you have courage then arrest me. The Government should take serious note of the fact that a religious or political leader is giving such a statement and it may get published in the newspapers what we are the agents of ISI, if you have courage then arrest us.

I mean to say that the Government should immediately, arrest the leaders, who make such statements, as ISI corruptions castles are booming up in the country through such leaders, moreover Delhi is also becoming the centre of ISI. We should not say so, but we are compelled under the circumstances to make such statements. Recently Imam Bukhari of Jama Masjit has made a statement, we would like to know as to who gave him the right to make such statement. People, despite living in this country and calling themselves Indian, make such statements. We would like to say to the Government through you that a person like Imam Bukhari should be arrested and imprisoned so that no one else in future, could dare to make such a statement.

Sir, presently the condition of Nepal is very bad. Nepal is a friendly nation of India, but the way publicity of good virtues of Pakistan and propaganda regarding defamation of India is being done through television, the mentality and thinking of people there is changing and people are developing a negative attitude towards India. We, therefore, wish that our Government should talk to the Nepal Government so that such a propaganda through the T.V. against India and publicity in favour of Pakistan could be checked.

Discussion has taken place many a times about the fact that ISI activities are increasing through Nepal, which involves some area of Chhapra, Sivan and Gopalganj in Northern Bihar and some areas of Uttar Pradesh viz. Devaria and Gorakhpur. You may make a review of these areas. Temples worth rupees 50 lakhs and 1 crore are getting constructed at these places. I would like to tell you that actually ISI corruption castles are getting constructed over there and so they can, at any time, grove to be dangerous for the country.

Today especially the area of northern Bihar and some parts of Uttar Pradesh, Gorakhpur and Deoria are facing threat from ISI. Hence the Union Government should step up its vigilance in these parts of the country and deploy intelligence agencies for conducting investigation in all these areas.

Terrorism is being spread in the name of religion and as a result of it incidents of plane hijacking are taking place. No one should be permitted to indulge in such acts in this country. With these words I conclude.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH (Maharajganj, U.P.): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on 24th December 1999, an Indian aeroplane was hijacked from Kathmandu which is capital of the only Hindu nation of the world Nepal. As per the office reports, the Government got this information just minutes after the incident of Hijacking. As per the report, the plane was hijacked at 4.53 p.m. and the Government received this information at 4.56 p.m. According to news items published in various newspapers the plane was flying over Lucknow the capital of Uttar Pradesh at that time and hijackers wanted to take it to Lahore.

Sir, I would like to say very clearly that the role played by our brave army in 1971 led to division of Pakistan and Bangladesh emerged as a new nation on the world map. Since then Pakistan has engaged in guerrilla warfare in order to destabilise our economy. I have no hesitation in saying that Pakistan was very much involved in this incient of hijacking and that is why hijackers wanted to take this plane to Lahore. I would like to say to the Minister of External Affairs that Pakistan has been successful in its game plan to a large extent especially at international level and your strategy has been

proved to be a failure. Pakistan selected Kathmandu for this hijacking which is capital of Nepal, the only Hindu nation of the world and did not allow that plane to land in Lahore. Under compulsion the aeroplane landed at Amritsar airport and remained there for 49 minutes. Earlier also hijacked planes have landed at Amritsar airport five times. Five incidents of hijacking have taken place earlier and this time the aeroplane remained there for 49 minutes, still no fruitful efforts could be made by our security agencies to free the aeroplane. It is clearly a failure on the part of the Government. Workers of BJP and RSS often make a mention of ISI activities. It has also been stated that ISI is spreading its activities in Nepal. Have our intelligence agencies failed to check it? It will be a serious threat to internal as well as to the external security of the country if the Government admits failure of intelligence agencies.

It is an important issue as the country was put in an awkward position in Kargil as well. Our intelligence agencies could not provide required information at that time also. It was a failure on their part. All of us and the government should consider it seriously and find out reasons therefore. We had to hang our heads in shame due to Kandhar incident.

Sir, earlier also prisoners have been released in lieu of hostages, Hon'ble Prabhunath Singhji, I would like to tell you and this House that Janata Dal Government was in power at that time when daughter of Union Minister of Home Affairs was abducted. BJP was supporting that Government. Patriotic sentiments of your party would have been known to everyone if support had been withdrawn at that time. However, your party did not withdraw support on this issue and toppled the Janata Dal Government on Ram Mandir issue. Now again the country has had to face such a situation during the regime of NDA Government. Everyone is aware of the disgrace brought to our country in Kandhar episode. We should be prepared to sacrifice even millions of lives for maintaining dignity of the country but we should not bow our heads before the terrorists. A clear cut policy should be formulated in this regard.

Pakistan is patronising terrorists and terrorism is striking its roots deep in our country. The whole country and the House should take clear cut decision for tackling the problem of terrorism.

Several persons have lost their lives due to Azhar Masood, who was released. The Government may be aware of it. It is not that only the 164-165 passengers who were kept hostage for eight days under went this trauma but all the people of this country were terror stricken during this period. On Ist January the aeroplane returned carrying the free passengers but one cannot imagine the extent of disappointment felt by the youth at having freed the terrorists.

With the due respect I would like to say to hon'ble Minister of External Affairs that we have no doubts about his good intentions but he should show his determination and admit his failure. Pakistan will continue with its evil plans and terrorist activities. History will not forgive you if you do not perform your duty and keep on blaming ISI for such activities.

Today a terror of ISI has been created whereas earlier terror of CIA has created. Why the Government is not identifying the agents of ISI? What are our intelligence agencies doing? The persons supporting ISI agents should be identified and punished. But I have no hesitation in saying that country will be divided once again if in the name of ISI, people of a particular community are blamed and harassed.

A mention has been made regarding Maulana Imam Bukhari. I would like to say here clearly that a state Minister of Government of Uttar Pradesh was visited to Nepal thrice illegally. Shri Shriprakash Shukla, who was killed recently by STF was very close to him. You may seek the report of intelligence agency of Uttar Pradesh. It will be proved. My constituency, district Maharajganj, is located at Indo-Nepal border. Prabhunathji, I would like to take you along on a visit of Maharajganj area. I will resign from Parliament if you find a single Madrasa or Mosque having been constructed at a cost of more than Rs. 10 or 15 lakh. This allegation is being levelled under a well planned conspiracy. How these madrasas and mosques have been constructed? Not only madrasa and mosques but temples have also been constructed on the same pattern there....*(Interruptions)* I am talking of my constituency.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: It is a co-incidence that hon'ble Members has also been elected from Maharajganj which is in Uttar Pradesh. My constituency is also Maharajganj, which is in Bihar and is adjacent to Nepal. I would like to tell here that temples and mosque have been constructed at a cost of more than Rs. 50 lakh in border area of Nepal from Bettiah to Raxol and Motihari. There is no doubt about it. If an enquiry is conducted, you will find that ISI activities are going on there. There is no need to prove it as such statements are appearing in newspapers.

KUNWAR AKHILESH SINGH: I have clarified the position regarding my constituency Maharajganj. Hon'ble Minister of Uttar Pradesh levelled charges of being ISI agents against the seven persons belonging to Hindu community and seven persons belonging to Muslim community. Several agencies investigated this case and

[Kunwar Akhilesh Singh]

later on it was proved that these allegations were levelled due to political malice. Everyone has a right to level charge against anybody but if these charges are proved false and if a person is humiliated and harassed wrongly then action should be taken against the persons found guilty of levelling those charges wrongly. Such a provision should be made.

If we do not make such a provision, then it is sure that the people against whom allegation are levelled will feel inferior and insulted and will undergo mental torture. Try to understand the sentiments of Maulana Imam Bukhari whose statement you are referring to. In this connection he did not say that in fact he was an ISI agent. What he meant was that if any particular community is blamed then he is also an ISI agent. I would like to tell the Foreign Minister with great respect that it is a very sensitive issue. The Government will have to exercise great caution while making any statement. The Government should consider this sensitive issue honestly. The sentiments of minority should be understood and the feelings of fear and insecurity should be removed. If the Government manages to remove fear and insecurity from their mind, then the issues coming up now, will not arise.

With these words, I also want to say that because of aircraft hijacking the country had to face humiliating situation. This incident has lowered our prestige before the whole world. The pride earned by the nation in 1971 has been definitely tarnished by the Kargil war and aircrafts hijacking incident. We will have to find out the ways to restore that prestigious position.

[English]

SHRI VAIKO (Sivakasi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on 24th December, 1999 when the whole world was in a mood of jubilation to celebrate Christmas, by the stroke of the mid-night, the sad and disturbing news of the hijacking of Indian Airlines plane shocked the entire country. Sir, not only the Christians but also the people all over the world who have got reverence and respect for the Jesus of Bethlehem were in a mood of celebration. In India, millions and millions of people were about to celebrate the birthday of the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. On 25th morning, the Prime Minister cancelled all the programmes of celebration of his birth anniversary.

When I was listening to my friend, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi, I felt sad as some discourteous utterances were there. I never expected such references to our hon. Prime Minister by Shri Dasmunsi. For seven days, what an amount of mental agony our hon. Prime Minister was subjected to. It is not a partisan matter or a matter of politics.

When the whole world celebrated the entry into the new millennium, we heaved a sigh of relief the previous night of 31st December, 1999. So, when the world was celebrating the new millennium, we also joined because of the release of the hijacked passengers. I would like to applaud and congratulate the Minister of External Affairs for the steps taken in respect of crisis management. A commendable care was taken by the hon. Minister.

Shri Dasmunsi was telling that two precious hours were lost between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. But Sir, the first news said that they were heading towards Lahore. When they were denied permission for Lahore, then only they landed in Amritsar. But what was the situation? Some people suggested that some commando operation could have been conducted in Amritsar itself and that National Security Guards could have been rushed there. But there were minute-to-minute panic reactions from the pilot. He was informing that already four persons had been killed and other passengers had been brought to the front row of the 'J' class and that their hands were tied. He also informed that their lives are in danger. Under these circumstances, the prime concern was to protect the lives of the passengers. Any adventurous action could have resulted in terrible loss of lives.

Sir, so far only four commando operations have taken place in foreign territory. The first one was in 1976 in Entebbe by Israel; and second was in late 1970s in Mogadishu by West Germany. Both these operations were successful with a minimum acceptable human cost. But the other two, one was in the year 1985 by Egypt was successful but at a tremendous human loss of 59 passengers. The other one was in the year 1978 at Cyprus which was a disaster because the commandos were mowed down by the local security force.

Therefore, at Amritsar what best could be done, was done by the Government. In Lahore, by the time our High Commissioner got the permission with great difficulty-thanks to the efforts of the Ministry of External Affairs-and the helicopter was arranged, the aeroplane left.

Where did they land? They landed in a territory which is not friendly with India. The Taliban administration is not friendly with India. Under these compelling circumstances and challenging scenario, we have done our best.

Our friend was telling that we have surrendered to terrorists and extremists. But we should not forget the other instances. Shri Dasmunshi was referring to the efforts made by the then Prime Minister Madam Indira Gandhi for whom I have got the greatest respect. But that time was different. In 1981 in one incident even

after our persuasion the plane was blown to pieces with the grenades supplied to the hijackers by the ISI in Pakistan itself. We have provided concessions on the demand of the hijackers. That has been done in many other instances also. Israel has done it, Pakistan has done it and also USA has done it because the protection and security of the lives of passengers are of paramount concern. We should not forget that.

Out hon. Foreign Minister has been criticised saying that he should have sent his Secretary there. If something had happened to the lives of passengers, then a big hue and cry would have been raised that the Government did not care to protect the lives of passengers.

There are many components in this crisis management and hijack management drill. They are; relatives management, media management, hijacker management and finally comes the commando operation. Here, the psychological advantage was in their favour. Of course, they have not claimed any victory. Only the politicians here are saying that they have got victory.

In this particular case, when these people were in the aircraft and when we were holding parleys and negotiations with the authorities, our Foreign Minister did not want to take any risk or any chance because if something had gone wrong at the last moment, decisions would have to be taken on the spot. For the purpose only our hon. Foreign Minister went there. That gave solace to the passengers also.

The media management is very important. We were shocked to see the TV exposure. Some of the relatives, who may not be the real relatives but who came telling that they were relatives of the hijacked passengers, formed a big crowd. Some people were shouting against the Prime Minister. They were uttering all irresponsible and reckless statements. That was highlighted like anything by the media. As a citizen of this country, I felt very sad. At the same time, the widows of the Kargil heroes made a statement that at this hour we should stand by the Government.

The son of one elderly Mudaliyar from Vellore was also in the hijacked plane. I am proud to say that the elderly gentleman came to Delhi and made a statement that even if his son's life were to be taken away, the honour of the country was of paramount importance. But in the Press and visual media what reactions were being exposed? Some in the name of the relatives of the hijacked passengers were shouting against the Government and the Prime Minister. Such people were instigated by the political quarters because the same irresponsible statements were being made by the political quarters here also.

Sir, in this case, when they were claiming the dead body of one Muslim, it was not acceptable as per the tenets of Islam. I find it even in the statement. There are five duties in Islam. One of the basic duties is observing *Ramzan* fast. In *Ramzan* fast, there is an exception for the passengers and it is very pertinent also. Chapter-II, *Al-Behera* of *All-Quran* says:

> "...fasting for a fixed number of days but any of you, if ill or on a journey, the prescribed number should be made up from days; later."

The exemption was given. Even Prophet Mohammed is giving the same statement at one point of time. While observing *Ramzan* fast, the passengers should be given exemption. So, what they did in the name of Islam was actually anti-Islam.

When this hijacking happened, some political parties were searching for issues to corner the Government to embarrass it. They were terribly disappointed when they came to know that all passengers safely returned to the country. Of course, my heart goes to Shri Rupin Katyal who was killed....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Who was disappointed?

SHRI VAIKO: I did not name the Congress Party, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. Why are you feeling hurt? I said 'some political parties'...*(Interruptions)* I know that, at that time, some political parties, thinking that the passengers will not return safely, made reckless statements against the Government. But the Government took all precautionary steps to rescue the passengers, to bring them safely here and for the providing succour and solace, our Foreign Minister went to Kandhar. This is the achievement of the Government. This is what we have achieved. At the same time, there is lapse of security arrangements in Kathmandu. What best could be done by the Government was done. An alarm bell should be there. Such precautionary arrangements have to be made at the airport. The Government has taken this as priority item in the Government agenda. Therefore, the Government had done an excellent and marvellous job in this hijacking episode to rescue the passengers and and portect the lives of the passengers. I commend the work of the Government, particularly that of the Foreign Minister.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI (Visakhapatnam): The incident that took place on the 24th December, 1999 is a very sad incident in the history of Indian air service. We should not forget one thing. The hijacking did not occur in the Indian Territory. It was beyond our control

[Shri M.V.V.S. Murthi]

as it occurred in Kathmandu. In Kathmandu, we have limited facilities of security. How could the Government anticipate that plane was likely to be hijacked? The moment hijacking took place, the Government....*(Interruptions)* But it was beyond our control. We are not operating our security forces in Kathmandu. How could we say that Kathmandu could have come to our rescue? That is why, we should take necessary steps in future when we fly our aircraft to other places. We should have necessary security arrangements there. I appeal to the Government in this regard....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar): Is it not that the Indian Airlines office is operating in Kathmandu? It was also the failure of the Indian Airlines office in Kathmandu. How can you absolve yourself from that?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: It is a foreign land. How could it be done? How can the Government of India have control over a foreign land?...*(Interruptions)* How can any Government have the control over a foreign land?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: I say this because the Indian Airlines is operating in Kathmandu. So, its responsibility is there. But you say a wrong thing....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Madam, When your turn comes, you can speak about it. Let me continue speech. All *bona fide* flights, either it is our Indian Airlines or Air India or any other flight, fly from any country. But there is a security lapse in Kathmandu. That is why, this hijacking incident took place. Basically, we should not forget about that.

The second thing is that there should not be any politics in saving the lives of the passengers. The Government of India, as a matter of fact, played a very exemplary role in this situation. A lot of restraint had been exercised. It is also not correct to say that the other countries had not come to the rescue of our country. They had all appreciated the role played by the Government of India. My friends can say why we should not have sent a Secretary or somebody or an inspector to bring the passengers back. It is not correct. They should not say like that. With all sincerity and genuineness, our Foreign Minister had gone there to rescue the passengers. Some hon. Member was telling that we should not have sacrificed our honour; we can sacrifice even 10,000 people. It is very wrong to say that. You cannot put the lives of others in danger. We should not say like that.

Next, in the hijacked plane, not only were Indians there but also the nationals of other countries were there. How would they look at it if you say that you can sacrifice the lives of the passengers and we should not bother about it? With all sincerity, an effort had been made and the net result was that we could save the lives of all the passengers except one Shri Katiyal for whom we all mourned. Today, it may be the IC-814. Tomorrow, it may be some other plane. But the fact is that this plane had not originated from India. It had originated from Kathmandu. How you can say that the Government of India had not given ample security cover? The Government of India had taken all the steps.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: What about the security lapse and the ISI activity? That is the point.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Of course, there is the ISI activity which might have resulted in the hijacking, which is not being disputed by anybody. Nobody has disputed that....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: Sir, I would take just a minute. Pardon my intervention. I just want to make two things clear. We are not discussing the lapse that the Foreign Minister committed or his magnanimity in going to Kandhar with those people to fetch the passengers back.

I am talking about two issues. First, the Indian Airlines operated in Kathmandu. There was a security failure. We were told about the security lapse five days in advance. Sir, please make a point of it. The important point is that five days in advance, we were told that such a security lapse might likely take place in Kathmandu. I would like the hon. Minister of State for Home, who is sitting here, to take note of these things.

The second part of it is that the Intelligence Bureau and the RAW, which are meant for giving information to you, both were not working. It should be put into order. The Government will have to concede the Intelligence failure part of it. That is the main thing.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: When there is an opportunity, you can take time and speak about these things instead of interrupting me from time to time during the course of my speech. If you feel something wrong, then only you interfere.

There is another thing. We cannot compare one hijacking incident with another. We cannot have the same strategy every time. The earlier leaders had played an able role. I am not disputing that fact. This time also, our leaders have played an able role. There are no two

opinions about it. The House should join us when we tell that our Government, our Foreign Minister and our Civil Aviation Minister have done their best in resolving this crisis.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: What punishment have the people concerned got?

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: They are feeling that they want to corner the Government somehow or the other. There are several occasions and incidents to corner the Government but not on this issue.

This issue is related to the security of the people, security of the planes, honour of the country and above all security of the whole nation. We should take it in that way. Earlier, there were occasions where dreaded terrorists were exchanged, not only by this Government but also by various Governments, including the Congress Government. That is the reason why the Government has also taken steps. We should not forget that. Now, the security of all the airports has been entrusted to the CISF. Special care is being taken in this regard. I would request the Government to see that such instances are not repeated in future. We should take steps to ensure that in future Indian planes, either of Air India or of Indian Airlines, are not hijacked.

With these words, while agreeing with the role played by our hon. Foreign Minister, the hon. Civil Aviation Minister and our Government, I fully support the action taken hy the Government in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI RASHID ALVI (Amroha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on this issue on behalf of Bahujan Samaj Party. History is very cruel. It never forgives anyone and the coming generation will decide from the history as to what their forefathers did. If one want to form an opinion about a person, one should observe his background and character. If performance of any Government is to be judged, its achievement will have to be taken into account. This Government has not been in power for a long time. But even during this brief period, Kargil incident has happened which will be remembered as a major event in the history. Our country's intelligence agencies totally failed in this case.

It is a matter of happiness that we won the Kargil war. But the Government and its intelligence are directly responsible for the loss of so many lives during this war. Similar incident occurred on 24th when an Indian Airlines aircraft IC-814 was hijacked. It is a matter of regret that it was not the first case of hijacking in country. One always learns from the earlier mistake. After the first mistake, one becomes more vigilant and decides to do away with his shortcomings. Pakistan's ISI has always been active in this country. If anything happens, the Government straight away says that ISI and Pakistan are responsible for it. The Government can't absolve itself from responsibility by saying so. The question is that ISI is active in this country but how active is our intelligence and on which fronts it has been failing. Today the question is not of party politics. I have not risen to corner the Government. But I regret to say that the Government and the intelligence is fully responsible for the plane hijacking. Terrorists activities are increasing day by day in this country. Terrorists from across Pakistan easily infiltrate into our country and go back as easily. They break three tier security, accomplish their task and go back. Masood Azhar, who was released in lieu of the hijacked passengers was active in Srinagar for three months. He was lodged in Tihar Jail for two years and later shifted to Jammu Jail. One of the senior officer, whose name I will not disclose, told me that he had announced that he will stay in the jail only till he desires. There is no jail in India which can keep him for long. Did the Government not know that a dreaded terrorist was in the jail who was talking in such a manner from the jail and he dug a tunnel to escape from the prison? Did the Government not know that he was digging a tunnel in jail and what a dreaded terrorist he was? But our intelligence agencies as well as our Government were inactive. It is because of this that on 24th our plane took off, at 4.53 p.m. and as per the statement of the Minister at 4.56 p.m. ATC recorded that our plane had been hijacked. But the Government had no idea as to what to do. How the passengers were to be saved? From 4.56 to 7.00 p.m. the plane went to Lahore and came back after hovering over it for sometimes and landed at Amritsar. The Government has no answer regarding the action they took during these 2.04 hours.

17.26 hrs.

(DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH *in the Chair*)

The first mistake was that we didn't take any concrete step in Amritsar. We did not anticipate that the plane could land at Amritsar.

It has happened earlier also in 1971 when the plane came to Amritsar and our commandos over powered the hijackers. Why was it not possible again? Negotiations were going on through officers at Amritsar, and I have a record of that. ATC has recorded that every minute they were demanding a tanker for refuelling. After every second minute, we told them that tanker was on its way. But tanker was not to be seen anywhere. Had we parked our tanker in front of the plane, it would not have been

[Shri Rashid Alvi]

possible for the plane to take off. Experts in this field say that by moving the tanker on one side, we could have made the hijackers believe that we were ready for refuelling and by parking the tanker in front of the plane we could have stopped the plane from taking off. But as per the record available with me from 7.11 p.m. to 7.49 p.m. they kept on asking for tanker. But we didn't send any tanker. The Government says that it was told that one person had been killed, four people had died. With great regret, I have to say that we do not even have so much wisdom to judge what the terrorists were talking to us and what they are conveying through the pilot. We cannot guess in what volume they are speaking the truth or telling a lie.

I feel that it would have been a diplomatic win, had we been able to withhold the plane at Lahore itself. We could have exposed Pakistan in front of the whole world, if we could have done that. This could have been conveyed to Government of Pakistan and efforts to withhold the aircraft there could have been made. The aircraft reached Kandhar and about the Government of Kandhar, which we do not recognise, Shri Advani Saheb gave a statement on 3rd.

[English]

The Home Minister had words of praise for the Afghan Government, because it gave a warning to the hijackers that it would storm the plane if there was bloodshed. This had compelled the hijackers to drop their idea.

[Translation]

I have read the statement of the Minister and on page 8 of the statement, the Minister has said:

[English]

> "The hon. Members would permit me to add that the hijacking of IC 814 was an exceptionally professional and complex operation. Kandhar is, possibly, the most adverse location for us from where to address the situation....and the triangular coordination of the incident by the hijackers between Taliban, HUM and ISI operatives, the most demanding chunk...."

[Translation]

The Minister says that all three are involved in it. ISI, Kandhar as well as Taliban are involved in it. But the Home Minister of India is saying that what the Taliban Government did was commendable. Many Members said that the Miniser of Extemal Affairs took all the terrorists alongwith him in his plane. Statement of the Minister which I saw myself I feel that the Minister himself felt ashamed in this matter. This I say so because the Minister himself said on page 7 in his statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: It is very important subject. I am concluding my point in a minute. The Minister said:

[English]

> "My travel on the same aircraft as the three terrorists was entirely on account of logical compulsions brought about by the limited infrastructural facilities at Kandhar airport."

[Translation]

It means the Minister feels that mistake has been committed. Therefore clarification is being given statement by the Minister that we took three terrorists because we were helpless, itself proves that the Minister feels that mistake has been committed or he is ashamed of it.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: I will conclude in two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can continue your point when this comes on second day. Now half-an-hour discussion has to be taken up.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Can we continue after six p.m. to continue discussion on this because we never get an opportunity?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The debate is incomplete today, and this will be completed on second day. Now we are starting Half-an-Hour discussion.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Half-an-Hour discussion which is going to start at 5.30 O'clock and will conclude at 6 O'clock. We can continue this debate after that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If sense of the House is so, then let it be.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The Hon'ble Minister has to go somewhere at 6 O'clock therefore it is not possible today.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA: Can we continue after six o'clock?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAIKO: That will take place only 17th. That has been decided by the Business Advisory Committee.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has to go somewhere after 6 o'clock.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: We have decided that tomorrow on 11th we will discuss Bharatpur incident under rule 193. Only three days of this session are left and in the next week discussion has to take place on Kargil as well as on disinvestment. Therefore, you are requested to continue this debate after 6 o'clock and after that the hon'ble Minister can reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Half-an-Hour discussion will be taken up.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Let it be decided whether it will be taken up tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will think over it.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: We can fix this for tomorrow.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will look into it. Rule is that there is a rule to provide for incomplete work in List of Business. Now there is no need of argument. Let us take up Half-an-Hour discussion. I am calling Shri Suresh Kurup.

17.33 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

MPLADS

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Half-a-Hour Discussion. Shri Suresh Kurup will speak.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Respected Chairman, Sir, the Starred Question No. 364 on 19th April, 2000 was regarding MPLAD Scheme. The original question is mainly related to the interest portion of the amount that has accumulated. During the course of the Question Hour, various Members raised important points regarding the implementation of the Scheme. Hence, this Half-an-Hour Discussion was allowed by the hon. Speaker.

This Local Area Development Scheme was introduced in 1993. In 1997, a clear-cut guidelines were issued regarding this Scheme. Those guidelines were revised in September, 1999. As per the guidelines, the local Members of Paliament should recommend schemes and the implementing authorities are the district authorities.

So, lot of bureaucratic delay occurs while the scheme is being implemented. The hon. Minister says that an amount of Rs. 1,800 crore is lying unutilised. I would like to know from the hon. Minister is it he fault of the Members of Parliament who are not recommending the schemes or is it due to the fault of the implementing authorities. That has to be verified and the hon. Minister has to give a specific answer to this question.

To my experience, it is only due to the bureaucratic delay, while it is being implemented, that this amount is lying unutilised. The tenor of the hon. Minister's answer gives an impression that this scheme is not necessary and that this is an unnecessary scheme. He says that lot of criticism is there regarding the scheme. He says that the Standing Committee on Finance has also made strong recommendations regarding the implementation of the scheme.

Actually the Standing Committee's report says:

> "The Secretary, Ministry of Programme and Plan Implementation was candid enough to admit that there have been frequent delays in the timely release of the funds due to lack of coordination between the Ministry and the district authorities. Under the scheme, the district heads are required to communicate information on the progress of works under the scheme.... once in two months and a Commissioner level officer is supposed to conduct an annual meeting involving the heads of district and MPs to assess the progress of works under the scheme."

All these guidelines have, however, hardly been implemented. That is what the report of the Standing Committee on Finance says. So, the actual problem is that these guidelines are not being implemented properly. Unusual delay occurs while the programme is being implemented. The scheme which I recommended in early

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

1998 is still pending. The administrative sanction has to be given, then the work has to be started, then the amount has to be released and the amount released from Delhi is given in instalments, and all that. So, once the work is over, there are various cases where the amount is not released from Delhi. The work is finished half way. We have to wait for the money to come. All these things have to be looked into.

Actually, to my experience and to the experience of all other Members in this House, this scheme is very effective. A lot of schemes, which were lying for so many years and lot of aspirations of people regarding the development of their local areas, can be implemented and work done by utilisng these funds. This is our experience regarding the utilisation of funds.

So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the reason for this huge amount lying unutilised; whether it is because of Members not recommending the schemes or whether it is because of the undue delays while the schemes are being implemented.

The sorry state of affairs is, though the guidelines say that a conference of the local level officers with the MPs should be convened by the District Collector every two months, no conference takes place. If the local Member of Parliament insists, the Collector may be kind enough to call a conference. A State level conference should also be held in this regard. That is there in the guidelines.

To my understanding, no State level Conference is held till this date. I do not know whether this sort of a Conference is held in any State. So, this scheme should be implemented properly. The Minister says that the Comptroller and Auditor General has objected to it. If you go through the Report of the C&AG on every Centrally-sponsored scheme, there will be objections. That is quite natural but that should not be used as a shield for not increasing the amount of the scheme.

Sir, this scheme is effectively implemented in various parts of the country. So, the Minister, instead of taking a position against this scheme, should come forward to give more teeth in regard to implementation of the scheme. That is my suggestion.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA (Mumbai North East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, no inquiry has been conducted with regard to the quality of works done under this scheme since its inception some years ago. The works executed by the PWD and any other agency have been reported to be of inferior quality. I want to know from the hon'ble Minister whether any effort for checking or inspection has been made? In addition to this there is also a need to think about follow up or maintenance. Sir, through you I would also like to urge upon the hon'ble Minister that during the course of discussion on rail budget I had requested that the fund under MPLADS can be utilised on unmanned railway crossings all over the country. If any hon'ble member intend to get this done in the cities like Delhi, Calcutta and Chennai for the convenience of the passengers he should be permitted. The hon'ble Minister had also recommended this but it has not been implemented till now. I request that the Government should take it into consideration. Besides this I would also like to urge upon that the scheme in which interest of the Engineer concerned is involved is sanctioned within a month whereas the scheme in which his interest is not involved is rejected. Guidelines in this regard should be laid down. The guidelines should be laid down to remove the misconception prevailing in the minds of the people that the funds under the MPLADS is his personal money and he can use that money wherever he wants to do so. I would like to say that this is the Government's money which is utilised by its agency and implementation is done by the government on the request or recommendations of the local members of Parliament. The question of bungling in it by the Member of Parliament or the Member of the Legislative Assembly does not arise because works are executed by the engineers or contractors. In this regard I would like to cite an example of Maharashtra. It does not matter as to which party is in power there, fifty percent corruption is involved in it. An agency namely Mahada is engaged there in construction of lavatories. A contract worth rupees two lakhs was awarded to it to construct five lavatories and when those very lavatories were assessed by some private agency in terms of construction cost thereof, it was said that it should be around rupees eighty thousands. I demand from the hon'ble Minister that it could be investigated. The Chairman of Committee on MPLADS is present in the House and I request him that such places should be inspected. I also request that the aspect of corruption should also be got investigated. My second suggestion is that as you have said that this amount is deposited with the Collector in the name of individual member of Parliament.

[English]

I do not know the actual procedure. But it cannot be in an individual Collector's name but it can be kept as a deposit in the Collector's account. So, what will happen? It will be easily transferable.

[Translation]

This money will be refunded early to the Union Government. Just now you have said that Rs. 1600 crores are lying unutilised under this scheme. It may be because of frequent change of the Governments at Centre and elections. But there is a need to effect changes in the rules in this regard to utilize the money.

As I have said in the beginning that it is the individual fund of the Members of Parliament due to which Public Interest litigations have been filed in the Supreme Court. In my opinion all the hon'ble Members will agree with me that the Government should appoint a good counsel to plead this case because the person who had filed the said Public Interest Litigation himself is an hon'ble Member of Parliament. His petitions used to be drafted properly and he can fight that efficiently. If this petition is not drafted properly not only work will be held up but the images of the members of Parliament will also be maligned....*(Interruptions)* Therefore, I would request that it should be taken seriously and a good counsel should be appointed for this.

[English]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Mavelikara): Sir, this MPLAD scheme was started in the year 1993 with the noble idea of creating more job opportunities in the rural areas and to create permanent assets in different parts of our country. Unfortunately, when we are hearing the answer of the hon. Minister, I think the Minister is totally averse to this programme. The Minister is not at all agreeing to the proper implementation of the programme. He is totally against this programme. That is the impression which the House carries after he has replied to this Question. I am very sorry to say that. This scheme is for undertaking programmes in the Parliament constituencies by the MPs. Before this scheme, nobody was enquiring about the MPs regarding the developmental activities. Now, we are able to implement, and take up different issues of the people through this Fund. We can identify the programmes, projects in the rural areas and we can allot the funds for those programmes. Definitely, there should be a proper review of this programme. The District level Collector can call the meetings of the MPs and evaluate the programmes. Otherwise, the Central Government, through any Central Agency, can conduct a concurrent evaluation. Even a reputed, a well-established NGO, not all NGOs, can be deputed for a concurrent evaluation of this programme. If there are lacunae, these can be rectified.

There is one serious issue which I found is about the allotment of fund. Only Rs. 50 lakh will be allotted as a first instalment. The second instalment will get delayed. By that time, the financial year will be over and the aim of the scheme is defeated. We have seven Assembly Constituencies. At some places, there are eight constituencies. Let us divide that Rs. 2 crore into seven. How much amount we can be able to spend in each Assembly constituency? So, this amount has to be enhanced. Otherwise with this scheme, we cannot satisfy the people of our constituencies. There should be review meetings at the State as well as at the district levels. At the State level, the Chief Secretary should call the meetings of the MPs along with the Collectors and evaluate the programmes, at least, twice in a year. The District Collector should call the meeting of the MPs every quarter and review the progress of the projects which are implemented.

Sir, I wanted to give some suggestions regarding the guidelines. In the remotest villages of our country, there are a lot of demands for the post offices. Our post offices are working in the rented buildings. If we can allot money for the post office buildings, it will be highly helpful for the rural people. But, as per the guidelines today, we cannot earmark or give money for construction of the post office buildings. At the sometime, in the guidelines, we are in a position to allot money for private institutions. This will lead to a lot of problems. There are instances of allotting money for the private institutions which have become a controversy now-a-days. So, we should avoid such controversies. The guidelines should be properly re-written and they should be reviewed properly.

The last point I wanted to make is about the interests of the State Governments. The State Governments are not taking proper interest in implementing this programme. So, specific direction should be given to all State Governments to give priority in implementing this programme.

SHRI G. PUTTA SWAMY GOWDA (Hassan): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my opinion abut MPLADS.

The hon. Minister's reply of 19th April, 2000, is not satisfactory. He has not made up his mind to investigate the things properly. This is a failure on the part of the officers and not on the part of the MPs. If the MPs have been kept away to implement this project, then MPs are not responsible and officers have to be responsible for implementing this scheme.

The hon. Minister has said that the C&AG report is not in favour of the scheme. This is far from truth. The Standing Committee on Finance has not gone through

[Shri G. Putta Swamy Gowda]

the report properly. As my colleagues have said, this is a nodal scheme which will help the rural areas.

I quote one example. Even in Karnataka, they have spent 70 per cent of the money for this scheme. The Union Government should take up the issue with the State Government and spend the amount in full. This type of financial assistance will help rural development. Most of the States are having financial crunch. Even they are not earmarking their share, namely, 10 per cent or 20 per cent for Centrally-sponsored schemes thereby the imbalance is created among the States. If such is the case, this scheme helps to develop the area.

I am sorry to state that PIL entertained by the judiciary is uncalled for and unwarranted. Judiciary is not expected to encroach upon the powers of the Executive as well as the Legislature. As well all know, this is the highest body in the Constitution. Hence, as our friends have said, the seniormost advocate should be engaged on behalf of the Government of India to scrap this PIL. Judiciary should not entertain such types of PILs in future.

One more suggestion I want to make. As our friends put it, Rs. 2 crore is not sufficient because eight Assembly segments are there in each Parliamentary constituency. Therefore, at least Rs. 5 to 6 crore is a must. If we really want to make development in the rural areas and if the money has to be properly utilised, he has to give at least Rs. 6 crore for each Parliamentary constituency so that the Members of Parliament can work freely and fulfil the expectations of the people.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (Narasaraopet): Sir, I have got a few sugestions to make on this issue. It is I who introduced this Scheme in Andhra Pradesh in 1991. Later, the Government of India had asked for the details of the Scheme and introduced it, as my friend said, in 1993. There was no problem in implementing this Scheme in Andhra Pradesh whereas here the half-hearted Minister's thinking is coming in the way. That is my personal view.

The other day I agreed with all the Members that had participated in the duscussion. The Minister has expressed the apprehension about courts, about people. Unfortunately, he is of the opinion that this scheme is a Government scheme. It is not a Government scheme. It is a scheme of the Speaker and the House. So, he is answerable to the Speaker and the Parliament. It is not a Government scheme at all. Whenever a representative of the people goes on tour, if the people ask for drinking water or for a community hall or for a link road, the MLAs or the MPs are supposed to go to the Collector or the Minister to get it sanctioned. This is a scheme through which he himself can instantly help them. This is a scheme for instant help. But the systems have not developed properly. They have to think for a system through which the Scheme is cleared expeditiously.

The Speaker has appointed a Parliamentary Committee also under the Chairmanship of Shri B.B. Ramaiah to go round the country, study the matter and submit its report. They are doing their job. Meanwhile, we have heard that they want to close down the scheme. That is the apprehension which he has to remove.

Another thing is that the last Parliament, that is the Twelfth Lok Sabha, had been dissolved on April 26, 1999. The Department had issued instructions that any M.P. can make recommendations up to 26th April, which date has been extended up to 31st November. For no fault of the M.P., the projects are not grounded and the M.P. is being penalised for that. He has become a betrayer in the minds of the people. They feel that the M.P. had sanctioned the scheme but it has not been grounded. So the Minister has to look into this aspect and correct it.

More than anything else, I suggest that there should be a small Cell in the District Administration which should be answerable. They should get the schemes cleared and the estimates sanctioned. There can be one or two technical people and there expenses can be met from out of the interest money accruing on the MPLADS. With this money, they can run the show.

Let the Minister clarify all these doubts so that the MPs can do something in a small way for the benefit of their own people.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Though the rules do not permit other members to speak but as the hon'ble Members have keen interest in it so one minute to each member is being given for clarification.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI SAHIB SINGH (Outer Delhi): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I have to submit that population of my Parliamentary costituency is about fifty lakhs out of which 31 lakhs are the voters. Rupees two crores are sanctioned for one Parliamentary constituency. My constituency has a vast area which include backward-area, hutment dusters and unauthorised colonies. The Badarpur Assembly segment in my constituency is equal to Chandni Chowk Parlimentary Constitunecy of Delhi. Some solution of this discremination must be found out. Rupees two crores are sanctioned for a small constituency like mine i.e. for

outer Delhi. I suggest that rupees one crore should be sanctioned for the area having 10 lakhs voters and rupees three crores for the constitunecy having voters strength of fifteen lakhs and rupees four crores should be sanctioned for the constitunecy having voters strength of twenty lakhs. As such I would like to suggest that it would be better if Rs. two crores are not given for a large constituency like mine so that this amount could be utilised somewhere else.

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (Mohanlalganj): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, there are five Assembly segments under one Parliamentary constituency in Uttar Pradesh. Rupees fifty lakhs are sanctioned to carry out the developmental works in each Assembly segment whereas rupees two crores are sanctioned for one Lok Sabha Constituency. It comes to rupees forty lakhs per Assembly segment. When we ask for an estimate for construction of one kilometre stretch of a road, we are given an estimate of rupees nine and half lakhs by the agency concerned. Similarly rupees twenty six thousand five hundred are sanctioned for installing a handpump. My question is how any developmental work can be executed with such a meagre amount? Therefore, this amount should be enhanced.

Hon'ble Chairman Sir, just now an hon'ble member has said that much time is taken in according approval to the proposals sent by the hon'ble Members. Approval should be accorded early.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I do not want to make a speech. I will draw your attention towards one or two points. The funds sanctioned from the Centre goes to District Magistrate and thereafter it is released in instalments but before releasing the second instalment details in regard to utilisation of the first instalment are sought. Delay is caused in sending details from constituencies due to which next instalment is not released from the office of the hon'ble minister. In this regard, I would like to suggest that rupees two crores be released lumpsum and details with regard to its utilisation can be sought later on. We will give a list of the works to be undertaken according to which fund will be incurred. All the developmental works are carried out by the Government agency. Some percent cut is imposed on it. Just now Dr. Madan Prasadji has said that 28 per cent cut is imposed in his constituency. 30 per cent cut is imposed in Gopalganj and 22 per cent is imposed in Sewan. Therefore, I am of the view that the developmental should not be carried out by the Government agency. It should not be an obligation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may give it in writing.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, there should not be the obligation of execution of developmental works by the Government agency. In Bihar rupees one crore is sanctioned for one Assembly segment whereas rupees two crores are sanctioned for one Lok Sabha Constituency. In my State there are six Assembly segments in one Lok Sabha constituency. Therefore, rupees six crores should be sanctioned for one Lok Sabha constituency. This amount is too meagre and hence not justified.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, this amount should be increased.

SHRI RASHID ALVI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would finish up with my statement in just one minute. I would like to suggest that Rs. 2 crore, that are allocated for Lok Sabha Constituency, may be increased to Rs. 4 crore. Last time hon'ble Minister, while giving reply to the question, had stated that this amount is not being utilised. According to my information, it is the money of the other House which is not being utilised. It is not possible that money of a member of Lok Sabha may not be spent. The other important point is that 30 to 40 percent of Commission is given for making the Government machinery work. I am of the view that an MP should be entitled in this regard and he should be the sanctioning authority. The District Magistrate may implement it, but the power should rest with the M.P.

[English]

SHRI K. MALAISAMY (Ramanathapuram): Sir, I will take hardly a minute. I am so sorry to hear from all the Members here that the Minister is not happy with the Scheme. This is one of the best schemes in which the MP has got something to offer. Wherever the regular scheme has failed, at least the MP has got something to offer. Secondly, some of the hon. Members have said that a lot of money has been left unused. But in Tamil Nadu and in some other States, we have done very well. Thirdly, as far as the Scheme is concerned, there is already a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. B.B. Ramaiah and we are doing an in-depth study. The hon. Minister can come one day or we can go to him one day and explain in threadbare the whole position as to how the MPLADS can be usefully and efficiently implemented in the connection. He is bound to do one or two things. Firstly, there is a strong case for the enhancement of the grant. Secondly, there should be a technical team at the level of the district for the concerned M.P. to assist and monitor the scheme. The District Collector is expected to conduct periodical meetings, as per guidelines but he does not do it. Once the guideline is effectively followed and if there is a will and skill, on

[Shri K. Malaisamy]

the part of the Collector and his team definitely the Scheme can be very nicely implemented.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH (Aurangabad, Bihar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make just two concrete suggestions to the hon. Minister. One is that the MPLADS funds can at once become an asset and also at once can become a hot bed of corruption. Therefore, I would suggest that every MP should get the whole amount on the 1st day of the financial year and it should not be given in instalments of Rs. 50 lakh. Moreover, it should be a time-bound programme. This amount should be given to us collectively at a time and we should be told that we are the agency who will get the work done at that level and not the District Magistrate or the BDO, especially in Bihar where the *Panchayati Raj* is not present at the moment. Thank you.

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Sir, the implementation authority in Kolkatta is the Commissioner, Kolkatta Corporation and not the District Magistrate. The difference lies over there. The most unfortunate part of it is that the worst victim of it is our Railway Minister, who is the main leader of the opposition in the State, Kumari Mamata Banerjee. She has sent her all the proposals and the very Municipal Corporation is deliberately being instructed by the State Government not to implement any of her major proposals. All the major proposals are lying with them since 1996....*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA: An enquiry should be conducted on this....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (Calcutta North West): Shri Ajit Panja is another MP from Kolkatta. I am also another MP from the city of Kolkatta. The constituency of Shri Akbor Ali Khandokar is attached to it. The case of Kumari Mamata Banerjee is to be inquired into positively. If you inquire the matter pertaining to one constituency in detail and summon the Commissioner to Delhi, then there will not arise any problem in any of the constituencies. Sir, kindly take this matter on priority.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): Sir, since my name has been taken, I would like to make one point. About Rs. 9 crore have been sanctioned from here with the blessings of the Speaker and at the initiative of the hon. Minister. Out of this sum of Rs. 9 crore, only Rs. 4 crore have been spent and rest of the money is not being spent despite my repeatedly writing letters. Sir, the Left Front Government is the controlling authority there. We are put into problem. Is it not a breach of privilege? I think, it is a breach of privilege. I have written a letter to the Minister and he was very kind to reply immediately, but they are doing noting. There is scarcity of tube-well water, but they are not spending anything on it.

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): Sir, the rule is to crete durable assets. But my suggestion to the hon. Minister is that we can use the money for creation of permanent job opportunities, like the cooperatives where we can provide jobs to some people. That is one suggestion.

If the hon. Minister thinks that only Rs. 50 lakh should be released in one instalment, then in 1999-2000, we were MPs for only six months. They how can one MP get four instalments of Rs. 50 lakh each released within six months?

Finally, Sir, I do not know that the other MPs are thinking or what Shri Kirit Somaiya is thinking. But I think, the leakage is the least in this MPLADS. The MPs have not been involved in any Centrally-sponsored programmes. This is the only money that is available with an MP from which he can do some work.

If the hon. Minister thinks that because of inefficiency of some MPs, the money is not being released, then why should he punish the efficient ones who are utilising their money? Therefore, I appeal to the Minister to increase the amount to whatever extent it is possible.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): One great difficulty that the MPs are facing is this. We give suggestions for the whole amount and, in fact, for more than the whole amount, but there are some flaws in the implementation. Normally, whenever the Minister answers, he says that the MPs have not utilised the fund. Who will be in the dock because of this? People put the MPs in the dock. Though the MP has given the sanction for the whole amount in writing and in proper time, since the implementation is not properly monitored, the people find fault with the MPs. This is a very serious aspect which has to be taken care of.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI (Deoria): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this plan is formulated by the Parliament. How is it justified that we keep in waiting for the district level officers for this and they may act arbitrarily, this would not be fair. As we have been witnessing in Mamta Ji's area that the collectors are creating obstacles in the

work every now and then. It should be stopped. When you have allocated Rs. 2 crore for us to spend, then you should have some faith in us, moreover this amount should be spent through us because this scheme of the Parliament is sponsored by the Central Government. Our accountability is towards the Parliament. This worthless act of entrusting every work to the Government has been done by us only as a result of which, the officers keep on sitting idle doing virtually nothing to implement it. This is highly unreasonable. There should be some improvement in this system. Secondly I support what Shyamji said. Third thing which I want to say is that in this scheme, there is no provision for repair work, which is not right. Provision as regards the repair works should also be made. All these three things should be there.

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in any constituency, the scheme formulated by me in 1996 has not been started as yet and even four months of the present year i.e. 2000 have also passed. I had given a privilege motion against the collector of my constituency at the time when Sangma ji was hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, but no action was taken on that also. When Shri Ram Naik ji took charge of this department, then also I had given an application in writing, but no action was taken in this regard. The collectors who are responsible for implementing these schemes, are also doing bungling, but no action is being taken against them.

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK (Anantnag): Mr. Speaker, Sir, Government are not keeping in view the weather conditions in the implementation of the schemes run by the money provided under this scheme. Jammu and Kashmir area is such, where we get only six months to work. If we will not send the money in time, we would not be able to utilise it as the working season lasts only six months there. If the amount would not be spent in time, then money as well as work, both would go in waste due to the heavy snowfall that takes place in that area, so, in this way both would be quashed beneath the snow. I therefore, urge the government that the ground conditions of this area should be kept in mind.

[English]

In Ladakh the road remains closed for six months. You cannot go to Ladakh because there is 35 feet snow in Zozila. In Srinagar, the working season is only for four or five months.

[Translation]

Under such circumstances, if you entrust this to us, then it would be better.

[English]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladutural): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to bring, through you, to the attention of the hon. Minister the situation obtaining in Tamil Nadu, particularly in my Constituency where one of the MLAs happens to be the State Minister of local Government. There, as soon as I, as the MP, give my suggestion for what needs to be done, the Minister throught the *Panchayats* and the Municipalities announce that they will do the work. Therefore, I am unable to implement the schemes that I had given.

The consequence is that the monies that are allotted for various jobs are then not spent. It is being claimed that the *Panchayats* and the Municipalities will spend it and there is no accounting as to whether they will actually take up that work or not. So, if an MP has sanctioned a job or work, then I think, that job or work should be done and an excuse should not be brought up that we are planning to do it through the *Panchayats* or the Municipalities.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the provision of constructing a boundary wall should also be there. For example if we ask for constructing a boundary wall of a playground, they say that it does not come under the norms. I, therefore, request that the construction or a boundary wall should also be included in this....*(Interruptions)* At my place, they do not consider the construction of a boundary wall....*(Interruptions)* Secondly, it shall be very apt if the amount is increased and some mechanism is evolved to expedite the work.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, there is a wrong impression amongst the people that the money provided under MPLADS is within our reach. As a matter of fact, it is not within our reach. We can only give suggestions on the works to be done. But the works are not done properly.

So, my first suggestion is that the entire money under the MPLADS should be left at the disposal of the implementing agency. Once the MP gives his or her proposal, it should be implemented without delay. For that purpose it is essential that the instalment process should be done away with. It should be granted in lump sum. What is the difficulty in that? It is the fund meant for the MPs. We should have control over it. Some people think that the money is in the pocket of the MPs. They think that the entire amount is in the accounts of the

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

MPs and they can use the money as they like it. But our experience is something else. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister that the money should be made available at the earliest and there should be no limit on it.

[Translation]

SHRI LAL BIHARI TIWARI (East Delhi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this scheme was started in 1996 with an amount of Rs. 5 lakh. It is indeed a very good Scheme. In Delhi also the Delhi Municipal Corporation undertakes the works of development. There is a population of 40 lac in my constituency and it is the third largest constituency of Asia. Outder Delhi is on the second number. An MLA gets one core rupees to spend expenditure of 20 legislative Assemblies. Our situation is really worse....*(Interruptions)* Previously our work for 1000 colonies....*(Interruptions)* money was spent, but now it is said that the Government has refused. We are being caluminated....*(Interruptions)* Kindly get this work done....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMSHETH THAKUR (Kulaba): Mr. Speaker, Sir, till the end of the month of April, a provision for giving six crore fifty lakh rupees to me for both the twelfth and thirteenth Lok Sabha was there, out of which six crore five lakh rupees were approved. Now only forty five lakh rupees are left. I have, given around 70-72 suggestions. What I mean to say is that all these works cannot be accomplished in merely two crore rupees, so you kindly sanction five crore rupees for this purpose.

[English]

DR. B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru): Sir, all the Members have expressed keen desire for the utilisation of this fund. It is an excellent scheme and there are no two opinions about it. But a few problems have come to be noticed. This Committee has come into being only some three months back. The hon. Speaker is also very keen to see that the projects under this scheme are implemented effectively and properly. For that, we are trying to find out as to what are the various constraints that are being faced in the process of implementation of the works under this scheme.

Sir, the frist problem that is faced is a lack of coordination between the Collector, the Ministry and the local MP. There should be coordination between them. Here, we have heard a complaint from Kumari Mamata Banerjee about schemes not being implemented in her constituency. Such things are happening in a number of other places where the local Government and the MP are from two different political Parties. In order to see that such constraints are removed and things are put in order we have to see what type of methods should be employed and how best it should be done.

Sir, the first thing that we have done is that we have held a Collectors' meeting of the Southern States in Hyderabad along with the representatives from the Ministry and the MPs of these States. We discussed the problems that arise in implementing the schemes properly. Once we are able to hold such meetings in four or five places in the whole of the country, then we would be able to find ways for removing the constraints as far as possible.

As far as the question of the C&AG is concerned, they are complaining on different things. But the idea is to see as to how best we could improve upon and how effectively we could use it. We should not be afraid of it. We can definitely do it. Members here have also complained about non-utilisation of the funds. This is because there have been three General Elections in three years. Every time an election is declared, the code of conduct of the Election Commission comes into force and the Commission directs not to implement the incomplete works. There are Members who loss the elections and there a few who are newly elected. We should be able to look into all these aspects. There are problems but we will try to do our best. We would see as to what has happened so far and how best it should be improved. If the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister give us cooperation, then the hon. Minister can improve it and increase the amount of the MPLADS as per the desire of the people.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your committee should also work properly.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now hon'ble Minister will reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I will take just one minute. I come from western Rajasthan....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the Members have made their points and it is now responsibility of the Government to respond to them. If any hon'ble Member wants to raise a different point, he can raise that.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHRICHAND KRIPLANI (Chittorgarh): If an MP belongs to a political party other than the ruling party of the state, he has to face problems as has been mentioned here by all the hon'ble Members....*(Interruptions)* BDO of Panchayat Committee and CEO of District Council of Executive Officers of Municipalities do not work properly....*(Interruptions)* There should be a time bound programme for it....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, there should be a time bound programme.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: Western Rajasthan is facing the situation of drought and there is shortage of water and fodder....*(Interruptions)* I got elected from Jodhpur region of Western Rajasthan....*(Interruptions)* Some arrangements should be made for water and fodder....*(Interruptions)* That geographical region is drought prone and this scheme is not applicable in Western Rajasthan....*(Interruptions)* There is a distance of 10 or 20 km. between two villages and Rs. 2 crore is a meagre amount for this region. As for Barmer, Jodhpur and Jaisalmer regions in Western Rajasthan, I would like to make a special mention about Jodhpur as I had moved a privilege motion on 23rd of December raising this matter. The Lok Sabha Constituency from where I have been elected was earlier represented by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan shri Ashok Gehlot....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (Vadodara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to say that Helping Aid Scheme is being implemented efficiently in my region but interest is generated there upon. Computers should be provided for the Planning Officer so that liaisoning could be done effectively and promptly. All the instalments should be paid in lumpsum. The amount of MPLAD should be increased.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN (Baramulla) Mr. Chairman, Sir, with your permission I would like to say to hon'ble Minister that he was proved his mettle in investigative journalism but he should show patience in this case and consider our views. He will also demand Rs. 10 crore in place of Rs. 2 crores once he contests election and is familiarised with problems of voters. Far-flung areas of Kashmir and 16 assembly segments come under jurisdiction of my constituency and it takes whole day to reach Gurej and Bagtor by helicopter. You should pay special attention towards hilly areas and keep in mind that you also have to contest elections and perhaps you may also need that in future....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI VINOD KHANNA (Gurdaspur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Members of Parliament should be allowed to spend a certain amount of money from the MPLADS Fund on medical expenses of people below the poverty line. There could be a limit of, say Rs. 10 lakh a year, on such expenses. I say this because many people who need to undergo heart surgery or valve replacement if they have to survive, come to us. These procedures cost a lot of money. Even if they to to Government hospitals, they would have to spend a lot of money to get themselves treated and they cannot afford that. So, a provision to the effect that a Member of Parliament can give Rs. 10 lakh every year for medical expenses of people below the poverty line be made in the rules.

Secondly, there are certain backward areas in the country. If they are already backward, and if everybody is getting the same amount of money, how can those backward areas be developed? In any constituency, there are many areas called *Kandi* areas. Even if I spend the whole amount of Rs. 2 crore to provide water to people in those areas, I would be able to cover only eight to ten villages. I would request that this aspect also be taken into consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV (Saharsa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to give a suggestion to hon'ble Minister. Department of Planning allocates funds for MPLADS but at state level monitoring is undertaken by the Department of Rural Development and implementation of schemes is done by the Collector at district level. Department of Rural Development is already overburdened. Huge amount of fund is released by the Union Government under Assured Employment scheme and Gram Smridhi Yojana etc, however these are not monitored properly. Sir, through you I would like to say to the Hon'ble Minister that Planning Department is functioning in all the States and it does not have much work. Hence it will be better and work will be done efficiently if monitoring of this scheme at State level is undertaken by Planning Department. Collectors and DDC have wide responsibility, so I would like to say that District Planning officers should be accorded responsibility for implementation of MPLADS. District Planning Officers should take up the work of implementation of MPLADS and its monitoring should be done at State level by Planning Department.

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Yadav]

The second suggestion which I want to give is that the State level review meetings of the M.P.'s should be held every six month atleast at the Chief Secretary level.

SHRI RAM NARESH TRIPATHEE (Seoni): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh have their own specific problems. There are some Lok Sabha constituencies having only one district while the others have 4 districts under them. The development fund reach them only after a long time because the constituency comprises eight legislative assembly constituencies and four districts. The funds are released to a nodal districts and from there it is distributed to other districts. Similarly any information which is to be sent with regard to any of the districts of the constituency is first sent to the nodal district and after that it is sent to us. You are well aware of the pace at which the Government departments work. The money has to be distributed four times and when it is sanctioned in those districts, its information is sent to the nodal districts and then it is delivered to the Union Government. It is not possible to do all that in a definite time frame and the parliamentarians are lagging behind due to it. The problem becomes more presistent in the cases where the opposition parties in the centre, are ruling in the States as in my case, I am an M.P. of B.J.P. whereas my State is being governed by Congress at present. The Collectors deliberately cause delay in work and in passing the information. Hence until the right to take action against an erring Collector is vested in the Central Department, the schemes cannot be implemented properly....*(Interruptions)*. You have told your grievance. Our grievance is that the Congress Government do not allow us to work there. Hence my suggestion is that the right to take action against the Collector should be given to us.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY (Ranchi): The M.L.A.'s are given only one crore rupees in Bihar. Besides the installation of the handpumps is the responsibility of the legislators. The money is also given to construct the roads. We only get two crore rupees and it is causing lot of problems to us. I agree with the proposal of grant of six crore rupees put forth by the hon. Members. Besides, a number of young men come to us with a request for provision of sports facilities for them but we are unable to provide it to them owing to the inadequate funds under the scheme. My suggestion is that provision should also be made for this purpose. The installation of the handpumps which is presently looked after by the legislators should be entrusted to the M.P.'s.

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH (Dumariaganj): The funds released under M.P. L.A.D. scheme for schools, are made available to school administration through the District Collector. My suggestion is that the recognised schools and aided schools should be funded directly.

SHRIMATI JAYASHREE BANERJEE (Jabalpur): The funds released for Jabalpur and Katani in my constituency, are first sent to Jabalpur and then Katani. I am of the view that money should be sent to both the district simultaneously. Second instalment is released only after submitting the report of the utilisation of the first instalment of 50 lakh rupees. Till then no developmental work takes place. The rainy season is to arrive soon hence, at least 1 crore rupees should be made available at one go.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho): I would like to give two suggestions. First is that the parliamentarians are held accountable for unutilised funds. Let there be a change in the system. All the parliamentarians will submit the proposals of their respective constituencies to the Government and after the proposals are received if the Government takes the responsibility of the disbursement and utilisation of the funds in its own hand, we do not have any objection to it.

My second suggestion pertains to the responsibility entrusted to the Collectors. I have been in many districts that the Collectors have done a tremendous job. Those who show good performance and utilise the funds, should be praised while action should be taken against those whose performance is not upto the mark and who delay the work deliberately. It is quite evident that the amount of two crores is inadequate and it should be enhanced to at least four crore rupees.

[English]

SHRI THIRUNAVUKARSU (Pudukkottai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to increase the MPLADS amount from the present Rs. 2 crore to Rs. 4 crore. In Tamil Nadu the amount given for a MLA for an Assembly segment was Rs. 50 lakh last year. In the Budget this year, it has been increased to Rs. 60 lakh. They are now giving Rs. 60 lakh a year for an Assembly segment in Tamil Nadu. This amount comes to Rs. 3.6 crores per year. If we divide Rs. 2 crore, the amount comes to something like Rs. 33 lakh. I would, therefore, request the Government to increase the MPLADS Fund from the present Rs. 2 crore a year to at least Rs. 4 crore a year.

[Translation]

SHRI KIRTI JHA AZAD (Darbangha): Whenever I speak, I speak about one or the other scandal. First I had raised the issue of cricket, now I wish to speak about M.P.L.A.D. In December, I had written to the hon. Minister that the former M.P. of my constituency had enlisted 118 schemes. The money was sanctioned for

118 schemes and no work was undertaken in regard to those schemes. I have received a reply to my letter from the hon. Minister alongwith the acknowledgement. It has also come to my notice that the letter has been forwarded to the Chief Secretary, Bihar but no information has been received regarding the action taken till date in response to it. In December, I had given 54 lakhs rupees for the construction of road. That work was started but it has not been completed till date and more than half of the entire work is still pending. I am of the view that the work for which we provide money should be completed in a definite time frame, for we do not receive further funds till the report of the utilisation of the earlier instalment is submitted by us to the Union Government.

DR. SANJAY PASWAN (Navada): I am not in favour of this scheme. This scheme should be withdrawn as it is turning many M.P.'s dishonest. You might have observed the fate of those who had initiated this scheme. Take the instance of Narasimha Raoji, we will meet the same fate, hence it should be withdrawn. If the scheme is allowed to continue then atleast a parliamentarian's office should be set up in each constituency and five percent of the funds released should be spent for its establishment.

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): It is mentioned in the guidelines that the decision should be taken within 43 days of the recommendations by the parliamentarain and it should be approved but Collectors do not approve it. The hon. Minister should ask for quarterly information in this regard and action should be taken against such Collectors. No provision has been made for constructing community centres for conducting the social and cultural programmes by the people belonging to schedule castes, scheduled tribe sections of the society....*(Interruptions)* It is nowhere mentioned in the guidelines. It is my challenge that if anybody points out as to where it is mentioned in the guidelines, I will resign or that person should tender resignation....*(Interruptions)* It is not in the guidelines....*(Interruptions)*. Permission for constructing a building for 'goshalas' should also be given.

[English]

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM (Thanjavur): Thank you. I want to make only one suggestion. We are eligible to give concession from our fund to library buildings, but we are not eligible to give funds for the library books. How can we run the library without books? So, the amendment is necessary to sanction the amount for books.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARM RAJ SINGH PATEL (Phulpur): Mr. Chariman, Sir, a draft was dispatched to my constituency Phulpur, Allahabad on 6th but today it is 10th of this month. If an enquiry is made, it is said that the draft has been sent and if I try to trace it in Phulpur then it is replied that it might be on the way as it has been sent by registered post. It has been one and a half month since then but no money has been received and a lot of delay has taken place. It should be found out as to where the money is vanishing and who is behind it. The money of Dr. Joshi as well as of four other M.P.'s have been sent through this draft. The same thing happened last time also, hence it should be sent through the speed post. Secondly, our village does have any girl school. I would like to request you that under the new guidelines, special provision should be made as well as the existing laws should be relaxed for opening the school for the girls.

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT (Nandurbar): 50 lakhs rupees have been released for my tribal constituency Nandurbar in Maharashtra and I have been informed that the rest of the amout is also being sent on instalments but no money has been received from the Ministry. The agencies are not working properly and action should be taken against them as has been suggested by hon. Member. The funds for the purchase of computers are also not being received at scheduled time. These funds should also be sent immediately.

[English]

SHRI Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY (Cuddapah): Sir, when an hon. MP proposes a particular work to the Collector, the Department concerned should be directed to allocate a particular share of the expenditure to be made available for that particular work. For instance, if a road work in a *panchayat* has been proposed by an hon. MP, the Department concerned should be made to statutorily allot a particular share of the expenditure on that work so that the quantum of work could be executed doubly.

The construction of housing colonies might also be considered under the MPLADS. In Andhra Pradesh, when they were giving MLA grants of Rs. 50 lakh, an amount of Rs. 25 lakh was allocated for housing colonies and 500 houses were made availale to the poor people.

[Translation]

SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE (Malegaon): Sir, I want to say that the work should be executed in time and properly and there should be no corruption involved in it.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH (Bikramganj): Sir, I just want to recite a couplet,

Jinsey umeed thi, banayengey majar meri,

Vahi meri kabar ka pathar chura ley gaye"

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the Members have complained that the Collector is not working properly. The Government to which the Collector belongs should get it done properly. They will not be allowed to speak.

"Keshave kahi na jat kya khiya,

Dekhat Srishti Rachna-Vichitra ati,

Samujhi man hi man rahiya."

[English]

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point to make.

A question has arisen before the Supreme Court whether administrative sanctions in MPLADS are sufficient or the Parliament has to approve that money. This question is being argued in the Supreme Court. The hon. Minister may take note of it.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): Sir, very important points have made and I will try to answer them. They fall into four categories. I will try and answer each one of them. Very important points have been made from almost all sides....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN: The House is unanimous; it is not just 'all sides'.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I have listened very carefully to the points that have been made.

[Translation]

Implementation is not going on effectively and properly and most of the complaints pertain to inefficiency of Collectors. Secondly, in the areas where M.P.s belong to a Party other than the ruling party of the State, hindrances are created in the progress of the work being done with funds of MPLAD. Several suggestions have been made in this regard e.g. to bring Privilege Motion against the Collector. Sir, the work assigned to this department is to deposit the funds in the account of the Member as early as possible. I got this matter investigated and found that the funds were being deposited in the account 1 to 1 1/2 months after receiving the expediture letter. I would like to tell for the information of the Members that three steps were taken in this regard. The Governor of Reserve Bank was consulted and also the Cabinet Secretary. The department which is involved to send the expenditure letter was also consulted. The procedure is that after being sanctioned by Pay and Accounts funds are required to get the approval of Cabinet Secretary and then after getting clearance from Reserve Bank, demand drafts are dispatched. So it takes place after consulting the three departments and the Governor of Reserve Bank.

On every Friday, I receive a statement stating as to when the expenditure statement was received. And a statement regarding the date on which our department made a request to Pay and Accounts for sanctioning the funds and when the Reserve Bank's draft despatched after receiving the sanction is sent to me every Monday. Such a bulky information bound in a book is being kept in the office of the Speaker, Chairman of Rajya Sabha and in Library as to how much amount is released in the name of a Member of Parliament. If you are interested, I can send you a copy of it. These are current statements which have been given to me on this Friday. Expenditure statement is received by our department on 3rd day of the month and on 4th it is sent to PAO Section. Earlier it was sent to Cabinet Secretariat, now two officers from Cabinet Secretariat have been deputed in our department to take necessary action there itself. So that there could be no delay. These officers have been deputed from 1st May. Now no delay will be caused due to the movement of file. The Reserve Bank's building is two buildings away. A person has been deputed only for this purpose. As soon as sanction is issued and PAO slip is received from there, demand draft is despatched. Sir, funds are released within 4-5 days after receiving expenditure statement....*(Interruptions)* Today, itself, an hon'ble Member told me, I have investigated the matter. I am not saying that there can be no mistake on our party.

[English]

But it is an exception.

[Translation]

Believe me, if you find any such mistake, you can call my Secretary and even me or any other official, you

will be called back in the same evening about that. I will also tell you about your inquiry.

[English]

We are here to serve you.

[Translation]

I am giving this statement to the hon'ble Speaker. Secondly, there is a very serious problem. I share it with the entire House and I have no grievances against any political party but what Kumari Mamata Ji, Shri Ajit Panja, Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar who is my old friend of College days and several other members have stated that in the areas where the M.P. belongs to a party other than the ruling praty, Collector functions keeping in mind the interest of the ruling party. He does not sanction your plans easily. He does not send the expenditure statement. Shri Panja has told me that even Pass Book has not been issued to him till now....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (Badagara): Passbook is not given to the individual MPs. It is maintained by the Collector....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Please bear with me, Madam. I meant that even 'information', is not given. I can share it with this House that I have personally brought this matter to the attention of the Government of West Bengal. Our Joint Secretary was there in March, only to discuss this problem. It is an endemic problem especially in West Bengal.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: In Tamil Nadu also.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Could be.

SHRIMATI SHYAMA SINGH: I just wanted to tell the hon. Minister one very important thing. The District Magistrates and the BDOs behave in a most autocratic manner and they make as feel, as if we are going with a begging bowl at their doorstep to get things done even for Rs. 10 lakh. In the last nine months, in the State of Bihar—at least, I can vouchsafe this for the seven Parliamentary constituencies in Central Bihar-not an inch of work has progressed with the MPLADS fund. This is the position.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I will explain the position to you. Money is being sent from here promptly. Anybody can come to our office at any time and inspect our records. You are always welcome. You do not even have to take the trouble of coming to our office. You can inspect it in the hon. Speaker's office itself.

The problem is two-fold. It is only by the collective strength of this House with the Speaker's intervention that this matter can be taken up with the State Governments. We have tried our best. Shri Ramaiah is here. On behalf of all of us, the Committee can take up the matter. The hon. Speaker, can write to these State Governments. We can bring to you individual cases which we have tried to help. If the State Governments are not doing anything due to factors which are well known and if you suggest that the Centre should take some action against the Collectors, we would be stepping over the Centre-State relations. The State Governments are very jealous of the fact that Collectors are working under them. Under the division of powers, the Central Government does not have any authority to take action against them. We can ony try to persuade them. The House can take up this issue. A point about breach of privilege was raised

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: The Central Government sends money under so many other schemes. There is no clash in those cases. The, why is there a clash here? It is because of partisan approach of the State Governments. Since a different party is ruling in the States, they do not want to implement things. I would like to know whether the Minister is really keen about this scheme.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I will come to that. That is not the question. It is your scheme and you have approved it. I am here to implement it. I am telling you my limited role. If you put me to such tests of fate, I assure you, the outcome will not be a very happy.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: In the earlier guidelines, there was a provision to the effect that wilful delay in the implementation of the scheme on the part of the officials will be considered as contempt of Parliament. In the new guidelines it is not there. That has been taken away in the new guidelines.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: It is a very good point. We have to see the background as to why it was taken away. I did not make those guidelines. The guidelines were made by the Committees of both the Houses which consist of Members who are your own representatives. The very fact that they have taken away that, provision shows there is a good reason for doing so. It shows that their assessment is that the delay on the part of the Collector cannot be regarded as a breach of privilege.

Why do you not take up some case of a Collector who has been erring in this, bring a privilege motion

[Shri Arun Shourie]

against him and see the result in law? It is the easier way. Why leave it to the Government? You are the aggrieved party. So, take it to the Privileges Committee. I do not want to go into the law of privilege. I do not think you will succeed, but it is a good point to be tested. The very fact that the provision was removed from those guidelines shows actually some assessment of the law. Second Sir, Collectors have been blamed for a lot of things. Shri Janardhana Reddy pointed out a very important distinction. He said that the scheme was very successful when it was introduced in Andhra Pradesh. He asked, 'Why has it failed when it was introdued by the Central Government?' It is because the Collectors in Andhra Pradesh are working under the directions of the Andhra Pradesh Government. So, naturally they implement the things. On proposal made under the State scheme. On this particular matter, you cannot give directions from the Centre. I think some other device should be found.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY: They all belong to all-India services. They are answereable to the Home Ministry. When Shri Rajiv Gandhi was the Prime Minister and when Shri P. Chidambaram was in-charge of this, they were chucked out.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I beseech you to please see the delicate situation in which the country is today. Different Parties are in power in different States. Different Parties are in power from time to time in the Centre. For you to give a pre-emptive right to the Centre, whichever Party is in power, whichever combination of Parties is in power, will lead to great problems. I am only making a suggestion. I will explore it. Please try and find some other remedy. One good point is, put a case of privilege against a Collector and see whether it succeeds or not. The second point, I must draw your attention to....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ALI MOHD. NAIK: It is not a fight between the Central Government and the State Government. It is the negligence of the officers belonging to the All India Services. They are under the control....*(Interruptions)* Let us pull them up.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Members have asked a number of questions. Let me reply to them.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI REENA CHOUDHARY (Mohanlalganj): When I became Member of Lok Sabha for the first time, at that time I noticed many irregularities in my Constituency in developmental works regarding which I had submitted one letter against the C.D.O. Normally one officer does not writes report against another officer. The report of D.M. is considered as final report. In case we make a complaint then it should be fully investigated. How can you take one sided decision considering the report of D.M. as final report.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Whatever you are saying is correct. I will try to give its reply also.

[English]

Shri Ramaiah has made a very important point that a mechanism has to be evolved. The hon. Speaker has taken the lead. Ministers here were having meetings with State Governments. Meetings had been held in Calcutta, Bhubaneswar, Patna.

[Translation]

Hon'ble Speaker has done another very good job by taking initiative in holding meeting of all Collectors of southern States with the Committee under the Chairmanship of Ramaiah Saheb in Hyderabad. In that meeting 30 Collectors of four States were present. In that meeting a lengthy discussion took place regarding their problems and about our complaints. I was trying to hold one meeting with Maharasthra Government since long. Many people have complaints regarding Maharashtra also. Eventually that meeting is fixed for 29th May. It has been postponed thrice. Action is being taken from our side. Ramaiah Saheb has devised very good scheme. Since the time of hon'ble Speaker is very valuable and it is difficult for him to attend all the meetings, he has said that a mechanism should be evolved in presuasion of the representatives, Collectors or Chief Secretaries of three-four States and only then we can proceed further. If this attitude has been knowingly adopted against Trinamul Congress or Shri Mani Shankarji then this is not correct. It is not that the individual officers are not doing any job. Where no work is being carried on that means in that State the Government of some other party is in power and there is a pattern in not doing the work. We should expose this pattern, perhaps it will have more persuasive effect.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: I have complaint against Tamil Nadu Minister who is an M.L.A. from my Constituency.

SHR ARUN SHOURIE: This is for the first time that Shri Mani Shankarji has no complaint against me. He has said many things about Collectors.

[English]

I will just mention one thing.

SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM: In the same constituency there are two 'Manis'. Probably, that is why there is this confusion.

[Translation]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: He has made a complaint against the collector. I don't want to say anything about that but I would like to tell you a figure which shows how district Administration is functioning today? Last year a conference of Rural Development was held with Collectors in Delhi to find out the reasons for the delay in implementation of programmes. In that Conference a questionnaire was distributed regarding

[English]

On the average tenure in your State as a Collector".

[Translation]

19.00 hrs.

Just see as to what is the condition of those collectors. In Rajasthan, the collector held the office for 11 months, in Tamil Nadu 9 months, in Maharasthra 11 months, in Madhya Pradesh 10 months, in Sikkim 4 months, in Haryana 11 months, in Uttar Pradesh 6 months, in Karnataka 5 months, in Andhra Pradesh 11 months, in Gujarat 9 months, in Orissa 10 months and in West Bengal the Collector held the office for 1 year 3 months.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: The tenure of Collector of Bihar has not been mentioned in it.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, one needs magic stick to get the figures regarding Bihar. If one Collector holds office for 6 or 10 months then how could he implement this scheme?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, you please conclude.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the general point is that in those states where the administration is good, the utilisation rate is 80%. Maniji has complaint against Tamil Nadu.

[English]

But the highest utilisation rate is in Tamil Nadu and in Andhra Pradesh. It is almost 78 per cent. Why is it so? It is because in Tamil Nadu, the Chief Minister personally takes a meeting of the Collectors for MPLADS. I was very happy to learn this. So, we should all work for improving general administration.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): What about increasing the amount?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: I am going to come to that in the and so that you will wait for that.

Sir, three hon. Members have made a complaint about my citing the Report of the Standing Committee on Finance.

[Translation]

It has not made any such recommendations. The Standing Committee asked to conduct evaluation study. In its report, the Committee has mentioned this point at three places.

[English]

> A sample survey which is proposed to be undertaken by the Ministry of Planning and Programme Implementation for finding out the efficacy of the MPLAD Scheme should be undertaken without any further delay."

On page 27, it further says:

> "The Committee are also pained to note that although a period of one year is going to elapse yet no action has been taken on their recommendation regarding conducting a sample survey on the efficacy of the Scheme. The Committee desired that no further time should be lost on this account and the sample survey, as already recommended, may be undertaken and completed."

They again repeated the same thing in the summary of recommendations. So I did not invoke the Report of the Standing Committee to condemn the Scheme.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): It is not a condemnation, rather, it is the credit.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Sir, that is exactly the point. Today, three hon. Members have said that I had invoked the Report of the Standing Committee as if I was invoking some authority for condemning the Scheme. That is not the case. I had specifically cited it only because a Member asked me this. Has there been some inquiry or not?" I narrated that in pursuance of this recommendation of the Standing Committee, a sample survey by the Programme Evaluation Organisation has been commenced. That was all. But all sorts of meanings have been read into it.

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: We would welcome this.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: That is exactly what is being done.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SAJIVAN (Banda): Hon'ble Minister, please tell us whether the Government is increasing the allocation of funds or not?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Do not get impatient. I am not that much careless that I will forget even what you have said. Shri Kirit Somaiya has mentioned about the petition pending in the Supreme Court.

[English]

Shri Jalappa also asked as to what is the point which is being agitated in the Supreme Court.

Actually there are, to my knowledge, six petitions lying in High Courts.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the need to read it? In the Court the case should be contested properly.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Let me tell you that other Members could also become familiar with it. One petition of 1994 is lying pending in Mumbai High Court against this scheme. Its hearing is going on. Another petition is pending in Andhra Pradesh High Court since 1996 and in Delhi High Court two petitions are pending since 1997. In Guhawati High Court one petition is pending since 1998. In the Supreme Court one petition was filed in the beginning of 1999. Thus there are six-seven petitions pending in the Courts.

[English]

Naturally, the Government will be well represented.

[Translation]

But to think that it is a light challenge, would not be correct. What grounds they have given?

[English]

I can narrate this. There are wider grounds than the ground that was mentioned by Shri Jalappe. There are many important grounds that they have taken. I am not expressing a view either way. But that matter is also in court.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Why are you not expressing a view either way? Surely, as a Minister you should be defending the MPLADS. You should not be sitting on the fence. We are very apprehensive that since there is a certain lack of enthusiasm in your voice, in your body language about the scheme, you will not be advising the legal counsel to fight for this MPLADS.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: When the Supreme Court judgment comes, we will be forced to amend the Constitution for that purpose also. Please do not lead us to such a situation. We will have to bring another Bill to amend the Constitution. Are you really interested in the scheme? That is the real question. If you are really interested and if you like the scheme, please tell it openly.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: As I have mentioned to you, I will not stand in the way.

[Translation]

Third suggestion which we have received is regarding widening of guidelines. Mention was about library books, and also for allowing girls schools....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

A letter has been given to me that for blood banks we should allow refrigerators so that blood can be stored. These are all important suggestions. From time to time the guidelines have been specifically widened.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a need to consider it and not to express it in detail.

[English]

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Let the MPLADS Committee decide on each recommendation. Then the Minister can take a view on this scheme.

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: Actually, guidelines are set formulated by the Ministry, but by the Committee of the two houses. So, we will certainly urge them. Our action is quite prompt on this.

Let me just give you an example. The hon. Speaker was pleased to give his observation on this matter in Hyderabad a few days ago. Our two Nominated Members have said that the guidelines for them should be amended because they represent the Anglo Indian community all across the country and if they are confined to one

constituency, the rest of the community will say that they are favouring one part. They represent the entire community. They wanted that they should be able to utilise the money irrespective of any district or constituency. The Speaker in his wisdom said that this is the prerogative of the Government to decide. We immediately wrote to him that, as he had left the decision to us, that as we have already recommended the case thrice we have already issued that letter. It has been informed to them.

[Translation]

That there is no delay on our part. The three-four suggestions which we have received regarding widening of Guidelines, will be put before the committees....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

I will put the suggestions to them.

The last thing is about the enhancement.

[Translation]

You have said that the amount should be increased to 3 crore, 4 crore or 7 crore.

[English]

SHRI K. FRANCIS GEORGE (Idukki): What about the discretionary funds?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: On that I must report the considered view of the Government. I say this on behalf of the Government, not on my pesonal behalf at all.

After consulting higher echelons on all these matters, I can report that the Government does not see any warrant to increase the amount....*(Interruptions)* I am not hesitant in telling that because I am just giving you a truthful answer. That is one of the reasons. The moment you increase the amount here, it sets off a cycle of increases elsewhere. I am sure that the Members know that apart from Rs. 1600 crores being spent here today on these schemes, the expenditure of the State Governments on similar schemes is already Rs. 1200 crores or more per year....*(Interruptions)* Let me conclude and then you may speak.

On this point, I would say that it sets off a cycle.

[Translation]

As you have said just now that in Bihar an MLA gets Rs. 1 crore under this scheme from the State Government and in one Lok Sabha constituency there are six MLA's. According to you, on this analogy an M.P. should get Rs. 6 crores. And then a cycle will start. It has also happened in Election Commission recently.

[English]

There is an incidence of Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 45,000 crores on the total fiscal economy of the country, both in the States and the Centre as a consequence of the 5th Pay Commission. It has broken the back of the finance of most of the State Governments'. So, it is not possible for the Government to agree to this type of escalation....*(Interruptions)* The allocation for the MPLAD scheme was increased only in December, 1999 and there is no warrant for the Government to again increase the amount within six or eight months....*(Interruptions)*

About the interest on funds, the Collectors have been informed several times that the interest is to be used exactly in the same way in accordance with the instructions of the Members of Parliament. That has been communicated many times to them and acknowledgments have been received. There is no problem on that. In conclusion, I would just say three sentences.

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHI: Would you convey the feelings of the House to the Prime Minister?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: The Prime Minister is well aware of the feelings of the Members and I am speaking only after consulting him. I consulted him again just before this discussion started.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: What about releasing the amount in two instalments instead of four instalments?

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: That is good point. I will certainly do my best in this regard. Many Members have said that in fact, there is no impediment because the money is never allowed to be less than Rs. 50 lakhs. It is a misconception that because of lack of funds works are held up. That is not the case. We have been repeatedly telling the District Commissioners and the Collectors not to wait for the money to be available for sanctioning the works. The works are not held up because of lack of money. But because this is a universal demand, we should increase the release to Rs. 1 crore. I will certainly put it up to the authorities....*(Interruptions)* I would conclude by saying only three sentences.

[Translation]

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, when the question regarding increasing the allocation of funds was raised the contention of the hon'ble Minister was that since the amount given to MPs was not utilised therefore there was no need for its enhancement. But it is clear from the discussion which took place in the House today that this non-utilisation of funds is not due to the inefficiency of the MPs instead it is due to the obstacles created by Collectors. Now, when this, basic reason has become clear, I would like to know as to what is the objection in increasing this fund?

[English]

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: The first point is, as far as we are concerned and the Department is concerned, we will do everything, within our powers, as I have shown you to expedite the despatch of money including this Rs. 1 crore instead of Rs. 50 lakhs. We will report this suggestion of making each instalment to individual Members of Parliament. Secondly, if there is any delay, you may please take the trouble of contacting me.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI (Bhadrak): We have contacted you many times. I have the papers to show you. One month has passed but no sanction has been granted from the Centre. I have the papers to show it....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARUN SHOURIE: As far as suggestions for widening the guidelines are concerned, I will convey each one of these suggestions to the committees of the two Houses. Actually Shri Ramaiah has himself reacted to it....*(Interruptions)* He has also listened to them. I will convey every single suggestion formally to the hon. Speaker and the hon. Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha.

The third point is that we should all cooperate. Through the hon. Speaker or through the Committees or the House, we should persuade the State Governments, which are not allowing the works to be undertaken, to expedite those works.

Finally, as far as increasing the amount is concerned, as I have said earlier, I express my total inability. With this, I conclude.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: You can better place the matter before the Cabinet....*(Interruptions)*

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Incident of Demonstration at Teenmurthi Roundabout

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): Hon. Chairman, Sir, yesterday hon. Shri Raj Babbar stated about the use of water cannons against him. He was also very much agitated and he tried to produce a Memorandum which was to be presented to the hon. Prime Minister. We got the matter inquired.

I would like to inform the House that Shri Raj Babbar informed the local police from Agra through the Police Headquarters that he would be holding a *dharna* before the house of the hon. Prime Minister on the 9th at 10 a.m. This information was given by him on the 8th. The local police apprised him of the promulgation of Section 144, that is, the prohibitory orders under Cr. P.C. This was informed orally by the local police, the SHO and also the Deputy-Commissioner of Police, Delhi. This was also informed to him through a letter which they got served on him. He assured the local police that he would be coming to the Teenmurthi roundabout from No. 8, South Avenue and he would stop wherever the local police would direct him.

Yesterday, about 800 processionists, which included about 50 women, started from No. 8, South Avenue. They came up to the Teenmurthi roundabout. At that point of time, the police erected three barricades. At that time also, the police warned the demonstrators and told them that prohibitory orders were already promulgated in that area. However, they broke one barricade and they were proceeding further. The police, with great difficulty, could hold the second barricade for about 15 minutes. But the processionists broke down the second barricade also. They were also pelting stones heavily. Stone-pelting was there on the police. Therefore, the police resorted to the use of water cannons and they could silence the demonstrators....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar): Whenever you tackle such demonstrators, deploy women police against women. Why did you not do that? That is our objection....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: I have not completed my statement. Then, Shri, Raj Babbar and Shri Sarvaraj Singh, MP were both taken to the house of the hon. Prime Minister. At that time, the hon. Prime Minister was not available. They insisted yesterday that they would submit the Memorandum to the hon. Prime Minister only.

However, the SPG personnel informed the hon. Members that the hon. Prime Minister is in the House. Both the MPs left the hon. Prime Minister's house stating that they would go to the House and submit the Memorandum to him. They departed from the hon. Prime Minister's House in their own cars. The local police, that is, the Chanakyapuri police, registered a case *vide* FIR No. 138 under sections 147, 149, 186, 188, 332 and 353 of the Indian Penal Code against Shri Raj Babbar and his supporters....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Why a case has been registered against a Member of Parliament under section 353 of the Indian Penal Code? What is the offence?

SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO: That will be known. No arrest has so far been made. Investigation is in progress.

[Translation]

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR (Mayiladuturai): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether the discussion which was going on regarding IC-814 will be continued or it will be taken up later on. I would like to know as to when this discussion will take place because we had initiated the discussion and it was progressing further. Many members would like to speak on this subject. If you do not include it in the agenda at the earliest then we will forget the debate which have taken place so far.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The discussion is incomplete and it will be completed.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will it be completed in this session itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: O.K.

19.19 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA AND BILLS AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA-laid

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following meassges received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the National Housing Bank (Amendment) Bill, 2000 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th May, 2000."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Major Port Trusts (Amendment) Bill, 2000 which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th May, 2000."

Sir, I also lay on the Table the National Housing Bank (Amendment) Bill, 2000 and the Major Port Trusts (Amendment) Bill, 2000 as passed by Rajya Sabha on the 10th May, 2000.

[Translation]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11. A.M.

19.20 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, May 11, 2000/ Vaisakha 21, 1922 (Saka)

Corrigenda to Lok Sabha Debates
(English Version)

Wednesday, May 10, 2000/Vaisakha 20, 1922 (Saka)

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Col./line	For	Read
21/7	SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DAV	SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV
189/14	SHRI RANJI LAL SUMAN	SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN
218/15 (from below)	(b) to (e)	(c) to (e)
257/19 (from below)	(c)	(e)
271/13	SHRI KOLKHOMANG HAOKIP	SHRI HOLKHOMANG HAOKIP
301/6 (from below)	(d)	(b)
361/14	Vertiselvan, Shri V.	Vetriselvan, Shri V.
361/21	Wanga, Shri Chintaman	Wanaga, Shri Chintaman
389/14 (from below)		
393/8 (from below)	SHRI BABU DEB ACHARIA	SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA
444/20	MR. SPEAKER	MR. CHAIRMAN

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